Dairy science given $500,000 to enhance training

By Whitney Kobrin

The dairy science department will increase training and hiring with the help of a large donation from the Monsanto Corporation, a prevalent company in pharmaceutical supplies and products that enhance the productivity of animals. The money will be distributed at $100,000 per year over a period of five years through a restricted account for the purpose of enhancing management training at the dairy.

"Anyone can have a product, but if you don’t have someone trained to deal with it, then it is not optimized," said Phillip Tong, a professor in the dairy science department. "So the money was targeted to support a headman for the dairy farm. Until the late 1980s, the people who oversaw the dairy was paid for by the state, but due to budget problems, the position was eliminated. This left students to take care of the dairy, he said."

Ferreira said the new dairy herd manager will enhance the management and training in the dairy science unit. The new position will also add to the ability of the unit to do industry outreach, seminars and student training. The special student training will be offered by the herd manager to produce students who are well trained in optimizing dairy management with the latest technology. Ferreira said.

"Although many people would expect curriculum to change in light of a large donation from a corporation, Ferreira said no such changes have been anticipated. However, he does expect the donation to enhance the content of some courses because an added staff member with a different area of expertise will be able to oversee training within the field. "Students will be trained in leadership activities that are associated with the dairy," Ferreira said. "Later, we will hire students to work on the dairy, and pay them with money from the donation."

Ferreira said there were two main reasons the Monsanto Corporation chose to make a donation to the dairy science department. Firstly, although Monsanto is not a locally based corporation, but California is the largest dairy state, and Cal Poly has a good reputation in the dairy industry. Monsanto will receive more positive exposure in California’s dairy community as a benefit of making a donation to Cal Poly. Secondly, Monsanto plans to hire more people in general and more California-based students. It is to their benefit to aid students that have attended the university where a corporate giant steps up with an interest in education," Tong said.

"It enriches the university when a corporate giant steps up with an interest in education," Tong said.
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News

FORUM continued from page 1
the road," he said. The plan is to have the students, in every way, partake in the success of the fees, purpose and the measurements of the consequences, he said.

A student of audience expressed concerns regarding financial aid and whether it would pay the extra $300 per year. John Anderson, director of financial aid, explained that if the fee increase passes, the increase in financial aid awards would be according to each student's financial need. "We will attempt to meet that need as best as we can," Anderson said. This might mean adding a few dollars each month to the $300 that students pay back after graduation.

Andrew Hunt, a computer engineering senior, attended the meeting to find out why Cal Poly couldn't go back to mode-and-level funding.

ANDERSON continued from page 1
commission members who serve unpaid three-year terms, and help administer service programs in their local areas.

Anderson, a civil engineering junior, stated volunteering in the residence halls on campus and is currently the director of Student Community Services. She is also a co-director of Raise the Respect, an organization that promotes the understanding and acceptance of diversity. She works with Poly Voice, which promotes political activism, and she is on the Associated Students Inc. Board of Directors.

According to the law that created GO SERV, the commission requires a wide variety of members with different specialties in community service. It also requires that no more than 50 percent of the commission be of one political party.

Mary Anding, coordinator of community volunteerism at Cal Poly, urged Anderson to apply for the position. She said that Anderson's commitment to diversity and education, "(Although) you can only do so much at an individual level, you can do so much more when you're where the policies are made."

Alison Anderson civil engineering junior

Representatives advised students to find the details on their departments and colleges to understand how they would be affected individually. Harry Hellenbrand, dean of the College of Liberal Arts, stressed the need for the democratic system of checks and balances. This way, the money would be spent according to how the students vote, he said.

Voting on the fee referendum will begin today and continue through Thursday.

SAM continued from page 1
antique shop in Orange County. The statue is 6 feet tall, and weighs about 122 pounds.

Shaw refers to the statue as "Sam" and said that it has had quite a history with him. Sam has been in front of several stores that Shaw has owned over the last 30 years. "When I bought my first tobacco shop in 1973, Sam was the first purchase I ever made," Shaw said. "I've taken him all over the country. I brought outside; when closed, Sam was always at the entrance to my bed and breakfast in Charleston, Michigan."

Shaw is offering a cash reward for information leading to the statue's return.

"I don't want to press charges," he said. "We were all young once, and did things without thinking. Stealing is a felony. If you are found with this statue, it's going to be very costly. If you just return it to me, there will be no consequences." The statue is worth approximately $2,500. Angelo Plopecio, a friend of Shaw's, said it has more symbolic value than monetary value to Shaw.

"I feel bad for Doug because it has been like an only child to him ... I think it's very unfortunate that the Indian was stolen," said Plopecio, friend of owner Doug Shaw.

"That's really sad that it was stolen," said Shaw. "I wonder what inspired someone to take it. Maybe another person was offended by the statue and wanted to take it." The statue marked when the store was open and closed. When the store was open, Sam was brought outside; when closed, Sam was taken back inside.

According to Shaw, a statue of an American Indian represents the chance for dreams coming true. "If you make a wish and touch the Indian, then your wish is supposed to come true," Shaw said. "The thief didn't just take my Indian. He's taking the dreams of everyone who touches it." Statues like Sam are now being placed in front of stores for decoration, but that was not always their main function.

"In the turn of the century, there were many immigrants coming to the U.S.," Shaw said. "The American Indians introduced cigarettes to them and set up lots of cigar shops. Because they could not communicate verbally, the immigrants, they put statues of Indians holding cigars in front of their shop. This let others know what they were selling."
National & International News

Wednesday, March 13, 2002

National Briefs

Navy helicopter crashes in Mediterranean, 3 crew missing
WASHINGTON — During a routine training flight Tuesday morning, a helicopter and its three crew members crashed into the Mediterranean Sea, the Pentagon said.

"The search-and-rescue effort continues," said Lt. Cmdr. Nick Gaals, a spokesman for the U.S. Navy's 6th Fleet. "We have found some pieces of debris. We have not found the crew members yet."

It is unclear how long the crew members will be able to survive in the water. Gaals said they were equipped with life vests and emergency breathing devices.

Maj. Timothy D. Blair, a Pentagon spokesman, said that the helicopter was operating from the destroyer USS Hayler.

The USS Hayler and the USS Ross are involved in the search-and-rescue efforts. The Hayler last radar contact with the Seahawk while operating approximately 80 miles west of Greece.

The Navy is investigating the cause of the crash, officials said.

— Associated Press

Two killed in church shooting
LYNDBROOK, N.Y. — Two people were killed when a gunman opened fire at a church Tuesday. One of the victims was the priest leading the service, said witnesses and authorities. The other victim's identity has not been released.

A spokesman for the Diocese of Rockville Centre, on Long Island, said that the Rev. Lawrence Fenera, 50, was shot during the 9 a.m. mass at Our Lady of Peace Church.

Before being arrested in the neighborhood, the man told to stab police officers with a small knife.

There are unconfirmed reports that the gunman is a former employee of the church.

An anonymous church employee said that 30 to 40 people usually attend the service at the Roman Catholic church. The employee said that Fenera had just completed delivering the homily when he was shot.

Police did not allow residents in the area to leave their homes while they searched for the suspect, said one neighbor.

There are 1.5 million Catholics in the Rockville Centre diocese.

— Associated Press

International Briefs

Asia
JAKARTA, Indonesia — At least 23 people were killed in some of the bloodiest clashes between separatists and government troops in a year in Aceh on Tuesday, security forces said.

Three rebels were shot by soldiers in east Aceh, said police Lt. Col. Gaguk Sumarto. The rebels were resisting arrest. A woman was also shot and killed in the clash.

Troops searching for the killers of an Indonesian marine, who died in a rebel attack over the weekend, shot seven guerrillas in operations on Sunday and Monday, a military spokesman said.

A rebel spokesman dismissed this claim, and said that only one of the dead was a separator and the rest were civilians.

In a different incident, insurgents shot and killed two truck drivers, the rebel spokesman said. No other details were given.

Nine bodies were found elsewhere in east Aceh by a rights activist and other officials. All had gunshot wounds, the activists and officials said.

Insurgents belonging to the Free Aceh Movement have been fighting for independence for their gas and oil-rich homeland in the northern tip of Sumatra Island since 1975.

At least 10,000 people, mostly civilians, have been killed in the fighting. In 2001, at least 200 have been killed.

— Associated Press

Middle East
JERUSALEM — Tommy Lapid, an Israeli lawmaker, is outraged over Israeli troops writing identification numbers on the foreheads and forearms of Palestinian detainees who are awaiting interrogation during an army sweep of a West Bank refugee camp. Lapid, who expressed his concerns Tuesday to the army chief of staff and the defense minister, is a survivor of the Nazi Holocaust.

Army Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Shaul Mofet and Defense Minister Peres-Eliezer Barak have also said they are displeased with the practice and have pledged to take action.

During World War II, many concentration camp inmates were tattooed with identification numbers. The arms have said that the marks, which were made with ink that could be washed off, were a one-time occurrence and were not part of military policy.

On Monday, Palestinian President Yasser Arafat equated the action with the treatment of Jews in the Nazi concentration camps.

Col. Gal Hirsch, a regional commander in the West Bank, condemned the comparison between the Jewish soldiers and the Nazis.

— Associated Press

Briefs compiled from various news services by Mustang Daily contributor Anne Guilford.

Need CASH?

TEXTBOOK BUYBACK

Drive Through
Location on Campus
(Mt. Bishop Rd., off of Highland)

Mon. - Fri., 9:00am - 5:00pm

Front of El Corral
Mon. - Fri., 7:30am - 6:00pm
Saturday, 10:00am - 2:00pm

Dexter Lawn
Mon. - Fri., 8:30am - 4:30pm

By Campus Market
Mon. - Fri., 8:00am - 4:00pm

We Pay MORE

10% BONUS Deposit your buyback cash into Campus Express & receive an extra 10%

BUYBACK BONUS Sell us your textbooks during Finals week and receive a BONUS coupon for 20% off after goods through 3-22-02

March 18-23

Cal Poly ID Required for Buyback

*See store for details

For more information on Mustang Daily, please visit our website: www.mustangdaily.calpoly.edu
Take time to VOTE at any of these convenient spots around campus...

- Sierra Madre Residence Hall
- Engineering (Bldg. 13)
- Architecture Breezeway
- Business Breezeway
- University Union Plaza
- Business/UTC Breezeway
- Dexter Lawn
- Graphic Arts/Air Conditioning/Comp Sci (Inner Perimeter)
- Rec Center
- Fisher Science
- Ag (Outer Perimeter Road)
- Library

- Voting Reminder...(for your convenience)

I’m going to vote at this location:  

- Sierra Madre Residence Hall
- Engineering (Bldg 13)
- Architecture Breezeway
- Business Breezeway
- University Union Plaza
- Business/UTC Breezeway
- Dexter Lawn
- Graphic Arts/Air Conditioning/Comp Sci (Inner Perimeter)
- Rec Center (Inside @ turnstile)
- Fisher Science
- Ag (Outer Perimeter Road)
- Library (entrance)

On this day:

- March 13th
- March 14th
**Mother convicted of capital murder in drownings**

**By Paul Duggan**

(WIRE) HOUSTON — With standing-room-only crowds, a jury Tuesday convicted Andrea Pia Yates of capital murder in connection with the deaths of her five children. Yates was found mentally ill but competent to stand trial.

"It seems to me that we're still in the days of the Salem witchcraft, when you take a demonized woman, and take her life," George Parnham, Yates' defense lawyer.

"It seems to me that we're still in the days of the Salem witchcraft, when you take a demonized woman, and take her life," George Parnham, Yates' defense lawyer.

In contrast to Odom and Parnham, whose voices fell to near whispers at times as they spoke sympathetically of Yates, opposing attorneys Joseph Owney and Kavyllyn Willford took a tough, even angry approach. They sought to focus jurors' attention on the five victims and the gruesome details of their deaths.

"It's not that I am without sympathy," Owney said. "It's not that you are without sympathy. But what you're asked to do at this point is decide a case on the basis of the law, not sympathy for Andrea Yates."
Food

Breakfast is business at student café

By Eric C. Rich
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

While many students are pulling the covers over on their heads and going back to sleep at sunrise, the members of the International Breakfast Café are already hard at work. Every Wednesday from 7 to 11 a.m., the student-run business offers a quick breakfast to hurried students passing through the business rotunda.

The breakfast café started as a senior project and now is handed through the business rotunda. While senior projects are in the classroom, the International Breakfast Café gives the students real-world experience.

"It gives you a lot of important business skills on a smaller level," said business senior Julie Tran.

The café is set up on tables directly outside the store in the business rotunda. The café offers bagels, donuts, toast, coffee, hot chocolate and tea. Starbucks, Albertson’s, Bayel Café, and the House of Bread donate the food, which is all sold for $1 per piece. Every detail is made to he sentenced to jail. The judge told him he would remain free if he paid $1 per piece. Every detail is made to

Most students with morning classes don't have time for breakfast. The quick service of the International Breakfast Café saves the students time on their way to class. Tran said: "In some cases, students can pick up a snack and continue on to class. The main competition for the café is the Campus Market and The House of Bread. The café makes a challenge for business students and professors to get there. They work as a team each quarter to ensure a successful return. Covering shifts and working around varying schedules is a viral part of the project's success, Tran said."

The profits can go toward business programs or various scholarships. The profits are allocated by the international business department, which decides where to allocate the funds. According to an article from the Detroit News, monks in seventh-century France were responsible for inventing the pretzel. They used the shape represented the arms of a child folded in prayer. The article goes on to say that pretzels, the Latin root of the word pretzel, means "reward." The shape is also a popular legend that credits a baker with a bad drinking habit with inventing the pretzel. As the story goes, the baker was sentenced to jail. The judge told him he would remain free if he could make a small cake through which the sun could shine three times. Hence the pretzel's peculiar workings.

There are other versions of the story, too. One credits the invention to an Italian monk, while another states that the pretzel is of German origin and was originally shaped like the letter "B" for the German word for the food, "bretzel." Most websites, however, seem to support some version of the folded-arms story and propose that the pretzel originated in a monastery in France or Italy around 610 A.D., later spreading to Austria and Germany, where we got the word "bretzel" and eventually "pretzel." So there you have it, a twisted reply to a knotty question.

By Eric C. Rich
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

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Recipe of the Week
Southwestern chicken melt on sourdough

Ingredients:
1 pound chicken breast cut into four equal pieces
1 medium green pepper sliced thin
1 medium red bell pepper sliced thin
1 medium onion sliced thin
4 ounces sliced monterey jack or cheddar cheese
1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
1 tablespoon taco seasoning
4 sourdough rolls
1/2 teaspoon dried basil
salt and pepper to taste

In medium fry pan, sauté chicken breast while sprinkling with garlic powder, salt, pepper and taco seasoning. When chicken is no longer pink, add pepper and onion slices to pan and sauté until tender (two to three minutes).

Butter outside of sliced sourdough rolls and sprinkle with basil if desired. Place rolls in toaster oven for three minutes to melt butter and crisp bread. Remove rolls and place chicken sauté mixture in bun. Top each sandwich with sliced cheese. Place back in toaster oven open until cheese bubbles and begins to brown.

Frozen food: a diet staple for more than just college students

By Lisa Schenck
DAILY ILION
(U-WIRE) CHAMPAIGN, IL. — Though not everyone relies on frozen food as much as college students, the rest of the world is starting to catch on.

Meal kits, which are complete frozen dinners in a single packet, represented a $1.2 billion market in 2000. Experts estimate the future would rise to $1.8 billion in 2002.

Frozen food offers another advantage over other foods, an advantage especially appealing to college students. Some brands of frozen food, such as mini pizzas, sell for as little as $1.

Kelly Conley, commerce junior, said frozen foods accommodate her busy schedule.

"They taste fine, and they're really easy to make," Conley said. "It's nice not to have to juggle between classes, the store and the fridge." Kristin Junk, LAS junior, said, "It's nice not to have to go back to the store all the time."

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Meal kits, which are complete frozen dinners in a single packet, represented a $1.2 billion market in 2000.
Keg ID system doesn't stop illegal drinking

In a college town, underage drinking occurs everywhere. From that parties to house parties to college bars, students under 21 have no problem finding alcohol. Beer is beloved to most because it is cheap, tasty and very social.

Lawmakers in the state of Indiana wanted to change this image and decrease the amount of underage beer drinkers by voting on a bill that would require identification tags on all beer kegs, allowing the police to track the keg to the purchaser.

What some people might not know is that this is a law that already exists in 16 states, including California. That's right, kegger fans—we have a tracking law in our own state.

Keg registration requires kegs to be marked with unique identifier numbers using metal, vinyl, plastic tags, stickers, invisible ink or engraving. The registration also requires the retailer to record the keg identification number, the purchase's name, address, telephone number and driver's license number. That way, any keg confiscated at a party with underage drinkers will be traced back to the purchaser.

In Indiana, Sen. Beverly Gard is fighting for the bill to be signed. In a press release, she said, "I feel this will help give law enforcement and university officials tools to make adults responsible for their actions... This bill will help save lives."

Even though we have a state law, I don't see people checking the identifier numbers at the door. Nor do I hear anyone getting arrested for distributing beer to minors.

This system applies to beer kegs for consumption at a place other than licensed restaurants, bars and other such facilities. For example, on http://faceproject.securedata.net, a Web site discouraging underage drinking, it says, "Beer kegs are often the source of alcohol at underage drinking parties... Keops are popular with underage drinkers because the alcohol is cheap, there is a lot of it, and the purchase can be made by a single individual over the age of 21."

Drinking has always been a social event for college students, especially after a long week of studying hard. A simple tracking device is not going to stop underage people from drinking.

The same Web site also says, "Keg tracking may discourage adults from supplying kegs to underage youth when faced with the legal tracking process, adults may consider their own legal liability and think twice before supplying kegs to underage youth.

Even though they are under 21, most underage drinkers are over the age of 18 and are adults. Therefore, they are allowed to make their own decisions and deal with them. Whatever consequences they suffer, it's due to their own choice.

With events like Mardi Gras, St. Patrick's Day, and now Super Bowl this year, the younger generation has to realize that their own choices and their own actions do make a difference.

Amber Hodge is a journalism senior and a Mustang Daily staff writer.

Letters to the editor opposed to the fee increase

This letter is in opposition to the proposed fee increase that Cal Poly students are being asked to vote on this week. I am a graduate student in the computer science department, and as a member of the College of Engineering, I am being asked to support roughly a 27 percent increase in tuition. I know that many people on this campus are uncertain how to vote on this issue—we are in favor of improving the quality of our education, but not certain if increasing our fees by such a high amount is the best solution.

The Computer Science Department, perhaps the number one reason why proponents of the fee increase believe it is necessary is because of the difficulty of registering for fundamental courses. Proponents of the increase argue that this is clear evidence that our $220 per quarter increase is suitable.

For this reason, I have been investigating how we get into this predicament in the first place. Why is this so difficult this year, to get into classes? To answer this question, I have been looking into the data that the Cal Poly Office of Institutional Planning publishes on their Web site concerning the projected, budgeted and actual enrollment on our campus. These data were very informative, and they reveal a very remarkable financial situation on our campus: For the academic year 2001-02, our actual student enrollment (and, thus, course demand) greatly exceeded what planners at Cal Poly projected and budgeted for.

Some proponents of the increase argue that impacted classes are due to decreases in state funding. The CPDF data seems to place the blame elsewhere: "Undergraduate continuing and returning student enrollment was...over 100 more than expected." Within the College of Engineering, the amount of students actually enrolled was 10.5 percent above what was projected. Even more striking is the fact that the 2001-02 budget was written to accommodate, and this budget was underspent in many departments. From reviewing the data, it becomes necessary to ask if the difficulty of getting into classes really is a problem of state funding, or due to shortcomings of the policies of SPSCP of Cal Poly planners. If Cal Poly planners have made the mistake of enrolling too many students, should we pay the price?

Cal Poly students understand that it takes money to maintain and build the quality of our education. We also believe, I hope, that careful planning and expenditure of resources is equally important. We should defeat this proposal until enrollment practices improve and become fiscally responsible. Without changes to enrollment procedures, who can credibly guarantee that increased fees will not be rendered useless by continued over-enrollment?

Brian Wood is a computer science graduate student.
Letters to the editor in favor of the fee increase

Opinion

Editor,

Today and Thursday, please take the opportu­
nity to look at a copy of the Department/Program
Specific Academic Fee Proposal drafted in part by
student members of the Engineering Student
Council Executive Board. Please pay particular
attention to item four on the first page, which
reads:

Allocation: The revenues from the proposed
student academic fee increase will go directly to
the department/programs of the students paying
the fees – none of this fee will be allocated at the
College or university level or for administrative
purposes.

If you continue to read through the proposal,
you will also notice that item 14-5 explains how
each department/program within the College
of Engineering will form a standing student-charted
"Department/Program Fee Allocation Committee." The members of this committee
will include at LEAST five students. For exam­
ple, the aerospace engineering department has set
forth an application process that was used to
select a qualified student chair. It will be the duty
of this student chair and his chosen student vice­
chair to select six additional students from the
department to serve as members of the
department's Allocation Committee. These stu­
dents will represent the department, and their
decisions on how the revenue money should be
spent will be binding (as stated in item 14-6).

So, this money is going to be spent by the stu­
dents, right? That is exactly right. Meritorious
attention was given to making sure this issue of
student allocation was stated in black and white:

"None of this fee will be allocated at the college
or university level or for administrative purposes."

So, why do we need this academic fee? To pre­
serve the quality of education at Cal Poly.
Editors, you must see that the state of California
will come all too soon to put their foot down and insist that the state do
its job. For mechanical engineering majors, with
nearly half the major classes including labs, there
is no opportunity to wait or make a statement.

Engineers will have to work the tough 12-hour a day, seven days a week to
earn that degree, a degree with zero electives and
less faculty time spent interacting with students
and more classes and laboratory classes.

The academic fee represents an investment in the
definition of the engineering program and the
department. It is a means to a goal of getting
more full-time faculty members to help

Daniel Iwerson is an aerospace engineering
senior and one of the student members of
the Student Academic Fee Proposal Committee
for the College of Engineering.

Editor,

Engineers Be sure to vote in favor of the fee increase at the referendum today and Thursday.

Despite some people's claims that we should count on the state to take care of us, we are ulti­
mately responsible for the quality of our educa­
tion, and waiting on the administration, as we all
know, will yield nothing.

We need increased funds NOW. Two hundred dollars a quarter is a cheap ninstim for quality
education; Cal Poly will remain one of the best
deals in the country and won't have to sacrifice
any more of what makes this school good in the
first place.

A liberal arts major and similar folk have voiced
their disapproval to the increase. They can afford
to put their foot down and insist that the state do
its job. For mechanical engineering majors, with
nearly half the major classes including labs, there
is no opportunity to wait or make a statement.

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department. It is a means to a goal of getting
more full-time faculty members to help

Matthew Couchot is a mechanical engineering
graduate student.

Editor,

The quality of the computer science program
and other programs at Cal Poly is slipping. If you continue to read through the proposal,

None of this fee will be allocated at the College
or university level or for administrative purposes.

Furthermore, get involved in the College
of Engineering during Finals week and get
lots of cash

as a BONUS receive a coupon for

20% OFF

Sell us your Textbooks
EL CORRAL BOOKSTORE
A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION SERVING CAL POLY SINCE 1933
WWW.ELCORRALBOOKSTORE.COM
• on ALL Spirit Shop Merchandise
great Cal Poly sweatshirts, tees, hats, logged gifts,
promotional gifts, greeting cards
• on ALL Student Supplies
stock up on notebooks, pens, erasers, leads,
binders and lots more class supplies
• on ALL regular price general reading
and Reference Books
Engineering, Cooking, Art, Agriculture, Literature,
Study Aids, Test Manuals, and more

Buyback Bonus

during Finals week and get

Sell us your textbooks
& pick up a coupon
at all Buyback locations

coupon good 3-16-02 through 3-22-02
Zimbabwe vote count begins amid outcry

By Ann M. Simmons

LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES TIMES

Los Angeles Times — As vote counting in Zimbabwe's historic presidential election got under way Tuesday, allegations of misconduct continued to undermine the credibility of the poll.

Opposition politicians, local election observers and foreign political analysts charged that the government of longtime President Robert Mugabe had used every trick in the book to try to maintain its grip on power, indicating that no matter what the outcome, it would never concede defeat.

"They know the election, they can't possibly let the opposition win," said John Peresengait, Africa program co-director of the International Crisis Group, which observed the vote.

The election pitted Mugabe, this southern African nation's only leader since its independence from Britain 22 years ago, against Morgan Tsvangirai, a former trade unionist who leads the opposition Movement for Democratic Change (MDC).

The final tally was expected somewhat Wednesday.

Analysts predicted that a victory for Mugabe would lead to an attempt to eradicate any future serious challenge to his rule. They said a low-intensity war against the opposition had already begun with the harassment, assault and arrest of key MDC officials.

The opposition party's secretary-general, Welshman Ncube, appeared in a court in the capital Tuesday, charged with high treason for allegedly plotting to assassinate Mugabe. He was later released on bail.

Tsvangirai and another opposition figure are also under investigation for allegedly trying to kill the president.

"They should have been arrested a long time ago," Information Minister Jonathan Moyo said in an interview Tuesday. "It's just another example of us bending over (backward) to accommodate the (opposition)."

Treason is a charge punishable by death. The MDC officials have denied the assassination allegation.

President Mugabe, the African analyst, said the government is likely to continue the intimidation and arrest of high-ranking MDC officials in an attempt to weaken the management structure of the opposition.

Tsvangirai has been repeatedly detained and arrested on a host of charges over the past two years.

On Tuesday, local civic groups condemned the election as fundamentally flawed. The Norwegian Election Observation Mission, the largest group of European monitors in Zimbabwe, echoed this sentiment, adding that the poll was unlikely to meet international standards.

The Zimbabwe Election Support Network, a coalition of local independent poll monitors, said that huge irregularities up to and during the vote made a mockery of the procedure.

The group's criticism included flawed voter rolls, intimidation and attacks on voters by police and ruling party militants; and the assignment of polling stations in a war that government critics said clearly favored Mugabe.

Opposition officials said the reported turnouts in pro-Mugabe areas didn't match the reports from their polling agents. They also complained that MDC observers had been locked out of the counting centers in Harare.

"There is no way these elections could be described as substantially free and fair," said the monitoring group's chairman, Reginald Mashaba-Hove.

Voting was originally scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, but a Harare high court judge extended it into Monday after thousands of people were left waiting Sunday night outside polling stations in the capital.

On Monday night, a judge issued an order in support of voting for a fourth day.

The government denied allegations of vote-rigging.

"We feel very insulted that anybody in the world would think it possible for us to compromise the integrity of the electoral process when so many people are watching us," said Moyo, the information minister.

"Doing so, apart from being unconstitutional, illegal and unlawful, would be plain stupid." Local and foreign observers and media watched as police, welding clubs and firing tear gas, forced thousands of Zimbabweans, many of whom had waited three days to vote, to the polling stations Monday night when the government announced the elections closed.

Mashaba-Hove warned that a flawed electoral process is a potential cause for conflict, and some observers predicted an explosion of mass civil action that might involve a general strike if Mugabe is declared the winner.

Bush administration seeks to strictly monitor college graduation rates

By Dorothy Augustyniak

U.WIRE LOS ANGELES

The Bush administration is currently considering a proposal to strictly monitor college graduation rates, and some higher education officials do not like the way the plan is developing.

In February, the U.S. Department of Education released its new "strategic plan," draft. It consisted of an outline of the Bush administration's policy goals for improving elementary, secondary and higher education over the next five years.

A final version was scheduled to come out earlier this month, but its release has been postponed, according to the American Council of Education.

The section of the draft concerning higher education said, "although American institutions of higher education are among the best in the world, the public and many policy makers are especially concerned about the effectiveness of postsecondary institutions" and are concerned about universities graduating students "in a timely fashion."

Currently, colleges are required to report their graduation rates each year to the Education Department's National Center for Education Statistics, and have them available upon request.

"The proposal under consideration would make states serve as agencies to the federal government by keeping track of the graduation rates of colleges at all levels community, public and private. There are not yet specific details on how the plan would be implemented, nor are there specific details as to how the federal government might keep states accountable for their schools' graduation rates."

The issue of monitoring college graduation rates is more of a concern because of the expected increase in college students over the next 10 years, according to the Department of Education and the American Council of Education.

"The number of college students is expected to grow within the next 10 years," said Paul Hassen, assistant director of Public Affairs of the American Council of Education, a group that advocates the interests and goals of higher education.

"The major concern is whether or not we will be able to accommodate all of them," he added.

Some college lobbyists and leaders in education object to the administration's proposal, saying it is inappropriate for the federal government to dictate how states they oversee college graduation rates, especially private institutions.

"The quality of higher education is the responsibility of the institutions, accrediting agencies, and for public institutions, state governments, and this approach has served the nation well," wrote Terry W. Hartle, senior vice president for Government and Public Affairs at the American Council on Education, in a letter to the Department of Education on behalf of his organization. But Hassen said that, given enrollment increases, tougher regulatory measures are necessary.

The number of students going to college will increase because more students from underrepresented and minority groups will consider going to college, Hassen said.

He also mentioned that it's a "good problem," but the concern is how the administration will handle the number of students from university to university if the proposal is not adopted.

The average amount of time it takes for a student to obtain a bachelor's degree is 5.5 years, according to the American Council on Education.

Some universities are already making an effort in accommodating large amounts of students and getting them to graduate in four years.

For example, UCLA's new requirement for being a full-time student is having 13 units as a freshman rather than 12 units.

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CLIPPERS
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immediately went in a 17-4 tear.

Clippers finish with 10 of their final games away from Staples Center.

The Clippers also concluded a dreary stretch of 25 of 35 games away from Staples Center with a cruising 18-17 record.

What’s left isn’t easy, but the Clippers finish with 10 of their final 18 at home, including a "road" game against the Lakers, and leave the Pacific time zone only once more.

With six victories in seven games and eight in their last 12, the Clippers seem poised to challenge for their first playoff appearance since 1996-97.

"We’re still got a ton of work to do," Gentry said. "We know that. We’ll go home now and get back to Staples and take care of business."

By Shaun Powell

The Hurricanes see off a respectable 62 percent of their players into the real world? They’ll always be a football family.

There’s a reason why Gonzaga always springs an upset. The Zags graduate 46 percent of their players, and that’s no joke, Rick Majerus, USC, does graduate half his players, but Gonzaga’s best player this season is a redshirt frosh, Majerus’ favorite redshirt frosh.

As it is, their three-game road streak should have won at Milwaukee to start their final lengthy trek of the season to the Snow Belt, and they believed they were rowing as a team because Dick Vitale. To those suckers: Thanks in advance for your bracketerry fees.

"This tournament rewards teams that steer kids away from calculators and into Advanced Shoelace Tying," captioned one newspaper ad.

Weber State is no joke, Rick Majerus.

"One-point-eight million," corrected the projected first round NBA pick.

"One-point-eight million," corrected the projected first round NBA pick, which at least learned math.

Xavier (72 percent) has one of the highest rates in the conference, which explains why the X-Men run a distant second to the powerhouse across town.

Cincinnati is a big winner on the court but a loser in the curriculum. Bob Huggins’ exciting teams always draw a crowd except on graduation day.

The Bearcats develop future leaders at a rate that reveals how little this tournament means to the Quakers. They have two Sweet Sixteen appearances out of California, which brings a formidable 18 percent rate, which means Cal is pumped. What was the selection committee thinking when this first-round research was made?

And it’s time for the most remarkable fact in sports history to end. Duke and Coach K have reached a final Four while, incredibly, watching 75 percent of their players grab a cap and gown. This year the Blue Devils are in serious trouble, and blame Jason Williams. He went against all sound advice last spring and returned to school. His mother, a high school vice principal, stressed the importance of education but ignorantly forgot the importance of the tournament. What was he thinking? Sure, he got lucky and led Duke to the title last year, but by coming back for more classroom time, isn’t he pushing it? On my sheet, he is. Duke doesn’t get by Charlotte (38 percent) in the second round.

Arizona’s Kevin O’Donnell is spending too much time admiring Big 12 scoring and rebounding champ Drew Gooden, and getting too much time studying at an 81 percent graduation rate. I say Roy Williams’ tournament misery continues.

Forest (30 percent) average while a 100 percent graduation rate from Notre Dame (27 percent), too. And why does Miami think it can become a respectable tournament future when the Hurricanes see off a respectable 62 percent of their players into the real world? They’ll always be a football family.

"You know why Gonzaga always springs an upset. The Zags graduate 46 percent of their players, and that’s no joke, Rick Majerus, USC, does graduate half his players, but Gonzaga’s best player this season is a redshirt frosh," Majerus’ favorite redshirt frosh.

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**Triathlon season starting to ‘warm up’**

By Jeff Smith

(U-WIRE) EUGENE — They hardly resembled the team that Oregon easily handled in December and early January. The No. 7 Arizona Wildcats won three games in three days in Los Angeles over the weekend to crown champions of the Pac-10 Conference Tournament. Arizona returns for the first time since 1990. Arizona entered the season with youth, but the head coach Lute Olson said that their inexperience played a large part in the 105-75 and 90-80 losses to the Ducks. Since then, Arizona’s defense has blossomed, with juniors Jason Gardner and Luke Walton stepping into their roles and senior Salim Stoudamire playing beyond his years. Arizona scored a career-high 22 points in the Wildcats’ 81-71 victory over USC on Saturday in the Los Angeles Coliseum. Olson thought that his team’s three wins would earn Arizona a No. 3 seed in the NCAA Tournament, but instead, the Wildcats are a No. 5 seed in the West region.

"I’m sure the thing that made us a three was the two losses to Oregon…" Lute Olson

Arizona Wildcats head coach

Many triathletes commented on how well the race was put together, including Jesse Moss, a professional triathlete and Cal Poly shermans who came to race and talk with the talk with the talk last week. This race has all of the components of a professionally run event," Moss said. "It was an exceptional race.

Shaba Mohseni, the race director and graduating business management student, was pleased with the outcome of the race. "Everything and everyone worked so well together; it was a complete success," Mohseni said. "The Cal Poly triathlon team is comprised of many hard-working and spirited team players."