Muslim Student Association responds to cartoon controversy

James Mellor

A Danish newspaper's editorial cartoons sparked reaction in many Cal Poly students. In September, a series of cartoons were published in Jyllands-Posten that were deemed offensive to Muslims around the world. The most disrespectful cartoon depicted the Prophet Muhammad as a bomb. T he response to the cartoons has been portrayed by the media as overwhelmingly negative, as riots and even deaths have occurred as a result of the cartoons. However, the Cal Poly Muslim Student Association (MSA) has chosen a positive response to what has been named "The International Cartoon Controversy." Muslims look up to the Prophet Muhammad for everything, so to have him insulted and depicted as a terrorist, that is really humiliating.

—Naiyarah Kolkailah

Muslim Student Association president

"(Muslims) look up to (the Prophet Muhammad) for everything, so to have him insulted and depicted as a terrorist, that is really humiliating." — Naiyarah Kolkailah, Muslim Student Association president

Governor's bond package faces Friday deadline to make June ballot

Steve Lawrence

SACRAMENTO — Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has until Friday to get parts of his record public works spending plan on the June ballot, a deadline that doesn't seem to have him particularly concerned.

"If you're lucky, we can do it for the June ballot. But both ... parties agree that we should not really be concerned. We seem to have him particularly worried," he was and what his message was.

Cal Poly's MSA hosted a workshop on Feb. 28 at UC Irvine against plans by organizers of a panel discussion on Islamic extremism to show controversial cartoons of the Prophet Muhammad first published in a Danish newspaper.

Grads facing bigger bills, emptier wallets

Alex Abnos

WASHINGTON - By all accounts, student activism is alive and well. With an unpopular war, a controversial administration and a constant debate over civil liberties, one might even say that today's college protest is spoiled for choice. However, for Village Voice writer Anya Kamenetz, there has been one major change from students' list of grievances: Their own bank statements.

"One of the first stories I worked on was about how students always march for global warming and for world peace, while not paying a tenth to their own bank accounts," said Kamenetz, who has authored a series of articles on the new economics of being young. "I think there's a lot of money for activism on that level."

So star intrigued Kamenetz's editors at the Village Voice, who recommended that she turn the idea into a book. The result is "Generation Debt: Why Now Is A Terrible Time To Be Young," a 208-page distress call on the state of young people's economic futures.

"Much of the book focuses on the various financial difficulties college graduates face, not the least of which is finding a way to pay their school's rapidly rising tuition rates.

A report by the Department of Education in 2005 showed that the total cost of attending a public four-year college or university has risen by 22 percent over the last three years, bringing the nation-wide average cost to around $16,000 a year.

According to Kamenetz, such increases aren't helped by the government's recent capping of federal student loan programs. Recalling the Higher Education Act of 1955, the author said the affordability of higher education has gradually taken a backseat in the arena of American political debate.

"We've made very little progress since then," she said. "It seemed like a commitment was made, but then people gradually turned their back since there were more important things going on, and higher education wasn't one of them."

Also taking its toll on student's bank accounts is an increasing consumer culture at many colleges, in which spending — not saving — is the norm. Credit card companies are still a large presence on campuses, while many universities have forged corporate partnerships.

"Every store and every brand that's on campus is trying to get students to spend money, not saving money," Kamenetz said. "The university is basically providing these corporations with their audience.

According to reports, their audience is growing. As early as 2006, 78 percent of students had some sort of credit card.

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Muslim
continued from page 1

speaking in Arabic. "(Muslims) believe in freedom of speech, but there's a difference between expressing your ideas and blatantly insulting one-fifth of the world's population," Kolkailah said.

"That's the distinction to be made, and you're attacking someone who is a role model."

Abdul Cader agreed when Wenstroms see a bunch of people

riscing in response to these cartoons, they see it is "a bunch of crazy Muslims." However, what a Muslim would see is a bunch of crazy people who are not associated with the Prophet Mohammed or Islam.

"The Muslims will notice one person who stands out," Cader said. "He's wearing a white kufi ... standing against them. Stand out for jus­
tice even against yourselves ... if you want to see Islam, look at that man."

Students in attendance said they found the workshop informative.

"The speaker was very eloquent," math senior Matt Martinez said. "I think it was good for him to say what he did for more people here. The amount of violence occurring is related to a small minority of Muslims."

One of the workshop's main pur­
oposes was to correct some common misconceptions about Muslims and Islam. Kolkailah said Islam's main

misconception is that the religion is violent and synonymous with ter­
rorism.

"The way (Arabs and Muslims) are portrayed in the media is they are a bunch of terrorists and they're out to kill the infidels,'" she said.

"In Islam, there is a verse in the Koran that says there is no compulsion in religion to force our faith on any­
body. (Muslims) can't act out in vio­
ence to convert people."

"People are getting in this image because of certain people, al-Qaeda or whoever, who are Muslims and are acting out in the name of Islam, but are not practicing the principles of the faith," Kolkailah added.

She said another main misunder­
standing about Islam is that women are oppressed, inferior and are forced to dress in a certain way. According to Kolkailah, men and women have different roles, but equal roles in society and both sexes have the same

responsibilities in the worship of God.

"In dressing this way ... I do it to please God, but I look for the wis­
tom behind it," said Kolkailah, who has been dresser in traditional Muslim attire since she was 10 years old.

"A woman has more to offer than her outward physical beauty. She has the intellectual, spiritual and emotional side, and the only person allowed to enjoy that physical beauty is her husband."

"It's actually liberating for me because I'm liberating myself from being looked at in only a physical way," she added.

The Muslim Student Association's second event in response to the international cartoon controversy will be Wed., March 8. The event will feature a film showing of "Muhammad, Legacy of a Prophet" and will be shown in building 3, room 213.

Governor
continued from page 1

The governor's plan includes con­
temporary lawmakers to voters in order to approve the sale of $86 billion in bonds for a number of projects.

The various bond proposals would be spread over elections from 2006 to 2014.

The amount of violence occurring is related to a small minority of Muslims. Therefore, the Legislature has held a series of meetings to discuss the issue. Later, the governor expressed a willingness to reconcile with Schwarzenegger on Thursday.

"I have not hanging my hat on any bond proposal," he said after a meeting with Schwarzenegger. "I think it was good for him to say that is concerned."
5-Day Weather Forecast

**Monday**

High / Low: 57 / 41

Forecast: AM rain with cloudy skies in the afternoon. Wind blowing WSW 11 mph

Sunrise: 6:30 a.m.
Sunset: 5:02 p.m.
UV Index: 3 Moderate

**Tuesday**

High: 57 Low: 40

**Wednesday**

High: 62 Low: 43

**Thursday**

High: 58 Low: 38

**Friday**

High: 54 Low: 38

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**FAN OF THE WEEK**

Name: Denise Larsen
Year: Senior
Hometown: San Ramon
Major: Nutrition

---

**Favorites**

Vacation spot: Palm Springs

Body part on the opposite sex: Calf muscles

Movie: "Don't tell mom the babysitter's dead"

Dessert: Carrot cake

---

**If You Could ...**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>have any superpower</td>
<td>Fly at rapid speeds, because then I could travel to other countries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fight any celebrity</td>
<td>Joan Rivers, because her voice is annoying and she has too much plastic surgery.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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** Asi Events**

**THIS WEEK IN ASI EVENTS**

**UU GALLERY**

Body 06

On display M-F 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. through March 16

In the UU Epicenter • FREE

The exhibit is designed to open the audience’s eyes to the mixed messages college students receive about body image. Student artists have created media-influenced pieces on how women are taught to shape and enhance body image and express disability.

**UU HOUR**

Featuring CRITICNE

Thursday, March 9

11 - noon in the UU Plaza • FREE

**UPCOMING**

**PROCRASTINATION STATION**

Tuesday, March 14

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. in the UU Plaza • FREE

Come take a break with us! Free activities throughout the event include professional mini-massages, tarot card reading, arts & crafts, ping pong, a caricature artist, rock climbing and prize giveaways. Starting at 11 a.m., enjoy a free BBQ lunch with hot dogs, chips and soda, while supplies last.

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State briefs

ANAHEIM (AP) — An 18-year-old pedestrian was killed Sunday while trying to cross a freeway off-ramp, police said.

Enrique V Flores Jr., walked on a 91 Freeway off-ramp in Anaheim and was struck by a car, police said.

Witnesses dragged Flores to the freeway shoulder and unsuccessfully tried to revive him.

— BEN LOMOND (AP) — A 55-year-old man was beaten, bound and gagged at his home about 30 miles north of Santa Cruz, authorities said.

The incident occurred at about 11 p.m. Friday in Ben Lomond, but the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office declined to provide more details.

SANTA BARBARA (AP) — A bank robbery suspect gave new meaning to the phrase "money laundering" when he ran stolen money through a washing machine in an attempt to erase fingerprints, Santa Barbara police said.

Fred Bendtzen, 48, later arrived to make the money greasier by dousing it with food coloring, police said. When the dye job went bad, he threw the money away, police Lt. Paul McCaffrey said.

Spike in Oakland homicides could affect attorney general race

Kimm Curtis

ASSOCIATED PRESS

OAKLAND (AP) — More than 20 homicides in just over two months: This is not typical of the Oakland Mayor Brown needs as he campaigns for the state's top law enforcement job.

The dramatic spike comes just three months before the primary election, and Brown's challenges for the Democratic nomination for attorney general is already accruing the attention of organized crime and presidential candidate of being "asleep at the switch.

The number of killings so far this year is nearly triple last year's rate, according to Oakland police.

"We will be held responsible for that," Elizabeth Garrett, a law professor at the University of Southern California, said. "It's about time that he's actually trying to take charge of the situation." Though, she added, it may be too late to affect the outcome of the June 6 primary.

Brown has created a new crime suppression unit, with 115 police officers reassigned from other areas, that will target problem areas.

"We are going to move around the city like a chessboard, so they're deployed more strategically," said Capt. David Knowles, who is in charge of the new unit.

For example, 16 officers are investigating three homicides that occurred Thursday rather than the 10 who would normally be investigating prior to the change, he said.

Aryan Brotherhood targeted in one of the largest capital cases ever

Gillian Flaccus

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SANTA ANA — The inmates had to hear the letter to draw out the message, written in invisible ink.

When they did, their orders were clear.

Within hours, prosecutors say, members of the Aryan Brotherhood prison gang strangled a nearby cellphone and killed two black inmates with handmade shanks in an act of panic to "go to war" with blacks.

The deaths are two of the 32 murders and attempted murders detailed by federal prosecutors in a sweeping case against the Aryan Brotherhood, a violent white supremacist prison gang that has infiltrated nearly every federal and state prison since its beginnings in San Quentin in 1968.

Prosecutors hope to dismantle the gang — nicknamed the "Brand" — in a series of trials that together make up what's believed to be the biggest capital case in U.S. history. Of the 40 men initially charged, as many as 16 could face the death penalty for crimes that reach back 30 years.

Prosecutors are pursuing the highly organized gang with a tracking law originally passed to target Mafia leaders — a tactic recently used with some success against other prison gangs in California and Texas.

"We're looking at this huge list of charges, and I'm unaware of any other case that's even close to this," said Dean Steward, attorney for Barry "The Baron" Mills, a lead defendant.

Opening statements in the trial of Mills and three others are scheduled to begin March 14 in federal court in Santa Ana. Mills and another alleged ringleader, Tyler "The Hulk" Brown, have pleaded not guilty in what could be a nine-month trial.

Four people have been ordered to go on trial in Los Angeles in October, court dates in California are pending.

Nineteen of the 40 defendants slugged pleas, and one has died.

The 140-page indictment against the gang alleges a web of conspiracies to murder fellow inmates who offended gang members, cheated them on drug deals, failed to comply with the rules of leadership or switched to prison authorities.

Prosecutors, who demanded to be removed from the case, called the gang "a reactive and has sent out of series of blistering news releases expressing his displeasure and Brown's insipidness.

"Brown's been asleep at the switch," said Delgadillo, who points to a series of news releases expressing his irritation with the mayor on issues like the government's commitment to the "community."
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Music isn’t what it used to be, but change is on the way

Doug Scott
KENTUCKYernal (UK, KENTUCKY)

LEXINGTON, Ky. — It is often said that music is the universal language. That or math. I can’t remember which one. Or maybe it’s both. Whatever.

Anyway, universal language or not, music has found a way to transcend geographic, cultural, ethnic and linguistic boundaries.

This can be seen everywhere you look, such as kids singing, “The Macarena” at a high school homecoming dance or the Mexican guys I’ve worked with the past two summers singing along to “My Heart Will Go On” during their lunch break.

As beautiful a phenomenon as music is, it also has pretty much everything in this world (except for Chopin), has a dark side.

I’m not talking about rap music that critics say cause misogygy among youth (it doesn’t) or industrial metal that others say cause teenagers to shoot up their schools (it doesn’t). I’m talking about bad music.

Really bad music. What is really bad music, you ask? The stock answer from most music elitists would be to simply turn on MTV, and they would be right.

However, unless you tune your television to the “music” channel early in the morning, you will not see any music videos, and “Meet the Barkers” doesn’t serve as a good case study for the state of modern pop music. But if you’ve ever eaten a meal in Commons, you know what I’m talking about.

see Music, page 7
Chappelle invites fans to his ‘Block Party’

The comedian takes a deep dive into the music and messages of contemporary artists in a new documentary

Ryan Charrtrand

Although Dave Chappelle’s “Block Party” is by no means a Hollywood picture and has “DVD Bonus Disc” written all over it, there is no doubt that the only place it does belong is in every theater in America.

For those of you who had no idea that Chappelle has a movie in theaters until you’ve probably not alone. “Block Party” is a documentary directed by Michel Gondry (“Eternal Sunshine of a Spotless Mind”) and produced by Chappelle. The film showcases dozens of the biggest names in rap and hip-hop through a concert that was held in Brooklyn in 2004. We’re talking Kanye West, Mos Def, Talib Kweli, Common, Dead Prez, Erykah Badu, Jill Scott, the Roots, Cody Chesnutt, Big Daddy Kane and a little group called the Fugees. That’s right, the Fugees. You’ve got to admit, aside from the Fugees, I can’t name a single song by any of these artists. But for Chappelle, that’s exactly how he wanted it.

With a 95 percent white audience in my theater, it didn’t take long to figure out what the comic genius of Dave Chappelle was up to. The film goes behind the scenes of the concert and showcases not only every artist’s music, but also their messages that are ignored across the nation simply because their music is seen as nothing but profanity doused in sexual music. These artists aren’t singing or rapping about how they just broke up with their boyfriend or girlfriend but rather how they are political prisoners in America and that the black population has been one of the most discriminated against minorities for the past 30 years. And here’s the goofy Dave Chappelle letting the camera speak for itself, resurrecting issues that the dominant white population has forgotten about since the ‘90s.

Bravo, Dave. Bravo.

On top of Chappelle’s black power movement and hip-hop jamming concert, there’s plenty of white-bashing and chicken-eating jokes to go around. Whether he’s convincing old women from his hometown to come to his party or telling kids in a classroom to call him “Black Bush,” Chappelle never fails to make you laugh and, most importantly, enjoy yourself while taking in such a powerful message.

Considering the amount of time dedicated to musical performances and non-comedic scenes, revealing any of the surprisingly real people in the film would be too much of a spoiler. Anyone already in love with Chappelle’s work or has any sense of humor in general will readily enjoy what “Block Party” has to offer.

Unfortunately, much like how the heavy- handedness of black music and messages doesn’t mean that most of you uncultured swine listen to. I’m talking about bands like Nickelback, Creed, My Chemical Romance, Simple Plan, Enervescence, Toby Keith, Ashley Simpson, Gretchen Wilson, Bright Eyes ... I could go on, but I don’t think I need to.

Whether it’s prepackaged pop music or some random guy who plays guitar and only writes songs about ex-girlfriends, the standard by which music is judged today has been lowered dramatically from the days of Stevie Ray Vaughan. In much the same fashion, The Killers sounded a lot better when they were called 1980-1989 and rap only sounds good under the names De La Soul, A Tribe Called Quest, and the Sugarhill Gang.

The Rancid Babies once said in a song as equally moronic as their name, “It’s all been done before.” They’re right. If I have to hear another band trying to be the next Incubus, Limp Bizkit, OAR, or Dashboard Confessional, I am going to gouge my ears with a skrewdriver.

There is a musical revolution on the horizon, and it doesn’t involve guys wearing girls’ jeans, cowboy hats, hemp necklaces or over sized black jeans with chains. Prepare thyself.
Guantanamo detainees despair of ever leaving US military prison

Miranda Leisinger

GUANTANAMO BAY NAVAL BASE, Cuba - A painful war has been waged in the Guantanamo Bay prison for more than three years and, by its account, has been interrogated 50 times without being charged with any crime. He has been agonized for freedom but fears it will never come.

"We are in a grave here," he told his lawyers, echoing the despair felt by many of the roughly 400 prisoners held under suspicion by the US, based in eastern Cuba. Charges have been filed against only 10 of them.

Transcripts of hearings, which the Pentagon released Friday after a successful Freedom of Information Act lawsuit by The Associated Press, show the frustration among prisoners waiting for the military to decide whether to charge them, transfer or release them.

"I don't want to spend any more time here. Not one more minute," an Afghan prisoner Mohammed Salot said at a combat status review tribunal.

Another unidentified Afghan told his tribunals that he had been at Tahan, I was not against the Americans. I want to go home."

An Afghan prisoner is released only as Abdul in one of the transcripts, urged U.S. military officers overcentralizing with him so he could feel his family. "I don't know what they have to eat," he said.

The United States has released or transferred to authorities in their home countries about 270 detainees since the first transfer on January 22, 2002, months after the US-led invasion that toppled the Taliban government of Afghanistan's hard-line Taliban regime for harboring Osama bin Laden and the Al-Qaida hawks.

Major Paul Swiergosz, a Defense Department spokesman, said that holding detention prisoners who are considered a risk is necessary in time of war, while the review process ensures innocent detainees are released.

"Holding detainees in Guantanamo is not a punitive measure, it's preventive," Swiergosz said. "That keeps them from continuing to fight against the United States and its allies. The Defense Department will continue to work diligently to process all the detention cases we have."

U.S. officials say the camps house only people who want to kill American troops or civilians.

"The folks that are at Guantanamo Bay are not a valid target for further action," he said. "They are prisoners, they are in legal settings ... that's the legal way to handle the situation."

The British deal has been described by many as a vital military ally.

Collins and Hunter, who appeared on ABC's "This Week," said they were introducing bills to revamp the review process to ensure bad actors aren't allowed to take control over major U.S. operations.

"I trust President Bush, but I think he needs to get more information," said Hunter, calling Dubai a dangerous place. "I think they looked at it at a superficial level, and they didn't get those intelligence briefs."

Collins and Hunter warned that the Bush administration failed to take control over major U.S. operations.

Law to prevent control..."I think they looked at it at a superficial level, and they didn't get those intelligence briefs."

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Iran

Iran referred to the U.N. Security Council, (large-scale) uranium enrichment will be resumed,” Iran's top negotiator, Ali Larjani, told reporters in Tehran. “If they want to use force, we will pursue our own path.”

He said Iran had exhausted “all peaceful ways” and that if demands were made contrary to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, the nation will resist.

Larjani said Iran will not abandon nuclear research, or back down from pursuing an atomic program that Tehran insists has the sole purpose of generating electricity with nuclear reactors.

IAEA delegates suggested the U.N. agency’s board will not push for confrontation with Iran and said any initial decisions by the Security Council based on the outcome of the meeting will be mild.

They said the most likely action from the council would be a statement urging Iran to resume its freeze on uranium enrichment — an activity that can make both reactor fuel and the core of nuclear warheads — and to increase cooperation with the IAEA’s probe of the Iranian program.

Even such a mild step could be weeks down the road.

Still, it would formally begin council involvement with Iran’s nuclear file, starting a process that could escalate and culminate with political and economic sanctions — although such action for now is opposed by Russia and China, which can veto Security Council actions.

Bolton said a failure by the Security Council to address Iran would “do lasting damage to the credibility of the council.”

“The longer we wait to confront the threat Iran poses,” Bolton said, “the harder and more intractable it will become to solve.”

Russia and China share the concerns of the United States, France and Britain — the three other permanent council members with veto power — that Iran could misuse enrichment for an arms program.

Campus Projects Quarterly Update Winter, 2006

Poly Canyon Village

Projected Completion Dates: Phase 1 - Summer, 2008
Phase 2 - Summer, 2009
Construction Start Date: Fall, 2005
Description: Apartments to accommodate nearly 2700 students, approximately 27 acres located on the northeast side of campus. The complex will have 618 units and 1930 parking spaces, study areas, laundry units, retail space and swimming pool.
Manager Program: Brookwood Program Management, Atlanta, Georgia
Design/Build Contractor: Clark Design Build of California, Oakland
Architect: Niles Bolton, Atlanta, Georgia

Alex. G. Spanos Stadium

Projected Completion Date: Summer, 2006
Construction Start Date: Spring, 2006
Description: The project includes a new building for the College of Architecture and Environmental Design, housing construction Management, and Architecture. It will include additional lecture space and renovations.
Architect: Austin Veum Robbins Partners (AVRP) San Diego

EDES South and Renovation

Projected Completion Date: Winter, 2008
Construction Start Date: Spring, 2006
The project includes a new building for the College of Architecture and Environmental Design, housing construction Management, and Architecture. It will include additional lecture space and renovations.
Architect: Austin Veum Robbins Partners (AVRP) San Diego

Bonderson Projects Center

Projected Completion Date: Summer, 2006
Construction Start Date: March, 2005
Square Feet: 21,000
Stories: 1/2
Description: In 2001, Paul R. Bonderson Jr. and Sandra K. Bonderson established the Bonderson Excellence In Engineering Gift Fund for Projects. The fund benefits the College of Engineering and Computer Science Laboratory Renovation and Upgrade. The Projects Center is a new facility for senior projects and other related activities.
Architect: John Trautmann, Santa Monica
General Contractor: Maino Construction Co., Inc. San Luis Obispo

Engineering IV

Projected Completion Date: Winter, 2007
Construction Start Date: February, 2005
Square Feet: 104,000
Stories: 3
Description: The project will provide a new building for CEENG that will house Aerospace Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering, Materials Engineering, Civil and Environmental Engineering and Biomedical Engineering.
Architect: AC Martin Partners, Inc. Los Angeles
CM at Risk: Gilbane Building Company, Phoenix, Arizona

Housing Administration Building

Projected Completion Date: Spring, 2007
Construction Start Date: Spring, 2006
Square Feet: 104,000
Description: Replacement of the existing Housing Administration building with a new, larger building. The new building will accommodate operations serving students in existing halls as well as the increasing on-campus student population provided by the Cerro Vista Student Housing and future Poly Canyon Village residential complexes.
Architect/Engineer: RL Binder FADA Architecture and Planning, Paya del Rey

Bella Montaña Faculty and Staff Housing

Projected Completion Date: Fall 2007
Construction Start Date: April, 2007
Description: The Cal Poly Housing Corporation is developing a 5.58 acre site on Highway One at highland Drive under a long term ground lease from the university.
Limited housing supply and overwhelming demand in the county have created a critical need for employee housing.
The Bella Montaña development will provide 69 two and three bedroom condominium units for sale to eligible employees under program guidelines developed by the Cal Poly Housing Corporation.
Design/Build Developer: BDC Development Corp., Pismo Beach
Architect: LGA, Pismo Beach

Building Permits Required for All Campus Projects

Facility Services would like campus departments to be aware that all construction projects - large or small - must go through the campus building permit process. A building permit is required for all departments, offices and student projects whether or not they are using their own resources.

For a building permit application and more detailed information on the process, go to the Facility Services website and click on Building Permits: http://www.facilities.calpoly.edu/homea7.htm

FOR MORE ON BELLA MONTAÑA, VISIT CAL POLY HOUSING CORPORATION'S BELLA MONTAÑA WEBSITE: http://www.bellamontana.calpoly.edu/

FOR MORE ABOUT CAMPUS PROJECTS, GO TO THE FACILITIES PLANNING & CAPITAL PROJECTS WEBSITE: http://www.facilities.calpoly.edu/plannin.htm

Facilities Planning & Capital Projects
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Parking problems have not been solved

Mr. Campbell:

Some time you wrote that the department is doing everything it can to balance out the available parking spots on campus, sending me the results of your parking surveys (which, by the way, comfortably avoided documenting the real challenging hours, between 10 a.m. and 12 p.m.), and asked me to park on the other side of the college, in the agriculture area.

These events repeated themselves. Some elementary school event took place in the PAC today with a few hundred kids, transported by their parents, which meant another 100 cars in the general parking lot.

There was nowhere to park at 10:20 or 11:20 a.m., cars circling everywhere, which meant that parking density was at a ridiculous level. I thought I was the one going to school here.

No parking on the agriculture side of campus either, but over 50 staff spots were empty, and needless to say, closer to campus than any of our spots. It is time that the police department and school stand behind their word and enforce the rules of this area.

Eran Tal

Engineering graduate

To those who continue to write on abortion

When it comes to abortion, the foundation of the entire debate is the killing of a human being. The dispute rests on this underlying argument and not on social consequences. In the U.N., the killing of a human being is against the law, but the killing of many other living organisms is not. So it is crucial that we determine when a fetus becomes a human being, because when it does, it becomes the only defensible right of a human being (life, liberty, etc.). So what is it to be human and human rights? I think the most fundamental aspect of humanity is thought. Human thought is what separates us from our animals or on this planet. In that case, let us look at medical sciences to determine when, if at any time, a fetus gains the ability to think, for surely when a zygote is created there is no thought process, so isn’t even a brain. However, if we can determine when this fetus has the ability to think if it can then be defined as human, and it should then be illegal to take away its life. While science may never know when a fetus can think, it can estimate the time in which a functional fetus brain is fundamentally different then other fetal brains of other species. It was suggested that scientists have something to park, and prevent massive amounts of visitor parking in our spots. I am not of waiting my time and money looking for a spot on this campus when there are plenty of empty ones. If your staff only showed the same zeal to solve this problem as they do at handing out tickets.

Eran Tal

Engineering graduate

LETTERS

State of the Cal Poly campus

Also, you have just this year raised the lack of parking availability on the Cal Poly campus. I think that an all-time low in the six years I have been here. You assured me that the department is doing everything it can to balance out the available parking spots on campus, sending me the results of your parking surveys (which, by the way, comfortably avoided documenting the real challenging hours, between 10 a.m. and 12 p.m.), and asked me to park on the other side of the college, in the agriculture area.

These events repeated themselves. Some elementary school event took place in the PAC today with a few hundred kids, transported by their parents, which meant another 100 cars in the general parking lot. There was nowhere to park at 10:20 or 11:20 a.m., cars circling everywhere, which meant that parking density was at a ridiculous level. I thought I was the one going to school here. No parking on the agriculture side of campus either, but over 50 staff spots were empty, and needless to say, closer to campus than any of our spots. It is time that the police department and school stand behind their word and enforce the rules of this area.

Eran Tal

Engineering graduate

Religious generalization a dangerous game

The boldness in which Brian Eller simply mocks people's faiths or their followers to perform suicide bombings. “What he fails to do is provide a background discussion on what perpetrates these events.” Israel has frozen all money owed to the Palestinians simply because the government is not what Israel wants, and the Palestinian people are in a financial crisis. We denounce dictatorship, yet continue to support Israel, which has violated over 60 U.N. resolutions in a blatantly decrying Palestinian politics. Eller was indirectly attacking the orthodox religion of Islam in this part of the article. From a religious perspective, the Quran and the Muslims' holy book—states that if any person kills an innocent soul unjustly, it would be as if he/she slew all of humanity and if anyone saves a life, it would be as if he/she saved the life of all humanity. (3:52) Island denounces aggression and hatred towards anyone, so it is very dangerous to judge an entire faith based on a few people’s actions. The Muslim world is not what the United States' discriminatory foreign policy aimed at controlling and west- ernizing the world. Unfortunately, millions of people, depending on the corporate-bought media to make up their minds when this fetus has the ability to think, for surely when a zygote is created there is no thought process, so isn’t even a brain. However, if we can determine when this fetus has the ability to think if it can then be defined as human, and it should then be illegal to take away its life. While science may never know when a fetus can think, it can estimate the time in which a functional fetus brain is fundamentally different then other fetal brains of other species. It was suggested that scientists have

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Locating a joint is a breeze.

One run in the sixth. Van Ostrand doubled to center field, tying the game at 5-5, and Lansford homered to left, driving in three runs and giving Cal Poly an 8-5 lead. Lansford's only other home run of the season was a walkoff two-run shot in the series finale against Fresno State on Jan. 29. Jordan Alvarez's RBI single pulled the Toreros to 3-2 in the third. Buchholz's RBI single up the middle tied the game at 3-3 and Keoni Roth and Ryan Lilly followed with run-scoring singles to give the Toreros a 5-3 advantage.

Cal Poly trimmed the deficit to 5-4 with a run in the sixth as Brent Mored grounded out to second base with the bases loaded and one out. In the bottom of the seventh, Van Ostrand doubled to center field, tying the game at 5-5, and Lansford homered to left, driving in three runs and giving Cal Poly an 8-5 lead. Lansford's only other home run of the season was a walkoff two-run shot in the series finale against Fresno State on Jan. 29. Jordan Alvarez's RBI single pulled the Toreros to 3-2 in the third. Buchholz's RBI single up the middle tied the game at 3-3 and Keoni Roth and Ryan Lilly followed with run-scoring singles to give the Toreros a 5-3 advantage.

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**SPORTS**

**Mustangs take two-of-three**

Cal Poly won the first two games of its three-game series against University of San Diego, but eventually fell in the third game. Justin Snyder and Steve Singleton both sangled to drive in runs in the eighth inning as No. 25 San Diego (Baseball America and ESPN/USA Today polls) tallied to beat No. 3 Cal Poly (Collegiate Baseball Newspaper) 5-4 in the final game of a three-game non-conference baseball series Sunday afternoon before 1,044 in Baggett Stadium.

San Diego, which swept the season series, snapped a seven-game losing streak.

**MUSTANG DAILY**

Frank Stranzl

Monday, March 6, 2006

**Steers take two-of-three**

Cal Poly slugged Gilbert Gill at the plate in Saturday’s game at Baggett Stadium. Gill went 0-4 during the game, but played well defensively for the Mustangs.

**SOFTBALL**

**PLAYING .500 FOR THE WEEKEND**

The Cal Poly softball team fell to No. 3 UCLA twice, split against Santa Clara and won two against San Jose State in a weekend tournament in Los Angeles.

The Mustangs won their first game on Sunday against San Jose State 7-4 and topped the Spartans 6-5 in the final game of the tournament. Home runs by Chelsea Green, Melissa Furr and Jackie Gelbke-Jones contributed to the wins.

Sophomore pitcher Robyn Kontra earned the wins in both games.

Cal Poly returns to action Tuesday, March 7, for a 3 p.m. doubleheader against St. Francis.

**W. TENNIS**

**AGGIES CAN’T STAY WITH ‘STANGS**

The Cal Poly women’s team defeated UC Davis 6-1 on Sunday, winning five-of-six singles matches, four in tiebreaker matches and two-of-three doubles matches.

At No. 1 singles for Cal Poly, Samantha Walker defeated Robin Gobin 6-2, 6-1. The No. 2, No. 3, No. 4 and No. 5 Mustangs recorded wins in tiebreaker matches against UC Santa Barbara.

**SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT**

University of the Pacific’s men’s basketball team claimed the Big West Conference regular season title for the third year in a row with a 75-53 win over Cal Poly on Saturday.

The win gives the Tigers a 22-7 overall record for the 2005-06 season and a final Big West record of 12-2. Cal Poly, which will be seeded fourth in next week’s Big West tournament at the Anaheim Convention Center Arena, fell to 9-18 and 7-7.

Freshman guard Chaz Thomas scored 16 points for the Tigers on Senior Day, recording 41 of Pacific’s 75 points.

Gray started the first half on fire, shooting six-for-eight from the field on his way to a team-high 19 points.

Pacific’s largest lead of the first half was 21 points and the Tigers led 42-23 at the break. The second half was much of the same as the Tigers expanded their lead to 28 points on a lay up by freshman Stefan Johnson midway through the half. Cal Poly never got closer than 19 after halftime.

Maraker recorded his 15th double-double of the season, adding 11 rebounds to his 19 points and two blocks. Pacific forced Cal Poly into 14 turnovers, converting 18 points off of them and outscoring Cal Poly 15-6 in free throw points.

The Tigers beat the Mustangs on the boards with a 39-31 rebounding edge. Cal Poly also turned the ball over 14 times, three more than the Tigers. Probably the defining statistic of the night, the Mustangs made just 33.3 percent of their 53 shots, including 8-for-24 from three-point range.

Cal Poly will have a first-round bye in the conference tournament Wednesday, facing the highest remaining seed (5 through 8) on Thursday at 6 p.m. or 8:30 p.m. Semifinals are set for Friday with the championship game slated for Saturday at 9 p.m.

**SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT**

The Cal Poly men’s tennis team defeated the University of San Diego 6-1 Sunday, winning five-of-six singles matches.

At No. 1 for the Mustangs, Matt Baca defeated Jan March. John Nguyen defeated Kevin McQuaid at the No. 1 spot. Fred Dewitte and Kyle Rosal won 6-3 in the No. 3 and No. 5 spots. Daryn Young also recorded a win when he defeated Santa Clara’s Blaine Shields.

Cal Poly’s only loss of the day came at the number four singles spot when Brett Van Linge fell to Tommy Hicks.

In doubles competition, the Cal Poly teams of Nguyen and Van Linge and Baca and Dewitte were all victorious.

The Mustangs return to action Wednesday, March 8 for a home meet against UC Santa Barbara.

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The focus now turns to the Big West tournament, which begins play on Wednesday at the Anaheim Convention Center Arena. Cal Poly will take on Pacific in the first round and will need four wins in order to win the championship.

If the Mustangs could manage four wins in as many nights, they would receive the conference’s automatic bid to the NCAA tournament.

The Mustangs take back-to-back wins going into the tournament. Prior to the wins, Cal Poly was on a six-game losing streak.

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