Turkey Temptations:

Mustang Daily's guide to

Turkey products

Moby's Meal:

Moby should leave Thanksgiving to the birds,

Today's Weather

High: 72°

Low: 38°

Campus railroad causes problems

By Nick Hopping

Two California State Universitys share one potential problem:

Freight trains.

Each day, at infrequent times, trains will roar by Cal Poly and California State University, Chico, with a possible disaster one ill-fated step away.

Over the past 27 years, there have been three deaths at the California Boulevard crossing behind Mustang Stadium, two in cars and one last year on a bicycle. There was also a car accident, which resulted in a serious injury.

The only safety devices behind Mustang Stadium crossing are two stop signs, which are difficult to see at night. After each incident, numerous meetings were organized to discuss the installation of safety devices at the heavily used crossing.

Yet no actions have been taken.

Union Pacific Railroad representatives are currently making an effort to close the crossing, which is a junction between campus and other student residences, because they consider it unsafe.

"Railroad companies are doing everything they can, realistically, to improve safety -- from warning devices to lowering train speeds," said Randy Anderson, senior special agent with Union Pacific Railroad Police.

Union Pacific owns the tracks and roughly 50 feet of land on each side of the tracks.

Mike Furtney, a spokesman for Union Pacific Railroad, said the average train weight is 2,000 pounds and it takes at least 1 1/2 miles to stop when an obstacle is in view. A 150-car freight train's stopping distance at 50 mph is 1 1/2 miles and an 8-car passenger train's stopping distance is 1 1/8 miles, according to the Union Pacific Railroad Web site. There are more incidents when people try to "beat the train" in their cars than when pedestrians run across the tracks.

"The relationship between a car getting hit by a train is like squashing a soda can with your can," Furtney said.

Cal Poly owns the land around the tracks, and is the main reason that students use the crossing. The Church of Latter-day Saints, which operates an Institute of Religion youth center in a cul-de-sac west of the tracks, also have entered discussions on what should be done to the tracks. Cal Poly and the Church of Latter-day Saints and Union Pacific Railroad are the major players in the debate, although two nearby homeowners and Mustang Village, a private 1,500-home housing complex west of the tracks, also have entered discussions on what should be done to the tracks.

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The Rose Float Committee sent its half of the project to Cal Poly Pomona to finish construction Nov. 16.

Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and Cal Poly Pomona each take half of the float, like the painting and final construction, Rios said.

The Cal Poly half of the float was taken to Cal Poly Pomona on Nov. 16 so it can be connected to the other half and decorated for the 2003 Tournament of Roses Parade on Jan. 1 in Pasadena.

Electrical engineering junior Ian Clauson crosses the railroad tracks every day on his way to school.

"We depend a lot on our volunteers," Watson said. "It is a great experience being there for those in need.

Some supplies will be collected until dead week at the Women's Center.

"The clothing will be given to a thrift store, while the rest of the supplies will be picked up by a women's shelter here in town," Watson said.

Another opportunity for students to help those in the community is through Student Community Services.

"Students have the opportunity to donate $15 for the construction of a playground here in San Luis Obispo," Watson said. "Students can come into SCS and take a rag off our Christmas tree. We will then donate the money to a women's shelter in town."

For students looking to take a more hands-on approach, SCS also helps place volunteers in various programs around the community.

"We have 17 different programs for those interested in volunteering, but the most common place during the holidays is homeless shelters," said Anastasia Magnaghi, biochemistry senior and a director-coordinator at SCS.

One center that benefits from SCS placement programs is Prado Day Center, located at 43 Prado Road. The center is a homeless shelter that provides hot meals and a place to sleep for those in need.

"We depend a lot on our volunteers," said Marina Sterner, staff member at Prado Day Center.

Spending quality time with those they help is one of the key elements of the center, Sterner said.

"It is a great experience being able to work and interact with people and see what is like to be homeless," she said.

Students use break to help out

By Christen Wegner

On average, about 14 percent of San Luis Obispo residents require some form of financial assistance, according to San Luis Obispo County Social Services.

With statistics like these, many local residents and students recognize the need to volunteer during the holidays.

"The Thanksgiving break is a good opportunity for students to go home and hug their parents for money or gifts to donate," said social science sophomore Elisabeth Watson, who works at the Cal Poly Women's Center and Student Community Services.

The holidays are a difficult time for many people in San Luis Obispo, and the Women's Center is one group on campus looking to help those in need.

"We are accepting anything from cleaning supplies to canned goods to clothing," Watson said.

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Float coming up roses for hard-working students

Project a joint effort between San Luis Obispo and Pomona campuses

By Olga Berdial

What's red, pink and blue, has a working roller coaster and is covered in flowers?

Cal Poly's float entry for the 2003 Tournament of Roses Parade "A Sundae Afternoon."

The float, co-created with Cal Poly Pomona, is decorated in a candy cane Ferris wheel and a carnival candy land scene, said Annie Moberg, assistant events coordinator for Associated Students, Inc.

The float consists of gingerbread children playing on a spinning bowl of ice cream, as well as a candy cave Ferris wheel and a roller coaster. There are also lollipops, cupcakes and cotton candy that grow out of the float-like trees.

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Students raise money for foster youths

About 200 young adults in the community use the services of Independent Living Programs of San Luis Obispo, an organization that helps foster youths.

On Dec. 2, a group of Cal Poly students will team up with downtown's Fresh Choice restaurant to raise money for the organization. Fresh Choice will donate 20 percent of sales when customers mention the fundraiser while purchasing dinner, said psychology senior Amber Fredrickson, one of the members of the group.

"We are helping an age group that is often forgotten," Fredrickson said. "The organization really helps them get on their feet."

Fredrickson's group, which consists of six students, chose Independent Living Programs because the organization helps place dependents of the court into foster homes, assists in locating jobs and facilitates the process of living on one's own.

The fundraiser at Fresh Choice is not the only event the group has hosted. On Monday, Woodcock's Pizza donated 20 percent of its profits to Independent Living Programs. Last week, the group hosted a yard sale, which raised $300. The students have even had a private citizen donate a car to the charity.

The group would like to raise about $500 from all the fundraisers, although it is hard to estimate, Fredrickson said.

"The money raised will go toward Independent Living Programs' emancipation gifts, those are items that are given to young people who are starting out on their own. Some gifts include phones or microwave," Fredrickson said.

"Independent Living" gives people without a family things a family would give them," said psychology senior Veronica Peyer.

Fredrickson said the group is also looking to local businesses to donate gifts for the organization.

The students are part of Shawn Bums' PSY 351 class. The class has split up into different groups, each one choosing a charity to raise money for, Peyer said.

"It's really a different class," she said. "We are actually doing things, not just reading about them."

DRASTIC RENT REDUCTION SPECIAL!

We have DRASTICALLY reduced our rents to fill our last remaining rooms and apartments. Stop by our office or call our programmer to reserve the room/room! Why pay more when you can pay less? Rebate our rooms until the end of the month.
President Bush, Trent Lott going to Louisiana in hopes of adding to GOP Senate majority

UNITED STATES - A month before Election Day, President Bush and Senate GOP leader Trent Lott are going to Louisiana this weekend to drum up support for the Republican alliance in the Senate.

Bush will be going to New Orleans and Shreveport on Dec. 3, five days before a runoff between Democratic Sen. Mary Landrieu and Republican Senate candidate Terri Beth Kirkland and one to decide the state's one open House seat.

The two races remained uncertain after the Nov. 5 elections because no candidate won the 50 percent required by state law.

Landrieu took 46 percent; Terrell got 37 percent, finishing second among nine candidates and giving her the runoff slot against Landrieu.

Lott, the Senate's new majority leader, was due in Baton Rouge on Monday evening to campaign for Terrell.

Bush and Lott are expected to join Republicans in five other states in next year's Senate.

Testing company to pay up to $7 million to settle claims from botched scoring of exams

NEW YORK - A testing company that wrongly scored thousands of exams required for high school graduation and paid to up to $7 million to students as part of a settlement, attorneys announced.

Students who didn't get to attend their graduation ceremonies will be eligible up to $30,000 if the results were withheld or error-prone.

The settlement comes after 2 ½ years after state education officials dis­closed that NCS Pearson used the wrong answer keys on 47,000 exams given in February and April 2000. About 8,000 students, from eighth-graders to seniors, had been told they had failed or had actually

The settlement includes at least 200 other people who were denied their graduation ceremonies because of it.

Ameri­cana Online, Time Inc. weight deal to make magazines available online to AOL subscribers

WASHINGTON - America Online Inc. and Time Inc. said Monday they will make the magazines available online to the AOL subscribers.

They said that millions of other cred­its were stolen from companies nationwide since the beginning of 2000.

Time Warner was considered a deal that would bring them closer together in the race to return a potentially huge source of new business to the scan­ning Internet division.

Cummings was allegedly paid roughly $30 for each report, and the information was then passed on to at least 20 other people, who then sold it on the street to make money from the stolen information, prosecutors said.

"The potential windfall was prob­ably far greater than the content of a bank vault, and they didn't even need a getaway car. All they needed was a phone and a computer, or they could be read for free online.

The program, funded by revenue from the sale of the Inaugural issue of the online magazine, other goods that Baghdad must get U.N. humanitarian aid

UNITED NATIONS - Working against time, Security Council experts tried to reach final agreement Monday on a resolution to extend the humanitarian pro­gram in Iraq, with the United States pressing for a one-month renewal instead of an indefinite extension.

Council diplomats said Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld wants the U.S. to insist that the Iraqis can undertake a quick review of the list of goods that Baghdad must get U.N. approval to import.

U.S. Attorney James Comey said there was no reason to suspect a terrorism connection, with another being elected next March in Brazil, with the likelihood of another being elected next March in Brazil.

He insists he is not part of the trend of leftist, anti-globalization presidents, but another being elected next March in Brazil.

"I voted for Lucio because he is going to get rid of corruption and I think he is going to help the poor," said Maria Altam, a 35-year-old street vendor. "I just hope he is not like the other politi­cians who offer everything and don't keep any promise."

The victory by a political outsider like Gutierrez, or a leader who had a deal of one-endorsed candidates, would have helped push U.S. dollar Ecuador's official currency. They also oppose America's use of the U.S. dollar as a base for a center of operations for its anti-war efforts in Latin America.

"I am not a communist. I am a profoundly Christian man who respects private property and human rights," Gutierrez said during the campaign.

National/International News

Tuesday, November 26, 2002

By Lucy Neumeister

NEW YORK - Federal authorities broke up what they called the largest identity theft case in history and charged three men Monday with stealing credit information from more than 100,000 customers and hacking into private bank accounts and ruining their credit.

"With a few keystrokes, these men essentially handed the pockets of tens of thousands of Americans and, in some cases, their own identities, over to the Internet, where they sold them for a nickel a pop," the prosecutor said.

Authorities said the scheme began about seven years ago when Philip Cummings, a help-desk worker at Teledata Communications, a Long Island software company, sold an undesired "unofficial" codes for downloading consumer credit reports.

Cummings was alleged to have paid $50 for each report, and the information was then passed on to at least 20 other people, who then sold it on the street to make money from the stolen information, prosecutors said.

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**Arts & Culture**

**Ceremonial Poultry**

Thanksgiving from a frozen box or a dehydrated, vacuum-sealed bag

(Staff writer Chrissy Roth sampled anything from products that only resemble a turkey product to the finest in frozen delicacies.)

**By Chrissy Roth**

I had a dream last week. It was Thanksgiving morning and I was preparing to drive to San Francisco to spend the holiday with my family and, most importantly, grub on some delicious baked turkey, cranberry sauce and mashed potatoes.

I loaded my bags into the car and put my key in the ignition. But instead of hearing the engine turning over, my ears were startled by a raspy noise that only a mechanic could love. So there I was, stuck in San Luis Obispo, with nowhere to go and no one to bake me a Thanksgiving turkey.

Although it was just a dream, this year many students will end up doing the exact same thing in San Luis Obispo for the upcoming holiday. Whether it is due to a broken-down car, a cross-country flight or an overloaded schedule, some students will find themselves looking for other ways to enjoy the traditional turkey. If this happens to you, visit your grocery store and try some of these turkey alternatives.

- **Turkey TV Dinner**
  
  Only an Easy Mac meal is more typical than a TV dinner for poor college students with little time. With this in mind, I purchased a Swanson's baked turkey dinner, complete with mashed potatoes and gravy. After eight minutes of anticipation, I pulled the TV dinner out of the microwave and dove into the pool of gravy which covered a little, tiny slab of turkey.

- **Teriyaki Turkey Jerky**
  
  While the appearance, texture and consistency may not look particularly appetizing, the sweet taste of teriyaki adds a pleasant zing to this snack food. The teriyaki turkey jerky is much sweeter than its regular beef counterpart, but make no mistake; it's nowhere close.

- **Turkey Pot Pie**
  
  Perhaps the best turkey treat I tasted was Trader Joe's Turkey Pot Pie. The thick chunks of turkey were tender and the mixture of the vegetables and gravy provided a delectable taste. With potatoes, mushrooms, carrots, turkey and gravy all inside a pie crust, this meal was possibly the best pot pie I have ever had.

- **Turkey Sausage Stromboli**
  
  As I entered the frozen-food section of Trader Joe's, I was immediately

**Non-traditional meals with traditional meat**

**By Rachelle Ackley**

(On the menu at my local supermarket:)

- **Tacos**
  
  Have a turkey taco fiesta by cooking the meat on the stove until it is no longer pink. Do not forget to add spices and taco sauce before adding the turkey to warm hard or soft taco shells. Top off the taco with shredded lettuce, tomatoes, cheese and hot sauce.

- **Pizza**
  
  Try making your own turkey sausage pizza. Jennie-O Turkey Store offers Italian sausage as an excellent topping for any pizza. They're also a yummy side entrée with egg noodles.

- **Pet Food**
  
  Do not forget about the dog or cat, who can experience a turkey dinner or snack. The dogs will never stop begging for Turkey and Bacon Flavored "Beginner Strips." Dogs and cats need a complete balanced diet and, according to the Pet Institute, turkey provides pets with the source of protein and nutrition that they need.

- **Burgers**
  
  If it is a sunny fall day, try barbecuing burgers, which are perfect for grilling on any surface. They only take 10 minutes to cook. Complement the patty with a grilled bun and condiments before experiencing this juicy, mouthwatering burger.

- **Tuna**
  
  High in protein and low in cholesterol, tuna can also be used in a wrap or with tomato and lettuce in a bed of rice.

- **Tofu**
  
  Excellent source of protein and calcium, tofu can also be used in a stir-fry or with vegetables and rice.

- **Eggs**
  
  A versatile source of protein and calcium, eggs can be used in a variety of dishes, such as omelets, frittatas, and scrambled eggs.

**Don't kill your pet with holiday food**

(All foods on this menu are poison to pets.)

- **Rich, fatty foods**
  
  Pancreatitis is a condition dogs get when they can't digest fatty meals. Give the giblets for soup, not Fido.

- **Bones**
  
  Unless you know how to perform the Heimlich maneuver on Fluffy, toss the cooked bones.

- **Sweets**
  
  Chocolate and pumpkin pie can be poisonous, as dogs and cats can't process sugar.

- **Spicy foods**
  
  Avoid, unless you want to clean up inevitable messes after your pet's upset stomach.

Revise your culinary skills and use your imagination to come up with delicious and nutritious recipes for your dog or cat.

**The frozen bulk of traditional holiday turkeys is not really an option for dorm floor microwaves.**
Movies that are real turkeys; an incomplete list

Not all hot, steamy things come out of the oven. The following list is a heap of Hollywood crap compiled by Colin Westerfeild of Insomniac U. This is by no means a comprehensive list of 'turkeys' and represents, as all critiques do, one person's opinion.

"Speed" (above)- Keanu Reeves and Sandra Bullock compete for the "Best Attempt to Look Like a Deer in Headlights" Award as they try to keep a bus from exploding in "Speed." If the bus travels slower than 50 MPH, Reeves and Bullock will be forced to deliver believable lines. Watch carefully for the scene of a 10-ton bus miraculously levitating over a 50-yard overpass gap.

"Plan 9 From Outer Space" - The benchmark by which all lousy movies are judged, "Plan 9" examines what would happen if aliens invaded Earth in search of human corpses. At the hands of director Ed Wood, the aliens wear shiny ballet ensembles and their ships consist of pie tins dangling from clear wire.

"The Island of Dr. Moreau" - An awe-inspiring freak show of genetic mutants worship Marlon Brando in a Mu Mu. Eventually, the mutants revolt and Val Kilmer is forced to wear Brando's Mu Mu.

"Showgirls" - After toiling in sleazy nude strip clubs and living in a ramshackle trailer, protagonist Nomi Malone solves life's big problems by sleeping with everyone in sight in "Showgirls." Then, in a cathartic moment, Malone attempts to redeem herself by getting naked again and having more sex.

"Vixen" was the original film. It features an Alaskan bush pilot and his bored-in-the-wilderness wife, who finds entertainment in, that's right, sex. The plot culminates in a Cessna airplane with a half-hour of dialogue focusing on race and war, and is about as coherent as your drunk friend in the kitchen at a party explaining philosophy.

"Super Vixens" was made in 1974 and follows an evil cop who turns to gruesome murders for no apparent reason. The women still jump around - there's some excellent spontaneous go-go dancing - but a large chunk of the film is a blood-soaked death scene involving explosives. Euch, not very sexy.

Turkeys Spotlight

Russ Meyer's film career began in the 1960s with "Vixen" and continued into the 1970s with "Mega Vixens," "Beneath the Valley of the Ultra Vixens" and "Super Vixens." All the films basically featured large-breasted women humming through thread-bare plots in revealing clothing. But it's not your basic soft-core porn; Meyer felt the need to have story lines that aspirated, but ultimately failed, to make any sense.

Bryan Dickerson
Arts and Culture Editor
C lass is a hard subject to talk about in a society like ours, where the idea that all people are created equal and that a poor child can become president is widely believed and has real meaning for students.

Although it has become a custom in this country to deny the existence of social class, we must examine the privileges, status and power that come with social class. The members of upper class America have their own language, customs and magenta for, example, a formal dinner with ridiculous amounts of silverware. But no matter how much we learn about the inner workings of the social ethic, the chances that many of us will join their ranks is slim. In fact, upward mobility keeps decreasing while the wealth of the few increases. Greg Manns said the "wealthiest 20 percent of the American population holds 85 percent of the total wealth in the country" and "the top 1 percent of U.S. families declined by 78 percent during the economic growth period leading up to the 1990s."

Further, those in the top-fifth wealth bracket earned 47.4 percent of all income while those in the bottom three-fifths wealth brackets received 3.6 percent. Most of these are not the self-made millionaires that we love to celebrate.

In fact, 66 percent of those with six-figure salaries inherited the majority of their wealth.

According to Reaganomics and "trickle down" theories, these increases in the wealth of the wealthy will increase the real incomes of middle-class Americans (the only class we feel comfortable discussing) as well as working-class Americans. The reality is that the middle class is becoming a vanishing class. As Mantsios notes, "The reality is that the middle class is becoming a vanishing class. Because wealthier people pay more taxes, they deserve more tax breaks, so the rich get richer, and the poor get poorer."

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Committee holds "lab parties" for at least one year, Maniar said.

"We start at 10 a.m. and go until it gets done," Rios said. "It's not rare that it goes until 1 a.m."

"Both San Luis Obispo and Pomona pick their top three," Rios said. "Those six are then narrowed down by both committees until one winner is chosen."

Maniar said that there were two winners this year. The theme was a combination of ideas from a Cal Poly student and a Pomona student. One student envisioned a carnival, and the other imagined a candy land-type float.

"You get to see the work and dedication you put into the float go down the street and realize that the whole nation and world recognizes it."

-- Joshua Rios, vice president of the Rose Float Club

The winner receives tickets to the Rose Bowl or the cash equivalent, Rios said. Committee members must deal with finding and fixing the problems.

"We had a blast at day for the upcoming parade year."

-- Executives of the Rose Float Committee

Mustang Daily
We Rock Your World

In December 1999, an arthritis-suffering homeless man was killed as he attempted to cross the tracks. On Halloween 1999, 21-year-old Michael David Sherwood of Santa Rosa was found dead under a Union Pacific freight train. In August 1996, a man who had reportedly been drinking severely injured his leg when he tried to hop a train.

"We need to be in tune with railroads and realize it's a serious safety problem."

-- Anderson, a criminal justice junior at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, CA

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**RAILROAD 2**

continued from page 2

The Orion, CSU Chico's campus newspaper, have been 10 of which more train-related incidents in the past decade in Chico, 11 of which have resulted in death. Chico Fire Department records reveal that from 1993 to 1999 there were six fatalities in Chico due to train collisions.

"It's coming back from the bar that's the problem," said Gabriella Armandos, a criminal justice junior at CSU Chico. People pass out on the pathway coming home from the bar which goes through the tracks.

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**PERFORMING ARTS CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Sunday, December 1, 4pm**

A GARDEN OF HOLIDAY DELIGHTS: FESTIVAL OF TREES

Presented by SLO Botanical Garden & Hospice

Cohan Center – Lobby

**Monday, December 2, 7pm**

HOLIDAY SWEETS

Presented by Creative Dance

Cohan Center

**Friday, December 6, 8pm**

CAL POLY UNIVERSITY JAZZ BANDS’ FALL JAZZ CONCERT

Presented by Cal Poly Music Dept.

Cal Poly Theatre

**Wednesday, December 4, 7pm**

CHRISTMAS CHOIR CONCERT

Presented by Cal Poly Choir

Cohan Center

**Thursday, December 5, 7pm**

LAGUNA MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND & CHOIR WINTER CONCERT

Presented by Laguna Middle School

Cohan Center

**Tuesday, December 3, 7pm**

HOLIDAY BAND CONCERT

Presented by Morro Bay High School & Los Osos Middle School

Cohan Center
Hard to pin down

After Green and Gold Meet, three Mustangs finish first in Fullerton

Cal Poly Sports Information Report

Victor Moreno, Brody Barrios and Don Howe all won their respective divisions at the Fullerton Open on Saturday. Their finishes led a Mustang team that had a top-five finish in seven weight divisions.

Moreno won 4-0 to capture the 125-pound division, defeatig Efrin Caballan of Cal State Bakersfield in the final, 11-6. Barrios won the 165-pound division with a 4-0 mark, defeating Sean Sheets of Fresno State in the final, 11-4. Howe won the Heavyweight division with a 4-0 record, defeating Clint Walbeck of Fresno State in the final, 4-3.

Other top-five finishes for the Mustangs included Andy Kim (third in 133-pound division), Steve Espara (fourth in 141-pound division), Matt Cox (fourth in 149-pound division), David Schenk (second in 197-pound division), and David Galant (fifth in Heavyweight Division).

On Thursday night, the Mustangs returned to action on Dec. 5 at the Speedo Cup in Long Beach, along with the men’s rivals team.

Football

Nevad Niakan: Athlete of the Week

In the Mustang football team’s 26-26 victory over Weber State, Navid Niakan kicked four field goals, one shy of the school record for most field goals in a single game. His final field goal gave the Mustangs the lead for good with 0:16 remaining in the fourth quarter. His 61 points this season were the eighth-best in school history.

Niakan is a journalism senior from Alamo.

Men’s Basketball

Big 12’s Colorado rolls to 97-69 win

Cal Poly Sports Information Report

The Cal Poly men’s basketball team beat 97-69 in the season opener at Colorado. The Big 12 team led 52-50 at the half. The Mustangs were led by Varnie Dennis, one point shy of the school record for most field goals in a single game. His final field goal gave the Mustangs the lead for good with 0:16 remaining in the fourth quarter. His 61 points this season were the eighth-best in school history.

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