Expect CSU fee increase

Brittany Ridley
MUSTANG DAILY

The California State University Board of Trustees passed an 8 percent fee increase for all CSU schools Thursday.

Tuition will increase $204 for all undergraduate and teaching-credential students in the 2005-06 school year.

Yearly tuition at each campus will inflate from $2,520 to $2,724, not including the miscellaneous fees, which average $444.

The CSU chancellor's office stated that even with the annual increase, California State schools are only about half the cost of other state schools across the country.

"CSU student fees are among the lowest in the entire country even with the 8 percent fee increase," said Colleen Bentley, director of public affairs for the CSU system. "It will keep us very competitive with universities across the country, especially when you look at the high quality of education."

The tuition increase is associated with a funding compact signed by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, University of California officials and the CSU system.

The annual vote to boost CSU fees is limited to a 10 percent increase for each academic year.

Students receiving Cal Grant awards will be supplemented for the $204 increase in addition to their initial aid.

Larry Kelley, vice president for administration and finance at Cal Poly, said that the board of trustees made a commitment to students, saying that the increases would not exceed one-third of tuition costs.

"This increase will put us at just under 8 percent of tuition costs."

Matt Highstreet, mechanical engineering freshman, paid three dollars to smash a car in the UU Thursday to raise money for Hurricane victims. The event was organized by a speech communications class taught by Nina Truch.

WRECKING CARS FOR CHARITY

Poly travels to Davis for 'The Horseshoe Classic'

Tiffany Dias
MUSTANG DAILY

Two Cal Poly landscape architecture graduates received a $1,000 prize after winning the 2005 national Wayne Grace Memorial Student Design competition.

Kathryn Herrenrath and Joshua Circle-Woodburn presented examples of how "landscape architecture and licensing affect life," according to a news release issued by the College of Architecture and Environmental Design.

The competition was sponsored by the Landscape Architectural Registration Boards Foundation, which is in its sixth year. Any students enrolled in the landscape architecture program may participate. This year four students were awarded for their landscape design entries, which covered a variety of public health and welfare issues that are not commonly acknowledged or understood by the public and legislatures.

The four winning projects illustrated how other landscape architects could apply their specialized knowledge and skills to develop design solutions addressing important social problems and protecting the environment. The winning projects also addressed social and ethical issues regarding state licensing for landscape architects.

Margreta Hill, landscape architecture department head, was pleased to hear that two former students were winners. The students enrolled in the program in the fall of 2003.

Landscape architecture graduates win competition

see Landscape, page 2

GrC professors advise printing professionals in Middle East

Tonya Strickland
MUSTANG DAILY

Through a business consultation project, two Cal Poly professors brought top-notch graphic arts concepts to the Middle East in September and came back with unparalleled first-hand experience in working with another culture.

Employed by the Graphic Communication Institute at Cal Poly (GrC), an "outreach arm" of the graphic communications department (GrC), professors Kevin Cooper and Malcolm Keif traveled to The Kingdom of Bahrain, an island-country located in the Persian Gulf. There, they attended a three-day session to educate executives on strategic management concepts in the printing industry and Lyndee Ehlers, GrC special projects manager.

The GrC provides professionals with Cal Poly-caliber resources, input and training by providing professors' knowledge and other services to people in the industry, she said.

"We were exposed to new and different cultures, which enhanced our sensitivity to them," Keif said in his trip report. "We were able to introduce Cal Poly's graphic communication expertise to an international audience and form new relationships to foster future opportunities. Overall, it was a significant life experience and we are grateful for the opportunity to be part of it."

Cooper said that his exposure to a variety of cultures and their business practices is "always enlightening." He added that he was able to experience places he had never been and see what the unknown is really like.

"When you visit places personally, you realize how similar we really are to others, and that people typically are after the same goals in life and business," he said.

Keif explained the advantages of international consulting, as well as the exposure to other cultures as helpful inside tidbits for his professional knowledge.

see GrC, page 2

Graphic communication professors Malcolm Keif and Kevin Cooper meet with Bahraini government officials outside the national printing office.
percent of the cost of education, and the fee would not exceed 33 percent (of tuition)," Kelley said.

It might hurt a little bit now, but it is going to benefit students in the long run. If you spread $204 over a year, it's not very much."

Students are required to pay more each year because of budget cuts and less financial support from the state. "The funding of higher education in California continues to be a partnership between the state and the students. The state economy has been lagging for the last few years, causing a larger share of partnership to be paid by the students," Kelley said.

Even with the raise in tuition, students will continue to see a value in the quality of education and job opportunities, Kelley said.

"Cal Poly can continue to expect the quality that they came here to get," Kelley said. "We will continue to focus on course availability and graduation rates, and they will continue to see quality faculty and staff being retained."

Landscape

continued from page 1
had won a national competition.

"That's a very big honor to us," Hill said. "We're proud that both of their approaches showcased sustainability design practices, considering that's not the competition's focus."

Hergenrather and Circle-Woodburn, who both graduated last June, submitted their entries before the competition's May deadline. They were announced as winners in September. Hergenrather, a San Luis Obispo native, suggested a resort that would be a place where people could learn about Hawaiian culture while using materials to support sustainability.

"I tried to design a sustainable resort that would be a place where people could learn about Hawaiian culture while using materials to support sustainability," he explained. He added that the design "prevented environmental disturbances to the site with the use of several eco-friendly type lodges."

Grc

continued from page 1
edge and in the larger scope of Grc industry know-how.

"It has helped me to better understand the global environment we live in," he said. "Grc is highly influenced by outsourcing to developing countries. Seeing businesses in other nations helps me to know more about the challenges faced in other cultures."

Focusing on lean management, Keif said one way to improve efficient production is to empower employees, so the overall company has the potential to become more competitive.

"Gulf States' companies are entrenched in top-down, traditional company structures," Keif said. "There is little room for innovation unless you are the senior leader."

Cooper said it was challenging to consult on this issue because it wasn't merely an isolated pattern in a certain company, but an overall culture of the industry in the Middle East. This means including workers in decisions about their jobs and not having a strict management rule.

"It will take a shift in thinking about the value of control versus trust in management style," Cooper said. "On the bright side, they recognize this and are open to it; it's just a matter of helping them understand how to change their cultural styles over time to be more effective competing."

Both professors said their experience with this project has added to their prospective on the industry and on Middle Eastern culture. They plan to take these insights back into the classroom to enrich the student learning experience.

"Exposure to the industry always brings credibility to the classroom," Cooper said. Harvey Levermon, head of Cal Poly's graphic communication department, said in a news release that the consulting project has helped put a new spotlight on the department.

"We are now positioned with a faculty having the knowledge and experience to influence the international graphic communication community," he said.

Got something to say?

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Musician/Artist: Thrice
Movie: 'Bill and Ted'
Place in SLO: Sunshine Doughnuts
Mode of transportation: My two feet while swinging my arms at the same time — running
Time of year: Halloween

If You Could...

— travel anywhere, where would it be and why?
Copenhagen, Denmark. I’ve been intrigued with the lifestyle ever since I was young.
— talk to anyone, dead or alive, who would it be and why?
Alexander Hamilton. He was a political genius with trends that still stand to this day.

Other

— Who would you elect to be the next president, and why?
President Baker. I would know what he looks like.

Editor’s note: As part of the new “Musttim; Minntf” section, “The Face of Cal Poly” will feature a randomly-chosen Cal Poly student.

Briefs

AVILA BEACH (AP) — A sewage spill closed Avila Beach. Up to 1,800 gallons flowed into the ocean early Wednesday after backup of a sewer line at the San Luis Bay Inn, said Curtis Baton, environmental health director of San Luis Obispo County.
The beach was closed to swimming and other water recreation at least through Thursday afternoon.
"It's OK to be on the sand, but stay out of the water," Baton said.
The spill presents a mild hazard to people, he said, primarily in the form of rashes or other infections.

NEW YORK (AP) — Janet Jackson has been exposed and this time, Justin Timberlake is nowhere to be seen.
A video clip showing Jackson sunbathing naked has been circulating on the Internet and was still playing on some Web sites Thursday. The 46-second paparazzi video was shot from bushes near the singer.
Jackson's publicists didn't immediately return a call from The Associated Press on Thursday for comment.
Her lawyers were reportedly attempting to have the video taken off the Web.

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Sunni Arab militants killed 14 Shiite militiamen in a clash southeast of Baghdad — another sign of rising tensions among Iraq's rival ethnic and religious communities.
The U.S. military reported Thursday that three more American soldiers died in combat. The Shiite-Sunni fighting occurred after police and militiamen loyal to radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr raided a house in Nahrawan, 15 miles southeast of the capital, to free a militant taken hostage by Sunni militants, according to Amer al-Husein, an aide to al-Sadr.

Internet use up, users’ trust down

Stephen Oldmacher
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Computer and Internet use is up, but so are concerns about identity theft and other online dangers.

Fifty-five percent of American households had access to the Internet at home in 2003, more than triple the percentage in 1997, according to a report released Thursday by the Census Bureau.

Internet usage increased with education, income and the presence of school-age children at home, the report found. It was lowest among adults who have not graduated from high school.

School-age children are most likely to use home computers to play games or do school work.

Adults are most likely to use home computers for e-mail, to search for information about products and services, and to read news, weather and sports information.

The report is based on data from the bureau’s October 2003 Current Population Survey, the country's primary source of labor statistics. It is the bureau’s latest information on computer and Internet use, though it is two years old and experts say Americans’ computer habits are quickly evolving.

"We actually think the (Internet) penetration in households is higher," said Greg Stuart, president and CEO of the Internet Advertising Bureau, which helps online companies increase revenue.

A report this year by the Pew Internet and American Life Project found 72 percent of adults use the Internet, up from 63 percent last year. It found that 22 percent of American adults have never used the Internet.

Susannah Fox, who worked on the Pew report, said age and education were the strongest predictors of whether someone uses the Internet. Young adults were the most likely to use the Internet, with a big drop-off among people 70 and older.

Advertisers are taking advantage of increased Internet use, said Stuart, who expects Internet advertising revenue to reach nearly $12 billion this year, more than double the amount from five years ago.

But even as Internet access increases, computer users are being more careful about sharing personal information online.

A survey released this week by Consumer Reports Webwatch found that 96 percent of computer users have changed their online behavior in some way because of concerns about identity theft. A little more than half stopped giving out personal information on the Web, while 25 percent said they stopped making online purchases.

The Consumer Reports survey of 1,501 adult Internet users was done in May and June and has a margin of sampling error of 3 percentage points.

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— talk to anyone, dead or alive, who would it be and why?
Decreased sunlight in winter contributes to depression

Summer Fitzgerald
University of Mississippi

OXFORD, Miss. — A break from the blistering summer heat is welcomed by many, but chilly temperatures, like those experienced during the fall semester, have some students at the University of Mississippi feeling a bit under the weather.

Studies completed at university research centers around the country indicate cold weather could pose a serious threat to students’ academic performance.

“I love the fall, home games and tailgates. It’s great,” junior forensic science major Sarah-Kathryn Sanders said.

Despite fall’s pleasant feel, a number of studies suggest the temperature drop between August and September can adversely affect students’ mental health.

Sanders said she agrees.

“At times, cold weather does make me want to stay inside, especially when it’s freezing,” she said.

During the summer months sun exposure is at a maximum, and the warm air tends to be motivation for increased outdoor activity.

According to Elisabeth Somer, M.D., “Light and warm temperatures promote normal brain activity.”

In the autumn and winter seasons, temperatures decrease and people are exposed to less sunlight.

Some individuals, as Somer explains, “fall into a depressed mood each year in the fall and continue to feel depressed throughout the winter.”

This disorder, often referred to as “winter blues,” is included in a group of mental disorders known as Seasonal Affective Disorders. A study published by Cornell University said, “The winter blues are estimated to affect 61 percent of college-age students,” and estimated college-age women are four times as likely to be affected.

Some claim this chill-induced mental plunge “could be due to a drop in serotonin, a brain chemical that regulates mood and hormone.

Seronin is a chemical in the brain that produces feelings of contentment and enhances mood. During the cooler months the shortage of daylight hours and sun can alter and decrease the levels of serotonin in some individuals, resulting in the winter blues.

Fall is often recognized, especially at Ole Miss, by football games, evenings spent in the Grove and good memories.

But beyond autumn’s advantages, students should be aware of the negative effects of chilly weather.

Increase in appetite, mood swings and a decrease in physical activity were some of the symptoms identified in the study by Cornell University. Sheila Mathews, a board certified psychiatrist at Kaiser Permanente Health System, brings out four clear symptoms of SAD. Symptoms may range from minor to severe, including loss of interest in regular activities, insomnia, excessive drinking and weight gain.

The symptoms are expected to last four to seven months, generally subsiding in the spring.

Between class and an array of obligations, college life can be demanding.

Many students try to maintain an optimistic perspective, successfully setting and achieving their academic goals.

The effects of a SAD could alter one’s performance in the class or in my studies should be taken seriously. A degree is the reason most of us are here,” right? said Marianneth Venetis, a sophomore business major.

“Anything that could affect my performance in the future as a p e o p l e b e c o m e busier and busier,” Stewart said.

She said that because of today’s busy world, physically attending a clinic every week is not possible for everyone.

“We thought the phone idea might be a way to capture individuals who are unable to attend the conventional face-to-face clinic,” Stewart said.

Joe Donnelly, director of the center, led the study. It took 80 overweight participants and randomly divided them into three groups: a group of 29 people who attended weight loss clinics in person, a group of 29 people who participated in clinics over the phone and a group of 22 people who did not participate in clinics.

The study found that the group that worked with a clinic lost much more weight than the group that did not.

The group that participated in person lost only a few more pounds than the group that participated over the phone.

Keith Van Gansen, senior trainer for Health Management Resources in Boston, said he has worked a lot of research for years, and it boils down to one thing: “From the 1,200-calorie diets and exercised about five hours per week. The next 14 weeks concentrated on weight maintenance. During this time, each participant had a structured eating plan designed to meet his or her calorie needs.

Participants had a basic diet of at least three weight-loss shakes, two entrees of provided prepackaged food and at least five one-cup servings of fruits or vegetables per day.

Donnelly’s research team recently submitted a proposal to receive a grant from the National Institutes of Health. The team would use the grant to attempt to replicate the study on a larger scale.

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Phone an effective weight-loss tool, U. Kansas study says

Travis Robinson
University of Kansas

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Getting help with weight loss could be as easy as making a weekly phone call, according to a recent study by the University of Kansas Center for Physical Activity and Weight Management.

The study found that participating in weight-loss clinics over the phone was almost as effective as attending them in person. Post-doctoral student and researcher Elizabeth Stewart said a conference call was not better than a state-of-the-art weight management clinic, but it appeared to be an effective alternative.

“We thought the phone idea might be a way to capture individuals who are unable to attend the conventional face-to-face clinic.”

— ELIZABETH STEWART
post-doctoral student and researcher

The study last 12 weeks. The first 12 weeks concentrated on weight loss. During this time, participants were held to 1,200-calorie diets and exercised about five hours per week. The next 14 weeks concentrated on weight maintenance. During this time, each participant had a structured eating plan designed to meet his or her calorie needs.

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“The Horseshoe Classic”

Where: Toomey Field
When: 1:07 p.m.
Radio: KXTY Radio (99.7 FM)

About the opponent...
University of California-Davis
Founded: 1905
Enrollment: 30,170
Nickname: Aggies
School colors: Yale Blue & Gold
Home Field: Toomey Field (7,640)
Lettermen: 51
Lettermen Lost: 24
Starters Returning: 13
Offense: 5
Defense: 5
Specialty: 3
Starters lost: 15
Head coach: Bob Biggs

Great West Football Conference Standings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Conf.</th>
<th>Overall</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cal Poly</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UC Davis</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. Dakota</td>
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<td>S. Utah</td>
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<td>N. Colorado</td>
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The kickoff time for “The Horseshoe Classic” is scheduled for Saturday at 1:07 p.m. at Toomey Field. This will be the 31st meeting between the two teams. The Aggies have a 13-13-2 advantage in the rivalry.

Garrett Leight

The Cal Poly football team (5-2, 3-0 Great West) will rely on redshirt freshman quarterback Matt Brennan to get the job done against conference rival UC Davis (4-3, 2-1 Great West).

After a tough loss at Montana (5-2, 2-1 Big Sky), the Mustangs will need to move on if they hope to have a successful season and make the playoffs. The loss of starting quarterback senior Anthony Garriott is ancient history, according to head coach Rich Ellerson.

“Our guys look forward to this game all year long,” Ellerson said. “It’s easier to look on after a loss last weekend because everybody on our team gets excited for this rivalry matchup.”

However, many believe that losing Garriott will greatly affect the Mustangs’ offense against the highly touted Aggies defense.

Ellerson begs to differ. He said that the offense has been practicing with Brennan since last spring and they know what he’s capable of. Ellerson feels that getting the victory will not be as black and white as Brennan being the leader and playing well.

“Matt (Brennan) needs to step in and be the quarterback,” Ellerson added. “Our guys look forward to this game all year long.”

Ellerson said that Davis has a great defensive system, which leads them to many victories.

They don’t reinvent themselves, he said. “Their system and packages are not something we are unfamiliar with. We’re prepared for all that they might bring.”

No Garnett for No. 10 Cal Poly

James Noble eludes a North Dakota State defender. The Mustangs beat the Bison 37-6 at Mustang Stadium on Oct. 8. Noble ran for 161 yards on 20 carries in the game.

Ellerson added that the personality of the Mustangs offense will not change even with Brennan at the helm. “It has more to do with how they choose to defend us,” he said. “If there are opportunities to throw we can and we will.”

Practice this week was different than normal, said Noble. “Everybody was taking their reps at half-speed this week to try and heal their injuries,” he said. “I didn’t practice too much. I’m just trying to get my legs ready for the game.”

At this point in the season it’s more of a healing process, Noble said.

BRENNAN ANGEL / MUSTANG DAILY

No Garnett for No. 10 Cal Poly
No. 10 Cal Poly

Conference: Great West
Record: 5-2, 3-0
Last week: Lost 37-26 to No. 7 Montana
Next week: vs. No. 15 Eastern Washington

With Garratt sidelined, Noble is the primary offensive threat for Cal Poly. He averages 5.9 yards per carry and has five rushing touchdowns. Barden is the team’s leading receiver with 17 receptions, five for touchdowns.

RB James Noble
WR James Barden

UC Davis

Conference: Great West
Record: 4-3, 2-1
Last week: Defeated North Dakota State 20-14
Next week: at Stephen F. Austin

COACH’S CLIPBOARD

PASSING

Redshirt freshman Matt Brennan is expected to get the start for Cal Poly. He has taken 26 snaps for the team this season. He is a solid prospect, but lacks experience.

C

B+  

RUSHING

James Noble is hobbled up, but he should still be a force on the ground. Last week he carried the ball 22 times for 144 yards. Garratt is a huge loss, but Brennan can run well.

A

C

DEFENSE

Cal Poly’s sack express was put to a halt last week as only Chris White got to Montana’s quarterback. Expect bigger numbers this week as Cal Poly’s defense looks for redemption.

A

SPECIAL TEAMS

Cal Poly’s kicker Nick Correia and punter Tim Chicone have been excellent. The return game still struggles. Will Cal Poly return a kick for a touchdown this season?

A-

B

The kicking game is above average and the Aggies’ returners are about average too. Kicker Emmanuel Benjamin has a pair of 40-plus-yard field goals.

Grant is the focal point of this offense. He averages 250 yards per game and has 10 touchdowns on the season. Kays is Grant’s favorite receiver, averaging 102 receiving yards per game. He has three touchdowns this season.

QB Jon Grant
WR Tony Kays

stangs!

Junior Light

VISIBILITY LETTERS

BUD LIGHT
Tomorrow marks the 45th anniversary of the plane crash that killed 22 people, including 16 Cal Poly football players.

The Arctic-Pacific C-46 plane went down after its left engine failed shortly after takeoff from the Toledo airport in Ohio. At the time it was the worst sports air disaster in U.S. history. Only 26 people survived. One of those survivors is the new offensive coordinator of the Detroit Lions, Ted Tollner.

"You try to do the best to appreciate the life that you have been given," Tollner said.

Tollner was the starting quarterback for Cal Poly for two years, and since then has coached for the Bills, 49ers, Rams, and Chargers. Tollner was also the coach for USC from 1982-86. Remembering the night he was pulled from the burning plane, Tollner said there are two sides.

"There's the good fortune of living and the grief of thinking of the people who didn't make it," Tollner said.

Johnny Nettleship, another survivor, was covering the game for the Telegram-Tribune, now the Tribune. He was sports editor on the paper from 1980 until 1984, and passed away January 23, 2006, at the age of 88.

Carl Bowser, another survivor was inducted into the Cal Poly Hall of Fame in 2002.

Some survivors of the crash meet every June at ex-teammate Rich Max’s home according to the Tribune.

After the crash, a game of mercy was played between Bowling Green State University and Fresno State on Thanksgiving. All proceeds of the game were donated to the Cal Poly memorial fund. The new Cal Poly football stadium will contain a memorial to the players who died.

"An important part of the renovation of our stadium is our goal to recognize and honor all of the members of the 1960 football team who perished in a tragic plane crash in Ohio," said Cal Poly President Warren Baker.

The plan calls for a memorial plaza next to the stadium, which will contain a copper pillar for each player that died. Each pillar will be the height of that player and contain a biographical plaque. The players who lost their lives: Larry Austin, Rob Bangert, John Dell, Officer Dean Carlson, Franklin Joel Copeland, Victor C. Hall, Gay C. Henning, Curtis Hill, Gary Van Horn, Marshall J. Kuljo, Jim C. Leibster, Lynn T. Lobnaugh, Wendell Minier, Donald J. O’Meara, Raymond Portas, Wayne R. Sorensen and William A. Stewart.
Bush abandons Miers Supreme Court nomination under conservatives' fire

Terence Hunt

WASHINGTON — Under withering attack from conservatives, President Bush abandoned his push to put loyalist Harriet Miers on the Supreme Court and promised a quick replacement Thursday. Democrats accused him of bowing to the "radical right wing of the Republican Party."

The White House said Miers had withdrawn because of senators' demands to see internal documents related to her role as counsel to the president. But politics played a larger role: Bush's conservative backers had doubts about her ideological purity, and Democrats had little incentive to help the nominee or the embattled GOP president.

"Let's move on," said Republican Sen. Trent Lott of Mississippi. "In a month, who will remember the name Harriet Miers?"

The withdrawal stunned Washington on a day when the capital was awaiting potential bad news for the administration on another front: the possible indictments of Florida to assess hurricane damage.

Democrats and Republicans braced for Bush's next Supreme Court pick, which will be his third try since July 19. With Chief Justice John Roberts in place, the president had two pools of candidates from which to choose: conservative jurists who received serious consideration last time or somebody outside what Bush calls the "judicial monastery," perhaps a current or former senator who would be welcomed by the GOP-controlled Senate.

Bush promised a new nominee "in a timely manner." Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist said he expected a replacement within days and wants to hold hearings by Christmas. Equally likely was that retiring Justice Sandra Day O'Connor would remain on the court until early next year while her replacement is sought, a prospect that concerns many conservatives.

Democrats will remain White House counsel. Democrats urged Bush to nominate a referee adverse in the mold of O'Connor, who frequently cast the swing vote on abortion and other hot-button issues coming before the court this year. "He must listen to all Americans, not just the far right," said Sen. Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts.

Bush blamed the Senate for her demise. "It is clear that senators would not be satisfied until they gained access to internal documents concerning advice provided during her tenure at the White House — disclosures that would undermine a president's ability to receive candid counsel," the president said shortly before leaving for Florida to assess hurricane damage.

There were few regrets on Capitol Hill, from either party. Republicans controlled 55 of the Senate's 100 seats, but several GOP lawmakers were warning on Miers amid intense lobbying from conservative interest groups.

Republicans and Democrats alike questioned her qualifications — Miers had never served as a judge — and Bush faced charges of cronyism for tapping his former personal lawyer for the highest court in the land.

Frist spoke with White House chief of staff Andy Card Wednesday night and offered a "frank assessment of the situation," Frist spokesman Shraeper said. Coincidentally, Frist called Miers to tell her the president had changed his mind. "Bush faced charges of cronyism for tapping his former personal lawyer for the highest court in the land."

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ANAHEIM — Mohammed Elkhatib surveyed his cafe and shook his head — no belly dancers, no live music, no dance floor. Just a handful of clean-cut men sitting around puffing tobacco from hookahs and watching Game 3 of the World Series.

Business isn't likely to pick up anytime soon. After fielding hundreds of complaints from angry residents, the City Council on Tuesday tentatively approved an ordinance targeting the 11 hookah bars that have popped up along the city's Little Gaza strip in the past five years.

If it wins final approval next month, the new law will ban drinking, live music and dancing — including belly dancing — at the bars unless owners secure a special permit.

City officials see the new law as an administrative solution that will let them better regulate the thriving lounges much as they do other businesses. Owners of the hookah bars, however, see something bigger: a culture clash in a city that until recent years was known as the predominantly white home of Disneyland.

"We're not Starbucks — we're a Middle Eastern hookah bar," said Elkhatib, a 26-year-old Kuwaiti-American. "We dance, we sing, we smoke flavored tobacco from the elaborate water pipes. But few have stirred as much controversy as those in Anaheim.

City officials deny they are attacking the Middle Eastern tradition and insist that some hookah lounges have blatantly exploited a loophole in the city code to act as unregulated clubs and bars in residential areas.

In the past two years, police have responded 499 times to disturbances around the clubs involving drunkenness, gang fights, theft, arson and drug use. Angry lounge owners fear the new rules will put them out of business and deal a blow to the thriving young Arab-American community that uses the cafes as social cornerstones.

"The average American will go to a bar after work, have a drink and call it a day. Well, that's exactly what this is," Elkhatib said. "We're not doing anything against our culture."

The hookah cafes in Anaheim began to open five years ago, when young Arab-American entrepreneurs saw an opportunity to take a long-standing Middle Eastern tradition and give it a modern American twist.

The lounges styled themselves as hip new clubs, with muted lighting, live music and belly dancers to entertain customers while they sucked in tobacco tasting of grape, watermelon and strawberry.

That trend has crossed the nation, with hookah bars attracting Arab and non-Arab college students and twenty-somethings from California to North Carolina and Wisconsin.

In Anaheim, nearly all the lounges are located within a highly competitive two-mile radius. Elkhatib and others say less scrupulous owners have admitted minors, served alcohol without a license and looked the other way at drug use to attract non-Arab customers. The tactics have hurt the reputation of an important part of Middle Eastern culture, Elkhatib said.

On a recent night at the Fusion Cafe, a dozen baby-faced men puffed on hookahs and played a card game called tarneeb. Most said they came daily to hang out with friends they've known since childhood.

"It's like a second home to us. It's our comfort zone," Amer El Hatem, 19, said as he puffed grape-flavored tobacco. "I don't know why they're putting restrictions on us.

The city says the establishments have outgrown city codes that treated them like coffee houses. Lounges that want to offer live music or dancing can apply for a more expensive permit that's required of clubs, bars, dance halls and many restaurants, said Sheri Vander Dussen, city planning director.

Some residents who have battled the hookah bars wanted the new regulations to be more restrictive. They dismissed suggestions by lounge owners that their complaints were motivated by racists or cultural insensitivity.

Vanessa Shanley fought for 14 months to get a hookah lounge behind her house closed after it became the scene of gang fights, shootings and drunkenness. The bar was shut down a year ago after Shanley videotaped the problems from her backyard, she said.

"Now it's in someone else's yard," said Shanley, who brought her teenage daughter to the City Council meeting. "Putting a hookah bar in our residential neighborhood puts our children in danger."
Flu blues: It's that time of year again

Hey Cal Poly! Go get your flu shot! Your parents aren’t here, so we’ll tell you for them. Why? Because we care, that’s why!

Each year about 36,000 Americans die from complications due to the flu, that’s almost the entire population of San Luis Obispo! According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), October and November are the best months to get your flu shot to stay healthy throughout flu season.

Do you really think that you can outsmart the flu? Remember that influenza is a respiratory disease that spreads in tiny droplets of mucus in the air. This could come from a sneeze, a cough, or even that snot you just shared with your roommate. Most healthy adults can still infect each other one day before symptoms start and up to five days after they have become sick. Because of this, the flu can spread quickly, especially in close quarters like in your classes or on the third floor. So, if you think that you’re invincible, you better think again.

Are you assuming you won’t be able to get a shot? Lucky for you, there won’t be a shortage of vaccines this year. Please call: (805) 481-6399

On Monday, the CDC began distributing flu vaccinations for all Americans. This means that even if you are not at a high-risk for developing complications from the flu, you can still get your shot. If you have a chronic condition that may compromise breathing or your immune response such as asthma, diabetes or a seizure disorder, you are considered to be one of the 185 million Americans at high-risk for developing complications due to the flu and should not procrastinate.

Are you making excuses not to go? Is it because you are dreading the awful pain of the needle piercing your skin? If you are, then be sorry. While the vaccine can be associated with soreness or redness at the injection site, the actual flu causes muscle aches and a fever of more than 101 degrees, so perhaps you should weigh the trade off.

If you really can’t stand the sight of a needle, search out flu clinics in your area and see if anyone is offering the flu vaccination as a new nifty nasal spray.

Health
Friday, October 28, 2005 11
Dancing through the air

Emily Logan
MUSTANG DAILY

Her bright red ribbons and black clothing are vivid against the green and brown scenery surrounding Bishop’s Peak. She floats through the air, demonstrating strength and flexibility beyond belief. The trees support her every move, as if they are dancing with her. This is not your typical performance. This is Rebekah Ruffo in her element as an aerial dancer.

"I love when people come by and are amazed and can live vicariously through me and just want to stop and watch for a little while," she said. "I like blending into the background... where people are just hanging out and I’m having my own enjoyment of climbing on fabric; hanging from a tree."

Ruffo, a math senior, said she tries to go to Bishop’s every weekend, where the community can stumble upon her art.

"My ultimate aim for all my dancing is to simply dance as praise to the artist of this world," she said.

In order to explain it to people, Ruffo related aerial dancing to Cirque du Soleil, which has aerial dancers in the shows. She said it is sometimes called “ribbon” or “fabric” dancing.

"In the kind of aerial dancing I do the key word is ‘dangling’," she said. "I am not out to be in the circus. The background I am coming from is a fusion of dance and gymnastics."

Ruffo has been doing gymnastics since she was 10 in her hometown of Redlands, Calif. She never officially took dance lessons but took “sample” classes at studios. She then practiced what she learned in her garage.

"I have kept my strength and flexibility by constantly practicing at home," she said. "When I came to Cal Poly and dance classes came free with tuition, I started dancing... but the thing in the back of my mind is, I’ve got to take dance into the air."

Ruffo began aerial dancing in August of this year. While studying abroad in Thailand over spring quarter, she began researching Aerial Dance and discovered the Aerial Dance Festival in Boulder, Colo. Ruffo signed up for a beginning class, but her teachers soon said she should move to a more advanced class.

"I was spatially capable of the more advanced classes, so I switched into the class where I got to learn more than enough to have a career in aerial dance," she said.

When Ruffo returned to San Luis Obispo, she was equipped with this knowledge and her own 50 feet of fabric to work with.

"I had no idea where I was going to hang it," she said. "My friend Dave, who’s an engineer, helped me come up with an easy way of rigging it around a tree limb, and I use an inflatable mattress as my crash pad."

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Ruffo has only used her own fabric about 10 times, but has enough experience to begin performing. As a member of the Orchesis Dance Company on campus, Ruffo and Orchesis Director Maria Junco discussed trying to make aerial dancing a part of the performances.

“Aerial dance is an exciting contemporary style of dance, or sometimes an element in contemporary dance, that would add dimension — literally and metaphorically — to our concert,” Junco said. “Our campus and local community should be seeing dance that extends beyond more traditional forms.”

However, logistical problems have gotten in the way. Because Orchesis performs in the Spanos Theatre, rigging fabric for aerial dancing is not possible, Junco said.

“It could be done in a performing situation where you didn’t have horizontal riggings that would get in the way of the aerial apparatus when it swings,” she said. “I think it could be done in the theatre, but not in a situation where there were lights and fly-Ins for other dances in the same concert.”

Junco suggested rigging Ruffo to a tree outside the theatre as a pre-show performance, but they are still deciding if it will work.

Regardless, Ruffo plans to continue to aerial dance at Bishop’s, still astonishing those who come across her art where nature is her stage.