**Measure Q could impact Cal Poly**

Melissa L. Dorcak  
MUSTANG DAILY

The station offers a one-hour program three nights per week, Thursday's at 8 p.m. Zilo TV and National Lampoon have joined the line up and feature "eclectic syndicated programs that offer entertainment and information that appeals to a younger demographic," Soares said. Zilo TV airs Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday beginning at 8 p.m., 7 p.m. and 9 p.m., respectively. National Lampoon airs at 10 p.m. on Wednesdays.

The station is one of the few public access television stations in the county and to the government. They will be the only news organization that offers live coverage of the election on San Luis Obispo.
Measure Q
continued from page 1
If the ballot measure passes, Wong does not think he will grow his crops out in the open anymore and students will lose out as a result. "Wong values the freedom of being able to take his students out of the classroom and into the fields to see what they’re learning," Wong said. "I wouldn’t be able to show students how things work and why they work.”

He and other faculty members in his position may choose to pursue research with faculty at other universities in countries considered “genetically engineering friendly.”

Wong said he thinks this could lead to a loss of grant money coming into Cal Poly for research of this type. "If you feel you have a constraint put upon you, you may find some other place to go," Wong said.

Peterson can also foresee the passage of the ballot measure having a negative impact on Cal Poly. In his research he investigates the relationship between nutrients and gene function and how to change gene function to maximize nutrients. Peterson said companies in the biotechnology field are interested in San Luis Obispo County because it is a nice area for employees to live. But if the ballot measure passes, these companies may not be as inclined to come to San Luis Obispo.

"If a company was thinking about locating here, and Measure Q passes, they might think twice," Elrod said.

Jan Hayes and her husband Ron, a Cal Poly graduate, started a biotechnology company in San Luis Obispo in the early 1990s. Their medical start-up, FizioMed, will not be directly impacted if the measure passes. However, Jan Hayes said that the measure sends a negative message.

"It says this is a community that’s adverse to biotechnology and not welcoming to companies,” Hayes said.

When asked if she and her husband would have started their business here if the measure had already been in place, she said, "We definitely would have been deterred.”

Hayes said she had hoped to create a strong base for the biotechnology industry in the county. She expected this kind of environment to create good paying jobs and internships for Cal Poly students.

It’s important for companies to have a sympathetic and encouraging infrastructure,” Hayes said.

Both Peterson and Hayes said they are worried about the impact the measure may have on the chance for students to gain internship experience. If companies involved in biotechnology aren’t interested in coming to San Luis Obispo, students will have to find other alternatives.

"The students learning these techniques in my labs, classes and research won’t have the opportunity to apply the knowledge locally," Peterson said.

Hayes said she thinks this will create a discouraging learning environment.

"Students could learn a skill on campus and it would be illegal off campus.”

Future employers, like FizioMed, see internships as an essential element of a student’s learning experience. Students may need to take time off of school to pursue internships around the state rather than completing an internship while they are taking classes.

If the ballot measure passes, Peterson said, "It’ll seal the fate on that kind of commitment.”

Ryan Middleton, biotechnology club president and a biology senior, is concerned about his future after graduation.

“This particularly affects microbiology and cell biology students because it would virtually eliminate internships within these fields of research in the county. Students will have to leave the county in order to find work after graduation,” Middleton said.

The lack of biotechnology companies in the county could also affect faculty.

Elrod said some faculty in the College of Science and Mathematics contract with local biotechnology companies. They either collaborate with company employees or receive funding for their research. Other faculty may wish to start their own company based on research findings. In both cases, faculty members may ultimately choose to leave the area and go to another university if the ballot measure passes.

“IF we had a more supportive governor, we would be getting a larger budget,” she said.

To find out more about CPA or the recently vetoed bills, visit www.calfac.org or www.schwarzenegger.com.

CONGRATULATIONS!
Homecoming 2004: How the Great West Was Won’ Winners:
1st PLACE: Cal Poly Mustang Band
2nd PLACE: Phi Sigma Kappa & Kappa Alpha Theta
3rd PLACE: Alpha Phi Omega

The Homecoming Committee thanks all of the 2004 club participants and our generous sponsors:
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Starbucks’ Coffee

A SAFER, STRONGER AND BETTER AMERICA!
MIAMI — In the closing hours of their bitter campaigns, President Bush and Sen. John Kerry charged through the critical battlegrounds of Florida and Ohio on Sunday, going from hushed church services to raucous campaign rallies with promises to keep America safe.

Kerry said that if elected he would undertake an unprecedented "bur­ry of activity" to protect national security that would include quick Cabinet appointments.

"I'm going to make America safe, and I have some very strong and real steps to take quite imme­diately to make that happen," Kerry told The Associated Press.

WASHINGTON — A short­age of at least $60,000 poll workers nationwide means many voters could face long lines, cranky vol­unteers, polling places that don't open or close on schedule and the chance that results won't be known until long after the polls are closed.

roughly 1.4 million people have been trained to serve as poll workers on Tuesday.

WASHINGTON — The World Health Organization has called an unprecedented summit meeting of the vaccine makers and nations to expand plans for dealing with the growing threat of a flu pandemic.

Sixteen vaccine companies and health officials from around the world already have agreed to attend the summit next week in Geneva, Switzerland, said Klaus Stohr, influenza chief of the United Nations' health agency.

VIENNA, Austria — Iraq is awash in weapons sites — some large, others small; some guarded, others not.

Even after the U.S. military secured some 400,000 tons of munitions, as many as 250,000 tons remain unaccounted for. Attention has focused on the al-Qaqaa site south of Baghdad, where 377 tons were killed by floodwaters from a two-mile stretch of the riverbed. Dec­ember because of concerns that heavy rains will be a hazard for those living in shacks and tents.

As many as 150 dwellers inhabit a two-mile stretch of the riverbed west of Ventura, where homeless

KABUL, Afghanistan — Mili­tants released a video Sunday showing three frightened foreign hostages — Annetta Flanigan of Northern Ireland, Filipino diplomat Angelito Nayan and Shapre Habibi of Kosovo — are shown sitting hunched togeth­er against the bare wall of a room in an undisclosed location.

KIEV, Ukraine — Opposition candidate Viktor Yushchenko, a re­former who advocates pushing Ukraine closer to Western Europe, won the most votes Sunday in Ukraine's presidential election but fell short of a first-round victory, according to an exit poll.

The vote was seen as a key test of democracy in this nation of 48 million people and as an indicator of what direction Ukrainians will choose for their nation, which has cultivated ties with the West and neighboring Russia.

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There was no immediate comment from the White House.

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Bin Laden addresses Americans, appeals to Muslim supporters

In a tape aired Friday, bin Laden takes responsibility for the Sept. 11 attacks and explains his reasons for terrorism.

Salah Nasrawi

CAIRO, Egypt — Osama bin Laden's new videotape clearly targets American voters days before an extraordinarily tight presidential election, but also courts another constituency: young Arabs who are frustrated and disenchanted but not committed to radical Islam.

"Your security is not in the hands of Kerry, Bush or al-Qaida...Americans' security is bound to the policy they adopt regardless of the winner," bin Laden said.

— OSAMA BIN LADEN
Leader of al-Qaida

"Al-Qaida is a persecuted and closed terrorist group that belongs to the 11th century that are not true," he said.

Bin Laden and his followers are "showing a degree of maturity and development in order to bring their cause into the mainstream of (Arab-Islamic) causes," Mehyo said. "This is a very serious matter that should command our attention and think.

Biographers of the al-Qaida leader have noted how his first showed anger at the Americans during the last phase of the Afghan war against Soviet troops, a war in which "there is no war," the tape said.

But analysts say he is trying to reach young Muslims among those who have chosen more secular Muslim voices as well as Americans.

In the tape, parts of which were aired Friday by the Arabic TV network Al-Jazeera, bin Laden dropped the usual religious rhetoric and historical references in favor of plain language.

And he pointed to Israeli aggression as his inspiration for the Sept. 11 attacks, which he addressed the camera.

"It's a surprise he was in good health; it was a surprise he was in the same condition as his inspiration for the Sept. 11 attacks so Americans can act to prevent a similar strike. Stop harming them," bin Laden said.

"Your security is in your own hands," bin Laden said. "Americans' security is bound to the policy they adopt regardless of the winner." Bin Laden said.

"Al-Qaida's leader already has extremists on his side, who made it clear in their remarks posted Saturday on Islamic Web sites that they were elated to see him looking healthy and in control of the case.

But analysts say he is trying to broaden his base and that his words were chosen for more secular Muslim voices as well as Americans.

In the tape, parts of which were aired Friday by the Arabic TV network Al-Jazeera, bin Laden dropped the usual religious rhetoric and historical references in favor of plain language.

And he pointed to Israeli aggression as his inspiration for the Sept. 11 attacks, which he addressed the camera. Bin Laden said his decision to sanction the Sept. 11 bombings was motivated by the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon, which he said sparked "a strong feeling against injustice and a strong determination to punish the injustices.

"He no longer needs to talk and address devout Muslims, they already support him," said Abdul Rahim Ali, an expert on radical Islamic groups and author of Alliance of Terror, Al Qaida Organization.

"What he wants is to enlarge the circle in order to mobilize more young Muslims among those who are not committed (to radical Islam) and to create a new struggle," Ali said.

"His new look" and said the tape showed his "distinction as his inspiration for the Sept. 11 attacks so Americans can act to prevent a similar strike. Stop harming them," bin Laden said.

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Governor tours state, targets long list of propositions

Beth Foulhy
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Fresh off a high-profile campaign trip to Ohio for President Bush, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger returned to California on Tuesday for a final weekend of campaigning before Tuesday’s election.

The governor began a two-day bus tour of the state Saturday by speaking out about several of the 16 initiatives on the California ballot.

He drew some of the most emotional responses when criticizing Proposition 66, an initiative that seeks to amend the state’s “three-strikes” sentencing law.

In the previous weeks, Schwarzenegger has invested most of his political capital in trying to defeat Propositions 66 and 70, ballot measures that would expand the scope of casino gambling in the state.

Critics of the initiative said it would allow thousands of violent offenders to be freed from the state prison system.

“Proposition 66 is a bad idea,” he told a rally in Anaheim, where the audience booed to show their disapproval of the measure. “It would let thousands of child molesters, rapists and murderers out of our prisons and into your neighborhoods.”

The initiative would alter the 10-year-old three-strikes law, which mandates a 25-years-to-life sentence for anyone who has been convicted of two serious or violent felonies and is then convicted of a third felony, even if it’s for a nonviolent offense.

Critics of the law say it has led to long prison terms for people who do not pose a serious threat to society. Earlier polls showed a solid majority of voters favoring the effort to soften the law, but a late surge in anti-initiative advertising and campaigning has ended that support.

Schwarzenegger has begun running television ads opposing it, while law enforcement officials and district attorneys across the state have begun speaking out against it.

A week after the call, Schwarzenegger toured a prison in Fontana that houses the initiative’s founder, Robert B. Counterman.

One of the main arguments against the measure is that it would allow inmates eligible for parole.

The measure would shorten the list of felonies that trigger the third strike, removing crimes such as making criminal threat and robbing an unoccupied residence. It also would make inmates eligible for resentencing if their third strike was not a serious or violent crime.

Schwarzenegger has said the measure would “favor the criminals instead of the victims.”

The governor’s bus tour began in Del Mar in north San Diego County, before heading to Anaheim and then Bakersfield, where he was to attend a barbecue sponsored by Republican congressman Bill Thomas.

In previous weeks, Schwarzenegger has invested most of his political capital in trying to defeat Propositions 66 and 70, ballot measures that would expand the scope of casino gambling in the state.

Recent polls show both measures facing likely defeat, allowing the governor to focus his attention on other initiatives.

There is a wrong way to vote and a right way to vote,” Schwarzenegger told a boisterous rally in Anaheim. “You have to vote the right way.”

With so many measures on the ballot, several voters said they are looking toward the governor’s position to help guide them on how to cast their votes.

“Just for Arnold Schwarzenegger, I wouldn’t know about Proposition 66 and what a deceitful campaign it’s been,” said San Diego resident Jill Stutzman, who attended the Del Mar event.

Among the initiatives he favors: Proposition 1A to protect revenue for local government; Proposition 64, which would limit unfair competition and tax controversies; and Proposition 69, which would create a DNA database for accused and convicted felons.

Schwarzenegger is also urging a no vote on Proposition 72, which would require medium and large-sized employers to provide health coverage for workers. He has said such a requirement will be a drain on the state’s businesses at a time when California is trying to create new jobs and attract new companies.

“Prop. 72 would force many companies to scrap huge government bureaucracies,” it will drive businesses away from California and cost many jobs,” he said in Del Mar.

Schwarzenegger acknowledged problems with the nation’s health care system but said, “You don’t want to solve one big mess with another big mess.”

Left off his list was mention of Proposition 71, which would direct the state to borrow $3 billion to fund stem cell research.

Schwarzenegger has endorsed the measure against the wishes of the state Republican Party, which spent $2 million to print and mail the voter guides.

Aides said the governor won’t comment about his influence being diluted because he was taking stands on so many of the ballot propositions.

“There is a positive way to vote and a negative way to vote,” Schwarzenegger told a boisterous rally in Anaheim. “You have to vote the positive way.”

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Paul Brown, a Cal Poly alumni and owner of Mother's Tavern, needs your vote on November 2nd.

Paul understands the issues facing the students and our community.

Dave Romero
- Advocate for availability of housing
- Instrumental in installing and maintaining over 25 miles of bike lanes
- Continues to provide good relationship with Cuesta and Cal Poly Students
- Key figure in completion of the Damon Garcia sports fields and renovation of Strotherman Stadium
- Proponent of bike paths along railroad tracks for students

Paul Brown
- Advocate for student needs
- Proponent of affordable goods and student jobs
- Owner of Mother's Tavern
- Cal Poly Graduate
- Supporter of Cal Poly clubs
- Assistant Coach of the Rugby Team
- Alpha Gamma Rho Alumni

Paid for by the Cal Poly College Republicans FPPC #1220920
Free coffee and Nintendo: f-Stop lounge a procrastinator's fantasy

Natasha Toto
SHEILA SOBCHIK
MUSTANG DAILY

Deep within the basement of Cal Poly's architecture building lies a coffee lounge where students can escape the commotion of campus life. The f-Stop provides students with a 24-hour coffee supply and a place to relax, take a nap or just hang out. Architecture junior Amy Strazzarino said f-Stop runs on donations by order of campus dining.

"We can't make a profit since we are not licensed to sell anything on campus," Strazzarino said. The coffee lounge is supported and operated by the American Institute of Architecture Students on campus. AIAS uses the donations collected to supply the lounge with coffee, tea and hot chocolate. For years this untapped resource has gone unnoticed by the majority of students on campus. Students who have never visited f-Stop may have to search for it. The lounge is hidden beneath the stairs of the architecture building, around the corner in the stair court. A few feet down the dark hallway to the left is f-Stop, building 5, room 109.

Strazzarino said f-Stop's doors are open to all majors, 24 hours a day. "No one really hangs out there except architecture students," Strazzarino, treasurer of AIAS, said. "Our club sees f-Stop the most since we hold our meetings there."

Mechanical engineering senior Adam Franklin said he never heard of f-Stop. "I stay on campus pretty late doing projects," Franklin said. "It's nice to know there is a place I can go to get a cup of coffee and relax." Over the years, students and faculty have also donated a number of items that give f-Stop its inviting atmosphere.

The lounge's slanted ceiling is decorated with hundreds of pictures and photographs, and the walls are painted with colorful shapes and road signs. On the coffee bar, next to the cups and lid, is a dry erase board where students can see when the last pot of coffee was brewed.

Students are welcome to use the microwaves, refrigerator, television and video games. If playing Nintendo or watching "Ferris Bueller's Day Off" is too much work, anyone is welcome to pull out the sofa bed and take a nap.

Also, in the corner of the room there are piles of pillows and blankets for students who want some shut-eye. "Architecture students pull all-nighters all the time," said Strazzarino. "It is nice to have a place to relax, get some coffee or take a nap at 4 a.m."

With careful inspection, one can find the chalk tally where architecture students keep track of their all-night sessions on the corner wall. F-Stop provides a boost of caffeine to all those who crave it. Unfortunately, its future has never been secure.

The lounge's donation-only policy works on the honor system. Since the shop is always open and the doors are never locked, f-Stop is vulnerable.

"Someone stole our money and radio, and then proceeded to take a giant topper we had mounted on the wall for decoration," Strazzarino said.

Without the proper funding, the coffee lounge will have to close its doors, which would leave a lot of students without fuel as they chalk up one more all nighter on the wall.

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Top 10 Singles in ... the U.K.

1. "Wonderful" — Ja Rule ft. R. Kelly and Ashanti
2. "Call On Me" — Eric Prydz
3. "Nothing Hurts Like Love" — Daniel Bedingfield
4. "Stolen" — Jay Sean
5. My Neck, My Back (Lick It) — Khia
8. "I Believe My Heart" — Dizzee Rascal
9. "What Became Of The Best Thief Ever?" — The Libertines
10. "Happy People (I See You)" — R. Kelly
Bad habits don't beget bad music

A few years ago I found out that my uncle wouldn't listen to Led Zeppelin because they had a reputation for sex, drugs and trashing hotel rooms. I listened in quiet shock, wondering how anyone who had the opportunity to fill his life with Zeppelin would pass. I tried hard to understand his decision, but all I could think about was Robert Plant's vocal chords. I suppose there is an element of disappointment when the stars that I idolize turn out to be jerks or drug addicts. Probably half the artists I listen to have taken advantage of the rock 'n' roll lifestyle, which, honestly, is fine with me.

Obviously, music and personality come hand in hand these days. I look up to Bono and other artists who put their money and effort into good causes—but that doesn't necessarily make me like their music more, just as bad habits don't make me dislike their music.

Music is music and it manifests itself through the artist, whatever he or she may be into. When I listen to Led Zeppelin, I suppose there are aspects of their music that insinuate drugs, but all I hear is how amazing they were as a group. Their music is unparalleled and their personal lives were a completely separate thing.

Some artists today are combining their personalities with their music, which works in some cases. Eminem, though hated by some, chose to use his desire for controversy in his music and music videos. I believe it works for him. If you search for "controversial music" on the Internet, Eminem will dominate the results. Obviously he has a large following—some people just get sick of the world and need someone to make jokes about it.

A classic idea of artist-as-jerk is Oasis. Everybody remember them? I suppose there is an element of disappointment when the stars that you idolize turn out to be jerks or drug addicts. Probably half the artists I listen to have taken advantage of the rock 'n' roll lifestyle, which, honestly, is fine with me.

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A classic idea of artist-as-jerk is Oasis. Everybody remember them? I think in middle school I sang "Wonderwall" down the halls until my voice was shot. Back then, I wasn't reading about my favorite artists, but I heard through the grape vine that Liam Gallagher was a grown-up punk. Walking off stage in the middle of a show and leaving his poor brother to do an acoustic set just sounded too rock 'n' roll. Sure, he can do whatever he wants and his managers and P.R. agents will still repair his reputation and get him more gigs. But did it really hurt his reputation at all? Some would say no press is bad press.

In a more basic and general way, there are tons of artists and bands who come across as the "bad boys" (or girls) of music: Black Sabbath, The Rolling Stones, Guns n' Roses, Aerosmith, Marilyn Manson, Metallica, Smashing Pumpkins, Hole, and Veruca Salt. They have all had encounters with the law or just been advertised as just rebels. Whether or not the personal controversy of artists helps or hinders their careers, I believe it ultimately shouldn't matter. Some artist's personal lives will interest me for one reason or another, but the music is what I care about. The music is why they're in the spotlight. Well, most of the time.

Emily Logan is a journalism and music junior and a Mustang Daily columnist.

Download of the day

The Zombies
"Time of the Season"

"Yeah, I know I have heard this song before. It's great, but who wrote it?" The Zombies may have been the most overlooked British psychedelic band of the 1960s. Their music resembles the Beatles, the Beach Boys and possibly the Velvet Underground.

Courtesy of city and regional planning senior Aaron "no nickname" Ackerman

Have a suggestion for the Download of the Day?

e-mail us at artsandculture@mustangdaily.net please include your name, year and major and why the song should be downloaded!

What's your favorite Ashlee Simpson song? We really like "La La."
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

As citizens we should be critics of the president.

I am writing in response to Emily Curran’s article titled “It’s not crazy in citizen circles to call the president.” I emphasize the title because that statement alone is completely ridiculous. But perhaps most ridiculous is the closing statement: “It is then our job as citizens to stand with him and see beyond our circumstantial arguments and preserve our national identity and freedom.”

You are a political science senior, and after four years of education you still have no idea what the responsibilities of a citizen are. In the long list of responsibilities a citizen has, standing behind the president is near the bottom. If anything, it is our civic duty to look at all politicians with a critical eye and make sure they are doing what we think is best for the country. But stating that is our job to stand behind the president is probably a statement you would find on propaganda posters in Italy or Germany around 1939. In short, it’s factually baseless.

Should you have stood by Clinton when he was going through the Lewinsky scandal because he was having a rough time? No! Should you have stood by Kerry when there is not a single WMD to be found? No! Quite frankly there is no way you can be standing in disapproval about having an affair or completely missing the biggest reason to go war.

Julian Corwin

Electrical engineering junior

Bushman continues to court articles for winner

I hate to repeat myself, but it seems Bushman isbegging me to repeat and reframe the obvious. In Bushman’s response he attacked my criticism of his logic by “more of the same.” He did his homework for this one by counting even more papers’ articles—even over two entire weekends! If he were to take a moment out of his busy schedule to think about what I wrote, he would have seen that I was mocking his logic entirely, not the useless facts it refers to. I was asking him and others to choose a debate winner themselves and not count/be tricked by the both sides’ swinging media.

I’ll even admit that I know some papers will respond to a Republican win or lose in the way he suggests. Then again, these same newspapers envision endorse candidates outright!

The fact remains that he continues counting articles to decide on a winner.

Bushman also tries to refute that he never said “liberal media” and yes, I’ll admit, he’s right! You see, when someone with integrity is attempting to prove something (e.g. “noticing” less coverage of the debates that Bush does well in”), they are honest enough to explain what they are attempting to prove.

In other words, if you weren’t implying a liberal media, what were you suggesting Bushy? It appears you are further than ever Bushman. Quit writing and persuading guilty Republicans to be more annoying.

Marc Bevermann

Mechanical engineering sophomore

Answer to peacekeeping in Iraq may include a draft

Whether or not you feel we should be in Iraq is now beside the point. The question now is: Are our efforts being carried out properly and are you willing to die for the decisions Bush is making?

We face a greater threat today because Bush has overstepped the U.S. military thus compromising national security.

As reported by the New York Times, Donald Rumsfeld’s Defense Science Board recommended this month that the United States cut back on peacekeeping efforts or substantially increase the number of troops in the field.

Recruitment has plummeted and support from our short list of allies is weakening. You do the math. Here’s a clue—the answer rhymes with RAPF.

Jack Martin, the head of the Selective Service stated that if the draft is reinstated, “there would be no long deferments for college students and a lot more people could be eligible for the draft than before; men and women ages 18 to 26 could be called up.”

By waging unilateral wars on so many fronts, Bush has weakened our homeland security and created more anti-American sentiment than ever before. Sounds like a recipe for terrorism to me! Soon Bush’s backdoor draft is going to fail, and those soldiers are going to need to be replaced. We need a president that will build stronger trust in allies by clearly defining peacekeeping goals. Save our national security from Bush’s recklessness. Save your own ass.

Henry Swales

Aerospace engineering junior

Students need more candidate information

I was heartbroken when the Democratic candidate for State Senate sitting atop a donkey faces off against the headshot of the Republican candidate sitting atop an elephant. This is the front of a leaflet that claims to tell “where the candidates really stand on the important issues.” Open the leaflet, and you can read the donkey candidate rip the elephant candidate a new one.

This is where they really stand?

Another mailer advertises this donkey candidate offering “leadership with integrity.” I didn’t know integrity entailed ripping the opposition apart like anchovies off a pizza but you can’t stomach the little eyeballs.

Yes, this local election is a down and dirty knockdown, where the real issues are anyone’s guess. Potential student voters are left with little or no factual, unbiased information on local political candidates.

There are plenty of TV commercials attacking candidates’ opponents and few that speak positively of the candidate the commercial was designed to promote. Second grade has long since passed. Haven’t we established that it’s wrong to name names just because you don’t like him or her? Countless glossy, colorful sheets of “information” come in the mail.

Sometimes this information is specifically geared toward students. Cool, but I don’t care that you own a local bar and you’re a fraternity alumni. It’s not relevant.

Then there are the signs around campus, littering Dexter Lawn and elsewhere. Signs that say someone’s name and that’s it, that’s a pretty name. They get my vote!

The Cal Poly College Republicans said they offer meet-the-candidate barbecues, opportunities for debate and forum and other such activities to promote the Republican vote, but most students only have time in their day to walk by the signs on the way to class. Barbecues are a nice thought, but they do not reasonably fit into the average student’s day.

The Cal Poly Democrats said they put the signs out to get students more interested in other candidates, to encourage them to look up information on the candidates or come talk to the club to get more information. But not every student knows if they are Republican or Democrat. These students may be wary of approaching these organizations because they can’t be sure they’re getting all the facts.

Cal Poly students should be accountable for looking into local candidates if they want to vote. However, they shouldn’t have to jump through flaming hoops to find a decent fact.

Ideally, a nonpartisan club on campus should spread the word about all candidates and pass out voter information guides similar to what the state does. Like DVDs, not anchovies on a pizza.

Samantha Yale is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily columnist.

GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?

Send your letters to the editor to opinion@mustangdaily.net

I’ll even admit that I know you can say it in 250 words or less.
In changing his opinion of the war, Gardner joins a growing list of people who have lost family members in Iraq and have become poignant opponents of the invasion. Said to actively support John Kerry over President Bush; others, such as Gardner, find politics beside the point.

"I'm not a Bush fan or a Kerry fan. I'm nobody's fan except my son. He is my hero," said Gardner, 54, a hulking former ironworker on disability from his job at a cable company.

When the war started, the families of those killed in action seemed irrevocably to say they found comfort that their loved ones died for a good cause. More and more, to express that view, it is no longer the automatic response.

There is the Ohio father who posted a sign outside his home with the message "Thanks Mr. Bush for the death of our son," and the bereaved New Jersey mother detained for interrupting a speech by first lady Laura Bush. In Minnesota, relatives of a dead Marine protested outside an appearance by Vice President Dick Cheney.

An August poll by Quinnipiac University found that a majority of voters from military families in Pennsylvania said the war was wrong.

One of them is Christine Weismantle, a Pittsburgh nurse whose husband was killed in Baghdad a year ago. She no longer feels the invasion was worth the cost in casualties — but she also worries her critics could hurt troop morale.

"We should still support the troops and what they're doing. They're not the ones calling the shots," said Weismantle, 28, who plans to vote Nov. 2 for the first time ever. Her criteria for presidential candidate: who will end the war the soonest.

Still, she is not a political activist. Weismantle said she won't attend any demonstrations or join Military Families Speak Out, a group of relatives of active duty personnel opposed to the war that has signed up about 1,700 members since it formed in November 2002.

"The worst thing that could ever happen to me happened," Weismantle said. "It takes all my energy just to go to work."

Gardner faces the same paralyzing grief. He walked out of a restaurant crying at the sight of a newspaper photo of returning Marines. One night when he again couldn't sleep, Gardner wrote a lengthy essay about his son's death, detailing what he says was the military's failure to protect Derek's convoy from attack.

He has asked military officials why the convoy had no air support, leaving it exposed to the suicide bomb attack that also killed six other Marines. Gardner, who guarded convoys as a Marine in Vietnam, says he hasn't gotten a satisfactory answer.

"They had a plan A to get rid of Saddam, but they had no plan B. They had no plan C," Gardner said.

"We enthusiastically endorse Christine Mulholland. She's Head and Shoulders Above the Rest!"
**COACH'S CORNER**

This week's spotlight on... **Swimming and diving coach Rich Firman**

**-** I'm blessed to have volunteers such as Phillip Yoshida and a number of the girls that we graduated last year. Without their help, I wouldn't be able to do it.

**Q.** — How do you manage to coach both swimming squads as well as the diving team?

**A.** — I'm blessed to have volunteers such as Phillip Yoshida and a number of the girls that we graduated last year.

**Q.** — On Saturday, Mott Pool was dedicated and renamed for Dick Anderson. Anderson also set a team record in the 1,000-yard freestyle. Was that a milestone as far as your team is concerned?

**A.** — It's a milestone as far as our team is concerned. Anderson also set the pool record in the 1,000-yard freestyle.

**Q.** — What does the dedication as well as the availability of scholarship money mean to Cal Poly swimming?

**A.** — With the loss of the Mustangs (7-1, 3-1) are now tied with UC Santa Barbara (7-2, 3-2) for first place in the Big West Conference.

**Q.** — Last year you graduated numerous women from the squad. Is this year shaping up to be a rebuilding year? And how do you think the women's team will perform?

**A.** — It's definitely a rebuilding year, but I think we're going to come out all right. We're not going to be on top. We lost out on a number of girls because of scholarships, but the new girls have put up some fast times and we're working on it.

**Q.** — What are the major setbacks resulting from the lack of scholarship opportunities?

**A.** — My athletes have to work all summer long, so when they come back to practice we have to start all over again. Most teams with scholarship opportunities work year-round, but we're really in the infancy of our season right now. We've basically had 19 practices under our belt.

**FOOTBALL THROWN A HEARTBREAKER**

UC Davis throws a final-second touchdown to top Cal Poly in an offensive shootout in front of a record Mustang Stadium crowd

Dan Watson

Towels waved, bells clanked and the stands pounded as the shouts of a frenzied Mustang Stadium crowd concentrated its efforts on UC Davis quarterback Jon Grant with only 18 seconds left in a defining game. Grant calmly sent his wide receiver in motion.

On the hike, the wide receiver spat out the field on a decoy post-pattern, tricking Cal Poly's safety and leaving Aggie Tony Kayes waiting all alone in the end zone, where the ball met him.

And then there was silence. Cal Poly is no longer undefeated, no longer first place in the Great West Conference and now in a dogfight to the end of its season for a conference title and playoff berth. UC Davis defeated the Mustangs on a gut-knotting final drive, 36-33, in front of a record 9,387 fans.

Saturday's game took momentum swings in favor of UC Davis in the second quarter, Cal Poly in the third quarter and provided for a crazed shootout over the final 15 minutes.

But Cal Poly's defense, which largely was responsible for the Mustangs' 7-0 start to the season and No. 5 Division I-AA ranking, failed on the most critical play. "It was a team effort to get back into the middle of it and to take the lead," coach Rich Ellerson said. "And it was a team effort to define one more play."

With the loss, the Mustangs (7-1, 3-1) are now tied with UC Davis in the Great West with one conference game remaining for both teams and Cal Poly's Division I-AA best eight-game winning streak broken.

Fans from both sides stocked the stands creating a cross-campus rivalry as far as Cal Poly swimming goes, we're a Division I program struggling to compete with no scholarships at all. I can't think of a more deserving person than Dick Anderson, it's a huge deal.

**BIG WEST CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**FOOTBALL**

Mustang Lake Llamas finished eighth overall with a time of 24:28.

**CROSS COUNTRY**

Mustang Lake Llamas finished eighth overall with a time of 24:28.

**MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT**

**It wasn't even close.**

The Cal Poly men's cross country team captured its fifth title in seven years and its second consecutive Saturday at the Big West Cross Country Championships in Riverside.

Blake Swier placed third overall and the next four Mustangs finished seventh through 10th to take first at Riverside.

Swier placed third overall and the next four Mustangs finished seventh through 10th to take first at Riverside. The spread between the Mustang pack of four was less than 10 seconds. Andy Coughlin finished seventh with a time of 24:25 followed by Luke Llamas (24:26), Jeff Portoff (24:29) and Ryan Moencroft (24:32). The other Mustangs competing in the race, Brandon Collins and Phillip Reid finished 14th (24:49) and 15th (24:54).