Giving Poly a voice in San Luis Obispo

By Jana Larson

Approximately a quarter of the population in San Luis Obispo is made up of Cal Poly students. Making sure that proportion is represented in the City Council is the goal of a new student group called PolyVoice.

PolyVoice was organized to enable Cal Poly students to select and support a candidate for San Luis Obispo's City Council.

"This organization is set up to support a candidate who would be a representative of the student body," said Derek Huerta, spokesman for PolyVoice. "We wouldn't look for just a student but for an advocate for the students."

Professors take local politics to heart

By Malia Spencer

Hitting the campaign trail, meeting with constituents and raising the needed funds — sounds like the life of a career politician, but two Cal Poly professors, Laurence Houglate and Allen Settle, have taken on these activities by getting involved in the San Luis Obispo County political arena.

Laurence Houglate, philosopher

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By Malia Spencer

Hitting the campaign trail, meeting with constituents and raising the needed funds — sounds like the life of a career politician, but two Cal Poly professors, Laurence Houglate and Allen Settle, have taken on these activities by getting involved in the San Luis Obispo County political arena.

Laurence Houglate, philosopher

A philosophy professor at Cal Poly since 1979, Houglate has decided to make a second bid for the 33rd District Assembly seat. He ran unsuccessfully in the last election against Republican incumbent Abel Maldonado.

Houglate is vying for the Democratic nomination in this year's primary with Merrily Karr. He said he believes he has a good chance at winning the March primary because he is already involved in the San Luis Obispo County political arena.

"This organization is set up to support a candidate who would be a representative of the student body," said Derek Huerta, spokesman for PolyVoice. "We wouldn't look for just a student but for an advocate for the students."

"I think it's a great thing for the students," said Joe Consumer of Poly. "It's a great way to get involved in the community."

"It's a great way to get involved in the community."

Consumers reap benefits of competitive computer market

By Jacob Jackson

Joe Consumer matches into a local electronic store looking to buy a new computer, the must-have technological advancement of this generation like television and radio before it. He sees a plethora of options available to him — laptop, PC, flat screen, DVD, CD-RW, iPod — enough styles, perks and abbreviations to leave him blue in the face.

Most of these new computer additions and options weren't available to the consumer five years ago — and even the holdover technology is being sold at a much better price.

The experts at the Tech Center in El Corral Bookstore explained that an intensely competitive computer market has benefited the consumer over the past five years.

"The prices have dropped, and the quality has risen immensely," said Norm Blekasoko, a sales associate at the Tech Center. "It's the consumer that benefits from that."

Part of the drop in price points to computer hardware, which has become significantly cheaper in the last decade as the technology and capacity for computer memory has improved. Five years ago, a 500 MB drive would retail for about $100, while 50 GB today sells for about $50, providing more memory for half the price.

An often overlooked benefit for the consumer is the push for total quality, including customer and computer service, Blekasoko said.

"We find that, in addition to a competitive price, customer service is vital to selling computers and related products," he said. "A lot of people come in and don't know exactly what they want. It's important for the sales people to help them find the best features and computer that is right for them."

The most popular feature at the Tech Center currently is flat-screen monitors, offered on both Macintosh and Gateway computers sold at El Corral, Blekasoko said. The flat screen is a prime example of a feature not available to consumers five years ago.

"Customers want portability and convenience," he said. "They're willing to pay more for a smaller screen if it's flat and less bulky than a typical monitor."

In the fight for dominance in the computer industry, Apple, Dell and Gateway Profile 3CX is selling for $1,699 in El Corral's Tech Center.
Budget cuts concern Breakfast with Baker

By Stephen Curran

Rise: 5:00 p.m. / Set: 6:36 a.m.

One of the beginning programs of PolyVoice was created this quarter by students who felt that the student body needed to be represented in civic issues and that their concerns should be heard and addressed.

"I didn't feel that the civic forum here gave full weight to the student voice," Huerta said. "We're out of the things still to be worked out is what will be required of a person to run for student representative, the group will require the candidate to meet the city's, and possibly Associated Students Inc.'s, standards for candidacy.

"We are working on how to run for student representative right now," Huerta said. "We hope to be up and running by the next election."

One of the beginning programs of PolyVoice will be a voter registration campaign on campus. This will hopefully get more students involved in the city politics and generate publicity of getting a candidate to run for the City Council.

Being an active voting resident is one of the requirements for running for any city council. While the city charter doesn't specify what type of occupation a candidate have, it does have specific qualifications that have to be met. And the person must be voted in by the whole community.

"If a student wants to be a part of a city council, he/she must be elected by the entire voting public, not just by students," Counselman Ken Schwartz said in an e-mail interview. "Students are important components of the SLO community," Schwartz added. "But they are not given (nor should they expect to be given) consideration different from any other group of citizens."

The councilman added that a student or any group of students can influence the way the council will vote on an issue by voicing opinions at public meetings, asking questions, and writing letters.

Chairwoman Christine Mulholland recommended that a student use the student liaison committee instead of the Student Government Council. "Students from both schools have the committee to share their concerns," Mulholland said. "I don't think Cal Poly issues are large enough for a student seat on the city council. Most of the stuff we have to deal with has nothing to do with Cal Poly issues."

Mulholland was also skeptical about the time commitments of the position on a full-time student. "City council is a four-year gig, and this may run longer than the student's term at school," she said. "Also this position is the equivalent to a two-thirds or three-quarter time job, and does a full-time student have that time?"

There was once a Cal Poly student on the City Council, Keith Gurnee served for two terms from 1971 to 1977. And if PolyVoice has its way, there will be more student representation in the future.

The group meets every Wednesday at 7 p.m. in University Union room 218 this quarter, and the first meeting for winter quarter will be Jan. 7 p.m. in UU room 219. For more information about PolyVoice, call Derek Huerta at 781-2775 or subscribe to the Yahoo! group e-mail poly_voice-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.
National Briefs

Bond denied to couple in WTC insurance fraud case

ZEBULON, Ga. — A county magis­
trate judge denied bond Thursday to
Charles and Cynthia Gavett of
Concord, Ga. They are being held on
insurance fraud charges. Charles
allegedly filed a claim for a mortgage
insurance policy worth $20,000 by
telling New York authorities and his
insurance company that his wife had
died in the Sept. 11 attacks in New
York City.

An employee of the insurance com­
pany said that he called the local sher­
deed's office to confirm the death. A
sheriff said that several people said that
they saw Cynthia after Sept. 11.

The sheriff said that Charles filed a
missing person's report with the New
York Police Department shortly after
the attack and that the Gavetts' 14-
year-old daughter signed an affidavit
that indicated that her mother was
missing.

If the Gavetts are found guilty of
insurance fraud, they could face up to
10 years in prison and a maximum fine
of $100,000.

--- CNN

Storms across nation blamed for
deaths, wrecks, power outages

WASHINGTON — Heavy snow,
frigid rain, ice and floods in
Washington, Texas, Oklahoma,
Colorado, Minnesota, Washington,
Oregon and Idaho swept away five
people and triggered a number of
wrecks, power outages and accidents,
which ended in the deaths of
many.

Many states on the East Coast are
experiencing one of the worst
November snowstorms in recent history.

--- Associated Press

U.S. syphilis rate at record low

ATLANTA — Last year the U.S.
rate of syphilis infection reached an
all-time low of 579 primary and sec­
tary cases nationwide.

The primary and secondary stages
of syphilis can be cured with antibi­
tics. If left untreated, the disease can
progress to a tertiary stage that can cause
ear death, heart disease, insanity and
death.

Syphilis infections have fallen
90 percent in recent years.

Syphilis infections last peaked in
1990. In 1999 the CDC launched a
campaign to eliminate the disease.

The campaign began with
infection rates that had fallen 50 percent.
The campaign is aimed at improving
sexual behavior by screening and
listening to cases of syphilis prevent­
ion and treatment programs.

About 80 countries reported being
syphilis-free last year. The CDC hopes
to add the United States to this list by
2005.

--- Boston Globe

Drew Barrymore to star in sequel

LOS ANGELES — The
Hollywood Hills home of actor Paul
Sherman, who played Pee Wee in a
series of movies and a children's show
on CBS, was raided by Los Angeles
police.

They received a search warrant
for the Nov. 16 raid and confiscated
materials after an unidentified person
said that Reubens had a collection of
"sickie porn."

Reuben's lawyer said that the
statement was part of a financially moti­
ated smear campaign. The police con­
fiscated items including vintage erotica
and beach art and photography.

The lawyer also said that police
have not yet interviewed
Reubens, and that no charges have
been filed against him. Los Angeles
police have refused to comment on
whether there was an investigation.

Recently, Reubens has appeared in
the summer movie "Blow," hosted
ABC's "You Don't Know Jack," and
made a guest appearance on "Ally
Miller.

In 1991, "Pee Wee Herman's
Playhouse" was canceled by CBS after
Barrymore was accused of
everything.

She was fired from the show.

Reubens has revealed plans to make
another Pee Wee movie. He appeared
with SNL's Jon Stewart in
Houston's new video, "This Team
Don't Stop There Anymore."

--- E! Online

International Briefs

Asia

BEIJING, China — By the end
of 2002, China could begin testing a
potential HIV vaccine on humans, a
Chinese scientist said Thursday.

The session, developed by the
Chinese Academy of Preventative Medicine and the University of Regensburg, of
Germany, could be ready for public use
in five to eight years if the Chinese
drug authorities approve the tests.

The vaccine is aimed specifically at
fighting HIV/AIDS in China, where
the virus takes different forms than it
does elsewhere. The vaccine is being
developed using principles behind a
vaccine that was created 20 years ago
to fight a virus affecting horses.

The cost of the vaccine for Chinese
citizens will be about 120 yuan, equal
to 16 dollars, which is reportedly
affordable for most Chinese.

--- Reuters

Middle East

JERUSALEM — A bomb
killed at least three people and injured
six others on a northern Israeli high­
way Tuesday.

The bus, which was travelling
on the main road north of Jerusalem,
declined to comment on
whether there was an investigation.

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the summer movie "Blow," hosted
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made a guest appearance on "Ally
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Houston's new video, "This Team
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--- E! Online

Europe

BRUSSELS, Belgium — In talks on a
provincial government for
Afghanistan, the four Afghan factions
represented have started to come to
agreements on the size and propor­
tion composition of a national coun­
dil.

There are still conflicts as to how
many seats each faction will get and
what role the former king of
Afghanistan will have.

There have also been discussions about
what role the former king of
Afghanistan will have.

They want to establish it as a political­
ly neutral area.

Great Britain has already volunteered to
go and lead a security force.

It has been agreed that a provin­
cial council should have 150 to
250 members in the size and structure
considered so that Pashin uprising
groups are better represented.

Some parties are now formally being
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makes ‘Harry’ winner with all ages

By Emily Schwartz
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

But just as author J.K. Rowling captivated readers with her famed book, director Chris Columbus also makes audiences fall under Harry’s spell, bringing to life the supernatural world of witchcraft and wizardry.

Harry (Daniel Radcliffe) is an ordinary boy raised by his uncle and aunt, who make him sleep in the kitchen beneath their stairs. He is unaware of his magical powers until his 11th birthday, when an owl delivers a letter from Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Harry quickly learns that he comes from a long line of witches and wizards, and that he too possesses magical powers similar to his ancestors. He gladly abandons his miserable home and enters the adventurous world of Hogwarts, where unusual creatures roam the streets and no event is as it seems. From the moment Harry takes his first step into Hogwarts, a magical tune is set, as the curious nature and adventurous spirit are like a cross between a youthful Sherlock Holmes and Indiana Jones.

The creators of the movie “Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone” have sold more than 110 million copies in 200 countries. For as long as there have been movies, there have been the formulas: horror, sci-fi, and, of course, the spy movie. However, in his most recent film, “Spy Game,” director Tony Scott puts a new spin on this old and some might argue tired formula. The plot centers on seasoned CIA operative Nathan Muir (Robert Redford) in a position we’ve all seen before: he’s one day from retirement and he must help his young protégé Tom Bishop (Brad Pitt), who is trapped in a Chinese prison. Yet, despite this somewhat formulaic approach, “Spy Game” outshines many of its contemporaries. Instead of being simply another Clancy-esque thriller, the movie takes the viewer through the burgeoning relationship between Redford and Pitt, from their days together in Vietnam to the present (in this case, 1991). The plot moves quickly, following the characters from one exotic locale to another as the viewer watches the relationship blossom over the years.

The film has a plot more complex than these action-oriented films. Yet, despite this somewhat formulaic approach, “Spy Game” outshines many of its contemporaries. Instead of being simply another Clancy-esque thriller, the movie takes the viewer through the burgeoning relationship between Redford and Pitt, from their days together in Vietnam to the present (in this case, 1991). The plot moves quickly, following the characters from one exotic locale to another as the viewer watches the relationship blossom over the years.

The film has a plot more complex than that of most spy movies. Instead of the standard good versus evil battle seen so often, “Spy Game” blurs that line somewhat, as Redford’s character finds himself battling against the very people supposed to be his allies. This helps add depth to a film that would otherwise be indistinguishable from its counterparts.

Above, students arrive at Hogwarts Castle to study witchcraft and wizardry. Left: Harry Potter (Daniel Radcliffe) looks on in shock while fellow student Seamus (Dean Murray) is stunned by the sudden explosion of his magic wand.

Pitt, Redford make ‘spying’ a success

By Stephen Curran
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

It’s difficult to improve upon a classic formula. For as long as there have been movies, there have been the formulas: horror, sci-fi, and, of course, the spy movie. However, in his most recent film, “Spy Game,” director Tony Scott puts a new spin on this old and some might argue tired formula. The plot centers on seasoned CIA operative Nathan Muir (Robert Redford) in a position we’ve all seen before: he’s one day from retirement and he must help his young protégé Tom Bishop (Brad Pitt), who is trapped in a Chinese prison.

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The film has a plot more complex than that of most spy movies. Instead of the standard good versus evil battle seen so often, “Spy Game” blurs that line somewhat, as Redford’s character finds himself battling against the very people supposed to be his allies. This helps add depth to a film that would otherwise be indistinguishable from its counterparts.

It is this depth that makes this movie more than just another special effects-driven spy thriller. While special effects play an important part, they are not the crutch so often seen in similar movies starring Harrison Ford or Arnold Schwarzenegger. When compared to those films, “Spy Game” appears more dramatic in nature than these action-oriented films.

Hopefully this movie marks the beginning of a trend away from the special-effects extravaganzas of yore. As technology becomes increasingly commonplace, the viewing public will fail to be impressed by a movie that has little going for it other than billions of dollars in special effects. Actor Robert Redford recognizes this and has taken a move away from these films, turning down a prime example of these high-tech staples, “Air Force One.” But, Redford does not disappoint action fans with “Spy Game,” churning out an action movie that is both well-acted and full of special effects.

Of course, like all action films, the end is never in doubt. Of course, Redford uses his years of experience with the organization to free his protégé and foil his antagonists. But, even though the audience knows what’s going to happen, the trip there remains somewhat unpredictable. In a genre so rife with predictability and lack of imagination, “Spy Game” is like a breath of fresh air: a spy thriller with both a plot and action.
The film represents the ultimate display of laziness and sloppiness in Hollywood with its lackluster script and overplayed leading role. These flaws, coupled with the film's lame plot and lack of comedic talent, make this movie almost medieval. The Annual Audit of the Associated Students, Inc. and the University Union for FY 2000-2001 has been completed.

Tickets available at the Performing Arts Center: 756-2787

COURTESY PHOTO/WENN24/MEGATV

By Cliff Baker
THE TOWERLIGHT

(JU-WIRE TOWNS, Md. — Most top actors in Hollywood have made a movie so bad, so unrealistic and so poorly written that it's guaranteed never to grace the past film credits section of a resume.

For John Travolta it was "Battlefield Earth," for Adam Sandler it was "Bulletproof." Lawrence joins the list of eminent comedians who have made terrible movies, crossing the line never to grace the past film credits section of a resume.

Jim Carrey it was "The Cable Guy" and for Adam Sandler it was "Bulletproof."

The film probably is a perfect example of a poor sense of humor or just plain laziness.

Although the film manages to showcase a few funny scenes here and there, the bad acting and poorly constructed plot more than overshadow these shining moments. In fact, these few funny scenes here and there, the bad acting and poorly constructed plot won't even begin to make up for the absolute waste of 90 minutes.

None of the medieval English people in the village or castle seem to think it's strange that funny scenes here and there, the bad acting and poorly constructed plot more than overshadow these shining moments. In fact, these few funny scenes here and there, the bad acting and poorly constructed plot more than overshadow these shining moments. In fact, these few funny scenes here and there, the bad acting and poorly constructed plot more than overshadow these shining moments.

Jamal (Martin Lawrence) reacts to the unfamiliar goings-on of his strange new world: 14th century England.

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Harry Potter still working his magic

The recent movie release of "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone" has revealed that the Harry Potter phenomenon won’t disappear any time soon.

The movie broke box-office records on its first weekend, taking in $43.5 million in the United States. Over the five-day Thanksgiving holiday, it brought in $83.5 million, barely beating the 1999 record set by "Toy Story 2." It seems that the magic of Harry Potter still works.

With the series’ fifth book, "Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix," in the making, children do: “Harry Potter is a true hero. Since the authors of adult fiction have long since abandoned heroism, something had to fill the void,” said Stephanie Perry.

But along with every good idea, there comes criticism. Last year, the Harry Potter series, by J.K. Rowling, was listed as one of the 10 most frequent complaints according to the American Library Association. The reason for the dispute is that many people claim that the books are offensive, contain witchcraft and demonology.

The recent release of "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire" has raised troubling questions about ‘Thou shalt not kill.’

Some have written that an unjust act in an act of murder, so the bombing of Afghanistan does not apply because we were attacked “first.” This still does not explain how the killing of children, women and non-military affiliated men does not constitute murder. These individuals did not attack the United States. They had no say whatsoever, and yet people justify our actions by calling it self-defense. So while it is noted that there have been attempts to clean up my pagan brethren’s rhetoric, we still haven’t taken this any further.

David Lorimer is a psychology junior.

Letter policy

Mustang Daily reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, profanities and length. Photographs and artwork may be used. Letters should include the writer’s full name, major and class standing.

By mail: Letters to the Editor, Mustang Daily, Building 26, Room 226, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, CA 93407

By fax: (805) 756-6784

By e-mail: mustangdaily@hotmail.com

Mustang Daily does not accept electronic misspellings and omits. Please send the text in the body of the e-mail.

Opinion

Letters to the editor

A bit of clarification from someone who knows cars

Editor,

This letter is in regard to the ongoing debate about catalytic converters and emissions. I read Ms. Van Erp’s letter ("You don’t need a degree to know a lot") on Nov. 29, and could not let misinformation like this be passed off as fact.

It seems Ms. Van Erp doesn’t have any real world experience dealing with exhaust gases and catalytic converters. I’m not sure where she got her information from. As, she didn’t quote a source.

This reply is coming from someone who claims to know a little about automotive repair and engine management. She is correct in that more unburned fuel is emitted from an engine at idle than an engine under mild load. However, I can assure her that the average car’s catalytic converter does not cool down immediately. If you don’t think so, drive your car for a half hour, shut it down, and then check the converter. Do it, I dare you. I’ll give you 20 bucks if you do it. It will BEETLY HOT.

In fact, it will remain hot for quite a while after the car has been shut off. You would be willing to bet that it does take at least 10 minutes for a modern catalytic converter to come up to operating temperature (the temperature at which noxious gases are converted most efficiently). If you have ever gotten an older car driving at idle, this will definitely play a part. It is a question-able whether or not we will pass, sometimes the technique will suggest letting the idle go for a bit, so the car can come up to temperature.

In all sincerity, I believe that having no driving experience does reduce emissions. Having as many as four or five cars idling for as much as 10 to 15 minutes causes more pol-lution than having them shut off. However, by no means does this suggest that air qual-ity in the city of San Luis Obispo will be significantly improved. From an economic standpoint I don’t think the city is justif-i ed in having them banned.

Joe Doty is an electrical engineering junior.

Tragedy taught us all a lesson about life

Editor,

With regards to Jason Sy, myself, and every reader.

Like many of the Cal Poly community, my initial reaction to what happened to Jason Sy was one of aludom. Ericka Sy’s recent letter ("Jason Sy did not try to beat an oncoming train," Nov. 28) set me straight. The accident involving Jason Sy is truly a tragedy, one that does more than defy an off-the-cuff answer. It is a riddle that holds within it more than tragedy, one that does more than defy an off-the-cuff answer. It is a riddle that holds within it more than what happened to Jason Sy was. Our blindness may not be as pro-found, but other things could have come first. Alcohol is served to booster members that paid $50 to join. How many students do you suppose are members? Maybe somebody who goes can tell me. I think as long as there are exceptions to the rule it is not kill-er. It’s just that keeping prohibi-tion around at Cal Poly, well wake up administrators, it endangers our lives.

Jason Sy was one of us. Possessed of the same intelligence and determination that makes us Cal Poly students. The fact that he became oblivious to the warning of an oncoming train is a minor detail. During the routine of your daily life, how often do you look up? How often do you note the details of your surroundings?

“During the routine of your daily life, how often do you look up? How often do you note the details of your surroundings?”

Sonja Sketch editor in chief

Walt Walsh managing editor

Michelle Hatfield news editor

Karin Olewiler, sports editor

Erica Tower arts & features editor

David Mirol sports editor

Aaron Lamberti photo editor

Garrett Stedman, Jennifer Hansen, Paul Vida, copy editor

Crystal Myers assistant photo editor

Michelle Abraham, assistant editor

Teresa Allen faculty adviser

Patrick Munroe graphics adviser

E-mail: "I am not an überchick ... What’s an überchick?"

Editor,

It seems that although many people have attempted to shed light on the topic of "Thou shalt not kill," I, and possibly others, still do not see why Christians can advocate the bombing of Afghanistan. Everyone attempted to solve this prob-lem by narrowing the view of what is meant by "kill," namely that "God made ‘mur-der.'" However, this will not clear up why it is OK to bomb Afghanistan. The conflict rests in the fact that the bombings are murder.

Weber’s dictionary defines murder as "the killing of another human being under conditions specifically covered in law." The United States does not have UN authoriza-tion for bombing Afghanistan, so according to UN law, which the United States is under, we are breaking it. By breaking the law, and killing humans, including women, children, other innocents, as well as the Taliban, the government is committing murder, and therefore breaking the com-mandment "Thou shalt not kill."

Some have written that an unjust act in an act of murder, so the bombing of Afghanistan does not apply because we were attacked "first." This still does not explain how the killing of children, women and non-military affiliated men does not constitute murder. These individuals did not attack the United States. They had no say whatsoever, and yet people justify our actions by calling it self-defense. So while it is noted that there have been attempts to clear up my pagan brethren’s rhetoric, we still haven’t taken this any further.

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Don’t allow yourself to detach from it. Don’t allow yourself to detach from it. Don’t allow yourself to detach from it.

Letters to the editor

"I am not an überchick ... What’s an überchick?"

Editor,

What’s an Überchick?"
Marrow

continued from page 1

bone marrow in the Hispanic community and all minorities across the nation. However, only 5 to 7 percent of the National Bone Marrow Registry is Hispanic, he said.

Gomez said he hopes to collect 100 blood samples this year to add to the registries for possible matches.

This is the second year for the NAK bone marrow drive. About 50 people pre-signed to donate blood, said Vladimir Baraga, an architectural student and the community service chairman. NAK is anticipating about 60 blood donations and plans to continue the drive each year in order to publicize the lack of blood reserves for bone marrow transplant patients. Jose Prado, a mechanical engineering sophomore.

“The emphasis is just on minorities, not Hispanics,” Prado said.

Of the 87 people that the Cal Poly chapter signed up last year, two were matches and are in the process of transplant. Nationally, NAK signed up 1,300 people.

About 100,000 people nationally need bone marrow transplants each year.

“It goes for a good cause,” said Paul Narea, an agricultural systems management sophomore. “It doesn’t take much time. To the least I could do.”

Computers

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Gateway offers special deals to woo the consumer, such as a free printer, DVD player, speakers or CD-RW to accompany the computer itself. But according to Blaskoski, that’s where the similarities end among three major computer manufacturers.

“The companies certainly cater to a specific type of consumer,” he said. “Macs are geared towards graphics and design, and they also rely on the loyalty of Mac users to continue buying Macintosh. PCs tend to be purchased by large corporations and networks, and people more concerned with price than convenience.”

Proston Stois, department manager of the Tech Center, said he finds himself wondering what the future holds for the computer industry.

“Five years ago, I couldn’t have ever imagined we’d have things like flat screens, the iPod or that laptops would be so prevalent today,” he said.

“It makes you wonder what they’re gonna do next.”

Jeff Yeackle, a Tech Center computer technician, has a few ideas about what the future holds.

“Eventually, you’re gonna be able to wear a computer like a fanny pack, and the monitor will be a pair of glasses,” he said. “That kind of technology is already available, it just hasn’t hit the mainstream public yet.”

Yeackle also noted the welcome discrepancy in prices from five years ago to today.

“A computer with equivalent capability to a computer today would cost almost $2,000 more five years ago,” he said. “A computer you’d buy today for $1,000 would set you back about $3,000 in 1996.”

And as the technology and the competition grows in the computer industry, the prices and the quality only figure to improve.

“It’s a great time to be a consumer,” Stois said.

Politics

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with local Democratic politics as chair of the San Luis Obispo County Democratic Central Committee.

“I have name identity now in this area and I think that will help,” Houlgate said. “But I am not taking anything for granted.”

Right now the campaign is in its early stages. Houlgate said that he is well aware of the difficulties in campaigning, especially in this area.

“This is a very difficult district to run a campaign — it ranges from San Miguel in the north to Lompoc in the south,” Houlgate said. “It puts a lot of miles on your car.”

With a doctorate in philosophy from University of California at Los Angeles, Houlgate said he believes his background will be an asset for him in this election and will help him think about the ethics behind politics.

Houlgate said that in this campaign his agenda will stress universal health care.

“I think in a world where so many people, especially children, don’t have health care because they can’t pay for it,” Houlgate said.

In regard to the state energy crisis, Houlgate said he would like to see the state take over energy districts as a public issue because power is a basic need. That way consumers would be better served, he said.

With news of state budget cuts to education, Houlgate said he wouldn’t vote to cut education funding, but would instead favor a tax increase, even though that view is not popular.

“We (California) have a good state university system, and lower schools desperately need help,” he said. “People need to support education. I know it sounds trite, but children are our future.”

Last summer, Houlgate took a political science professor and San Luis Obispo mayor.

faculty early retirement, meaning that he will only teach once a quarter, for a total of up to five years. Though he is not teaching full-time, Houlgate said this is not a definite career change, but rather deferring full retirement.

In the event that he should win the general election, Houlgate said that he would guarantee no more than three terms — he is suspicious of career politicians and wouldn’t want to become one.

Allen Settle, political science

Allen Settle has been teaching political science at Cal Poly for 30 years and has been involved with local politics since 1974. He is the current mayor of San Luis Obispo and has been elected to that office four times.

He decided to run for mayor because he wanted to preserve that small town character, Settle said.

Campaigning has been easier for Settle in recent elections because he is the incumbent, but he stated that the process is never completely effortless.

“I am the long-hand of doing approach of Cal Poly into the real world,” Settle said, “I can also keep up to date on the practical approach, not just academia.”

A normal day for Settle is 12 to 18 hours long, starting early in the morning and ending late at night or even into the next morning, he said.

“It is a time management challenge, but I am very motivated,” he said.

Classified Advertising

File samples were the only thing taken during the drive in order to find matches. If any sample finds a match, the donor will be notified and the marrow will then be donated.

AARON LAMBERT
MUSTANG DAILY
By Lyndsay Lundgren
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

In four minutes, most college students can barely get out of bed and get dressed. David Jackson can do a lot more in four minutes and six seconds — run a mile.

Actually, Jackson usually doesn’t run just one mile, he runs about 10 every day. Jackson, a sports psychology junior, is a member of the Cal Poly cross-country and track team. He began running his freshman year of high school and was recruited by Cal Poly upon graduation.

“I knew I wasn’t going to be a football player,” Jackson said. “Runners are the weaklings of the sports world.”

At 16 he was running a four-minute, 18-second mile. Despite Jackson’s clear talent, he had a difficult time transitioning into the college running scene. He was running about seven in races and was also injured. The adjustment is so difficult because high school races are three miles, while the shortest college race is five miles. Jackson said.

“It’s a pretty difficult adjustment,” he said. “Kids that can go into it without skipping a beat amaze me.”

Eventually Jackson got tired of being injured and started training harder. This summer Jackson and the guys were running 80 to 90 miles a week. The training paid off. Races became easier for Jackson and the level of competition changed.

“Races seemed to be at a different level,” he said. “I was not just hanging in there, I was competing with them.”

Jackson has improved both his times and his confidence, said Mark Conover, assistant cross country coach and men’s distance runners coach.

“He was a good example to people on the team of what hard work and perseverance can do.” Conover said. “Everything seems to be clicking for him.”

The training, freedom from injury and the newfound level of competition led Jackson to Regions, where he placed 113th. Jackson was running against the likes of Stanford, Oregon and Arizona.

“It seemed like when I was out there it was easy to step thinking and just run your guts out,” Jackson said.

This spot allowed him to capture the individual qualifier position and head to Nationals in South Carolina. Unfortunately Jackson did not visualize the races in Nationals, he said. Jackson was so amased that he was at such a high caliber race, that he didn’t focus enough on pushing himself up for the races.

“I got so complacent with the idea that I was actually there,” he said. “It was the worst race of my season.”

Jackson placed 186th out of 255 runners. Looking back on the loss, Jackson knows now that he will be prepared for Nationals next year. For right now, he’s taking a 10-day break from running.

“I’ve actually had time to relax now,” Jackson said. “I was running into a hemat before.”

When he is running an average of 10 miles a day, for one hour, his mind is clear. Some people surf to “clear their minds”, Jackson said. He runs.

“I think at this point I think about everything,” he said. “I clear my head every day with running.”

Jackson never runs with headphones, he just plays his own music in his head. Sometimes he thinks about past races and sometimes he thinks about Nationals. He is determined to improve greatly next year.

“I think about my next race and 186 emblazoned on my forehead,” he said. “It should have been 36.”

Not only does Jackson hope to improve his position at Nationals next year, but he also hopes to break the four-minute-mile barrier, he said. Conover thinks that he can achieve this goal.

“I think anything is possible with hard work and the progression he’s making,” Conover said.

“He’s seven seconds away from his goal and he chopped 10 seconds off his time last year.”

Late surge earns blowout win for Mustangs, 100-79

By Jacob Jackson
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Jamal who?
Jackson guards Steve Geary and Jason Allen combined for 31 points and 10 assists to lead Cal Poly to a 105-79 victory over Portland State on Tuesday night at Mott Gym.

“His point guards stepped up big,” Cal Poly head coach Kevin Bromley said of the play-making duo. Facing the daunting task of replacing Big West Freshman of the Year Jamal Scott. “You win championships with good guard play, and that’s exactly what we received out of Steve and Jason tonight,” Bromley said.

It was Geary and Allen’s heroics in the late half that doomed the Vikings (2-2). Portland State tied the game at 74 with seven minutes left on an easy backdoor layup by Aaron Fitzgerald. But 6-8 junior forward Jored Patterson muscled up a putback on the next possession, and Geary followed with a pair of midrange jumpers to give the Mustangs an 80-74 lead.

The Mustangs (2-1) closed the game with a 26-5 run over the final seven minutes of the second half, led by 12 points from Geary and two steals and four points from Allen.

“You have to give credit to Cal Poly,” said Portland State forward Anthony Lackey, who finished with 18 points. “They made a huge run on us in the second half and we just couldn’t contain their shots.”

Geary chalked up 19 points on 7- of-9 shooting while Allen filled up the stat sheet with 12 points, 5 assists and 5 steals in mere 15 minutes on the floor.

“Jason and Steve are big-time Division I guards,” said 6-9 sophomore Vernon Dennis, who led the Mustangs with 21 points and six rebounds. “They both create and score, and they’re great athletes.”

It was Dennis who towered over the Vikings in the first half. Portland State had no answer inside for the Mustangs’ towering 260-pound center, who piled up 16 first-half points en route to a 55-50 Cal Poly lead at the intermission. The big southpaw even had his shot block on Sam Perkins imitation, stepping back behind the arc and nailing a pair of threes late in the first half.

“Dennis is a man in a ton,” Portland State head coach Joel SoKilka said. “He’s a real physical presence down low, and we certainly didn’t expect him to start knocking down threes.”

The scalding first-half shooting of each team couldn’t have been expected, either. Each team nailed seven three-pointers in the first half, while the Vikings shot a blistering 61 percent from the field.

Their hot shooting put a lot of pressure on us to score,” Dennis said. “But we’re very confident in our offense and we were making our shots, too.”

While Dennis out-muscled Portland State inside on offense, the Vikings attempted to push the tempo at the other end of the floor, getting easy baskets for undisciplined big men Seamus Bowley and Lackey, who combined for 41 points. Dennis lost in transition in the first half,” Bromley said. “But once he got his wind, he dominated. He’s quite a load to have.”

Brandon Beason added 13 points and 10 rebounds for the Mustangs, who had six players reach double figures.

“I was really pleased with how our guys shared the basket,” Bromley said. “I love our balanced scoring right now.”

Cal Poly travels to Vanderbuilt and Lipscomb this weekend. The Mustangs return home on Dec. 15 against Oregon State.