Australian for wine: New viticulture professor begins quarter at Poly, 5
Passive Pacific: Baseball takes two games in series, 12
TODAY'S WEATHER
High: 63°
Low: 50°

The youth of homelessness

A student passes a message writing in chalk in the University Union on Monday. The message was written by a group of students who are participating in a series of activities to raise awareness about homelessness. Some of the students camped out overnight in the UU on Sunday night. Today, a Needed Item Drive will be held where people can drop off items such as cereal, coffee and diapers at the Student Community Services Office.

Tuition comes with large price tag for foreign students

By Cynthia Neff
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

International students at Cal Poly attend the same classes and take identical exams as California residents, but with one major difference: the cost. For self-sponsored exchange students — students who have an F visa and therefore must pay their own tuition and living expenses — the bill comes to $22,145 annually. Add traveling expenses to that amount, and the result is a costly year.

Yaelle Keese, an architecture student from Switzerland on a direct exchange program that lịchaux originally chose, she only incurred living expenses without having to pay anything for the sake of the international students, since they may not see where the money will go.

However, Simon Kaspar, an exchange student from Switzerland on a direct exchange, said the fee increase wouldn't affect him at all. The city and regional planning student said an increase for "free" — only spending money on living expenses and travel — for one year so far, and plans to stay an additional four months. He said that he found it interesting that some international students have to pay so much money in tuition.

"That really limits the amount of people that can come at all," he said. "When you look at how many students could have a free education back at home, it becomes hard to justify the price."

"I used my past experiences to maximize this program," Keese said. "It is really powerful."

Students who have participated in the program have found that they grow both academically and personally. Students study the culture and the language while being immersed in it, said Renee Franza, a social sciences junior.

"It was a really enriching experience to learn the language and the culture," she said. "I couldn't compare it to anything else."

Student interest in the program is high as it provides an opportunity to study abroad at a much cheaper price. The program costs less than $2,000 and includes everything except airfare. Students take Spanish classes in the morning and their choice of a general education class in the evening. This year, students are able to choose from Agricultural 118, Speech Communication 145, Engineering 302 and Humanities 310. Students receive eight units of Cal Poly credit in the four weeks of study. Franza participated in the program to learn the language and to prepare for life after college, when she plans to join the Peace Corps.

"I wanted to have the full experience of going to Mexico," Franza said. "I wanted to test myself and just be able to immerse myself into the culture."

The experience combined learning about all aspects of life in Mexico, Franza said. Students participated in cultural activities, such as taking trips and enjoying the nightlife. One of the greatest parts was the nightlife and the experiences with the locals, Franza said.

"Students live with Spanish-speaking families and learn to how to live in a different culture. They go on weekly excursions, including visiting the pyramids of Teotihuacan, Mexico City, archaeological sites, Indian villages and beach resort areas.

Keese said he believes it is important for students to learn about Mexico because of its impact on California and the United States. Many students find that knowledge of Latin America and an understanding of Spanish help them with their careers, Keese said.

"After the program, students find Mexico to be more interesting, more diverse and more important," he said.

Applications and first payments for the program are due by April 12. For more information, call Keese at 756-1172 or visit www.extended studies.calpoly.edu.

see tuition, page 2

Mexico experience enriches students’ lives

Group files suit against Chevron

By Carrie McGourty
MUSTANG DAILY CONTRIBUTOR

The Cambria Community Service District (CCSD) has filed a lawsuit against Chevron Corporation and the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) for planning to dump treated water previously con­ taminated by MTBE into Santa Rosa Creek, an area located 150 feet from drinking water for Cambria residents.

The water board's approval of Chevron's plans to dump the treated water was a precedent setting state issued permit allowing discharge of treated groundwater into any and all surface water in the Central Coast Region, according to the CCSD.

This whole issue deals with the fact that decisions were made to save money," said Vern Hamilton, CCSD interim general manager. "They were not environmentally sound.

The contaminated water was caused by gas leaks on the surface of the Chevron fuel station in Cambria. Ed Spaulding, public affairs manager for Chevron Corporation, said the current method of disposal is by trucking the water 100 miles to a disposal site in Kern County, where it is reused as part of their oil production.

The removal of MTBE (methyl tert­iary-butyl ether) contaminated water is an expensive process for Chevron Corporation, so in order to subsidize the normal cost of trucking polluted water to a disposal site, the gas company will treat the water and then dispose of it into the local creek, Spaulding said.

Spaulding added that the plan is environmentally sound and that Chevron will be extremely careful to make sure the treatment method is effective. The water board must approve the treatment system before Chevron disposes of the water into Santa Rosa Creek.

"We will install a treatment system and then discharge the water into the creek," Spaulding said. "First we must test it, and then get it approved. It will be designed to effectively remove MTBE out of the water."

MTBE is an oxygenate in gasoline that allows gas manufacturers to reach the minimum fuel oxygen requirement specified by the Clean Air Act of 1990. The act is supposed to limit the amount of air pollution caused by vehicle exhaust, but unfortunately has had little effect on the improvement of air

see MTBE, page 2

see extended studies.calpoly.edu
MTBE continued from page 1

quality and has caused major soil and water pollution.

Henry MTBE water contamination has been seen throughout the state as well as the country. A study commissioned by Santa Monica and several other cities estimated that it could cost at least $20 billion to remove MTBE from soil and water supplies nationwide.

The case of contamination in Cambria is unique and important because it will set a precedent for future methods of disposal of MTBE contaminated water, Hamilton said.

Petitions organized by the CCSD were sent to the state Water Quality Resources Control Board in Sacramento, protecting the lack of notice and opportunity for comment before the regional board approved Chevron's proposal.

After suffering from expensive cleanup costs as a result of MTBE contamination from Chevron in years past, Hamilton stated that the CCSD is trying to stop any further pollution in Cambria. The lawsuit was filed on March 4.

Since 1993, records from the CCSD documented ground water contamination from MTBE in Cambria. If not tracked to a disposal site, polluted water is stored underground in tanks, and there have been many instances in which contaminated water escapes from underground tanks and pollutes nearby drinking water. In Cambria, the CCSD records revealed that two underground water plumes were shut down due to contamination from Chevron. Hamilton said that in 2000, Cambria spent approximately $1.1 million in a cleanup effort from MTBE contamination caused by Chevron.

Speaking said that when the story broke two years ago, Chevron "accepted responsibility and pledged to help clean up the mess."

According to the Association of California Water Agencies, Chevron Corporation has agreed to seek alternative water supplies to compensate for any water that cannot be used because of Chevron's contamination. This action is the first voluntary agreement in history.

Despite Chevron's claim that they will help clean up the contamination, Hamilton said that Cambria still has not received any support from Chevron. The CCSD received a loan from the State of California to provide water needs for the community, but they believe that Chevron should pay for the costs.

"To date we haven't seen any action," Hamilton said. "They haven't provided the water yet. I don't know if the oil industries will do anything unless you put a gun to their head."

Many citizens in Cambria are upset with the MTBE contamination and the proposed method of disposal and are anxious for Chevron to take responsibility in cleaning up current contamination and preventing future pollution. "I'm concerned about our health, our children and future generations," said Nancy Vincent, a resident of Cambria. "I want Chevron or whomever is responsible to clean up the mess so that the safety of the community is not impaired."

In a press release, Congresswoman Les Capps added that, "Communities like Cambria need assistance."

Capps introduced the HR 532 bill in the House Energy and Commerce Committee to provide federal funding for the MTBE contamination clean-up. Capps is one of the four legislators in congress to pay notice to the huge problem of MTBE contamination in the United States.

"Gas producers should take responsibility for the cleanup, but gas companies have enormous influence on legislators' votes," said Bill McGuire, a Sacramento lobbyist for the Sierra Club, the country's oldest and most prominent advocate for environmental protection.

In 1999, Gov. Gray Davis put a ban on MTBE that is supposed to take effect this December. Instead of using MTBE as an oxygenate, ethanol will be used. However, this substitution will cause an increase of gas prices up to $3 per gallon, some estimate, so Davis is trying to extend the ban, and is seeking exemption from the federal Clean Air Requirement that requires oxygenates to be added to gasoline.

The community of Cambria, the CCSD, Chevron Corporation, the Environmental Protection Agency and many others oppose the governor's actions and hope to resolve the MTBE contamination issue. The lawsuit in Cambria is a surprisingly significant issue and is receiving attention statewide, Hamilton said.

"This is an amazingly important issue. It can set a precedent in California for future generations," Hamilton said.

Rodriguez said that there are several reasons that these students chose to pay the big bucks at Cal Poly rather than opt for a lower price tag in their home countries.

"The foreign exchange students are not only paying more money, but they place on attendance, participation and the process in arriving at the final product in our classes," she said. "Also, most foreign exchange students are satisfied with the variety and diversity of offerings we have within the architecture curriculum and also in other departments at Cal Poly."

Though the direct exchange students are paying much less than their self-sponsored counterparts, they've come across other circumstances where the price they pay in the U.S. is more than they would in their respective countries.

David Lord, an architecture professor, said that his classes contain international exchange students from France, Germany, Norway, Australia and Switzerland. They are primarily first-year exchange students and pay very little or nothing at their home institutions, but the cost of living in the United States is very different, especially for housing.

"Most of the foreign exchange students live in Valencia apartments and pay about $650 a month total for shared apartments," he said in an interview via e-mail. "The German and French students here know that our Cal Poly students in Germany pay only $150 a month to live in international student housing, and $350 a month to live in Paris, also with subsidized meals available there."

"We have a lot of the same sorts of exchange students," Lord said. "They come from places where we place on attendance, participation and the process in arriving at the final product in our classes," she said. "Also, most foreign exchange students are satisfied with the variety and diversity of offerings we have within the architecture curriculum and also in other departments at Cal Poly."

**Facts on MTBE**

- MTBE (methyl tertiary-buty1 ether) is a fuel additive used in motor gasoline.
- It is used as an oxygenate, raising the oxygen content of gasoline and reducing the amount of air pollution caused by vehicles.
- The 1990 Clean Air Act required the use of oxygenated gasoline in areas with unhealthy levels of air pollution and MTBE became the chemical of choice.
- MTBE gets in drinking water from leaking underground storage tanks, accidental fuel spills and motorized recreation on lakes and drinking water reservoirs.
- MTBE is 50 times more soluble in water than any other gasoline.
- Long-term effects of MTBE on humans are unknown, but recent scientific research suggests it may cause cancer.
- The American Chemical Society reports that 1/3 of all U.S. community water wells may already be contaminated.
- Removal of MTBE from water is an expensive process with an estimated cost of $1 million to clean up a drinking well.
UC minority admissions levels on rise

SAN DIEGO — This year, the University of California system has admitted more minority students than it did at the end of its race-based admissions policies.

This fall's class consists of 46,569 students, 19.1 percent of whom are of Hispanic, black or American-Indian backgrounds. In 1997, the last year of affirmative action, 19.5 percent of students admitted had an ethnic minority background.

The greatest jump in admissions was at the University of California, San Diego, where last year the percentage of minority students was 11.3 percent. This year it is 14.4 percent.

"A lot of outreach efforts are beginning to bear fruit," said Mac Brown, UCSD's admissions director. "I don't mean to gloat, but I told you so," said Ward Connolly, a UC regent, who is black. "We've been saying for a long time that these kids don't need any special treatment to get into the UC system."

Directly following the 1998 ban on race-based admissions policies, the level of underrepresented students admitted dropped significantly. At some campuses, the numbers have returned to their 1997 levels. But at other campuses, generally the more competitive ones, the numbers have not rebounded, including UCLA, UC Berkeley and UC Irvine.

Peter Bucher, was arrested at his home and booked for investigation of assault with a deadly weapon. He remained in jail Sunday on $25,000 bail.

The three reported attacks occurred in or near Santa Barbara. In the most recent attack, a 20-year-old woman was attacked while jogging on the beach Friday morning. She was helped by a passer-by, authorities said.

"We believe he enjoyed watching after they (the victims) began to go into their panic-like state," said a Santa Barbara sheriff's lieutenant.

The first attack was against a French woman on a Santa Barbara beach in January. The second attack, also in January, was against a woman skiing near Mammoth lakes.

International Briefs

Mad elk disease threatens North American herds

WASHINGTON — Elk and deer are being infected with a form of mad cow disease that is spreading west across the continent of North America. Cases have been found west of the Rocky Mountains, the disease was previously thought to exist only on the east side of the continental divide.

Officials have reported cases in which infected animals have been removed from captive herds.

Mad elk disease is the common name for chronic wasting disease (CWD), and has been found before in wild deer, and in wild and captive elk. There have been some reports of a first case of the disease in mule.

The disease causes fatal conditions due to mutated proteins, called prions, in the brain.

If the disease spreads to herds that are raised for venison and antler exports to Asia, it could cause economic disaster. The disease could also potentially affect the multimillion dollar hunting industries.

Since there is no live test for the disease, animals in the same herds as those infected will be slaughtered, and wild animals living in the area will be called. The animals will then be tested to determine how widely the disease has spread.

— BBC News

Middle East

BAGHDAD — An immediate month-long suspension of Iraqi oil exports in protest of U.S. support for Israel's incursion in Palestinian areas of the West Bank was announced by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

The decision will stop the export of about 2 million barrels of oil a day -- or 4 percent of international oil supplies, Hussein said.

If the Israelis have not unconditionally pulled troops from the West Bank in 30 days, Iraqi leadership will review the policy on shipment.

The decision to stop export came at the same time Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon vowed to press ahead with a 10-day-old military offensive, which directly defies demands from the United States that offensives against the Palestinians stop immediately.

Iraqi oil constitutes about 9 percent of U.S. oil imports.

— Reuters

Europe

SAN DIEGO — Thirty, Russia — Twenty million dollars is buying Mark Shurtleff, a South African International team manager, a trip to the International Space Station on a Russian space shuttle that is set for April 25, 2003, Russian space officials.

Shurtleff, 28, said he is excited about his plans for genetic experiments in space and that he will be the first person to carry the first flag for an African country into space.

He will be the second space tourist. The first was American Dennis Tito, who made a similar trip last year for the same amount.

Shurtleff is planning to conduct experiments in the space station with animal stem cells. He said he believes that cells can be used to help find cures for the Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases.

He has been chosen by the Russian and South African biologists to conduct the experiments.

— Associated Press

Briefs compiled from various news services by Mustang Daily contribu-

tor Anne Gullford.

For Everyone's Safety

Violators will be subject to $25 fine.

Allegations of friendly fire stir Columbine rancor

By J. Michael Kennedy

LOS ANGELES TIMES

(WIRE) DENVER — Brian Rohrbough, his face lined and pale, works to keep his tone even as he talks about the time that has passed since his son Danny died in the fus-

lade that ripped through Columbine High School.

Three years gone, he says, and police have yet to account fully for their actions that April day when Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold tun-

upped through the school.

Rohrbough takes the stonewalling personally. He believes a policeman killed his son that day.

"I think victims' families have cer-

tain rights — to be told the truth about what happened," he said. "All I want is the truth."

The worst school shooting in U.S. history has left not only many linger-

ing questions but also a legacy of ran-

cor and continued accusations.

A few weeks ago, someone leaked Columbine crime scene photos to Denver's Rocky Mountain News. The Jefferson County Sheriff's Department had pledged that these photos would never be made public.

Although the paper ended up publishing the photos, the resulting brouhaha prompted Sheriff John Stone to order his entire department to take polygraph tests to identify the paper's source.

Parents of the 12 young victims of that day had been pinning their hopes on an independent legislative investigation, complete with subpoena power, to resolve lingering questions about the massacre and its aftermath. Many of the parents broke into tears last month when the state Legislature, citing the high cost, voted down a bill calling for the investigation. The state representa-

tive who sponsored the legislation has vowed to reintroduce it soon.

The Colorado attorney general and the Jefferson County district attorney have taken their own steps to launch a thorough investigation of the Columbine investigation. They recently asked the approximately 35 witnesses who responded to the April 20, 1999, massacre to turn in everything they possess, including investigative inter-

views and other records related to the case.

Some hope to create a clearing-

house of information and curtail the numerous accusations that authen-

ticate news data or give out wrong information. Critics applaud the effort but say it should have been done earlier. "The evidence was lost or destroyed."

At the same time, Sheriff Stone, still smarting from the perception that a policeman may have shot Danny Rohrbough, has asked the sheriff in neighboring El Paso County to see COLUMBINE, page 7
Dishonesty may be larger problem than UCLA knows

By Jany Kim

(U-WIRE) LOS ANGELES — Despite the reputation for academic integrity at the University of California, Los Angeles, the university has its share of problems when it comes to cheating.

Hundreds of students are referred to the dean’s office each year for acts of misconduct, such as cheating and plagiarism, according to Cary Porter, senior associate dean of students.

The device is small relative to the size of the UCLA student body, but the problem of cheating may be greater because many instructors fail to refer suspected students — though they are required to do so, said Corey Hollis, a former teaching assistant in the history department.

“My personal perspective is that it is a big problem, but what we see is the tip of the iceberg,” Hollis said.

The UCLA Student Conduct Code states that “all forms of academic misconduct, including but not limited to, cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, multiple submissions, or facilitating academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary action such as suspension or dismissal.

Many instructors refrain from reporting students either because they believe it is a hassle or that they will have to become involved in a complicated "trial" process, which is unfair, Hollis said.

Few professors report cheating because "documenting is laborious with relatively little prospect of proving the case," said political science professor Richard Anderson.

Anderson recalls an incident when a student approached him after an exam to report that another student had been cheating. He expressed frustration because he said he had been easy to prove and document as evidence.

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News

By Ron Gurantz

DAILY CALIFORNIAN

(U-WIRE) BERKELEY, Calif. — University of California, Berkeley plans to cap enrollment at 32,500 students, campus administrators announced at a meeting with students Friday.

The university’s current level of growth, the committee also set a goal of guaranteeing two years of housing for incoming freshmen, a plan outlined by UC Berkeley Chancellor Robert Berdahl earlier this year. The plan also calls for ensuring one year of housing for transfer and graduate students and three years for new faculty.

“We have a housing crisis,” Webster said. “If you live far away, you will be a commuter, not a member of our vibrant campus life.”

Berdahl said the university would try to locate sites for housing development around Berkeley, but also recognized the difficulties of the plan in a crowded city with a city council opposed to university expansion.

The committee made sure to outline ways not just to accommodate students but also to ensure the university maintains its high academic standards.

“One of the things that has made Berkeley unique is that we’ve always been at the forefront of education,” Webster said. Reinstating departmental reviews will be important to making appropriate resource allocations, Webster said, adding within a few years, two or three departments may be added to accommodate contemporary research, like nanoscience and metropolitan studies.

New information and communication technology provides a new forum for learning, and the campus should incorporate these technologies to maintain its status as a leading academic institution, Webster said.

The Strategic Planning Committee was formed in October 2000 to make recommendations to the administration. The committee will be phased out in May, but "action plans" currently being developed are designed to make sure strategic planning remains a continuing process.

Though the goals of the Friday forum were for the improvement of the campus, some are skeptical that all the details of the planning will be realized.

Students at the forum questioned whether some of the plans could be implemented.

Representatives from the Coalition of University Employees also attended the meeting and complained the university pays clerical workers unusually low wages compared to other universities.

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Palestinian recounts humiliation of detention

By Peter Hermann

THE BALTIMORE SUN

(WIRE) BEIT JALA, West Bank — His hands bound behind his back and his eyes tightly blindfolded, Ahmad Ibrahim was taken Friday from his village near Bethlehem by Israeli soldiers and locked in a cell he likened to a packed chicken coop.

The 23-year-old auto mechanic was released Monday, after being held for four days with 150 others sharing a single toilet, all of them waiting to be interrogated by Israeli intelligence officers conducting a wide, seemingly indiscriminate dragnet to find terrorists.

Ibrahim said he was asked about only three things, his name, where he lived and whether he belonged to a political organization. He was questioned as part of a sweeping Israeli military search for the West Bank’s first suicide bomber.

On Monday as scores of men gave themselves up in the West Bank cities of Nablus and Jenin, they left their hold-outs and homes in groups of five, their hands high above their heads, their shirts lifted to show that no bombs were strapped to their waists.

None of the detainees is allowed to talk to others. The army can detain Palestinians for up to 15 days without legal representation or other visitors.

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New professor makes ‘winning’ easy for students

By Leslie Edwards

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

A minimum of $1,200 seems like a lot of money for one piece of wine advice, but coming from the one of the most experienced consultants in the world, it’s not a large fee to ask.

“Often, I can go into a vineyard and increase the production, depending on how big the vineyard is, by tens of tons,” said Richard Smart, a viticulture consultant.

A few weeks ago, Smart, an Australian native, joined the Cal Poly College of Agriculture as its first visiting professor of wine and viticulture.

Smart said that since there is so much interest in the program, Cal Poly is keen on building up a viticulture major.

“The viticulture program here at Cal Poly is very popular, but at the moment Keith Patterson is the only viticulture professor, so he is quite overworked,” he said.

Smart, however, said he is impressed with the number of students in the agriculture department and the hands-on approach to teaching, which he thinks is of great relevance.

“This type of education is important because it literally teaches students how to become vineyard managers and winemakers,” he said.

During spring quarter, Smart will instruct two courses, one on advanced wine physiology and another that he developed regarding the growth of quality wine grapes.

“It’s an order to bring together all the components to grow quality wine grapes,” Smart said.

Dana Merrill, owner of Mesa Vineyard Management in Paso Robles and former chairman of the California Association of Wine Grape Growers, said he believes Smart’s presence at Cal Poly is an outstanding opportunity for agriculture students.

“Dee Smart can bring an international perspective on growing premium quality wine grapes to the California wine industry,” Merrill said. “The fact that he has traveled so much shows that he can draw on a wide variety of ideas, which will benefit the students.”

Along with the two courses, Smart and his colleague Peter Gross, a fellow Australian, will conduct three industry seminars on modern viticulture technology available for wine grape growers. Two of the seminars will focus on canopy management, on which Smart wrote the handbook “Sunlight into Wine” (with whom he has a son and daughter), and it is regarded by Patterson as an essential reference tool for quality wine-grape production.

“Has written the handbook on canopy management, which I have used as a teaching guide in several classes,” Patterson said. “It is a pleasure to bring the man who wrote the book into the classroom.”

Canopy management is a protocol of vineyard management, and it discusses how to position the shoots, which variety of wine grapes and fruit on them, Smart said.

“Depending on how you position them, you get more or less sunlight than 200 clients worldwide, as well as contract offices in Europe, North and South America, New Zealand and South Africa.

Smart has given himself the nickname of the “flying vine doctor” since he considers himself a doctor of vines, and because he spends so much time flying from country to country.

“It is easy to see why Smart welcomed the opportunity to take three months out of his regular life as a consultant to return to teaching.

“It’s like a reverse sabbatical for me because I live a rather fanatic lifestyle.”

When I was a young guy being offered the opportunity to work in viticulture, this fellow said to me, ‘If you work in viticulture, you’ll get to travel a lot, you’ll get to meet lots of nice people, and you’ll also get to see some of the most beautiful places in the world.’ Those promises he made to me have very much been fulfilled.”

For more information about the seminars being offered by Smart, contact the Extended Studies office at 756-2053.

Poly Profiles

Richard Smart

New viticulture professor

Richard Smart, a native Australian, joined the Cal Poly agriculture department this quarter to offer his expertise in grape growing and wine production. This spring, he is teaching advanced wine physiology.

Smart is satisfied with the course’s life has taken in the viticultural field.

“What I’ve been able to accomplish is to develop and extend the ideas of Shaulls,” he said. “The chance to come to Cal Poly was an opportunity to perpetuate that leadership, and I feel it’s important that I’m doing it here in the United States because Nelson was American.”

Over the years, Smart has developed an international reputation for vineyard canopy management and its effects on wine quality, something Shaulls was unable to do.

“When I was doing my research, I taught international attention, so it became a frequently invited speaker at international conferences,” he said.

Smart explained that he feels accomplished when he visits a vineyard and he can see the effects of his ideas in the way people grow their vines.

“With his research, we can now produce grapes with better flavor and better balance than ever before,” Merrill said.

In 1990, Smart and his ex-wife (with whom he has a son and daughter) founded Smart Viticulture Services. Nearly one year later, Smart gave up teaching and research to become a full-time consultant. In 1992, the business was renamed Smart Viticulture, which is essentially a viticultural consulting business that relies heavily on Smart’s expertise.

Smart Viticulture now has more than 200 clients worldwide, as well as contract offices in Europe, North and South America, New Zealand and South Africa.

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Raining on our parade was always a bad idea

Coming to San Luis Obispo after living in Spain would leave some people feeling disoriented. I lived in Spain, where there is a fiesta in a different city every weekend, for three months. There is always an excuse to party in Spain, and there are very few organizers that would even attempt to refuse to issue a parade permit. That’s certainly not the case in San Luis Obispo. But after last week’s rule about this year’s Mardi Gras fiasco, the city can’t rain on your parade anymore.

I didn’t look forward to returning for winter quarter; it’s not exactly everyone’s favorite time of year in SLO. But there was one thing that I couldn’t wait for; Mardi Gras weekend and the famous, or so some infamous, Mardi Gras parade.

I heard the rumors of “too much Mardi Gras” all the way over in Spain, but believed that the governor would have thought it was settled soon enough. Unfortunately for all of us, it was settled the week Mardi Gras was set to happen, leaving organizers with too little time to plan a parade.

City officials had attempted to create an ordinance that would have forced parade organizers to pay $4,600 for a parade permit and buy $2 million worth of insurance. The ordinance was created after the city’s attempt to reduce the crowd size didn’t work. City officials had thought changing the parade to Tuesday would reduce out-of-town visitors and deter college students from attending. The plan failed when approximately 18,000 spectators gathered downtown last year to celebrate SLO’s biggest party of the year.

City officials then decided to impose heavy fees for Mardi Gras organizers and even attempted to refuse to issue a parade permit to them. However, last week, a judge threw out the entire ordinance, citing that the city can’t enforce some parts of the ordinance while cutting others.

The ordinance violated both the state constitution and the First Amendment. It’s illegal to impose special regulations on parades like Mardi Gras.

I understand the concerns of city officials and the police department. Their fears of downtown rowdiness and potential violence are valid. There were 84 arrests at Mardi Gras last year, most of them alcohol-related. Public officials are concerned that the parade endangers public safety and most attendees of last year would agree. But maybe people wouldn’t get out of hand if it wasn’t the only major event SLO celebrated.

Part of the city officials’ argument for the high fees was that Mardi Gras itself costs the city quite a bit. Extra police officers and security have to be brought in to help manage the event. However, it is unfair to charge Mardi Gras for increased security but not charge the organizers of other similar events.

College students are always fighting with police and city officials over the right to have a good time. Thanks to the help of theexport of civil rights, Mardi Gras will be in full effect next year.

This is one parade that can’t be ruined on anymore, and we have the Constitution to back it up.

Dawn Rapp is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily staff writer.

Reform is unconstitutional

“People who say that campaign finance reform is still necessary do not have enough faith in the American public.”

-Udamee Campbell, MD

Campaign finance reform is a lawful way to prevent “vote buying,” right? Think again. Campaign finance reform is an unconstitutional restriction on free speech. Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-KY) was right in filing suit on March 27 challenging the constitutionality of the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002. Many misguided Americans believe that it is acceptable to disregard the First Amendment when it comes to campaign contributions. The newly enacted law censor speech by limiting the financial amenities citizens can use to get their voices heard by government. Instead of creating a more democratic, open system ofelectrocracy, the law dramatically increased the rich’s political advantage and favors the rich while effectively disarming challengers.

Spending money is often one of the most effective ways for candidates to disseminate their views. However, many of the high-cost campaign tools that a challenger would have to buy are readily available to incumbents. Whereas incumbents enjoy free mail to constituants about official business, name recognition and assured access to the media, challengers do not. The law therefore prevents candidates who have not previously held office from effectively representing themselves because national political parties will have less soft money to support them. Campaign finance reform also disregards personal fortunes candidates can use during elections. The law attempts to limit the playing field by allowing candidates to voluntarily accept amounts from the government should they reject soft money. This rule, however, makes it a crime for a wealthy donor to contribute to campaigns while it does not limit use of a candidate’s personal fortune. Thus, the law favors the wealthy as well as entrenched incumbents.

People who say that campaign finance reform is still necessary do not have enough faith in the American public. Yes, those with more money will have more advertisements, for example, but if what is being proposed in these ads is outrageous, spending on them is not going to influence the way people vote. Citizens who spend money on campaigns are successful because voters understand thoroughly what they represent compared to their opponents. All citizens can judge what is best for them in the politicians they elect to office. Publicity is merely one way to get acquainted with the arguments being made.

Contributions to political campaigns are clearly a mode of speech — money sponsors candidates who express and represent the views and ideas of their donors. Just because some individuals disagree with what contributions are used to say, there is no legitimate reason to restrict the protection of speech guaranteed under the First Amendment. A provision of the new reform places restrictions on a group’s ability to broadcast commercials that mention candidates with in 30 days of an election. This rule diminishes the ability of political groups to express their views through advertising. For example, in 1972, the U.S. government sued The New York Times for publishing an advertisement condemning bombings of Cambodia by the Nixon administration. Under current regulations, this ad would be deemed a criminal act, especially if published close to election day. The law would allow for effective control of promotions made by nonprofit and advocacy organizations.

The Supreme Court has noted, “Debate on the qualifications of candidates is integral to the operation of the system of government established by our Constitution.” An election campaign is a means of disseminating ideas and today that takes money.

As a Cato Institute analyst points out, Thomas Jefferson wrote in the Declaration of Independence that the only legitimate governments are those based on the consent of the governed, a consent that Americans have given for 200 years. The Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act, instead of promoting fairness, undermines this system of debate and free election.

By Svetlana Y. Myerzon, Harvard Crimson (Harvard U.)
CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

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Join Domestic Peace Corps!
Provide intensive mentoring to high-risk teens in SLO county.
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Americorp Mentors of SLO Co.

COLUMBINE
continued from page 3
look into the thoroughness of his investigation. The results of that review are expected to be made public within several weeks.

Also, Jefferson County District Attorney Dave Thomas recently asked the county coroner to conduct an inquest into the young Rohrbough's death. But the coroner declined, saying he did not want to put much weight on the taped testimony of the students, through more trauma. He also said the inquest would serve "no purpose." Because it would not change the official conclusion about Danny Rohrbough's death unless new evidence surfaced.

Meanwhile, Columbine-related lawsuits have dwindled to a single case. More than a dozen lawsuits, filed by the victims' parents against the Harris and Klebold families, the police and others, have been settled or thrown out of court.

The remaining lawsuit was filed by the family of Columbine teacher Dave Sanders, who took his own life inside the high school even as students begged rescuers to help him. The suit, for which no trial date has been set, contends that Sanders died because rescuers waited three hours to enter the building.

"It's a story with the longest legs I've ever known," Thomas said. "There's always something new. The latest is the release of those photos. It didn't just happen by accident. Someone wants to keep this story alive.

One person keeping the Columbine story from fading is Brian Rohrbough. He has joined with his former wife, Susan Petrone, in the quest for information about the death of their only son.

Rohrbough, 43, has been one of several parents of Columbine victims who have appeared on television and radio programs to demand a complete accounting of the shootings.

Rohrbough has long contended that his son was killed by friendly fire, based on his interpretation of the evidence. But he summed the Columbine community late last year by filing a federal court document asking for the reinstatement of a lawsuit that named Denver Public Schools, Daniel O'Shea, who had been deco­

rative for a gunman and shot and killed him.

Rohrbough says the footage was shot an hour after the attack began and proved nothing.

O'Shea said after looking at the film: "Daniel Roberts was shot by Klebold and Harris right at the outset of this, before anybody had a chance to dial 9, much less 911." He declined to be interviewed for this story.

Some of the chief lieutenants also declined to comment. Citing the advice of their attorneys, they also refused to testify before the govern­

er's commission investigating Columbine.

High risk teens in SLO county.
Fullpay time Sept 02-July 03. Must be a good role model, self starter, flexible and ready for hard work.
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"I think victims' families have certain rights — to be told the truth about what happened. All I want is the truth."

Brian Rohrbough father of Columbine victim

"I think he shot Dan," Rohrbough said. "I think O'Shea got on the scene and then Dan comes running down the stairs and he mistakes Dan for a gunman and shot and killed him.

Rohrbough's evidence is circum­
stantial. He first named O'Shea after the attack but soon after Columbine, an emotional O'Shea told an acquaintance that he thought he might have shot an innocent student during the shooting.

Coupled with that is the tape­
recorded statement of a former deputy sheriff who told Rohrbough he saw Danny shot much later than the official version of events. According to Rohrbough's analysis, that would have put O'Shea at the scene rather than on his way to it.

The former deputy, Jim Taylor, later said he had not seen Danny fall to the ground.

Finally, Rohrbough points to the fact that the bullet that killed his son was never found, making it impossible to link the shooting to Harris and Klebold.

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or's commission investigating Columbine.
The Mustangs fell in game one, but take series

By Andy Fahey

The games may not have been pretty, but Cal Poly escaped with two wins in the weekend series against Pacific at Baggett Stadium. The series saw 66 runs on 91 hits and 15 errors. Cal Poly won on Friday night and again on Saturday, but its hopes of a three-game sweep were squandered by a devastating extra-inning loss on Sunday afternoon.

Friday night’s match-up saw plenty of offense with the Mustangs recording a season-high 20 hits in route to a 15-8 victory.

Pacific jumped out to an early lead, scoring three runs in the top of the first. It held a 4-2 lead in the fourth inning before the Mustangs’ first baseman Ryan Haskell cut the lead in half with an opposite-field homerun. Pacific lost the lead in the fifth when its defense fell apart. The Tigers committed two errors in the inning, resulting in four Mustang runs and a 7-4 Cal Poly lead.

Pacific tied the game at seven in the top of the sixth when third baseman Aaron Harper hit a bases-loaded triple. Foley bounced back and delivered the lead in the bottom of the inning with a two-run double by sophomore catcher Kyle Wyrick. The Tigers had two RBIs and Jason Barringer added one more to complete the five-run inning.

The Mustangs added three runs in the seventh and eighth innings and Pacific added one in the ninth, but the deficit was too large for the Tigers to overcome. Nolan Moser picked up his first win of the season, pitching 2.1 innings in relief of Mustang starter Tyler Fitch.

Sunday’s contest was marked by “pitching by committee” by the Mustang staff. Six Cal Poly pitchers made appearances and none went longer than 2.1 innings.

“We’re trying to get guys prepared to pitch in sequence so they know when they’re coming out and they’re pitching on a regular basis,” said head coach Ritch Price.

The game got off to a rocky start for the Mustangs. After walking the second hitter of the afternoons on four pitches, freshman starter Frank McLaughlin gave up a two-run homer to Pacific’s Tim Gilhooly.

"(Gilhooly) hurt us all weekend," Brian Cant answered back in the second of his four RBI on the day.

Price said following Sunday’s series finale, "He’s one of the best players in the Big West Conference." Bryan Gant answered back in the bottom of the first with a RBI-double that extended his hitting streak to 13 games.

Pacific added two more runs in the second, but Cal Poly tied it in the bottom of the inning. With runners on first and second and no one out, Mustang second baseman Chris Hageman laid down a bunt. Pacific pitcher Joel Lomax fielded it, but threw it wide to first. The error allowed both runners to score and Hageman to advance to third. Then, in the bottom of the eighth, Escondido’s Tom Wilson launched a two-run homer to cut the game open in the bottom of the seventh. The tally started with a walk by Bryan Gant, followed by a dramatic two-run blast off the bat of Kyle Wilson. The homer gave the Mustangs the lead, and they added two more insurance runs on a successful suicide squeeze attempt by Hageman and a RBI groundout by Escondido.

Sunday’s contest was a tough pill for Cal Poly to swallow. After playing in seven games that went into extra innings last year, the Mustangs lost their first overtime experience for 2002 in the 11th inning. Back-to-back two-out triples by Pacific’s Nicholae Sekiya and Jeff Jodlowski, and Cal Poly committed two errors in the 11th, pitcher James Stanford shut the Mustangs down to end the game.

Shaq’s return and 40 points help Lakers cool the Heat

By Tim Brown

LOS ANGELES TIMES

(WIRE) MIAMI — Whatever postseason edge he will pursue for a Los Angeles Lakers team that has its vulnerable moments, Phil Jackson’s only calling would appear to be to take Shaquille O’Neal and deliver him Game 1, Series 1 of the Western Conference playoffs.

On the floor for the first time in their entire morning practice, the Lakers’ star was slowed by a swollen right wrist and the next four days off, O’Neal was freed to find Sunday afternoon, all traits that make the Lakers imposing from April through June.

They locked 11 rebounds in a 96-85 win over the moribund Miami Heat, a bit livelier for national television. He blocked two shots and had two assists and, even in the face of a late, awkward attempt at a Hack-a-Shaq by the has-no-shame Pat Riley, made 12 of 19 free-throw attempts, a handful even arcing and falling softly.

"That’s the Shaq that we will take away to another championship," Lakers Back Fox said.

Not the other one, the toe-cupped, orthotic-setting, indocilishing center that other teams would like to see more of. O’Neal will finish in the top three in the MVP vote despite a physically miserable season that probably will be followed closely by surgery. He has averaged 26.7 points and 12.8 rebounds and 57.4 percent of his shots, all below his career numbers, all while wincing on every step.

Then, after a few days’ rest, he’s above the floor again, taking rebounds, dunking without regard to a wrist he now believes was sprayed by repeated hacks — meaning the actions, not those who attempt to defend him.

"I don’t get hurt," O’Neal had said. "I get taken out." When he returns, he is strong and spicy and angry, and so even Alonzo Mourning and Brian Grant, two of the NBA’s tough guys, flinched. O’Neal scored the Lakers first 13 points and had 22 by halftime, at which time there appeared to be little doubt the Lakers would win for the second time on the four-game trip that ended Sunday.

The Heat did push back late in the third and early in the fourth quarter, when the Lakers stopped switching with Miami’s high-screen-and-roll, and Heat jump shooters were open, and their shots drew them to within 73-71. The Lakers scored the next 10 points, four by O’Neal around the basket.

"I am just trying to get back on track," O’Neal said. "We are a better team when all of our components are in place. Tonight my teammates looked for me and I did what I always do.

Kobe Bryant went to bed Saturday night feeling ill and woke up the same way, and O’Neal hadn’t played since Tuesday in Washington, so it was predictable when O’Neal took hold of the offense.

Mourning was game, but O’Neal was particularly determined, and so Zo had no chance. Bryant had 19 points and 11 rebounds and Deven George had 11 second-quarter points, most when his defender chased after O’Neal. But the Lakers went to O’Neal first, and if his wrist bothered him, it didn’t look like it because his short jumpers were soft and true.

CAL POLY SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT

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