Federal bill to pay for special cheese

By Frederic J. Frommer
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Wisconsin Sen. Herb Kohl has inserted $2 million into an appropriations bill to help specialty cheese makers, but a taxpayer group says the funding makes little sense.

The provision, included in the giant omnibus spending bill awaiting final congressional passage, would establish a center to help dairy farmers market specialty and niche cheeses such as Gruyere and Camembert.

Wisconsin officials say the Dairy Business Center, to be housed at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, would provide a boon for struggling dairy farmers looking for new income sources. Wisconsin is the nation’s leading producer of cheese.

“I’ve been working in ag development for 25 years, and this is the most major development to preserve the dairy farm structure in Wisconsin and the Upper Midwest,” said Will Hughes, administrator of the state Agriculture Department’s division of agriculture development.

“If they want to call that waste, that’s their business.”

Citizens Against Government Waste is calling it waste.

“Everybody likes new cheese but not at our expense,” said Tom Schott, the Washington advocacy group’s president. He said the spending provision will be included in Citizens Against Government Waste’s annual “pig book” of wasteful pork-barrel spending.

Schott said he doesn’t oppose all government assistance to business. “If there was a niche cheese program, and Wisconsin and other states were asking for the money under a set of approved criteria, that would be different,” he said. “We think this is another example of what’s wrong with the omnibus appropriations bill and overspending in Washington.”

see CHEESE, page 2

Democrats criticize governor’s budget

By Tom Chorneau
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO Senate President Pro Tem John Burton promised Monday to fight the governor’s new budget plan, arguing it provides a big tax break to car owners paid for by service cuts to the poor and disabled.

“The San Francisco Democrat, who holds status as perhaps the Capitol’s most influential lawmaker given his tenure and his party’s majority held on the Legislature, drew a bright line between himself and Republican Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger on what might be considered the first day of budget negotiations.

“We are for protecting the poor people from onslaughts of this nature — when there are other ways to get dough,” said Burton, D-San Francisco. “It is a very untruthful society that when they are looking for money go out and look for the poorest and most vulnerable.”

Burton criticized Schwarzenegger’s spending plan because it relies too much on borrowing and one-time solutions and fails to address the state’s core spending imbalance because new taxes are being proposed.

Schwarzenegger’s $99.1 billion budget plan, released Friday, calls for more than $4 billion in cuts to virtually all levels of the state bureaucracy — although the largest share, about $1.7 billion, would come from public health and welfare programs.

The governor would also take another $1.3 billion from cities and counties — cuts that are also likely to hit social service programs hardest.

Burton noted that Schwarzenegger himself helped create the state’s $14 billion shortfall when he rolled back car taxes in November — a move that car revenues by $4 billion a year.

“We have here is the poorest people in our society — the elderly, the blind and the disabled — being asked to pay for basically the car tax cut,” Burton said.

H.D. Palmer, spokesman for the governor’s department of finance, said Democrats don’t like Schwarzenegger’s budget because it imposes discipline on spending.

“It’s very understandable that some members of the Legislature may have a hard time coming to grips with this budget,” Palmer said. “The bill has finally come due as the years of overspending.”

The budget, which must be approved by a two-thirds majority of the Legislature, also calls for nearly $2 billion in borrowing and one-time solutions next year — solutions Schwarzenegger has previously criticized for causing the state’s fiscal crisis.

Included in the borrowing is $3 billion that would come out of the $15 billion bond issue that will go before voters in March. There is an additional $2 billion in deferred payments to schools.

Another $1 billion is shifted to the general fund from sales tax money set aside by voters in 2002 in

see BUDGET, page 2
Cuesta president among lowest paid

SALT LACUS OBISPUS (AP) — Cuesta College President Marie Rosenwasser's will get a $40,000 pay raise by the end of her contract in 2009, but she'll still be among the lowest paid community college executives.

The contract calls for the salary schedules of all other college employees be approved before the president gets her raise. It means her current salary of $175,839 will remain the same until it's determined whether the college district can afford the salary schedule.

The schedule calls for a 6.6-percent raise next year to $146,902, and 5 percent raises each of the following four years to bring her final salary to $175,963.

Trustees approved Rosenwasser's salary schedule last week in a 3-2 vote.

Angela Mitchell, president of the 25 community colleges in California, known that day as "The Earthquake College" has been reconstructed big and better. Thousands of residu­ums in Los Angeles' San Fernando Valley, home to 1.3 million people, also have been rebuilt, lending a like-new quality to some neighborhoods that originally went up in the Los Angeles building boom of the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s. But few if any people who lived through the magnitude-6.7 Northridge earthquake have forgotten those terrifying seconds that damaged an estimated 114,000 buildings, injured some 9,000 people and caused $25 billion in damage, making the event the most costly natural disaster in U.S. history.

"It's still very vivid in my mind. Every time I notice the time is 4:31," says Erik Pearson, recalling the early morning hour the ground beneath his third-floor apartment in Los Angeles' Northridge section began to shake. Pearson was awakened by a bed that moved and a mirror that shattered. He ran into a hallway and stopped to hear a sound, a sound he could not explain. Then, the room was tossed into the air, the ceiling came down on the window seat and Pearson's roommate said, "Oh, shit." Pearson sprinted through the building and ran out the front door.

"I was very lucky to be able to get out there, but I saw a lot of people. There was a woman that had a baby in her arms. She ran across the street to get out of the building. I was really lucky to get out there."

The average in 2002-03 was $156,183 and has been going up about 5 percent a year.

we want our dairy industry to survive, we need to ensure that those prod­ucts evolve with market demands." The funding request was made by Daniel Carter, a retired Wisconsin specialty cheese company owner who sees specialty cheese products as the salvation of dairy farmers. He said the goal is to create 50 dairy farms in the Upper Midwest. Milk prices hit a 25-year low last year.

"This may be one of the best investments the government ever makes, to help maintain the dairy farms," said Carter. "Our dairy farmers around the United States need this for survival."

Wall Street's biggest rating agencies downgraded $2.3 billion in bonds backed by California's share of a multi-billon dollar settlement with cigarette manufacturers to near junk bond status.

The move by Fitch Ratings follows a similar downgrade the agency imposed on California's overall credit rating last month. State officials said the move was not unexpected and will have little impact on taxpayers because all of those bonds have been sold.

By John Rogers

LOS ANGELES — Ten years later, it's hard to imagine that so many parts of Southern California lay in ruins on Jan. 17, 1994, thou­sands of its buildings smashed, mil­lions of its people shaken both emo­tionally and physically, 72 of them killed.

The state university that became known that day as "The Earthquake School" has been reconstructed big­ger and better. Thousands of residu­ums in Los Angeles' San Fernando Valley, home to 1.3 mil­lion people, also have been rebuilt, lending a like-new quality to some neighborhoods that originally went up in the Los Angeles building boom of the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s. But few if any people who lived through the magnitude-6.7 Northridge earthquake have forgotten those terrifying seconds that damaged an estimated 114,000 buildings, injured some 9,000 people and caused $25 billion in damage, making the event the most costly natural disaster in U.S. history.

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MISSING PERSON

Vern Erno
Description: 82 years old, 5'-07, 135 gray hair.
Last seen wearing a green fleece jacket, olive green pants, tan shoes.

Last seen Sunday afternoon
12/28/03 at
Luguna Village Shopping Center
Please Notify SLO Police
781-7317

$5,000 Reward
for information leading to him being found
Attention all "Dead Poet's Society" and "The Emperor's Club" fans: Step right up for this year's installment of a film about an out-of-the-box thinking teacher who revolutionizes the lives of his or her students, "Mona Lisa Smile." Although the star-studded lineup changes each year, the underlying theme in this year's version is concurrent with its predecessors.

Set in 1953, Julia Roberts, as Katherine Watson, plays a liberal art history professor who transfers from California to New England's Wellesley College, one of the most conservative women's colleges in the nation. With her avant-garde attitude, Watson begins to preach women's liberation to her students, who are prime examples of the pervasive stereotypes of the 1950s.

Julia Stiles, as Joan Brandwyn, and Kirsten Dunst, as Betty Warren, add to the quality of performance in their roles as best friends and students influenced by Watson's advice.

Throughout the film, the students are torn between the culture they live in and the counsel of the fresh addition to the faculty. Some of the alumni and "higher-ups" don't agree with Watson's lifestyle and unorthodox methods in the classroom.

Watson's progressive tendencies clash with the goals of the Wellesley administration to craft women into good prospective wives for Ivy League men.

While this movie's basic plot is the same as "Dead Poet's Society" there are some differences that should be noted. Although the costume design for the leading lady, Julia Roberts, seemed like a bit of a mix-up, dropped her into this film. This may have been a tool on the director's part to differentiate her physically from her female counterparts, but it's safe to say it left something to be desired. As far as other characters' costumes, the authenticity of their attire added to the movie's credibility.

Aside from costume design, cast brought an added spice to the picture. Some characters are lovable, some intolerable.

Much of the script creates similar sentiments. Historical accuracy aside, as an educated woman, it's hard to sit through this film and keep one's mouth shut. As portrayed in the film, some of the smartest women in the nation weren't encouraged to explore careers. Their paths were set, regardless of how capable they were to succeed, independent of a husband and household.

This film sets itself apart from the stereotypical "chick flick," even if it does highlight the lives of women. "Mona Lisa Smile" offers a different perspective on the lives of women and the changes that have been made in this country in a mere 50 years.

For everyone who has history classes left in their general education lineup, watching this film is an entertaining way to get into the minds of women and men who lived through that era.
By Tarrah Graves
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

If you recently broke off a date with that hottie from your soil science class to watch "Blue Crush" for the eighth night in a row, chances are you will like any surf movie. "Billabong Odyssey," which documents the evolution of big-wave surfing, follows top big-wave surfers as they search oceans all over the world for waves that usually exist in their dreams. The specially-selected group of surfers - including legends Brad Gerlach and Mike Parsons, the Santa Cruz boys, Shawn "Burney" Burton, Ken "Skindog" Collins, Daryl "Flea" Virostko and Josh Loy - have to be prepared to fly across the world with only a few hours notice whenever they get word of a promising swell.

After being selected for Billabong's Odyssey project, the team attended a training camp to learn about Jet Ski rescue from Brian Keaulana, who began using Jet Skis as a life-saving device. The enormous waves are impossible to paddle in to, so a Jet Ski tows the surfers in. The surfers also collaborated with the U.S. Coast Guard to learn additional ocean safety tips. The film follows the big-wave crew to the largest breaks, from Cortes Bank, a break 105 miles off the Pacific coast, to Tahapoa, Tahiti, a shallow reef break. The name translates to "broken skulls."

Big-wave surfing is said by many to have evolved more in the last two years than in its entire history and is gaining national and world recognition. It has been featured everywhere from Vanity Fair to the front page of the Los Angeles Times. Surfers are drawing influence from other sports like kitesurfing and windsurfing to further advance big-wave surfing.

Throughout the film, Bill Sharp, the project director and narrator of "Billabong Odyssey," informs the viewers about the surfers, information on the specific break and the history of various surfers' social interactions. At times the narration is more distracting than informative. When the narrator finally stops talking at the end of the film, it is a welcomed silence. For some reason, many surfers in "Odyssey" (who are capable of speaking perfectly normal in real life, I'm sure) felt the need to mimic the stereotypical idea of surfers, falling just short of spouting out distant, and the colors were not nearly as explained new technology that can track and record swell, height, direction and the period of waves all over the world. Highlights were painful wipeout segments and awesome clips of Barney showcasing his amazing aerial surfing talent. Arguably, the best part of the movie was the closing scene, set in Paia, Maui, the location of the famous reef break Jaws and the Tow-In World Cup. Parsons and Brazilian big-wave surfer Carlos Burle battle for first place. After a few enormous waves and even bigger wipeouts, the film ends with a perfect 10 ride.

While I would not rate the film a perfect 10, it may be worth going to see for some glimpses of the beautiful locations. For surfing enthusiasts, "Odyssey" is worth seeing. It will definitely make you want to travel the world in search of new waves.

 Mediocre film

Much of the footage from the action scenes in "Odyssey" left the audience feeling distant, and the colors were not nearly as vibrant as those found in other surf movies. Overall, aside from the opening and closing scenes, the footage was not very impressive. Yet the film was very informative. It explained new technology that can track and record swell, height, direction and the period of waves all over the world. Highlights were painful wipeout segments and awe-some clips of Barney showcasing his amazing aerial surfing talent.

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Monterey Bay Aquarium
Saturday, January 31

This ASI Events sponsored trip includes:
- Monterey Bay Aquarium entry
- Transportation by luxury coach
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- Nearby sites including Cannery Row, outlet shopping, galleries and the beach

ONLY $20/Cal Poly student, $30/non-student

Sign up in the University Union Epicenter by Friday, Jan. 16
Space is limited

For more information contact ASI Events at 735-1112 or asi.calpoly.edu/events
Opinion

Out of state, out of luck

Imagine if students attending Cal Poly from out of state railed together to use the university because of the higher fees incurred. That's exactly what some undergraduates are doing at University of Colorado at Boulder in an attempt to have Denver's U.S. District Court find Colorado's out-of-state tuition policy unconstitutional. It is a logical solution to a very expensive problem.

Reflect on the amount of money spent on housing, utilities, living expenses and tuition. Two years at a state university could buy a new car, a vacation or a few closets full of expensive clothes. Do not to forget the inevitable yearly tuition increase that sucks money from college students' wallets faster than students take money from their parents.

For residents of the state, the cost of tuition is much cheaper than for nonresidents. At Cal Poly, out-of-state residents pay an additional $188 per quarter unit.

The simplest way to alleviate the current financial burden would be to become a resident of the state where the student attends college. Unfortunately, this is easier said than done.

To establish residency, not only does a student need to live in state for a minimum of one year, they must also demonstrate the intent to make the state their permanent home. There are various ways to show intent, such as registering to vote, registering cars, maintaining a driver's license, paying state income taxes and owning or continually leasing a place of residence where permanent belongings are kept.

In addition to these stipulations, non-resident students in Colorado must also demonstrate financial independence, either by being 21 or older, or by emancipating themselves financially. There are various ways to show intent, such as registering to vote, registering cars, maintaining a driver's license, paying state income taxes and owning or continually leasing a place of residence where permanent belongings are kept.

The Board of Regents in each state designates what constitutes a resident and the universities follow the regulations accordingly. California, Indiana, Michigan, Arizona, Nevada and Oregon have criteria much the same as Colorado. Apparently, for all but is not upheld at universities.

Financial equality for all who previously lived in the state is more like it. College students should be allowed easier ways to pay for their education so they may obtain knowledge and skills. If our so-called leaders cannot afford their college education, where will that leave us?

No one should be penalized for having come from a different state to obtain perhaps a better education than they would have received in their home state. The distinction between residents and nonresidents does not need to be made.

Out-of-state students pay tuition, housing, utilities and living expenses just the same as everyone else. Why should they be charged higher prices for the same end result?

Letter to the editor

Library elevator permits are expired

Editor,

As we happened about the library the other day whilst poking through the reads, the elevators contained a most curious mark. The inspection permits were out of date in a most astounding manner, making us question the regard and respect the school has for its pupils' safety.

Placing yet another permit would instill a feeling of confidence and subjugation among students, knowing that our chances of plummeting to a horrific death would be at an all-time low. We do not wish, nor want anybody to be worred about the simple act of traversing an un-inspected elevator system. Do you have any idea what Ehiba Ott said to be deserve to witness this atrocity today? We suspect he would rise from the grave and assault us with his legions of undead elevator inspectors and veritable library of black elevator maps, causing both staff and student body to flee in terror; that's what he would do.

We are students; we put up with the extortionate monopoly of the Foundation, rising tuition costs and running from savage, feral deer during moonlight hikes to Poly Canyon. On top of that, our ELEVATORS can't be inspected once in a while. To those raisable: You are CADS!

Derek Johnson is a mechanical engineering sophomore and Rishon Seiden is an aerospace engineering sophomore.

Letter policy

Letters become the property of the Mustang Daily. Mustang Daily reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, profanities and length. Letters, comments or questions do not represent the views of the Mustang Daily. Please limit length to 250 words.

Letters should include the writer's full name, phone number, major and class standing.

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Letters to the Editor
Building 26, Room 226
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By fax:
(805) 756-6784

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.

Cartoonists should bring a proposal and art sample to Laura in 26-226. Columnists can send a proposal and 500-word sample to mustangdaily@hotmail.com. Please include your name, major and phone number with all submissions.

Media holds a racist double standard

To illustrate the hypocrisy of contemporary American media, I'd like to begin this column with a reference to Martin Luther King Jr. You know, the one who runs the Church's Chicken in South Central Los Angeles.

OK, who haven't seen some people are currently writing letters to the editor demanding that he be fired, and calling President Baker demanding that I face the discipline board (I Paul). These people are hypocrites and hold Republicans to a different standard than what the American media does. How do I know this? Glad you asked.

A week ago Hillary Rodham Clinton made virtually the same stand as a fundraiser, but instead of saying: "King worked at a Church's Chicken in South Central," she said, "Gandhi ran a gas station in St. Louis." The press covered it for two days and no liberal organization that would have crucified a conservative for saying anything similar denounced Hillary. She was so wrong, that the comment was a joke that obviously wasn't funny. That's it.

Are you kidding me? Everyone reading this column right now knows that if a Republican said literally the same thing, the American press would have eaten them faster than a group of starving plane crash survivors in the Andes.

There is a glaring double standard in the media, but I am sure that most "fried-in-the-wd)0" liberals are as ignorant to the institutionalized bias in the media as Parts Hilton is ignorant of a camera.'s "Off" light. They both know its existence, but it doesn't change the way that they decide anytime to deny it. Therefore, I will unfail some facts that have been ignored before, certifying this double standard thoroughly.

In the case of the CU students, each is registered to vote, according to the candidate pool by the Kgb Khia Klin in the 1980s. Conversely, Sen. Robert Byrd was a Klin member himself in the 1980s. This time, however, the media is more apathetic and lethargic than the entire University of California at Santa Cruz on April 20. Why? If Democrats say or do something racist, no one cares. If Republicans do anything remotely controversial, it makes national headlines.

George W. Bush appointed more women and minorities to his cabinet than any president in his history, while Howard Dean never appointed a minority cabinet member during his governorship in Vermont. However, the former is touted as a bumbling hick who only did it for public relations purposes, while the latter imbues the quintessential embodiment of liberal-forward thinking ideals. The double standards and contempt the American media has for conservatives rivals the double standard and contempt fundamentalist Muslims in Oman have for women. If someone says, "There might be bit of bias media has in America," you can imagine how it might have been a little bright in Nagasaki on Aug. 9, 1945."

John Holbus is political science senior and Mustang Daily columnist.

Mustang Daily is looking for a few good cartoonists and columnists.

Cartoonists should bring a proposal and art sample to Laura in 26-226. Columnists can send a proposal and 500-word sample to mustangdaily@hotmail.com. Please include your name, major and phone number with all submissions.
One team's streak of futility had to come to an end. Cal Poly, perfect at home, had yet to win away from Mott Gym. The Utah State Aggies were looking for their first win of any kind since reinstating their women's basketball program.

The Aggies could not have written a better ending to their first victory. Christina Zdenek scored 31 points and hit a three-pointer with 0.4 seconds remaining to lift Utah State to a 76-72 victory over Cal Poly in a Big West Conference women's basketball game Saturday afternoon in the Dee Glen Smith Spectrum. The win was Utah State's first in 18 years. The Aggies (1-12, 2 Big West) brought women's basketball back after a 17-year hiatus and lost their first 10 games of the season. Cal Poly fell to 6-0 over all and 2-2 in conference.

Zdenek made seven of 18 floor shots, including four of eight from three-point range, and 13 of 14 free throws on route to game-high scoring honors. Ashley Anderson and Ali Aird each added 12 points for Utah State. Cal Poly, which let an early six-point lead slip away, was led offensively by freshman point guard Sparkle Anderson with a season-high 19. The Mustangs made seven of 11 floor shots, including four of five from three-point range, and three of four free throws. She also had two assists and three steals before fouling out with 1:05 to go.

Junior forward Heidi Wittstrom added 10 points for the Mustangs, who shot a season-high 44 percent from the floor while holding Utah State to 37.5 percent efficiency. Utah State had a slight 54-53 edge in rebounds.

The game was marred by 52 turnovers — 26 by each team — and 52 personal fouls — 27 by the Mustangs. The two teams combined to attempt 63 free throws.

The game was close throughout as there were 12 ties. Cal Poly led 10-4 four minutes into the contest and Utah State's biggest lead was 49-41 with 1:58 to go. The Mustangs battled back, leading by one point on three occasions in the closing minutes. Zdenek hit two free throws with 12.2 seconds left to give Utah State a 72-70 lead. Sophomore guard Jennifer Dooley answered with a three-pointer with seven seconds remaining to tie the game at 73 and set up Zdenek's game-winning shot, a running 25-foot jumper.

Cal Poly, 6-0 at home but still winless on the road at 0-7, plays its third straight Big West game on the road next Saturday, visiting No. 26 UC Santa Barbara for a 7 p.m. contest.

**SLO CORE**

**SLO start for team**

By Hillary Schulter-Jones  
ASSOCIATING DAILY STAFF WRITER

The guard stands ready, arms outstretched, waiting for his chance to block. His opponent looks to his other teammates and turns to face the ball. The guard stops the play with a single swipe, and the crowd roars.

This was not a highlight from Cal Poly's basketball matchups in Mott Gym but instead a scene from a recent Cal Poly men's SLO Core ultimate disc game. Ultimate is a unique blend of football, soccer and basketball-derived rules with a no-contact enthusiasm of more than 75 spectators who watch the team lose a hard-fought battle to archival UC Santa Barbara Black Tide at the Cal Poly Sports Complex Friday night.

Many of the fans could be heard shouting motivational phrases such as "The Tide is going out!" and "Tide sucks, use Clorox!" during the 17-9 loss. SLO Core started out slow, but Matt Wexler, co-captain and architectural engineering senior, said, "We weren't exactly ready for the competition. We had no chance to block."

The guard is one of the players in this weekend's Colt's-Chiefs game? Will they be able to overcome their offensive difficulties after evaluating the game, one of the first of their season. "SLO Core are better than last year. We're ready for the competition. We lost 17-9 last weekend, but we're better," said assistant Justin Hansen.

That fact was evident in the enthusiasm of more than 75 spectators who watched the team lose a hard-fought battle to archival UC Santa Barbara Black Tide at the Cal Poly Sports Complex Friday night.

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