Steadfast group supports farm workers

The "Fast for Life" is a national day of fasting for farm workers that began Thursday at noon and will end Friday. Cesar Chavez, who passed away in 1993, founded and led the first successful farm workers' union in U.S. history.

**Above, Ryan Trammell, president of MECHA, leads a Farm Worker's Union hand clap on Dexter Lawn Thursday.**

Ryan Trammell, most participants wore red arm bands in memory of former United Farm Workers of America president Cesar Chavez.

Right, Students hold hands and pray in remembrance of Chavez.

With Thanksgiving less than a week away, some Cal Poly students want to ensure those providing the holiday food aren't forgotten — the farm workers.

The "Fast for Life" is a national day of fasting for farm workers that began Thursday at noon and will end Friday. Cal Poly's own MECHA (Movimiento Estudiantil Chicoano de Arri), took part, organizing on Dexter Lawn Thursday to honor what members call "one of, if not the most, underappreciated worker in this country."

Members also met to support a California bill that would make the birth-day of former United Farm Workers of America president Cesar Chavez a paid state holiday.

Chavez, who passed away in 1993, founded and led the first successful farm worker's union in U.S. history.

MECHA members gathered at 1 p.m. where they participated in a moment of silence in memory of Chavez and wore red ribbons around their arms.

Jessica Marquez, a third-year psycholo­gy major and a MECHA member, knows of at least 20 Cal Poly students fasting. "This is just a reminder of the farm worker struggle — they're still underpaid and underworked," Marquez said.

Ryan Trammell, MECHA's president and a social science senior, likened fasting "Fasting humbles you and makes you realize how much you have," Trammell said. "It also reminds us of the less fortunate, starving but not by choice."

According to the 1997 Current Population Survey, there are 342,102 farm workers in California, 98 percent of whom are Chicano/Latino.

According to MECHA, the average income of an individual farm worker is between $5,000 and $7,500. The average U.S. income is $26,000.

"It's very important and transcends nationality," Trammell said. "It's a human issue."

**New Poly police chief replaces retiring interim**

By Christine Janocko

Cal Poly has hired a new chief of police and Public Safety.

Anthony Aeilt, former Chico city police lieutenant and state peace officer training consultant, will assume his new position Dec. 1.

Aeilt was among seven qualified applicants who were selected for interviews from the more than 60 who applied. According to Sgt. Stephen Schneider, the applicants were interviewed separately by four campus committees. After each committee interviewed the applicants, the committees met and recom­mended Aeilt for the position.

Interim Police Chief Richard Thomas said he's looking forward to sinking back into retired life. The former Ventura police chief came out of retirement in March to lead Cal Poly's police department while a permanent police chief was sought.

Thomas replaced Thomas Mitchell, who retired earlier this year. His last day is Dec. 2.

He said the department is looking forward to solid leadership from Aeilt.

"I think his level of education, his level of experi­ence in municipal law enforcement and his interac­tion with students at Chico State made him stand out from the others," Thomas said.

Aeilt was born and raised in Chico and earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from California State University, Chico, in business administration and public safety administration, respectively. He is currently completing his doctorate in public administration at University of Southern California.

**ASI considers free rides home**

**MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT**

Cal Poly students may not need to pull change together for a taxi ride home after a night at the bars anymore.

At Thursday's Student-Community Liaison Committee meeting, Associated Students Inc. President John Moffatt discussed the idea of a free weekend shuttle service for students needing rides home from the bars.

Moffatt said he had spoken to the director of Safe Ride Home regarding estimates of how much it would cost ASI for a student to show their ID card and get a free ride home from downtown.

The committee also appointed Rob Briton, San Luis Obispo's neighboring manager, as chair of the pro­posed Safety Day, which would encompass representa­tives from all different groups including ASI, Women's Center, Interethnic Council and Panhellenic.

"The primary objectives for Safety Day are to coordi­nate safety issues between various organizations and the community," Moffatt said.
AEILTS
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Acilts was a part-time police academy instructor at the Northern California Criminal Justice Training and Education facility in Oroville. He trained officers in police tactics, constitutional law, emergency vehicle operations and community relations.

SCLC
continued from page 1

New Year's Eve and Y2K issues were also discussed at the meeting.

Police Chief Jim Gardiner said the San Luis Obispo Police Department will be on maximum deployment mode in anticipation of any Y2K problems. The mode will begin before December 30 and will continue through New Year's Eve.

"If you are planning to have a New Year's party, we will have plenty of people to come and help you," Gardiner said.

Student-Community Liaison Committee is a group effort between Cal Poly, Cuesta College, the San Luis Obispo city and county communities, and the San Luis Obispo Police Department.

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Jumping out of a plane from extreme altitudes with nothing preventing ground impact but a sheet of nylon may not sound like an appealing activity.

For the sport of skydiving is one thousands of Americans participate in each year.

While many say skydiving carries the risk of death, others say the thrill of falling through the air at incredible speeds makes up for the risk. The skydiving experience lasts no more than four minutes, but in those few minutes, the skydiver has tempted fate and engaged in an activity comparable only to flying.

The adventure begins with potential skydiver's attitude. And being机械 engineering senior Dara Langlotz: "I was nervous but not really afraid. It didn't seem real."

Langlotz took her first jump at SkyDive Monterey, one of California's many drop zones.

People who want an introduction to the sport and don’t have the time or money to learn all the details for themselves may opt for a tandem jump. Hudson said. A tandem jump allows participants to jump with experienced skydivers, or tandem masters.

In this form, instructors and participants are harnessed together. The parachute is strapped to the instructor's back, which benefits the participant since he or she doesn’t have to worry about pulling the release cord on the parachute — the instructor does everything. This jump requires only 15 to 45 minutes of ground training, and all necessary equipment is provided.

Steve Grind, a manufacturing engineering junior who has jumped once, described his experience.

"They stand you at the door of the plane and before you know it, they push you out. You have no control."

According to Hudson, many drop zones give tandem jumpers two altitude options — from 9,000 feet to 14,000 feet. Free falls can last up to one minute and, during the first 10 seconds, skydivers accelerate to about 115 to 150 mph before their parachutes open. At this point, the "flying" aspect of skydiving begins as the skydiver glides over the surrounding area.

"The beautiful views are the best," automatic engineering junior Donna Stewart said.

The fun and games of skydiving begin once skydivers get their licenses. Stewart said he particularly remembers one jump where he was taken to an altitude of 5,000 feet.

"It’s like a whole different world," Stewart said. "Nothing is connected to you. It’s like when you learn how to walk or swim. You have to forget what you learned on the ground. That’s the learning aspect. Flying, basically, that’s true flying."

To become a certified skydiver, one must complete the Accelerated Free Fall (AFF) program, Hudson said. This eight-week program begins with a free-fall ground training and an assisted jump where students are held by the instructors as they free-fall to the ground. After students pass through the eighth level and complete 20 free falls, they qualify to be licensed by the U.S. Parachute Association.

"Everyone's favorite question is, "What if my parachute doesn’t open."

This fear typically discourages people from trying the sport. By law, all parachutes have a deployment system, which consists of a main parachute and a reserve one that automatically opens if the first one fails, Hudson said. The parachute packs are repackaged every 120 days to ensure they aren’t faulty.

Stewart has never had a problematic jump. "Guys who have 2,000 jumps have no problems," he said.

Also, skydiving does not come without a cost. Tandem jumps range from $140 to $230, depending on the drop zone and the altitude, Hudson said. However, the more jumps a skydiver makes, the cheaper it gets. Certified skydivers typically pay about $17 a jump.

Stunt divers should make sure drop zones are certified by the USPA before making a jump, and they should freely ask instructors to show their certification cards, Hudson said.

The nearest drop zone is in Paso Robles, but other drop zones can be found in Monterey Bay, Lake Tahoe and San Diego.
Prayer adds another dimension to school

It appears the Supreme Court once again will pass judgment on the issue of prayer in schools. But this time it'd be different. For the first time, students want to initiate prayer at school events, and the Supreme Court is reviewing the case.

Kudos to the court for taking time to review this case, which originated in Santa Fe, Texas, but has since sparked national attention. Students at Santa Fe High School want to say prayers before football games, during graduation ceremonies and perhaps even in classrooms. I see no objection. If teachers or school administrators aren't teaching or promoting any religious belief or deity and students want to recite prayers before class or before games, they may do so in a non-confrontational manner.

For years, students have received the time-honored "pledge of allegiance" before class, which states, "...under God..." and the prayer clause is a tradition that has been practiced in public schools. But this time, justice must deal with student initiatives — a whole new ballgame.

I am a Christian, and I went to a Catholic high school where we said a prayer before each class period, mass, sporting event or whatever. I enjoyed the 30-second or one-minute prayers because they gave me time to thank God for all the gifts in my life and provided me inspiration to do well in school and activities through spiritual guidance along the way.

The prayers made me realize how special the gift of life is since there's no way of knowing if I'm going to be around tomorrow. We go through life taking food, water, shelter, school, friends and family for granted, so when one of these elements goes away, it's wonderfully missed. Each day, we should thank God for life, and if students want to initiate prayers in schools, then it shows their appreciation for life.

The Supreme Court should be thankful for this controversy centers on students wanting to pray and not wanting to take drugs.

If the court votes in favor of student-led prayers and the prayer reached classrooms, then students could take a vote. If the majority of a class voted in favor of prayer, then the students could pray.

If some students' religious beliefs differ from those expressed in the classroom, then those students don't have to listen to the prayer. They should, however, be silent and respect other students.

A federal appeals court ruling upheld the students' right to pray at graduation ceremonies provided they don't recite prayers identifying a particular deity or faith. This provision brings up a concern: If you're not praying to a specific deity or faith, then what or who are you praying to?

I pray to God, and many people I know pray to Him, too. He is the focus of my prayers, and it would be difficult to pray to a "general theme."

The court is expected to rule on group prayers at football games, a tradition at many high schools in Texas. But justice also may consider prayer in other school settings as well.

Think of the kids — they're asking for guidance.

Bryce Alderton is a journalism junior and a Mustang Daily staff writer.

Prayer forces others' beliefs on students

On Monday, Nov. 15, the Supreme Court agreed to hear a prayer-in-school case from Santa Fe, Texas, reopening the seemingly dormant debate. There's a bit of a twist on this one, however. These are prayers that will be recited at high school sporting events (specifically, Santa Fe High School football games) and will be led by students, not by school officials.

Will this aspect make a difference in the 37-year long ban on prayer in public schools? It shouldn't. Here's why.

Prayer at school isn't necessary. There is plenty of time during the day for students to pray. Setting aside a specific time for prayer can be instruction in time, time students should spend learning skills that will guide them through the rest of their lives. Students go to school to be educated, not to practice their faiths, that's what church is for. There is a time and a place for everything, and in the case of prayer, school isn't it.

Who initiates the prayer doesn't matter. These students are a captive audience — they have to go to school. Events like graduations and sporting events are mandatory for many students. Then required prayer forces them to become a part of whatever religious observance is performed. No one should have someone else's beliefs forced upon him or her.

All people do not have the same beliefs. People treat their faiths differently — different deities, different rituals, different prayers. Religious freedom is everyone's right under the U.S. Constitution. Allowing structured prayer in a place where people of many beliefs congregate is sure to cause problems. Prayer at a church potluck, youth group meeting or family gathering is fine since it's likely someone participating is of the same faith. No one is likely to object to the chosen prayers or the manner in which they're delivered.

But at school functions, different faiths and subsequent disagreements are inevitable. On whose terms will these prayer sessions be? That of the majority? To do that would leave many people feeling uncomfortable and essential that their beliefs weren't acknowledged.

Prayer led by the religious majority also says something else to people ascribing one of the many nuances of other beliefs out there: The faiths not recognized are not important. "Our religion is better than your religion?" is what many people will hear, and whether that message is intended or not, it isn't right.

Why do people feel the need to make such a big deal about praying anyway? Praying can be performed quietly and unobtrusively: a bowed head, closed eyes and closed eyes aren't big attention-getters. There's no law against silently and privately practicing a faith; students can easily whisper a quick prayer any time, as long as it's on one's own time.

There are lots of opportunities for this: while trying to find a seat, when waiting in line at the concession stand or during the opening kickoff. When it comes to prayer, any time is a good time, as long as it's on one's own time.

Allowing group prayer at school events is a national uproar waiting to happen. There are too many people to accommodate, too many faiths to represent and too much at stake. Students need the freedom to practice their faiths, but they need to be free from having other faiths forced upon them.

Bringing prayer into schools will needlessly compromise the freedoms of many people, and the Supreme Court should acknowledge this. Religion is a private practice; keep it out of public schools.
Massimo’s boasts Northern Italian heritage

Massimo’s restaurant, located at 840 Oak Park Blvd. in Arroyo Grande, features Northern Italian cuisine. The restaurant is owned by Massimo and Margherita Romani and opened two years ago. The Romanis have professionally for twenty years, ten of them in the United States. He does all the cooking at the restaurant while Margherita makes the desserts. Margherita de Roma’s, as well as the tortelloni and fettuccine Margherita are dishes named after my mom,” said Luca. Luca’s favorite is the saltimbocca di pollo. “But everything is good,” he said with a smile.

Massimo’s boasts Northern Italian cuisine, which is lighter than the Southern Italian style. Italian bacon, egg and parmesan sauce. “The Margherita di Roma’s, as well as the tortelloni and fettuccine Margherita are dishes named after my mom,” said Luca. Luca’s favorite is the saltimbocca di pollo. “But everything is good,” he said with a smile.

The restaurant features a fabulous domestic and imported beer and wine bar. Red roses adorn blue and white checkered tablecloths giving the restaurant a friendly and inviting atmosphere. There is no dress code at Massimo’s, the place where everyone is welcome. However, don’t be surprised if you see some celebrities dining at Massimo’s. According to Luca, Margherita is good friends with Tony Bennett, Bennett, along with David Copperfield, Robert De Niro, Richard Chamberlain, and Bobby McFerrin have dined at the Massimo’s Bay Area restaurants. The Arroyo Grande restaurant has served distinguished guests like Bill Conti, the music director for the film ‘Rocky’ and director of the Academy Awards orchestra, and Melinda, the famous first lady of magic.

Massimo’s boasts authentic Italian recipes with entrees ranging from $8.95 to $17.95. The fish served at Massimo’s is always fresh and local. Massimo’s can cater your next event as well as host banquets at their restaurant. Massimo’s is open for dinner from 5-9p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 5-10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Massimo’s opens for lunch and breakfast for parties of fifteen or more.

Massimo’s is open for lunch and breakfast from 7 am - 2:30 pm and Sat & Sun, 7 am - 3 pm.

Massimo’s boasts Northern Italian cuisine as lighter than the Southern Italian style.
Toobs bodyboards was founded in March of 1988 by Ben Steelhead and Buzz Morasca.

The name Toobs stands for the "two B's," Ben and Buzz, as well as alluding to the "tubular" nature of the kind of waves all surfer love to ride.

The enterprise of Toobs began in the true entrepreneurial sense; two surfers who wanted to be in the surf business. Toobs is often perceived as a larger company than it really is, but in reality it is a small, closely knit group. Almost every employee is actively involved in the surfing lifestyle experience, and a few of them are very accomplished surfers in their own right.

Today Toobs enjoys strong niche sales in surf shops in all domestic markets including Hawaii and Puerto Rico. Toobs has distributor relationships in Japan, South America and Europe, and manufacturing partnerships in Portugal and Australia. Over the years, Toobs has built bodyboards for almost every top professional bodyboarder including Mike Stewart, Paul Roach, Kyle Maligrone, Steve Mackenzie and many more.

Toobs bodyboards has built boards for just about every top professional bodyboarder. Toobs has a factory outlet in Morro Bay, where irregular gear can be purchased at a very fair price. Toobs bodyboards, Bluntcut swimsuits, t-shirt, caps and all accessories can be found in surf shops everywhere. Toobs has a factory outlet in Morro Bay where blemished and irregular boards can be purchased at a very fair price. Custom built bodyboards are also available for the rider who needs something special. Aleeda wetsuits are also available.

Visit the Toobs website at www.toobs.com. It is the first and oldest bodyboarding-specific website. On the website you will find an online catalog, dealer locator, photographs and information about who they are and what they do.
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SPORTS
Friday, November 19, 1999

BASKETBALL
continued from page 8

will share time running the offense, giving the opposition two entirely different looks.

"We feel really comfortable with the point-guard situation," Schneider said. "They're both very intelligent players who do a good job quarterbacking the team. Mark's more of a passer, and Jason's more of a shooter who can give us a spark."

News and Notes:

The Mustangs officially signed 6-foot-5-inch small forward Jamal Scott and 6-foot-7-inch Varnie Dennis, the two top recruits Mustang Daily first reported were coming to Cal Poly on Oct. 27. Wernick needs only 35 points to become Cal Poly's all-time leading scorer... The Mustangs' game against Simon Fraser is the first of a five-game homestand to start the season.

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Defense, injuries key to Mustang season

By Joe Nolan
MUSTANG DAILY MANAGING EDITOR

When the Mustangs kick off their season this Sunday against visiting Simon Fraser, the top priority may be playing 40 minutes injury-free.

After being picked to finish atop the Big West Conference’s West Division last year, the Mustangs were plagued by injuries. Junior Watershed Favor (6’10”, junior), junior Jeremiah Mayes (6’10”), junior Brandon Beeson (shoulder) and senior Jon Culbert (foot) all missed games.

This season the Mustangs haven’t played a game and they’ve already lost Brandon Beeson, out for the season with a knee injury. But it’s not all black and blue for the Mustangs.

They have their top two scorers back, Chris Bjorkland (18.1 points per game) and Mike Werniak (16.2 ppg), who helped the Mustangs place fifth in the nation in scoring last season at 84.9 ppg. They should also get help from Favor, who has bulked up to play the small forward position. Favor is healthy this year and should be able to play at his freshman-year form when he averaged 17 ppg. The ability to put points on the board isn’t anything new for head coach Jeff Schneider’s Mustangs, who have become notorious perimeter-generators during his tenure. But this year, Schneider is hoping the experience on the roster will help the Mustangs play with poise.

“We’ve always been able to score, but now we’re old enough to focus on guarding and rebounding,” Jeff Schneider
head coach

Junior Jeremiah Mayes will be the Mustangs’ starting power forward. He’ll team up with Bjorkland and 6’10” freshman John Hoftart to create a strong rotation of big men in the paint.

“I would love to see Hoftart and Bjorkland being able to rebound at the same time, but that’s only Kinn and freshman Mark Campbell who have the size to do so,” Schneider said. “He’s been going so hand in hand in practice that it he can play big and get minutes, that’s only going to help Bjorkland and Mayes.”

Fullback Ryan Blanche swerves to avoid a Portland State defender.

Football faces Sacramento

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

The Cal Poly football team wraps up its second straight losing season Saturday when it hosts Sacramento State in Mustang Stadium at 1 p.m. The Mustangs, 3-7, can eclipse last season’s 3-8 record with a victory over the Hornets. Sacramento State beat the Mustangs 22-14 last year as Hornet running back Charles Roberts rushed for 222 yards. Roberts is averaging 241.1 yards a game this season.

The Mustang offense will once again feature the running of Craig Young. The senior will be playing his last game in the green and gold, but he may be playing for more as he approaches another record. Young broke Antonio Warren’s career rushing record earlier this season and can surpass Louis Jackson’s single-season best mark of 1,424 yards. Young is currently only 154 yards short of the record.

The Mustangs will feature the playing of quarterback Ricky Ray. Ray is averaging 235.7 yards passing per game and has passed for 19 touchdowns this season.

The Mustangs are tough at home, though, having won 13 of the 18 daytime games at Mustang Stadium since moving to Division I-AA in 1994.