Eye in the sky

Alcohol issue before council again

By Katriona Corey
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

The alcohol ordinance that was passed by the San Luis Obispo City Council two weeks ago is on the consent agenda for today’s City Council meeting at 4 p.m.

After the ordinance was approved at the May 15 meeting, the wording was published in The Tribune for the public to see, and the issue is now being brought back to the agenda for a final vote, said Diane Reynolds, administrative assistant in the city clerk’s office.

She said the items on the consent agenda are voted on all at once. There is a public comment period before the council votes. At that time, anyone who wishes to speak on items from the consent agenda, which includes the ordinance, states that party hosts may be cited if they are holding a party where five or more minors are present and three or more are consuming alcohol.

Angie Hacker, Associated Students Inc. president-elect, said she encourages students to come to the meeting. She said she has been sending e-mails and passing out fliers during University Union hours to entice students to attend and show their support.

“Our chances of getting the council to change their vote is slim...”

Angie Hacker
ASI president-elect

By Raul Vasquez
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Serving dinner at an area homeless shelter during his freshman year made Paulo Youse realize that all homeless people need is someone to hold out a hand and show them care.

The mechanical engineering senior went on to be the director of Beyond Shelter, a Cal Poly student group that works with the homeless in San Luis Obispo. Youse was the founder of “Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week,” which is now an annual event. Earlier this year, he started a new program, Computer Partners, which pairs Cal Poly students as tutors to homeless people and seniors who want to learn computer skills.

For his work, Youse was named the 2001 recipient of the University Wide Honors award.

Youse said he believes there is potential in everyone and that it’s critical to show them that they’re important.

“Doing community service helps you realize what’s important in life,” Youse said. “As college students, sometimes you forget that.”

Youse was one of seven Cal Poly students awarded the Land Family Quest for the Best Award, but his award, the University Wide Honors, is the highest level of distinction.

The awards were presented at a May 20 reception at the Albert B. Smith Alumni House. All winners received plaques and monetary awards. Youse’s was equivalent to a year’s tuition.

The awards recognize leaders in each of the university’s six colleges and one in student government who exemplifies the core values of excellence, stewardship, collaboration, integrity and community, according to a press release from Student Life and Leadership.

The award combined two previous university awards: the Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Land Outstanding University and Community Service Award, established in 1986 by alumna Jeff Land and his wife, Carla, and the Quest for the Best Award, initiated last year by the office of Cal Poly’s vice president for Student Affairs.

Other winners included: Kamina Rosenthal, an agricultural business student, for the College of Agriculture; Craig Chinn, architecture senior, for the College of Architecture and Environmental Design; Melissa Varacak, business administration

Family recognizes seven students’ leadership, dedication

see AWARDS, page 2
AWARDS
continued from page 1

TODAY'S SUN
Rise: 5:48 a.m. / Set: 8:15 p.m.

TODAY'S MOON
Rise: 8:08 p.m. / Set: 5:38 a.m.

TODAY'S TIDE AT PORT SAN LUIS
Low: 4:46 a.m. / -0.97 feet
High: 11:20 a.m. / 3.67 feet
Low: 3:50 p.m. / 2.17 feet
High: 10:04 p.m. / 5.96 feet

5-DAY FORECAST
TUESDAY
High: 69° / Low: 50°

WEDNESDAY
High: 76° / Low: 54°

THURSDAY
High: 82° / Low: 55°

FRIDAY
High: 77° / Low: 54°

SATURDAY
High: 76° / Low: 51°

GRADUATION
continued from page 1

"In addition to being an outstanding faculty member, he has a tremendous knowledge of Cal Poly and the Central Coast," he said.

Krieger, who is celebrating his 30th year at Cal Poly, said he was "overawed" to be chosen as a commencement speaker at graduation.

He said his speech will be about the "uniqueness of Cal Poly in view of its history." As an interpreter of history, he said students and their families should take away from the commencement Cal Poly's vision of the future in addition to understanding its past.

At the morning commencement, Veneman will be presented with an honorary doctoral degree for her agricultural service in California, Anderson said. The California State University Board of Trustees approved the request to bestow Veneman with the Doctor of Laws (LL.D.) degree, Uytterhaal said in the fax.

Veneman was unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate in January and sworn in as the 27th Secretary of the USDA, according to the USDA's Web site. Raised in Modesto, she earned a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of California at Davis, a master's degree in public policy from the University of California at Berkeley and a juris doctorate degree from the University of California, Hastings College of Law, according to the Web site.

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Veneman's speech will begin at 9 a.m. for the colleges of Agriculture, Architecture and Environmental Design, and Engineering. Afternoon ceremonies start at 2 p.m. for the colleges of Business, Liberal Arts, Science and Mathematics, and Master of Arts in Education.

GRADUATION
continued from page 1

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Playlist-sharing site acknowledges KCPR

By Byron Samayoa
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

With the advent of electronic music and mp3s, the scene for technical tunes grows every day, as does the ability for people to share them. Cal Poly’s radio station, KCPR 91.3 FM, recently earned an award for its contributions to this medium.

The group that honored KCPR was Uplister, a relatively new online playlist sharing community. This type of site allows people to go online and make lists of their favorite solids to show to other users. The radio station-affiliated users utilize these lists to find out what radio stations around the country are playing.

“Think of it as a giant mix tape online,” said Dan Mcgarry, marketing associate with Uplister. “There is a strong community aspect to it,” Mcgarry said. “Our site is made up of people who are very passionate about music and put a lot of time and energy into the playlists that they are creating.”

In recognition of the fact that KCPR brought the second-highest number of signups to the site, Uplister decided to feature KCPR as station of the month. KCPR will be one of two stations featured in June. The station is the first to receive this distinction on the West Coast.

The lists are what make this Web site stand out from other music sites, which might feature reviews and critiques. Uplister is entirely user-run. Once the lists are posted on the site, anyone on the Web can see and download them.

“You can use it to find a new favorite band,” said Thomas Galvin, a mechanical engineering sophomore. “I can find other artists in a genre (that I already like).”

College radio disc jockeys are among the most active people using the site, Mcgarry said. “Recently, there have been more DJs using the site,” said Tara Crab, a biology graduate student and one of the music directors for KCPR.

Crab and other disc jockeys at KCPR use the site to make lists for personal and informational purposes. “Personally, I only use it for my show” (Tom’s show) “Kitty Q Willison,” Crab said.

“I can share the show on (Uplister) and highlight my favorite artists,” said Lisa Rodriguez, vice president of communications for Uplister. Rodriguez hopes that in the future, users will be able to download music straight from playlists, rather than getting it from another site.

Currently, the site offers 30-second song previews and promotional mp3s. Uplister wants to add major labels to the site and offer subscriptions to their services eventually. With the recent fight over digital copyrights and Internet downloads, it will be interesting to see if this site succeeds in that realm. Considering the Napster ordeal, Rodriguez is optimistic.

“We have had good conversations with major and independent labels and other music providers,” she said.

Students can visit Uplister at www.uplister.com.
Possible products make for great graduation gifts

As a graduating senior, I believe that there is no sweeter gift than the satisfaction that comes from being able to say I have diligently and dutifully completed my education at such a prestigious university. The sweetest part of this sweet gift is knowing that my friends and family members will soon realize that I have diligently and dutifully received a degree and will shower me with both expensive gifts and envelopes full of sweet, sweet cash.

Actually, I don't mind whether or not I get presents, because I know that if I got one gift, I would want to celebrate it in a loving way that would make my graduate's accomplishment more apparent than by giving him the added responsibility and worry of caring for a small animal! The hours of a puppy, kitten, fish or iguana can bring to your graduate will more than make up for the costs of keeping a small animal, in the form of added beauty and security. As an added bonus, a small bird like a canary can double as a "smoke alarm" for your graduate's safety and security, or as a companion for the lonely graduate who finds himself or herself sitting alone.

2) A pet. Various genetic teams of scientists have repeatedly proven that pets reduce stress, lower blood pressure and increase general well-being. As a bonus, a pet will also be a way to celebrate your graduate's accomplishment more apparent than by giving him the added responsibility and worry of caring for a small animal!

3) A skateboard, bike or wagon. With today's superfluous gas prices, cars are practically impractical. Some forms of natural, occasionally transportation would save your graduate's money and would encourage a healthy, active lifestyle. Getting to and from work in a wagon would also help to make your graduate's inner child. A red Radio Flyer would probably work best, although a large, bouncy wagon or a "cart" will also allow him to get around easily. As a bonus, a cart can make the back-breaking work of hauling 16 tons of coal that much easier. Unless your graduate's name comes equipped with a personal masseuse, he'll appreciate any extra load-carrying capability she can get!

4) A trip. Let's face it. Your graduate is going to become a miner. You must be very proud.

With partisan bickering at a high level with the recent defection of Sen. James Jeffords from the Republican Party, President George W. Bush has a tough road ahead of him. However, some issues, believe it or not, aren't so partisan.

When Bush announced last Monday the signing of a law allowing for the construction of a World War II Memorial in Washington D.C., I found myself nodding my head in agreement. Although the decision's timing was questionable, that didn't make it a bad one.

There has been much controversy over the years over the building of a memorial on the famous National Mall in Washington, centering on spatial issues. The National Coalition to Save Our Mall has concerns that the monument will ruin the "open green space" between the Lincoln Monument and the Washington Memorial on the Mall. The monument would take up a 3-acre portion of the Mall - nearly half of the total space.

Concerns are valid, these people are not against the recognition of World War II veterans. It's a matter of priorities. The National Coalition to Save Our Mall wants to make sure the monument will not "ruin" the National Mall, as if the debate over converting the Mall into a huge nuclear power plant and not a grand park. Even if the monument would hurt the Mall's image, it's a ludicrous claim. It is not reasonable to assume the landscape of the Mall is more important than the World War II veterans themselves. We're talking about 16 million people who served for the United States, not to mention the more than 400,000 who died. The memorial will contain bronze wreaths and gold stars, all surrounding a pool, a design which some have described as hokey or even ugly, although it sounds nice to me.

But even if the monument is not as aesthetically pleasing as the open atmosphere - which is unlikely considering the $160 million budget for the project - it is also true that the war itself wasn't pretty, either. This is why the monument needs to be made for the first time. Honoring those who served our country in this special way is more important than honoring the perceived beauty of the National Mall.

The memorial definitely wouldn't be unprecedented, either. The National Mall already has memorials of former presidents Thomas Jefferson and Franklin Delano Roosevelt, as well as memorials for Korea and Vietnam War veterans. Why World War II veterans would be seen as less important is beyond me.

Politics definitely played a role in Bush's signing of the law, as it always seems to. Nobody should think that it's a coincidence that the law was signed on Memorial Day and in the midst of a $25 million opening weekend of the film "Pearl Harbor." The timing is akin to stirring an anti-flay burning law on the Fourth of July. It is much more difficult to oppose a memorial such as this when patriotism is so strong; a controversial issue is made to seem less so under that type of circumstances.

Bush was right to sign the law. Many World War II veterans are dying, and there is a sense of urgency that they get paid homage before many more of them pass away. Reservations about details of the memorial aren't more important than the memorial itself. I'll give precedence to World War II veterans over an open space any day.

Letter policy

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Opinion

Video game takes realistic violence to new levels

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Between 40,000 and 60,000 people took part in the protest-turned-riot against the World Trade Organization meeting in Seattle on Nov. 30, 1999. Hundreds of people were injured.

Commentary

people were arrested and damage to local businesses was extensive. To most people, this was a violent, unnecessary tragedy. To Rockstar Games, it is the stuff video games are made of.

Rockstar Games plans to release "State of Emergency" for PlayStation 2, which Excite reported to be based on the WTO riot, in fall. The game has not yet been rated, but the official preview, which was released by www.rockstargames.com, stated that "State of Emergency" is an urban riot game set in the near future, where the oppressive American Trade Organization (ATO) has declared a State of Emergency. It is up to you to smash up everything and everyone in order to destabilize the ATO.

Use any item available to begin fighting, including pipes, bricks and benches—even dismembered body parts... State of Emergency is a game for those who have always wondered what it's like to be armed and dangerous in a city gone out of control.

I am guessing that most of the people in this game's impressionable target audience have never been in a city "gone out of control," seeing as how they are probably still in junior high or high school. Playing a stylized video game will never show them the pain and suffering that such situations produce. Paul Hawken, a journalist, happened to be caught in the middle of the WTO riot, and has written about his experience in several magazines. This is an excerpt from Yes magazine:

"When I was able to open my eyes, I saw lying next to me a young man, maybe 20 at the oldest. He was shock, twitching and shivering uncontrollably from being teargassed and pepper-sprayed at close range. His burned eyes were tightly closed, and he was panting irregularly. Then he passed out. He went from excruciating pain to unconsciousness on a sidewalk wet from the water that a medic had poured over him to flash his eyes."

This was certainly not an isolated incident. Many people suffered injuries that day, including business owners and innocent bystanders, or as the game calls them, "helpless citizens." "Helpless citizens driven by a sophisticated virtual sensing system react realistically to violence by panicking, running away, or calling to the nearest Peacekeeper for help," stated the game preview. "State of Emergency"champagnes the human experience and shows a complete lack of respect for society as a whole.

In the "State of Emergency" preview, the last line of the game is described as "Hit everybody! Smash everything! (And) Wreck your surroundings by looting stores and bombing cars." The game's characters range from four menacing-looking men to a token young woman with blue hair. Weapons in the game pictures range from large guns to hammers to hockey sticks to petrol bombs. I consider myself a fairly tolerant person when it comes to violence in movies and video games, but this game definitely crosses the line. I can't believe that a company would indulge in such blatant hypocrisy by releasing such a socially irresponsible game. The masterminds of Rockstar Games are lucky their business wasn't located in downtown Seattle during the actual WTO riots, or the property damage they would have suffered may have them singing a different tune. They probably wouldn't even be able to afford to create "State of Emergency." I don't know if the man that Hawken observed, writhing in pain on the pavement, wasn't them or someone close to them.

However, with the release of a game that promotes brutality and violence as recreation, it may only be a matter of time.

Kat DeBaiker is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily staff writer.

Letter to the editor

Diversity is just an image at Cal Poly

Anyone who has been watching university admissions in California in the last six years would notice that the schools are definitely becoming whiter. With this fact in mind, I find the title of the May 30 article, "Poly receives distinction nationally for diversity," completely absurd. Cal Poly should receive something but a distinction for diversity. Not only is the title of the article misrepresentative of Cal Poly's student population, but it doesn't even represent the content of the article itself.

Basically, the article described how Cal Poly ranked 17 on a list that ranks colleges and universities awarding the most bachelor's degrees to Hispanics. It describes how several other CSU campuses also received ranking such as San Diego, Chico, Los Angeles, Fresno and San Francisco. Although the CSU system as a whole did achieve high ranking, the claim in the article's title that Cal Poly has received a "distinction for diversity," simply misrepresents the obvious fact that Cal Poly lacks commitment to diversity.

All anyone has to do is look around at the faces at Cal Poly to doubt this claim of diversity. The facts are that Cal Poly's undergraduate student population, according to the Institutional Planning and Analysis office in Admissions, is 38.6 percent white, 7.6 percent Asian, 7.6 percent Mexican descent, 3.2 percent African American, 1.1 percent Filipino, 5 percent Pacific Islander, 1.1 percent Native American, 1.1 percent International and less than 1 percent African American, with 13.3 percent not specifying their ethnicity (These figures have been rounded so they may not add up to 100). The population of African American students has dropped in half from six years ago along with substantial drops in Mexican and Hispanic groups. Asians at Cal Poly are the only minority group that has actually increased with whites comprising about two-thirds of the student population over the last decade.

The article claimed that the "state is very diverse and the CSU system is a reflection of that diversity," but certainly no one could argue that Cal Poly's student population reflects California's population, a state in which no particular ethnic or racial group makes up the majority.

The truth is that about six years ago after the passage of Proposition 209, Cal Poly immediately cut back funding for outreach programs as they simultaneously dropped "race" as an admissions factor. I have been told that the reason we lack in our outreach programs is because the school "lacks the funding and faculty." But does Cal Poly really lack the funding or do they lack the commitment?

The one commitment that is evident is the continued false marketing in our catalogs and brochures suggesting that Cal Poly is a diverse campus. Pictures of minority groups have dominated the covers of pamphlets, brochures and catalogs. The university works harder at creating an image of diversity than actually working to create diversity itself.

The facts are that Cal Poly runs a cheap and efficient admissions process that predominately uses grade point average and SAT scores to make admissions decisions. It's an easy system that most obviously exemplifies this lack of commitment. So as you read headlines boasting Cal Poly's "diversity," just know that what you're actually getting is lip service from a school that really has no intention to make "diversity" a priority.

Tahia Mosely is a political science senior.

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A nonprofit organization serving Cal Poly since 1933
scenario questions about children who are not cooperative. “Parents have had ADD (Attention Deficit Disorder), but I’ve never had problems with them,” Lawrence said. “You just have to have patience and enjoy working with them.”

Lawrence said the kids are out there for fun and he tries to have exciting drills for them so they don’t get bored. “Parents have been great, and 25 percent of them stay and watch their kids,” Lawrence said. “It’s always good to have involved parents.”

The instructors need to have a good personality in order to work with children. “I have to make it fun for the children, but they also want to make them strong swimmers.”

“We don’t make the lessons that competitive because we want the children to enjoy their summer,” Avakian said. “All the students play when we have scrimmages and I’m sure it makes the children happy as well as the parents.”

To get to extreme lengths in order to prove their physical and strategic superiority. However, from an outsider’s perspective, sports might be even more exciting for the fans if they incorporated more combat-like elements. The closest that society has come to incorporating the “sports as war” concept seems to be the now-defunct XFL.

I truly loved the XFL, but in doing research I find myself completely baffled as to why the concept of World Wrestling Federation-endorsed football never caught on. Since I think it is the stupidest sport I’ve ever heard of, I would have thought it to be wildly popular.

Instead of non-intimidating, unremarkable sports names like the 49ers and the Dodgers, apparently the XFL teams had violent, menacing names such as the Demons and the Horns. Maybe the problem was that the XFL didn’t incorporate enough realistic warfare action. Exploding footballs, takeout weapons, foreshadow and secret booby traps have the potential to become a big hit with people who love both sports and war. The profitability potential for this idea is endless.

For example, imagine if paintball snipers hiding in trees were added to the PGA tour. The players would no longer have to play the time-honored game of golf to the best of their abilities, but play while trying not to get shot. It has the potential to add an unforeseen level of excitement, new betting pools and a larger fan base to the game of golf.

“Don’t just think of your job as a fun job,” Walsh said at Rice’s charity golf tournament. “I have to continue (yoga) this summer. I know that I am going to love it.”

Walsh said at Rice’s charity golf tournament. "I have to continue (yoga) this summer. I know that I am going to love it."
Sports

Taking a swim study break

Kinesiology freshman Jen Demers participates in volunteer training for the Cal Poly swim team Monday afternoon at the Rec Center pool. Athletes have the opportunity to train three days a week.

Players turn tables and teach children

By Adreonna Benjamin

Mustang Daily Staff Writer

For most Cal Poly water polo players, getting in the pool brings instant thoughts of battling opponents while hearing instructions shouted by a head coach. But this summer, the players are trading their competitiveness for teaching as they lead children to understand basic water safety.

Beginning June 25, members of the Cal Poly water polo team will teach swimming classes for children at the Rec Center.

"We had these lessons for a couple of years," said Greg Avakian, coordinator of aquatics and facilities at the Rec Center. "But for the past two years we've had water polo lessons as well."

The instructors, who are mostly students, are paid to teach the children rescue techniques and fitness swimming. There is also another class that teaches fundamental water polo skills.

"We teach them water safety, such as rescue breathing and rescue skills," Avakian said. "It's better that the children learn the basics and then go on to the fundamentals."

Avakian said the summer swim lessons give the Cal Poly students a chance to work with children and organize classes. "I've run the program for the last two years," said Brett Lawrence, captain of the water polo team.

"And I love working with the kids, they're awesome." Lawrence said he likes having Avakian assist him when he teaches, because his guidance helps him to become a better instructor.

"I really enjoy coaching, and would like to coach high school water polo," Lawrence said. "Avakian said the instructors are paid depending upon what type of job they have. Currently, interviews are going on to fill teaching positions.

"We have an interview process for the instructors and lifeguards," Avakian said. "They have to have knowledge of the sport and know how to manage children."