**Senior project gets messy**

**By Courtney Witt**

Food piles up on plate after plate as about 120 daily gallons of Lighthouse leftovers are continually 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 landfill, 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 the 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."

Jesse Carlson, custodial supervisor for campus dining, helps take the food up to the compost unit.

See COMPOST, page 2

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**The do's and don'ts of business etiquette**

**By Alexa Ratcliffe**

Have a firm handshake, use your best manners and dress appropriately. These are just a few of the most basic things students have to worry about when trying to get a job.

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 4:30 to 6 p.m. in the Alumni House. The banquet is open to students of all ages and majors and currently has 75 students signed up to attend.

"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 ask a lot of questions."

The banquet will feature a discussion session followed by 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 interviews involve some sort of business etiquette.

See ETIQUETTE, page 2

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**Professor awarded grant to study aging**

**By Stacey Dornin**

Psychology professor Gary Laver has done what most college professors attempt, but few accomplish. Laver beat out competitors to receive a $100,000 federal grant for a study on age-related changes in memory. He was awarded the Academic Research Enhancement Award from the National Institute on Aging. After receiving notification of his grant in November 2002, he began compiling research and officially began the study in July 2002.

The study will look at the changes in the human memory process that occur with time. Laver is looking specifically at the changes that occur without a person's conscious awareness.

There are automatic memory processes that improve with age, as well as those that decline, Laver said.

He is using a series of four experiments to complete his study. The experiments involve volunteers between the ages of 40 and 80 taking various memory and vocabulary tests. The tests are high-speed and partially given through the use of computers.

The Cal Poly campus and San Luis Obispo community will be Laver's area of study, he said. His volunteers consist of three groups: Young adults, middle-aged adults and older adults. With the majority of the young adult volunteers coming from the Cal Poly campus, Laver plans to reach out to the community for the other categories.

Each of the four experiments will use approximately 100 to 150 volunteers.

While Laver will operate as the principal investigator, he will use several Cal Poly students as research assistants. One of them, psychology senior Kristy Lyons, is involved with this project because of the work experience it offers.

"Research projects like this give you a feel for what research is really like," Lyons said. "Learn by doing means you're actually doing something worthwhile."

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**Mideast conflicts impact students**

**By Dale Quinn**

The blare of sirens jarred his sleep.

He stumbled out of bed and put on a gas mask. Somewhere in Israel, bombs were falling.

The Gulf War was not a conflict half a world away for industrial technology senior Amir Govrin. As many Americans watched the conflict unfold on television, Govrin watched the bombs fall outside his home in Israel following the American liberation of Kuwait from Iraqi control.

Govrin spent the first 14 years of his life in Israel and personally witnessed the by-products of that war. A scud missile blast at a nearby shopping center shattered in the hospital where his brother was born.

Now, with more than 100,000 U.S. troops in the Persian Gulf, Govrin considers how the possibility of war may affect his friends and family back home.

"Even so, conflict is nothing new for Israelis. People are accustomed to living with war and terror," Govrin said.

A war in Iraq will hit close to home for Cal Poly students and faculty who have lived in the Middle East.

While their support of the war varied, all were concerned for the safety of their loved ones and the stability of the region.

Govrin said U.S. military action might ease tensions in the area, but added that Israel may be drawn into the conflict. Most of Govrin's thoughts are with his friends serving in the Israeli army.

There is some support of the United States in the Middle East, he said. However, few are bold enough to take a stand against Saddam Hussein. In this situation, the threat of Saddam warrants the involvement of the United States, Govrin said.

However, he only advocates an attack in the region once all other options have been exhausted. Still, the thought of war is not easy for him.

"There is a conflict between needing to do something and going through it with knowing that your friends and family might be jeopardized," Govrin said.

Computer engineering senior Mustafa Ibrahim disagreed with Govrin and said computer action to remove Saddam would do little to
COMPOST
continued from page 1

"This was a great idea," Carlton 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 used a tractor to load the food once Carlton 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 there is a positive outcome of what he has started, further studies should be done to see if it can be continued," Carlton 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. I'm 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."

ETIQUETTE
continued from page 1
meal, thus showing the importance of learning dining etiquette.

During the etiquette banquet, the dinner tables will be set in a formal fashion, with all the formalities and silverware in their designated positions. They will discuss several scenarios about things that could possibly go wrong at a dinner.

Johnson recommends that diners try a few bites of their meal and then let it be. She said that the main goal is to try and not create a scene.

"Often times, etiquette is what can make or break you when it comes to presenting yourself and socializing in business settings," Johnson said.

For students interested in learning more about professional etiquette, call Career Services at 756-2501 or check their Web site at www.careerservices.calpoly.edu.

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Black History Month
Did you know that Alice H. Parker invented the heating furnace on Dec. 19, 1919? The patent number for the furnace is 1,325,905.
National/International News

Tuesday, February 11, 2003

National Briefs

NASA finds shuttle computer

WASHINGTON — NASA on Monday found a computer in its shuttle Columbia that was involved in its destruction.

"The computer appears to have been involved in the breakup of the shuttle," said NASA administrator Daniel Goldin. "We are investigating the possibility that the computer may have been involved in the breakup of the shuttle."

Goldin said the computer was being kept at the Johnson Space Center for analysis.

Bill Reddy, NASA associate administrator, added, "This may give us some clues as to what actually occurred on the ship."

The wing fragment includes a 2-foot piece of carbon-composite panel, a dense material that covered the leading edge of the wing and an 18-inch piece of the wing itself. Engineers are not yet certain where the piece fits, Kostelnik said.

"It wasn't yet known whether the computer panel or the silica glass fiber thermal tiles on the wing had been burned through by the intense heat of re-entry or damaged in another way," Kostelnik said.

"That's something that the engineers would be looking for," Kostelnik said.

Dell Computer's 'Steven' is arrested on drug charges

NEW YORK — "Dude! The actor who gained fame and a cult following as the slacker 'Steven' in commercials for Dell computers was arrested buying a small bag of marijuana, police said.

Benjamin Curtis, a 22-year-old New York University drama student, was arrested Monday on a misdemeanor drug-possession charge. The charge assumes a suspect is not carrying more than a "use amount" — enough to roll several marijuana cigarettes.

Police said he was arrested Sunday night on the Lower East Side after officers on a drug detail spotted him buying a small bag of marijuana from Omar Meredez, 19. Meredez faces drug sale and possession charges.

Curtis' portrayal of a surfer-type who proclaims, "Dude, yer gettin' a 10q," drove up computer sales and spanned T-shirts, caps and backpacks, along with Web sites and online fan clubs.

Driver charged with manslaughter in Florida golf cart crash that killed girl

WESTON, Fla. — A man was charged with vehicular manslaughter for allegedly plowing his car into a golf cart, killing a 9-year-old girl and seriously injuring her mother.

Martin Shane Alexander, from Canada, remained in custody Monday. The Immigration and Naturalization Service said he faced possible deportation if convicted, said Jim Ledjedal, a Broward County sheriff's spokesman.

Alexander, 29, of New Market, Ontario, had been drinking when he sped from the Bimaventure Country Club parking lot in a Ford Mustang Sunday night, Ledjedal said. Witnesses told deputies that Alexander did not turn on the car's headlights and failed to stop at an intersection, striking the golf cart and ejecting Anna Marie Wilson and her daughter, Vanessa.

The car came to rest atop the golf cart. The child was pronounced dead at the scene. Her mother's condition was not available.

Results of Alexander's blood-alcohol tests were pending Monday. He faces a maximum 15-year prison sentence and a $10,000 fine if convicted.

International 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 end.

The rocket landed a few hundred yards from a German peacekeeping base in Kabul, Police Chief Baar Solange said. It was not immediately clear what the target was or who fired the rocket. No-one was injured.

Rocket attacks on the war-ravaged 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 commandant, German Lt. Gen. Norbert van Hoyt, 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 Hoyt 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 UN 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 of regarding the U-2 flights as "flights of no consequence."

"This region really does not need another war," Chinese leader Jiang Zemin said.

"The region really does not need another war," Chinese President Jacques Chirac said.

"This region really does not need another war," Russian President Vladimir Putin.

FREE SHAMPOO!

Simply purchase your favorite conditioner & get the same size, some brand shampoo FREE. Every Tuesday is FREE SHAMPOO DAY. Choose from the largest selection of shampoos and conditioners in San Luis Obispo County.

Good only Tuesday.
**Dancing for money takes on new meaning**

By Alexa Ratcliffe

Folkloric dancing and a young girl help children 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 Kisani" and will celebrate the Childreach/Plan organization, as well as Kisani's upcoming birthday. Since the show is a benefi-t for children, local children's dance group Creative Dancin' will also perform with Donnelly's group.

Donnelly has been sending Middle Eastern dance for the past 26 years. The style of dance that she studies is the ATS dance style, 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. "It has far exceeded anything that she thought might happen." The "Valentine for Kisani" 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.

Art's work shows concrete inspiration

By Ashlee Bodenhamer

Johnson Gallery had hushed responses to a local sand words, but many gallery-goers caught, reeled in and captured. "Tracey 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 massaged it into the canvas. "I like the way she paints 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, according to "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 paint's real life, never fiction. Most paintings are a mixture of several photos she has snatched 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 to look like warm honey and smiles upon a cold,' said. In another piece, a sidewalk market 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.'

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Art'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. Grunewald marveled at the artist's ability to capture both "the hustle and bussle and also the quiet moments of New York." Her subjects are situated amidst a freezing winter in a throbbing metropolis, yet they are somehow enveloped by warmth, awash 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 market 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.'

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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. 6).

There are minority issues here at Cal Poly, which I personally feel is 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 scholarships, and even jobs are for a specific race or creed. Last time I checked, there is not club strictly for Caucasians. I wonder if 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 races of people. I have worked with kids 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’m a neighbor of Servando Due’s freshmen year at Cal Poly. Whenever I saw him, I would excitedly say "Ssssservando." I would say that I was his friend, but at times he would ignore my hellos. Reasons for him nonchalantly passing by without saying hi make me think he feels like a minority. Maybe reasons people feel isolated here on campus is because they isolate themselves. The Multicultural Student Center (MSC) and Servando’s picture on the front page with a red letter NAK sweater on not NAK is basically Hispanic, and due to limitations on enrollment does nothing but make their members feel isolated. I have never befriended Servando or any other for who they are.

To all of you “minorities” here at Cal Poly: Life is what you make of it, and you choose your own friends. When you join such exclusive clubs like 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.

Zacharah Streeb is an agricultural science junior.

Programs for foster children in danger

Editor,

I have to bring up what I consider to be a dead subject. We could be talking about something cool, like beads, but here we are talking about abortion. I didn’t want to respond and make people listen to our boring rhetoric. Mr. Andre, but you made a couple of assumptions about me ("Thank God for adoption, not abortion," Feb. 9).

And, as we all know, when you assume, you just make an ass out of u and me.

Now as a parent and a guard of God, I am reminded that God has bigger issues than humans. We are, after all, not what in control species that almost obliterated its 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. But we don’t want them, that is why I call them unwanted. This may seem cold to you and your right to exist but the majority of the world is against it.

Morgan Ellam is a general engineering junior.

Letter policy

Letters to the editor received before the 250 word limit was strictly enforced. Mustang Daily reserves the right to edit letters for grammatical and length considerations. Please limit length to 250 words. Letters should include the writer’s full name, phone number, major and class standing. By mail: Mustang Daily Editor, Building 26, Room 226, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, CA 93407. By fax: (805) 756-7584. 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.
News

SHPE students win at design competition

By Paige Havercourt

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

The SHPE Foundation coordinates, selects and administers the national competition at the conference.

The competition, which was open to all SHPE student chapters across the country, challenged contestants to create a commercial machine that would benefit the public and improve the quality of life.

The machine could not be a duplicate of a currently existing machine but could contain improvements on one.

The competition's purpose was to enhance creativity, technical and engineering skills among SHPE students.

The first step was submitting a proposal 25 words or less, Trujillo said. "It was Emir's idea, I just decided to help him with the proposal," he said.

After the proposal, contestants either qualified or were dismissed from the competition but were then asked to submit a detailed design for Trujillo and Gurrieri to turn in a drawing and marketing plan for their machine.

"I was mostly in charge of design and Emir was more in charge of marketing contacts and trying to decide how we could sell it," Trujillo said.

Ten finalists were asked to build the machines that they would present at the Jan. 9 conference.

"We built the machine from scratch," Trujillo said. "You know how Cal Poly's motto is: 'Learn by doing'? Well, that's really all we knew how to do. I made a lot of mistakes but I definitely learned."
No. 7 ranked USC beats Mustangs 6-1

CAL POLY SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT

OS ANGELES — The No. 7-ranked defending national champions of USC proved to be too much for the Cal Poly men's tennis team Saturday, defeating the Mustangs 6-1 at Marks Stadium in Los Angeles.

In doubles play, USC swept the three matches to earn the doubles point.

The Mustangs lone point came from Stacy Meronoff at No. 5 singles. Meronoff defeated USC's Jeffrey Yang in a third 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 drop to 2-5 overall.

Cal Poly returns to action on Saturday when they host a double match by technical fall.

With wins in nine of the 10 matches, No. 12-ranked Pac-10 champion Boise State blew past Cal Poly, 31-7, in a Pac-10 wrestling dual meet Sunday in Boise, Idaho. The Mustangs fell to 10-8 (6-3, Pac-10) while Boise State improved to 8-3.

Cal Poly's win came in the 197-pound match, where David Schenk edged out Casey Phelps, 8-6.

Mustangs blow past Portland State

CAL POLY SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT

The Mustangs improved to 4-4 on the season with a 1-2 home victory over Idaho last Wednesday. Duperron added 10 rebounds and four assists in 38 minutes.

Number of hits allowed by Cal Poly pitcher Jamie Gelbart in her shutout of Colorado State Thursday.

TRIVIA

Who holds the record for NBA All-Star game appearances? KAREEM ABDUL-JABBAR

Congratulations Taylor Lendry, Shayan Kamdar, Mike Chapman and Dan Karpouzis on your college graduation.

Sports editor Jacob Jackson can be reached at 756-1796 or jackson@calpoly.edu.