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MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

The California State University system and the project’s general contractor, H.A. Ekelin and Associates, are facing a lawsuit.

The lawsuit, Vista Steel claims it has not received a full payment for its services for the parking structure's steel reinforcement.

Vista Steel, a Ventura-based company, filed a breach of contract lawsuit against CSU and H.A. Ekelin. According to the lawsuit, Vista Steel claims it has not received a full payment for its services for the parking structure's steel reinforcement.

The contract that Vista Steel signed with H.A. Ekelin was for $1.5 million and required Vista to supply material and labor for the structure's steel reinforcement. The lawsuit claims that Vista Steel did not receive $474,000 of the contract.

The longest expected delays already occurred in December 1998 and had an expected completion date of January 2000. After the discovery of the weak reinforcement, the completion date was moved back to April 2000. The $8 million structure is now expected to be finished in June 2000 after bad weather delayed construction once again.

According to the lawsuit, H.A. Ekelin threatened to end Vista's contract if it did not finish the extra reinforcement that was needed to complete the parking structure.

The lawsuit claims that H.A. Ekelin took the cross beams out of the plans, but it has not yet been determined.

CSU, contractor face parking structure suit

By Kirsten Orsini-Meinhard

The CSU system and the parking structure's general contractor, H.A. Ekelin and Associates, are facing a lawsuit brought on by the steel company hired to work on the project's steel reinforcements.

Los Osos commute lengthened

By Sarah Goodyear

Students and staff commuting from Los Osos via Los Osos Valley Road may be experiencing delays due to a $1 million upgrade and repair project that began March 26.

Crews have sections of the road west of the Football Boulevard intersection to Turri Road closed down to one lane on weekdays, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Motorists are stopped at one end of the construction while oncoming traffic is led through Diablo Road.

Bryn Smith said, “I’m not on a time crunch, but it wasn’t that much longer.”

“I go to school and work on Highway 1 and home on Los Osos Valley Road,” English sophomore Even Smith said. “I’m not on a time schedule going home. Plus, it wasn’t that much longer.”

The roadwork is causing some changes in student driving habits.

“Tidal Wave II refers to the 13,000 new students expected to enter the CSU system over the next 10 years. In order to deal with the category of place-bound students — students who cannot afford to go to a campus or to a program, the university only offers guaranteed access to a campus hut not to a program,” Ng said.

CSU grants priority for local applicants

Poly not affected by new policy

By Kimberly Tahsuda

“Guaranteed access to a campus does not guarantee access to a program,” Paul Zingg provost and vice president of Academic Affairs.

“Guaranteed access to a campus does not guarantee access to a program.”

Paul Zingg provost and vice president of Academic Affairs.

Students declare a major before being accepted, the university only admits students through programs. The critical difference is the distinction between being admitted to a campus or to a program.

“Guaranteed access to a campus does not guarantee access to a program.”

Paul Zingg. “Cal Poly is exempted because we only admit to programs. Every undergraduate program at Cal Poly is impacted. Therefore we are not obligated to guarantee access for any student, local or not, to any specific program.”

Other CSU campuses have some impacted programs. Cal Poly is the only CSU that is impacted in every program or major. Because all see ADMISSION, page 2
Seventh Open House to unleash Poly's power

April will bring in thousands of newly admitted students and their families to discover the power of Poly. The seventh annual Cal Poly Open House is slated for April 14-16 and will provide entertainment ranging from exhibits to a rodeo. A tractor pull will also be a main attraction during Open House and will kick off the weekend's theme of "Discover the Power of Poly."

On April 14, admitted students will have an opportunity to meet with faculty and staff members, tour the campus and residence halls and meet current students. The best of Cal Poly will be showcased on April 15. Events for the day will include demonstrations and concession booths by more than 200 campus clubs and organizations. Main-stage presentations, a carnival and a rodeo will also be conducted by students. Alumni will also take part in the festivities that will be held on April 16, Alumni Day, which is a new event this year.

Also on April 16, the second annual Open House Golf Classic will take place at the Avila Bay Resort Golf Course.

ADMISSION continued from page 1

majors are impacted, no one can be guaranteed admission. "In essence, if a university is not currently impacted by program, it must provide access to local residents," Admission Recruitment Director James Murgulis said.

Although Cal Poly is not required to offer admission to local students, Zingg said university officials are still very responsive to such applicants.

"We do recognize an obligation to serve local area high schools and community colleges," Zingg said. "Even as we have a statewide service mandate, we balance local responsiveness and the statewide mandate."

The trustees recognize guarantee local access does not solve the problem of how to deal with more than 150,000 new students heading to the CSM system, Zingg said. "Affirming the principle of local access really doesn't do much in increasing capacity," Zingg said. "At best it is a band-aid, not a cure."

The trustees addressed that there clearly is a severe resources challenge that the state must step up and meet, Zingg said. "The trustees accept and understand our situation here at Cal Poly," Zingg said. "They understand, and what we do is acceptable to them."

TRAFFIC continued from page 1

construction in order to avoid delays. He said Los Osos Valley Road is being repaired in sections to ease the strain of construction.

"We all know that streets need to be maintained," O'Halloran said. "We want this to have a minimal impact on drivers. To accomplish that, the project was designed to give everyone alternative routes."

He said the work will result in safer road surface and one that is easier to maintain in the future. The project is on time and under budget with 50 percent of the restoration phase completed, Frank said.

Two more phases will follow. Crews will install a membrane beneath the asphalt to redistribute the heavy load from cars. Approximately 16,000 vehicles use Los Osos Valley Road every day. Crews will also construct an asphalt and concrete overlay.

Frank said the finished product will be "the ultimate driving surface." Barring bad weather, the completion date for construction is April 13.

How does it feel to be homeless? Come find out

April 3
Hunger Banquet
6 pm - 8 pm
Chumash Auditorium
Free Dinner
Held to raise awareness about hunger around the world. There will be speakers & info on how you can help.

For more information on how you can participate, contact:

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Cal Poly Student Community Services
U.U. rm 217d phone: 756-5834 email: pyoune@calpoly.edu

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MONTHLY

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What better way to welcome the spring than decking out in the sun with some comfortable shorts on? Get them now and choose from a variety of styles and colors.

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CHILDREN'S BOOKS ... 40% OFF
Forget the Pokémon toy you were planning to give your little friend as a present. Toys don't last forever, and books never go out of style. Give them something they can actually learn from. Afterall, "reading is fundamental."

A L L  S P E C I A L S  S E R V E D  D A I L Y .

Mon. - Thurs 7:45am - 6:00pm
Friday 7:45am - 4:30pm
Saturday 10:00am - 3:00pm

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Fecal samples from birds, humans and other wildlife around Morro Bay will determine if deadly bacteria exists in the water.

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Poly students test bay for bacteria

By Sarah Goodyear
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Members of the Cal Poly biological sciences department are working with the Regional Water Quality Control Board on a DNA study to find the source of fecal coliform in Morro Bay. Fecal coliform contains the deadly E. coli bacteria.

Three students are gathering approximately 1,000 fecal samples from local humans, birds and domestic and wild mammals. The samples will be added to the University of Washington’s DNA library. The library contains 35,000 to 40,000 strains of bacteria.

Biology graduate student Matthew Oliver, biology freshman Stacia Wellman and ecology and systematic biology senior Jennifer Nafzgar began collecting samples four months ago.

“It is an opportunity to work in the area and do something for Morro Bay,” Oliver said.

The samples will be used in a DNA study commissioned by the Regional Water Quality Control Board. High levels of fecal coliform in Morro Bay are preventing the harvesting of oysters and occasionally making bay water unfit for human contact. The DNA testing will be used to find the source of the bacteria.

Cal Poly, a partner in the project, designed the study and will be interpreting the data and writing the report. Biological sciences faculty members Mark Moline and Chris Kats will work with Andrew Schaffer from the statistics department to write the report. The report will be used by the Board and the Morro Bay National Estuary Program to find ways to make the water safer.

Levels of E. coli bacteria in the bay have been studied since the mid-1980s. The greatest points of contamination are near the outlet of Chorro Creek and the Cuesta Inlet in Los Osos. Local shellfish harvester Bill Williams pushed for the study because the presence of E. coli bacteria prevents him from harvesting oysters in the bay.

“E. coli is the canary in the coal mine,” said Regina Wilson of the Morro Bay Estuary. “If the canary dies, the miners know to get out of the mine. If the bacteria is preventing the harvesting of oysters, it is an indicator that the water may not be safe.”

The problem does not affect areas outside of the breakwater where people surf. It is present in the Embarcadero in Morro Bay, Morro Bay State Park and Los Osos where kayakers, swimmers, and boaters use the water for recreation.
Editorial

What do you think about fraternity hazing? Is it worth the consequences? opinion@mustangdaily.calpoly.edu

It might seem like nothing new. The only difference with Sigma Chi is they got caught, and Cal Poly has decided to use them as an example of the consequences.

Despite the strict punishment for hazing and the obvious safety concerns, most fraternities at Cal Poly practice some degree of hazing. Alleged stories from the district attorney’s report include forcing pledges to sleep outside and burn their clothes for warmth, and pushing pledges to drink until they see black.

We at the Mustang Daily have one question: “What’s the point?” Why is this Neanderthal tradition of forcing people into embarrassment still practiced?

College students do stupid things all the time. When you drink too much and wake up the next morning with a splitting headache, you realize those last two Wild Turkey shots probably weren’t a good idea. But at least you didn’t get to see yourself.

Hazing puts a twist on doing stupid things. Guys and girls you don’t know embarrass you, forcing you to drink to a point where personal safety is seriously threatened. This is supposed to become great friends with them.

Why would anyone be friends with people who have done this? Why would anyone let others force them to do something — especially something that puts their personal safety at a sizable risk?

Simple: peer pressure.

Impressionable freshmen trust their “brothers” and subject themselves to the degradation and intimidation that defines hazing.

Hazing is an abuse of this trust, and when peer pressure leads to criminal and civil charges, the practice must stop.

Sigma Chi’s predicament should serve as a warning to other fraternities following similar practices.

There’s no better time than now to stop hazing, in order to prevent fraternities from further lawsuits or from losing their charters.

It might be fun and games now, but we hope other fraternities will stop hazing before someone gets hurt.

Unsigned editorials are the voice of the Mustang Daily.
Poly sacrifices student for own agenda
Editor,
I would like to say how disappointed I am to see that the university, in its vendetta against the greek system, has chosen to sacrifice a student's right to not be totally alienated on campus.
It seems to me that the university used this student. Now, I am aware that I don't know all the facts, but did university officials consider that as they were strong-arming this pledge into giving a statement that they were going to be making him a target on campus? Did they care that they were going to put him in a position in which everyone involved was going to try their hardest to make him look bad? I don't think they did. They so desperately want to get fraternities in a compromising position that they ruined this guy's academic and social career at Cal Poly. If he leaves school now, I wouldn't blame him. How could he not?
So the university gets to squeeze Sigma Chi, and this student has to completely rearrange his life. Congratulations Judicial Affairs.
As for the Mustang Daily having the audacity to include the quote where his pledge brother questions his sexuality, that is somewhere between media sensationalism and slander.

Hunter Haverty is a business senior.

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BASEBALL

continued from page 8

“I felt like I had to set the tone,”
Smith said. “It was a good series. I
think everyone did a good job in
helping get the staff together as a

Freshman Tyler Fitch also had an
impressive outing, allowing two earned
runs over seven innings as the
Mustangs beat Pacific 6-4 on
Saturday. Kevin Coper allowed
two strong innings to earn the save as
the team unfaehed a Pacific rally in
the eighth and ninth innings to secure
the win.

After preparing Pacific’s strong
pitching rotation, Price was satisfied
with his own staff’s performance over
the weekend, despite the loss on
Sunday.

“Overall, we pitched very well,”
Price said. “We got two outstanding
games on Friday and Saturday. Fitch
gave us probably one of the best per­
formances on Saturday, as we’ve seen
him do before.”

Tanner Troup and Steve Wood
took home runs during the week­
end, leading the Mustangs, but a
rotation that had an ERA of 4.4 over
four runs a game. The

mustangs held a 14-16 (7-7 Big West) record going into their
next game against Fresno State at
San Luis Obispo Stadium on Tuesday.

Polyl’s next three game series will be
next weekend in Reno to face the
University of Nevada.
INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Michigan State and Florida both started the season in the Top 10 and never dropped far below. Now they're the only teams left.

Different styles in Championship game

The Spartans are most effective in a half-court game, where they're the only No. 1 seed to reach the Final Four. They're the only teams left. Michigan State and Florida both started the season in the Top 10 and never dropped far below. Now they're the only teams left.

Saturday night's 51-41 victory over Florida at the RCA Dome, Indianapolis, 6 p.m., CBS

RICHA Dome, Indianapolis

Florida vs. Michigan State

Mon., April 3

Florida's up-tempo game, and Hiridam's depth will simply beat them.

Today's Question:

Which former Oakland Athletic was the first relief pitcher to save at least 40 games in four different seasons? (1967-70)

Scores

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see BASEBALL, page 7

Junior Keith Anderson hammers a line drive down the line.

TUESDAY

- Softball vs. Fresno State
  - at Fresno State
  - 6 and 8 p.m.

- Baseball vs. Fresno State
  - in SLO Stadium
  - 5 p.m.

THURSDAY

- Women's tennis vs. Idaho
  - at Santa Barbara

- TBA

Friday

- Men's tennis vs. UC Riverside
  - at Cal Poly
  - 1 p.m.

Florida coach Billy Donovan believes people are getting the wrong impression about his team.

"People think it's just running and packing up 11-point shots," Donovan said.

"We put a tremendous emphasis on guarding the 5-point line. Basically, every team in the country when they go to practice, is going to practice their half-court offense. We try to be as disruptive as possible and take teams out of what they practice on a regular basis."

"We have a bad day for our defense," Price said. "Defensively, all we played poorly and it just caught up to us today. Blasdel had a tremendous performance, and we just couldn't get it done."

"We were a little too late on our help defense," he added. "I think these guys want to run, but I think we have an understanding for the team's attitude during the weekend.

While the Spartans are most effective in a half-court game, where they're the only No. 1 seed to reach the Final Four and have lived up to its tradition, the Gators prefer to play at a fast pace. The Gators (29-7) used the same style to end North Carolina's surprising run with a 71-59 win Saturday night.

"We like to run, too," Michigan State coach Tom Izzo said. "Maybe some of that is our style also. I think we have an understanding for that. I think these guys want to run, too."

"The Spartans can get up and down the court, having scored more than 80 points nine times this season. In the tournament, however, they have averaged 68.2 with the five starters averaging between 27 and 35 minutes a game and only two reserves averaging more than 10. Florida has averaged 79.4 points in the five tournament games, just

Florida's full-court press Monday night was the first relief pitcher to save at least 40 games in four different seasons. (1967-70)

"We know it that's going to be a big problem in this game."

The Spartans are going to use an age-old method to prepare for Florida's full-court press Monday night.

"We always go against six or seven guys in practice and I'm sure we'll have a bunch of players out there today," Michigan State forward Andre Hutson said Sunday.

"We had a bad day for our defense," Price said. "Defensively, all we played poorly and it just caught up to us today. Blasdel had a tremendous performance, and we just couldn't get it done."

"We were a little too late on our help defense," said Matt Sterling, the Mustang Daily assistant sports editor. E-mail him at sports@mustand daily.calpoly.edu