Proposal seeks Mardi Gras solutions

The community development idea was drafted as a way to identify problems between students and area residents

Nicole Angeloni

The beads have fallen and the out-of-towners have gone home, but the City of San Luis Obispo, Cal Poly and other community organizations are attempting to work together to ensure that this year's Mardi Gras problems will not be repeated.

A community development proposal, which stemmed from a student feedback session regarding Mardi Gras, was drafted as a way to identify problems and potential solutions that students and community members have expressed.

"The students and community members all agreed on a lot of the problems that San Luis Obispo is facing," Bolts said. "My daughter disappeared, and I still haven't been given a lot of information from law enforcement, but you have to trust them; you don't have any other choice."

Bolts agreed that there have been problems with the Smart family in the past but hopes to alleviate some of that tension.

"Relations with the Smart family have been strained at times, but we will not and do not conduct investigations in a glass room," Bolts said. "They opt for a full, public investigation.

How you can help

- Post tips about the Kristin Smart case at www.sonohusonan.com
- Make donations to the Find Kristin Smart Fund at Mid-State Bank

Nearly eight years after Cal Poly freshman Kristin Smart disappeared after walking back to her dorm from a party, her family is still looking for closure.

Kristin Smart's mother, Denise Smart, recently visited San Luis Obispo to check on the status of the case and keep community awareness alive.

Smart was last seen with another Cal Poly student, Paul Flores, who allegedly walked her back to Muir Hall after a fraternity party on May 25, 1996.

Detective Steve Bols of the San Luis Obispo Sheriff's Department said the case is still under investigation, and Flores is still the only suspect identified to date.

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"I came to San Luis most important
Smart continued from page 1

gation and that is not our policy, but we have been trying to break new ground with them and hopefully keep them better informed.

"But the Smart family doesn't only want to have access to more information, they want to use it to raise community awareness about Kristin's disappearance, as well as other missing persons. For this reason, Denise Smart appeared on various radio and television news broadcasts last week.

"The greatest gift we can give Kristin is to keep looking and keep her memory alive," Smart said. "Someone in this area knows something about her disappearance. We still need the community's help and part of the problem is that people have forgotten and moved on. It gets people telling me "Oh, I thought they found her" and that is simply not the case. The situation is that people have for­
taken that the search for Kristin Smart is over and people need to help, because the community needs to help and we need to work together."

In an attempt to avoid similar inci­
dents, UPD sends out an e-mail twice a year, advising students in the resi­
dence halls to notify someone if they hear anything suspicious.

"We want to create an atmosphere of safety," Aeilts said. "We've been sending this e-mail for a couple of years now, and we have not seen a large decline in reports of missing persons." According to UPD, statistics reporting that a case has been closed from 2001 to 2007.

Smart says she and her husband, Stan, "continue to look for her daughter until she is found."

"My son grew up without his sis­
ter," Denise Smart said. "I have to keep looking because it allows me to go on to the next day I pray for the day someone can put the last piece of the puzzle together and bring her back to us.

Donations to the Find Kristin Smart Fund can be made at Mid-State Bank and at the Web site which con­tains a PayPal link. The funds will go to­ward a civil case against Flores and also the placement of possibly two billboards along Highway 101.

Chico continued from page 1

dos some further medical tests to see if they can ascertain what the cause of death was."

Toxicology tests were among the tests planned, he said. "At this point, we still don't have grounds to determine if there's foul play involved here. Whatever we've collected this far has not led us to make that kind of determination," Truab said.

Truab said investigators have spoken to Palmer's roommates and friends to try to determine what she did just before she was last seen.

Palmer's family in California was notified of her death. Ralph Wellesley, President Diana­

Anderson said. "It's amazing that neighborhood associations and the students have come together to work on this, but we do need the city to pay for the way. We can't do it all ourselves."

Community continued from page 1

Cal Poly proposed to increase programming that addresses stu­

dent behavior and responsibilities. Also, the university could provide extra staffing to increase commu­

nity policing with the University Police Department in areas near campus.

"I don't think that extra polic­
ing would make that much of a difference," said architectural engineering junior Tim Lindsey.

"I arrived at Cal Poly three years after the incident but we have continued to partner with the sheriff's department on this ongoing case. We are using the community to know that we are there and will continue to be there.

That law is about communication between agencies," UPD Chief Tony Aeilts said. "I arrived at Cal Poly three years after the incident but we have continued to partner with the sheriff's department on this ongoing case. We are using the community to know that we are there and will continue to be there.

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San Jose State appoints new president

SAN JOSE (AP) — Paul Yu, the president of the State University of New York College at Brockport, was appointed as the new president of San Jose State University on Tuesday.

"Paul Yu will be a remarkable president," said Bill Hauck, a member of the California State University Board of Trustees. "He will provide the leadership to chart the future course of the campus and the vision to expand its academic reputation.

Yu, a professor of philosophy, has been president of SUNY-Brockport since 1997. Prior to that, he was provost and senior vice president for academic affairs at Butler University.

He also served as associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and chair of the philosophy depart­

ment at Central Michigan University. He was a Fulbright Lecturer in Philosophy at National Taiwan University.

"I am delighted to have the opportunity to become a member of San Jose State University, an institution with a great past and, in view of its enormous potential, an even greater future," Yu said.

Pay hike OK'd for teachers in schools for the deaf

SNACRAMENTO — Teachers at two state-run schools for the deaf and the blind could get a pay raise under a bill passed Wednesday by an Assembly committee.

Assemblyman John Dutra said the salaries for teachers in the three state-run special schools are as much as 40 percent less than those of teachers in nearby local public schools, leading to high turnover among staff and frequent vacancies.

About 1,000 students attend the two state-run California Schools for the Deaf, one in Riverside and the other in Fremont. Another 110 stu­

dent are enrolled at the state School for the Blind in Fremont.

Dutra, D-Fremont, wants the state schools to base teacher and adminis­

trator salaries on what comparable jobs pay in local school districts.

"The amount of money necessary to take care of the problem isn't huge. It's probably around $10 mil­

lion," he said. "What's more signific­

ant is that the students and the teachers deserve better treatment and equal treatment.

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State Briefs

LOS ANGELES — The U.S. Supreme Court is scheduled to hear a case Monday involving a former police officer convicted of murder who claims his rights were violated when he wasn't advised of a deadline for filing a federal appeal.

The time limit was established in 1996 by the federal Anti-Terrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act, which attorneys say has kept many prisoners from challenging their convictions.

It gives defendants one year to file a federal appeal after they have exhausted all state legal challenges.

SANTA BARBARA — Teresa Heinz Kerry won't model herself on either Hillary Clinton or Nancy Reagan if her husband, presumptive Democratic nominee John Kerry, reaches the White House.

Speaking at a Montecito fundraiser Saturday, Heinz Kerry, 65, said she would "continue to be me."

That "me" is a wealthy philanthropist, a former Republican who only recently switched party affiliation; and a champion of women's issues, the environment, the arts and education.

Heinz Kerry promised that if she makes the White House, she would "work hard. I would enable people, have some fun doing it, learn a lot and help my husband that way and our kids."

LOS ANGELES — U.S. gasoline prices climbed 3 more cents per gallon in the past two weeks because of high crude oil prices, tight capacity and rising demand, an analyst said Sunday.

The nationwide average for all gasoline grades, including taxes, was nearly $1.86 per gallon on Friday, up 3.07 cents from April 9, according to the Lundberg Survey of 8,000 stations nationwide.

National Briefs

EUGENE, Ore. — Oregon State Police issued an Amber Alert Saturday for a 16-year-old girl believed to be kidnapped from a Eugene apartment.

Police said Marlin Monroen apparently was taken at about 11:30 p.m. Friday and is believed to be in danger.

She is described as 5-foot-7, 170 pounds, with long curly brown hair. She was last seen wearing a black shirt and a grey skirt with pink diagonal stripes.

Anyone with information should call 1-866-5Amber5 (1-866-526-2375).

WASHINGTON — Senate Republicans this week will launch a series of hearings to promote the value of traditional marriage, a move some Democrats are calling an election year ploy that is none of Congress' business.

According to a GOP memo obtained by The Associated Press, the hearings will represent a "full-court push to educate the public on the importance of marriage."

Four committees are expected to hold hearings over the next two weeks, beginning Wednesday with a Health subcommittee's discussion on "Healthy Marriage: What is it and why should we promote it?"

Democrats say the publicity blitz smacks of politics and dismiss it as an effort to garner votes among the nation's largest constituency — heterosexual married couples.

WASHINGTON — A soybean shortage could push prices a bit higher this summer for consumer items ranging from baby food to frozen desserts.

Poor rainfall and attacks by sap-sucking aphids last year have driven inventories down to their lowest level in more than three decades.

America could squeak by, satisfying its needs for food and livestock feeds, the experts say. But it would have "the most distant impact in history," said Keith Collins, the Agriculture Department's chief economist.

World Briefs

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Suicide attackers detonated explosive-laden boats near oil facilities in the Persian Gulf on Saturday, killing a U.S. Navy sailor in a new tactic against Iraq's vital oil industry. Elsewhere, violence across Iraq killed at least 33 Iraqis and four American soldiers.

It was the first such marine attack against oil facilities since U.S. troops invaded Iraq more than a year ago. The blasts resembled attacks in 2000 and 2002 — blamed on al Qaeda — against the USS Cole and a French oil tanker off the coast of Yemen that killed 17 American sailors and a tanker crewmen.

DANDONG, China — Injured children lay on file cabinets as an overcrowded North Korean hospital struggled to cope without enough beds or medicine for hundreds of victims from last week's train explosion, an aid worker who visited the facility said Sunday.

Suuika Provincial Hospital, just across the border from China, was treating 360 people injured in the blast, according to Tony Bunbury, Asia regional director for the U.N. World Food Program. More than 60 percent of the victims there were children, he said.

Thursday's huge explosion in the town of Ryongchon, fed by oil and chemicals, killed 161 people and injured at least 1,300, officials said.

PRISTINA, Serbia-Montenegro — Authorities are investigating whether a Jordanian U.N. policeman who killed three American corrections officers in a gunbattle at a Kosovo prison had links to the Palestinian militant group Hamas, a senior NATO official said.

As investigators tried to pin down Sgt. Maj. Ahmed Mustafa Ibrahim Ali's motive, a clearer picture of the April 17 attack emerged this week. Witnesses, U.N. officials, medical personnel and NATO officers, in interviews with The Associated Press, described a scene in which the officers were trapped between a locked gate and Ali's assault rifle.

THIRD Briefs

NEWS from the Week of 4/26 - 5/2

THIS WEEK IN ASI EVENTS

M O N D A Y M O V I E M A N D Y

Featuring ALONG CAME P O U Y 
Wednesday, April 28
5:30 pm........ in Chumash Auditorium — FREE
See this hit film before its available up home rental. Limited seating.


Featuring JUST JINGER
Wednesday, April 28
6 - 8 p.m.  UU Gallery (in the UU Center) — FREE
Just Jinger is a Southern African folk band recently signed to Capitol Records. They have played with U2 and Nolte and the Blackfeet.

U U H O U R

Featuring FACING NEW YORK 
Thursday, April 29
11 a.m. — noon in the UU Plaza — FREE
Come enjoy the music of this energetic San Francisco rock band.

C O M E D Y S H O W C A S E

Featuring BOBBY LEE, ALEXANDRA MAHALE & TROY THIRDGTA
Thursday, April 29
7:30 - 10:30 p.m. in Chumash Auditorium

ASI Events' first-ever Comedy Showcase will feature these three comedic stars who have performed on shows such as Med TV, Letterman, Late Night and Comedy Central. Cal Poly students with ID are 756-5277.

TICKETS ON SALE NOW

Country singer BLAKE SHELTON
Wednesday, May 12
Show at 7:30, Doors at 8:30 in the Cal Poly Rec Center.
Purchase tickets at Valletta locations, 1-888-VAL-ITIX and valletta.com.
Cal Poly student discount at the Mustang Ticket Office only.

WEB: WWW.ASI.CALPOLY.EDU/EVENTS

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WWW.ASI.CALPOLY.EDU/EVENTS
The sniffing, sneezing, coughing, achin', stuffy head, so you can rest column

**Commentary**

Kleenex boxes have run low at the grocery store. Professors have grown more difficult to hear around the sniffing and sneezing. Students are continuously searching for covers in the over-the-counter (and highly expensive) medicine aisles of the drug store. It's official. The allergy season is here and it's here to stay (well, at least for a couple of months).

San Luis Obispo is one of the worst places for allergies sufferers to live. With the cow/manure pastures, the windsly valley and the high density of pollen, it's nearly impossible to escape the wrath of this dreaded allergy season.

Sneezing, a runny nose, a sore throat are all no fun. Unless you consider walking around teary-eyed, with nose dripping down your face and ears plugged fun. That's what we thought.

But either or not you get springtime allergies, we know everyone is automatically affected by the season. While sufferers scramble for the last piece of tissue, non-sufferers are forced to deal with bodily noises, complaints and allergy pill-induced droopiness.

really, how many times can the non-allergy sufferers say, "Bless you, without forgetting the meaning of the words? And if you pay attention, you will notice that about the first three or four "bless yous" will be full of enthusiasm and sympathy, as the non-allergy tries to understand your plight. But when it gets around the 21st or 22nd sneeze in a row, you'll be lucky if you get a "darn it, get your nose!" out of them. They may have already left the premises in search of a Michael Jackson-like surgical mask for protection from all the irritants in the air.

But to those non-allergy sufferers out there, we have one wise thing to say to you: Quit yer bitchin' Consider yourselves very lucky to have it far worse than you, and there's nothing we can do about it.

"Take some medicine," you may say. But after experimenting with Claritin, Allegra and Sudafed, one thing is for sure — nothing will ever fully cure allergies. Before, there's no escaping the barrage of allergy attacks, inside or outside.

The one good thing this season provides us with is an excuse to say, "Let's not be bitchin.' Consider yourselves very lucky to not have to endure the hardships of the allergy season. While you may be somehow affected by other's allergies, you need to get over it. Allergy sufferers have it far worse than you, and there's nothing we can do about it.

"Take some medicine," you may say. But after experimenting with Claritin, Allegra and Sudafed, one thing is for sure — nothing will ever fully cure allergies (short of throwing all allergy sufferers into one huge incubator until the season passes).

Among the many problems allergy-sufferers must deal with, there's one never-ending dilemma. No matter how much fresh, pollinated air of the outdoors or the musky, recycled air of the indoors? Like we said before, there's no escaping the barrage of allergy attacks, inside or outside. Then there's the car issue that affects anyone with four wheels. After a nice breezy night, the blue shade of our cars turn into a lovely charante thanks to the protective, yet deadly, layer of pollen that overvalues our vehicles.

Of course, most pollenized victims don't even know if they're experiencing allergies or a vicious, three-month-long cold being passed along like the plague. I'm post-nasal drip contagious? Can I pass the illness along to my classmates with my sneeze, which by the way, comes out of my nose? I'm going to go out on a limb here and say, "no."

Let us now examine casualties. The Vietnam War took more than 58,000 American lives. The present death toll in Iraq is less than 700, according to USA Today. Remember, though, that Vietnam lasted nearly a decade, while the U.S. invasion and occupation of Iraq has just reached 13 months.

It also be said that Vietnam is a country in Southeast Asia while Iraq is smack-dab in the area known as the Middle East. Therefore, unless I really did fail freshman geography, they are not one and the same.

Before you accuse me of greatly trivializing Vietnam and its casualties, I beg of you, allow me to explain. Iraq is not the same as Vietnam, and it is unfair and ridiculous to go around comparing the two simply because they are two incidents that upset the public mind and make the news. How stupid. You can't be mad about a military endeavor, it's not logical to call it a bitchin'.

Is Iraq comparable to Vietnam? Bush is cutting pay with new overtime laws

I love my country, but I fear my government. This being said, my opinion of George W. Bush is not a good one. It is my belief that he has made an atrocious choice of his policies up to date, using his power for personal gain while neglecting his duty to protect the country. Further, I probably know this to be a very stupid idea, seeing that the American heroes got their ass kicked during the last war. I'm sure they would be disappoinited of the folks back home.

Now let's review why we went to war in Iraq. This board named Saddam Hussein had a rebreaking history of royally upsetting the U.S. government (and a few others). After years of unsuccessful attempts at catching and killing Hussein, a rather arrogant Texas decided that he was going to succeed where others had previously failed.

And succeeded he did, albeit doing so under the pretense of searching for weapons of mass destruction, while potentially lying to the American pubic that Saddam was behind the 9-11 attacks. Now President Bush is staying in Iraq is to root out and stamp on some pecky terrorists.

At this point, do you have one similiarity. Two wars were started for potentially different reasons and nations and Saddam Hussein. Yeah, Bush's a bad guy and yeah, communists may have been a terrorizing force of 90 miles per hour? And we thought we were in for a couple of months. (805) 756-6784

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"I just didn't want to cut some of the balls off."
"As a 13-year-old in a 32-year-old's body, Jennifer Garner strays from her tough role in "Alias.""

Colorado students gather for 4/20 celebration

Scott Halser & Meagan Balkin

BOULDER, Colo. — Students and others congregated in Boulder in celebration of a drug offense that is considered a minor petty offense, punishable with a $100 fine.

"It's not that we don't do anything, we just don't do more. Period," said an attendee who identified himself as Adam Girth.

"We want to be mindful of not creating a bigger problem than what we are facing," McGraw said.

"Vendors at the celebration were plentiful, and found themselves met with mixed feelings and a range of reactions."

One owner, working an ice cream and desert cart through the crowd, blamed mediocre sales on windy weather that blew a sweet aroma across campus.

"These are just straight, but that's why we're not selling," said entrepreneur Al McKell, holding a box of cookies and wrapped brownies for sale.

"Some kids take it too far, like that with Happy 4/20 buds," said an attendee who identified himself as Adam Girth.

He was still happy to celebrate the afternoon, noting, "This is just the one day out of the year it feels like it's legal."
Advocates target Bush administration, state governments and religious conservatives in largest gatherings since 1992

WASHINGTON — Abortion-rights supporters marched in huge numbers Sunday, issued in this election year by what they see as an erosion of reproductive freedoms under President Bush and foreign policies they say hurt women worldwide.

Political agitation suffused the gathering, the largest in favor of abortion rights since an estimated 500,000 assembled in 1992. The target: Bush, like-minded officials in federal and state government and religious conservatives.

Speaking beyond the masses to policy-makers, Francis King, chairing of Catholics for a Free Choice declared, "You will hear our pro-choice voices ringing in your ears until such time that you permit all women to make our own reproductive choices."

Women joined the protest from across the nation and from nearly 60 countries, asserting that damage from Bush’s policies is spreading far beyond U.S. shores through measures such as the ban on federal money for family-planning groups that promote or perform abortions far beyond U.S. shores through measures such as the ban on federal money for family-planning groups that promote or perform abortions.

Authorities no longer give formal crowd estimates but said the crowd was hundreds of thousands strong. The Washington-area commuter train system alone carried 138,000 passengers Sunday morning, three times as many as the previous Sunday.

Carole Melhman, 68, came from Tampa, Fla., to support a cause that has motivated her to march for 30 years, as long as abortion has been legal.

"I just had to be here to fight for the next generation and the generation after that," she said. "We cannot let them take over our bodies, our health care, our lives."

Advocates said abortion rights are being weakened at the margins through federal and state restrictions and will be at risk of reversal at the core if Bush gets a second term.

"Know your power and use it," Rep. Nancy Pelosi of California, House Democratic leader, exhorted the masses. "It is your choice, not the politicians."

And feminist Gloria Steinem accused Bush of squandering international good will and taking positions so socially conservative that he seems — according to Steinem — to be in league with the likes of Muslim extremists or the Vatican.

Democratic Sen. Hillary Clinton of New York, referring to the 1973 Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion, said the administration is "filled with people who disparage sexual harassment laws, who claim the pay gap between women and men is phony ... who consider Roe v. Wade the worst abomination of constitutional law in our history."

"(The administration is) filled with people ... who consider Roe v. Wade the worst abomination of constitutional law in our history."

-Sen. HILLARY CLINTON D-NY

Organizers set up voter registration tables; supporters of John Kerry, the Democratic presidential candidate, handed out stickers. The event was not overly partisan but denunciation of Bush set the tone from the stage and the ground.

The throng gathered by the Washington Monument for opening speeches and set off along Pennsylvania Avenue, looping back to the Mall near the Capitol. They moved slowly, but determined by their own numbers.

A much smaller contingent of abortion opponents assembled along a portion of the route to protest what they called a "death march." Among them were women who had abortions and regretted it; they dressed in black.

Tabitha Warnica, 36, of Phoenix, said she had two abortions when she was young. "We don’t have a choice. God is the only one who can decide," she said.

Police used barricades and a heavy presence at that site to keep it from becoming a flashpoint. Both sides yelled at each other as the vanguard of the march reached the counter-demonstration.

"Look at the pictures, look at the pictures," shouted abortion opponents, holding up big posters showing a fetus at eight weeks.

"Lies, lies," marchers shouted back.

Police arrested 16 people from the Christian Defense Coalition for demonstrating without a permit and another anti-abortion protester for throwing ink-filled plastic eggs at rally signs.

Celebrities familiar to the abortion-rights movement led the parade, among them Whoopi Goldberg, Kathleen Turner, Cybil Shepherd and media mogul Ted Turner.

"There is a religious and moral superiority and arrogance that so many, not all, Republicans have," said actress Linda Carter. "It is the ultimate intrusion by government to tell a woman when she can have children, if she has them at all."

As the list of sponsors, which included the American Civil Liberties Union and the National Abortion Federation, Attest, this is a moment of crisis in the United States was the rallying point but not the only issue at stake for these protesters. Organizers were fighting, too, for birth control, sex education and better health care for women worldwide.

"We believe it’s important to be that broad-based and diverse because the threats to reproductive rights are that broad-based and diverse," said Gloria Feldt, president of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America.

"In our country it’s so important to feel solidarity with the rest of the world on women’s rights," said Helena Pinto, president of UNFPA, an abortion rights group in Portugal, where legal abortion is limited.

Although Roe v. Wade still anchors abortion rights, some states have imposed waiting periods before abortions, requirements that girls under 18 notify their parents and other limits that have closed abortion clinics or discouraged doctors from performing abortions.

Bush has signed a ban on what critics call partial-birth abortion, and the first federal law to endow a fetus with legal rights distinct from the pregnant woman.

Abortion-rights supporters say a fragile Supreme Court majority in favor of Roe v. Wade could be lost if Bush is president long enough to fill vacancies that come up in the Court. Kerry supports abortion rights.

With the nation looming "this is a year that is most critical," said Vicki Balyan, 65, who came from Chicago to march. "The whole political situation is something that is of incredible importance to us."
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Basketball players leap into new sport

San Francisco Chronicle, May 1, 2004

San Francisco Giants' SBC Park, which opened in 2000, is one of the front-runners to host the 2006 All-Star game.

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Pittsburgh — Pittsnburgh and San Francisco are making strong pitches for the 2006 All-Star game.

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