Every Cal Poly college produces hazardous waste, official says

By Kat DeBakker
SUMMER MUSTANG STAFF WRITER

The words "hazardous waste" may bring to mind visions of spent nuclear fuel rods and biodegradable space suits, but the hazardous waste designation is more commonplace than many people may think. "All of the colleges as well as Facilities Services maintenance generate hazardous waste such as acids, bases, solvents, photo chemicals, and asbestos and lead-containing building materials from renovations," said David Rapadale, Environmental Health and Safety Manager for Cal Poly Risk Management.

In fact, even the printing of this newspaper has hazardous materials.

"The main hazardous waste produced (from the printing of the Mustang Daily) is the ink," said Dyles Davis, University Graphics Systems printing technician. "The ink is properly treated as a hazardous chemical and all our waste newest is placed in a recycling bin."

The Campus Hazardous Waste Procedures bulletin described hazardous waste as "materials that have a history, of being part of hazardous waste disposal programs at Cal Poly or other educational institutions."

Among items listed as hazardous waste in the bulletin were: discarded fuel or motor oil, discarded batteries, empty containers of pesticides, discarded preserved animals containing formaldehyde or alcohol and discarded material which would produce a gas upon contact with water.

The Procedures bulletin stated that any department that has produced hazardous waste must put the waste in a compatible container and apply the appropriate hazardous waste label as provided by Risk Management. The Environmental Safety Office must be called to arrange for removal as soon as the procedure that produced the waste is finished, the container is full or the quarter has ended.

"All of the materials are transported off campus by a licensed hazardous waste hauler and disposed or recycled at an EPA-permitted facility," Rapadale said. "We use a number of different facilities, depending on the specific waste." The Risk Management Waste Management Plan described procedures for the disposal of medical, laboratory and biological waste. The plan estimated that Cal Poly generates between 200 and 500 pounds of medical waste per month.

Medical waste storage facilities are located at the Cal Poly Health Services loading dock, the Science North loading dock, behind the Cal Poly Veterinary Clinic and next to the custodial warehouse/Class Services. According to the Management plan, the medical waste is picked up at least once every seven days by BFI Medical Waste Systems of California, Inc., which then transports the waste to its Fresno facility.

There are several organizations in San Luis Obispo County and on the Cal Poly campus that work toward preserving local resources.

One of these organizations is Land Conservancy, a local group that helps preserve open space. Brian Stark, the organization's deputy director, said that the group buys resource-valued land, becoming what's called a "land trust." Organization Stark said they are the only group that prides itself on buying land and "doing nothing with it."

Once they have the land, it is managed for resource enhancement.

Stark explained that land trusts are the fastest growing conservation groups right now, with about 1,500 of them in the country and varying in size.

Land Conservancy has protected 3,500 acres in San Luis Obispo County. One of their main projects is the Guadalupe and Nipomo Dunes.

Currently, they are removing non-native grass around the dunes so that it will not wipe out the native plant population.

Another project they are working on is the San Luis Obispo Creek Watershed project. Stark said that this year alone Land Conservancy has re-vegetated an entire mile along stream banks. They have also modified six steelhead migration barriers. Stark said that last year they took a dam out at Steamer Creek (their most active project) to allow for the fish's migration.

Stark explained that Land Conservancy is different from other environmental groups because they don't do any advocacy or protesting.

"We work directly with land owners who want to protect their land; it is a respectful view," Stark said.

The group has about 700 members, with approximately 100 of them being Cal Poly students. Stark explained that Cal Poly students are a major resource for their restoration projects.

"There is a lot of volunteer spirit at Cal Poly, and it makes our job easier," Stark said.

Another environmental group that reaps from the benefits of Cal Poly volunteers is ECOLO, a non-profit organization.

Programs preserve open spaces with community's help

By April Pack
SUMMER MUSTANG STAFF WRITER

A carefree walk on a hiking trail, a breath of fresh air, and green space with no development — these are all things that would not be possible without the work of environmental groups.

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Poly Briefs
By Cory Dagan

Asbestos making Californians sick

As California continues to build more and more homes, the quality of life is diminishing. Homes being built north and south of San Francisco are running into problems. These problems stem from the quality of air being destroyed by asbestos fibers found in green mineral serpentine. This serpentine is a very popular, it's the state rock.

This material is nothing to praise; however, it ingests into the lungs, it has a history of causing cancer. The problem is that there are no signs of this material causing death. The only conclusive data that can be drawn is not available until after someone has already died.

So why are rock quarries all over the state using this harmful substance to pave driveways and build foundations for homes? For most quarries, it is a case of low cost and lack of an alternative substance.

Quarries have passed laws in the past to help minimize the inhaling of this harmful toxin. As a result, trucks cover their loads for deliveries and have their workers wear protective masks, however there is no rule that has been passed to get rid of this substance for good.

Residents in the affected areas are very concerned of their personal health. Toni James Johnson, who has lived in the El Dorado-Hills for the last decade both complained of bronchitis and pneumoia due to the toxins in the air.

Policy analyst for California Mining Association Adam Harper argued that the asbestos is harmful to the environment and causes cancer. Yet he has yet to take real action.

New health regulations are starting to be integrated into the 299 quarries around the state. This project is estimated to cost the homeowner $50 and cost the developers $220 to $500 per lot.

Arrests made in large-scale drug bust

A seizure ended last Wednesday with three in jail and over $40,000 worth of high grade Methamphetamine confiscated by San Luis Obispo Narcotics Task Force.

The seizure, which took place on July 18 at approximately 4:20 p.m., was not as routine as officials had intended. The task force concluded a month-long investigation after apprehending Ismael Maduena, 29, Jesse Maduena, 16, and Guadalupe Torres, 20. The three were arrested for being armed with a deadly weapon during the time of apprehension and for the sales and possession of the narcotics.

During the apprehension, one of the three attempted to run while pulling a gun on the officers. The officers quickly apprehended the man and confiscated the weapon without having to open fire on the man.

Assisting in this investigation and the apprehension of the suspects was the Drug Enforcement Agency and the San Luis Obispo Sheriff’s office (narcotics & K-9 units). The U.S. customs and the San Luis Obispo County District Attorney’s office, (investigation unit), and the SLO Police Department also were departments of the apprehension.

None of the men involved in the seizure were unavailable for comment at press time.

Program aims to lessen overseas oil use

The Minerals Management Service (MMS) is proposing a program to utilize the oil and natural gases in the United States so the dependency upon foreign countries for oil is less.

This program is proposed to run from 2002-2007. It will hold 20 oil and natural gas lease sales in the federal continental shelf between 2002-2007. The proposal, called the Draft Posed Outer Continental, plans to run sales in Mexico's Western Gulf, Central and part of Eastern planning areas. On top of that, the program plans to seek findings in Alaska's Beaufort Sea, Norton Basin, Cook Inlet/Shelikof Strait and the Chukchi Sea/Hope Basin.

Tom Kittos, MMS acting director, said the plan is proposing to hold 20 offshore lease sales during the next five years in an effort to help this country meet its energy demands of the future. Even with increased conservation efforts, Kittos is confronted with a national energy problem where the dependence on foreign oil will continue as well as the increased reliance on natural gas.

Kittos said over the next 20 years the consumption of oil will rise 33 percent and the consumption of natural gases will rise 50 percent. With this drastic increase in usage the MMS plan is the only direction to turn to for thermal and natural gas. In its present plan, it is proposed to rely solely on foreign countries to supply the United States with its resources.

Congresswomen Lois Capps said in a press release she has a positive feeling about the MMS decision to explore offshore drilling and gas leasing. Capps said she feels the decision to explore other coastlines other than California's coast will be a nice change. She pleads that the federal government is respecting the congressionally sanctioned of our California Coast.
Local play puts ‘odd’ spin on classic film

By April Pack
SUMMER MUSTANG STAFF WRITER

Olive and Florence, two characters in the female version of the "Odd Couple," appear to have it all — two noon to two a.m. types. They just make it on their own. They now have the freedom to do whatever they choose, and the hope of having two Latin lover brothers living upstairs. But, looking a little closer, the picture is not so sweet after all. This odd couple's life is filled with bickering and conflict, as a slob and a neat freak try to deal with one another's quirks and habits and attempt to live under the same roof without killing each other.


The play was originally written with two male characters, Felix and Oscar, who were played by Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau in the movie rendition.

The female version tells the same story every night, a group of girlfriends get together for gossip and a game of trivial pursuit at Olive's house (the set of the play). One night, Florence arrives later than everyone else and announces that her husband wants a divorce after 14 years of marriage. She is devastated.

Since Florence has nowhere to go, Olive offers to let her move in. This is when the fun begins. Because Olive is a slob and Florence is a neat freak, there becomes a continual battle between the two.

Denise Kudla, who portrays Olive, said she loves being this character.

"It is fun being a slob and not having to do my hair... women have to do all of that stuff all of the time."

Denise Kudla, actor

The production is being dedicated to Lemon and Matthew, the original "Odd Couple," since they both died recently. Kane explained that the play is also perfect timing since Simon just had his birthday on July 4.

"The Odd Couple" is playing at the Classic American Theatre in Paso Robles every Friday and Saturday until Aug. 26. General admission is $15, seniors and students $12. Call the CAT box office at 238-3899 for tickets and information.

Dead poet's society: new study links words with suicide

(PUT/KM) AUSTIN, Texas — Poetry can be a dangerous career. Published poets have a higher suicide rate than both other authors and the general public, according to a University of Texas report. The study was presented on Tuesday at a published a study on the distinctive language use of poets who committed suicide.

James Pennebaker, a professor of psychology, compared the poems of suicide victims to those of non-suicidal poets. He found that poets who committed suicide used more introspective language and fewer personal pronouns and did not write about others as often as the non-suicidal poets. This may lend support for a psychological model that suggests suicidal individuals are unable to integrate into society sufficiently and thus become isolated and detached from social life. Pennebaker said.

The poet's lifestyle could contribute to the isolation, due in part to the difficulty of getting published. Poets who achieve fame must also face critics and public scrutiny, he added.

"You don't get your lunch paid and go to work, you have a fairly isolated life." Pennebaker said. "There is less love rejection if you want to be a successful poet. It would be hard on any one's psyche."

The study, funded in part by a grant to the National Institute of Mental Health, was published in the July/August issue of the psychological journal Psychosomatic Medicine. Pennebaker conducted the research with Shannon Wilsey, Strum of the University of Pennsylvania. Using a computer text analysis program, Linguistic Inquiry and Word Count, the scholars compared 100 poems taken from the early, middle and late periods of nine suicidal poets and nine non-suicidal poets. The program scanned the poems for words fitting into 72 different categories, including death-related, communication, sexual, negative or positive emotion and first person pronouns.

Pennebaker said that for most of the suicidal poets, even if there was a higher instance of those distinctive word choices near the end of his or her life, they were also present throughout the poets' early and middle work. The report stated that while it is premature to fingerprint potential suicide by text analysis, certain configurations of language may be indicative of future suicide.

"Test analyses can be used as a tool for understanding the way that psychological pain, preoccupation with death and self and association between thought and feeling can be manifest in writing and potentially predict or indicate the current state of psychological and emotional health," the report stated.

"I hope one impact of the study is that it will cause people to look more closely at language as a key ingredient of topic research," said Richard Chorvitz, associate dean of graduate studies. "Through language you can see who you are on your deepest level."

Rod Hart, professor of communication studies, uses the same kind of computerized analysis to study the speech of politicians and media figures.

"The underlying assumption is that word choice is something which most people don't have a dramatic amount of control over," Hart said.

He added that while analyzing word choice in a written work of poetry is different from analyzing speech, it is still telling.

"Poets use an exacting amount of control in trying to pick the right words," Hart said. "Nevertheless, they aren't fully in control, in part because the culture that surrounds them and their social and religious backgrounds are also writing that poem."

The suicidal poets used in the study were Randall Jarrell, John Berryman, Sylvia Plath, Anne Sexton, Adam Gordon, Sarah Teasdale, Hart Crane, Sergei Esenin and Vladimir Mayakovsky. The non-suicidal control group included Robert Lowell, Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Denise Levertov, Adenene Bich, Matthew Arnold, Edna St. Vincent Millay, Joyce Kilmer, Boris Pasternak and Osip Mandelstam.

Above, actors from the Classic American Theater perform a humorous scene from 'The Odd Couple,' currently playing in Paso Robles. The show will run through Aug. 26.
Dogs' coffee shop offers more than lattes

By Anne Guilford
SUMMER MUSTANG STAFF WRITER

Not many businesses go out of their way to open up shop in a foggy climate, but 2 Dogs Coffee Co. and Internet Cafe did.

"Fog has a tendency to make people drink more hot drinks, that's why we picked Morro Bay," said Bill Clayton, co-owner of 2 Dogs.

But Morro Bay offers more to the atmosphere than fog. The picture window at the front of the store looks out on the brightly painted shops of Main Street. If the sun happens to shine, there is outdoor seating, but if it doesn't, patrons can take refuge in the cozy shop and gaze at the hand-painted mural instead.

2 Dogs Coffee Co. began roasting their own beans two years ago but launched the business selling drinks from a cart in 1995.

"We actually started with a cart and two credit cards," Clayton said.

The cart, which was 2 Dogs' location for two years, now holds a prominent position as the condiment counter inside the shop.

They currently have only one location, but "we hope to open up three more shops in the next three years," he said. "San Luis is our current fantasy."

The roasting division is expanding as well.

"We are pursuing the grocery store market," he said.

Live music is also a big part of 2 Dogs' atmosphere.

"I was a musician and have always liked to have music around," Clayton said. "It just seemed like a natural thing to do."

In July they feature entertainment, on average, five days a week. On Sundays, Chris Anne, an acoustic guitarist and vocalist, always performs, and every Monday includes Poetry Night/Open Jam. Clayton said that the crowd for Poetry Night is "pretty eclectic" and famous people spontaneously participate once in a while.

As for the other entertainment, "it's a little bit of everything," Clayton said.

In addition to being well made, the drinks are creative. 'Billy's Special,' named so because Clayton has one every morning to test the quality of the espresso and the drinks, is an Irish cream latte with strawberry flavoring. The 'Viennois' is a latte with orange flavoring and cinnamon. But traditional drinks, such as the mocha (espresso with milk and chocolate) or the Americano (espresso with hot water), are available as well.

"We take a lot of pride in our espresso," Clayton said.

2 Dogs' baked goods come from a local business just down the street, Willies Bakery. Everything is extremely fresh.

The shop was among the very first batch of Internet cafes on the Central Coast.

"We started playing around with the Internet around the same time as the cart," Clayton said.

Two years later, for the christening of the Main Street location, "we did the world's first virtual reality opening over the Internet," Clayton said.

They had built a 3-D chat room where people were represented as cartoons, but right now all that is available at their website, www.2dogscoffee.com, is merchandise.

"We are currently in the process of revamping," Clayton said. "We are working on a very deep user-friendly site — it's quite large."

There are currently big plans for the re-opening of the Web site.

"You will definitely hear about it," he said. Despite the name, dogs are not allowed in the coffee shop, but "it is very dog-friendly out front," Clayton said.

Large bone-shaped dog biscuits are kept on the counter for canine comrades.

When asked why the name 2 Dogs was chosen for the company, Clayton responded, "My partner's a dog, too."

America's Sweethearts' has bitter aftertaste

By Erica Tower
SUMMER MUSTANG ARTS AND FEATURES EDITOR

With a line-up that includes heavy hitters Julia Roberts, Billy Crystal, Catherine Zeta-Jones and John Cusack, few had to imagine a film that doesn't hit its mark, but "America's Sweethearts" is an exception. This movie lacks inner confidence that knows what it is and are utterly cliched. Even though the film may not exist, you can't blame the actors for the company, Clayton responded, "My partner's a dog, too."
I do not eat vegetables. Just as vegetarians do not eat animals, I do not consume anything that could be considered as being of vegetable origin. While my preference is due largely to what many call my "unphilosophized palate" and not political activism, 21 years of vegetable-free living has allowed me to ponder the other, darker aspects of vegetarianism.

I truly believe that a partiality for vegetables is the result of childhood brainwashing (even look at Popeye — sending kids the message that they can't be strong unless they eat spinach!), and that eating vegetables may or may not have significant benefits.

Commentary

As my favorite example is my grandmother, who, like me, has led a relatively vegetable-free life and not only survived lung cancer and a broken hip but is now a healthy 81 years old. My dad always used to say that was all the preservatives she ate that kept her in such good shape, and I find this theory difficult to refute. Vegetables, of course, have no preservatives.

Many vegetarians are sadly misguided souls whose only satisfaction in life is eliminating the higher moral ground by touting those who eat a balanced diet as "white collar" or those who eat a balanced diet as "white collar." I truly believe that a partiality for vegetables is the result of childhood brainwashing.

"I truly believe that a partiality for vegetables is the result of childhood brainwashing." — William Shakespeare

The American Council on Science and Health (ACSH) conducted a 1997 study that concluded the health benefits of vegetarianism are not necessarily due to the elimination of meat. "Well-planned vegetarian diets can be healthful, but we cannot attribute any unique benefits to a meatless diet," said Dr. Elizabeth Whelan, ACSH President in a press release. "Lifestyle choices and dietary factors other than avoidance of meat are more relevant to good health." It is also important to note that there are nearly 6 billion people on this earth. Imagine the ramifications if everyone in the world were suddenly to convert to vegetarianism. There is already some of the earth's surface area that is suitable for farming, and I do not doubt that the world's supply of produce would be consumed in a matter of days, creating a disastrous situation. People would resort to eating leaves, flowers and other ornamental flora that would otherwise be adding to the world's oxygen supply through photosynthesis. It would be only a matter of time before the world population would run out of oxygen.

The Boulder Vegetarian Rights Association (no, I am not making this up) reminds us that above all, vegetables, too, are living organisms. Like animals they can reproduce, consume food and produce waste, and they have DNA. Some plants are carnivorous and can even hunt their prey. As Jerry Seinfeld once said, "why do people give each other flowers? To celebrate various important occasions, they're killing living creatures! Why restrict us to plants?"

Sonia Sutlji editor in chief
Kimberly Miller editor
Erica Tower arts & features editor
Jenifer Martinez copy editor
Crystal Myers photo editor
Marvin Sosa faculty adviser

"This issue was cursed from the beginning."
cost more in the long run because they tend to be less energy efficient and need more repairs.

"Currently what happens in the state is you build it as cheaply as you can," Greenwald said. "In the long run it (a cheaper built building) is more expensive as far as maintenance, energy, etc. Over the lifetime of the building you would save considerably more."

Buildings at Cal Poly will now be designed considering long-term energy efficiency and environmental sustainability. Standards and specific energy preferences are more explicit in the "Resolution on Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Design and Construction Principles for Cal Poly Buildings, Landscape, and Infrastructure." The Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Design Resolution stated that the Administration must consider "implementing and expanding energy design standards and criteria for natural light and ventilation, passive (non-motorized/mechanical) heating and cooling techniques, and water utilization techniques." These new standards must go beyond default minimums that have recently been set by Federal, State and local mandates.

Buildings that will be affected by the resolution will be the proposed teaching facilities for the Colleges of Engineering, Science and Mathematics; and Architecture and Environmental Design.

The resolution orders the Administration to go off the Cal Poly campus. It states that the Administration must work with the Chancellor's Office to change California's regulations on construction cost guidelines to "include life-cycles cost practices and funding," because currently the construction guidelines "limit the campuses ability to apply life-cycle cost practices in weighing design alternatives."

DUMP continued from page 2

supervision since the 1960s, when the government started providing universities with reactors as educational tools. The actual reactor was removed from campus in 1983. Dave Ragsdale, environmental health and safety manager, said the remaining component does not hold enough radioactive material for a self-sustained reaction.

"The radiation released by the subcrit is far below from standards for the public," Ragsdale said. "Nothing can happen to increase the radioactive levels. The biggest risk would happen if someone actually took a piece of the uranium and started walking around with it."

For this not to occur, I was asked to not disclose where the "subcrit" - as they called it - is located. The building is, however, equipped with an alarm and motion detectors.

They took Crystal and I for a tour, armed with a small radiation-detecting clip hanging from our shirts (we'll know the results in two months). I have to say that it was indeed intimidating. The pile of sand bags stood about four feet tall and six feet wide.

"It's physically large but it contains small amounts of radiation," Ragsdale said.

The sandbags were placed to not interfere with radiation sensitive devices that were being used in the building.

LAND continued from page 2

organization. Marsha Butler, the community-service work opportunity coordinator, said that Cal Poly students comprise a good portion of their volunteers. Butler said ECOSEL0 has been lucky to have the kind of relationships it does with Cal Poly's various clubs and fraternities. It is not uncommon for them to have 10 volunteers from one fraternity working on a project at the same time.

"I think that Cal Poly's awareness is getting better, and they are starting to support the area," Butler said.

"They are a new energy, and they really invigorate us toward our goal," ECOSEL0's goals are similar to Land Conservancy's creek cleanup, land and open space conservancy and pesticide watch. One thing that they do a little differently is that they take calls and concerns from the community and do research into those problems. For instance, Butler said that they receive calls every couple of minutes from locals with environmental concerns. She explained that this could be something as comical as planning about another person cutting down his or her tree, or someone who has smelled something funny.

A current project of ECOSEL0 is working with PG&E. Since the company recently released their plan to clear-cut some trees, ECOSEL0 has been going out and checking the legal ramifications of the cutting and also to explore other options.

ECOSEL0 also organizes hikes around the area twice a month. This is where they take people from the community and train them about the natural foliage around places like Laguna Lake, Bishop's Peak and Poly Canyon.

Butler said that twice a month they have "work parties," where volunteers and employees go to local trails and do clean up, mend fences, and pull weeds.

Another non-profit environmental group is The Nature Conservancy. The national group is based in Arlington, Va., with a local chapter located in San Luis Obispo. Kara Smith, the project director, said that Nature Conservancy is "one of the first Floats; to temporarily store trees after landscaping operations; and no hazardous materials are to be stored there. But he said the person who would really know the details was his co-worker Doug Oermann, whose voice message said he would be out of town for a few days.

There is no definite answer or conclusion to this intriguing issue, just bits and pieces of information. The chapter dealing with Hazardous Materials in the environmental report for the Sports Complex has been crossed out since the first time I looked at it. A message now stands by it asking to contact Chris Clark at 541-2622 for more information, who also just happened to be out of town.

WASTE continued from page 2

for destruction.

"The largest quantities of waste chemicals are generated by the Colleges of Science, Math, Agriculture, and Engineering," Ragsdale said.

The Management plan estimated that the Biological Sciences Department each month generates 450 pounds of medical waste, mostly consisting of live bacterial cultures. The waste from this department, including glassware that was to be reused, is sanitized on site in an autoclave located in the Fisher Science building. After the waste is sterilized, it "will eventually find its way to the municipal sanitary landfill," according to the Management plan.

Maintenance operations are the biggest generators of asbestos and lead waste, Ragsdale said. While there is asbestos in many of the buildings on campus, the Management report stated that the asbestos is not a hazard unless the material becomes "worn, damaged, vandalized or loose, thereby releasing asbestos fibres into the environment."

"The most dangerous materials generated are probably old containers of ether and picric acid, as these are potentially explosive," Ragsdale said.

"The good news is we only handle perhaps one or two containers of these materials every five years. We have had the county bomb squad come out and remove these materials on a couple of occasions in the past."
TAKING A SHOT

Former Cal Poly basketball player Chris Bjorklund puts his business career on hold to fulfill a dream

By Brian Milne
SUMMER MUSTANG SPORTS EDITOR

Chris Bjorklund admitted he could, and probably should, put his college degree to work in order to get moving along a career path. There's only one minor problem — he hasn't gotten basketball out of his system and he may not for another few years. The former Cal Poly basketball player is just two months into the "real world," and he's already on a basketball odyssey that has taken him from pick-up games in his hometown of Baxter, Minn., to a professional tryout in Venice, Italy — a trip that will likely land him on a professional squad in southern France by next month.

"I've been playing ball all over the place," said Bjorklund in a phone interview just after returning home from his basketball vacation last week. "I've been working hard, playing in the clubs and at junior colleges in town, trying to stay in shape. And until I hear from somebody, I'm going to keep working out and weigh my possibilities." Four months removed from his green and gold finale, and there are plenty of possibilities after averaging 10 points, six rebounds (in under 20 minutes) during the four-tournament tryout.

"I just tried to play as solid as I could," said the 6-foot-5-inch, 215-pound forward. "I was average size out there, playing against guys that were 6-10 to 7-4. I just tried to use my quickness and three-point ability." So far, Bjorklund said his agent, Bill Swank, has been contacted by four different French basketball clubs that are interested in signing him as a small forward before the season opens Aug. 20.

"I think I impressed some people," said Bjorklund, who is currently managing a sports-wear store in Brainerd, Minn., where he went to high school. "Right now I have an agent working with some contract negotiations, and we'll see where it goes from there." Bjorklund packed an impressive enough resume for his basketball vacation. Not only was the business graduate named male athlete of the year prior to graduating in June, but he also became the school's all-time leading scorer — finishing his career with 2,006 points.

"I want to stay around the game and always be a part of it. But sooner or later I have to get a real job," said Bjorklund. "I just tried to play as solid as I could," said the 6-foot-5-inch, 215-pound forward. "I was average size out there, playing against guys that were 6-10 to 7-4. I just tried to use my quickness and three-point ability." Bjorklund said he enjoys the style of play. "It's much more of a shooter's game over there," said Bjorklund. "The lane is a trap zone (versus the traditional rectangular key), and there's some other minor rule changes, so it's easy to be called for a travel or three seconds (in the key)." The style of play isn't foreign to Bjorklund, who has evolved into more of a perimeter-oriented scorer over the years.

After establishing himself as an inside threat straight out of Brainerd High School — scoring 17.3 points a game in route to Big West Conference Freshman of the Year honors — Bjorklund developed his outside game in the off-season and became lethal from the high post.

Last season, with the arrival of scorer Jamaal Scott, Bjorklund continued to develop an outside threat, hitting a career-high 12 three-pointers.

He also anchored a team plagued by turmoil his senior season and posted in 23 points in his final game — a near upset of UC Irvine in the first round of the conference tournament. His first postseason performance proved he was ready to play at the next level, although, he admitted he can't play ball forever — it's just a quiet he isn't prepared to give up just yet.

"I don't think it's going to be a long-term thing," Bjorklund said. "I want to play for a couple of years, but I also want to come back and start a business. I love basketball, I want to stay with the game and always be a part of it. But sooner or later I have to get a real job."