Playground gets makeover

Children watch bulldozers next to the ASI Children's Center play-ground, which is being revamped to comply with California safety reg-ulations.

By Sarah Stephan
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Five-year-old Nina Van Noy can't wait for the new play equipment to come. "It's not going to have splinters in it," she said.

"And we can play on it without our shoes on," yelled an excited boy.

For two months, the children at the Associated Students Inc. Children's Center have spent recess playing in an emty sand lot, surrounded by orange netting and mounds of dirt. The center has adapted the recess schedule by shifting the play area and taking the children for more walks around campus, said Tonya Iversen, director of children's programs.

"The children have adapted well," Iversen said. "We try to keep the kids out and busy."

Emily Otter, head teacher of 3- and 4-year-olds, said it was nice to see everyone wanting to get involved.

Kaitlin Ayers
ASI vice president

"Everyone there was really concerned about this issue. From business owners to sorority presidents, it was nice to see everyone wanting to get involved."

Potassium iodine available locally

By Meghan Nowakowski
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Students and San Luis Obispo permanent residents are making an attempt to improve their relations. Thirty people gathered for the second Town Hall Meeting in the University Union Saturday to discuss problems facing student and resident relationships. Campus police, city officials, the San Luis Obispo Police Department, local business representatives, students and residents were all present.

"I think it was very positive," said Alison Anderson, civil engineering senior and ASI community relations director. "All of the key players were there, and helped to formulate some great ideas."

Among the issues discussed were stereotypes involving students and residents, noise, and how to be a better neighbor.

"This year we decided that we wanted more of a workshop form," Anderson said. "Last year we had a panel of community members and just held a question and answer ses-

sion. That got kind of heated. People stayed really cooperative this year."

ASI vice president and business senior Kaitlin Ayers said it was great to see community members showing their support.

"Everyone there was really concerned about this issue," Ayers said. "From business owners to sorority presidents, it was nice to see everyone wanting to get involved."

One aspect of the workshop was finding solutions to better neighbor relations. Campus police, city officials, local business representatives, students and residents were all present.

"It's not going to have splinters in it," she said.

"Everyone there was really concerned about this issue," Ayers said. "They are waiting for a clear financial situation for the state before they vote to increase fees."

"The governor recommended the 25 percent fee increase, but the legislature must now approve them," Potes-Fellow said. "The Board of Trustees set the fee increases and policies to save money in all areas of administration."

The Board of Trustees already raised student fees by $45 winter quarter to make up for the mid-year fee increase.

"The vote was initially postponed because there is no conformation on what the CSU system will receive in terms of state funding," said Clara Potes-Fellow, spokesperson for the Chancellor's Office.

"They are waiting for a clear financial situation for the state before they vote to increase fees."

CSU officials do not know what the likelihood of a greater increase than 25 percent will be.

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"There will be pandemonium when the new equipment comes," she said. "All the children will want to play with everything at once, but we will have to keep them of the equipment until it is completely ready."-

Tina Leon, a mother of two boys who attend the center, said all the children are excited about the new equipment. "It looks like quite a discovery area," she said.

Plans for the rest of the play area will be implemented over the next five years. Proposed designs include a water play area, cushions-material surfaces and landscaping.

The new equipment will be paid for primarily through grants and donations.

On May 31, Cal Poly will host Playground Promenade, a five and 10-kilometer walk and run to raise money for the playground renovation.

All community members are invited to attend. Registration for the walks begins at 8 a.m. Children's activities such as face painting, arts and crafts and a petting zoo begin at 10 a.m. There is also a children's run and lunch barbecue.

"There are many ways to be involved," said speech communications senior Jamie Gilles, who is helping to plan the Playground Promenade for her senior project. "We want to use people driven about helping one of the few accredited preschools in the area."

The goal of the one-day event was originally to raise $4,000 toward the new playground. Now, Gilles said they want to raise more than that.

"If at least 300 people come, and they are able to tell even more people about the playground, it will really increase awareness," Gilles said.

The Board of Trustees should vote by July on whether student fees will increase by 25 percent or higher.

**FEES**
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Budget deficiency.

"We understand that there are certain fee increases that will most likely have to take place, because the bottom line is that $38.5 billion likely have to take place, because we say the bottom line is that $38.5 billion..."

He said one-third of student fees will increase. "There have been a lot of questions from the children and we have been in a smaller space," Oster said. "The construction has given the children something to watch, though, I am surprised at how well it has gone."

The two wooden structures were erected in early April because they did not meet new California safety regulations. According to the new California safety standards, all playground equipment must be manufactured and installed by a certified playground company.

"The old structures were not unsafe, but they were built 11 years ago by a contractor," Iversen said.

The new legislation required that all existing equipment be checked. Inspectors looked for potential hazards, measuring the space between bars to make sure children's limbs could not get stuck.

Many children's centers in the state had to move or replace their existing equipment, Iversen said. Although the children's center has a 1:10-adult to child ratio, they must follow the same rules as public parks, which do not have any supervision requirements.

The first stage of the playground reconstruction, two swings and a swing set, will be installed by June 30.

Iversen said the children were sad to see the old equipment taken out and impatient for the new structures to arrive.

**CENTRE**
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"The biggest concerns at Cal Poly are maintaining access to classes, continuing the quality of education and insuring that students still receive financial aid, Parnell said. He said one-third of student fees should go to financial aid.

"The CSU financial aid program is strong and 140,000 students will qualify for financial aid this year," Peters-Fellow said. "This number will increase since higher fees will qualify more people to receive aid. The students who currently receive aid will not be harmed because the governor proposed to increase financial aid to compensate for fee increases."

The Board of Trustees should vote by July on whether student fees will increase by 25 percent or higher.
Supreme Court turns away an appeal filed by Scott Peterson, the man convicted in the death of his wife, Laci Peterson, when she disappeared in December, and her unborn son was washed onto a Richmond shoreline the next day.

Shortly after the bodies were found, Scott Peterson was arrested and charged with two counts of murder. He has pleaded innocent and is jailed without bail.

The appeal was rejected on the basis that the evidence they are seeking, or what they have found, in what they describe as a follow-up investigation.

The bodies of the Modesto woman, who was eight months pregnant when she disappeared in December, and her unborn son were found when she disappeared in December, and her unborn son was washed onto a Richmond shoreline the next day.

The decomposed remains were found several miles north of where Peterson's husband, Scott, said he went fishing on Christmas Eve — the day he says he last saw his wife.

Scott Peterson was arrested and charged with two counts of murder. He has pleaded innocent and is jailed without bail.

The Supreme Court declined to hear case over terrorism-related detentions

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court turned away an appeal Monday over detention of hundreds of U.S. prisoners picked up in Afghanistan after the Sept. 11 terror attacks.

The court did not comment in rejecting an appeal from clergy, lawyers and others who wanted to go to court on behalf of the prisoners held at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, without charges or access to lawyers.

Lower federal courts had blocked the legal challenge on grounds that the clergy group did not have legal standing.

The clergy group sued President Bush, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and others last year.

"The United States government violated basic principles of international human rights law in forcibly removing prisoners of war from Afghanistan, transporting them to Guantanamo and holding them indefinitely in small outdoor cages," the clergy group alleged.

The suit claimed the prisoners were deprived of their liberty and have not been informed of the accusations against them, in violation of the U.S. Constitution.

The coalition demanded that the government provide the prisoners with lawyers, bring them before a U.S. court, acknowledge their identities and define the charges against them. The detainees are from 42 countries.

White House press secretary to resign in July

WASHINGTON — White House press secretary Ari Fleischer, the public face of the Bush administration through two wars and a terrorist attack, said Monday he will resign in July to enter the private sector.

"I love this job," Fleischer told reporters at his informal Monday morning briefing. "I believe deeply about President Bush as a man and I believe deeply in his policies, but it's my time to go."

He would not speculate on who would take his place, but presidential aides said deputy press secretary Scott McClellan was the likely successor, although there are other possibilities.

Fleischer said he wanted to leave the hard-driving job before Bush's re-election campaign geared up. "I want to do something more relaxing — like dismantle live nuclear weapons," he quipped.

Fleischer clashed at times with the White House press corps and had an uneasy relationship with some senior Bush aides, but he said the departure was his idea. He notified Bush of his decision Friday. The president ended the conversation "by kissing me on the head," the spokesman said.

International Briefs

Suicide bombing at Israeli shopping mall; fifth attack in two days

AFUSA, Israel — A suicide attacker detonated explosives at the entrance to a crowded mall in northern Israel on Monday, killing at least three shoppers and wounding 47, the latest in a series of bombings that have detailed U.S. peace efforts.

The attack in the town of Afula was the fifth suicide bombing with 48 hours, following blasts in Gaza, Jerusalem and the West Bank.

The spate of bombings underscored how difficult it will be to carry out the U.S.-backed "road map" plan, a three-stage prescription for ending violence immediately and setting up a Palestinian state by 2005.

In Washington, President Bush said the string of attacks were aimed at stopping the peace process, but insisted "the road map still stands.

He called it "sad and pathetic" that some "cannot stand the thought of peace."

Belgian voters back four more years of liberal-socialist coalition

BRUSSELS, Belgium — Free-market liberals and socialists moved to put together a new government in Belgium on Monday after a resounding election victory gave them a strong mandate to continue economic reforms and tax breaks.

The win returns to office Prime Minister Guy Verhofstadt, whose center-left coalition over the past four years has pursued controversial social policies.

This time, he will likely be without his former junior coalition partner, the Greens, who suffered a huge defeat in both Dutch-speaking Flanders and Wallonia, the country's French-speaking south.

The Greens' losses were as remarkable as the gains of the anti-immigration Flemish Bloc. It won the second consecutive defeat for the Christian Democrats, who dominated Belgian politics for decades until their ouster in 1999 elections.

Helicopters search for survivors of floods, landslides that leave 200 dead in Sri Lanka

RATNAPURA, Sri Lanka — Air force helicopters and police teams searched for survivors in remote villages Monday after a weekend of floods and landslides killed up to 200 people.

Forecasters said more rain was on its way, which would make the plight of about 150,000 people left homeless even more difficult.

"It is a very grim situation," said rehabilitation minister Jayath Jayawardene. "I have been told that at least 200 people have died and still there are people unaccounted for."

Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe said the disaster was the nation's worst in five decades. The final death toll is "going to be heavy, sorry to say," he said without elaborating.

In Ranala, a town central Sri Lanka, officials said 40,000 to 1 million people, about 40,000 homes were damaged by the floods and landslide that forced people to take shelter.

Much of the area was without electricity and telephone service because the landslides damaged overhead lines.

Briefs compiled from The Associated Press wire service by Mustang Daily managing editor Malia Spencer.
By Sarah Stephan
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

The birds lightly chirp in the background. The early evening breeze drifts through the room. The sun sets in the distance, glistening over the water of Morro Bay. In a small room overlooking a scenic golf course, a group of students sit in unison under while enlightened.

Every Wednesday night, BodhiPath students meet at Sea Pines Resort in Los Osos. The group convenes for chants, meditation, teaching and discussion under directed " or "awakening." The name BodhiPath is derived from the Bodhi Buddhism. Bodhi means "enlightenment." While in Los Osos, Lama Khedrub went toward her traveling expenses. She wanted to learn more about Buddhism and searched for a teacher. Two years ago, statistics professor Crampton has studied Buddhism for two years old. While in Los Osos, Lama Khedrub divided her time among the three centers. Lama Khedrub is a nun who has been practicing Buddhism for more than 20 years. "Lama" is a title for a religious teacher who is approved to teach Buddhist principles.

When Lama Khedrub is teaching at the other centers, she assigns a student to lead readings and meditation. Lama Khedrub teaches her students to practice the Buddhist principles of awareness and compassion. In practice, the Lama said her students can learn that awareness and compassion are beneficial to all human beings. "We can develop these qualities through meditation and contemplating Buddhist teachings," she said. Lama Khedrub said she teaches by engaging students in the Dharma, or Buddhist teachings.

"I try to inspire students to ask questions so my teaching can apply to their lives, their real questions," she said. "I like to mix it up with students and get them curious." About 15 participants attend the sessions every week, ranging from college students to those over 50 years old. Education graduate student Hans Liepman have been playing original lyrical-based folk-pop in Central Coast wineries and coffee houses for the past 14 years. They said they like the community setting that New Frontiers offers. "You never know who might be shopping while you are playing," Liepman said. "It is a unique setting, but a good way to get more people exposed to our music." Younger said Music in the Deli benefits the musicians as well as the store. "Even the shoppers, employees and people in the checkout line love it," she said. Music in the Deli happens every Wednesday night at 5:30 p.m. for information on future performances, contact Younger at 785-0194.

Eastern Thought

Buddhism comes to SLO

Lama Anila Khedrub

Lindausten started attending sessions in January. He started studying Buddhism on his own three years ago. Lindausten said he could apply what he learns in class to daily circumstances. For example, if he is driving and there is a slow car in front of him, Lindausten said he is learning how to make the slow car not bother him. "Class gives you a perspective on how to look at things objectively and rise above internal turmoil," he said.

Morro Bay resident Brad Crampton has studied Buddhism for five years and now goes to the BodhiPath sessions. He said the Buddhist teachings help personally and also in relations with others. "You always learn something valuable in Lama Khedrub's teachings," Crampton said. "I would summarize Buddhism as the way to find true happiness."

The May BodhiPath sessions cover directing oneself toward studying a path to enlightenment. After a series of chants, a half-hour meditation and a break for tea, students listen to a teaching. In the May 7 session, Lama Khedrub discussed refuge and precepts and how they are the foundation for those whose goal is supreme enlightenment. Refuge refers to committing oneself to the Buddhist path. Lama Khedrub explained the Buddhist teachings and applied them to important messages. For example, she said in order to help other human beings, we need to learn to help ourselves first.

For more information, visit the BodhiPath Web site at www.bodhipath-west.org.

Not your typical library fare: Art and design senior Joseph Hsu's senior project, 'Betelnut Beauty — A Voyeuristic Visual Diary,' captures the erotic marketing used to sell the betelnut, a southern Asian fruit, in Taiwan. The women are walking advertisements, sex symbols that set themselves glaringly apart from their Western magazine counterparts. The exhibit is on display at the Kennedy Library gallery through Sunday.

Health store offers more than just hummus and tofu

> New Frontiers’ Music in the Deli appeals to local musicians, low-key audience

By Laura Newman
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

On Wednesday nights, you can find more than just tofu in the deli at New Frontiers Natural Marketplace. There is live acoustic music among the grilled vegetables and chicken strips.

For the past year, New Frontiers has offered a free Wednesday evening live music series called Music in the Deli.

The performers are usually solo or duet acoustic artists who play everything from blues and Celtic styles to bluegrass, said Janelle Younger, New Frontiers marketing manager.

“We feature all local artists,” Younger said. “There aren’t too many places in San Luis Obispo for local artists to play and there is so much great talent in this town. We are excited to showcase it.” Younger was inspired to begin


The New Frontiers performers are a mix of San Luis Obispo veteran musicians and local students. Some performers return on a three or four-month rotation, but spaces are always left open for new performers, Younger said.

Sadek Barouh is a computer science sophomore who plays acoustic instrumental rock at New Frontiers. “(New Frontiers) is a good environment with, on some nights, a very good crowd,” Barouh said. “I play there because it’s an enjoyable experience and I love getting a reaction out of the people watching.”

Depending on the week, Music in the Deli usually draws about 10 to 30 spectators. The deli can seat up to 45.

“We have a regular crowd that comes every Wednesday,” Younger said. “Some Call Poly students come for class credit, which we totally encourage.”

Younger asks interested musicians to bring in a demo tape or compact disc, however, musicians are also welcome to audition live.

“We don’t want to overwhelm shoppers with music that is too loud or disruptive,” Younger said. “One (woman) whose CD I listened to sounded fine on the CD, but she sounded terrible in person. People called in and asked us not to have her back.”

Singer and songwriter Amie Richie plays folk-pop music at New Frontiers every three months.

“I first played New Frontiers last summer after I brought my three-song demo in to (Younger),” Richie said. “The best part of playing New Frontiers is that you get to meet new people and share music. Actually, there is no worst part!”

Local residents Bob and Wendy Liepman have been playing origi-
Def Jam Vendetta brings the pain — literally

► Mustang Daily reporter rents fight-based video game; the only bruises left were on her pocketbook

By Amanda Hippe

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Two-way pagers, dark alleys, Escalades sitting on 24s and underground clubs are the only highlights in the newly released EA Sports video combat game. Def Jam Vendetta is a rather life-like fighting game filled with shady sets, scantily clad girls, thugged-out opponents and, worst of all, real-life rappers like Method Man, Redman, Ludacris, Keith Murray and N.O.R.E.

With the latest hardcore hip-hop plugged as background music, players must start out as unknown wannabes sporting names like Spider, Tank, Manny and Drake. A bald, tattooed booking agent arranges the matches, and the more ass that's beat, the higher in the illegal ring of barbaric behavior a player gets.

Simply put, the game was ridiculous.

It was shocking to think that wealthy, successful hip-hop artists would want to put their name and face on a game like this. This is a barbaric and a harmful stereotype of rap artists.

The two other participants in this game review, engineering senior Nick Streeter and business alum Marc Thomas, were on the floor roaring with laughter more than five minutes into playing.

"Is this game for real?" Thomas asked. "I can't believe they actually went through with this idea."

Streeter was in more denial after he won his first match and, along with the cash he won to improve his character, a voluptuous blonde crossed his character's path and gave him a wink and smile.

"Yes, that's right; one of the goals of the game is to get the most women to cheer for you and get their pictures to put up in a dirty photo gallery." This is nuts," Streeter exclaimed. "These (women) look like Vegas strippers and, not to mention, have really big boobs."

The game's playability was also on the downside. There were no quick instructions for controlling fighters moves. Players had to go to a separate option to learn all the button combinations in order to kick ass harder than the other fighter. Occasionally, if a lot of trouble, a tip would appear in the bottom corner of the screen on how to save the fighter and pull away to stop the momentum of the other fighter.

After losing his third match to Scarface, Thomas said, "This guy really beat my thug down. He pulled some crazier moves than in Street Fighter II."

The moves programmed for the characters were brutal and very realistic. Blood flew across the mat and strong words were exchanged between the characters during combat.

In closing, this game was painful to play and even more painful to sit and watch. Rappers should stick to music videos and cameos in television shows and movies. Do yourself a favor and if the urge comes about to get this game, think back to the words in this review. The time it will take to see out this disaster and the $6 rental fee is not worth seeing the stupidity in this game. As Marc Thomas pretty much sums the whole experience up: 'I'd rather play 'Frogger' with a screwdriver in my kidney.'

Spittin' Game

May 15, 2003. 8:05 p.m. I cruise to the Downtown Centre Cinema after indulging in a tasty alcoholic beverage, hoping to be able to relate to the crosby mob scene atmosphere a little easier.

8:14 p.m. I arrive to see a line stretching to the stairs of the cinema and reaching all the way to the door of Fresh Choice. It's Farmers Market, so there are more people than usual downtown, with a larger-than-normal group of mischievous high school students hanging out in front of Jamba Juice. Although the line is long, it is for both the 9 p.m. and 9:30 showings.

8:30 p.m. After trying unsuccessfully to get in, I realized I would not be receiving any free hook-ups tonight. I walked back up the stairs to sit on the steps and collect my thoughts as I fought off the realm of starvation.

8:38 p.m. Where are the hardcore fans, the crazy Matrix stoners, the people who played Magic cards as they waited in line for the 38-year-old Star Wars-like fans to light sabers before going into a show. The doors open for the 9 p.m. show and the crowd calmly and patiently walks right in, with no mad rush for the door and pried middle row seats.

8:49 p.m. As I avoid the tumultuous and overwhelming non-existent rowdy crowd, I overhear someone say that they have just seen the Matrix. Travis Silva, an engineer, and Brian McFarland, a real estate appraiser, both saw the 6 p.m. show and, shockingly, they aren't Trekkies, as their business casual attire signified. I asked for their reactions to the sequel and how it measured up to the first.

"I thought it was really good," McFarland said. "The special effects were a step above the first and the fight scenes were nuts."

5:55 p.m. I talk to McFarland and Silva and ask them what they think about the lack of a big opening night crowd and if the scene was what they expected.

"People didn't know when it was really opening because they had so many shows spread out over the day," Silva said. "So I think the real geeks showed up late at night like 12:30 a.m. for some special sneak preview."

9:02 p.m. I sit upstairs in Barnes and Noble to recall the last half-hour before venturing back down to view the 45 people who are waiting for the 9:30 p.m. showing of "Matrix Reloaded."

9:04 p.m. The line and wait is gone and the quiet peaceful group of Matrix fans have already entered the show.

9:08 p.m. Since I'm bewildered and confused about Matrix's opening, I go to guidance and help from an authoritative source: a Downtown Cinema ticket taker.

"There were a few people three hours before the 9 p.m. show that were tossing a Frisbee and playing cards, but that was about it," said ticket taker Whitney Behn.

9:13 p.m. Is there anyone that can help me find the feeling and excited atmosphere of opening night? I guess things are a little hipper and cooler in San Luis Obispo and we lack obsessed fans. Oh well. Enjoy the show.
Senate right to filibuster Bush appointees

President Bush seems to have forgotten the Senate's constitutional role in the advice and consent process of judicial appointments. Although Senate Democrats have only filibustered two of President Bush's nominees, the Bush administration repeatedly criticizes the Senate for moving too slowly in confirming his judicial appointments. Even though the president would like the Senate to turn into a rubber-stamp, approving each judicial nominee he sends their way, the Senate cannot, in good conscience, shirk away from its advisory and consent role.

As stated in Article II of the U.S. Constitution, the president "shall nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls, judges of the Supreme Court, and all other officers of the United States." In exercise of our advice and consent role, the Senate, as Hamilton stated in Federalist 76, "will be an excellent check upon a spirit of favoritism in the president, and would tend greatly to prevent sectional appointments...from states, prejudiced from family connection, from personal attachment...In addition to this, it would be an efficacious source of stability in the administration."

The filibuster the Senate used about a couple of weeks ago to block the nomination of Priscilla Owen was not out of spite for the president, but out of concern for the growing number of extreme judges Bush has sent to the Senate for confirmation.

In the Texas law her. Her record on the Texas Supreme Court and now White House Counsel, Alberto Gonzales, called this "an extraordinary qualified jurist." Her record also shows she consistently rules against workers whose skin doesn't appear perpetually dirty," Gonzalez said in one case that a minor seeking an abortion could be required to prove that she was aware of the religious objections to abortion. As stated in the Texas statute requiring parental notification of a minor intending to have an abortion, the Texas statute allows for a court order in place of parental notification if the court finds that:

- The minor is mature and sufficiently well-informed to make a decision on an abortion performed without notifying either of her parents; or
- Abandonment would not be in the best interest of the minor; or
- Notification may lead to the physical, sexual, or emotional abuse of the minor.

Finally, how has Ms. Lester cheapened the advice and consent role the Senate has in one case that a minor seeking an abortion could be required to prove that she was aware of the religious objections to abortion. As stated in the Texas statute requiring parental notification of a minor intending to have an abortion, the Texas statute allows for a court order in place of parental notification if the court finds that:

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It's with regret that the state should remain neutral on the question of marriage, because "what marriage was for in the past is not right and the other is wrong." But who is to say "what is right and wrong?" Block challenges people's notion of marriage. When someone is in love for their pet and is willing to make a lifelong commitment to that pet, Block's view is that marriage should be a legal contract and "as times change, so should society," then some counterintuitive consequences follow, for the state would have no moral reason to refrain from recognizing any marital arrangement. For example, marital unions consisting of two brothers, or a father and son, would be consistent with Block's views. So would polygamous marriages. How about the person who has deep love for their pet and is willing to make a lifelong commitment to it? These absurdities reveal the bankruptcy of Block's underlying view that marriage and human nature are mere social constructions, rather than realities unyielding to the winds of societal change.

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At the University of Georgia, Block recently argued against the possibility of same-sex marriage. Block told the audience that the state should remain neutral on the question of marriage, because "what marriage was for in the past is not right and the other is wrong." But who is to say "what is right and wrong?" Block challenges people's notion of marriage. When someone is in love for their pet and is willing to make a lifelong commitment to that pet, Block's view is that marriage should be a legal contract and "as times change, so should society," then some counterintuitive consequences follow, for the state would have no moral reason to refrain from recognizing any marital arrangement. For example, marital unions consisting of two brothers, or a father and son, would be consistent with Block's views. So would polygamous marriages. How about the person who has deep love for their pet and is willing to make a lifelong commitment to it? These absurdities reveal the bankruptcy of Block's underlying view that marriage and human nature are mere social constructions, rather than realities unyielding to the winds of societal change.

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Letters to the editor

Don't like the Mustang Daily, don't read it

This is in response to Christopher Ojanda's letter "in the same column" (May 9). At first, he blames the Mustang Daily for publishing a letter to the editor he feels has "no opinion." A letter to the editor needs an opinion, it's simply a forum for others who aren't columnists to say something to the rest of the read-

ers. Mustang Daily prints letters other students write in. You shouldn't blame them for publishing what is submitted - that is the basis for the letter to the editor section. After all, they published your letter. Second, you say that what the Mustang Daily is already bad. If he really feels that is why he is even reading it? The editors at Mustang Daily work incredibly hard to put out a paper daily. Very few other schools publish daily. It's with regret that the state should remain neutral on the question of marriage, because "what marriage was for in the past is not right and the other is wrong." But who is to say "what is right and wrong?" Block challenges people's notion of marriage. When someone is in love for their pet and is willing to make a lifelong commitment to that pet, Block's view is that marriage should be a legal contract and "as times change, so should society," then some counterintuitive consequences follow, for the state would have no moral reason to refrain from recognizing any marital arrangement. For example, marital unions consisting of two brothers, or a father and son, would be consistent with Block's views. So would polygamous marriages. How about the person who has deep love for their pet and is willing to make a lifelong commitment to it? These absurdities reveal the bankruptcy of Block's underlying view that marriage and human nature are mere social constructions, rather than realities unyielding to the winds of societal change.
MEETINGS continued from page 1

relationships.
"Some of the groups came up with great ideas," Ayers said. "We talked about having barbecues in the fall to allow students and residents to get to know one another."

Anderson said another idea brought up was to hand out a door hanger reminding people to meet their neighbors at the beginning of the school year.

"I think this would just give the residents a chance to get to know the students moving in," Anderson said. "Once you establish a relationship, it makes it easier to call or stop by and let your neighbor know you're going to have a few people over."

Ayers agreed.

"We were looking for ways to establish a good relationship right away," Ayers said. "The reminder notices would help to get that initial relationship started, and I think that would really help a lot."

Ayers said most community members would like to see students leaving the dorms knowing how to be a good neighbor.

"One of their main concerns is education," Ayers said. "When students leave the dorms, most of them have never lived without supervision and do not know how important it is to keep your neighbors happy. Community residents would like to see students educated on living in a residential area on your own."

Ayers said the meeting was a good way of creating new solutions with our having heated arguments.

"I think it was a really good setting," Ayers said. "We wanted a setting where we could actually get things done, and I think that we succeeded."

"Once you establish a relationship, it makes it easier to call or stop by and let your neighbor know you're going to have a few people over."

Alison Anderson
ASI community relations director

Former Neo-Nazi speaks at Poly

Former Neo-Nazi Tom "TJ" Leyden spoke Monday night in Chumash Auditorium. Leyden said he became a white supremacist at 15 years old. When Leyden's child was born he said he hung the confederate flag over his child's bed. Leyden now speaks on tolerance and respect.

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The Mustangs pulled out a 14-inning, 6-5 win over UC Santa Barbara Friday night, then dropped an extra-inning affair Saturday before losing the rubber match on Sunday afternoon in Santa Barbara.

UCSB took advantage of a three-hit bottom of the ninth to pull ahead 9-5 with two outs and a walk. The Mustangs then tied the game in the top of the 10th on an error. UCSB's Nate Sutton doubled with one out in the ninth to chase Gauchos closer to the Mustangs. It was the team's sixth consecutive game with a score of 14-10 and a double play to escape the threat pitched eight innings. The Mustangs scored a run in the bottom of the ninth to chase UCSB. A Mountain Southpaw Garrett Olson, who ended the second straight extra-inning games, this season, had a tour- 4-4 in extra- inning games this season, had a tour-

UCLA lost a brilliant pitching performance by Mustang freshman southpaw Garrett Olson, who struck out a career-high 11 in eight-plus innings, only to get no decision.

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