California State University system has steadily declined for more than a current student fee. The Academic Fee Proposal Oversight Committee, first elected this spring, to make fee-based decisions for the following year. The money is allocated to specific needs on a yearly basis, it will be a binding decision.

Professor Robert Lang of the civil and environmental engineering department envisions a committee with a majority membership of students. "We'll have open meetings and lay it all out," he said. "The faculty will be there to give advice, but since the students are making the sacrifice, they are given ownership of the increase."

A recently purchased shake table has put the department approximately $500,000 in debt, though a new one is needed every 20 years. Lang said students might also want to consider adding a faculty member, to reduce the need for students to go to other colleges, like the College of Architecture and Environmental Design, to take courses. Clark also said that students in mechanical engineering have had difficulty securing classes, and he supports adding faculty — whether it be a full-time tenure, lecturers or a post-doctorates — to fulfill the lack of sections available.

He said that a few pieces of lab equipment also need to be updated, and several larger pieces purchased, such as a "destructive testing machine" — a $50,000 machine that "pulls things apart." Funding from the state is not enough, he said, and without the fee increase, buying the required equipment would be impossible.

"The faculty is busi putting together a wish list," Clark said, "so that the (Fee Allocation Committee) will have lots of ideas." Linda Vanasupa, a professor of materials engineering, said the department needs more equipment and technical assistant, as opposed to seeing CENG, page 2.

Robert Lang civil and environmental engineering professor

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) is suing San Luis Obispo on behalf of the Mardi Gras parade for denial of the First Amendment right to demonstrate. A city ordinance requiring a permit and 60-day notice for the demonstration/parade is unconstitutional, said Neil Tardiff, a local attorney who hired ACLU attorney Carol Sobel.

The ACLU has been involved in similar cases, Sobel said, and this ordinance is inconsistent with other Supreme Court decisions.

"Under this legal statute, you cannot demonstrate," Tardiff said. "A recent case in Long Beach identical to the one in SLO (was decided for the plaintiff)." Civil liberties professor Philip Fetzer said the laws that the city is using to prevent the event need to be addressed.

"There are other ways to attack see MARDI GRAS, page 7.

Mardi Gras raises First Amendment issues

By Chrystal L. Anderson Mustang Daily Staff Writer

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) is suing San Luis Obispo on behalf of the Mardi Gras parade for denial of the First Amendment right to demonstrate. A city ordinance requiring a permit and 60-day notice for the demonstration/parade is unconstitutional, said Neil Tardiff, a local attorney who hired ACLU attorney Carol Sobel.

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Poly curriculum offers some interesting choices

By Katrina Telfer Mustang Daily Staff Writer

Students might not realize how many unusual and interesting classes Cal Poly offers. Although there is no film department, Cal Poly offers film courses through the English department. English 372, Film Directors, examines a different director every quarter. Douglas Kesey, who teaches the class, said directors such as Francis Ford Coppola, Martin Scorcese and Stanley Kubrick are covered in the class. This spring, Richard Simon will be teaching a course on Woody Allen. Students of all majors can take this course.

"The students I teach in this class are completely spread out across campus," Kesey said. "There might only be two English majors in the whole class."

The music department also offers a wide variety of classes available to non-music majors. Music of Asia, Music of Africa, Jazz History and Music and Society are just a handful of the subjects addressed. Most classes are taught by experts on the given subject since professors are more enthusiastic about things in their field, said Clifton Swenson, music department chair.

Swenson said that the department see CLASSES, page 2.

Largest college set to ask for $200 increase

By Cynthia Neff Mustang Daily Staff Writer

The College of Engineering's (CENG) track record could speak for itself, ranking it as the top public undergraduate engineering program in the nation, according to U.S. News & World Report's 2002 surveys. Also, according to CENG's Web site, over one-half of all engineering courses have associated laboratories that provide hands-on experience to link theory with practice. However, current student fees are much less than the fee levels of its competitors.

Unfortunately, state funding of the California State University system has steadily declined for more than a decade, according to CENG's fee proposal compiled by the CENG Academic Fee Proposal Oversight Committee. The California Commission on Post-Secondary Education shows that state contributions have fallen by over 15 percent since the late 1980s.

The solution comes in the form of a $200 per quarter student fee increase, giving CENG over $976,000 for its current 4,882 students, said Dan Bezd, chair of the aeronautical engineering department. The additional money will help the dean's office and proceed directly to each department. The amount of money gained by each department is directly related to the number of students in the department in question. For example, the mechanical engineering department will receive the largest sum, as it boasts 1,000 students, said Department Chair Bill Clark.

Each department will have a "Fee Allocation Committee," composed of at least five elected students, two faculty members and the department chair, which will be responsible for identifying problems and determining the amount of money required to solve them, Clark said. This way all the action is at the department level, he said, and the students will effectively feel its impact.

"It's a very clean process this way," Clark said, "and fair because it's based on the number of students (in each department)."

Clark said that it would be a standing committee, first elected this spring, to make fee-based decisions for the following year. Once the money is allocated to specific needs on a yearly basis, it will be a binding decision.

In spring 2003, Clark wishes to hold an overview on how the money was spent, as well as what should be done the following year.

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news

company runs’ errands for others

by kelly phillips

beer runs, market trips and restaurant
to- do- lists are now a phone call away for cal poly students and san luis obispo residents.
runners, a delivery service for just about anything, expanded its operations
from los rosales drive to san luis obispo last week. runner picks up anything from burger to bolts to denim.
for $5 per stop and 50 cents for each additional stop (plus product costs and tip).
we even deliver beer runs, but we’re going to card,” said steve caim, runner’s owner.
that’s where we expect a lot of our business.
"as a delivery service, runner is not required to carry a liquor license. tim shaw, an aeronautical engi-
neering senior who lives on campus,
said this new service will be use-
ful since he is hesitant to drive off
campus because of the on-campus
parking crunch.
"my commute put off getting up
early for a really long time (because of parking problems),” said shaw.
"if this service was there, she probably would have used it.
runner’s expansion may also cre-
ate job opportunities for cal poly stu-
dents. runner currently employs
two drivers, but caim said he hopes to have
15 by the time the business
expands to include the entire san
luis obispo county.
"if i get that big, i will be very
happy,” he said. "i’ll probably sell it.
runner’s closest competition in san
luis obispo is express express, a delivery service specializing in restaur-
ante food deliveries.
"our advantage is in hours, we
are open until midnight,” caim said.
john troemer, the owner of express express, said he is not wor-
ried.
"we’ve been here six years and
have an excellent reputation,” he said.
"there is plenty of room for everybody, and i imagine (runner) will be delivering mostly goods, not food.
caim’s main concern for runner is
parking.
"if the calls are from stores, i can just return the items,” he said.
"but if they’re for food, i have to bite
the cost,” he said.
runner can be reached at (805) 580-8853. the business will not transport people.

classes

continued from page 1

would like to offer more classes for
non-majors, such as guitar instruc-
tion, but money is an issue.
"there are popular classes that
we want to offer, but we’re only given so much money for facilities, so we have to offer fewer of those classes that more
students want,” swanson said.
food science and nutrition 121, fundamentals of food, is also an
top favorite among cal poly students.

beizad said that, although he can-
not see many benefits to graduating
students in the short run, in the long run they would benefit from their cal
poly degree.
"we’ve had to learn without a full-
time maintenance person,” she said.
thompson said that cal poly’s
"big bang” philosophy is impossible to
change.
"our reputation must stay up to
the credibility that will carry (the graduates)
through their careers.

continued from page 1

campus is to target sport-oriented films that
focus on issues of class, race/ethnici-
ty, gender, violence and commercial-
ism,” according to o’bryant’s syl-
abus.
"in comparison to cal poly, other
colleges also offer such diverse cours-
es as well. the university of california, berkeley, offers classes
such as music of women composers, yiddish, bioterrorism, cuneiform and stone tools,” he said.
chico state offers unusual classes like record label administration and music in recreation.

polycalendar

* campus is pretty quiet today - if
you’re event was left out, make sure it
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National Briefs

U.S. sub, ship collide
WASHINGTON — No one was injured when the USS Greeneville, a submarine, collided with the USS Ogden, an amphibious transport dock ship, about 40 miles off the coast of Oman. The collision occurred as the ships were preparing to transfer two sailors on Sunday morning.

Due to the collision, the transfers never took place.

The puncture to the Ogden's fuel tank caused several thousand gallon of light diesel fuel to be leaked into the sea, one officer said. But the fuel was blown toward the open sea and not the shore by wind conditions.

An investigation is under way, a Navy officer said.

Associated Press

Staff members sue Enron
WASHINGTON — A joint court case has been filed for more than 3,000 former Enron employees who are seeking damages for losses they suffered by investing in the company's share plan.

Defendants are ex-chief executives Kenneth Lay and Jeffrey Skilling, ex-finance director Andrew Fastow, employees who are seeking damages of its damage.

The suit was filed in 1999.

— Associated Press

Napster case on hold; settlement sought
SAN FRANCISCO — U.S. District Judge Marilyn Hall Patel ordered the recording industry's copyright infringement suit against Napster Inc., an Internet song-swapping service, be put on hold for a month after she received requests from both sides, which are seeking a fair settlement.

The hold will continue until Feb. 17.

— The San Francisco Chronicle

Middle East
DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — Saudi Arabia's Interior Minister Prince Nayef told CBS News Sunday that, of the 158 suspected al-Qaida and Taliban prisoners being held at the Guantánamo Bay Naval Base, Cuba, more than 100 are believed to be Saudis.

The minister told reporters that the kingdom wants its detained citizens to be handed over so it can interrogate them.

The identities and whereabouts of the fighters held in Guantánamo Bay have not been released yet by the United States.

Officials have said that the idea of sending some of the prisoners to their native land is under consideration among U.S. military leaders.

— Associated Press

International Briefs

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Poll shows support for Bush still high

By Richard Morin and Dana Milbank
THE WASHINGTON POST

President Bush will deliver his State of the Union address Tuesday night, enjoying a historic level of public support for his leadership and for his Republican allies in Congress, according to a new Washington Post-ABC News poll.

Bush's extraordinary level of popularity — higher and more protracted than any modern president — is all the more noteworthy because it comes at a time when the American public has significant doubts about the economy and other domestic matters. Only three in 10 Americans think the economy is healthy, and significant majorities believe that the administration is too close to big business and that it should provide more information about its dealings with the disgraced Enron Corp.

Despite this, the survey found that 83 percent of the public approves of the job Bush is doing. His job approval rating of 83 percent is down nine points from its peak of 92 percent in October, the highest ever recorded by a president, but the durability of his popularity has surprised even Bush's advisers. By a 2-to-1 ratio, Americans say they trust Bush more than Democrats in Congress to deal with the country's biggest problems.

The president's continuing popularity has lifted his party's prospects for the midterm elections, which are

see POLL, page 7

It used to be the end of a great night. It could soon be the start of a great day.
Physics professor traces early human life in China

By Andra Coberly

Physicist Kenneth Hoffman traces early human history in the Chinese desert.

F

ew people can claim that they have influenced how others view human history, but Cal Poly physics professor Kenneth Hoffman not only can claim it, he knows it.

Along with some Chinese earth scientists, Hoffman is responsible for finding the correct age of a layer of lake sediment containing ancient stone tools from prehistoric humans.

The tools, which were found in northern China near Beijing, were discovered in 1980, Hoffman said. "Along with some Chinese earth scientists, Hoffman is responsible for finding the correct age of a layer of lake sediment containing ancient stone tools from prehistoric humans.

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COMMENTARY

"Logic is dead, ladies and gentlemen, and Europe has driven the stake through its heart."

Defence Donald Ramsfeld, they have threatened to kill American soldiers and, in one case, kill a military policeman in the ads. But what better way to support this sort of animosity to the point of going too far? Let's start with the point that statements like "their life must be a living hell" from Stephen Moyes aren't sarcasm in the least. Europe is seriously demanding that we play nice with people that try to kill us, much like what they've done so successfully in Israel.

Maybe I’m off-scope, but I am a hamster,

But The Mirror has asked me to "Call 0207 293 3773 after 8 a.m. to tell them what I think about the treatment of animals, and I’ve got a 600-number phone card with which to speak my mind.

Anyhow, how to bring an interna­
tional call from a dorm room?

John Wilson, MU Student News (U. Missouri)

Letters to the editor

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Opinion

Mustang Daily

Tuesday, January 29, 2002

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Letters to the editor

Let's consider the facts

Editor,

Meredith Rogers' recent column is at least appropriately titled, "Food and Politics" (Jan. 16). Anyone reading a book or magazine which’a national or international issue in order.

Water is a foundation of life. It is a renewable resource, moving from one cycle in one place to another. Plants, animals, soil, the ocean, and the atmosphere are all links in the cycle. The water consumed by any plant or animal is merely passed onward through evaporation, transpiration and condensation. Water has a problem when it becomes polluted, not when it is stored.

Here are the facts:

It takes 441 gallons of water to produce and process one pound of boneless beef "from the farm to the plate" (Beckett, Oljen,1993). Compare that to the 385 gallons of water used to produce a similar amount of pork and 377 gallons to produce poultry. Other products to consider include: nine gallons of water needed to produce a can of vegetables; 1,500 gallons to process a barrel of crude oil; and more than 39 gallons to produce one jumbo bagel (American Waterworks Association, 1991).

The last time I checked, lions, cars and showers do not satisfy the hunger pains of poor, undernourished people in any country. The average citizen in Fort Collins, Colo. uses 81,450 gallons of water to drink, bathe, flush a toilet, take a shower, and more. (This may even include water that pets drink.)

Rain, sludge and grain (grown foods), when fed to cattle in arid regions, constitute the higher water usage in cattle production. The average bison requires 500 gallons of water each day, but one-third of our cattle are fed very little or no grain. According to J.W. Oljen, beef cattle consume less than two-tenths of 1 percent of the total water used annually in the United States.

As for the environment, 6 percent of land used for agriculture in the United States is overworked and used only for grazing animals. According to the USDA, 92 percent of this land is not usable for crop production because it is "too high, too low, too dry, or too wet." This is the land from which beef is produced. It is land used naturally and cultivated, naturally, where cattle and other ruminants are allowed to graze and migrate under managed conditions. In fact, managed grazing is proving to be one of the most viable means of sustaining plant diversity and conserving natural ecosystems. There is a compatibility factor between ruminant grazing and ecosystem balance.

The ruminate stomachs of beef cattle allow them to digest a high fiber plant into a consumable form of protein, energy, calcium, phosphorus, iron and other essential nutrients. Perhaps most significant, though, to the fact that ruminants are the only source of vitamin B12 available for human consumption. B12 is essential to the human diet. Also, in the face of desire for better health, the beef industry has moved toward providing the consumer with leaner beef products.

As for the Animal Damage Control Bureau, yes, some predator control has been used to control pest animals. Weeds, however, are not always meant killing predators. Livestock producers struggle to achieve the optimum productivity conditions and maintain a balance with the environment, as we do all.

Next, we will be discussing the possibility of food being made everywhere. When all is said and done, beef provides an essential element in our society. Beyond its main consumable product, meat, it yields byproducts in the form of pharmaceutical, household products, textiles and meat for travel. Hemophiliacs, diabetics and burn vic­tims all benefit from beef byproducts. Soaps, fertilizers, linoleum, and perfumes can all benefit from beef byproducts. So does antirheumatics, tires and asphalt.

What horrible, terrible conditions! Shocking, terrible, ghastly conditions for terrorists!

Ms. Rogers, I think you can be an envi­ronmentalist and eat beef. I personally think there is much that is misunderstood, taken for granted and just plain not researched in thinking about agriculture today. I hope that people will gather more information before being taken in by the "fenced in" thinking of articles like Mr. Moyes.’

That is why we value education in our society!

Debbie Lauridsen is an ag science senior.

Useless laws discriminate against bikers

Editor,

CAL POLY SAN LUIS OBISPO

Editorial Board

I am sick of the place for us. Because of the potential for accidents, but due to an unfair set of laws that actively discrimi­nate against bikers.

First, bikers deserve some appreciation. Every bike in those bike racks is one less car trying to compete for parking spaces. Bikers don’t get appreciation; they get double stan­dards. Legally, a bike is treated like a car, at least this is the official line. This ignores the fact that bikers are treated as second class cit­izens on the road. The right-hand side of the road that traditionally belongs to bikers is often parked in. Traffic lights won’t change for bikers. Do people in cars push the cross­walk buttons? I think not. Of course, declare the laws moot and run those red lights. Joggers jog in the bike lane when there is a sidewalk right next to them. I can be arrested for biking on the sidewalk, but pedestrians will run down people on the way to class because it hurts to slam into people at full speed. The same is true for bikers. If a biker does hit a pedestrian at full speed, or more likely slams on the brakes and crashes, the biker will fly off his bike and possibly skin face off. You don’t need laws to keep bikers from hitting people.

This brings up the question of how many people on campus are injured by reckless bik­ers. A round of questioning with Sgt. Lori Hashim revealed to me that there are some bike accidents. About how many every year? Not sure. More or less than 10? Don’t know. Withholding information that makes the bike laws on campus look like pointless persecu­tion! Probably. I don’t know who out there has been hit by a bike, but did it hurt you more than the rider, and did it hurt as much as 38 fines being given in a day? I certainly hope not.

James Medina is an economics junior.

Letter policy

Mustang Daily reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, profanities and length. Please limit length to 250 words. Letters should include the writer's full name, major and class standing.

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

By fax: (805) 756-6784

By e-mail: mustangdaily@calpoly.edu
Do not send letters as an attachment. Please send the text in the body of the e-mail.
MARDI GRAS continued from page 1

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Clerical Assistant - Journalism Department needs a Federal Work Study Student. Assist with office duties while working in the exciting environment of CPTV, KCPR, and Mustang Daily. Duties include answering phones, assisting walking, maintaining files, typing and word processing. $6.75hr. Contact Cindy at 756-2605, 26-228

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If you're interested but unsure stop by the Mustang Daily office in the Graphic Arts Building, Rm. 226.

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Don't "bogart" that Mustang Daily pass it on!
By Sarah E. Thien  

A Cal Poly lacrosse player charges past an opponent during a match last year at the Sports Complex. The Mustangs began their season last Saturday with a 9-3 victory over UCLA at home.

The Mustangs are coming off a year which saw them become the first team from the Western Women's Lacrosse League (WWLL) to be invited to the National Championships. Cal Poly beat Navy in the finals, keeping Navy from entering NCAA play and coming the Mustangs a national championship.

"No teams thought that a West Coast team would be good or even have a chance to win," Badgley said. "We were definitely the underdogs." The players are optimistic about repeating last year's success.

"We've got a lot of experienced players," sophomore Lauren Knecht said. "We hardly lost any players from last season, and we're working off last year's momentum." Cal Poly will look to carry that energy into next Saturday's away game against UC Santa Barbara. The Gauchos finished last year in fifth place in the WWLL, with a record of 2-5.

Men's volleyball achieves milestone in victory

By Cory Dungan  

The Cal Poly men's volleyball team reached a small milestone Saturday by beating Fresno State for the first time in four years. After defeating the league powerhouse Fresno State in five games Saturday, Cal Poly matched closer to a pre-season goal of a conference championship. Team president Patrick Sanders said he believes this year's team is stronger and "more together" than any team in team past.

"These guys are really focused and we was evident in Saturday's big win over Fresno State," Sanders said.

Other standout players from Saturday's game included senior setter Mike Geenen, and co-captain Chris Buell. Geenen credits Buell with the energy of his teammates.

"There's a lot of young talent on the team," Geenen said. "It brings in a added spark, which was lacking in years past. Tom [Buell] played more than team and I hope this continues throughout the season."

While Mike Geenen and Buell's last season, both said they have plenty of confidence that this team will be even better for the upcoming season. Buell said it is much more comforting to know all his hard work and effort won't be wasted just on the time that he is at Cal Poly.

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Take Tyson out of ring and out of boxing

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