Republican and Democratic clubs on campus attempt to spread party doctrine

Emily Logan
MUSTANG DAILY

As the November election approaches, students and members of the community are making it their job to register voters and encourage people to form opinions about the candidates and issues facing America.

As of Sept. 23, San Luis Obispo County had 153,784 registered voters, reported by the California Registrar of Voters office in San Luis Obispo. Of those, approximately 42 percent are registered Republican, 36 percent are registered Democrat and 16 percent declined to state their registration. Leaving 6 percent registered to other parties.

On campus, the Cal Poly College Republicans, currently 150 strong, with another 150 on the roster from the previous two years, are pushing for more student voters.

"Our City Council will only listen to students if they vote," Mike Morrison, president of Cal Poly College Republicans said. "Locally it is important to promote candidates that are student-friendly, while at the same time are able to work with the current system to achieve success."

Cal Poly's Young Democrats, which according to Vice President Steven Schlotterbeck will soon be changing its name to the Cal Poly Democratic Club, is also encouraging voting registration booths in the University Union. "I think it's very important that students know where each candidate stands on certain topics." Schlotterbeck said.

First lecture in environmental series on sustainability tonight

Amanda Strachan
MUSTANG DAILY

The first lecture in a year-long series exploring the concept of sustainable agriculture will begin at 5 p.m. in the Chumash Auditorium.

"This lecture is designed to introduce the general idea of sustainability and how it is addressed and implemented in architecture, city planning, engineering and, of course, agriculture," Neal MacDougall, director of Cal Poly's Sustainable Agriculture Resource Consortium said.

The lecture is part of an initiative signed by Cal Poly President Warren Baker in April 2004. The Tallianes Declaration joined Cal Poly with other colleges, like Tufts University, Rutgers University, Oberlin College, George Washington University, and the College of William and Mary, in a 10-point pledge to make campuses a place where sustainable resource use and environmental protection are practiced, improved, and taught.

"As a public university, Cal Poly is uniquely positioned to focus the attention of our many disciplines on this issue," MacDougall said. "We focus on spreading awareness about sexual assault to all students, but more specifically target incoming freshmen who may have developed stereotypes of sexual assault from high school," Stendel said.

The training will also provide community resources available to victims and provide information on the medical exams for sexual assault survivors.

"We also want to do some role-playing for participants to get them actively involved in the training," Harrison said.

Warren Raker in April 2004. The Tal"l...
Election

continued from page 2

vote, both clubs will hold events on campus in upcoming weeks. The College Republicans will have a voter registration barbecue on Oct. 14, serving about 350 hot dogs and hamburgers. They will also have a meet-the-candidates barbecue on Oct. 28 in the UU plaza.

"Many local Republican candidates will be at our event to discuss their cause and campaigns," Moroni said. "Our goal prior to the election is to register as many voters as possible and to promote conservative candidates."

The Young Democrats will man a table in the UU several times a week to register voters, especially as the registration deadline approaches, Schlotterbeck said. They will also be showing political documentaries in UU in the coming weeks.

"We're hoping that we get a good number of people, regardless of their political stances, to come and watch with us," Schlotterbeck said.

For more information about the Young Democrats, visit www.politics.calpoly.edu. For the College Republicans, visit www.calpolygop.org.

Debate

continued from page 2

dems will be able to see the two most popular candidates in a 90-minute verbal debate. Following the telecast, Comstock will mediate a town-hall style meeting where audience members can directly ask questions to representatives on stage.

"I really want students to bring tough questions if they have them," though he's concerned that hard-liners with strong opinions will change the tone of the debate's discussion.

"I don't want it to turn into an argument," Comstock said, "I want them to vote."

The viewing of the debate and its discussion is not expected to last past 9 p.m. and Comstock hopes that students will attend despite it being held on a Friday. Advertisements will run in The Tribune to attract citizens, but Comstock would rather fill the 180 seats in the hall with students willing to gain more knowledge about the candidates and the political system.

The undecided will be reassured the tone of the debate's discussion. The court announced its decision after deliberating for about 90 minutes following oral arguments in the case Tuesday.

The New Mexico Democratic Party brought a lawsuit against the Reform Party in Florida and is among the swing states considered critical by both parties in this year's election.

Bush lost the state in 2000 by 366 votes. Nader ran as the Green Party nominee four years ago and received about 4 percent of the vote in New Mexico.

Environment

continued from page 2

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Nader on New Mexico ballot

Barry Massey
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SANTA FE — The New Mexico Supreme Court on Tuesday ordered Ralph Nader's name to be placed on New Mexico's Nov. 2 ballot as an independent presidential candidate, running back a Democratic challenge to his candidacy.

The court announced its decision after deliberating for about 90 minutes following oral arguments in the case Tuesday.

The New Mexico Democratic Party brought a lawsuit against Nader after he was certified as a candidate by Secretary of State Rebecca Vigil-Giron. Nader filed nominating petitions Sept. 7 with signatures of about 31,000 voters to secure a spot on the ballot. The ruling overturns a decision last week by state District Judge Theresa Busca, who said that Nader didn't qualify as an independent candidate in New Mexico because he's running in other states as the nominee for minor parties, including the Reform Party in Florida and Colorado.

Nader is on the ballot in more than 30 states, but faces court challenges in some of those and is suing for ballot access in several others. Democrats worry that Nader will take some support from John Kerry, potentially giving President Bush the edge in New Mexico, which is among the swing states considered critical by both parties in this year's election.

Bush lost the state in 2000 by 366 votes. Nader ran as the Green Party nominee four years ago and received about 4 percent of the vote in New Mexico.
Global economy to post strongest growth in years

Jeanine Aversa
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The world economy this year should post its best growth in three decades even though oil prices are up sharply and economic activity in the United States probably will be slower than previously thought.

Those were some of the assessments in the International Monetary Fund's latest World Economic Outlook Forecast released Wednesday.

After expanding by 3.9 percent in 2003, the global economy is now projected by the IMF to grow by 5 percent in 2004. That is a better forecast for this year than the 4.6 percent increase estimated in April. Should the new projection prove accurate, it would mark the strongest growth since 1973, an IMF spokesman said.

Global growth has been helped by factors that include rising corporate profitability, improved stock markets, strong housing markets and gains in employment, the agency said.

The revised projection for 2004 is encouraging for an economy battered by recession, terrorist attacks and war. But rising oil prices are still a concern, the IMF said.

The IMF predicted the U.S. economy would grow by 4.3 percent this year, compared with an earlier estimated growth of 4.6 percent. Even so, the revision would represent the best showing since 1999 and an improvement over the 3 percent gain in 2003.

The health of the U.S. economy is a prominent issue in the presidential campaign.

President Bush credits his tax cuts for helping the economy rebound from the 2001 recession.

Democrat John Kerry contends those cuts mainly have helped the wealthy, squeezed the middle class and put the government deeper into debt.

The U.S. economy grew briskly in the first quarter of this year before slowing over the next three months. Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan has blamed that largely on high oil prices and said the economy has since gained some traction.

"This is a soft patch, not a sink hole," the IMF's chief economist, Raghuram Rajan, said of the slowdown.

For 2005, the global economy is expected to slow further, expanding by 4.3 percent, compared with the 4.4 percent estimate from the IMF in April.

"Looking forward, the global expansion — while still solid — will therefore likely be somewhat weaker than earlier expected," the IMF said.

"The balance of risks has shifted to the downside with further oil price volatility a particular concern." "

Crude oil prices on Wednesday dipped to $49.20 a barrel in midday trading. On Tuesday, oil prices surpassed $50 a barrel for the first time before ending the day at $49.90. The IMF's forecasts are based on an assumption that oil prices would decline around $37-35 a barrel this year and next.

"Tony Blair, I am begging you for my life. Have some compassion. Only you can help me now."

— KENNETH BIGLEY

British hostage

The new footage, first broadcast on the Arab news network Al Jazeera and then posted on the Internet, showed Kenneth Bigley begging British Prime Minister Tony Blair to meet his captors' demands.

"Tony Blair, I am begging you for my life," the 62-year-old Bigley said between sobs. "Have some compassion. Only you can help me now."

He accused Blair of lying about efforts to secure his release, saying no negotiations were taking place.

"My life is cheap. He doesn't care about me. I am just one more number," the captive said. "I want to go home. Please, Mr. Blair, don't leave me here."

It was the second tape in a week to surface showing Bigley appealing for help. Iraq's most feared terror group, Tawhid and Jihad, said it would respond if his captors initiated contact, but had no way to reach them. Bigley's brother, Paul, told the British Broadcasting Corp. that the images of his brother chained and caged were "absolutely appalling, there's no other word for it, heart wrenching."

But he said he was pleased to see his brother alive.

"That's the good news I see through the smoke," he said. "This is a lot dicker attempt, something has to be done and something has to be done very quickly."

More than 140 foreigners have been kidnapped in Iraq and at least 26 have been killed. Some, like Bigley, were beheaded by insurgents in a video in their campaign against the United States and its allies.

But others were taken by criminals seeking ransom.

"This kind of thing creates a broader contagion for people suffering for other reasons under the occupation," said Jonathan Stevenson, senior fellow for counterterrorism with the International Institute for Strategic Studies in Washington.

"They get the idea that they can earn some extra cash by kidnapping people," he said.

Stevenson said al-Zarqawi and his followers probably realize they can't drive the United States and Britain out of Iraq. But militants hope that by taking hostages, they can force the release of a few Iraq prisoners or the pullout of some troops — the Philippines withdrew its 53 soldiers to freeing a captive allowing them to declare victory.

The back-to-back releases this week of the two Italian aid workers and four Egyptian communications engineers raised questions about whether ransom were paid to win their freedom. Italian Premier Silvio Berlusconi brushed off the questions, telling La Stampa newspaper: "About this business, we won't say anything."

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Domestic diva will serve five months in a West Virginia prison that housed jazz singer Billie Holiday

Erin McClam
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Martha Stewart will do her time farther from home than she had hoped, at a remote West Virginia prison where inmates sleep in hunk beds and rise at 6 a.m. to do menial labor for pennies an hour.

The millionaire celebrity homemaker said Wednesday that she has been assigned to the minimum-security women's prison at Alderson. The effective date was Oct. 8.

Stewart, convicted in March of lying to federal investigators about why she sold 3.925 shares of ImClone Systems Inc. stock in December 2001, will do her time closer to her family but was pleased that the government had assigned her "as quickly as possible" to the first federal prison camp for women in the United States.

"I look forward to getting this behind me and to vigorously pursuing my appeal," she said.

After her expected release in early March, she must serve five months under house arrest. Stewart's new prison home is tucked into a town of about 1,000 residents that relies on inmates to clean up the river banks, mow grass and pick up trash. The inmate-staffed fire department assists the town's volunteer department when needed.

Inmates at Alderson typically rise about 6 a.m. and work most of the day, making 12 to 40 cents an hour at jobs such as garbage collection, sanitation and food service, said Dan Danile, a federal prisons spokesman.

"They sleep on bunks in nine large rooms that house between 26 and 90 inmates each. There are no individual cells. Lights out is around 8:45 p.m. on weekdays, later on weekends," Danile said.

When she reports to prison, she will be allowed to bring a few personal items, such as a single pair of earrings worth less than $100, a Social Security card, a limited amount of cash and a religious item approved by the warden. Alderson, a 95-acre installation opened in 1925, houses about 1,000 inmates.

Its past inhabitants include two women who tried to kill President Ford — Charles Manson disciple Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme and Sara Jane Moore — and jazz singer Billie Holiday, sentenced on a drug charge.

"I look forward to getting this behind me and to vigorously pursuing my appeal."

— MARTHA STEWART
domestic mogul

Peter Bacanovic were convicted of lying to federal investigators about why Stewart sold 3.925 shares of ImClone Systems Inc. stock in December 2001. They received the same sentence — five months in prison, plus five months of house arrest.

Bacanovic was also allowed to remain free while he appeals. He has announced no plans to enter prison.
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like a lion and a tiger mixed... bred for i
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Too bad, she said she doesn't want you here
when she gets back because you've been ruini
everybody's lives and eating all our steak.

You guys are retarded!

She's uh... she's got sandy blonde hair. She's uh... pretty good looking face, but she's just getting really...
just kinda 10'd because... I mean she hasn't even sent me a full body shot yet.

Now, just imagine you
weightless, in the mid
the ocean, surrounded
little seahorses.
I already made like in
those at scout camp.

Do the chickens

Reason number 23: “Your wildest dreams will come true.” Whatever your reason, there are very few reasons not to love Napoleon Dynamite. The movie attracted an unexpected following across the nation since its debut in June. The popularity at the Palm Theater is no exception. “Even if (Napoleon Dynamite) doesn't sell out, it's crowded—it doesn't matter what time or day it's playing,” said Catherine McDonald, a projectionist for the Palm Theater. The offbeat comedy was a hit at the Sundance Film Festival and earned Best Feature Film at the U.S. Comedy Arts Festival according to everyone who once owned a trapper

INSIDE

Check out even more Napoleon Dynamite.
Page 7

McDonald said. Dynamite was Jared Hess’ first feature film. He said the movie actually mimics what life is like in Preston, Idaho. He should know since he grew up there. Hess left Brigham Young University to make the film, which has captured the hearts of nearly everyone who once owned a trapper keeper.

There’s no real plot and there’s no real substance. In fact, the movie is just about these crazy characters in pursuit of their dreams. According to McDonald, a lot of younger audience members will say it's their third or fourth time seeing the movie. “There’s a lot of groups of kids that have seen it and are bringing their friends,” she said.

So what makes this movie so love-
able?

Roger Rich, who has seen the movie twice already and was in love for his see Napoleon, page 8

Girls only want boyfriends who have
great skills. You know, like nunchuc
Daniel Ely  
MUSTANG DAILY

Anyone who hasn’t lived in a cardboard box for the last six months has not heard about Napoleon Dynamite. The movie surpasses phenomenon status in many ways: fan clubs for the film were forming up even before the movie opened, "Vote for Pedro" t-shirts are now flying off shelves, and people are constantly quoting the movie.

I, however, hadn’t seen it. In order to understand better the wave of enthusiasm gripping the nation over the film, I decided the time had come to see the film, but also to see what type of people were there. Would they be like me, people who simply hadn’t made it to a theater, even after their friends raved on and on about it? Or would they be die-hard fans, going to see their favorite film for the sixth or seventh time, like it was the new Rocky Horror Picture Show?

I was about to find out.

I was primarily surprised to see most people were that on dates, not in the big groups of friends that I had expected. I wouldn’t have thought that Napoleon’s squinting, bespectacled face would be such a draw for young love. I was also surprised to find that all of the people I talked to, none of them had seen it before.

The oceans of patrons returning to the theater I had expected to run into were just not there.

The crowd in the theater laughed and sighed along with the painfully awkward characters and even I found commonalities with the supremely mediocre Napoleon, from uncool- able school dances and student government campaigns, to the development of ninja-fighting skills. Like Napoleon, one of the "unpopular" kids. However, after a choreographed disco dance set to the beats of "Shake Your Booty," I was catapulted into cult status, like a teenage Ed Wood movie. If I had the aid of the band Jani-Trojanos, as Napoleon did, I might have left my drab student life for good to pursue a career in disco engineering.

Because of my own connections to Napoleon, I could see why the fan base for the film developed so quickly, but I could also understand why these people hadn’t seen it. Such a widespread success can be daunting, and it’s hard to go see a film after it has been built up so much. Still, I didn’t find myself disappointed.

People filtered out of the theater after lingering to watch extra footage after the credits. Walking away from the theater, I could hear them all quoting the movie to each other. To a filmmaker, this must be a true testament of their abilities... to hear a theater full of people all saying "Augh ... IDIOT!"
Napoleon
continued from page 6
third time said, "On the lowest level of my human being, I just love seeing people getting hit in the catch by a bike."
McDonald said parents like Napoleon Dynamite "become it's rated PG, but it is cool enough for their kids to appreciate."
Even skeptical mainstreamers cannot resist the allure of Napoleon's sweet namecheck skills. The movie begins as Napoleon (Jon Heder) steps out of his red brick house in his snowshoes (he prefers "nuümboots") and uncomfortably tight jeans all topped off with a ghostly, yet irresistible, red fro.
Napoleon Dynamit's nerdy innocence also generates a lot of appeal. He actually believes that ligers exist and lyly believes that he is the best show's namesake, that's not to say the one line he contributes to "hot babes" on the Internet all day. "I basically set out to tell the story of the kind of young people who have never really had their stories told," Hess said in a press release. "Everyone can relate to the character in some way. Either you knew him in high school or you have a little bit of him in you." — EMILEE WRIGHT
animal science senior

"People like that nerdy kid who sat next to you in math drawing myths and comfort­ably tight jeans all topped off with a ghostly, yet irresistible, red fro."

"I didn't eat the bone, so why should I pay for it?"

By POLLY BROWN
Cheking his dignity at the cash register, college student Andy Pereustier recently presented a local diner cashier with a plate of picked-over food, demanding money for the vittles he didn't ingest. The cashier—who wishes to remain anonymous—was flabbergasted by the whole incident. "It was both sick and sad at the same time," she said. Pereustier had a different take: "I didn't eat the bone, so why should I pay for it?" Pete Waychick—a childhood friend of Pereustier's—said it was monthly fees tacked on to his friend's checking account that drove him to the homeless act. "Andy has been pounded for months by fees on his checking account. He's pathetic. I never really liked him when we were kids either," Waychick—who says he personally was financially saved by Washington Mutual's Free Checking Deiat—thought his childhood friend needed to get his act together and visit a Washington Mutual Financial Center or go to wamu.com. Then he, too, could sign up for Free Checking—an account with optional Delo services like free online bill pay. "Until Andy decides to get Free Checking," said Waychick, "I'm never eating out with him again. I'm pretty sure I won't return his phone calls either. I even changed my name."

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A glimpse into the light:
There are textbook options

Samir Patel
UNIVERSITY NEWS

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — I made a mistake. A slave to impulse buying, I finally realized the time was right for me to buy my textbooks. Like every other average Joe, I walked into the university bookstore this past week looking for five textbooks for my English class. After finding them, the cashier rang me up with a total coming to a tidy $94.66. Hummm ... it all seemed reasonable enough. Under $100 for five textbooks appeared to be quite the bargain.

But was it really?

After returning home, that burning question still lingered on my mind and I decided to do some investigative research.

For years, I’ve heard the adage: buying books on the Internet can really save you money. However, every time I heard this, I felt it was just another sales pitch of information.

But this time was different. I already fed the factoid restraint this University puts upon me; I needed to know the truth. I jumped on the information superhighway and decided to do some price-shopping. What I found amazed me. Those people were right.

My first stop took me to the book buyer’s paradise known as Amazon.com. Luckily, my thoughtful professor had listed the ISBN numbers of each textbook on the syllabus, so finding the right copy of each book was a snap.

Finally, when I proceeded to checkout, my eyes widened as I saw the total for the five textbooks (with shipping) came to $76.76. It was a savings of almost $20.

Twenty dollars!

Now, to the average working man, $20 may be a mere pittance. But to a starving college student, it’s a damn fortune:

It’s enough to buy a tank of gas, beer for a week, or most importantly, Ramen Noodles for an entire year! Why have I been so blind to the wisdom of others?

My shopping excursion didn’t stop there, as I scoured the Internet looking for more. I knew better prices possibly lay out there, and after hours of searching, my travels took me to Textbooks.com. There my journey ended. After finding the textbooks, my check­ out total came to a delicious $71.01. I was yet again slumped in the face, as my savings amounted to $23.65. Tears sprouted in my eyes and I thought back to how many hundreds of dollars I could have saved just by going this route.

But no, my impatience had bested me and for that, I must suffer. I see the light now, and I’m not the only one that feels this regret.

My only hope now is that the students reading this learn from my bleating experience and take notice of the other options out there.

Don’t be a slave to the bookstore!

Don’t be a slave to the bookstore!

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

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The strike comes at a time when the Visitors Bureau reports that tourists seem to be coming back to the city after the double hit local tourism from the collapse of the dot-com industry and Sept. 11.

The strike comes at a time when San Francisco Convention and Visitors Bureau reports that travelers seem to be coming back to the city after the devastating double-hit local tourism took after the collapse of the dot-com industry and Sept. 11.

Between the first of the year and the end of July, the average hotel occupancy rate in San Francisco was 72.1 percent, compared to 65 percent a year earlier and 83.8 percent during the same period in 2000. Tourism is such a vital part of the local economy that San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom met with union and hotel representatives last week to encourage them to go back to the negotiating table before the strike authorized by the union's membership on Sept. 14 commenced. Other local officials lined up behind the hotel workers Wednesday.

Talks between Local 2 and the management of 14 large hotels in the city have broken down, and workers, including New York, Chicago and Boston, are set to renegotiate their labor pacts.

Meanwhile, hotel workers in Los Angeles and Washington, D.C., who also have been working without contract have authorized their unions to call strikes, but so far San Francisco remains the only city where the ongoing labor disputes have reached that step.

Local 2 maintains it needs to bargain together with other unions in 2006 to be able to stand up to the corporations that increasingly are taking ownership of hotels. But the employers' group wants a five-year contract instead of a short-term agreement that might end up getting tied to the labor and economic conditions elsewhere.

"Nobody wants to turn around in 18 months and renegotiate," said Cornell Fowler, a SFAEG spokesman. "This is about stability, for the hotels and the workers," he said.

Other striking points include proposed increases in the amount workers pay for health insurance and what the unions describe as the unfairly heavy workloads hotel support staff have shouldered since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks led to a downturn in travel and industry layoffs.

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Other striking points include proposed increases in the amount workers pay for health insurance and what the unions describe as the unfairly heavy workloads hotel support staff have shouldered since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks led to a downturn in travel and industry layoffs.

The strike comes at a time when the San Francisco Convention and Visitors Bureau reports that travelers appear to be coming back to the city after the devastating double-hit local tourism took after the collapse of the dot-com industry and Sept. 11.

Between the first of the year and the end of July, the average hotel occupancy rate in San Francisco was 72.1 percent, compared to 65 percent a year earlier and 83.8 percent during the same period in 2000. Tourism is such a vital part of the local economy that San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom met with union and hotel representatives last week to encourage them to go back to the negotiating table before the strike authorized by the union's membership on Sept. 14 commenced. Other local officials lined up behind the hotel workers Wednesday.

Talks between Local 2 and the management of 14 large hotels in the city have broken down, and workers, including New York, Chicago and Boston, are set to renegotiate their labor pacts.

Meanwhile, hotel workers in Los Angeles and Washington, D.C., who also have been working without contract have authorized their unions to call strikes, but so far San Francisco remains the only city where the ongoing labor disputes have reached that step.

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Development applicants should have experience in object-oriented programming skills in C++ and Java. Experience with OODBMS is a plus. Multiple positions are available. System Administrators should have experience in troubleshooting network, OS and hardware problems. Familiarity with WIN2K Server, WIN2K Prof., and WINXP and Linux, considered ideal. In-depth knowledge of network services and configuration on Linux (DNS, SAMBA, Omail, etc.) a plus. One position available. Motivation and ability to work with minimal supervision is a must. The CADRC is an on campus research facility specializing in human decision support software. We are looking for students who would like to work 20 hours per week for at least one year and preferably longer who are able to work full time quarter breaks and summer quarter. Starting salary based on knowledge and experience. Come by the CADRC (Bldg. 1177) and pick up an application, or email resume to office@cadrc.calpoly.edu.

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ATTENTION ALL ENGLISH MAJORS!

The English Club's first General Meeting will be held Thurs. Sept. 30th at 7pm in room 207. Meet fellow English majors and find out about this year's events and activities. Everyone is welcome!

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

Like to Sing?
Paly's a cappella group Take It Off world is auditioning for new members Thurs. Sept. 30th. 9:30pm. $ 218 Bldg. 45. Prepare two pieces. Questions? email Trusty415@ast.com

Auditions
Come and audition for this year's oldest black comedy. Edward Albee's 'The American Dream'. Auditions will be held in the HJ Davidson Music Building, 45 room on Tues. Oct. 5th between 9 and 6 accepting applications and interviewing for a wide variety of seasonal positions. Free parking just one of the many perks. Come by the Hampton Inn at 212 Alexander. For more information call (559)233-2500 or visit www.sierrasummmit.com. Sierras Summit operates under a special use permit from the Sierra National Forest. An EEO.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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SPORTS

Quarterback
continued from page 12
entertaining), but any reasonably talented guy with a good team is capable. It's like icing on the cake that Ellerson believes he has three guys that are capable.

Mary's last year. He said he's happy just to be winning.

$100/week. For applications, call Greg 756-7653.

Like Cal Poly Sports?
The Mustang Daily is looking for freelance sports writers and columnists. Call Dan at 756-2796.
Women's soccer favored to win the Big West, again

MUSINGS DAILY STAFF REPORT

Women's soccer returns home to host two Big West schools in Mustang Stadium this weekend. The Mustangs hope to build upon last year's Big West title, their fourth in five seasons. Cal Poly will play UC Irvine on Friday at 7 p.m. and Long Beach State on Sunday at 1 p.m.

Cal Poly is 3-0-1 in its last four Big West games and is undefeated in its last 13 home matches. Coach Alix Crozier's Mustangs went unranked in last week's Soccer Buzz national poll but posted a ranking of 14th in the West Region. The Mustangs' victory with the University of San Diego knocked them down two poll positions from last week (12th to 14th).

Cal Poly opened its season with a 2-2 draw against No. 3 Santa Clara, then defeated UC Davis 3-2 and Western Kentucky 4-2 before falling to Saint Mary's 1-0. The Mustangs' defense has thrived with exposure for recruitment and game attendance. Troy Moss from The Sports Network ranked Cal Poly No. 36 in the nation and No. 2 in the Great West Conference in pre-season Div. I-AA football polls. Northern Colorado was ranked No. 1 in the Great West Conference, making it one of the games to mark on the calendar.

Defensive coordinator David Brown stressed the need to prepare for games as they come and not to get too overwhelmed with the concept of the conference as a whole. "We all seriously have a chance to win it all," Brown said. "Like every other team we are just taking it one conference game at a time." All the teams in the conference are strong, Brown said, so the competition is all around, and not particularly in one or two teams. "Our conference is surprisingly strong from top to bottom," Brown said. "Most of the conference members had a lot of success last season and are off to good starts this year." Since the conference members are spread over three time zones, the conference is expected to get extra media coverage, which will help with exposure for recruitment and game attendance.

The Mustangs' meet South Dakota State and Northern Colorado Nov. 13.

Commentary

Golden Graham

There are at least two ways to agitate Cal Poly football coach Rich Ellerson. The first is to mistakenly assume Ellerson once coached at Arizona State. Actually, Ellerson was formerly an assistant at hit­ter rival University of Arizona. Mix up Wildcats and Sun Devils and watch Ellerson's eyes glow and his face turn red. It's kind of fun. Just make sure to be at least ten feet away.

That's not enough fun, tell Ellerson's there's a quarterback controversy at Cal Poly. After all, three games into the season, four Mustangs have thrown at least one pass. There may not wind up being a consistent starting quart­erback this season, but a two­man platoon of junior Josh Mende and sophomore transfer Cordel Webb. Ellerson could care less. To him there is only a pseudo­controversy that media stuff like me have helped exaggerate. "You guys are missing a great story," he told a roomful of reporters at the weekly press conference Monday. "We have a tremendous offensive guard con­test there this year and it's being lost in the media because of the quarterback story." For sure, a solid offensive line has helped the Mustangs run over opponents and start 3-0 for the second straight year. Last year's average of 163.6 rushing yards for the first three games seemed good enough, but the Mustangs have tacked on a ridiculous six interceptions and 12 sacks for their average this year.

And Jesse Bender, Beau Finster, Josh McHalf and Jaccari Tua are battling fiercely for two starting guard spots.

Then there's Cal Poly's van­quished offensive line—possibly the best in the Great West Conference—that has three interceptions, 13 sacks and has scored five of the team's 14 touchdowns. In fact, senior linbacker Jordan Beck is tied for the team lead with two touchdowns scored.

Beck is a special case. He's multi-talented and bringing more and more attention to a program that doesn't get much national press. Already, Beck has 24 tackles, one interception in each game and has returned two picks into the end zone.

He's first player profiled in the Mustang media guide and a candidate to win the Buck Buchanan Award given to the best Div. I-AA defensive player in the nation. I'll be miffed if Beck isn't picked in the top three picks of the upcoming NFL Draft.

It remains to be seen how Cal Poly will fare in conference play. It's begin­ning to look like the Mustangs could be in a conference that has thrived with more than one quarterback, including Arizona, which went 12-1 and was ranked fourth with a two­man platoon in 1997.

Quarterback is overrated. To me, positions like linebacker and offensive lineman determine a team's success much more. It's not like a dysslexic four-year-old could handle Quarterback duties (although that would really be quite fascinating).