Five women honored for achievement
By Erica Tower
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

They are involved, ambitious and dedicated to improving the quality of life for all Cal Poly students. But most importantly, they are women.

In concordance with Women's History Month and International Women's Day, Cal Poly Women's Programs acknowledged five outstanding female faculty and staff members Wednesday at the 19th annual Women of the Year Luncheon in Chalmers Auditorium.

Staff member Maria Anding and faculty member Samantha Gill were named "Cal Poly Women of the Year," while students Kristen Carlen, Chelsea Bosseun and Michelle Costa were awarded various scholarships ranging from $500 to $475.

"Women of the Year" awards were decided by Cal Poly students.

"This is a nice surprise, though I don't even feel worthy," said Anding, who is the coordinator for the Center of Community Voluntarism as well as the director for Student Community Services. "All of the students that I work with have so much potential that I am always in awe. It makes my job very easy."

Students who nominated Anding described her as a "mentor and role model" who "constantly improves and enhances the lives of all students without ever realising it."

Professor of natural resources management Samantha Gill, who received the faculty "Women of the Year" award, is regarded by students in a similar light.

Kathryn Lovell, political science senior and event spokesperson, highlighted some of the more unique students who gave their nomination of Gill.

"She is always willing to help someone."

"Professor Gill requires students to think outside of the box and expand their horizons."

Aside from teaching, Gill is also a registered professional forester and adviser and active member for all forestry clubs on campus, which include the Society of American Foresters and the Cal Poly Logging Team.

"It is very flattering to know that students think this highly of me," Gill said. "In all my experiences working with students, what I love most is their incredible enthusiasm for everything they do."

Student honorees were just as distinguished as the faculty and staff award recipients.

Electrical engineering senior Kristen Carlson received the $350 Vicki and Garson award.

International day celebrates women
By Janelle Fossett
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

It's International Women's Day, and Cal Poly's Multicultural Center is organizing the day's events at Cal Poly, including a singer and a poster exhibit dealing with women's issues.

March is Women's History Month, so having a day to celebrate women all over the world is especially important to Shontae Praileau, coordinator of Multicultural Programs and Services. She said having an International Women's Day helps people recognize that the equality of women is still an important global issue.

"This celebration provides American women the opportunity to think about the status of women around the world."

Shontae Praileau, coordinator of Multicultural Programs and Services

Praileau said she thinks it is beneficial for students to see such events, because history books often mask the key contributions of women.

"It is important to acknowledge other people's histories," she said. "This is an opportunity for students to see how different groups of people have contributed to the foundation of this country, and women are a large part of this."

National Women's History Month was started by the National Women's History Project (NWHP), a nonprofit educational organization founded in 1982. In 1991, the NWHP proposed that Congress consider a Joint Congressional Resolution for "National Women's History Week." The group was successful, and in 1997, Congress expanded the celebration to the entire month. March 8 was declared International Women's Day.

see SCHOLARS, page 2
State has rash of student threats

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Authorities arrested eight California students for allegedly making threats that included a plot to put a bomb on a teacher's desk and the creation of a hit list.

"This will help us attract students that we typically lose," said James Miranda, executive director of admissions and recruitment. "It is a wonderful move in the right direction."

The at-large scholarship can be applied to any of the six Cal Poly colleges and will be chosen by the provost, Long said. The same criteria will be used to determine the winner of that scholarship.

"The purpose of the at-large scholarship is to provide flexibility within the colleges to recruit top academic prospects," Long said. A college may have two strong candidates for one scholarship, and the second student would be eligible to win the at-large scholarship.

"Scholarship winners will be able to receive the scholarship for four or five years, depending on whether they are in a four- or five-year program," Howard-Greene said. The scholarship, however, must be renewed each year depending on the student's GPA. In order to receive the scholarship again, the student's GPA must be at least 3.0 at the time of renewal.

After their second year, the GPA must be at least 3.1, and the minimum requirement continues to go up one decimal point each year after that, Long said.

"The student must also maintain continuous full-time enrollment and complete at least 40 credit hours each year," Long said.

"I really hope that I can have an influence in my major and keep women involved in engineering," Carlson said. Speech communication junior Chelsea Bowman was also perceived as having great moral leadership potential, specifically in the workplace. She was chosen to receive the L. Diane Ryan Scholarship for $400.

Bowman was nominated by speech communication professor Michael Faus, who characterizes her as "an activist with intelligent goals like equality in the workplace."

"I want to improve the lives of women, and in doing so, make our community a better place," Costa said.

"Women today need to possess enthusiasm and a hard work ethic," Costa said. Women of the Year Luncheon is sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts and the College of Engineering. Aside from honoring outstanding female students and staff, the event also aims to support women's programs on campus with a silent auction and luncheon ticket sales, said Suzanne Kelley, adviser of the women's cause's.

"All of the money we raise here goes to future events like women's leadership conferences and lunchtime speakers," she said. "It's also great to be able to recognize the wonderful women we have on campus."

The two 12-year-olds and a 13-year-old talked about the plot last week after one of the boys had a disagreement with a teacher, Ontario Detective Mike Macias said. But no bomb-making materials were found at their homes.

"It was no secret that these three kids had a dislike for a teacher," Macias said. At the other, there was a plot to put a bomb on a teacher's desk, authorities said. Classmates at Woodcrest Junior High alerted the principal.

The two 12-year-olds and a 13-year-old talked about the plot last week after one of the boys had a disagreement with a teacher, Ontario Detective Mike Macias said. But no bomb-making materials were found at their homes.

"There will be a lot of money raised here that we can use to support our community," Costa said. Establishing in 1983, the Cal Poly Women of the Year Luncheon is sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts and the College of Engineering. Aside from honoring outstanding female students and staff, the event also aims to support women's programs on campus with a silent auction and luncheon ticket sales, said Suzanne Kelley, adviser of the women's cause's.

"All of the money we raise here goes to future events like women's leadership conferences and lunchtime speakers," she said. "It's also great to be able to recognize the wonderful women we have on campus."

The two 12-year-olds and a 13-year-old talked about the plot last week after one of the boys had a disagreement with a teacher, Ontario Detective Mike Macias said. But no bomb-making materials were found at their homes.

"It was no secret that these three kids had a dislike for a teacher," Macias said. At the other, there was a plot to put a bomb on a teacher's desk, authorities said. Classmates at Woodcrest Junior High alerted the principal.

The two 12-year-olds and a 13-year-old talked about the plot last week after one of the boys had a disagreement with a teacher, Ontario Detective Mike Macias said. But no bomb-making materials were found at their homes.

"It was no secret that these three kids had a dislike for a teacher," Macias said. At the other, there was a plot to put a bomb on a teacher's desk, authorities said. Classmates at Woodcrest Junior High alerted the principal.
Should student fees be adjusted to keep pace with inflation?

Read the following objective statement, financial analysis, pro statement, and con statement. You will have nine opportunities to attend a forum to voice your opinion or ask any questions. By attending any of the forums, you can voice your support or non-support of the proposal. Questions? Call the ASI Student Govt Office at 756-1291 or come by UU 202, M-F, 8am-5pm.

Objective Statement

The establishment of campus based mandatory fees have been based on the desire to provide programs and services not ordinarily funded through the General Fund allocation process. These fees were established without consideration for price inflation and the collateral effects on the services and programs being provided. The result is that fixed fees, without the benefit of a price indexed increase, gradually erode the quantity and quality of programs being provided. The Inflationary Fee Adjustment Proposal would provide a mechanism under which campus based mandatory fees could be adjusted annually to compensate for the effects of inflationary price increases.

Price index values are used to measure the rate of inflation affecting the buyer. People are most familiar with the Consumer Price Index which measures the changes in prices paid by consumers for food, clothing, shelter, transportation, and other common goods and services. However in 1975 the U.S. Department of Education began funded research to create the Higher Education Price Index (HEPI) to measure the effects of inflation on the current operations of colleges and universities, using a basket of goods and services relevant to higher education institutions. The Inflationary Fee Adjustment Proposal proposes use of HEPI in calculating the annual adjustment of campus mandatory fees.

Campus mandatory student registration fees are "fees that must be paid in order to apply to, enroll in, or attend the university." Campus mandatory fees include the Campus Academic Fee, Health Services Fee, Health Facility Fee, Instructionally Related Activities Fee (IRA) fee, Campus Service Card fee, and the University Union fee. The revenues from these fees provide funding for programs and services that benefit the student body at large.

Financial Analysis

The Inflationary Fee Adjustment Proposal seeks to neutralize the impact of inflation on the University's ability to provide quality programs and services to students. Inflation is the increase in prices for the same goods and services that occurs without the perceptible change in either quantity or quality of the items involved. The table below shows the inflation rate, as measured by the Higher Education Price Index, over the past nine years.

It is evident from the chart that the buying power of these programs and services has decreased over the past ten years without the benefit of a mechanism for increasing revenues. Increases to the campus mandatory fees would be based on a rolling average of the previous 3 years HEPI. Tying an average would moderate any spikes in the inflation index.

The table below shows the campus mandatory fees that students currently pay, and an estimated the amount that students would pay under this proposal, effective Fall Quarter 2001. The increase/percentage increased is approximately $6 per quarter or $24 per academic year. This proposal would generate a total of approximately $305,000 based on 1999/2000 enrollment and would be distributed proportionate to the fee.

This fee proposal does not require a one-third financial set aside as this is no longer a requirement of the CSU fee policy. However an increase in these fees would be reflected in the packaging of financial aid so that students receiving financial aid would not be adversely impacted.

Pro Statement

Since California stopped additional funding to Cal Poly for its higher-cost polytechnic majors, the University has had to find creative and innovative ways of generating additional funds. Part of this effort involved working with students to institute special fees, like those for the Health Center, for Instructionally Related Activities (IRA), and for increased faculty and innovative programming (Poly Plant). However, as costs have increased over the years, so have the costs of providing services and programs to students.

The Inflationary Fee Adjustment Proposal (IFAP) is an innovative approach to combating the effects of inflation on these fee-supported programs. Instead of demanding drastic increases in students' fees, the proposal provides for reasonable movement that is tied to a national measure of inflation in higher education (recently 3.5%, or around $6 per quarter each year). By approving this fee indexing proposal, the students will be supporting the operations of the Health Center, the Academic Fee, the IRA, and the Poly Plant by increasing revenues. Increases to the campus mandatory fees would be based on a rolling average of the previous 3 years HEPI. Tying an average would moderate any spikes in the inflation index.

Con Statement

If you support tying out fees to a price index, as is being proposed, you risk endorsing a philosophy of constant fee increases. If you calculated the additional expense on a five-year term (Fall 2000 Spring 2005) at Cal Poly at the current level (3%) of the Higher Education Price Index (HEPI), a student would incur as a result of the indexed fees the following:

It will cost an additional $189.00 for your education vs. not having an inflationary rider. That 3% easily became a 12.5% fee increase. It will continue to grow from there.

Remaining Open Forum Schedule

- Tuesday, March 6
  6 pm in Bldg. 33-286

- Thursday, March 8
  1 pm in Bldg. 52-E27

Remember, you must attend one of the sessions for your voice to be heard! This is your opportunity... your voice...USE IT!
Cal Poly centennial
banner slogans.
It holds an indoor pool with water as clear as glass. Its ceilings tower seemingly miles above the ground. Velvet finery drapes windows and chairs, with touches of gold twinkling throughout the space. Captains of industry and famous entertainers have dined here. It is a legend in its own time — it is Hearst Castle.

Its owner, William Randolph Hearst, did not see his home as a castle and referred to it as "The Ranch," according to the Hearst Foundation.

The San Simeon palace is a 137-foot high Moorish castle on 270,000 acres with 165 rooms, 127 acres of gardens and collections of Spanish and Italian antiques. Designed by architect Julia Morgan, Hearst Castle took 28 years to build. In its heyday, the castle had its own personal 200 tennis courts and ornate swimming pools.

Cal Poly history graduate Victoria Kastner wrote about how she believes Hearst did not haphazardly collect things for his castle, but planned everything. She is author of the book "Hearst Castle: The Biography of a Country House."

Kastner and others were trained to be docents at the castle by history professor Dan Krieger. He believes that Tour One (of tour) is best for first-time visitors to get the best glimpse of the palace atmosphere.

"I like the Spanish Art in the new wing — unfortunately, that's the tour less taken by people," Krieger said. "There's some very unique pieces that I've never seen the like of even in my extensive travels in Spain."

Krieger recommends the evening tour to get a glimpse of the lifestyle of Hearst's time. This tour is available most Fridays and Saturdays from March through May and September through December.

Evening tour visitors begin by listening to a radio broadcast that highlights key events of the 1920s. The tour lasts about two hours and 10 minutes and includes the pools, terraces and gardens illuminated by more than 100 newly restored light fixtures.

It also shows the largest guest house, Hearst's private quarters, and many guest rooms. The end features a Hearst Metrotone newsreel recounting some of the important events of 1931 in the private theater.

All tours include the turquoise-and-gold tiled indoor pool, known as the Roman Pool, which is lined with Venetian glass and gold. It also stops by the Neptune Pool, which is a Greco-Roman outdoor pool.

There are four daytime tours, about 1 hour 45 minutes long, the first beginning at 8:30 a.m. The daytime tours cost $10 for adults, while the evening tour is $20. Ticket purchases may be made on a walk-in basis, but the Hearst Foundation recommends that reservations be made ahead of time, by calling 1-800-444-4445, to avoid disappointments.

Before taking the bus up to the castle, first-timers should visit the National Geographic IMAX Theater that shows the 40-minute history of Hearst Castle on a five-story screen, eight times the size of the average movie screen.

"Hearst knew he was building a museum," Kastner said. "He once said, 'We can't all go abroad so art should come to America.'"

Everyone can't go abroad to see art and castles, but those on the Central Coast can drive to Hearst Castle.
Sushi comes to dinner

By Jon Hughes
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER
Town

We live in the most delicious town. San Luis Obispo. Most college students, myself included, dine similarly limited. A traditional night out to dinner is Burger King or Jack in the Box. A treat is Izzy Ortega’s Firestone (try it technically foreign food but it doesn’t count when every block in the town has a Mexican restaurant). It’s this culinary rut that caused me to pump the brakes and do a review of San Luis Obispo’s two sushi restaurants. Sakura Rikyu and Tsurugi Japanese Restaurant.

I have never been the most adventurous of diners, but having my own hands torn by my pants, I figured that trying sushi, with its abundance of eels and octopus, would be a good start.

I began at Sakura, which luckily was a stone’s throw from my house (you don’t want to be driving much after free sake bombs). I was immediately impressed by the look and feel of the restaurant. I don’t know if it qualifies as traditional Japanese, but Sakura has a slick, hip feel to it that makes it a great place to dine on a Friday or Saturday night when the place is usually hopping.

Since it was Friday, the place was busy and it took a little while for our party to be seated, but once we were situated, the service was prompt and regular. I usually evaluate the service of a restaurant based on how long it takes me to get a beer. Sakura passed the test, coming in at a solid three minutes from order to delivery.

One of the greatest things about going to a sushi place is the chance to do sake bombs. To do a bomb, you balance a cup of sake on chopsticks above a three-quarters full glass of beer. When that is accomplished, a chant arises (“Sake bomb! Sake Bombs!”), at which point you bang on the table, knocking the sake into the beer and then pounding the entire mix. It is a prettily exhilarating, if a bit messy, way to bring the college party atmosphere to an otherwise class environment.

After a number of sake bombs, the meal began with the standard miso soup, which was sour. It was followed pretty closely by the main course, which for me consisted of the spicy California roll (which is tuna, avocado, and some seafood mix wrapped in rice and seaweed), salmon and octopus sushi. The presentation of the entire meal was pretty boring, but you don’t go to a restaurant to look at the food.

Everything was delicious, and the portions were surprisingly large. The salmon was extremely flavorful and the octopus, which I decided to try on a lark, was tasty as well (even though it did feel like I was eating a tire). I sampled everyone else’s opinion as well, and the consensus was very positive. Sakura is a fun, happening place that is a bit on the pricey side but scores points for good service, a tolerance for drunken college kids and tasty meals. I give it three-and-a-half stars.

Sakura Rikyu is located at 11560 Los Osos Valley Rd. They serve lunch Monday through Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.; dinner with dinner on Saturday and Sunday from 5 to 10 p.m.

Luis Obispo’s two sushi restaurants, Sakura Rikyu and Tsurugi Japanese Restaurant, are not the most adventurous of diners, but I have never been the most adventurous of diners, so having my own hands torn by my pants, I figured that trying sushi, with its abundance of eels and octopus, would be a good start.

Next stop: Tsurugi.

I noticed that the menu is arranged differently from Sakura’s, with more combination plate selections and slightly lower prices. I decided to try one of Tsurugi’s self-proclaimed “famous” boats, which offer a ton of different selections in one meal.

The portions were smaller than those at Sakura, but the overall presentation of the food was better. One of my friends got the spicy salmon roll, which came gorgeously displayed with a pinkish sauce poured over it. The pleasing appearance added a nice element to the meal.

The highlights of my own entree were the sea bass and the tuna. I did not expect any fish would surpass sushi. The tuna was also very tasty, better than Sakura’s offering.

Overall, Tsurugi doesn’t offer the fun, trendy dining experience that Sakura offers, but it has its charms. The food is great, the prices are decent, and it is a nice place to have a quiet meal with good company. I give it three out of four giant clams.

I saw this world of sushi dining as a successful one. I enjoyed two good meals and conquered some fears in the process. I’m not reaching for a meal that comes with French fries or salsa, go for the wasabi.

Take a Break and Party with Woodstock’s Pizza!

"Take a Break and Party with Woodstock’s Pizza!"

Megan Beaudoin, liberal studies junior, reaches for another piece of sushi. She said she likes how the dish is light yet still filling.
Not much to love in 'Hamlet' performance

By Adam Jarman
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

"Unfortunately for Cal Poly, the local production suffered from poor directing that allowed the cast to adequately learn their lines, but without chemistry or comedic instinct.”

In the realm of acting, it is sometimes said that playing a Shakespearean lead role is one of the greatest honors. But, for some, an acting career is not about being chosen as Juliet, Othello or Macbeth; it is about following one's heart and landing roles in less well-known productions.

For the main character of "I Hate Hamlet," Andrew Rally (played by Brian Ward), it's about finding his own happiness amid the desires of his girlfriend and agent. Rally, star of a just-canceled television drama, has moved into a New York City apartment looking for his next big break. What comes his way are both the role of Hamlet and the lead in a new television drama — and he is forced to make the big decision.

"I Hate Hamlet," directed by theater professor Michael Mallkin, is nothing more than a disappointment.

Ward, a general engineering junior, also known for his work as Francis Flute in this year's "A Midsummer Night's Dream," proved to be the perfect choice to play a mediocre actor, as his performance was just that: mediocre. Many of his lines are actually quite funny if one listens closely, but that is due to the writer, and not Ward's portrayal of Rally. The majority of his jokes fell flat without audience reaction. His over-exaggerated motions made for an awkward stage presence.

The relationship between Andrew Rally and his girlfriend Deedee McDavay, acted by theater junior Sara Buskirk, is quite dynamic. Here, they was a lot of room for well-executed sexual innuendoes focused around Deedee's virginity. To the dismay of the audience, they were as anti-climactic as her sex life. Combining Ward's less-than-awaited performance with complete lack of chemistry between him and his leading lady, the potential of this relationship is lost.

The play also featured theater sophomore Jennifer Pierson in the role of Rally's real estate agent, a typical Jewish-American princess. The character combined flammability, retro style with a stereotypical New Jersey accent, which was pulled off despite some over-acting. Ward, in the character's first appearance, played the mostly believable role as Rally's agent, who happens to be of German descent. Disposed to a typically shouting demeanor were cleverly funny references to her ancestry, but these got lost in the awkwardness of the cast as a whole.

Added to the ensemble is one non-Cal Poly student, Gregory Sellars is a San Luis Obispo resident active in local theater who took on the role of John Barrymore's ghost. This character comes to haunt Rally and coach him into playing the role of Hamlet. As an experienced actor, Sellars brings an understanding of his character, above all others in the production, that leads to great execution.

Paul Rudnick's "I Hate Hamlet" has a lot of promise. Written by the same pen as "Addams Family Values" and "In and Out," it has the potential to present modern themes with wit and satire. Unfortunately for Cal Poly, the local production suffered from poor directing that allowed the cast to adequately learn their lines, but without chemistry or comedic instinct.

The saving grace of the production was the beautifully designed and crafted set. Set designer and theater and dance faculty member Tim Dugan did himself transforming the Cal Poly Theatre into the living room of Rally's new medieval-inspired apartment, complete with wood paneling and walls adorned with crosses and swords. The true tragedy of the play was using this as a backdrop to an otherwise fulfiling production.

"I Hate Hamlet" will complete its run this Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. Tickets are $9 and $8 for students, but that money could be better spent for an evening at the big screen.

ASI concert to host pop/reggae bands

Cal band Common Sense, with Munkafast as an opening act. The winner of ASI's Battle of the Bands in February, Penstock, will also perform.

Common Sense is well known as a pop/reggae band, and Munkafast has also been categorized as having the same type of sound.

Now's the time to get your career in motion.

There isn't a better time to begin a fulfilling, rewarding career. At KSA, we help make your professional dreams become reality. As the world's largest management consulting firm specializing in the consumer products, retail and healthcare industries, we put a special emphasis on the people who help make it all possible.

We choose individuals who aren't just great employees, but who we feel have the intellect, drive, and professional integrity to one day lead our company.

So if you feel you have what it takes to make it to the top, come learn more about us. We will be holding an INFORMATION session on Thursday, March 8th at 5 p.m. in The Veranda Café-C.

Feel free to stop by and pick up additional information or ask us any questions you may have regarding a career in management consulting with KSA.

Jeffrey D. Stulberg
Attorney at Law
- Aggressive
- Effective
- Affordable

544-7693
www.stulberg.com

PERSONAL INJURY
- vehicle accidents, slip & fall
CRIMINAL DEFENSE
- drug & drug cases
EMPLOYMENT LAW
- sexual harassment
- wrongful termination
- employment discrimination

Initial Consultation Always FREE!
Musicians go global with Sudanese tunes

By Erica Tower

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

By Erica Tower

Siikarma created Pusaka Sunda, a 12-native land in West Java.

"This particular style of music, which is led by the bamboo flute, is rarely encountered in the United States," Spiller said. "There is only one other group vaguely similar to Pusaka Sunda. From conservative sounds to more experimental compositions, Cal Poly is very fortunate to be able to experience a wide variety of West Javanese music with this performance."

Pusaka Sunda was formed in 1988 when Sukarno and his wife moved to the United States and began performing on the streets of San Francisco. Thenother, they put a group together, whose members have stuck since.

"To see the brains behind Pusaka Sunda that has made the group so successful," Spiller said. "Barbin is extraordinarily talented."

The Cal Poly recital will also feature dancer Sri Sudowati, who will perform classical Sundanese and modern Indonesian dances to the sounds of Pusaka Sunda.

"In one of the pieces, she (Sudowati) is supposed to portray a princess dressed in an elaborate costume," Spiller said. "The musicians will also be wearing traditional outfits from West Java, which are made of beautiful fabrics and bright colors."

Following Pusaka Sunda, Spiller will direct Cal Poly's own variation of West Javanese music in a short performance of "gamelan salendro." This musical style is similar to gamelan degung with the use of bronze gongs and metallophones, but with a different tuning and repertoire.

"This ensemble was created from a class of 10 to 12 students who wanted to learn how to play this unique style of music," Spiller said.

For more information, call the music department at 756-2466.

What a difference the train makes!

Enjoy the comfort and convenience of traveling with Amtrak® this spring.

Student Advantage® Members save 15% on rail fares to over 500 destinations all year long, including Spring Break. To join Student Advantage, call 1-877-2JOIN-SA or visit studentadvantage.com.

For Amtrak® information and reservations, call 1-877-632-3788 or visit www.amtrak.com.

10% OFF If you are not a Student Advantage Member, enjoy a one time savings of 10% when you present this coupon and your valid student I.D.

Tickets must be purchased by April 30, 2001, for travel from February 1, 2001 through April 30, 2001.

Original coupon must be surrendered at the time of purchase. No photocopies accepted. Only one coupon per passenger. Offer valid for select trains only — Not valid on Amtrak's Auto Train® or Auto Express®. Travel not valid on Auto Trains or Auto Express trains. Other restrictions apply. Call 1-800-RAIL-123 for complete details. Tickets must be purchased by April 30, 2001, for travel from February 1, 2001 through April 30, 2001. Amtrak® is a registered service mark of the National Railroad Passenger Corporation.
America should sit on its helping hands until asked

In February, China lashed out against the United States and the United Nations for criticizing its human rights record. It also disagreed with the U.S. State Department's annual human rights report, which said China's human rights record had worsened. U.N. human rights chief Mary Robinson called for the disbandment of China's labor camps. In its defense, China said that its human rights record is the best it's ever had. China said it uses labor camps as a "compassionate" means of dealing with social problems.

Should our government be involved in protecting the citizens of other countries, such as China? The United States has many internal problems that need fixing: guns, drugs, famine and poverty. It is not in our position to help China's critics.

The United States has slowly become the overly cautious parent who won't let a child learn by falling down. As an emerging country, to say that we have had more than our share of bumps and scrapes along the way is an understatement. At times, the United States has been in serious critical condition, like in times of slavery and the Civil War. If a stronger, more established country would have interfered in the United States' problems, the young country's reaction would have been outrage.

Moreover, many countries that we "help" are in these same situations. They have just fought to gain their independence from a larger and stronger country, and here comes the United States to help them and become another large country they might soon be indebted to.

The United States has a superiority complex; it believes that its way of life is the correct way. It should step back and wait for countries to solve and learn from their own mistakes.

Take communism, for example. To say the least, we strongly opposed it. We fought and made it a point to tell the U.S.S.R. the error in its ways. Ultimately, the system collapsed and they adopted democracy. If our way of living is so much better, our methods of conducting everyday life will prevail.

As strongly as people think the United States should aid its own business, many feel that our duty as a powerful nation is to help the world, by bringing the light and prosperity to nations in need. Every person and every nation is connected. If a tragedy occurs in some part of the world, everyone is affected.

The Great Depression of the early 1930s should remind us of this interconnectedness. The depression first began in Europe and eventually affected the United States. Therefore, by helping the rest of the world, we are helping ourselves. When it comes to individuals, there is such a temptation to help others. Celebrities do this all the time. They are paid millions of dollars, and they take up a cause of some sort; it's almost expected of us.

In retrospect, the U.S. public has never before been happier with its government. In World War II, people were angry that we didn't get involved at first. Some didn't understand how the government could just sit and do nothing as the war raged on. When Pearl Harbor was bombed, and we were sent to war, people were pissed that we did do something.

What did the public want the government to do? Send England and France a fruit basket with a note saying how sorry we were about the war and hoped that everything turned out well?

These aren't new arguments. Everyone has his or her opinion on what the government should do. The truth probably lies in the middle of both extremes.

The United States should aid countries when they ask for it. We have a knack for getting involved in situations before we know the full story behind them.

The United States has a tendency to force to help on countries. This needs to stop.

There are countries that need our help, but are overlooked because their need is not pressing enough. Many times countries with the biggest need don't ask for our help, so we shouldn't help them. We should work on ourselves and wait until we are asked to lend a helping hand.

Byron Samaya is an ecology and systematic biology senior and Mustang Daily staff writer.

Letter to the editor

Don't let companies woo you from values

Editor,

A couple of the companies at the job fair last week were among the nation's leading weapons manufacturers: TRW, Raytheon, Northrop Grumman and Boeing. The Cal Poly student's eagerness to work for them was obvious by the long lines of students crowding the booths. This letter will provide some information that the students were not given by these companies.

The above companies are responsible for developing our government's National Missile Defense System. Also known as "Star Wars," this space system uses radar and satellites to detect enemy missiles, as they are fired and U.S.-based missiles or lasers in space to destroy them before they reach the target.

The government justifies the expense ($60 billion) and risks of Star Wars as a defense against missile attack by "states of concern" usually interpreted to be Iraq, Iran and North Korea. Two out of three test missile interception conducted in ideal conditions have been absolute failures.

The United States actually has more to fear from enemies bringing nuclear weapons to our country in ships or in an attack. Star Wars would undermine key and controlled agreements with China and Russia.

If you are hoping to ask yourself why our country is proceeding with such an enormously expensive, completely unnecessary and technically flawed defense plan, a plan that our closest allies don't support (not to mention our old Cold War enemies) and which will start another nuclear arms race.

The answer can be found by examining the close ties between the U.S. government and the powerful weapons company lobbyists. Bruce Jackson is vice president of corporate strategy and development at Lockheed Martin, the world's largest weapons manufacturer. Last year Jackson was the chairman of the Foreign Policy Platform Committee at the Republican convention and he boldly stated, "I wrote the Republican Party's foreign policy platform." President George W. Bush's election director, the director of the National Security Council, Stephen Hadley, is a partner in Shea & Gardner, the Washington firm representing Lockheed Martin. Vice President Dick Cheney has been on the board of TRW, and his wife, Lynne, just resigned from the board of Lockheed-Martin. These examples are only the tip of the iceberg.

How are you involved with this issue? Were you one of those students drooling over an interview with Boeing? Do you care that the entire upper echelon of your future company is an old white men's club that will stop short of nothing to rip off taxpayers? Is that nice salary worth the risk that your life work could kill innocent people? Are you going to believe the military-industrial complex propaganda that the cruise missiles you worked on made the world a safer place? Are there no honest non-destructive companies out there for you to work for?

The fact is that the leaders who instigate wars are never the victims of war — the victims of war are always the innocent. The choice is yours. Research corporations before you get hired, whether it be weapons companies, accounting firms or horticultural labs. Do not sell out and work for a company that compromises your values.

Kevin White is an art and design senior.
Cowboys waive Aikman

IRVING, Texas (AP) - The Dallas Cowboys waived Troy Aikman on Wednesday, no longer convinced that the quarterback who led them to three Super Bowl titles is healthy enough to be their starter.

"We always shared a mutual respect for what was in the best interest of Troy and the Dallas Cowboys," owner Jerry Jones said. "In the end, it was in the best interest for him to have a timely opportunity to entertain all of his options."

"He'll be missed on the field at Texas Stadium. He'll always be a Dallas Cowboy and always be a very important part of this organization," Jones said.

He said he visited with Aikman twice Wednesday, and they agreed it was important a decision be made quickly so Aikman could try to play again with another team.

"I'd like to play somewhere. Whether that's able to work out or not, I don't know. There's nothing definitive," Aikman said.

Jones had to make the move by Thursday or else pay Aikman a $7 million bonus and extend his contract through 2007. He will still take up $10 million of Dallas' $67.4 million salary cap this season.

Jones said the salary cap was a factor in the decision to waive the 34-year-old Aikman, who played with the Cowboys for 12 seasons and also had 10 concussions.

"Troy's loyalty to this organization was involved. The future makeup of our team's roster was involved," he said. "Troy's status as a future Hall of Famer and a contributor to the history of this league ... and fortunately his wonderful ability to do what was in the best interest of this organization was also a prevailing thing throughout this process."

Aikman called it a "mutual and amicable decision."

"This is really a cap deal. Waiting till June wasn't going to help me," Aikman said.

Also on Wednesday, Dallas agreed to re-sign linebacker Dexter Coakley for $25 million for six years, with a $5.5 million signing bonus. To clear cap room, the Cowboys were expected to release veterans Erik Williams and Chad Hennings.

As much as Jones might have wanted to keep Aikman - the first player he ever drafted - the owner apparently decided the Cowboys couldn't prepare for the 2001 season with such a fragile, expensive quarterback.

The six-time Pro Bowler who holds practically all the Dallas passing records sustained two concussions in 11 games last season and twice needed epidural injections to relieve back pain.

The last play of his career in Dallas ended in a concussion in the first quarter of a Dec. 10 victory over Washington. With the Cowboys deep in Redskins territory, Aikman rolled out to his right and was slammed to the turf on a crushing, leaping tackle by linebacker LaVar Arrington.

Other teams might be scared off because of Aikman's injury problems, which could then prompt him to retire.

Who's Got Balls?

Prize giveaway from 1-3 pm at Cal Poly Baseball

Saturday, March 10th

vs. Missouri

Grand Prize is an all expenses paid trip to Cancun for the student with the most balls and 3 friends

PRIZE Giveaway - Bring all your Balls!
CASH FOR COMICS

CASH for Comics, stamps, old garage sale stuff, broken electronics, old computers, old paperwork, old record albums, old music, old books.

If you like Metabolite
You'll Love Xenadine

"Yes, that's me in both these pictures. Before Xenadine I was honest and I never dated a non-drug person. One week later, I feel like a new person. I'm proof that Xenadine works! Try it for yourself!"

BASKETBALL
continued from page 12

Irvin took both meetings of the two teams, but Cal Poly was primed for an upset of the conference winners on Feb. 17 in Irvine, when the Mustangs took a 52-36 lead into the locker room at halftime. In the second half, Cal Poly's leading rebounder, forward Brandon Beeson, was lost for the season due to a knee injury. Green shed the remnants of the Mustangs' defense for a 93-89 Irvine victory.

With Beeson unable to play and forward Brandon Beeson, was lost for the season due to a knee injury, the Cal Poly bench was reduced to its most experienced players, the more you keep your stars in the lineup, the more you can rely on them," said Mcnamara. "With its performance in Irvine, Cal Poly doesn't approach the Anteaters as unbeatable.

"We've got a lot of confidence," says the program. "We're just going to go out there and have nothing to lose. We know we can beat them if we play well."
Mustangs up against No. 1 seed Irvine

By Matt Sterling
MUSTANG DAILY SPORTS EDITOR

There will be a gathering of Big West award winners Thursday night, and it won't be at a pregame ceremony. The Big West's three major award winners - Player of the Year Jerry Green, Coach of the Year Pat Douglas and Freshman of the Year Jamal Scott will all be on the floor tonight as Cal Poly takes on UC Irvine in the first round of the Big West Tournament.

The Mustangs and Anteaters are heading in opposite directions, with Irvine on an eight-game winning streak and the Mustangs dropping five straight. Irvine (24-3, 15-1) comes into the tournament as the No. 1 seed, while Cal Poly (19-8, 13-3) backed into the No. 8 spot due to Long Beach State's victory over Pacific last Sunday.

All signs point to an Irvine victory and a march on to the second round, but a look at the previous meetings between the two teams tells quite a different story.

see BASKETBALL, page 11

Women's lacrosse remains undefeated after tourney

By Sonia Slutzki
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

After competing in the second largest tournament on the West Coast in Santa Barbara, players on the women's lacrosse club team came back with black eyes, cuts, bruises and two championships.

Both the A and B teams were undefeated during the tournament two weeks ago, which brought the A team's record to a perfect 11-0. The team has already received their bid to the national tournament in St. Louis, Mo.

"People have come up to us saying they've never seen a team connect so well," said Suzanne Loeffler, team captain and an industrial engineering senior. "We have a very strong defense and a lot of solid talent."

Loeffler said this year's success is due to a combination of a solid core of returning players and a lot of rookie talent.

One of the rookie talents is Bridget Mulhern, a recreational administration freshman, who came into Cal Poly with four years of experience playing high school lacrosse and two seasons playing with the California national team.

"When I came to Cal Poly, I knew right away I wanted to play for the team," Mulhern said.

The team's defense is different from that of most other teams, which has contributed to the team's success this year. It is based on strategically

see LACROSSE, page 11

Kinesiology junior Ashley Kiersted takes a shot at the goal.