Justin Fivella and Jennifer Hall
MUSTANG DAILY

The Instructionally Related Activities (IRA) committee is asking students to vote on a proposed $10 per quarter non-athletic increase in student fees. IRA programs are activities that are at least partially sponsored by an academic discipline or instructional department and that are integral to its formal instructional offerings, according to the IRA press packet.

Cal Poly Rodeo, Rose Float and Mustang Daily are examples of many IRA-supported programs. IRA currently recognizes 62 student programs and represents 5,000 students. The fee to support these programs has not been raised in over 13 years.

Because of the lack of funding, ASI donated $110,000 last year and $100,000 the year before to IRA in order to fulfill program needs. “People have a lot of needs that are not being met,” said Terry Spiller, the chair of the music department.

Currently students pay $13.25 per quarter in IRA fees. $6.37 is allocated for athletics and the remaining $6.88 is allotted to general IRA programs. The new fee would be $19.68 per quarter.

If the referendum does not pass, IRA funding will be reduced by 20 percent next year. Existing programs will lose funding and no new programs will be added for IRA funding. If the proposal does pass, then IRA can give more funding to existing IRA activities, add more programs and rebuild reserves that were used up over the past few years. “I think that the $10 increase will keep IRA healthy for a long time,” Spiller said.

Seventy-five percent of the student fees will go to existing IRA programs and the remaining 25 percent will be left for new programs and emergency funding. This year 10 to 15 percent of the funds will be left for build up reserves. Despite IRA supporters’ efforts to inform the student community about the fee increase proposal, student interest has been low in comparison to last year’s ASI proposed increase.

A total of 10 students have attended the three open forums that were held about the fee increase.

“We aren’t surprised so few people showed up, it has been the trend in situations like these,” said Kim Bird of academic affairs. Voting was chosen for winter quarter because current IRA programs are required to apply for funding several months before they receive funds during spring quarter.

The committee that allocates IRA funds was designed to be equally representative and thus is made up of IRAAC co-chair David Conn, ASI President Tyler Middletown, three students nominated by Middletown and three non-students, usually with previous IRA experience.

“I just want students to be aware and take the time to understand the details of the referendum and the programs that will be affected,” ASI President Tyler Middletown see Vote, page 1

Projected IRA Budgets with Proposed IRA Fee Increase*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FY 2005/06</th>
<th>FY 2006/07</th>
<th>FY 2007/08</th>
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<tr>
<td>Approved Budget</td>
<td>Projected Budget</td>
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<td>$382,171</td>
<td>$424,420</td>
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*Projected IRA Budgets and Proposed IRA Fee Increase.

Examples of Instructionally Related Activities at Cal Poly

- Logging Team
- Equestrian Team
- Timbertalk Team
- International Career Conference
- Shakespeare Press Museum
- University Graphic Systems
- Student Life and Learning
- Associated Landscape Contractors
- Society of Automotive Engineers
- Student Free Enterprise
- Teaching & the Performing Arts
- Programming Team

* Performing arts like music, dance, theater
* Art exhibits
* Debate
* Media like Mustang Daily, KCPR, CPTV
* Rose Float
* Hybrid vehicle development
* Concrete canoe and steel bridge competition
* Robotics development
* Agricultural judging
* Sustainable agriculture
* Rodeo
* Business policy competition
* Construction management competition
* Mathematics competition
* Arts in education

Voter’s Guide

Final say in IRA goes to president

Holly Burke
MUSTANG DAILY

Regardless of the student vote for the proposed Instructionally Related Activities (IRA) fee referendum, Cal Poly President Warren Baker has ultimate control over student fees.

According to the voter pamphlet, the fee is a Category 1 fee, which, in the California State University system, must be paid in order to apply to, enroll in or attend the university. According to The CSU Fee Policy (Executive Order 740), these fees may be increased, decreased or abolished by the university president.

“All fee referendums are advisory to the president. The only fees that the president cannot change are statewide fees and non-resident tuition,” said Victor Brancart, a Cal Poly business analyst who has worked on the referendum.

The CSU Student Fee Policy stated “the president may waive the referendum requirement if the president determines that a referendum is not the best mechanism to achieve appropriate and meaningful consultation.”

Brancart said he believed that it is likely that Baker will agree with the student vote.

“I haven’t seen the president go against a referendum in my time here,” Brancart said. “You’d have to ask him about a specific instance.”

Baker could not be reached for comment.

“President Baker has been sensitive toward student (votes),” said Larry Kelley, the vice president for academic and finance. “In the fee referendum for ASI last year, students did not endorse it and nor did he.”

However, not all students are opposed to the potential effects the policy may entail.

“If (Baker) has power to change student fees, the vote itself seems pointless,” said Natasha Hansen, a business administration junior. “I guess it’s to see our opinion, to know how (students) feel about it. It doesn’t bother me, I see the point.”

“(The president’s ultimate control) see Baker, page 2
What do you think about the proposed IRA fee increase referendum?

"I'm voting 'yes' because I'm into dance. So I am all for it."  
Kalia Casmay, electrical engineering graduate student

"It's nice to have funds for arts and not for sports because arts always need more support and funding."  
Lina Lechtes, liberal studies freshman

"I think that it needs to be passed because programs need the money. The IRA programs can't reach their full potential unless this is passed."  
Adrian Helsman, journalism senior

Baker continued from page 1

might be a good precaution," said Leiun Iroimg, a computer science senior. "Just in case the students vote for something (non-beneficial for the university)."

Mike Lavagio, a biochemistry senior, drew on previous results to determine his opinion. "I haven't seen good outcomes from past (referendums)," he said. "The only way to tell is to see the effects later on."

Vote continued from page 1

said.

Voting locations include Fisher Science Foyer, Robert E. Kennedy Library, Erhart Agriculture Building (Ag Circle entrance in Building 10) and Campus Market Feb. 22 and 23 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Students can also vote upstairs in the UU and in the Education Building Foyer from 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

For more information on IRA visit http://www.academicprograms.calpoly.edu/IRA/.

Voting Locations On Campus
Feb. 22-23, 2006: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Fisher Science Foyer
Robert E. Kennedy Library
Erhart Building, Ag Circle Entrance (Bldg 10)
Campus Market
Feb. 22-23, 2006: 9:00 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
University Union, Upstairs (Bldg 65)
Education Building Foyer (Bldg 2)

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Under Four
... or head in the can?

THE AVERAGE CAL POLY STUDENT DRINKS UNDER FOUR DRINKS IN ONE SITTING

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Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

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Under Four
... or head in the can?
WHO SAID THAT?

Nobody speaks the truth when there's something they must have.
— Elizabeth Bowen (1899 - 1973)

What we call 'progress' is the exchange of one nuisance for another nuisance.
— Havelock Ellis (1859 - 1939)

Wordly Wise

Insouciant: Marked by blithe unconcern; nonchalant.

BREAKING NEWS
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www.mustangdaily.net

Name: Amber Peet • Year: sophomore
Hometown: Escondido • Major: business

Would you rather...
— be a bird or fish? Bird.
— attend Mardi Gras or the Tour of California? Neither.

Other
Which weather do you prefer, sun or rain? Rain

Visit SOM's booth at the Career Fair:
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Wednesday, February 22, 2006

Death penalty opponents hold a rally outside the front gate of San Quentin Prison in San Quentin on Monday.

California execution delayed after anesthesiologists withdraw

Lisa Leftt

Linked together, the San Quentin State Prison's condemned killers kill without mercy. The San Francisco Chronicle's John Dart reports on the latest delay.

SAN QUENTIN — The execution of a condemned killer was delayed after two anesthesiologists backed out because of ethical concerns, and prosecutors sought a judge's permission Tuesday to proceed by a different method of lethal injection before the death warrant expired just before midnight.

The execution, which had been scheduled for 12:01 a.m., was pushed back to Tuesday night after the two anesthesiologists withdrew. Their presence was required by a new set of guidelines issued last week by a federal judge after Michael Morales' lawyers argued the three-part lethal injection cocktail used in California was a cruel and unusual punishment.

In response, authorities went back to U.S. District Judge Jeremy Fogel of San Jose in a bid to ensure the execution would be carried out before the 24-hour warrant expired at 11:59 p.m. After that, state officials would have to go back to the trial judge who imposed the death sentence in 1983 for another warrant.

Prison officials want to employ a different execution technique: administering a fatal overdose of barbiturate in lieu of the three-drug cocktail typically used in lethal injections. Fogel was hearing oral arguments on that proposal Tuesday by attorneys via the telephone.

With Morales, 46, waiting in the "death watch" cell at San Quentin for release of the lethal injection cocktail after anesthesiologists withdrew, citing ethical concerns raised by Morales on death row.

If Morales woke up or appeared to be in pain, "Any such intervention would clearly be medically unethical," said the doctors, who have not been identified. "As a result, we have withdrawn from participation in this current process."

The American Medical Association, the American Society of Anesthesiologists and the California Medical Association all opposed the anesthesiologists' participation as unethical and unprofessional. They would have joined another doctor who is on duty at executions to declare the prisoner dead and otherwise ensure proper medical procedures are followed.

Seeking another warrant could prove difficult for the state, since the original sentencing judge, Charles Crittendon, said no more than one execution could be held at San Quentin before the death sentence expires.

Nathan Baranick, a spokesman for Attorney General Bill Lockyer, said McGarrah was bound by law to sign a new death warrant if requested.

"There's nothing in the statute that gives him any discretion," Baranick said.

Morales would be the 14th murderer and the first Hispanic to be put to death since California reinstated the death penalty in 1977.

He was sentenced to death in 1983 for killing Terri Winchell by attacking her with a hammer. She was stabbed and left to die face down in a vineyard. Morales plotted the killing with a gay cousin who was jealous of Winchell's relationship with the cousin's male lover. The cousin, Ricky Orrego, 44, was sentenced to life in prison without parole.

When Morales was told of the delay, he was "nonchalant," according to prison spokesman Vernell Crawford. Morales had apparently been told on Wednesday that the execution had been delayed.

"There was a great deal of concern on their faces under the circumstances of some people that Michael Morales would not suffer," Crawford said. "They find that to be very disturbing."
Rumsfeld says he was mistaken in claiming practice of planting stories in Iraqi media was halted

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said Tuesday that the Pentagon is reviewing its practice of paying to plant stories in the Iraqi news media, withdrawing his earlier claim that it had been stopped.

Rumsfeld had said in a speech in New York last Friday and in a television interview the same day that the controversial practice had been stopped.

He said that Gen. George Casey, the top U.S. commander in Iraq, was reviewing the practice. Previously, Casey has said he saw no reason to stop it.

Rumsfeld said members of the U.S. military participating in relief efforts in devastated mudslides in the Philippines.

"These efforts are an indication of the organizational talents of the United States military," Rumsfeld said.

"Some 5,000 U.S. military members were in the Philippines at the time, most of them on training exercises," said Gen. Peter Pace, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Rumsfeld also addressed mixed signals coming from Iraqi leaders over the type of government they would like to eventually see take shape in Iraq.

"Iraqis are going through a political process," Rumsfeld said. "Until they agree on who their new leadership should be, you're going to see a lot of public statements by a lot of people ... reflecting a lot of different views."

Iraqi political parties have run into major obstacles in talks on a new national unity government. Any major delay would be a setback to United States, hopes for a significant reduction in troop levels this year.

British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw said earlier Tuesday in Baghdad that the results of the Dec. 15 parliamentary elections showed the Iraqi people want a "broad government of national unity," to bring together "all the different elements of Iraqi society."

He spoke after meeting with Prime Minister Ibrahim al-Jaafari and other Iraqi leaders.

Al-Jaafari has said formation of the government was more complicated "because this time the Arab Sunnis are participating in the political process." Rumsfeld also said he had no problems with a deal permitting a United Arab Emirates company to take over operations at six major U.S. seaports, a plan that has encountered stiff political opposition in Congress.

He called the UAE a good military partner in the war on terror.

"Nothing changes with respect to security under the contract," the Coast Guard is in charge of security under the contract, Rumsfeld said.

Earlier Tuesday, Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman said Rumsfeld had been incorrect in saying on Friday that the practice of paying for positive stories in the Iraqi media had been halted in the wake of negative publicity in the United States.

An official inquiry into the program by Navy Rear Adm. Scott Van Buskirk has been completed but its results have not been publicly released.
Baby shakes a death rattle

"It's funny the way most people love death. Once you are dead, you are made for life."

So said Jimi Hendrix, the firecracker guitar god of the '60s who burned out before ever starting to fade. He checked out, via gruesome asphyxiation, in Sept. 1970 at age 27 — and joined the dubious ranks of other music heroes who died at that tender age. "The 27 Club," as it is sometimes called, also boasts Kurt Cobain (suicide), Janis Joplin (overdose), Jim Morrison (heart attack), blues godfather Robert Johnson (poisoned), and original Rolling Stone guitarist Brian Jones (drowned or murdered, depending on who you ask). You've probably seen posters of the higher-profile members sitting 'round a bar, laughing up into Marilyn Monroe's cleavage; the forever-young visual is iconic in itself. (This despite the inaccuracy; Monroe died in her '30s. But someone had to subtly reinforce the gang's — and the buyer's — heterosexuality.)

I don't think about death much; I'm not Russian. Also, I'm at least 60 percent too boring to justify to my rock-and-roll fetish (my drug use is scant, though I do enjoy climbing on rooftops to scream "Almost Famous" quotes). But it's hard not to ponder the flickering flame of life when the most celebrated people of our society can't even keep their act together for three decades. It's not even a phenomenon so much as a repetitive. There are even books about it. Enter "Stairway to Heaven: The Final Resting Places of Rock's Legends," a glossy 160-page tome of tombs. Written by J.D. Reed and Maddy Miller, it crosses the country and even skips overseas to chronicle the graves, final stories, and legacies of our dearly departed. More so, it manages not to be entirely morbid; the book is a funeral in itself, as it shows death but also celebrates incredible lives. From Nico to Elvis to almost all the Ramones, the

See Art Beat, page 11

San Luis Obispo belongs to all of us. Please help keep it safe. Tell your friends looking for Mardi Gras parties to stay home the weekend of February 24th.
Other Nature has proven, once again, that her capabilities are endless. The strange warm weather that the Central Coast was blessed with in early February has all together vanished as Alaskan cold fronts have swept the coast. Rain, hail and even snow fell throughout the region and the arctic chill has reminded us once again what the weather should be like around this time of year.

While the dreary grey skies and precipitation make most people run inside, I set out in the opposite direction. I take pleasure in photographing in all conditions and when rain falls it provides me with the rare opportunity to work with reflections. Basic pavement suddenly becomes a colorful display of taillight trails and street light gardens, while puddles provide interesting perspectives to otherwise overlooked subjects. The true photographer works in all conditions with an understanding that great images are everywhere. It's only a matter of expanding your horizons to capture them.

Upon examining different locations to compose the moody reflective image I was seeking, I rolled upon the San Luis Obispo train station and found what I was looking for. What makes this image successful is a technique that artists have used since it originated, lines leading the viewer to a vanishing point. Complementary to the lined composition are a variety of interesting color lighting and the ultimate factor, the reflection provided by the rain water gathered in between the tracks.
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Or visit us at http://www.gothiclandscape.com
Beyond Mardi Gras: The choice is ours

February 22, 2006
Volume LIX, No. 9 ©2006
Mustang Daily

Mardi Gras weekend 2006 brought several student protests causing extensive damage and personal injury. I think we all agree that we do not see want to see similar events in the future, and my hope is that this column can help increase understanding of why we are faced with the challenges before us and more importantly what needs to be done to ensure that the San Luis Obispo community moves beyond simply ending the party and turns towards the community residents.

Student-community relations suffered a huge setback because of Mardi Gras events in 2004. But since that time, student leadership in ASI has successfully rebuilt the relationships necessary for students to have a voice at the decision making table. We continue to be involved in discussions regarding Mardi Gras planning, neighborhood relations and student contact with the community. Fortunately, Mardi Gras weekend 2005 was a huge success, with virtually no incidents or reported injuries and fewer arrests than an average weekend. But in order to ensure that the problem has been taken care of, the Mustang Daily community feels that it is necessary to create a “no Mardi Gras course” for a second year. While this is undoubtedly disappointing for many of our fun-loving fellow students, there is a more important issue at hand, beyond getting your kicks for a weekend. The issue is to build respect for students in San Luis Obispo and do so through leading by example. We need to focus on defining the next course of action. It is clear “that the party is over,” 350 cops get that point across pretty well. We have demonstrated that students get the message by our responsible behavior last year. In 2005, I was pleased, agree, in city officials, that it is time to move on. I am confident that the Mustang Daily community has successfully ended the Mardi Gras course. But the question remains: is the problem really solved?

This is where the student community cooperation is at utmost importance. We have a choice this weekend. We can put the Mardi Gras issue to rest by proving to the community that students are responsible citizens capable of policing themselves, or we can fuel the fire and encourage continued efforts to control the weekend by allowing disruptive and violent behavior to occur.

If we choose to accept this responsibility last year, we can do it again this year. But we do not have to. Since we have a momentous opportunity at our fingertips, if we step up to the plate and show our colleagues in the community that we are responsible, determined, persistent and preserving and enhancing a strong sense of community centered around the university brings to this city, then we’ll position ourselves well to define the new phase of this operation. Students have asked me for a voice at the decision-making table. Students have the power to do so, as long as I know they are sincere about finding solutions and are not just looking for respect and responsibility. We need to prove that students are not just here to cause havoc. We must demonstrate that we’re interested in protecting our state in this community, and that we also want to keep our neighbors safe. Community cooperation is of utmost importance. We have a choice this weekend. We can put the Mardi Gras issue to rest by proving to the community that students are responsible citizens capable of policing themselves, or we can fuel the fire and encourage continued efforts to control the weekend by allowing disruptive and violent behavior to occur.

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Art Beat
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musical scenery of the last 70 years is noted by its final markers.

It’s amazing to think these cultural phenomenons, young as we’ll know them, as mere mortals because we only have their legends now.

which is packed to breaking with trunks, is the overwhelming feeling of gratitude to the artists — it radiates from the pages. The flowers and trinkets from coast to coast follow at each tombstone, which is pretty reassuring — if death is inescapable, then all the generally tormented souls could continue to go out in style. But, the page factor is omnipresent, and a harder pill to swallow because most of the rock icons in "Stairway to Heaven" are just young, to the extent that we’ve already outlived them. They didn’t even make it to the big 2-7 — Nick Drake was 26, Billy Mucia (New York Dodos) was 21, Frankie Lynne was 25. The knee-jerk reaction, pro-

1 Art Beat
2 Heartbreak
3 Real driver
4 False friends
5 Cornucopia
6 All-purpose
7 Pigeon dropping
8 Ruben Sierra
9 Black cat
10 Looking for
11 Roberta Flack
12 Good size
13 Liver size
14 Wedding dress
15 Grab bag
16 Long leg
17 See you later
18 Bending over
19 Local color
20 Local name
21 Caddy
22 Salute
23 Win over
24 Give up
25 Disloyal
26 For no reason
27 Hanging out
28 Waterworks
29 Pile of trash
30 Nose job
31 Tiny bug
32 Get out
33 Nick Drake
34 Queen of Sheba
35 Modern dance
36 Over the moon
37 Weather system
38 Good buy
39 Snowflake
40 T. S. Eliot
41 Climate study
42 Startling return
43 Nebula
44 Broadway star
45 Easier said
46 Pink Floyd
47 Student activist
48 Hopeful for
49 Volunteer for
50 Squared away
51 Former Georgia
52 Salt and pepper
53 Ammonia
54 Do you hear
55 Right now
56 The piece
57 Rock fence
58 Guess what
59 Russian river
60 Bossanova
61 Composer
62 Backdrop
63 Writer’s block
64 Flying pan
65 Squeeze in
66 Subway
67 Second place
68 Message board
69 Tightrope
70 Coloratura
71 Longfellow
72 Mystic number
73 Cliché
74 Starfish
75 Fishtail
76 Broken water
77 Battered man
78 Breezy breeze
79 Good buy
80 Local color
81 Brisk breeze
82 Flying pan
83 As usual
84 Breath in
85 The June
86 A stitch in time
87 Footloose
88 Change of heart
89 Sulfur burst
90 A beat
91 Breakfast
92 Letter of the law
93 Tonic
94 Local destination
95 Mail carrier
96 As usual
97 Bumper sticker
98 Local color
99 Essay writer
100 Crossword
101 Hot air balloon
102 Lickety-split
103 Running in place
104 As usual
105 Trunk
106 Rottweiler
107 Rags
108 Oven gloves
109 King of New York
110 Harry Belafonte
111 Take a break
112 The queen
113 Northern California
114 The last refuge
115 Three-letter word
116 The last of the greats
117 Native American...
The Tour de France is the most internationally-renowned cycling race to date. The likes of Lance Armstrong, Miguel Indurain and Eddy Merckx became famous for their inspiring performances. It's a grueling race and a landmark event for cycling fans the world over — it's exactly the type of event Tour of California organizers envision for the nearly 600-mile trek across the Golden State, and San Luis Obispo is a key component for this year’s cycling extravaganza.

On Thursday, 128 riders will begin a 130.9-mile race to San Luis Obispo, the longest stretch of the first Tour of California. The riders from 16 teams will wind up in the scenic downtown area of San Luis Obispo at the intersection of Monterey and Osos Street. After finishing the midway point of the Tour, the riders will depart on Friday from San Luis Obispo for Santa Barbara, a 105.3-mile journey, and will eventually end up in Redondo Beach after an 89.5-mile sixth-stage from Santa Barbara to Thousand Oaks. The winner will receive $150,000.

The estimated arrival in San Luis Obispo is 3:22 p.m. to 4:19 p.m., according to the event’s Web site (www.ameritourofcalifornia.com). The riders will ride onto Highland Drive and turn onto Ferrini Road before taking North Chorro Street to Monterey Street and finishing at the Osos Street intersection.

While the seven-stage event is significantly shorter and less grueling than the Tour de France, the event has drawn numerous big names to compete. Levi Leipheimer was the top American finisher not named Armstrong in the 2002 and 2004 Tour de France's. Leipheimer also competed for the United States Olympic team in Athens. George Hincapie, a member of Team Discovery Channel and the current leader after three stages, was a key teammate of Armstrong's, and is one of the top American riders. Hincapie overtook Leipheimer as the overall leader in the leg from Martinez to San Jose on Tuesday.

Foreign competitors include Michael Rogers of Australia, a former World Time Trial Champion and the top contender from a dangerous German-based T-Mobile team.

Paolo Savodelli is another talent from overseas. The Italian rider won the Giro d'Italia in 2005 and competes along with Hincapie for Team Discovery Channel.

Leipheimer also brings a local angle to the Tour. The Santa Rosa native won the 1.9 mile prologue from Sausalito to his hometown in the North Bay Area on Sunday.

Tomorrow's stage begins at 10 a.m. and will traverse Highway 1 from Monterey to San Luis Obispo.