Summer quarter will offer full course schedule

Cal Poly is receiving $3 million as part of an agreement reached between the CSU system and the governor's office.

Students have the chance to take a full course load during the upcoming summer quarter.

Last year there were very few classes offered during summer quarter due to budget cuts, but thanks to new state funding agreements between the California State University system and Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, a full summer class schedule will be offered in June.

"Summer quarter is back," Executive Vice President Linda Hilton said. "This is a big turnaround from summer 2004, when state budget reductions severely limited class offerings. We are excited to get summer back for students."

The new Governor's Compact with the California State University and University of California systems granted almost $3 million to Cal Poly to cover all expenses including improving the library and janitorial services. Half of the grant will go to direct instruction for the summer quarter so more teachers can be hired to teach the classes being offered. The funding will increase enrollment growth by 2.5 percent over the next several years to keep the fall, winter and spring quarters stable and help rebuild the summer quarter. Each of the classes will begin on or before June 14.

An agreement between the CSU system and Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger will allow for a full summer session. The UIU will be filled with students studying over the summer.

Mardi Gras task force established

Flyers, door hangers, radio and television announcements will be used to decrease the celebrating in San Luis Obispo.

Tawny Grace

MUSTANG DAILY

Due to last year’s Mardi Gras celebration, Cal Poly is establishing a Mardi Gras Campus Task Force to stop the Mardi Gras celebration on Feb. 3. The force plans to encourage students to act responsibly during Mardi Gras.

"We want it to be like any other weekend," said Jean DeCosta, dean of students and the chair of the task force. "The city of San Luis Obispo does not want to be the Mardi Gras of the West."

Cal Poly is working in collaboration with city officials, Caesta and ASI to exterminate the party scene in town. The force wants to get the message out now for students to be safe and smart and to tell out-of-town friends to stay home for Mardi Gras.

"We want to inform students to be responsible citizens and to see themselves as a campus community and a city community," DeCosta said. The community and city have made a messaging campaign that includes door hangers, flyers, radio and television announcements. The message expresses a wish for a safe Mardi Gras, DeCosta said.

The task force includes students and staff from Cal Poly’s Associated Students Inc., the student housing department, the University Police Department and Student Health Advocates.

The city already canceled the Mardi Gras parade and plans to enforce strict laws and triple-fine zones to stop the celebration, DeCosta said.

see Task Force, page 2

According to the San Luis Obispo Police Department, there were more than 200 arrests during last year’s Mardi Gras.

see Summer, page 2

INSIDE

Women’s hoops weekend preview Mustangs coming off big wins last week IN SPORTS, page 16

Wine guide for the novice connoisseur From types of wine to what goes with what IN ARTS and CULTURE, page 9
Summer
continued from page 1
the seven colleges is planning to offer classes this summer so students can take major and general education courses.
"I'm way stoked about this because it gives us the opportunity to get some classes out of the way," recreation administration senior Collins Murphy said.
The typical 10-week session will be offered in addition to two sessions of five-week classes at the beginning and end of summer. Cal Poly will also reiterate admission so transfer students and freshmen can start taking classes in the summer.
"We voluntarily cut last summer way back because we thought the fall, winter and spring quarters were more important," Dalton said. "The Compact is giving us money back to re-establish the summer quarter so it will be more like summer 2003. We were cut more than we were getting back, so it will take a couple years to rebuild but at least we can look ahead more than one year."
Dalton estimated that approximately 4,000 students would be able to take classes. The addition of a fall summer schedule will allow students to take more classes and possibly graduate sooner.
Students can begin planning their 2005 course schedule before the winter holiday break by looking at preliminary course lists on Cal Poly's Academic Programs Web site at http://www.academic.calspoly.edu/academicprograms/Summer/index.html.

Cancer
continued from page 1
challenge and to get fresh air. "The signs were great motivation to keep the two of us running to see what the next one would be," Todd said.
At mile 18, Todd's knees ached, but she continued to strive toward the finish line. Runner's knee has been a constant source of pain for Todd in the past. She sprained her LCL and had arthroscopic surgery on her right knee.
"I was determined to finish," Todd said. "I had to look past the pain and think about all the young children who have gone through so much more with chemotherapy and spinal taps."

Toward the end, the support of the onlookers was her sole reason for pushing herself across the finish line. Todd was able to find the time to train for the marathon and raise $2,700 for the Society.
"I sent out over 100 fund-raising letters to family and friends explaining my reasoning for training and the amount of money I needed to raise to reach my goal," Todd said. "And I was surprised to find out how many people were willing to donate their money for such a good cause."
In the Nike 26.2 marathon the TNT volunteers raised over $10 million to help with research to finding a cure.

Task Force
continued from page 1
"It will double the city's task force and triple fines for anything and everything," DeCosta said. "There were over 200 arrests last year, and we want there to be no arrests this year."
If the San Luis Obispo City Council passes the proposed municipal law for triple-fine zones, the zones will encompass the entire city. The students feel discriminated against if only certain areas of the city have triple-fine zones, but the community does not want police to push the zones into other neighborhoods.
"Your student government and neighborhood groups have gotten together and actually said that they don't want a specific geographic location," said Rob Byers, public information officer and neighborhood services manager for the San Luis Obispo Police Department.
The zones will affect anyone cited for public urination, party calls, drunk driving in public and other activities that break municipal laws. State laws like drunk in public and drinking and driving are not covered under the triple-fine zones.
Students plan to go knocking door-to-door to inform other students about the message for this year's Mardi Gras.
"I think we have good, bright students here," DeCosta said. "But, it is easy to get caught up in the crowd mentality and do things you normally would not have done."

U.S. force in Iraq to rise to biggest of war

Robert Burns  WASHINGTON, June 6
WASHINGTON — The United States is expanding its military force in Iraq to the highest level of the war, even higher than during the initial invasion in March 2003, in order to bolster security in advance of next month's national elections in January.
The 12,000-troop increase is to last only until March, but it says much about the strength and resiliency of an insurgency that U.S. military planners did not foresee when Baghdad was toppled in April 2003.
Brig. Gen. David Rodriguez, deputy operations director of the Joint Staff, told reporters Wednesday that the American force will expand from 138,000 troops today to about 156,000 by January.
The previous high for the U.S. force in Iraq was 146,000 on May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations were over and most soldiers thought the war had been won. The initial invasion force included thousands of sailors on ships in the Persian Gulf and other tens of thousands in Kuwait and other surrounding countries.
The expansion in Iraq will be achieved by sending about 1,500 troops from the 3rd Airborne Division in Fort Bragg, N.C., this month and by extending the combat tours of about 10,400 troops already in Iraq.
Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld approved the moves Wednesday, according to a Pentagon statement.
"They are the most experienced and best-qualified forces to sustain the momentum of post-Fallujah operations and to provide for additional security for the upcoming elections," the statement said.
The Pentagon originally expected to train and equip enough Iraqi government forces to fill the security gap in the weeks leading up to the elections, but that hope was not fulfilled.
The military is reluctant to extend soldiers' combat tours because of the potential negative effect it could have on their families, and thus on their willingness to remain in the service.
In this case, Gen. George Casey, the most senior U.S. commander in Iraq, decided it was necessary to keep up pressure on the insurgents while also providing security for the elections.
One unit, the 2nd Brigade of the 1st Cavalry Division, is being extendcd for the second time. In soldiers originally told they would be going home in November at the end of a 10-month assignment, but in October they got the news that they would remain until mid-January. Now they are being extended until mid-March.
STATE NEWS

LOS ANGELES — The treasures of King Tut will go on display in this country for the first time in a quarter century, in an exhibit featuring the ancient ruler's gold crown, carved dagger and a massive gold and cloisonné necklace, museum officials announced Wednesday. “Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs” will include about 130 of the 5,000 Egyptian artifacts found in King Tut's tomb.

SANTA ANA — A woman injured in a Disneyland roller coaster accident last year has sued Disney Co.

Christina Alvarez, 25, of Burbank said she suffered back injuries in the accident that killed a 22-year-old man and injured nine others. Her lawsuit alleges the entertainment giant has been negligent and continues to engage in conduct unsafe for the public. She also claims the design of the roller coaster, Big Thunder Mountain Railroad, is defective.

A message left Wednesday with Disneyland's press office was not immediately returned. Disney has denied there are any broad maintenance problems with the ride.

SAN FRANCISCO — Hundreds of people gathered in Golden Gate Park Wednesday to mark World AIDS Day, paying tribute to the tens of thousands of Americans who have perished from the disease over the past 24 years.

With the theme, "The Importance of Remembering," the 11th annual event was held under a tent at the National AIDS Memorial Grove, a seven-acre farm designated by Congress as a national memorial site in 1996. The event featured prayer, musical performances and speakers, including Mayor Gavin Newsom, and across Judaism, Muslims.

— Associated Press

NATIONAL NEWS

NEW YORK — After bringing viewers the news for nearly 23 years, NBC anchor Tom Brokaw signed off Wednesday expressing gratitude for what he get in return.

"Thanks for all that I have learned from you," he said at the end of his final "Nightly News" broadcast, his voice wavering just a bit. "That's been my richest reward."

Brokaw reminded his audience how "we've been through a lot together, through dark days and nights, and seasons of hope and joy. "Whatever the story, I had only one objective: to get it right," he said, adding he was "always mindful that your patience and attention didn't come with a lifetime warranty."

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration asked the Supreme Court on Wednesday to stop a New Mexico church from using hallucinogenic tea while the government appeals a decision that backed the church.

The government has been in a long-running legal fight with the church-based O Centro Espirita Beneficente Uniao do Vegetal over boas tea, brewed from plants found in the Amazon River Basin. The church won a preliminary injunction in a lower court, and justices were asked to intervene.

HUNTSVILLE, Texas — Gov. Rick Perry blocked the execution of a woman two hours before she was to go to her death Wednesday so that her lawyers can conduct new tests on evidence in the 17-year-old murder case.

Francis Newman, 39, was convicted of killing her husband and two young children. She would have been the first black woman and the fourth female put to death in Texas since the Civil War. She denied any involvement in the slayings.

— Associated Press

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

KIEV, Ukraine — Ukraine's opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko signed a deal Wednesday that would lend his supporters to lift their siege of government buildings, but he said his followers would stay on the streets until an agreement is reached on a new vote for the country's presidency.

Yushchenko held face-to-face talks with Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko — his rival for the presidency — hours after the opposition showed its strength by bringing down Yushchenko's government with a no-confidence in parliament.

HALIFAX, Nova Scotia — President Bush asked Canadians on Wednesday to move beyond their deep opposition to the Iraq war and get behind his vision of democracies blossoming from Baghdad to the West Bank.

"Sometimes even the closest of friends disagree, and two years ago we disagreed about the course of action in Iraq," Bush said, standing at the side of Canadian Prime Minister Paul Martin.

TIJUANA, Mexico — Jorge Hank Rhon, a rambovant and controversial multimillionaire, started his three-year term Wednesday as Tijuana's new mayor, pledging to weed out corrupt police and clean up the city.

"Tijuana is full of hardworking people, and I want to give them all a chance to work towards progress," he told The Associated Press.

Hank Rhon's surprise victory on Aug. 1 returned the Institutional Revolutionary Party, or PRI, to power in Tijuana, a city the party lost to President Vicente Fox's National Action Party in 1989. The PRI lost the presidency to Fox in 2000 after 71 years in power.

— Associated Press

LONDON — A porcelain urn is the most influential work of modern art, according to a survey released Wednesday.

The poll of 500 arts figures ranked French surrealist Marcel Duchamp's 1917 piece "Fountain" — an ordinary white, porcelain urn — more influential than Andy Warhol's screen prints of Marilyn Monroe and "Guernica," Picasso's depiction of the devastation of war.

The survey was conducted by Gordon's Gin, which sponsors Britain's leading art prize.

— Associated Press

OSLO, Norway — November in Norway is full of hazards, ice-slicked streets, mose on the roads and fierce cold. So when a woman turned up with a cut on her finger at an emergency room in Oslo, doctors were surprised to learn that the case was a piranha, as in the nasty, brash fish found in South America that has a folded reputation for stripping cows down to the bone in a feeding frenzy.

"Fie/Helle Hogger wasn't in South America. Instead, she was bitten while at work at Oslo's Reptile Park, showing visitors how to feed the fish.

"One of the piranhas jumped into the air and snapped at one of my fingers and the blood just spurted," she told the Associated Press, a northern Norway newspaper.

— Associated Press

BRIEFS

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Daniel Yee
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLANTA — Nearly a million Americans now have the AIDS virus and the nation's ability to keep others from becoming infected still lags despite a government pledge four years ago to "break the back" of the AIDS epidemic by 2005.

The campaign, launched by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in February 2001, intended to cut in half the estimated 40,000 new HIV infections that have occurred every year since the 1990s. However, the rate of new cases remains about the same, according to CDC data released Wednesday as part of the federal health agency's commemoration of World AIDS Day.

"We have a way to go before we reach the mark of reducing new infections by half in the United States," said Dr. Ronald Valderrama, the director of the CDC HIV and AIDS prevention program. He called the country's HIV infection rate "relatively stable."

"Clearly we want to continue, and are continuing, to fund programs to reach out to people who are high-risk and are infected," he added. In 2001, the CDC's campaign focused on outwardly healthy people who did not realize they had HIV — about one-fourth of those infected. Officials then said targeting them was key, because if they knew they were infected, they would be more likely to take steps not to spread the virus.

Such an effort "could possibly break the back of the epidemic in the United States," the CDC's Dr. Robert Janssen said then.

But the agency found that just targeting people who didn't know they had the AIDS virus was not enough. So last year, the CDC shifted gears, focusing on counseling those who know they had HIV in an attempt to convince them not to spread the virus.

Yet some advocacy groups say that effort fails to focus on drug users, or very sexually active young men, which advocacy groups say is key in preventing new infections.

"It just doesn't seem like much is really happening," said Terje Anderson, executive director of the Washington-based National Association of People Living With AIDS. "There just is a lack of imagination or spark in terms of the kinds of programs they support. I think they are politically afraid."

The CDC believes up to 950,000 people in the United States are infected with HIV and up to 280,000 of them don't know it, Valderrama said.

The rate of HIV diagnoses in the United States increased slightly — by 1 percent — between 2000 and 2004, from 49.5 people per 100,000 population to 19.7 per 100,000 in the 32 states surveyed by the CDC, which advocacy groups say is key in preventing new infections.

The Global AIDS Fund, an organization that also helps fight tuberculosis and malaria, supports programs to combat AIDS in 128 countries.

But 15 nations in Africa, Asia and the Caribbean that are among the world's most seriously affected nations are the focus of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief.

Six nations staged a protest Tuesday because they thought that, of the $550 million pledged — $400 million of which Kolbe personally helped acquire from Congress — $130 million would be concealed for budget caps, said Lauren Giesecke, a molecular and cellular biology senior and member of SAAC.

According to ROB BLAIR, an AIDS subcommittee aide to Kolbe, the U.S. Legislature held back $88 million because other countries did not match the funds they'd committed.

Italy tried but failed to allot $120 million to the Global AIDS Fund for an organization that also helps fight tuberculosis and malaria, supports programs to combat AIDS in 128 countries. While wealthier countries, including Japan and Australia, did not contribute money at all, "We need to have every country committed to it. It's a global problem, it's a global crisis and we need global help to get it resolved," Blair said.

As the chairman of the foreign operations appropriations subcommittee, Kolbe has strongly advocated for the winter session emergency supplemental, said PEPPER does good work, but the members of SAAC want equal funding and treatment for all 128 countries.

With posters and maps distinguishing all countries in need of AIDS funding, six SAAC students held a protest in front of Kolbe's office before walking into his office Tuesday afternoon.

They gave the posters to Pam Harrington, Kolbe's scheduler, and told her they wanted Kolbe to request more funding for an additional $30 million from Congress for the winter session emergency supplemental.

"We're happy to meet with them and take their information and I can be sure that it will be passed on to Congressman Kolbe," Harrison said.

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University of Oklahoma bans alcohol at fraternities, residence halls

Julie E. Bisbee  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NORMAN, Okla. — Drinking will be banned at University of Oklahoma fraternities and residence halls under new policies announced Wednesday, two months after a 19-year-old student died of alcohol poisoning.

University of Oklahoma President Dan Boren said the rules will go into effect Jan. 15 at the start of the new semester. Three violations will end in a student's suspension for one semester.

The university also will set up a hotline for students to report violations, and will expand alcohol education programs.

"These policies send a strong signal that alcohol abuse will not be tolerated at the University of Oklahoma," Boren said.

Student Blake Hammontree died Sept. 30 after a Sigma Chi fraternity party. He had a blood-alcohol content more than five times the legal limit. The fraternity has since been shut down.

Samantha Spade, a student at Colorado State, died in September after consuming as many as 40 drinks when she was found dead at a fraternity house.

Police are still investigating the death and several fraternity members have been subpoenaed to testify before a grand jury. One student, a sophomore, has been charged with furnishing alcohol to another minor at the party.

"The investigation continues and other charges are anticipated," said Cleveland County District Attorney Tim Karr.

Similar recent incidents have been reported at campuses, including Colorado State, where student Samantha Spade had consumed as many as 40 drinks when she was found dead at a fraternity house in September.

Also this fall, Lynn Gordon Bailey died after he was taken to the mountains near the University of Colorado with fellow Chi Psi fraternity pledges and told not to leave until several bottles of whiskey were finished. Bradley Kemp of the University of Arkansas died after downing a dozen beers and, friends said, possibly drugs.
Merry Chrismukkah: Cards Combine Holidays

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Every December, Zack Rudman and his wife send out cards with winter scenes and generic holiday greetings.

Finally, though, the Kansas City lawyer found a variety that seemed to better suit a Jewish man and an Episcopal woman with two young children as familiar with the menorah as mistletoe. It screams "Merry Christmukkah!"

Across the country, two holidays that once seemed to share little more than a calendar page are increasingly being melded on greeting cards aimed at the country's estimated 2.5 million families with both Jewish and Christian members.

"It's representative of the way people live and the way they spend the holidays," said Elie Okrend, an owner of Raleigh, N.C.-based MixBlessing, a card company devoted to interfaith holiday greetings. "And it's an expression of people understanding the people around them."

MixBlessing, like other companies, has found such interfaith greeting cards have a stable market niche and a slowly growing customer base.

The company was among the first to come out with holiday cards suitable for Jewish-Christian families about 15 years ago and is still trying to lock in its only company to focus entirely on that market segment.

In its first year, it sold about 3,000 cards from nine different offerings. This year, Okrend projects sales of 200,000 cards off its 55-card line.

Kansas City-based Hallmark Cards Inc. says among its most popular categories of Hanukkah cards is the one that combines Jewish and Christian themes.

The company tried the idea with just one card in the mid-90s; today they have four.

"The essence of these cards is not about interfaith households as much as it is about friends and family members of different faiths acknowledging the different holidays that they all celebrate," said Shalanda Stanley, a product manager at Hallmark.

American Greetings Corp. has also increased its Hanukkah-Christmas line offerings since its introduction eight years ago. There are around 10 this year.

Kathy Kramer, editor of Greetings Inc., a trade magazine, and interfaith holiday cards are one of countless niche categories introduced by greeting card companies.
One in four Californians considering leaving the state

Jim Wasserman
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO — High rents and rising home prices are pushing one in every four Californians to consider moving elsewhere in the state or leaving California entirely, says a new statewide survey on places people call home.

While Californians value their quality of life near ocean shores and mountain views, the survey shows nearly one-third of those under 35 are considering moves toward cheaper prices and concerned their children won't be able to buy homes in their part of the state.

Many homeowners now see little upside to rising prices that have greatly inflated their property values, believing they couldn't afford to buy another house in their own neighborhoods, said Mark Baldassare, the survey's author and statewide survey director for the Public Policy Institute of California.

"We're at a point where it's very hard for people who are moving from other states to think about coming to California," he said.

The survey, the most comprehensive of its kind in years in California, reveals the moving-out sentiment is highest in coastal areas and that many are acting on it. The PPIC recently reported that since 1995 more than 350,000 coastal Californians have moved to the less expensive Central Valley.

The PPIC surveyed 2,502 people from Oct. 21 to Nov. 1 in English, Spanish, Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese. The survey, funded by the Irvine, Packard and Hewlett foundations, has a margin of error of 2 percentage points.

California's traditionally high mortgage costs are also further discouraging renters, the survey reports. Only one in five who hope eventually to buy a house are confident they can do it.

The results dovetail with findings this month by the California Association of Realtors showing that only 19 percent of the state's households can afford the state's median-priced home of $465,000 — a 5 percent drop from last year. That's a 5 percent drop from a year ago Nationally, the median-priced home — where half cost more and half cost less — was $186,600 in September.

The results also come as California's builders push up more homes and apartments than any year since 1989. After building 134,000 single-family homes and 54,200 apartments last year — 188,200 in all — industry officials say they're on track to build 205,000 in 2004.

But while they fret about the high costs of housing and the shortage of affordable housing, many Californians also believe that's too many new homes, the survey shows.

Stressed by traffic, crowded schools and other consequences of growth in their neighborhoods, at least half believe state government is doing too much to encourage housing construction. And six in 10 believe the state should keep its tough environmental laws even if it discourages supply and causes housing prices to rise still more.

That's a 5 percent drop from a year ago Nationally, the median-priced home — where half cost more and half cost less — was $186,600 in September.

Three SoCal towns ranked among U.S. safest cities

MISSION VIEJO — Three Southern California cities are among the top 10 safest cities in the country, according to an annual ranking based on crime statistics. Mission Viejo and Lake Forest in Orange County were ranked the fourth and sixth safest cities, respectively, while Thousand Oaks in Ventura County was listed seventh. Overall, Newton, Mass., was considered the safest.

The rankings were to be released Monday by Lawrence, Kan.-based Morgan Quitno Corp., which will publish its annual reference book, "City Crime Rankings," next month.

While no California cities made the company's top 10 list of most dangerous cities, there were several among the top 25. Richmond came in at 12, San Bernardino at 16, Compton at 17 and Oakland at 24.

Camden, N.J., was named the nation's most-dangerous city, catching the top spot from Detroit, which fell to second. The rankings look at the rate for six crime categories: Murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary and auto theft. It compares 350 cities with populations of 75,000 or more that reported crime data.
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Everyone loves a Mustang Daily editor
Wine is different things to different college students, simple is not one of them. From two-buck Chuck to a splendid Bordeaux, the world of wine is as diverse as it is mystifying.

Unfortunately, most college students shy away from wine, deeming it snobby and expensive. However, a closer look into the industry exposes an affordable underbelly that college students, especially those at Cal Poly, should exploit.

We live in the heart of one of the most renowned wine industries in the world. Even the French agree our wine ranks among the best. This article will break down the snob barrier and equip you with some insights so you may confidently impress your next date, or at least not make a fool of yourself.

The basics: which is which

There are two main families of wine grapes, according to About.com: Vitis Vinifera and Vitis Labrusca. Between these two families there are more than 5,000 varieties of grapes. This makes for many different kinds of wine. Here are only a few of the most popular types of wine as described by About.com.
Dan K. O'Leary: the man, the artist, and his opinions.

Evidence: his pictures show how sweating can pay off.

"I go to the gym four times a week, I might as well do something with it," he said.

He also brings the online world to Cal Poly. He also started his own site titled "Holy Hoties." This contest is based on the Hot or Not site idea and is only popular? "I love when people call me a celebrity. The title narcissus may come to mind when viewing O'Leary's site or when talking to him in class. Although he seems to enjoy talking about himself, he said he does a lot of good things for the world — other than looking good. But with five date applicants a week and his pictures show how sweating can pay off. He also brings the online world to Cal Poly.

Dan K. O'Leary, a political science senior, is Cal Poly's self-proclaimed "minor Internet celebrity" whose World Wide Web site allows users to apply for a date or buy Dan a beer.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Speaker fair and balanced because he is Israeli?

Why would our university invite Ron Pape to speak about the Palestinian-Israeli conflict? He certainly does not represent Israeli opinion. He is on the far-left fringe of Israeli political spectrum and even said in a 1999 interview that his views have made him “one of the most hated men in Israel.”

He earned that status because he opposes the existence of a Jewish state, has embraced the extreme and irrational Palestinian demands, is an apologizer for the terrorist mass murder of Jews, peddies Palestinian propaganda under the guise of scholarship and exploits his status as an Israeli Jew to spout anti-Israel polemics.

Let’s hope that in the future, fringe political figures don’t heed our university into identifying them as representative spokesmen.

Miech Dekolosky
Business graduate

Sparking dialogue with respect not disregard

We at Counseling Services want to express our agreement with the thoughts and sentiments of Dr. Detweiller and Morton’s letter regarding the “marriage” legislation previously on Dexter Line. While we are aware that the student’s intention was to create dialogue; we believe that their goal could have been achieved without the disregard for gay and lesbian the institution conveyed. For example, one of the main concerns of a gay or lesbian marriage debate is equality of rights for gay and lesbian marriage and the statement, “I’m okay with it — as long as the ideologues don’t tell me how things go down in the Pride Alliance who wish to see a campaign could have sparked dialogue as well and with respect. One of the most common reasons gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) individuals sell is to heal from and come in terms with the harmful comments, attitudes and behaviors they encounter while simply being who they are.

We invite discretion, not censorship. If you want to create dialogue, ask whether your word of expressing yourself might be harmful to another. Will you know the answer if you ask the question honestly? Think of it this way: We all have a right to freely swing our arms around, right? Except my right to wave my arms ends at your nose. We all have a right to free speech — until it starts to damage others. There are ways to freely express ourselves without damaging anyone.

We welcome the opportunity to assist with respectful free speech discussions on campus. Call 756-2511 for more information about that or about counseling services, which are available to all students.

Barbara Gilbert, Ph.D.
Anne Gouders, LCSW
Teresa George, Ph.D.
Elie Andresh, Psy.D.
Mary Peracs, MFT
Counseling Services

When two definitions of morality come into conflict

In its Nov. 19 letter, Matt Suter claims that “the responsibility falls upon each of us to create our own morality systems.” This proposition is unsound. Consider: If this is the case then affordability becomes unique to each person. What happens when two definitions of morality come into conflict? Which person’s morality takes precedence? To make any moral judgment, we all need to be working from the same set of rules — there needs to be a standard definition of morality.

Let me illustrate: A man sees his neighbor’s car and decides to steal it. Most of us would agree that stealing is wrong, but to the thief, it may be a moral action. Since he defines his own morality, we have no way of knowing whether or not the decision is morally wrong. If he tells us the action is moral, we must believe him. On the other hand, the neighbor (and most people) will almost certainly say the action is immoral. Which definition of morality applies, if any? Three cases are possible: either we accept the definition of one (and only one) of the men, both definitions, or neither definition. There is no reason to accept (arbitrarily) one definition over the other, and accepting both means the action is both right and wrong, which is meaningless.

The only option left is neither (some other definition). We must conclude that any applicable definition of morality must be external to any particular person, and in most cases applies to all individuals.

Kyle Haughery
Assistant managing editor

MUSTANG DAILY CORRECTIONS

The Mustang Daily staff takes pride in publishing a daily newspaper for the Cal Poly campus and the neighboring community. We appreciate your feedback and are thankful for your careful reading. Please send your corrections to editor@mustangedaily.net or to the online form.

MUSTANG DAILY

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COMMENTARY

Disagreement is on name of the union

With the election over, the debate on campus has turned to gay marriage and evolution. For weeks now, we have been inundated with hateful rhetoric that does little to solve either argument. We have also seen points attempts to humane fall flat, failing to convey any convincing points. My Christmas present to you is to do these debates so we can start the New Year fresh. This will help us out of the rut, and allow us to logically and reasonably debate other very important issues.

The evolution debate is one that never seems to end. Both sides claim that the other is stubborn and ignorant. But let us look for a moment at what the father of evolution had to say. Charles Darwin proposed that every aspect of living things developed entirely randomly and naturally. Darwin also admitted that if any step of his theory is found to be impossible or not random, then his entire theory is wrong.

Keep that in mind as I introduce the Law of Hegemonies. In science, a law means that the idea has been consistently observed and has never been contradicted. This incontrovertible law simply states that life has been created from something other than random — it cannot be created by random processes. It is therefore the critical piece of Darwin’s puzzle, the origin of life, is proven.

You may not believe it was God, but the truth is that modern science cannot explain how life began on earth.

The other major dispute was sparked by a controversial campus display, and developed into a fiery debate on the subject of gay marriage. Whatever your opinion on the subject, there are reasons why the government cannot simply recognize any loving, committed relationship as a marriage. For example, if the government allows gay people to marry, then it has to also be able to refuse with loving, committed relationships to marry their two partners.

These are just two of the many disputes we have to face. At Morrow’s challenge U.S. anti-polygamy laws. Once overturned, there would be no limit to the number of people who could be married. The point is that government would have a hard time drawing the line on that slippery slope.

Agree or disagree, the argument is at least one possible outcome of allowing marriage for everyone. It is an opportunity to help a minority group establish a stable and nurturing home for their children. Besides, we can all agree that Americans have the right to participate in any kind of relationship they choose, with only decisions by the official name that union.

I am looking forward to seeing the hate-filled attack letters end, and returning to the new year where there are intelligent debates the issues of the day. A year free from amateur poets inspiring the spread of coherent arguments with ineffective words. Where we can respectfully challenge the views of others and be open to the possibility that we are wrong.

This is what we will have to look forward to when we return from our much-needed Christmas break. Happy Holidays!

Mark Buschon is a civil engineering junior and Mustang Daily columnist.

GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?

Send your letters to the editor to editor@mustangedaily.net.

Friday, December 3, 2004

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Economy picking up, Fed says; Wall Street rising, consumers spending

WASHINGTON — The economy is gaining momentum, bolstered by home building, shipping and even the country's beleaguered manufacturing sector, the Federal Reserve said Wednesday in a new upbeat assessment.

Evidence of a strengthening economy showed up in other reports as well while Wall Street hailed a big drop in oil prices.

The Commerce Department said consumer spending shot up by 0.7 percent in October, the best showing since July, as American incomes, the fuel for future spending, rose by 0.6 percent. The gain in incomes reflected the big increase of 337,000 payroll jobs in October, the best in seven months.

Meanwhile, the Institute for Supply Management reported that in main index for measuring industrial activity performed better than expected, rising to 57.5 in November from 56.8 in October.

Wall Street took encouragement not only from the upbeat economic reports but also from the biggest one-day drop in crude oil prices in three years. Crude oil fell by $3.64 per barrel to settle at $45.45, its lowest level in New York trading since Sept. 16.

Relieved investors pushed the Dow Jones industrial average up by 162.20 points, the third best one-day gain of the year. The Dow finished the day at 10,509.22, its highest close since early March.

The Federal Reserve said that reports from its 12 regions "generally paint a picture of continued economic growth" from mid-October through mid-November with improvements noted in a number of areas.

In fact, the Fed survey said that 11 of its 12 regions reported expanding economic activity with only the Cleveland Fed district seeing little change.

The Fed's latest "Beige Book," named for the color of its cover, will be used when policy-makers meet for their last discussion of the year on Dec. 14. It is widely expected that the Fed will raise interest rates for a fifth straight time this year in an effort to make sure that the rebounding economy does not trigger unwanted inflation.

The revolving economy has been having an impact on inflation in such industries as energy, transportation and food, but the Fed said retailers are still having difficulty passing those increased costs on to consumers because of stiff competition.

The Fed survey showed rising demand for manufactured goods, encouraging news for a portion of the economy that has seen the loss of 2.7 million jobs over the past four years.

There was rising demand for chemicals, food and a variety of products used in the aerospace, agriculture, energy, construction, medical and defense industries, the report said.

The rebound in manufacturing was helping job markets, and some areas of the economy were even experiencing labor shortages for such occupations as accounting, construction and skilled professionals in the energy industries.

As for consumer spending, analysts said the 0.7 percent jump after a strong 0.6 percent rise in September showed that consumers, who account for two-thirds of total economic activity, were getting a second wind.

"Consumers were not deterred by higher oil prices and by consumer confidence numbers that keep on going lower," said Ken Mayland, president of ClearView Economics.

The overall economy grew at a solid 3.0 percent rate in the July-September period, and based on Wednesday's reports many analysts said that growth this quarter could be even better.

A Business Roundtable survey of executives at the nation's 130 biggest companies found them expecting continued solid growth in 2005.

"We remain confident that investment spending will drive economic growth in the coming months," said Hank McKinnell, chairman of the business group and chief executive at drug giant Pfizer Inc.

Wednesday's spending report showed that consumer spending on big-ticket durable goods such as cars rose just 0.2 percent in October after a 1.2 percent gain in September.

The Fed survey, which covered the last half of October and early November, indicated that consumer spending may have faltered a bit in November, calling activity "uneven." Five districts — Atlanta, Kansas City, Minneapolis, Philadelphia and San Francisco, reported solid sales activity while six others — Boston, Dallas, Chicago, New York, Richmond and St. Louis — said sales were mixed to dull.

The Fed said that many districts found demand for premium merchandise noticeably stronger than for lower-priced lines, which the report said could indicate that higher energy prices were hurting lower-income households.

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Basketball
continued from page 16
Cal Poly is off to a 3-0 start for the first time since the 2000-01 team won in its first five games. The Mustangs opened the 2003-04 campaign 4-1.
Sacramento State beat UC Riverside 59-58 on Nov. 21, sandwiched by losses to San Jose State 59-46 and UC Davis 58-50. Tyrsha Brown leads the Hornets in scoring with a 9.7 average while Ashley Cadette has a 7.3 rebounding mark. The Hornets, 1-26 a year ago, are coached by Dan Muscillo.
San Francisco has beaten Denver and William & Mary while falling to Colorado State and Oakland. Three Dons are averaging in double figures, led by Dominique Carter with a 16.8 mark. Mary Jane Krueger is scoring 11.8 points a game and also leads the Dons in rebounding with nine per game. USF is coached by Mary Hinkle-Nepel and has 11 letter winners, including three starters, back from last year’s 10-18 squad.
Cal Poly has plenty of speeders on the court, but will be short on height as the tallest players are junior Sarah Greve and redshirt freshman Nicole Yawryw, both 6-2.
The Mustangs earned 14 wins last season, the most since Cal Poly moved to Division I prior to the 1994-95 season. The Mustangs finished 14-14 overall and 10-8 for fourth place in the Big West.
Senior post players Kay Paterson a second-team All-Big West selection a year ago, is Cal Poly’s leading scorer to date with a 9.7 average and also is the top rebounder with a 5.7 mark. Sophomore forward Jessica Eggleston is second in both departments with 8.0 scoring and 4.7 rebounding averages.
Cal Poly’s defense has allowed just 53 points a game while holding foes to 37.6 percent shooting from the floor and forcing an average of 35.3 turnovers a contest.
Next week. Cal Poly breaks for finals, then will conclude its three-game homestand with a non-conference game against Loyola Marymount on Dec. 11, at 2 p.m. in Mott Gym.

Support Cal Poly sports. Go to the games! Women’s basketball vs. Sac State, 7 p.m. Mott Gym

Sports
Thursday, December 2, 2004 15

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Jennifer Dooley moves past her opponent driving to the hoop. Dooley is averaging 7.3 points per game.

A full 40 minutes of chaos

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

A full 40 minutes of chaos. That’s what coach Faith Mimnaugh has hoped to get out of her team on the defensive side of the court.

And more than 100 turnovers over three games later, opponents have experienced more chaos than they could handle. They’ve dropped one by one.

With speed and hustle, Cal Poly has opened its 2004-05 women’s basketball campaign with three consecutive victories. It now returns home from a two-game road trip to Oregon and will host Portland State on Sunday and Cal Poly never returns one by one.

Cal Poly’s defense has allowed just 53 points a game while holding foes to 37.6 percent shooting from the floor.

Cal Poly defense forced 39 turnovers.

When asked what coach Larry Kelley said in the Cal Poly postgame locker room, a reporter misheard the words “intercollegiate.”

A balanced scoring attack then translated into success.

Eleven Mustangs scored in the win over Portland and Cal Poly offense forced 39 turnovers.

Nicole Laurans led the way effectively with eight points while Heidi Wrinich and Sparkle Anderson added seven points each. Cal Poly attempted 22 more field goals in the game and held a 30-25 halftime lead. The game was at 45 with 4:21 to go before the Mustangs pulled away.

Anderso scored the first two baskets of the game against Portland State on Sunday and Cal Poly never looked back, leading by as many as 19 points in the first half and 27 points after the break. Katy Paterson scored 15 points and Jennifer Dooley added 10 for the Mustangs, who forced 37 Viking turnovers.

see Basketball, page 15

Forum for an athletic director finalist to be held today

The first finalist has been announced in the ongoing national search for a Cal Poly athletic director

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

Activity is brewing in the search for a new athletic director.

The national search has taken a step forward as the first finalist, Steven E. Holton, has been announced.

An open forum with the candidate will be held today from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Science North Building, Room 215.

Participants will have a chance to get to know the candidate better and to ask him questions.

Holton led intercollegiate athletics programs at Northern Arizona University and Long Beach State. He was selected among a review of more than 70 applications for the position. On Wednesday, Holton met with athletics boosters and university administrators at a private reception.

“The search committee was encouraged by his interest in Cal Poly and the caliber of his experience,” committee chairperson Larry Kelley said in the Cal Poly Report.

“We’re looking for candidates who are eager to work with the strong leadership we already have in place in our athletics programs, and that’s certainly the case with Mr. Holton.”

Previously, the search committee comprised of faculty, staff and students put the search on hold over the summer. It was reactivated in October.

Alison Cone has been the interim athletic director.

John McCutcheon left San Luis Obispo after 12 years of holding the athletic director position to accept the position of director of the University of Massachusetts.

He helped to issue in the move from Division II to Division I. His accolades also include orchestrating the move of many sports into the Big West Conference, as well as planning the move through renovations to Mott Gym.