Male-dominated majors receive a woman's touch

Some female Cal Poly students feel no gender bias in majors in which they are a minority

Tiffany Dias

TODAY'S WEATHER

High 63°

Low 46°

EVENTS CALENDAR

What: Take Back the Night, Join the Women's Center in the annual Take Back the Night celebration. Festivities will begin with the female, alternative-rock band the Women's O nter in the annual tour and a drum circle. There will be food and artwork as well. ComeUTE and bring back the night.

Where: Mission Plaza

More Info: Call the Women's Center at 756-2600

What: "An Afternoon Amidst the Oaks." The Cal Poly Vines to Wines club present their third annual "An Afternoon Amidst the Oaks" wine-tasting fundraiser, featuring more than 60 wineries and 10 local restaurants. Tickets are $30 for Cal Poly students and staff, and $50 for general admission. Proceeds go to the Cal Poly viticulture major.

When: Saturday, 3 p.m.

Where: Santa Margarita Ranch

More Info: Call Molly at 544-5039 or e-mail molly@anafternoon.com. Tickets can be purchased at the event or on the Web site at www.anafternoon.com.

What: The Family Care Network presents Miracle Miles for Kids 10K Walk/Run, benefiting foster and special needs children. A free Tri-Tip barbeque, live bands, free shirts, free sunglasses will follow the walk/run and trophy prizes for Centipede competitors. To compete in the centipede event, connect 7, 14 or 21 plus walkers/runners together using any material (nipples for most creative centipede, longest centipede, fastest centipede and more).

When: May 14, 9 a.m.

Where: Morro Rock to Cayucos Pier


If you have an event you would like posted in the weekly calendar, e-mail details (what, when, where and more information) about your event to editor@mustangedaily.net.

Friday, May 13, 2005
Yoga
continued from page 1

yourself. Yoga invites you to yourself.”

Dukehart’s experience with yoga began in 1970. She discovered The Integral Yoga Center, which has de­veloped into an organization that works with hospitals and hospice groups treating yoga as medicine.

In her class, Dukehart talks about how she used yoga to heal chronic pain not be easy for everyone to accept.

In her class, Dukehart talks about how she used yoga to heal chronic pain in her knee.

Dukehart arrived early to set up a massive altar that looked like a play­ground. Drums, tambourines, flutes and various other musical instruments lined the center of the yoga dome at Sycamore Mineral Springs.

“1 have a lot of fun setting these things up,” Dukehart said. “For me it’s like a play.”

Frac’s methods are far from tradi­tional.

“I think it’s important that you make a plan and then I adjust based on what’s presented to me,” Dukehart said. “I dare to listen to your own inner guidance and be courageous enough to follow that.”

At 6 p.m. Sunday, a group of eight women gathered and the evening’s cer­emonies began. The next hour reso­nated something out of the Yo-Yo sister­hood. The women cleared their feet and shook a bundle of sage that burned like incense and waved it all over each other.

“I am part Indian and they used to use this as a way to clear the spirit,” Central Coast resident Edith Romm said.

Participants then wrote a word on a scrap of paper and offered it to a fire lit among incense and waved it all over each other.

“Write down something that you’re holding onto that you want to let go,” Dukehart said.

“I’m part Indian and they used to use this as a way to clear the spirit,” Central Coast resident Edith Romm said.

Sunday night’s class was one of many held internationally. The grow­ing number of people that are interested in yoga have allowed similar classes to take place the world over.

Full moon yoga focuses on center­ing the body, with concern to the cycles of nature.

“The idea, to me, is when you harmon­ize your own with moon cycles and you might find at peace, you feel less pressure.”

The classes are offered each month at Sycamore Mineral Springs. The next class is May 23. The cost is $25 without a student discount. For more informa­tion call 543-2248.

Women
continued from page 1

students have trouble-free educations. Harvard University President Lawrence Summers commented on gender disparities in January.

Statements from his speech incited uproar across the world.

“It does appear that on many, many different human attributes—height, weight, propensity for criminality, overall IQ, mathematical ability, scient­ific ability—there is relatively clear evidence that whatever the difference in means—which can be debated—is there is a difference in the standard deviation, and variability of a male and a female population,” Summers said.

Finger said she is concerned with comments like those made by Summers.

“As recent as this quarter, students come in with stories about experienc­ingstereotypes and bias toward them,” Finger said. “Even after Lawrence Summers, we don’t know how many college students and professors hear what he said and internalize it. We don’t know the ramifications of a statement like that.”

In the weeks following Summers’ statements, magazines such as TIME ran stories explaining differences in brain functions between men and women.

Statistics for women in male-domi­nated majors at Cal Poly are constant­ly changing. Women take comfort in knowing that their efforts are working to change how the next generation will view women in these majors.

Zoe Wood, assistant professor for computer science, reminds her stu­dents “that people are variants. Each person is different and people need to get away from the dichotomy of the sexes.”

SIFE
continued from page 1

The Cal Poly team presented a pro­ject to support upward bound first generation Latino students. By devel­oping a marketing plan and conducting extensive research, the team created a video for their presentation.

“The presentation went really smooth,” Nelson said. “It’s all about being on the ball, you have to be per­fect.”

Active in more than 1,800 universi­ties in more than 40 countries, the nonprofit organization provides stu­dents with the opportunity to explore their potential in the business world.

Competitions are held worldwide drawing together thousands of stu­dents, business leaders and recruiters to watch the student presentations. Event­ sponsors Aflac, Walmart, Campbell’s, and Kraft were also in attendance.

“Three recruiters came up to me after the presentation and offered me a job,” Nelson said. “These businesses recruit specifically from SIFE.”

Each student team is responsible for a written report and a live presenta­tion.

The overall presentation last 35 minutes: seven minutes to set up, 24 minutes for the live presentation, five minutes for a question and answer period and one minute to tear down.

The SIFE organization at Cal Poly is open to all students and caters to any major, Nelson said.

“It’s a great opportunity to explore your potential and provide opportuni­ties for yourself,” she said.

The SIFE National Exposition will be held on May 22 to 24 in Kansas City, Mo.
STATE NEWS

TORRANCE — A career criminal with 19 aliases and more than a dozen felony convictions was sentenced to 30 years in prison for mail and identity theft.

Mark Douglas Zubick, 41, sent- fully told Superior Court Judge Andrew C. Kaufman on Tuesday that he doesn’t willingly commit crimes. Every time he gets out of prison, he said, he feels like he doesn’t “fit into the world.”

“I don’t want to victimize these people,” Zubick said. “I know I’ve done these things I don’t do it willingly.”

SANTA MARIA — Michael Jackson’s ex-wife Debbie Rowe, the mother of two of his children, testified Wednesday in his child molestation trial saying that the pop star asked her to make a rebuttal video on his behalf in the aftermath of a damaging television documenary about his life.

Taking the stand, she identified herself as Deborah Rowe Jackson, although she said she preferred to be addressed as Ms. Rowe.

Asked by prosecutor Ron Zonen how she knew Jackson, she said, “We’ve been friends and we were married.”

She said she knew Jackson for 20 years before they were married. When asked if they had ever lived together, she said, “We never shared a home.”

WASHINGTON — President Bush outlined his midterm proposals Wednesday to wean the nation off dependence on oil, reduce air pollution from smog and microscopic soot, address global warming, and promote incentives for increasing energy efficiency.

The company said in a statement that is agreed to resolve the irrigation in order to avoid restraining the case, which was set for jury selection. That case is admitted in as an anomaly.

LOS ANGELES — Sales lim-

NATIONAL NEWS

WASHINGTON — President Bush, facing economic and political damage from soaring gas prices, offered proposals Wednesday to speed construction of nuclear power plants and oil refineries and boost sales of energy-efficient vehicles. Bush outlined his initiatives in his second energy speech in a week, reflecting growing concern in the White House that high energy prices are beginning to slow economic growth and undercut the president’s approval rating.

NEW YORK — Food-service company Sodexo Inc. agreed Wednesday to pay $80 million to settle a lawsuit brought by thousands of black employees who charged that they were routinely barred from promotions and segregated within the company.

The agreement, one of the biggest race-related job bias settle-

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

JERUSALEM — Greeted by hugging Israeli officials, Vladimir Putin on Wednesday became the first Kremlin leader to visit the Jewish state, capping a historic re-

region and the world, bringing with him a fresh proposal for a conference to be held in Moscow in the autumn.

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Iraq’s prime minister-designate presented his proposal for a broad-based Caliphate that draws on the country’s main ethnic and religious groups to the presidential council on Wednesday in a step toward ending a crippling political stalemate. The announcement came hours after an Iraqi legislator was shot and killed by militants who stormed into his house as a middle-

class neighborhood in eastern Baghdad, underscoring fears that the political impasse has emboldened insurgents to step up deadly attacks in recent weeks, after a brief lull following the fall of Saddam Hussein.

BLAUGNAC, France — Thousand of motorists, the world’s largest jetliner maker started on Wednesday a two-year campaign to wean the French city of Blagnac off its dependence on oil and reduce air pollution from smog and microscopic soot nationwide.

The number of counties with unhealthy air recorded by monitors dropped to 150 from 441 in the last report, the first significant decline in six years, according to the group.

THE 10 or so beasts disrupted the snowcovered Pyrenees removed any doubt that the behemoth capable of carrying as many as 800 passengers is seaworthy. But it did little to convince skeptics, led by U.S. rival Boeing Co., that the plane will prove profitable.

With puff of smoke from its 22 outsize wheels, ending the historic maiden flight for a plane that Airbus hopes will carry it to market dominance.

The A380’s four-hour sortie put the snowcapped Pyrenees removed any doubt that the behemoth capable of carrying as many as 800 passengers is seaworthy. But it did little to convince skeptics, led by U.S. rival Boeing Co., that the plane will prove profitable.

CAL POLY

UPCOMING EVENTS

FRIDAY • SATURDAY • SUNDAY

FRIDAY APRIL 29

#24 BASEBALL vs. SACRAMENTO STATE {6 PM}

SATURDAY APRIL 30

TRACK AND FIELD 5 WAY MEET {10:30 AM}

SOFTBALL vs. LONG BEACH STATE* {12:22 PM}

FIRST 100 PEOPLE RECEIVE POM POMS!

FIRST 100 PEOPLE RECEIVE CAL POLY PENGUINS!

#24 BASEBALL vs. SACRAMENTO STATE {6 PM}

SUNDAY MAY 1

SOFTBALL vs. LONG BEACH STATE* {12 PM}

FIRST 50 PEOPLE RECEIVE CAL POLY PENNANTS!

#24 BASEBALL vs. SACRAMENTO STATE {1 PM}

FIRST 100 PEOPLE RECEIVE CAL POLY VISORS!

WWWW.GOPOLY.COM GET IN THE GAME

IN OTHER NEWS

PIKESVILLE, Md. — A herd of buffalos that got loose and wandered around a well-nodo neighborhood wasn’t causing any more trouble.

They unboxed owner plans to pack them off to the slaughterhouse. The 10 or so beasts disrupted traffic and alarmed homeowners Tuesday before officers managed to corral them into a tennis court. More than a dozen police cars and a police helicopter were used to herd the animals.

"The way I feel right now, I’m giving them all some,” owner Gerald "Buzz" Berg told The (Baltimore) Sun.

"They’re going to the slaughterhouse,” he said.

Officers using outdoor lounge chairs as shields formed a human chain to corral the beasts, but one buffalo was seen leaping over a net set on the tennis court to evade capture.

Berg, who owns a Baltimore demolition business, has raised bison on his 60-acre farm for about 10 years, mostly for meat.

Police spokesman Shannon Vinson said Wednesday that no changes were being pursued against Berg, who said he did not know how the animals escaped.

A week earlier, three bison got out through an unlocked gate but staved close to the farm, Berg said.

— Associated Press

BRIEFS

Thursday, April 28, 2005
False alarm sends Bush to underground shelter

For the first time since September 11, President, first lady and other White House officials rush to safety bunker.

Terence Hunt associate press

WASHINGTON — President Bush was rushed from the Oval Office to an underground shelter and Vice President Dick Cheney was taken to a secure location Wednesday on fears that an unidentified aircraft had entered restricted space near the White House. Officials said it was a false alarm.

The brief scare lasted only a few minutes before officials determined there was no threat, White House counselor Dan Bartlett said.

The incident was sparked by a blip on a radar screen that turned out to be a false alarm and a aircraft actually entered restricted space, said Brian Roehrkasse, a Homeland Security Department spokesman.

Helicopters scrambled to investigate and confirmed the lack of an errant aircraft, he said.

Secret Service spokesman Jonathan Cherry would say only: "There was a report of a possible violation of restricted air space which has since been cleared."

"There was a report of a possible violation of restricted air space which has since been cleared."

— JONATHON CHERRY

Secret Service spokesman

White House press secretary Scott McClellan said Bush was working in the Oval Office at the time and was taken to the underground bunker. The president was there "a very short amount of time," McClellan said.

Cheney was notified about the scare and taken from the White House to a secure location, McClellan said. The vice president was brought back inside the compound minutes after the situation was resolved.

The last known time Bush was taken to the underground shelter was on the night of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks when security fears prompted officials to move the president and his wife.

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Kevin Teixeira
Diverse coalition rallies to stop horse slaughter

Hilary Rose
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — A coalition of celebrities, race track leaders and others have called in from across the country hoping their voices push forward legislation that would end or limit the slaughter of wild horses.

Lawmakers have been pushing for years to stop wild horses and burros from being killed at three U.S. slaughterhouses that send the meat overseas for consumption. The effort picked up steam after Congress last year replaced a 34-year-old ban on selling wild mustangs and burros with a provision that allows the sale of older, unwanted horses.

Supporters of two proposed measures — one that would stop the commercial sale of wild horses and burros and one that would ban horse slaughter in the United States — are trying to pull together as many people as possible to show the U.S. Congress last year replaced a 34-year-old ban on selling wild mustangs and burros with a provision that allows the sale of older, unwanted horses.

Supporters of two proposed measures — one that would stop the commercial sale of wild horses and burros and one that would ban horse slaughter in the United States — are trying to pull together as many people as possible to show the need for a new way to treat mustangs and burros.

The Interior Department this week stopped delivering mustangs to buyers while it investigates whether the slaughter violates a federal contract requiring the animals to be treated humanely.

Horse advocates have solicited comments from actors — including Richard Gere and Mary Tyler Moore — and have drawn support from horse racing leaders and others.

Thomas Meeke, the president of Churchill Downs Inc., parent company of the legendary Kentucky race track, sent a letter of support. Ford Motor Co., maker of the Mustang sports car, this week stopped delivering mustangs to buyers while it investigates whether the slaughter violates a federal contract requiring the animals to be treated humanely.

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Horse advocate Nancy Perry, the Humane Society of the United States’ vice president of government affairs, said that confirmed his fears that the slaughter ban was a “fiscally responsible” move, said Tim Case, the association’s senior manager of public policy.

He said the group also worries about what would happen to the horses that are now slaughtered if the practice was ended.

“Being neglected or abused would be worse than a humane slaughter,” Case said.

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“Being neglected or abused would be worse than a humane slaughter,” Case said.

No hearings have been scheduled on the proposed legislation, but lawmakers said they’ll use other tactics to get their way.

Reflecting the government’s efforts to keep the Mustangs out of the slaughter process that would include holding public comment periods.

Horse trainer Roelf Annon works with a wild horse, Monday, March 28, at La Estancia Alegre in Alcalde, N.M.

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Nuclear fusion created in UCLA lab experiment

Hoping to create an alternative to fossil fuels, physicists reproduced the energy of the sun and stars in tabletop experiment

Alicia Chang
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — A tabletop experiment created nuclear fusion — long seen as a possible clean energy solution — under lab conditions, scientists reported.

But the amount of energy produced was too little to be seen as a breakthrough in solving the world's energy needs.

For years, scientists have sought to harness controllable nuclear fusion, the same power that lights the sun and stars. This latest experiment relied on a tiny crystal to generate a strong electric field. While falling short as a way to produce energy, the method could have potential uses in the oil-drilling industry and homeland security, said Seth Putterman, one of the physicists who did the experiment at the University of California, Los Angeles.

The experiment's results appear in Thursday's issue of the journal Nature.

Previous claims of tabletop fusion have been met with skepticism and even derision by physicists. In 1989, Dr. B. Stanley Pons of the University of Utah and Martin Fleischmann of Southampton University in England shocked the world when they announced that they had achieved so-called cold fusion at room temperature. Their work was discredited after repeated attempts to reproduce it failed.

Fusion experts noted that the UCLA experiment was credible because, unlike the 1989 work, it didn't violate basic principles of physics.

"This doesn't have any controversy in it because they're using a tried and true method," said David Ritz, professor of nuclear and plasma engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. "There's no mystery in terms of the physics."

Fusion power has been touted as the ultimate energy source and a cleaner alternative to fossil fuels like coal and oil. Fossil fuels are expected to run short in about 50 years.

In fusion, light atoms are joined in a high-temperature process that frees large amounts of energy.
A reporter’s journey to find the best all-American burger

Story by Elizabeth Engdman

Nothing’s better than biting down on a juicy, mouth-watering, flavor-filled hamburger.

San Luis Obispo has its fair share of places to enjoy a hamburger. In fact, it was harder to find a different meal companion to go eat with every day than it was to find another hamburger joint. As a college town, price, location and service are just as important as taste.

The first stop on my burger-lovin’ journey was Mother’s Tavern. Mother’s, located at 725 Higuera, most commonly known as a bar but also has a large menu. “The Tavern Burger” is a half pound and comes with a choice of side salad or fries ($6.50 without cheese). I can’t enjoy a burger without cheese, so I ordered it with every burger I ate. The burger was served on a potato bun which was fluffy and delicious, but was more suited for a sandwich than a burger. The inside was pink and juicy, but the outside was a little too black for my taste.

Marti’s Bar & Grill, located at 673 Higuera St., is a new restaurant in town so I thought I would give it a chance. “The Basic Burger” ($4.75 without cheese) was the smallest I ate. The burger was cooked perfectly, but there was no flavor in the meat. Marti’s was the only place that actually grilled the bun which was nice, but it came slathered in aioli (garlic mayonnaise), which was not stated on the menu. I had to ask for a new bun. The atmosphere more than made up for the condiment incident. The open seating and bright colors made for a relaxed experience.

Firestone Grill, located at 1001 Higuera St., is probably the most well-known burger place in town. The burger had a third of a pound of beef ($3.69, or $3.99 for cheeseburger) but was quite dry. It had good flavor, but there were no delicious juices flowing. I went in during a down time when there was no wait. Normally, the line is out the door, and a burger takes awhile to make. Sometimes, Firestone is just not worth the wait.

I thought that maybe price would equal quality, so I tried Tahoe Joe’s, located at 485 Madonna Road. “The Blackjack Burger” ($8.75) is a half pound and comes with bacon and cheese. To be fair, I ordered it without bacon so all the burgers would be similar. Instead of a bun, it came on a Kaiser roll. It may be good with steak, but it was too much bread with a burger. The smoked flavor was better than the rest, but became overpowering and made it taste too much like wood.

My pick for the best burger in San Luis Obispo goes to the wonderfully flavored and perfectly juicy The Shack hamburger. The half-pound burger ($5) comes on a sesame seed bun. I asked for cheese and was amazed at the selection. They had pepper jack and other unique picks. The cheese was not quite melted enough for me, but...
Burger

continued from page 6

was quickly replaced with the cheese still bubbling. As it was set down in front of me, I could smell all of the seasonings. It was the only burger I had that day that was not at all dried out at all. The juice stayed in the meat, later dripping down my chin.

The Shack is located at 763 Foothill Blvd. When I walked in at 6 p.m. on Thursday, there were a number of people and everyone was smiling. My roommate and I sat at a table and munched on the free peanuts while we waited for our food. Every few minutes, people would cheer for the sports on television. I had a wonderful setting to go with the best burger I’ve eaten at in San Luis Obispo.

After a week of eating hamburgers, I think I’ve overdosed. But I know that as soon as I get a craving for one, I will be back to The Shack in a flash.
House OKs bill toughening abortion consent

Laurie Kellman
ASSOCIATE PRESS

WASHINGTON — The House passed a bill Wednesday that would make it illegal to dodge parental consent laws by taking minors across state lines for abortions, the latest effort to chip away at abortion rights after Republican gains in the November elections.

By 270-157, the House sent the bill to the Senate, where the policy has new momentum as an item on the Republicans' top 10 list of legislative priorities.

Reflecting rising public support for requiring parents' involvement in their pregnant daughters' decisions, the bill would impose fines, jail time or both on adults and doctors involved in most cases where minors were taken out of state to get abortions.

"The parents of pregnant minors can provide counsel, guidance and support to their children and should be involved in these decisions," House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., said. "I urge the Senate to pass this important legislation and help Congress make it illegal to dodge parental consent laws by taking minors across state lines to get abortions."

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Want the truth? Watch and read

It's a paradox in the news industry these days to provide responsible coverage of current events. The public, it seems, wants entertainment. "Reality" shows and celebrity gossip, forcing the press to compromise with their superfans' interests. And, the choice of "reality" shows for recent Nielsen Media Research ratings indicate that people would rather watch "Friends," "The Real World," and "American Idol" than tune into reports about foreign affairs, global politics or hard-hitting news stories. "I don't feel compelled to watch the news," said graphic design senior Kristine S. on campus. "I think it's not that I don't care, I just don't make the time." When asked if someone I'm entering the journalism industry, they roll their eyes in contempt and reply, "Who?" It seems that journalists have gained the status of social car dis dilem of lawyers, who care only for their own profit by the publication of sensational and irrelevant stories than actually informing the public. However, this is hardly the reality of the news business. Responsible news coverage is the driving force behind the passion of journalism, and editorial decision making of every news organization are trained to reflect the truth the American people.

But the question is, do they want it? The truth is, major news organizations are devoting impacts on the quality of journalism, especially as corporate conglomerates amass the news media and pressure them for profit, ignoring the fact that sometimes the truth is less profitable. The result is a blurred line between news and entertainment.

"It's a catch-22: People get exasperated with the news coverage, but people don't watch it, which makes it worse," said graphic design senior Allie Luns, who admits she rarely uses information, but is annoyed by sensation news coverage. "No one sees the correlation between their actions and the truth in journalism."

The reality of the American press is it reflects the country's capitalist system, and to survive, it must be profitable. If news organizations have to compete with entertainment venues, like MTV Entertainment Tonight or E Magazine, then the coverage will start to be entertaining.

Even when Sept. 11 shook the souls of America in 2001, motivating the media to cover the news and to forget about celebrity gossip, viewing went up only to a certain extent. Stories about airline safety, duct tape and terrorist threats dominated their interest, but when detailed reports about the source of the conflict in the airwaves, such as Saudi police and U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East, people tuned in.

As a future journalist, I am troubled by the lack of cohesion for the news by my peers because our actions as Americans have dramatic impacts on the rest of the world, which is constantly behaving to government policy. But in general, the college lifestyle in 2005 does not embrace political discussion and staying informed. Entertainment, technology and sexual institutions are at the top of Generation Y.

We cannot ignore the incredible mass of the fact that we wish to install democracy around the world when we don't take advantage of our freedom, such as accessing information in a free press. No news can the truth be profitable? It can start to ignoring "Desperate Housewives," and firmness's pregnancy, and turning into the things that really matter in the world.

Carrie McCourt is a journalism junior and Mustang Daily columnn. E-mail at ccourt@ucdavis.edu.

Mustang Daily

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Privatization means young workers lose either way

Social Security privatization is indeed a commercial topic in American Society. It is one of those few government programs in which everyone is required to participate, in the form of payroll taxes. Politicians have told us that Social Security will run out of money by around 2052. President Bush wants to save Social Security by privatizing a portion of it. That basically means a person can take a portion of payroll taxes and put them in some private investment accounts.

Although I believe that the benefits of Social Security might run out in the future (since many baby boomers are retiring), the current system is working quite well. Why should we make changes now? Because the investment is unpredictable, and we might end up with a benefit cut if the market fails worse than expected. On the other hand, if you do better in the market, you also might end up with reduced benefits (since the government uses it to pay retirees). So why not let young workers, that means we lose either way. Next, the government's debt is a serious problem. If people in the country keep buying government bonds to pay the debt, it will be profitable, and we should worry about the solvency of the system.

Isaih Narciso Environmental engineering freshman

A penny for the poor?

Republicans carry up the slogan "A penny for the poor" and talk about a few extra pennies, thev must be happy to help others in need.

Armen Ermekji Environmental technology junior

The choice for AIS president becomes perfectly clear

To those out there wondering who to vote for in the upcoming AIS election: Mike Motenov has been a close friend of mine for the past two years. Even since the day I met him, his strong work ethic never failed to amaze me. Motenov has had many leadership roles in his life, where he has stepped up to the plate and made a difference. I can guarantee that if he is AIS president, he will do just this, and because of his hard work and with his ability to get things done, he's the great AIS president.

Mariano is honest and genuinely cares for others, which is why I know he will take care of the student body just as he does his friends.

Beckley is the perfect complement with his experience and passion to do what is best for Cal Poly. I have never known a team so driven to serve the students. They are on our side, and that is very important. I am confident that Beckley and Mariano will make their president and chief of staff for the upcoming school year.

Kendra Bover

Campus Secretary

Columnists interesting but sometimes inaccurate

I love a lot of recce. I read from news I was reading the paper, it's filled with interesting news, par means, most of which are backed up relatively objectively. But lastly, I think columnist Mark Seppala sometimes let something that brought me up.

In his article "Stuck in the past, or looking ahead?" April 21, 2005, Mark Bushman said, "For about 40 years ... except for a few administrations, our government has been engaged in foreign policy..." Does he even research his claim? Since the end of World War II, this country has had five Democratic presidents (Truman, Kennedy, Johnson, Carter, and Clinton) and six Republican presidents (Eisenhower, Nixon, Ford, Reagan, Bush I and Bush II). Even if we take his "past 40 years" out, it only excludes Kennedy, Eisenhower and Truman, increasing the Republican lead even more.

Perhaps instead of trying to frame himself and his opponents, Mark Bushman should just present the facts and let the public decide for themselves.

Trey Kaerrett
campus reporter op-ed

LETTER POLICY

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Privatization means young workers lose either way

Social Security privatization is indeed a commercial topic in American Society. It is one of those few government programs in which everyone is required to participate, in the form of payroll taxes. Politicians have told us that Social Security will run out of money by around 2052. President Bush wants to save Social Security by privatizing a portion of it. That basically means a person can take a portion of payroll taxes and put them in some private investment accounts.

Although I believe that the benefits of Social Security might run out in the future (since many baby boomers are retiring), the current system is working quite well. Why should we make changes now? Because the investment is unpredictable, and we might end up with a benefit cut if the market fails worse than expected. On the other hand, if you do better in the market, you also might end up with reduced benefits (since the government uses it to pay retirees). So why not let young workers, that means we lose either way. Next, the government's debt is a serious problem. If people in the country keep buying government bonds to pay the debt, it will be profitable, and we should worry about the solvency of the system.

Isaih Narciso Environmental engineering freshman

A penny for the poor?

Republicans carry up the slogan "A penny for the poor" and talk about a few extra pennies, thev must be happy to help others in need.

Armen Ermekji Environmental technology junior

The choice for AIS president becomes perfectly clear

To those out there wondering who to vote for in the upcoming AIS election: Mike Motenov has been a close friend of mine for the past two years. Even since the day I met him, his strong work ethic never failed to amaze me. Motenov has had many leadership roles in his life, where he has stepped up to the plate and made a difference. I can guarantee that if he is AIS president, he will do just this, and because of his hard work and with his ability to get things done, he's the great AIS president.

Mariano is honest and genuinely cares for others, which is why I know he will take care of the student body just as he does his friends.

Beckley is the perfect complement with his experience and passion to do what is best for Cal Poly. I have never known a team so driven to serve the students. They are on our side, and that is very important. I am confident that Beckley and Mariano will make their president and chief of staff for the upcoming school year.

Kendra Bover

Campus Secretary

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I love a lot of recce. I read from news I was reading the paper, it's filled with interesting news, par means, most of which are backed up relatively objectively. But lastly, I think columnist Mark Seppala sometimes let something that brought me up.

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**Golden Graham**

**MUSTANG DAILY**

I t’s something prospective Cal Poly Triathlon team members hear: At Wildflower, you are rock star.

The consequence is to be that statement rang so true.

Once, students who raced Wildflower didn’t go just to compete on a notoriously difficult course. With the event at nearby Lake San Antonio, there was the chance to impress an army of Cal Poly student volunteers, everyone from Campus Cruisers to drinking crusaders.

The student volunteers came to party heavily and maybe work a few hours. But athletes like me (this is my third Wildflower) chuckled at the notion. It helped us. This year could be different.

The volunteer ranks are more than 50 percent thinner than last year, with just enough helpers for this weekend’s race to proceed.

Many campus clubs are� foregoing Monterey County parks system. Pinto that couldn’t pass smog. Monterey County’s largest costume event, the Wildflower Sprint Triathlon, is a” Folk Festival of the Coast.”

But it helped me get to know the students, not just because it’s my favorite team. None of the other girls on the plate, Myers’ knees have taken a beating since Condon took over the coaching position this season. Condon attributes the success to new hiring strategies the team is using.

“I just want her to have fun,” Nelson said. “She has quite a fan club. I can’t be more proud of her because she has done it all herself.”

Myers’ statistics, along with those of many other returning players on the team, have improved dramatically since Condon took over the coaching position this season. Condon attributes the success to new hiring strategies the team is using.

“Mechanically we changed some things,” she said. “We are more linear, more attack.”

The team’s new strength is catching the attention of other schools in the Big West Conference. “They’ve had a mission: they wanted to win,” Condon said. “They wanted to change how other teams thought of us. They’ve changed how other teams think of us.”

The Mustangs has been her favorite because of the team’s closeness and level of accomplishment. “This is the closest-knit team we’ve had since I’ve been here,” she said. “We like to be around each other on and off the field. It’s nice to know you have 15 friends who are there for you.”

Myers does not plan to pursue a career in softball after college, but instead wants to attend graduate school. “These will be my fondest memories of softball, not just because it’s very last year, but because of what we’ve done as a team.”

**Erin Myers: An unexpected catch**

Megan Aplons

When Erin Myers was in fifth grade, her father coached her softball team. None of the other girls on the Angels wanted to play catcher, so Myers’ dad asked her to put on the mitt and he helped the team out. And she has been behind the plate ever since.

“I fell in love with it from the start,” said Myers, a journalism senior. “I got stuck back there, but I guess it was meant to be.”

Today, Myers is Cal Poly’s starting catcher and has been the season’s most improved catcher. She has 342 hits and has nine home runs, more than twice as many as any other Mustang.

Along with leading the team in home runs, RBIs, and slugging percentage, catcher Jenny Condon said Myers is contributing to the team’s successful season by being a leader and stepping up when the team needs her.

“Shes very unselfish,” Condon said. “Not only is she leading in home runs, but she is also leading in sac bunts, which shows that she is willing to do what needs to be done for us to be successful.”

Myers said she is excited to finally contribute on-field.

“I spent my first two years in the bullpen, which was difficult,” she said. “But it helped me get to know the pitchers really well and was worth it.”

Myers had never been hit as a batter before and surprised many with her success at bat, because until this season she had never hit a home run.

“I never go up there trying to hit a home run,” she said. “I just want him to hit it. It’s been great getting to help the team.”

Myers’ teammates say that her work ethic and positive mental attitude inspire them.

“When we get into the huddle, she is the one that makes up the crew,” Nelson said. “Her hard work shows the younger girls how it is done.”

After 12 years of kneeling behind the plate, Myers’ knees have taken a beating in recent seasons.

“If it wasn’t for him, they wouldn’t have been catching,” Nelson said. “But she stuck it out for us.”

Myers’ mother, Deborah Brown, travel seven hours from Redding to watch every game.

“It always fun to watch her play,” Brown said. “She has quite a fan club going. I couldn’t be more proud of her because she has done it all herself.”

Myers’ statistics, along with those of many other returning players on the team, have improved dramatically since Condon took over the coaching position this season. Condon attributes the success to new hiring strategies the team is using.

“Mechanically we changed some things,” she said. “We are more linear, more attack. Everyday’s numbers are better than they have been in the past.”

The team’s new strength is catching the attention of other schools in the Big West Conference. “They’ve had a mission: they wanted to win,” Condon said. “They wanted to change how other teams thought of us. They’ve changed how other teams think of us.”

Looking back over the year, Myers said her senior season with the Mustangs has been her favorite because of the team’s closeness and level of accomplishment. “This is the closest-knit team we’ve had since I’ve been here,” she said. “We like to be around each other on and off the field. It’s nice to know you have 15 friends who are there for you.”

Myers does not plan to pursue a career in softball after college, but instead wants to attend graduate school. “These will be my fondest memories of softball, not just because it’s very last year, but because of what we’ve done as a team.”

**Coach nears his finish at Cal Poly**

Tonya Strickland

**MUSTANG DAILY**

Caleb Guest said he joined the Cal Poly Triathlon team in his sophomore year, “a crucial time in his life” because he was considering transferring to another school.

“I just wasn’t finding something I was really into,” he said.

That all changed when Guest, now a kinesiology senior and triathlon team president, realized he found his place at Cal Poly.

“When the team, I discovered it was totally my thing," he said. "I found friends and a combination of three sports I love doing.”

He also said the friendship and inspiration that Rick Ellison, the triathlon team’s head coach for the past six years, was essential to his involvement in the club.

“I wouldn’t be involved in the sport if not for him,” Guest said. “He knows how to formulate a training plan for any skill level.”

Ellison is a volunteer coach for the team while serving the university as associate vice president of advancement. He will leave both jobs to become vice president for advancement at Chico State.

Ellison said he has completed more than 100 triathlons in his life, including five Ironmans. It’s funny to think that Ellison was once a college bas­ ketball player.

Ellison said that since Wildflower is “Cal Poly’s backyard,” it’s especially important.

“Cal Poly is uniquely positioned to allow almost all our members to take advantage of it,” he said.

The team does this by organizing a Chains of Love sprint around Valentine’s Day and Parent’s Weekend as well as a March Warm-Up Triathlon for collegiate athletes from all over to train in before nationals.

“The Chains of Love is mostly fun because parents usually run the sprint with their kids,” Guest said.

Team camaraderie, Guest said, is an important aspect of the final leg, the 10K run to the Wildflower finish line.

“Passing each other, giving the high five, we all definitely use that energy in a race,” he said. “You gain more motivation every time you see someone in the green and gold.”