No decision in porn debate

Pornography resolution discussed at Executive Committee meeting Tuesday

By Laura Newman

Should Cal Poly allow students and faculty to view pornography from state-supplied campus computers? Debate on this subject continued at the Executive Committee meeting of the Academic Senate Tuesday.

Committee members engaged in a fiery discourse regarding the merits of "The Resolution to Clarify the Cal Poly Information Technology Resources Responsible Use Policy Regarding Personal Viewing of Sexually Explicit or Offensive Material." Although the intended purpose of the discussion was to determine whether or not the resolution should be placed on the agenda for the next public Academic Senate meeting, debate and opposition arose. Consequently, the resolution will return at the May 13 Executive Committee meeting and is not eligible to be approved or denied at the next Academic Senate meeting.

At Tuesday's meeting, Executive Committee members were provided with both a copy of Materials Engineering Department Head Linda Vanasupa's proposed resolution and a substitute resolution authored by Academic Senate Harvey Greenwald and Myron Hood.

"The only motion here is going to be to approve or deny the resolution for the Academic Senate agenda," Hood said. "The substitute resolution is to present an alternative if the resolution is chosen to appear." Hood and Greenwald's substitute resolution proposes that a taskforce composed of students, staff, faculty and administration be convened to give input concerning changes to the Responsible Use Policy (RUP) as it relates to activities that may create a hostile work environment. This taskforce would then submit a report of its findings to the Academic Senate in fall 2003.

Vanasupa's resolution requests the RUP add the following next: "The University neither approves nor tolerates the personal viewing of sexually explicit or offensive materials by its users of state-supplied computing resources."

Neither resolution will be on the next Academic Senate agenda due to a grindlock and time constraints at the Executive Committee meeting.

At the meeting, Hood referred to the new preface to the RUP that Provost Paul Zingg authored. The preface recognizes that personal viewing of sexually explicit materials on campus computers may result in a breach of ethical standards and create a hostile or perceived hostile workplace. Further states that the university does not condone or tolerate these actions.

Hood asked Vanasupa if she thought Zingg's statement was sufficient. Vanasupa responded saying that she was not satisfied with Zingg's added preface because it speaks only to the use of campus resources for work-related use.

Meet the parents.

Cal Poly cleans up campus

By Samantha Weeks

One of the things possibly overlooked in Cal Poly's 10th Annual Open House this weekend was the cleaning of campus for the incoming rush of parents and prospective students. A group of student volunteers were given the task of cleaning the campus. One of the things that needed cleaning was posters around campus.

"The Open House Committee also requires all unapproved publicity to be removed from campus," said Project Information Coordinator Bonnie Lowe of Facilities Planning.

Landscape Services, Facilities Planning and Capital Projects are helping the committee to create a clean and safe weekend for all planned events.

Our main objective is to display the campus in the best possible way," said Carina Yamaguchi, chairperson for the Open House Committee. "We try to clean up ahead of time so that we don't get a lot of slack." The Open House Committee also requires all unapproved publicity to be removed from campus. Landscape service does an extra-thorough job of cleaning the campus prior to the event.

"Landscape and custodial staff are on extra duty during the event for litter control and emergencies," said Lowe. Landscape Services provides a final cleanup at the end of the event.

"There are two repes of tours during Open House: One is led by Pol Reps and one is a self-guided tour," said Lowe.

Baker responds to academic initiatives

By Jenni Mintz

At the beginning of the academic year, President Warren Baker set an agenda for three initiatives: Student success, diversity and civility.

In response to each initiative, councils were established to define an ideal campus, establish goals and create a strategy to improve and develop Cal Poly.

The objective of the student success council is to intensify efforts to promote academic achievement, said Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Paul Zingg.

Each academic department and college is receiving a questionnaire regarding current and planned departmental efforts to promote student success. The questions on abhor sexual assault the chance to demonstrate their empathy. Although it is not required, the desired effect of the march will be enhanced if male participants wear high heels. Students, both male and female, are especially encouraged to attend the event.

"April is a great time for students to get involved in prevention and awareness activities," said psychology senior Hanna Shun, an intern and crisis line counselor for the SARP Center. She added that since students fall into the at-risk age group of 16 to 24 years old, they can directly benefit from taking part in events like the march.

Walking a mile...

Men will have a chance to literally walk in women's shoes at "Walk A Mile in Her Shoes" Friday.

By Emily Fryndel

In a college setting, the last week in April often implies cramming for midterms, wrapping up mid-quarter projects. But this year, the last week of April continues to promote Sexual Assault Awareness Month, enabling students to participate in marches, workshops and other informative events held both on and off campus.

One of the larger events will be held Friday noon and invites men to literally "Walk A Mile in Her Shoes" at Mitchell Park. The event, sponsored by the Sexual Assault Recovery and Prevention (SARP) Center of San Luis Obispo, gives men who

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY MATT WECHTER/MUSTANG DAILY
By Jenni Mintz  
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

The wonderful world of Disney was not so wonderful after all for speech communication junior Stephanie Mertel.

Working for Disney started out as a dream, but quickly became a nightmare.

Mertel had always wanted to work for Disney. After some searching on the Web site for jobs, she was offered an internship with Disney Theatrical Group (DTG). She said she was excited about the opportunity to work for the creative company.

Its in their free time on campus," Yamaguchi said. "We help a lot of students who have questions that can benefit a couple of people.

"Students can benefit from using the line, but the counseling is very rewarding too," Shim said. "We help a lot of people.

On campus, students can participate in Sexual Assault Awareness Mentors by checking out the ReMember week events in the University Union Plaza from April 28 to May 2.

"Information stations will be established in the plaza for the course of the week, where women can benefit from self-defense classes and demonstrations in the Main Central Quad," according to www.remember.calpoly.edu.

Golf said in conjunction with the SARP Center events and opportunities, the week should increase awareness and inspire students to do something.

"For every 100 victims of sexual assault, only 2 percent of perpetrators go to jail," Shim said. "So any help is appreciated."

For more information call SARP at 545-8888.

"I learned what it is like to be a part of a big organization. The bottom is kind of a harsh reality," Mertel said. "It wasn't easy, nor what I expected. I was working a lot of hours. I ad no say in what I did. It was a humbling experience."

Mertel was paid $60 an hour. In exchange for less than minimum wage, she was able to job shadow with elite Disney professionals.

"This gave me a chance to see from their perspective," Mertel said. "I had sit-down formal interviews with them, one on one conversations and stayed with them for a few hours at a time."

Although Mertel benefited from her stay, she said working at Disney was far from her expectations, and that Disney was deceptive in recruiting interns.

"They emphasized the perks, like going on rides in the theme parks," Mertel said. "I felt like I was stuck but then I'm home again, it feels a lot like San Luis Obispo feel like a new town to me."

Mertel returned to Cal Poly Jan. 3 and described her experience as a nightmare.

"I left here because I thought I needed a change," Mertel said. "I felt like I was stuck but then I'm home again, it feels a lot like San Luis Obispo feel like a new town to me."

OPEN HOUSE
continued from page 1

RePole duo tours for admitted students Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., beginning on the hour at the University Union. General campus tours will be held for prospective students on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Sunday from 2-4 p.m.

Those unable to attend scheduled tours and workshops can receive information on the ULI Administration building or at www.es.s.calpoly.edu/visits/self-guided.

Student volunteers for the Open House Committee work with a budget of $35,000 to $40,000 each year. Yamaguchi said. The committee receives money from sponsors such as Associated Students Inc., Hearst Catholic Center, Student Housing and Alcohol and Drug Awareness Center.

"All committee members post notices for Open House in their free time on campus," Yamaguchi said. "We also schedule a poster downtown with information about the three-day event."

The Open House Committee plans all for the three-day event. The committee is run under the guidance of orientation coordinator at Student Life and Leadership. For further questions about Open House call 756-7756.

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

"Our resolution redeems itself partially," Vanasupa said. "Zingg strongly opposed Yamaguchi's resolution."

"I would suggest that any policy that in effect says that it is wrong for anyone to do anything that anyone finds offensive is in itself offensive because it means a hostile work environment in violation of the First Amendment," Zingg said.

Although a motion was presented to allow the current version of the resolution to appear on the next Academic Senate agenda, the Executive Committee opted to table discussion until the next Executive Committee meeting.

"The role of this body (the Executive Committee) is really procedural. It is about the three-year term for the senate," Green said. "I think it's worthwhile for the Academic Senate to hear this resolution. Although I would certainly vote against this resolution."

If approved at the next Executive Committee meeting, the resolution would be eligible to be placed on the agenda of the May 27 Academic Senate meeting.

Vanasupa has been campaigning since February to amend the current RUP that allows access to pornographic Web sites from university computers.
National Briefs

Montana Legislature balks at outlawing drinking while driving — HELENA, Mont. — Montana lawmakers are about to go home for the year without banning open liquor containers in cars and trucks, a decision one activist against drunken driving blames on the state's cowboy culture.

"I think there's still perhaps some carry-over from people whose view is their individual rights are being trampled on," said Bill Mulu, president of a local chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, 13 states do not have open-container bans that meet federal standards. Mulu said the bans are cheap and effective at reducing drunken driving, but critics have staked efforts at the Montana Capitol to enact one by raising the specter of increasing police power.

Republican state Rep. Jim Shockey, who has led the push against a ban, said such a law would appreciates your helpful assistance.

National/International News

A parole board approved his release from prison, but Davis blocked it under a 1998 voter-approved constitutional amendment that gives the governor carte blanche to overturn releases.

The decision was the latest setback for Rosenkranz, who was convicted in Los Angeles County in December, the California Supreme Court affirmed Davis' broad power to block the parole of convicted murderers — an authority Davis used in almost every case he reviewed in his first term in office.

As of December 2002, Davis had reversed 160 decisions to grant parole and upheld them only twice, freeing two women who suffered from battered women's syndrome when they killed.

Supreme Court declines case involving Davis' parole powers

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court has refused to consider restricting the power of California Gov. Gray Davis to block the parole of convicted murderers.

On Monday, the justices rejected an appeal from Robert Rosenkranz, convicted of killing a teenage friend in 1985 after the friend revealed his homosexuality.

The decision was the latest setback for Rosenkranz, who was convicted in Los Angeles County in December, the California Supreme Court affirmed Davis' broad power to block the parole of convicted murderers — an authority Davis used in almost every case he reviewed in his first term in office.

As of December 2002, Davis had reversed 160 decisions to grant parole and upheld them only twice, freeing two women who suffered from battered women's syndrome when they killed.

At the same time, Hong Kong reported five new deaths Tuesday, bringing the total to 99. Most officials have consistently avoided any predictions about when they might overcome the worst disaster in years, despite Chief Executive Tung Chee-hwa's expression of optimism Monday.

He said the former British colony was "slowly, but surely getting the figures stabilized" after quarantining households of SARS patients and tracking down more possible contacts.

Pakistan is a brother of ours," he said at a joint news conference with Jamali in Islamabad.

Suspected cases of cholera and typhoid reported in Baghdad, doctors say

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Doctors in Baghdad on Tuesday reported the first suspected cases of cholera and typhoid, two potential killers caused by bad water sanitation.

About 50 percent to 60 percent of the children brought for treatment at Al-Iman children's hospital were suffering from dehydration and diarrhea caused by dirty water and other unsanitary conditions, said Dr. Ahmed Abdul Fatah, the assistant director.

Doctors suspect hundreds of the children have cholera and typhoid, but with no labs fully working and most U.N. health workers having fled, hard-pressed physicians said they could only treat the cases, not confirm them.

Iraqis were also being treated for the diseases at special clinics set up inside mosques because health clinics citywide have been depleted by looting.

Cholera and dysentery are two diseases aid workers commonly fear in places like Baghdad, which still largely lacks clean running water because 90 percent of the city remains without power.

Briefs compiled from The Associated Press wire service by Mustang Daily managing editor Mala Spencer.

National Briefs

Some normalcy in SARS-stricken Hong Kong as students return, but crisis far from over

HONG KONG — Hong Kong reopened most secondary schools Tuesday three weeks after they were closed to keep the SARS virus from spreading, but thousands of students in surgical masks were walking proof the territory still has a long way to go.

The daily number of new SARS cases here has declined in recent days, but World Health Organization officials say that is not enough to consider the disease under control.

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Superdrag ditches major label for own sound

Success can be a cure. Countless bands catch the ear of major label executives early in their career and are signed to huge record deals. The band puts out one album that sells well, and the label expects every song the band writes to sound just like previous singles.

Just ask Superdrag—that's right, the British-looking guys from Knoxville, Tenn., whose lead singer sounded like John Davis singing (more in tune than ever) of 1996.

The song became pretty popular, so Elektra Records had high hopes for the band's third album, "Head Trip in Every Key," but the record deviated from the early-straight-ahead, fuzzy pop-rock on "Regrettably Yours," including longer songs, richer instrumentation and more diverse influences. "Head Trip" didn't sell as well, so naturally Superdrag expected every song the band wrote to sell as well, so naturally Superdrag

Superdrag may have not have the fan base it would if it were still backed by Elektra, but the band has built up a reputation for quality songwriting and performance all on its own.

Ambulance Driver," he sings, "There was nothing I could do. I should have done it anyway. Unprepared" finds Davis lamenting, "We carried you father's death in 1998.

On the afterliterally slow "Ambulance Driver," he sings, "There was nothing I could do. I should have done it anyway. Unprepared" finds Davis lamenting, "We carried you father's death in 1998.

The band followed up "Dying Stars" with "Lost Call for Virtue" last year, further expanding its musical territory—there's a country song on the album—and sounding even more mature.

Superdrag may not have the fan base it would if it were still backed by Elektra, but the band has built up a reputation for quality songwriting and performance all on its own. It's almost better that way; the band now has more creative control and it's playing small enough venues that you can still meet John Davis singing (more in tune than ever) of 1996.

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Depression a delicate situation

A: I am concerned about my roommate – she sleeps all the time and seems really sad. Could she be depressed? How can I tell and how do I suggest she get help?

O: We all see the ads on TV with the freaky little bubble guy bouncing around the room while ignoring his friends and the little ladybug scowling at the sun. The commercial lists several warning signs you should watch for, then points out that you could be care to your blues. Suddenly, the little bubble guy is smiling and playing tag with his little bug friend. Unfortunately, real-life clinical depression is not so simple.

Identifying the problem: Depression more than a dark cloudy feeling you have a few weeks after your boyfriend dumps you or your grandpa dies. People are emotional and should expect a spectrum of feelings that often last longer than a couple days.

"One common misconception is that there needs to be a cause of depression," said Dr. Charlene Korsgaard, a counselor at the Cal Poly Health Center. Depression can be caused by a loss, trauma or virtually nothing at all.

Korsgaard said there are several warning signs of depression and friends and family should look for. Red flags include prolonged sadness, being uninterested in daily activities, not taking care of oneself, a change in sleeping habits and a change in eating habits.

The key to identifying depression symptoms is that they span a prolonged amount of time.

Other more obvious signs of depression include suicidal thoughts and self-destructive behaviors, including excessive drinking or drug use.

Getting help: Often people will identify the problem in themselves. Depression feels bad, and they want to start feeling good again. The desire to feel better may prompt someone to seek help on his or her own.

The troublesome situation arises when someone is already in the grips of depression and denies the problem. It is probably best to avoid using phrases such as "Dude, your mood is bringing me down." "Go see a shrink" or "Here’s my mom’s Prevac. Try it!"

Instead, point out the behavior that draws your concern. Let them know you care, but please, for the sake of everyone’s sanity, avoid the soup opera scenes. Be sincere, but not circulatory. Dr. Korsgaard suggested making a specific statement about your observations.

Keep it simple," she said. "Let them know what you’ve noticed and then tell them that you know there are wonderful people at the counseling center."

If she still denies the problem after all of your efforts to help her, you may have to give in to defeat. Don’t push the issue. You did your best and that is all you can do. The decision lies ultimately with the individual.

I mean, not everyone can be a happy little bubble guy picking flowers and running with a ladybug through a meadow. How annoying would that be?

Sara Howell is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily columnist.

Opinion

‘Becoming’ tired with MTV show

People who know the birthday, favorite food and dog’s name of their favorite celebrity are scores. These people tend to have pictures torn out of magazines covering their walls and, not surprisingly, few friends. They see that every movie of famous people that may feel like they have a life. These are the people MTV glorifies in their show "Becoming." The show takes these young, impressionable people who are already pushing the limits of normal behavior and helps them jump head-first into stalker mode.

The show, which helps a fan recreate a video from their favorite artist, encourages teenagers to obsess over celebrities. Fans can copy videos by their favorite artists, be they Britney Spears, Destiny’s Child or Eminem. MTV tries to make the experience as realistic as possible for the fan by often using the choreographer and set from the actual video and using authentic costumes and makeup. But in doing so, the show makes the super-fans feel like they are the celebrities – something that is dangerous, considering these people’s grasp of reality is already loose at best.

"Becoming" attracts someone different from your run-of-the-mill fans. They can tell you the favorite color, designer and brand of shoes of their celebrities. These people have crossed well beyond the boundaries of fashion and are truly obsessed. No wonder most of the stars send the people "becoming" them an autograph or a video message instead of meeting in person – these people are crazy.

"It’s all about the idea, the illusion of intimacy," says Park Dietz, a forensic psychologist and expert on celebrity stalkers. "About wanting and believing in an attachment to the person involved. Television was the first big leap into visual mass communications, and is not the cause of stalking but influences its behavior. One hundred years ago in America, the only book in the average house was the Bible and mental institutions were full of people claiming to be or having met Jesus or Mary. Today, people go on about Madonna!"

I admit that in fifth grade I may have been under the impression that if only I could meet Paula Abdul, I could convince her that we were meant to be best friends.

Amy Hessick is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily staff writer.

Letter to the editor

Read about ‘the other war’

Editor,

As the United States prepares to declare victory in Iraq, retired West Point instructor, Special Forces Master Sgt. Stan Goff analyses the entirety of the war.

From brutal massacres, to the U.S. instigation of the looting of Iraqi antiquities, to the sleazy pandering of U.S. mainstream media, to the defeat of depleted uranium that will be killing for a thousand years, Goff gives us an inside analysis of a war that most of us don’t know about. He also documents the abject failure of American progressives to make even the slightest bit of difference in anything about this war, or the next. Read his new book, From The Wilderness, an online news publication with special focus on war.

Mike Lydon is an industrial engineering senior.

Alternative transportation the answer to Open House congestion

Editor,

On behalf of the University Police Department and the Open House Committee, we would like to remind all students, faculty and staff that alternative transportation will be the best choice during Open House festivities on Fri., April 25.

Nearly 9,000 conditionally admitted students have been invited to attend Open House and participate in organized activities presented by various departments of the university. Parking will be extremely limited throughout the day and especially during the early morning hours. The University Police Department will have additional staffing deployed all day in order to help facilitate traffic flow and parking throughout campus. However, the sheer volume of traffic will mean long delays and impacted parking.

We are asking that all students, faculty and staff use alternative transportation on Friday to help keep the Open House a great event. This can include carpooling, walking, SLO Transit and biking.

For more information on Open House, please visit the Cal Poly homepage and click on the Open House icon. You can also call the Open House Committee office at 756-7576.

Tony Aelitis is the University Police chief and Brett Tsudama is the Open House director of transportation and safety.

Letter policy

Letters become the property of the Mustang Daily. Mustang Daily reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, punctuation and length. Letters, commentaries and cartoons do not represent the views of the Mustang Daily. Please limit letters to 250 words. Letters, commentaries and cartoons must come from a Cal Poly e-mail account. Please send the text in the body of the e-mail.

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Sara Howell is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily columnist.

"Why don’t we take the editors out for a last lunch and shoot them" – the advisor
Let freedom ring: Anarchy in post-war Iraq

Opinion

Mustang Daily

While almost everyone agrees in the principles of democracy, there is little certainty that such a system of government will survive in Iraq. Perhaps these challenges emerge from multitude of ethnic groups that fall within the borders of that country or from the distrust of Western control many have in the region.

Commentary

American soldiers to provide law and order, but the limited number of troops and the inability of coalition forces to cope with such catastrophic situations made this virtually impossible. According to the New York Times, by April 20, 31 Iraqis in Mosul were dead and more than 150 were wounded.

The vandalism and rampant looting of priceless antiquities made it clear that U.S. forces have essentially crushed Saddam Hussein's regime. Now, perhaps the most difficult phase in Operation Iraqi Freedom must begin, the creation of a democratic system of government in Iraq.

In an effort to restore some sort of order in Iraq, retired U.S. Gen. Jay Garner flew into Baghdad to evaluate how the war affected the city. According to BBC News, he will act as a "facilitating

The case of the chronic hand-raiser

I'm your typical class filled with typical students. Then a woman's voice is heard to the side, looking like she is helping hand a small plate. Students let on a chorus of frustrated sighs and try to refrain from thrashing things at her. The question's urgency is deceiving, for this is her eighth answer in the last 20 minutes.

Welcome to every student's worst nightmare: The chronic class-room hand-raiser. I am not talking about the people who ask relevant, intelligent or even "dumb" questions, as long as they are in modera­tion. It is when you can predict who will ask questions before you even enter the classroom that you know you have a problem.

School is a place to learn while feeling comfortable in that environment. Asking questions is part of that process, but raise your hands too often and you start sparking a war on everything produced by the participation weighs heavily for the final grade, it is vital to be inquisitive. Yet, memory alone doesn't necessarily come a game of chance when the same three people always compete for attention. It is even more irritating when one of them is called on just to hear them say, "Oh, sorry, I need to take my hand off of habit, I don't have a question." I wonder if we can legally tie their arms to their seats.

There are those who seem to totally space out during the lecture. They ask questions that have been answered only moments before and continue to do so until the end of class. Progress becomes a battle, because for every five minutes of lecture they will make it regress three minutes back. Some will even ask the same question over and over again. I'm sorry, but there are only so many ways you can ask the same question before the students start catching on.

Others take questioning one step further. Apparently, what they have to say is so important they don't even bother raising their hands anymore. Instead, they make comments at random. Correcting the teacher, discussing outside material in class, basically saying out loud whatever comes to mind. Is this school, not a sporting event? A reasonable room that people can actually ask something? Why do you have to be so loud?

The all-time worst, however, is people who feel class time is the ideal opportunity to tell personal stories. These stories are usually less relevant to the lesson and will begin to draw the attention of everyone interested and relevant one told during class, so save your tales for people who actually care.

If you have a question and feel the need to completely take over classroom discussion, please find another place to do this. Remember, you are sharing this time with others so if you have to talk, go to office hours or give the teacher the homework phone number if you need to. Just remember that this is class, not personal tutoring.

Ever since we were little, we haven't been told the whole truth. We were told that Santa existed, the Tooth Fairy collected our teeth and there was no such thing as a dumb question. Since then a lot has changed. Santa turned out to be a fraud, the Tooth Fairy was really our parents and alas yes, there is such a thing as a dumb question. Andrea Siroboda is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily contribu­tor.

Letters to the editor

Senior projects not always fun

Editor,

Usually commentaries in the Mustang Daily are easily ignored, but among Carly Haubert's raving about senior projects ("Senior project discrepancies create problems," April 21) are some factual errors that need correcting.

Early states, "they must submit at least seven pages in length and two copies must be turned into the library." Neither is true. The university has no length requirements, and if your adviser chooses to send it to the library, he has to pay for the copies, which return. All senior projects do not go to the library.

"The senior project is supposed to be something enjoyable. I have to say that now I know what that statement means. It is can be, and often is, but if the student procrastinates it can become a miserable experience for all involved. The senior project is an opportunity for a student to show that they can work independently and be responsible for getting the work done, without their boss (advisor) breathing down their neck. Employers value this trait. Many students get their jobs based on the quality of the work in their senior project.

The university owns the intellectual rights to the projects just as they own those created by new employees. This comes at no cost to the facilities and resources, or anyone using their time as a state employee to create the work. Only a tiny number of projects have any monetary value for Cal Poly, and so they are not "all for the Cal Poly's polynomic gain." Does that make sense anyway?

David W. Haines is the chair of the Academic Senate Curriculum Committee and a professor in the horticulture and crop science department.

Limiting campus Internet access is dangerous

Editor,

According to my understanding it is U.S. policy to bomb the hell out of threats to our freedom. Would someone please forward Vanasupa's address to the Pentagon? Her campaign to stifle access to information on the Internet is dangerous to all of us. If her policy was passed it would encourage intolerance of "sexually explicit and offensive material" ("From resolution up for consideration," April 21).

Let's look at this seriously. You're on a really slippery slope with this. Why do you say that "protecting our freedom" requires the installation of a democratic government. If Iraqis should cooperate with U.S. forces, but only because that would result in them leaving Iraq more quickly. Either way the complicated process of Operation Iraqi Freedom has only just begun. Returning Iraq to the people will be a difficult task, especially if Iraqis select a system of government that goes against Western ideals.

Dale Quinn is a journalism student and social sciences senior and Mustang Daily staff writer.

Patriotism means keeping civil liberties

Editor,

Leaving politicians and media outlets are destroying the world's most important system of government. I see newspapers labeled as a "sick bastard" and Stripes to justify selfish actions. Patriotism is supporting war in Iraq, but not questioning our government's motives for such a war. How is that different from saying "I support the troops" while ignoring the government cutting $18 billion out of veteran benefits programs. Somehow patriotism is wealthy individuals and corporations paying taxes in order to pay less in taxes to fund our common needs. A patriot supports the Patriot Act, a government immu­nity of our most precious civil freedoms. The hypocrisy of our current government is disgusting.

The destruction in Iraq was government "protecting our free­dom." But no terrorist or unpatriotic nation can threaten our freedom. Only the U.S. government can do that. Freedom is not granted by government; it is our natural state as humans. The only things limiting freedom are society's agreed upon laws and powers granted to law enforcers. We need to remember that our role as patriots in the world's greatest democracy is to guard our freedoms from unnecessary laws or enforcement. Not to fight phantom boogey men from far away lands that we are told hate us because we are free.

Freedom is expressed by individual citizens standing up to­gether and not allowing these petty would-be tyrants to limit our freedoms. It is bad enough that we have to live with these people's distorted, intolerant ideas.

Jason Joyce is a chemistry senior.

Anti-American rhetoric hypocrisy

Editor,

I'm scared of the anti-free speech, pro-tyranny rhetoric that I keep hearing from Casey Comstock. It's bad enough that he fan­ta­sized about killing protesters by waving his signature first letter ("More has to complain about," April 9), but now he wants to throw them in jail for 30 years?

Casey, you like to label people as anti-American, but where are your American values? Why do you support an administration that was "elected" by judicial trickery and not a democratic vote? Why do you support a war that degrades our country's credibility while making our soldiers live all for the sake of oil? Why do you want to support a crackdown on dissent as if this was Stalinist Russia? If you want free speech and peace so much, why didn't you move to Iraq while you had the chance?

Yes, you even say that promoting the arts performs the completely the wrong thing, not because of their racial epithets, but because they have free speech when it shines for peace. Republicans are scary people.

Daniel Nutting is a computer science senior.

James Medina is a business junior.
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Cal Poly Women's Lacrosse

Three times might be the charm

By Michael Marquez

Legendary college basketball coach John Wooden once said to win one championship is great, but to repeat speaks of true greatness.

The Cal Poly women's lacrosse team is already recognized across the country as a team that achieved true greatness by winning two national club titles. Winning a third national title this season would be an unprecedented accomplishment in the United States Lacrosse Intercollegiate Association.

The Cal Poly women's lacrosse team is on the right path. The Mustangs ended a spectacular regular season with a 15-1 record, squeezing out a 9-6 win over UC Santa Barbara Thursday night.

The Gauchos are ranked No. 9 in the nation, so winning the game was essential to retaining Cal Poly's No. 1 national ranking over league rival UCSC.

"We needed to come together as a team and build momentum throughout the first half," Kiersted said. "Kiersted helped the team gain that momentum by scoring three goals in the first half. Bridget Mulhem, Liz Mejia and Lauren Chase also contributed goals in the first half."

At halftime, Cal Poly was ahead 6-3. With the Gauchos keeping the game close, Cal Poly dominated the door on any of UCSC attempts before they became a legitimate threat.

Senior co-captain Ashley Kiersted said that the team had a rough time getting going earlier in the game due to practicing just once all week.

"We stepped it up on defense in the second half," Marshall said. "I'm pretty pleased with the way we played with the lack of practice this week."

Head coach Brandon Budgey said the team is looking confident going into the Western Women's Lacrosse Championships.

"We are starting 6 a.m. practices to prepare for the upcoming weeks," Budgey said. "Winning a third national title will be an amazing accomplishment for the program."

The game served as the last home game for seniors Jessica Escobar, Chase, Shannon Keane-Miller, Kiersted and Marshall.

The next goal that the team hopes to accomplish is winning the WWLL but more important than that is winning the turn. In St. Louis, Mo., as the USLIA national champions.

The WWLL Championships are April 25 and 26 at UC Davis. The USLIA national championships start May 9 in St. Louis.

Cal Poly Women's Natalie Carrillo

'I had to prove them wrong'

Born deaf, starting third baseman Natalie Carrillo ignored doubters and overcame every obstacle

By Randi Block

NATIONAL DAILY STAFF WRITER

Anyone who wants to play a college level sport faces many trials along the way. Athletes must deal with practices, injuries and strict competition, just to name a few barriers.

Environmental horticulturist senior Natalie Carrillo did all this while being deaf.

Carrillo, starting third baseman for the softball team, has overcome and setbacks her disability potentially could have had on her. She compiled a .219 batting average on the season, with 17 RBIs and 28 runs.

Born deaf, Carrillo has had to deal with many people thinking that she could never become a good softball player.

"They were many times when people would say, 'How can she be deaf and play softball?'" Carrillo said. "I just ignored the comments and pushed myself harder. I had to prove them wrong."

It was this motivation that pushed Carrillo to become the player she is today.

She credits her parents for learning that she could do anything she wanted, regardless of any situation.

"My parents supported me in so many ways," Carrillo said. "They showed me so much love. I wouldn't be here today if it wasn't for them."

This support is echoed in the words of her family.

"We always let her know that she was not any different than anyone else," said Francene Carrillo, Natalie's mother.

Softball began for Carrillo when she was 10 years old. She tried out with her sister for the local team, and had a special deal set up where any team that wanted either of them had to choose both of them. When her sister was chosen, she went along for the ride. From that moment on softball became her love.

"I love the game, thrill and adrenaline rush that goes along with softball," Carrillo said. "My enthusiasm for the sport allowed her to become a huge threat out on the field."

"You can tell Natalie loves the game," said softball coach Lisa Boyer. "She plays with a lot of heart and is so skilled. She has played more positions than anybody else out there."

This versatility has allowed her to play shortstop, catcher and now third base.

On the field, Carrillo and her fellow teammates have adapted to her disability to make sure she stays in the game at all times.

"They always make me feel comfortable," Carrillo said. "There is always someone there to make me aware. Some people even want to learn sign language."

Carrillo choose Cal Poly four years when she signed a scholarship to play softball for the Mustangs. The small town raised her in and provided her with the "homey" feeling she was looking for.

Originally an architecture major, Carrillo switched to environmental horticulture after looking into a major change for about a month. She said she hopes to someday own her own flower shop and design flowers for special occasions.

As Carrillo's graduation inches closer, teammates, her coach and the school will genuinely miss her.

"She brings a lot to the team," Boyer said. "For all she has accomplished, she brings a great deal of respect. I am so proud of everything she's done here at Cal Poly. She'll be missed."

With graduation comes the end to Carrillo's time as a Mustang, but her mother said Natalie has such a bright future ahead of her.

"I think she is on a path to accomplish everything she wants to," Francene said.

Cal Poly attack wing Megan Deits makes a pass during the Mustang's win over UCSC.

Third baseman Natalie Carrillo has 28 hits and 17 RBIs this season.

By the numbers

7,175
Points for Cal Poly junior Kon Takahashi in the decathlon at last weekend's Mt. SAC Relays. Takahashi's mark broke the school record set in 1993 by Jerry Edwards (7,077).

9:10.08
Freshman Luke Llamas won the 3,000 meter steeplechase at Mt. SAC in 9:10.08.

TRIVIA

Which hitter holds the major league record for strikeouts in a 100-meter dash, and what is the record? Tim Montgomery (9.78) and 1.

Congratulations Carlos Cortes!

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