Senior project gets messy
By Courtney Witt
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Food piles up on plate after plate as about 120 daily gallons of Lighthouse leftovers are continuously wasted.

Fruit science senior Zureal Bernier decided to focus his senior project on a new way to take care of the unused food. He will attempt to turn the extra food, normally taken to landfills, into compost to use on Cal Poly fields.

Bernier first thought of the process when he was trying to make a decision on what to do for his senior project. When he discovered how much food was wasted on a daily basis, he set out to change the way Cal Poly disposed of food.

"They don't make the food on the spot, and consequently lots of waste is made," Bernier said. "I decided that something should be done about all of the wasted food. I wanted to prove that we could take it to landfills and not lose money from tipping."

Jessie Carlton, custodial supervisor for campus dining, helps take the food up to the compost unit.

see COMPOST, page 2

Mideast conflicts impact students
By Alexia Ratcliffe
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

The blare of sirens jarred his sleep. He stumbled out of bed and put on a gas mask. Somewhere in Israel, bombs were falling.

"There is a conflict between need and want when you try to get a job," he said. "There's an entire list of "what to do and what not to do" during an interview or business function that many students may not even be familiar with.

To better inform students of these rules of etiquette, Cal Poly Career Services will host a Professional Etiquette Banquet on Wednesday from 6 to 9 p.m. in the Alumni House. The banquet is open to students of all ages and majors and currently has 75 sign-ups received.

The reservations filled up really quickly," said Jane Johnson, Career Services counselor and coordinator for the event. "Students in the past have really enjoyed it and asked a lot of questions."

The banquet will feature a discussion session followed by a dinner that is free for students. Some of the discussion topics that will be covered include how to mix and mingle at business events and how to properly introduce and shake hands.

"Professional etiquette is all about making people feel comfortable around you," Johnson said. "Many people look at etiquette as a reflection of your ability to be successful in business."

The banquet will also discuss professional attire and the meaning of "business casual" and "dressing for success."

Several Cal Poly students will be a part of a fashion show that will show outfits and suits that are appropriate for an interview or business dinner.

"Many students are unsure of how casual "business casual" is," Johnson said.

For "business casual" attire, Johnson recommends that women wear black pants and some sort of a matching top and sweater set. For men, he recommends slacks instead of khaki pants. Men should also wear a light-colored, preferably white shirt to an interview.

During the fashion show, the presenters will even get in the mix by picking details for men of how high socks should come up and how long pants should be.

Following the discussion will be a dinner that will focus on demonstrating proper dining etiquette.

Shirley Wiley, the owner of Etiquette and Company in Camarillo, said that in California around 80 percent of second interviewees involve some sort of business see ETIQUETTE, page 2
COMPOST
continued from page 1

"This was a great idea," Carlon said. "It is one of the only things not recycled, and if there is a way to change that it would definitely benefit the students." Bernier said he uses a tractor to load the food once Carlon took it to the unit. Bernier began the compost process three weeks ago and has since collected 150 gallons of food. The first action he took was to incorporate the food into manure. The compost pile usually generates a high amount of heat, sometimes around 160 degrees and above. The temperature rises when soil microorganisms oxidize the organic matter, which is very important in the compost-making process, Bernier said.

Although he will not make a profit from the compost, his goals include saving the school money and changing the way the food is currently taken care of. Once his senior project is completed, the results will tell if this is an adequate way to deal with the wasted food. "If their is a positive outcome of what he has started, further studies should be done to see if it can be continued," Carlon said. Bernier is not allowed to sell the compost in accordance with state regulations, but the compost can still be used on campus. "It is too much of a risk for the state because bacteria can grow in the piles and ruin them," Bernier said. "If no bacteria are found in the piles I am making, they can be used in our campus orchards, avocado and citrus groves, and alfalfa and grain fields." If Bernier's senior project is successful, his goal will then be to continue the process and spread the compost on Cal Poly fields.

The compost is expected to be finished within the next few months and is only in its beginning stages. Bernier plans to experiment with different ways of aerating the piles to see which works the best.

"One of my biggest problems is going to be putting all of this stuff on paper," Bernier said. "Even though I understand everything I am doing, it's hard to match what is going on in my head to my writing. It's hard to explain how this stuff works." Bernier was encouraged when he discovered a student at Cornell University who was successful in the same process. "It was good to know someone else had done it," Bernier said. "I wasn't sure if I could do it, but if someone else has, I must be able to."
**National Briefs**

**Turkish commander hands over leadership of peacekeepers to Germans, Dutch**

**KABUL, Afghanistan —** Germany and the Netherlands took charge of the 22-nation peacekeeping force in the Afghan capital Monday, with its new commander vowing to maintain security just hours before a rocket slammed into the city's eastern edge.

The rocket landed a few hundred yards from a German peacekeeping base in Kabul, Police Chief Bost Tulangi said. It wasn't immediately clear what the target was or who fired the rocket. No one was injured.

Rocket attacks on the war-torn Afghan capital are not uncommon, highlighting the fragility of the relative calm the International Security Assistance Force has helped bring to the city.

The peacekeepers' new commander, German Lt. Gen. Norbert van Heyst, said the force will continue to work for security.

"Though the name and face of the commander of ISAF may change, ISAF's purpose and commitment will not," van Heyst said.

Iraq accepts U-2 overflights as international opposition to war grows

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Iraq reversed its opposition to U-2 surveillance flights over its territory on Monday, meeting a key demand by U.S. inspectors searching for banned weapons.

The Bush administration, however, brushed aside the Iraqi concession as too little, too late. White House spokesman Scott McClellan said, "The bottom line is the president is interested in disarmament. This does nothing to change that." President Bush accused Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein of regarding the Iraqi people as "human shields, entirely expendable when their suffering serves his purpose."

Iraq's acceptance of the U-2 flights, as well as its submission of new documents to the United Nations over the weekend, came as international opposition to U.S. military action intensified. France, Germany and Russia called for more inspectors to disarm Iraq without resorting to war.

"Nothing today justifies a war," French President Jacques Chirac said at a news conference in Paris with Russian President Vladimir Putin. "This region really does not need another war."

Chinese court sentences U.S.-based dissident to life in prison on spying, terrorism charges

BEIJING — A U.S.-based Chinese dissident was convicted Monday and sentenced to life in prison on charges of spying and terrorism, ending a bizarre saga that involved allegations of cross-border kidnapping and hostages found tied up in a temple.

Outraged activists rejected the charges against Wang Bengshuang as false and politically motivated.

Wang, 55, was arrested after police said they found him July 3 bound in a temple in a southern province while investigating a kidnapping case. Pro-democracy activists suggest he was abducted in Vietnam by Chinese agents after meeting with Chinese labor activists in the Vietnamese capital of Hanoi.

Wang, who has permanent residency status in the United States, was convicted of spying for Taiwan between 1982 and 1990 and of setting up a terrorist group. The official Xinhua News Agency reported. It said he ordered an unspecified assassination in 1999 and plotted to blow up China's embassy in Thailand.

The report was the first time the communist government publicly accused Wang of links to specific terrorist acts, but gave no evidence to support the charges and didn't indicate whether any attacks were carried out.

Briefs compiled from The Associated Press wire service by Mustang Daily news editor Andrea Cobley.
Arts & Culture

Study at cclausa.com

Dancing for money takes on new meaning when proceeds go to Mustang Daily Staff Writer and dancer Mary Donnelly's life:

Folkloric dancing and a young girl helping children the Childreach/Plan program.

By Alexa Ratcliffe

Mary Donnelly's World Dance Company performs this Saturday to raise funds for Childreach/Plan.

"It has been a tremendous success," Wall said. "It has far exceeded anything that she thought might happen."

Even more rewarding than a check, Kiwani receives monthly letters from Donnelly and her third-grade class at Old Mission School. They also send her photographs, art supplies and stuffed animals. Through her sponsorship, Donnelly said she is helping "shape Kiwani's world," which is also the motto for the Childreach/Plan.

"We work in 43 developing and poor countries to find sponsors for these children in need," said Hugh Minor, spokesman for Childreach/Plan.

Childreach/Plan was founded in 1937 to link caring people and institutions in the United States with poor children overseas. They currently have 86,000 children sponsored in the United States and more than a million sponsored worldwide.

"Donnelly has been an individual sponsor for a number of years," Minor said. "She has become more and more involved as time passes."

In addition to her individual sponsorship, Donnelly will host an upcoming dance show, from which all proceeds will be donated to Childreach/Plan.

The show is entitled "Childreaching at Unity: A Valentine for Kiwani" and will celebrate the Childreach/Plan organization, as well as Kiwani's upcoming birthday.

Since the show is a beneﬁt for children, local children's dance group Creative Dancin' will also perform with Donnelly's group.

Donnelly has been performing Middle Eastern dance for the past 26 years. The style of dance that she studies is the American Tribal Style (ATS), which is very different from the traditional cabaret style of belly dancing.

"When they perform it's more of a group dance than individual," said Donnelly Wall, Donnelly's boyfriend and self-described supporter of the World Dance Company. "It is very unique to any other style of belly dancing that you see."

The ATS dance style focuses on individual and group improvisation, in addition to choreography. Many of the World Dance members perform in their own handmade costumes created to look as authentic as possible.

Donnelly's World Dance Company groups include The Spirit Dancers of Mamalama, The Bayani Dance Ensemble and The Tribal Mondos Dancers.

Donnelly has had more than 400 students since she began the World Dance Company in 1998.

"It has been a tremendous success," Wall said. "It has far exceeded anything that she thought might happen."

The "Valentine for Kiwani" show will be held Saturday at the Unity of San Luis Obispo church on Southwood Drive. The show begins at 7 p.m. and donations for Childreach/Plan are encouraged.

For more information about Donnelly's World Dance Company, check her Web site at www.worlddancebiz.net.

Mary Donnelly's World Dance Company performs this Saturday to raise funds for the Childreach/Plan program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIAL SPRING BREAK PACKAGES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Includes RT air, airport/resort transfers, 7 nights at resort, schedule of parties, activities &amp; side excursions. Prices quoted are quad occupancy. Ask about many other options. Hawaii from $586; Acapulco from $629; Cancun from $729; Montego Bay, Jamaica from $899. Also 5 day Carnival Cruise RT from LA from $295 quad, $225 solo! Book soon as Spring Break specials sell out quickly. Call, e-mail or see us today for all student discount travel.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRAVELEIN / American Express</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone: 785-7000 E-mail: <a href="mailto:slo@tvltm.com">slo@tvltm.com</a> Located in SLO at Broad &amp; Market. Free Parking at the door.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>International Students...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-- who need English language improvement English Language Academy in San Luis Obispo offers English Program -- 1-20 for the F-1 Student Visa -- TOEFL and TOEIC test preparation -- Host Families <a href="http://www.cdausa.com/study-usa.html">http://www.cdausa.com/study-usa.html</a> Tel: (805) 541-9494 Fax: (805) 541-4930 in San Luis Obispo 511 Higuera Street 206</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Super High Performance Beds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* Open 7 Days A Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Extended Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* In-room Kitchens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* No Appointment Necessary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Complete Line of Gaming Accelerators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Student Happy Hour Special: 50% Off Tanning!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>584 California Blvd. San Luis Obispo 541-5550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1527 Grand Ave. Grover Beach 481-0675</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>get into a real greek week!</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-- the ultimate vacation -- your latest toga party can't compete with our version of &quot;ruth week.&quot; Join our group as you see the famous sights and gather with the real greeks!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| -- aegean classic cruise -- 7 days from $479 |
| -- spotlight on greece -- 12 days from $995 |
| -- greek island hopping -- 14 days from $1049 |
| -- london to athens -- 19 days from $1539 |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Super High Performance Beds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* In-room Kitchens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* No Appointment Necessary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Complete Line of Gaming Accelerators</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Savon pharmacy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Looking For A Pharmacy Clerk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part Time Flexible Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For more information call: (805) 763-2903 or come by and pick up an application.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Savon pharmacy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Looking For A Pharmacy Clerk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part Time Flexible Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For more information call: (805) 763-2903 or come by and pick up an application.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Savon pharmacy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Looking For A Pharmacy Clerk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part Time Flexible Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For more information call: (805) 763-2903 or come by and pick up an application.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Savon pharmacy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Looking For A Pharmacy Clerk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part Time Flexible Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For more information call: (805) 763-2903 or come by and pick up an application.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Savon pharmacy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Looking For A Pharmacy Clerk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part Time Flexible Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For more information call: (805) 763-2903 or come by and pick up an application.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Savon pharmacy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Looking For A Pharmacy Clerk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part Time Flexible Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For more information call: (805) 763-2903 or come by and pick up an application.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Savon pharmacy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Looking For A Pharmacy Clerk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part Time Flexible Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For more information call: (805) 763-2903 or come by and pick up an application.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Savon pharmacy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Looking For A Pharmacy Clerk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part Time Flexible Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For more information call: (805) 763-2903 or come by and pick up an application.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A picture may be worth a thousand words, but many gallery-goers caught, reeled in and captured. of "Tracey Sylvester-Harris Paints the City" available today.

The artist schmoozes during last Friday's opening for 'Tracey Sylvester-Harris Paints the City.'

The artist's work shows concrete inspiration

By Ashlee Bodenhamer

Johnson Gallery

'Heading Downtown' and many other works are on display at the Johnson Gallery through March.

The artist's newest batch of paintings, inspired by her recent trips to Manhattan and Paris.

People milling about San Luis Obispo's Johnson Gallery last Friday night for the opening of "Tracey Sylvester-Harris Paints the City" approached the medley of pieces and stopped, as if they had been caught, reeled in and captured.

Others paused and settled into the paintings, as if sinking into a sofa. Sylvester-Harris places places far, far away. Gone are the flip-flops, the palm trees and the 65-degree winters of the Central Coast.

In their place are rain-drenched sidewalks, slick umbrellas and bundled-up figures darting between skyscrapers.

"There's something relaxing about (the paintings), but it's really hard to pin down," said Justin Grunewald, a flocked, mermaid green shade of Sylvester-Harris' umbrellas.

Grunewald maved at the artist's ability to catch both "the hustle and bustle and also the quiet moments of New York.

Her subjects are amid a freezing winter in a throbbing metropolis, yet they are somehow enveloped by warmth, swallowed in a calm.

In a piece titled "Table by the Windows," the sun pours through a window like warm honey and smiles upon a woman reading. In another piece, a sidewalk marker bears bright floral bouquets, offering a rush of color to a drizzly, gray background.

Grunewald called Sylvester-Harris' paintings "genius, but at the same time it looks like she's not even trying."

With her brush, Sylvester-Harris has soaked up the city and mashed it into the canvas. "I like the way she puts the paint on," said Julie Dodds, who owns one of Sylvester-Harris' paintings. "It's not fuzzy."

Dodds' husband, Wesley Harris, attended Friday's show. The best of Sylvester-Harris' work is her use of light and the vibrancy in her colors, he said.

"I like the color of the umbrellas," she said, referring to the emerald-flecked, mermaid green shade of Sylvester-Harris' umbrellas.

Sylvester-Harris said she paints real life, never fiction. Most paintings are a mixture of several photos she has snapped of her favorite places. However, she never simply reproduces a photograph.

Sylvester-Harris likes to see globs of paint and where the brush has been. "I want a painting, especially an oil painting, to be rich and goopy," she said.

Sylvester-Harris, who chose to bypass formal art school, grew up in a home where art was spoken. Her parents are artists and own a gallery in Cambria.

"We were always museums and drawing or sketching ... it was just part of our lives," Sylvester-Harris said. "I can't really remember a time when I wasn't convinced I was an artist ... I remember it being a relief at school too, when so many of my friends were wondering what they were going to be, I just knew I knew I was an artist."

"Rain in NYC," Sylvester-Harris' first painting in her Manhattan series, won the Katherine A. Lowell Memorial Award for figurative oil at the National Arts Club in New York.

Sylvester-Harris offers Central Coast residents a vacation from San Luis Obispo life, a chance to fall into, like the song says, "A New York State of Mind."

Her work will be on display through March in Johnson Gallery and Framing Studio, at 542 Marsh St. in San Luis Obispo.

"The I'rifters were the all-time greatest Atlantic record-label groups, won the Rock Hall of Fame in 1988."

"The Ink Spots began in Indianapolis in 1912 and maintained their popularity with both black and white audiences throughout the years - all of the original members have passed away - the unique sound that made them famous is still alive."

"No, not the Rorschach test." These Ink Spots were inducted into the Rock Hall of Fame in 1989 and have been called living legends of American music, the heavyweight champions of quartet singing and the most imitated entertainers in show business.

In fact, McPhatter of The Drifters once admitted, "We patterned ourselves after the Ink Spots." The Ink Spots began in Indianapolis in 1912 and maintained their popularity with both black and white audiences throughout the years - all of the original members have passed away - the unique sound that made them famous is still alive.

"A few of The Ink Spots' more than 80 hits include, 'If I Didn't Care,' 'I'll Never Smile Again' and 'A Lovely Way to Spend an Evening.'" A representative from the box office said sales for the show are going well, with about 70 percent of the tickets already sold.

All concert proceeds benefit local youth charities, including Big Brothers and Big Sisters, San Luis Obispo County YMCA and the Family Services Center. Last year, more than $25,000 was raised.

A pre-concert reception, sponsored by San Luis Obispo, will be held at 7 p.m. Concert tickets are $32 to $39 and reception tickets are $18. They can be purchased at the Performing Arts Center ticket office or online at www.tickets.com.
French have ulterior motives in Iraqi conflict

Will kiddles. I’m back. In the two weeks since I left you, Colin Powell has addressed the United Nations and given audio and visual proof of Iraq’s blatant disregard of U.N. resolution 1441. Despite indisputable evidence of Saddam’s manipulation of the weapons inspectors, conspiracy biological and chemical weapons programs and direct ties to al-Qaeda, the French still oppose us.

Right now some of you may be asking, “But John, if the United States has undeniable proof of Iraq’s illegal inspections of U.N. resolution 1441, then why would the French oppose us?”

Short answer: They’re little Bitchs. Long answer to follow.

First of all, I have to make sure that all countries act out of national interest. Democratic countries are inevitably held accountable by their citizens, which keeps them from blind aggression in order to advance their agenda, but even this is less important than international backlash. This explains why the United States doesn’t invade Quebec. (Come on, they’re FRENCH-CANADIANS, do all you have any of that annoying “Can I get a croissant – my sounds?”)

It is in the United States’ national interest for Saddam to (1) not have access to weapons of mass destruction and (2) be removed from power. It is pretty self-evident why Saddam’s lack of weapons of mass destruction is in the direct national interest of our country, I won’t insult your intelligence by explaining it again. However, Saddam’s removal from power is a little trickier.

Many in the Middle East hate us for numerous reasons, but the rally they call eventually fall back on is the Israeli/Palestinian conflict. I’m unaware that there are people on both sides of this issue that don’t want a lasting peace – and until there is, the United States has no hope to truly win the war on terrorism. Now America has done its best to curb the violence from the Israelis (trust me, if it wasn’t for the United States’ involvement, Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip would have gone the way of the Dodo by now).

However, Palestinian aggression has not been checked by anyone. In fact, Saddam Hussein continually improves his national profile by openly praising suicide bombers and funding their families. Until there is a long enough pause in the violence for clear heads to prevail in Tel Aviv, there is no chance for a lasting peace, hence there is no chance for terrorism to end.

Now the big question: Do the French care about the Israelis and Palestinians? They don’t. Why? It’s not in their national interest. The French couldn’t care less about the United States “war on terrorism.” It doesn’t affect them. In fact, instabilities in the American economy and in our culture are seen as beneficial to the French.

As the American economy wavers, the French see investment opportunities arise domestically and internationally. As the American dollar destabilizes, the Euro appears stronger in international backlash. This explains why the United States doesn’t invade Quebec. (Come on, they’re FRENCH-CANADIANS, do all you have any of that annoying “Can I get a croissant – my sounds?”)

Finally, when all is said and done, this war is simply a matter of national interests. What’s more important to you as an American? Your interests to live in peace and security or France’s? Remember that every other time the French have been left out. You have every right to exercise your freedom of speech and I encourage you to do so. I’d like to encourage some conservatives to get up off their lazy asses, but hey, I’ll take what I can get.

In response to the three European nations that still oppose us, I’d like to leave them with this, France: 2. Why don’t they have fireworks at Euro Disney? Because every time they shout off, the French try to imitate them. German: Two words “David Hasselhoff.” Enough said.

Belgium: Ok, this is just too easy. (Insert any waffle joke here).

John Holbø is a political science junior and Mustang Daily columnist.

Letters to the editor

The above letters were received before the 250 word limit was strictly enforced. Mustang Daily reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, clarity and length. Letters should include the writer’s full name, phone number and class standing.

By mail:
Letters to the editor
Building 26, Room 226
Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo
CA 93407
By fax:
760-756-5784

E-mail: mustangdaily@hotmail.com
Letters must come from a Cal Poly e-mail account. Do not send letters as an attachment. Please send the text in the body of the e-mail.

Attention: Your letter will not be printed unless you submit it in the correct format.

Letters to the editor

Caucasians in California no longer the majority

Editor

This letter is in response to the front-page article “Solutions sought by minority students” (Feb-4).

There are minority issues here at Cal Poly which I personally feel that I am part of. Due to the increased immigration in the state, Caucasians in California are only a plurality and no longer the majority. Since high school, I have noticed the shrinking number of opportunities for Caucasians. Some clubs, scholarships and even jobs are for a specific race or creed. Last time I checked, there is not club strictly for Caucasians. Would the ramifications be if there was a fraternity where enrollment was based strictly on being WHITE? We have been getting walked on for some time, and once we have something of this nature, one person complains that we are racist because we haven’t included other types of people. I have worked hard by side by side with all types of people and never thought differently of them because of the color of their skin or the language they speak.

I was a neighbor of Servando Due’s freshman year here at Cal Poly. Whenever I saw him, I would say that I was his friend, but at times he would ignore my hellos. Reasons for him not chating by with me I believe he felt like a minority. Maybe reasons people feel isolated on campus is because they isolate themselves.

The Multicultural Center (MCC) is wonderful, but it still promotes segregation here on campus, does nothing to integrate these students into the student body. When Servando and others of these exclusive groups hang out together, they ignore other people. Another group is a fraternity here at Cal Poly, the acronym “NAAK” (you might remember Servando’s picture on the front page with a red letter NAK sweater on楠K is basically Hispanic, and due to the shrinking number of opportunities enrollment does nothing but make their members feel isolated. I have never been bothered Servando or any other for who they are.

To all of you “minorities” here at Cal Poly: Life’s what you make of it, and you choose your own friends. When you join such exclusive clubs as NAK or MCC, you limit your options. To put it bluntly, don’t be complaining because you have no white brothers to hang out with.

Zachariah Steeber is an agricultural science junior.

Programs for foster children in danger

Editor,

I hate to bring up what I consider to be a dead subject. We could be talking about something cool, like hoping, but we are talking about adoption. I didn’t want to respond and make people listen to our boring rhetoric. Mr. Ande, but you made a couple of assumptions about me (“Thank God for adoption, not abortion,” Feb-5). And, as we all know, when you assume, you just make an ass out of yourself.

Now as I said and heed God, I am reminded that God has bigger issues than humans. We are, after all, what in nont Hibertus plants that almost obliterated our own planet. Literally a button push away.

And, now about 40 years later, all we can talk about is how much we want our unwanted babies back. But we don’t want them, that is why I call them unwanted. This may seem cold to you and your mighty adopted cousin and mighty adopted roommates. It may downstairs piss them off, but it in turn... entertains them their right to exist.

Did I tell you, though, that I also have two adopted cousins? And that I volunteered at a summer camp made specifically for foster children? That my aunt spends her life caring for these children, and many others? Her job is to be standing waiting for that camp to happen every year. This camp is for most of the children there, their fondest place on the planet.

The funding for these programs is not set. Each year is fought for, and each year the books barely balance. The government cannot give you any for it; they barely even fund our schools. With the economy as it is, it may not make it this year. We may have to actually deny these children of some of their fondest childhood memories. This literally makes me sad to just talk about it. To say any of them “No camp this year” is just about the worst thing you can say to them, or ask of me.

I love these children. I wouldn’t dare hope or want any of them to not exist. So how is it that I could even sound about the issue? If 40 million more children are put on the national system, camp would never happen again. Never.

All of my heart’s work would go towards finding funding for the children to survive. Forty million would, without doubt, be a huge economic and social burden.

To dare think that the adoption rate could cover this difference is just stupid. One in six children in the United States are put in foster care; so that one has to be at least thirty times as much to cover the entire system. They might comply for years and years, and then make sudden and huge budget cuts. I hope that never happens like this year. This never happens to these kids? Millions of children having to endurance budget cuts! That’s not cool, man. They aren’t children, they are some of your own cousins. Even they may not be in a university right now.

I can guarantee you that there will be more sad stories to come of it than happy endings. God is not going to come down and make it all right. And so abortion became a solution to a gigantic problem that never had to exist.

Margot Eram is a general engineering junior.

Letter policy

Letters that exceed the 250 word limit were strictly enforced. Mustang Daily reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, clarity and length. Letters should include the writer’s full name, phone number and class standing.

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

By fax:
760-756-5784

By e-mail: mustangdaily@hotmail.com
Letters must come from a Cal Poly e-mail account. Do not send letters as an attachment. Please send the text in the body of the e-mail.

Attention: Your letter will not be printed unless you submit it in the correct format.
LAVER
continued from page 1

The application process is extremely competitive, with only a small fraction of proposals getting accepted, Laver said. The review board looks at which proposals are best scientifically presented. "Most applicants must apply and re-apply to have their proposals accepted," Laver said. "The key is persistence."

To his surprise, Laver's proposal was accepted on his first submission. His quest for the grant began almost five years ago when he attended a seminar in Minnesota put on by the National Institute of Aging.

At the conference, he attended classes on researching and learned the ins and outs of strategies to use when applying for federal research grants.

The following year, he developed his own research proposal on age-related memory effects. He then reviewed the following summer to the same conference, where he had colleagues review his proposal.

He eventually submitted his final proposal to the National Institute of Aging in January 2001. Laver plans on completing the study by the summer of 2004. Although research grants have the opportunity to last up to three years, he has chosen to only take two years to "keep from spreading the money too thinly," he said.

This federally funded project is currently searching for volunteers, with participants earning $13 for two 90 minute sessions. For information call Laver at 756-5411 to arrange an appointment.

MIDEAST
continued from page 1

brings peace to the Middle East.

Ibrahim, a Palestinian, was born in the United States. He moved to the West Bank in 1986 and lived there during the first intifada uprising, an uprising in which young Palestinians revolted against what they considered unjust Israeli rule. He also lived in Jordan from 1995 to 1999.

Ibrahim said the actions of the United States only contribute to the turmoil in the area. Now, the possibility of war in his homeland leaves him worried, especially because he does not fully understand the motivation for going to war.

"It is sad," he said. "Not only that, but the reasons don't seem logical. It is either for oil or a personal vendetta against Saddam." The removal of Saddam does not bother Ibrahim; in fact, many in the Middle East would not mind seeing Saddam gone, he said. However, the United States cannot take him out without killing thousands of innocent people.

"In any war of your own you don't want civilians dying," Ibrahim said. "(In Iraq) it's mainly a civilian population.

Ibrahim worries for his friends and relatives, as well as for the stability of the region.

Automating Iraq with other people living under oppressive regimes in the Middle East only adds to anti-Western sentiment, he said. Even so, people in the Middle East do distinguish between US foreign policy and American citizens.

"They don't hate Americans," he said. "They hate our government. The United States does a lot of things overseas we don't know about."

Aerospace engineering professor Farhad Kolkailah agreed that U.S. military presence in the Middle East contributes to anti-Western sentiment. An American citizen for 18 years, Kolkailah appreciates the cultures of both the United States and his home land.

Kolkailah has seen war before. In 1973, when Israel defeated Egypt and Syria in a war over territories in the
A clean sweep for Poly

By Paige Havercroft

With wins in nine of the 10 matches, undefeated Pac-10 champion Cal Poly beat USC 6-1 Saturday in a Big West Conference play Friday, falling 6-1 in the third inning to lose.

The Mustangs lone point came from Stacy Meronoff at No. 6 singles. Meronoff defeated USC's Jefferson Swanson in a third set match, 7-5, 2-6, 11-9. The win makes this the second time in a row that Meronoff has earned the only Mustang point.

The Mustangs dropped to 2-5 overall after the match. Meronoff and teammate Jonathan Kamkar, Mike Chapman and Dan Kelepouris lost.

Winning the 149-pound match, 14-11, was Michael Decker, who added a major decision of his own, winning the 197-pound match by technical fall.

On Saturday, Cal Poly picked up wins from all except for no. 67-ranked UC Irvine.

The Mustangs lone point came at No. 6 singles where junior Stacy Meronoff defeated UC Irvine's Eric Yimank in two sets, 6-4, 6-2.

With wins in nine of the 10 matches, undefeated Pac-10 champion Cal Poly beat USC 6-1 in a Big West Conference play Friday, falling 6-1 in the third inning to lose.

The Mustangs lone point came from Stacy Meronoff at No. 6 singles. Meronoff defeated USC's Jefferson Swanson in a third set match, 7-5, 2-6, 11-9. The win makes this the second time in a row that Meronoff has earned the only Mustang point.

The Mustangs dropped to 2-5 overall after the match. Meronoff and teammate Jonathan Kamkar, Mike Chapman and Dan Kelepouris lost.

Winning the 149-pound match, 14-11, was Michael Decker, who added a major decision of his own, winning the 197-pound match by technical fall.

On Saturday, Cal Poly picked up wins from all except for no. 67-ranked UC Irvine.

The Mustangs lone point came at No. 6 singles where junior Stacy Meronoff defeated UC Irvine's Eric Yimank in two sets, 6-4, 6-2.

With wins in nine of the 10 matches, undefeated Pac-10 champion Cal Poly beat USC 6-1...