ASI leaders prepare for cuts

By Ashley Wolf
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Last year’s budget cuts sucked reserves dry. This year, budget cuts will turn Cal Poly’s coastal oasis into a desert.

During the 2002-03 fiscal year, Cal Poly’s budget was cut 10.6 percent, but colleges, services and other groups used money in reserves to help counteract the effects of the budget crunch. This year, Cal Poly is expecting another 8 to 10 percent cut from the Chancellor’s office, and Associated Students Inc. is anticipating the damages.

“This is going to be big,” ASI president and civil engineering senior Alison Anderson said. “There are going to be people affected this time.”

The university is brainstorming ideas on how to cut costs in departments and services on campus. Ideas include eliminating summer school beginning this year, cutting departments and majors, increasing class sizes and offering fewer classes overall.

Ag conference held today

By Amy Kocot
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

This year will mark the 15th anniversary for the National Agriculture Ambassadors and the ninth annual National Agriculture Ambassadors conference.

The team-building event is meant to unite college. Last year 500 students participated from 45 colleges and universities and helped conduct workshops.

Events Calendar

List of upcoming activities on campus

What: Open House 2004. All clubs must attend a mandatory informational meeting.

When: Today, 7:30 a.m.

Where: Bldg. 3, Room 213

More Info: Contact the Open House committee at open-house-club@calpoly.edu or call 756-7471

What: RACE — The Power of an Illusion, Episode 1: The Difference Between Us. The film will be shown as part of We’re In This Together Week.

When: Today, 7 p.m.

Where: UIU Room 216

More Info: Call Charlene Rosales at 756-6749

What: Statistics Colloquium. Statistical Consulting is an ill-conditioned problem. Charles McCulloch, head of the division of biostatistics and director of the department of epidemiology and biostatistics at University of California San Francisco.

When: Today, 11 a.m.

Where: Bldg 10, Room 220

More Info: Call Carol Erickson at 756-7209

What: Benefit Art Show. Artwork by architecture students will be on display, celebrating student creativity outside of the expected realm of architectural design.

Students address assault

By Anastasia Kilham
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

The largest group yet gathered Wednesday for a “Soup and Substance” luncheon focusing on issues pertaining to sexual assault and rape.

“What sexual assault is not just a woman’s issue if 90 percent of perpetrators are men it should be a societal issue,” Jill Lemieux, SARP Center representative.

The high turnout for this event shows that this is an issue which needs to be discussed, said Mark Fabionar, coordinator of multi-cultural programs, who helps organize the luncheons.

The gathering was held in the east wing of Chumash Auditorium and was led by Jill Lemieux from the Sexual Assault Recovery and Prevention Center.

The SARP center offers confidential services to survivors of sexual assault and their significant others. It is the only rape crisis center in San Luis Obispo. The center provides women and men information after an incidence of sexual assault.

“We give survivors all the information and let them make the choices,” Lemieux said.

The group began by watching a documentary video entitled, “Rape Is…” which reflected on a variety of issues including media images that normalize rape and incest as a stepping stone toward prostitution, lenient penalties for rapists, cultural dislike for one’s body and rape as an eroticism.

University Police Department Sgt. Lori Hashim, who serves on the SARP Center’s board of directors, said these kinds of discussion groups are “absolutely necessary in today’s society.

There are a lot of existing myths about rape that detract from the accountability that is open, she said.

see SOUP, page 2

Film event benefits SARP

By Anastasia Kilham
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

The Palm Theatre is offering its premier showing of the movie “Girl with a Pearl Earring” to benefit San Luis Obispo County’s Sexual Assault Recovery and Prevention Center.

There are only a handful of tickets left for the event, which is taking place Friday. Due to strong community support centered around the cause, the event did not require a large amount of promotional activity, theatre manager Jack Conroy said.

“The SARP people have a very wide backing,” he said.

The first showing, at 6:30 p.m., has already sold out. The $25 tickets see SARP, page 2

see SARP, page 2

The call of the alarm

By Thomas Atkins
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

After more than 100 years of annoying alarm clocks’ shrieks piercing the morning air, clock manufacturers are trying to make mornings more peaceful by giving the operator the option of waking up to more tranquil sounds.

However, this is an option that many college students say they will probably never put to use. After years of waking up to the radio or the good old fashioned sound of BEEP, BEEP, BEEP, many say they are set in their morning routine.

Yet, after exploring several aisles full of varieties of alarm clocks, students may want to start their morning schedule off with something new. I investigated four appliance stores within San Luis Obispo’s Madonna Plaza to compare prices, brands, styles and noises of alarm clocks.

Radio Shack, Sears, Staples and Best Buy each had similar alarm clock sections, and all offered about a dozen different styles ranging in price from $9.99 to $159.99.

The alarm clocks varied from compact, pocket-sized travel clocks, to big, boom-box-sized clocks with separate speakers and remote controls. The clocks also came in a variety of colors and shapes. In fact, the only thing that they had in common was their basic function. To wake a person up.

Even then, each clock offered numerous ways and sounds to do the job: Some alarm offered “Gradual Wake,” which allows the volume to increase until it is turned off, and others allowed an alternation between different sounds. Most of the sounds available include the radio, a CD, a buzzer, a beep, a ring, a bubbling brook, birds of paradise or ocean waves.

While waking up to ocean waves may sound refreshing, for some students it doesn’t serve its purpose.

“My alarm clock wakes me up with a very loud beeping,” economics junior Jeff Little said. “I would prefer something more peaceful, but I need something with a bang to get me going in the morning.”

Recreation administration junior Nate Moser also finds louder noises more effective.

“My alarm has a fast bell noise which sounds like an old-school oven,” he said. “It does the job.”

For those who aren’t as eager to get out of bed, most alarm clocks offer a “chime your mind but­ ton,” more commonly known as the snooze button. In fact, most college students would say that see ALARM, page 2
**News**

**SARP continued from page 1**

...its sold quickly once they become available to the public. The only delay for benefit sales was waiting for individual printers so that they could be sold, Connor said.

The award-winning movie was based on a novel by Tracy Chevalier and was first released at the Telluride Film Festival. The film has already won a variety of awards and has been nominated for various others, including recognition for the Golden Globe awards for best actress in a drama and best supporting role.

The story revolves around the relationship between Dutch master painter Johannes Vermeer, played by Colin Firth, and his maid, Griet, played by Scarlett Johansson.

"This is a nice film for the SARP center fund-raiser because it is based on a best-selling novel and has already become huge accolades," said David Theatre manager, Katherine McDonald. "The entire show is designed to moter a 'Vermeer painting.'"

Benefits like this one enable the SARP Center to expand on their existing services. McDonald said.

**AG continued from page 1**

"We're seeing different ideas from different ambassadors in other states," Henderson said. "The conference is a time of sharing ideas and building off of what other states have done."

Most of the events, including workshops and seminars, will be held in the Campanile Auditorium and in the Performing Arts Center.

The two keynote speakers at this year's conference are Matt Lobo, vice president of New Direction Communications, and Jim Penrico, president of Dale Carnegie Training of Central California.

Both speakers will lead workshops on the morning of the conference.

The goal of the conference is to install passion for higher education, Henderson said.

One workshop, led by Penrico, is called "Making an Impact," which focuses on raising money and building strong in one's beliefs.

"Meeting other ambassadors who share the same passion for agriculture and higher education is my favorite part of the conference," said Stephanie Ichterwasser, Cal Poly Agriculture Ambassador in-service coordinator, and in a press release.

"After this conference, I know that, no matter what other events I go to across the nation, I will see familiar faces," Ichterwasser said.

The participants of this year's conference hope to accomplish the general goals set by the Agricultural Ambassadors of Cal Poly, Henderson said.

These goals are to encourage high school and junior college students to become a higher education advocate in their pursuit of agriculture as a career and lifestyle, and to tell the story of Cal Poly's College of Agriculture.

**ASJ continued from page 1**

ASJ currently has students sitting on task force committees with the administrators and faculty to have a student voice in these issues.

These committees include the registration and scheduling committee, which is considering putting more course options online, and the current registration policy due to the expected budget cuts.

The administration is thinking about closing the entrance and staffing offices on the first floor of registration from 16 to 14, said Alice Elvii, president of the ASJ executive board and junior member of the registration and scheduling committee.

When everyone has had a chance to register, it will be opened up to students to register for additional classes.

**ALARMS continued from page 1**

...the snooze button is just as important to them as the alarm itself.

With many manufacturers designed most alarm clocks with very large, easy to find snooze buttons. Some clocks allowed the option to program the snooze button, but most were programmed to give 15 more minutes of silence per push. However, I noticed that the more expensive the alarm clock, the smaller and more numerous the buttons became, making the snooze button more elusive.

Students say they have the same problem when they use their cell phones for alarm clocks.

"With all the stupid little buttons, it can be hard pushing the right one," said kinesiology junior Grace Schram. "But the great thing about using a cell phone is that it is big enough to throw across the room when the noise gets too annoying.

"I think I wake up in a better mood," she said.

Most alarm clocks offered the option of alarm radios, but the best deal was a CPM AM/FM radio alarm clock for $39.99 at Sears, located at 273 Madison Road. If you want to buy it at Radio Shack, located at 481 C Street, a AM/FM radio alarm clock for $34.99 was also at Best Buy.

"In fact, they would probably make me want to jump out of bed," psychology junior Aaron Nesper said.

"The real challenge is obeying the alarm clock," Nesper said. "In fact, they would probably make me want to jump out of bed."

Yet no matter what is used, whether waking up to a loud beeping or the sound of a bubbling brook, without alarm clocks, making it to 8 a.m. classes on time ... or at all, would be nearly impossible.

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**National Roundup**

PORTLAND, Ore. — Oregon agriculture officials on Wednesday ordered no cows be removed from a dairy near Boardman, after a cow was traced to the same Canadian herd as a mad cow-affected animal found on a Washington farm.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has been trying to locate all ani-

mals essentially connected with that herd from an Alberta farm.

The dairy involved is Columbia River Dairy, one of three dairy farms in the Boardman area that contracts with the Tillamook County Creamery Association, the well-known coastal cheese maker.

WASHINGTON — Federal regulators can trump more permissive state officials in some disputes over costly measures to limit air pollution, the Supreme Court said Wednesday in a ruling that departed from the court’s trend toward granting state governments more power.

Alaska’s governor wanted to allow the world’s largest zinc mine to be cheaper, less effective anti-pollution equipment, but the Natural Environmental Protection Agency said no. The Supreme Court’s 5-4 ruling upholds EPA’s veto power in such cases.

The victims for environmentalists may be more symbolic than sub-

stantial. The portion of the Clean Air Act at issue here has been uniting and center in court fights over pollution, and the court majority kept its rul-

ing narrow.

**Seattle** — Microsoft Corp. said Wednesday it will seek to have a antitrust lawsuit filed against it moved to a federal court in Washington state is a better venue since both Western Washington and the company have connections to San Jose, Calif., where an antitrust lawsuit filed against it moved to a federal court in San Jose.

An appeals court in Washington state is a better venue since both Western Washington and the company have connections to San Jose, Calif., where an antitrust lawsuit filed against it moved to a federal court in San Jose.

**World Roundup**

HAVANA — Erumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I was greeted by

President Fidel Castro as he arrived in Cuba Wednesday night, the first visit by a Christian Orthodox spiritual leader to Latin America.

Dressed in his traditional black robe and cap and carrying his pastoral staff, the patriarch of the world’s 300 million Orthodox Christians was also greeted by scores of faithful from around the region when he arrived after the long flight from Istanbul.

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Pakistan’s decision to detain and question some of its leading nuclear scientists came after it dispatched top-secret investigative teams to Iran and Libya to check allegations that Pakistan had supplied uranium to Iran or had facilitated the transfer of weapons to Libya.

The Pakistani government had asked the United States to stop supplying Pakistan with military equipment and to establish closer cooperation to counter terrorism.

The Supreme Court of Pakistan said Wednesday it would hear the case in the capital, Lahore, where three of the four detained scientists were being held.

The case was originally filed in a federal court in Washington state is a better venue since both Western Washington and the company have connections to San Jose, Calif., where an antitrust lawsuit filed against it moved to a federal court in San Jose.

**Wilderness First Aid**

SIDEWALKS EXIST for a reason: It’s important to use them properly for the sake of your safety and for others.

**SAFETY IN SIDEWALKS**

- Only cross the street on a green light.
- Sidewalks are not for bicycles. Stand clear of bicycles that you do encounter on a sidewalk.
- Jaywalking is extremely dangerous as drivers often don’t see pedestrians. Use crosswalks whenever possible.
- Give safety a green light.
Letters to the editor

Looking at the possible benefits of war

Editor,

I am deeply concerned by the negative coverage of the war on terror in the media. The Democratic candidates for president are all claiming they were against the liberation of Iraq, which concerns me, considering the reader support for the war that was brought on by hostilities. We must not ignore the silver lining to this gray cloud, for when we look past the death and destruction, we see the positive points of war.

If not for the conflict, my portfolio would be down, since I invested money from Bush's tax cuts instead of spending it on gas masks and signs for Anti-Bush protests. Secondly, the war has brought us new programs on The History Channel, like "Secret Weapons of War - Saddam's Anthrax" and "Showdown in Iraq." Also, after we finish rebuilding Iraq, we'll all have cheaper gasoline!

This is great considering that SUNY gets the same gas mileage as a tank. Also, Americans that contributed funds to President Bush and this administration will enjoy the spoils, meaning ordinary folks will get jobs and business contracts which will stimulate the economy. Finally, we captured Saddam Hussein and President Bush will get a medal or a postage stamp in their honor. They've been killing people without the war on terror! We shouldn't be so quick to go against war when it has such obvious benefits.

Dan K. O'Leary is a political science junior.

A resolution to defend the Constitution

Editor,

The SLO-ROPDLC would like to thank everyone who supported the Bill of Rights in 2003 by attending meetings and sending in signed petition sheets asking the San Luis Obispo Board of Supervisors to pass the Apple Pie Resolution to Defend the Bill of Rights in SLO County. It's time to get this resolution passed.

The number of Civil Liberties Safe Zones, or communities that have passed resolutions similar to Apple Pie, has grown from 23 in 2002 to 165 cities, towns and counties and three states by the end of 2003. These resolutions cover more than 30 million residents — more than 40 percent of the United States population.

Remember "Give me liberty or give me death!" Remember "Don't read on me!" Remember the American Revolution and the resulting blueprint for our country, the Constitution and Bill of Rights! Standing up for what the first Americans fought for isn't a political issue, but is asking whether that nation, or any nation, so conceived and so dedicated can long endure.

The U.S. Patriot Act was not the first step in destroying, as efficiently as the Nazis, what made America great. Congress continues to pass legislation that clearly violates the Constitution. Your freedom is going out the window.

Please do what you can right here in SLO County, by calling or writing a letter to your supervisors asking them to place the Apple Pie Resolution on the county agenda and support it when it comes to a vote.

Teresa Campbell and Mike Zelina are San Luis Obispo community members.

State of the Union lacked accountability

Editor,

President Bush's second State of the Union address was delivered Jan. 22. In this speech Bush predicted the March 2003 invasion of Iraq, and Bush took it as an opportunity to make his case to America and the world for taking action against Saddam Hussein. He gave very specific information in his speech: He stated that Iraq had "25,000 liters of anthrax" and "materials sufficient to produce more than 38,000 liters of botulinum toxin" that could not be accounted for — thus serving as a justification to invade and overthrow Iraq's government.

To hear him describe the threat of Iraqi weapons of mass destruction, one would indeed demand action immediately. And many Americans did, except for a few skeptical about the threat, like former U.S. weapons inspector David Kay. Bush announced that nearly eight months after the end of the war all that can be uncovered of those horrific weapons he described in detail one year ago is evidence of "related program activities." There is a huge difference between "25,000 liters of anthrax" and "program activities." There were no stockpiles, no weapons ready for deployment, no visas on the auction block for terrorists to buy.

What happened? Is U.S. intelligence so incompetent that they incorrectly assessed Iraq's weapons capabilities? Or did Bush lie to the American people to justify invading oil-rich Iraq? Either way, 15,000 Iraqis and 500 U.S. soldiers are dead. Everyone should demand answers.

Clayton Whit is a social science senior.
Opinion

Thursday, January 22, 2004

On your mark, get set, date

Red Rover, red rover, send the next guy right over.
He's got less than five minutes to prove himself and hook up before he has to be a Mr. Unavailable. Potentially, Mr. Single could get 24 phone numbers and call all 24 women to set up dates.

It sounds like a painful word problem from first grade, but if the math is correct, that's only about 1 for every phone number he picks up. Not too shabby.

The only minor problem with this system comes into play when the beliefs singles have about love are introduced. Is there such a thing as love at first sight? Can one really find real chemistry with their date within the first five minutes they meet? Can anyone really determine if the chemistry is there without them ever interacting outside of this five minute window? That's what they're looking for.

If the answer to these questions is yes, then speed dating is a great way to spend an evening. If the answer is no, then maybe it's not the best solution for the woes of the single male or female.

It's unlikely that speed-dating venues will pop up around San Luis Obispo anytime soon (at least not until the city is forced to drive them out), but when it does, Café Polka should just meet their match.

Nicole Angeloni is a journalism junior and Mustang Daily staff writer.

Brought up in a Barbie world

"I'm a Barbie girl / in a Barbie world / Life in plastic / it's fantastic." We bring up our girl's and women's liberation in her book, "The Beauty Myth." We need to remember that appreciating ourselves is the key to taking control of our lives.

We need to start approaching our imperfections in a different way. Want to lose a few pounds? First, ask yourself, will that be healthy? If some pounds need to be shed, do it in the healthiest way: Adopt a healthy diet and exercise regularly.

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We need to remember that appreciating ourselves is the key to taking control of our lives. We live in the Barbie Age. Being thin and having a large bust, narrow waist, flaring hips, white teeth and a perfect complexion are essential qualities of women.

Women who look like Barbie are treated like goddesses. Women who do not look like Barbie struggle to become her.

The logic behind the threesome fantasy has its roots in basic elementary school arithmetic. If one gorgeous seductress is a good thing, then it follows that two would be twice as good. For example, if a woman has 20 perfect curves, she has a 50 percent chance of having 10 perfect curves. If you were a sex columnist, wouldn't you go for the odds of one in two?

A new-age form of dating is now available for fast-paced singles that have little time to date but the desire to meet new people. It's time-efficient, inexpensive and opens the door for subsequent dates with the partners of partners.

The next of the term "ménage a trois" comes from the French for "household" of three. When you are in a household, you have the right to have a friend of a different sex in your household. That is where the fantasy of a couple having three partners comes from. For example, if a couple is having a threesome, there are more than three partners. There can be more than three partners, and it could be seen as a way to guarantee an uninterrupted supply of sex is to acquire a girlfriend. Thus, they pass from one stage in their sexual lives to another. They settle, trading the fantasies of youth for the grim reality of adult life. The sexual revolution arises slowly due to the lack of sexual knowledge, most expect college to be a time of massive frolicking. A time with little black hens chtk full of bxioty calls, women panting its name as the agony of death passes over them.

This has got to be the greatest contribution France has ever made to the uxius world most commonly known as "reality." For example, most freshman guys come to college as nothing more than young hucksters with snippers, seducing your friends' moms or mouthy. Very rarely do more than two firemen come into the picture. When they do, the little guy does win big and finds that special lady, and voila, the dream is complete. And indeed, life is so long. Every once in a while, the little guy does win big and finds that special lady, and voila, the dream is complete.

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Bush hails achievements

By Alan Fram

WASHINGTON — Laying out campaign themes, President Bush is hiking progress fighting terrorism, recharging the economy and helping Americans afford health care. But Democrats say his election-year State of the Union address underscores how paltry his achievements have been.

The morning after he addressed a national television audience and a joint session of Congress, Bush was embarking Wednesday on a two-day swing through Ohio, Arizona and New Mexico to highlight his job training and counterterrorism proposals.

Those were among several plans he said he would offer in his 2005 budget.

Even as Democrats scrambled among themselves over who would oppose him in November, the achievements have been.

From Congress to the presidential campaign trail in New Hampshire, where next week's presidential primary will be held, Democrats balked. They said Bush had ignored the job losses, ballooning budget deficits, diplomatic reversals and growing ranks of Americans without health insurance that have characterized his administration.

"He promised us a humble foreign policy. Instead, he's alienated our allies, lost the respect of the world community and cost 500 brave young men and women their lives" in Iraq, said retired Gen. Wesley Clark.

"President Bush's speech was not so much a State of the Union as a state of his re-election campaign," said Rep. Charles Rangel, D-N.Y.

"But the president's words do not change the realities that his priorities are out of touch with the priorities of most Americans."

Bush touted a cluster of issues sure to energize conservative voters who are the core of the Republican Party.

He said he would support a constitutional amendment defining marriage as being between a man and a woman if courts struck down a law mandating that. He asked lawmakers to renew expiring portions of the U.S. Patriot Act that strengthen the investigative reach of law enforcement agencies, double funds for abstinence education and codify his administration's award of federal grants to religious charities.

He also took a swipe at Democrats who have challenged the path he took in Iraq, who have said his tax cuts were an unnecessary boon to the rich and that his Medicare expansion and education initiatives were inadequate.

He said the nation needed to stay the course against terrorism and admonished those who would "turn back to the dangerous illusion that terrorists are not plotting and outlaw regimes are no threat to us." He said the nation needed to stay the course against terrorism and admonished those who would "turn back to the dangerous illusion that terrorists are not plotting and outlaw regimes are no threat to us."

"We have not come all this way — through tragedy and trial and war — only to fail and leave our work unfinished," the president said.

Democrats saw Bush and his policies as entirely dispensable. "The State of the Union may look rosy from the White House balcony or the suites of George Bush's wealthiest donors, but hardworking Americans will see through this president's effort to wrap his radical agenda with a compassionate ribbon," said former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean, another one of the Democratic presidential hopefuls.

The address contained few major new proposals, underlining the limitations of a budget burdened by deficits and a campaign year in which forging legislative accomplishments probably will be hard to come by.

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If his State of the Union address Tuesday night, Bush made more than 20 references to terrorism in defending his policies against those who would bring harm to America again.

At the same time, Bush had less to say about issues where he faces criticism: the failure to find weapons of mass destruction in Iraq and mounting U.S. casualties in the difficult postwar transition in that country.

Time and again, Bush voiced confidence not only in the U.S. ability to confront enemies but also to build a safer, freer world.

"By our will and courage, this danger will be defeated," Bush said.

The death toll of U.S. troops in Iraq, which passed the 500-mark in recent days, has prompted demands by some for an end to the American commitment there. Bush acknowledged the dangers but described this as a "surmountable problem."

"We are dealing with these thugs in Iraq, just as surely as we dealt with Saddam Hussein's evil regime," he said.

Bush sees safer world under his leadership

WASHINGTON (AP) — The war on terrorism has been President Bush's strong suit since the Sept. 11 attacks, and he still sees that issue as a political winner.

In his State of the Union address Tuesday night, Bush made more than 20 references to terrorism in defending his policies against those who would bring harm to America again.

At the same time, Bush had less to say about issues where he faces criticism: the failure to find weapons of mass destruction in Iraq and mounting U.S. casualties in the difficult postwar transition in that country.

Time and again, Bush voiced confidence not only in the U.S. ability to confront enemies but also to build a safer, freer world.

"By our will and courage, this danger will be defeated," Bush said.

The death toll of U.S. troops in Iraq, which passed the 500-mark in recent days, has prompted demands by some for an end to the American commitment there. Bush acknowledged the dangers but described this as a "surmountable problem."

"We are dealing with these thugs in Iraq, just as surely as we dealt with Saddam Hussein's evil regime," he said.
An art and design student’s photo exhibit in the University Union explores religion’s presence outside of church and prayer groups.

Story by Ashlee Bodenhamer Photo By Brian Kent

Arts & Culture

“Everyday” Inspiration

“For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named.”

- Ephesians 3:14-15
Images portray Christianity in everyday existence

By Ashlee Bodenheimer

"The Earth's crammed with heavy nad every common bush afire with God."

These words, written by 17th-century poet Elizabeth Barrett Browning, are echoed in "Everyday God," the University Union Gallery's current exhibit. Inspired by an envelope, a mug, a passport, metal wind chimes and other ordinary objects, computer science senior Kristen O'Brien has mapped a series of photographs to illustrate verses from the New Testament book of Ephesians.

"I wanted to show people that the Bible is part of our everyday life," O'Brien said. Each of O'Brien's photographs is accompanied by a verse, along with a brief explanation of the passage. "Sometimes everyday objects can really explain the things that are hard to grasp," she said.

In one photo, a slab of raw meat trimmed into a heart shape and poked with a tiny stick that bears the label "Tender." A description reads, "If we really see how much God has forgiven us, we would find it easy to forgive others." A verse that describes a married couple "as one flesh" is partnered with the image of a chocolate and vanilla frozen yogurt swirling out of a dispenser, united as a single flavor.

In another photo, depicting a verse about being "filled to the measure of all the fullness of God," a drinking glass stands under the stream of a kitchen sink faucet, overflowing with bubbly tap water. It is her self-described "passion for analogy" that led O'Brien to pair pieces of scripture with mundane, garden variety objects — things not normally associated with spirituality or found in places of worship.

O'Brien distinguished her exhibit from art for art's sake. The intent behind her photographs is to convey a message, she said. Snail, exhibit-goers lingered in front of her black and white photos as if they were looking at these common materials for the first time.

"I think art is inspired by different things, and it just happens that Kristen is inspired by God. I think she has the right to display that just as well as anybody else is inspired by." Natalie Mathews, UU Art Gallery curator.

"As I read, all these pictures started popping in my head, and I just started writing them down," O'Brien said. "The gallery's curator, art and design sophomore Natalie Mathews, said the religious nature of the show was not an issue but instead a form of expression.

"I think art is inspired by different things, and it just happens that Kristen is inspired by God," Mathews said. "I think she has the right to display that just as well as anything anybody else is inspired by." O'Brien said she was not nervous about headlining a biblical-themed show at a public school.

"I was more excited and hopeful that it would make people think," she said. "I'm not fearful at all."

For most of her life, O'Brien said she wanted nothing to do with the Bible. "I understand that feeling of feeling like people are trying to cram something down your throat," she said. O'Brien stressed that her intentions were not to pass judgments.

"I want to reach people. I'm not here to condemn, whatever," she said. "God didn't come to condemn the world."

"Everyday God" will be on display through Friday in the UU Gallery, which is located upstairs, in the Epicenter. Admission is free.

Kristen O'Brien's display, entitled "Everyday God," depicts the ordinary instances in which people can find spiritual inspiration. O'Brien used the above photograph to signify the union of marriage.
Simi band comes to rock UU Hour 'In Stereo'

By John M. Pierson

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Sex, jail and Harry Potter. In Stereo may compare themselves to popular bands, but their set list is completely their own.

The Simi Valley band brings its unique songs to UU Hour this week. The band has been together for 4 1/2 years, with various members rotating in and out of the band. Current lead guitarist and vocalist Chris Woodhead just joined the band last year, and Stemke joined in the beginning after creative differences with the original drummer forced the need for a change.

"He was kinda strung out," Stemke said of the former drummer, "and going in a different direction than the other guys, so they told him they broke up and then started jamming with me."

The rest of the band is comprised of Jared Jones (rhythm guitar, vocals) and Jimmy Omega (bass).

Since starting up the band, In Stereo has been playing anywhere from Los Angeles to San Francisco, mostly in smaller venues and warehouses.

"We played the Roxy in Hollywood, but mostly we play in hard-to-find venues," Stemke said.

The band also played at University of California, Santa Barbara in a late-night show on the campus radio station.

Despite having played mostly smaller venues, the band has name recognition in Simi Valley.

"I think in Simi most kids know who we are," Stemke said. "Our following is mostly college-aged kids and high school kids. It's a collage of ages."

The band has been working harder to get their name out, including recording an EP last year with their old guitarist on Killing Dreams Records.

"We didn't have a recording contract," Stemke said. "We wanted to put together a prep kit (to shop to record labels) and Killing Dreams helped us put it out on an EP.

"So we wrote a couple of songs about breaking out of jail." Woodhead said. "Someone told me girls like songs about breaking out of jail." Woodhead said. "So we wrote a couple of songs about breaking out of jail."

Woodhead said it's not a big deal to be deep and philosophical, but that sometimes that appears in the songs.

This attitude is perhaps best reflected in a song the band has about Harry Potter.

"Jimmy and Jared are into Harry Potter," Woodhead said. "They bet me I couldn't write a song about him without mentioning his name, so I wrote a song. It's funny to us because we know what it's about, but people can relate to it without knowing it's about Harry Potter."

Woodhead is ready for this week's show, and said the anticipation intensifies his performance.

"I hope it's like our other shows," he said. "I used to get nervous but now I get excited to go up and play."

Unlike the band's other shows, though, the UU Hour is a venue where people don't have to pay admission to see them.

"It might be weird having people just walking by plugging their ears," Woodhead said. "But we do it (play music) for us and that's cool."
Car tax cut challenged in court

By David Kravets

SAN FRANCISCO — Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's tax campaign promise to roll back a tripling of the state car tax was challenged last week directly to the California Supreme Court on Wednesday by a coalition of college students and social activists whose members and clients all bear the brunt of his budget cuts.

Opponents of the governor's November tax cut, which raises motor vehicles taxes $4 billion a year in an annual registration renewal fee, want a court review of the seven high court justices to overturn the pledge, which has deepened the state's deficit, and, along with it, the need for cuts to services.

The petition asks Schwarzenegger had neither the constitutional authority to lower the car tax nor the legislative approval needed to demand $15 million in immediate budget cuts — in addition to requiring future cuts — to offset the car tax revenue.

The suit was the first legal attack on the centerpiece of Schwarzenegger's fiscal strategy of implementing on budget cuts and voter approval of a $15 billion bond measure on the March 2 ballot to erase deficits without raising taxes.

Gov. Gray Davis invoked the vehicle fee by invoking 1998 legislation allowing a governor to raise the tax without legislative approval in a fiscal crisis. In one of his last acts before winning the election to recall Davis, Schwarzenegger repealed the increase. But the new law on the car tax cannot be lowered if there is enough money in state coffers to compensate for the loss of revenue.

"It was improper and inappropriate for the governor to lower the vehicle license fee when it complicated the recall," says James Hamilton, a coalition attorney representing the groups that petitioned the high court.

The case, unusual in that it was filed directly with the Supreme Court and not the lower courts, is a classic showdown between the powers of the chief executive and the Legislature. While acknowledging the governor's veto power, the petition says the "California Constitution and California statutes provide that the Legislature is solely charged with determining how public monies must be collected and spent."

When making the Dec. 19 order to slash $15 million, Schwarzenegger proclaimed he had such powers because he declared that California was in a fiscal emergency. Davis, his predecessor, invoked emergencies "spending powers to deal with the energy crisis."

A Schwarzenegger spokesman referred inquiries about the lawsuit to the Finance Department, which said the governor was exercising his "executive powers." "We believe we are on solid legal ground on the actions the governor has taken," said H.D. Palmer, the department's deputy director.

The suits, announced as commentators were in holiday recess, included a 25 percent reduction for the University of California and California State University systems, closing a migrant farmworker training center and, among other things, reducing funding to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

The justices did not indicate whether they would take the case, but it might be highly unusual if they did.

The court generally takes cases after they mature through the lower courts, even in times of constitutional crisis.

Before the Nov. 7 recall election, the high court declined to entertain several constitutional challenges seeking to block or postpone the vote, saying they were not ripe for review.

Parker said the University of California Student Association, Californians for Justice and the Equal Justice Society were directly to the Supreme Court in hopes that it would act immediately. A case of this scope commencing in a trial court could take months or years to resolve.
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Comments

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I could eat Blondie’s Pizza every meal every day of my life.
Dave Matthews should be President. And Poly’s Women’s Lacrosse should be recognized for being the shitnizzle.

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The Mustangs may be fourth in the Western Conference, but against Santa Barbara they proved to be the better team. Senior Nick Tracy and junior David Jones defeated the West team to a 14-7 victory.

Now as fans curse under their breaths and plan a Valentine’s Day trip to Santa Barbara for what surely will be an inevitable loss, the Mustangs need to get aggressive, play physical and get bodies on the boards.

The Mustangs had to deal with senior Stacy Meronoff out of action as Nick Tracy and Matt Baca defeated Davey Jones and Brian Kent 8-5. The No. 36 Fresno State men’s tennis team won the doubles point then clicked in singles for a 6-1 victory over Cal Poly in their season opener Saturday afternoon at the Western Tennis Center.

Mustang Stadium sits empty most days, the phones in there are lighting up as a result of the Las Vegas All-American Classic. The game was all-out, East-West classic, featuring seniors from schools like Washington State, Notre Dame and Montana State.

Richardson was the Mustangs’ two representatives, and each put up a performance worth boasting about.

Before the game was played on Friday afternoon, Richardson was to compete in his first collegiate match just a week after pulling down 40 rebounds during the senior night game on Sunday.

Richardson emerged as one of the three captains of the West squad. It might have been the most important week of both Richardson’s and Rocha’s careers. Both men could be playing in the NFL eventually as a result of their game against the West.

In a starting role, Richardson racked up seven tackles, almost had an interception and defended all three passes that came his way, helping his West team to a 14-7 victory.

Rocha also put up a solid performance, averaging 45 yards for seven punts and only allowing one touchback. He said being apart of the Vegas Classic, featuring the scouts and the payback naturally be low. Why? Because they just aren’t any rebounds to get.

In the Mustangs’ last four losses, the opponent has shot better than 50 percent in each instance and the team has been out-rebounded overall 149-114. Once the defense comes, so will the offense. Part of the benefit of a better defense is better shots on offense.

“Now as fans curse under their breaths and plan a Valentine’s Day trip to Santa Barbara for what surely will be an inevitable loss, the Mustangs need to get aggressive, play physical and get bodies on the boards.”

Redeschneider's story ran as a guest piece in the Oakland Tribune.

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