Mustang Daily advertising collects three top national awards

**Commentary**

In the eye of the riots: Understanding the French riots from an American student's view

French students have rioted for the past three weeks because of labor struggles directly affecting them

Emily Rancer

PARIS — I turn down Boulevard Saint-Michel, just across the bridge from the tourist-cluttered Notre Dame Cathedral in the heart of Paris, police cars and vans suddenly line the streets. Armed policeman talk in huddled groups on street corners in front of cafes, perhaps weary after three weeks of subduing student protestors.

The Sorbonne, Paris' main university that enrolls nearly 60,000 students, comes into sight and it's a staggering mess. Police have barricaded the front entrance with ugly metal fences, now tattooed with graffiti. "Police everywhere, justice nowhere," read the most prominent. Trash and papers litter the plaza in front of the university, much like the morning after a wild house party.

But there are no protesters in sight.

The Sorbonne area is mostly empty except for tourists who excitedly snap pictures of the haunting aftermath. I read later that students are in another part of Paris today, voicing their rage toward a governmental law that would allow French employers to fire workers under age 26 anytime during the first two years of employment. The government says it will encourage employers to hire younger workers, but the French youth strongly disagree.

More than two-thirds of France's 84 public universities are now completely or partially closed because of the demonstrations. The students are furious that their generation is again being targeted by a government that they say won't allow for job protection among young workers.

After living in Paris since January and hearing first-hand the frustrations my French friends have seen Paris, page 2

French riot police gather near the Sorbonne in Paris, ready to stifle student protests over a new labor law.

Amy Asman

**Today's Staff Report**

The Mustang Daily advertising and business staff took three top awards at the College Newspaper Business and Advertising Managers (CNBAM) Convention held March 8-11 in Philadelphia.

The annual contest was judged by professionals working for newspapers across the country, including the San Luis Obispo Tribune.

The Mustang Daily took first place for "Best Marketing Package," a media kit promoting the newspaper to advertisers. The package was put together by advertising director Taiga Young and designers Lana Johnson and Jimmy Dinh.

"I'm really proud of my design team. They did an amazing job with this," Young said. "I'm glad that they've been rewarded for their work."

The package, which was presented to 120 advertising clients, included campus demographics, rate information, a speculative ad and a copy of the Mustang Daily. The project took three months to complete.

Close to 70 schools entered the contest, with newspapers competing in two categories: Division A, which included newspapers with a combined weekly circulation of

see Awards, page 2

**Rain and quick driving make slippery combination**

Amy Asman

Traffic on a rain-soaked Grand Avenue came to a halt Wednesday after a car plowed through the center divide and crashed into a concrete pillar underneath U.S. Highway 101, police said.

The driver, an 18-year-old San Luis Obispo resident, was turning left onto the street when the accident occurred; San Luis Obispo police officer Colleen Kevany said. He suffered minor injuries and was taken to Sierra Vista Medical Center.

"In this case, the driver accelerated too hard on a wet surface. Then he lost control of the vehicle, spun out, went up on the planter and hit the big, square, concrete pillar," Kevany said.

The other two passengers, an underage male and an underage female, were released on scene. All of the passengers' names are currently being withheld pending an investigation by the driver's insurance company, she said.

"(Dispatch) received a call at 11:57 a.m. from passers-by who witnessed the accident" said Capt. Rik Greciek, who works at the fire see Crash, page 2

Rain and quick driving make slippery combination

Amy Asman

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Mustang look to rebound after being swept last weekend by visiting Northridge

**In Sports,** 16

**In Diversions,** 9

**Mustangs kick off a month of popular bands, today at UU Hour**
Crash
continued from page 1

"We were actually be able to find a job that
cared," she said. "Still, it shows that
in town, Kevany said.

will be kept at a storage facility
which appeared to be totaled,
first on the scene with the San
us Police Department
ly after the accident. The car,
spikes to 23 percent among those
ized that employment is an
weather."

continued from page 1

For young minorities, like Lydie,
France as a 21-year-old black
after she graduates, thus avoiding
under age 25.

import/export business. She’ s spe­
cise their right to demonstrate just
educational youth who want to exer­
cess of using the "glove of love" to have safe
at the top of the condom and 17 per­
ning a crack at the real world. But
that’s not the reality for so many
students here in France, and my
friends and their friends are wor­
ed by it. They can’t blame them­selves
for not being able to find a
job after succeeding in college, so
they blame the government — a
good place to start.

Police firing rubber bullets and
break and 15 percent reported that a
addition, 34 percent had a condom
before finishing sexual intercourse. In
the University of California-Davis
Researchers from the sexual
Health Education and Promotion
Hall found that a large num­
ber of students are not always
using condoms correctly, putting them at risk for
AIDS, STDs and unwanted
pregnancies.

According to the survey, students were performing
unsafe actions during intercourse:
with 42 percent reporting that they
did not leave enough space for semen
at the top of the condom and 17 per­
cent saying they took off a condom
before finishing sexual intercourse. In
addition, 34 percent had a condom
break and 15 percent reported that a
condom had slipped off during sex.
Each student also reported using a
condom during sex at least four
times in the previous two months.

According to Paulson, HEP has
promoting condom use is
great, but it may not be
eough. Sexually active
students must know how to
use them correctly.

Students are encour­
gaged to use such services at HEP and
Condom Hall’s website, which
offers free instructional booklets
on proper use and storage tips as
well as student-discounted con­
dom products. For additional
information, visit condomhall-
condoms.org.

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WHO SAID THAT?

One must also accept that one has “uncreative” moments. The more honestly one can accept that, the quicker these moments will pass.
— Etty Hillesum

Go through your phone book, call people and ask them to drive you to the airport. The ones who will drive you are your true friends. The rest aren’t bad people; they’re just acquaintances.
— Jay Leno

Wordly Wise

Invidious: Tending to provoke envy, resentment or ill will; containing or implying a slight.

The Face of Cal Poly presents...

Meet the Editors

Favorites

Animated show character: Peter Griffin
Drink: Hurricane
Atomic element: What is an atomic element?
Bob Ross moment: There are too many.
Current managing editor of the Mustang Daily: OAT-Brain, AK-47, Oratie
Font: Bembo!

If You Could ...

— be a kitchen appliance what would you be?
A blender.
— Commit a crime and get away with it what would it be?
Working the corner of Grand and Monterey.

Would you rather...

— kick a mule in the teeth or hay up a mule?
Are you involved in PETA?
— Arm-wrestle Salvador Dali or Indian leg wrestle Vincent van Gogh?
Can I pick both?
— Eat a pork chop sandwich, go skiing or be a hamster for a day?
Be a hamster for a day, because I can do the other two.

Name: Dan Watson • Year: senior
Hometown: Placerville • Major: journalism

Under Four . . . or ‘walk of shame’?

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

67% of female Cal Poly students drink less than two times a week.
Biodynamic practices bring out vineyard's wild side

GLEN ELLEN — About this time of year, California grape growers are rolling their vineyards and checking the vines for "bud break," the green promise of spring.

And a few of them are digging up cow horns stuffed with manure that were buried through fall and winter ready to grind them up and create a soil treatment known as Preparation 500.

It’s part of a system of farming called biodynamics — the cow horns get a lot of attention, but most of the practices are about old-fashioned handiwork — and it works, say vintners who use the eco-friendly system.

“What we’re seeing in the vineyards has been very positive,” says Grady Wann, general manager and winemaker at Quivira Vineyards in Northern California’s Sonoma County, which has been using biodynamic farming methods for more than three years.

As with organic farming, biody-

Michelle Locke
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mike Benziger, winegrower and general manager of the Benziger Family Winery in Sonoma Valley, stands by a model of Sonoma Mountain at the winery in Glen Ellen on Wednesday, March 2.

Beyond that, biodynamics views the farming operation as a living, breathing organism that is affected by lunar cycles and planetary alignment as well as seasons and times.

“The No. 1 rock-bottom foundation of biodynamics is really the personal relationship that you make with the land. That’s the biggest difference,” says Mike Benziger, winegrower and general manager of the Benziger Family Winery in Sonoma Valley.

Based on the writings of an Austrian philosopher named Rudolf Steiner, biodynamics goes back more than 80 years and is viewed by practitioners as a forerunner, rather than an offshoot, of the organic farming revival of the ’70s.

What gives biodynamics its “out there” vibe are things like “Preparation 500,” the springtime vineyard spray made from the manure-stuffed cow horns, buried over fall and winter, then ground up and mixed with water.

“Preparation 501” is a mixture made from a cow horn stuffed with silica that is buried over spring and summer, mixed in a similar fashion and applied in fall to make the vineyards more receptive to light and warmth.

Scott Dialect, who has a doctorate in organic chemistry, can understand the skepticism biodynamics sometimes inspires, but he’s the first to say how much of that is due to the various mixtures and how much to the way the system forces growers to be as tough with the vines.

“All I know is the system that’s been in place for the last three years has produced pretty dramatic results," Wann says.

Quivira and Benziger are certified as biodynamic by Demeter Association, a nonprofit biodynamics organization which has certified about 80 farming operations nationally, says Demeter director Jim Fulmer.

Biodynamics isn’t limited to vineyards, although the methods do suit that type of agriculture, he says.

Demeter’s route to biodynamics started in 1996 when he was researching organic farming methods.

“I got hooked because I saw that, on one hand, you could create a healthier environment, but on the other hand, you could make really unique and authentic products,” he says.

Being biodynamic means choosing properties very carefully and scrutinizing plants for early signs of trouble. “We don’t have silver bullets. We don’t have the ability to use any chemicals,” notes Benziger.

To fight pests without chemicals, he keeps his property diverse, not just growing grapes but having other crops such as olives as well as wetlands, grasslands and gardens designed to attract beneficial insects.

In the cellar, biodynamics means manipulating the wine, although winemakers may add a small amount of sulfites to prevent spoilage. In Benziger’s cases, squares are cut into the floors exposing the gravel beneath so wines remain in touch with the natural cycles of the Earth.
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MIAMI — Disgraced former lobbyist Jack Abramoff and a business partner were sentenced Wednesday to five years and 10 months in federal prison, the minimum they faced for fraud related to their 2000 purchase of the SunCruz Casinos gambling fleet. Abramoff and Adam Kidan both pleaded guilty to conspiracy and lying to the Senate gave lopsided approval Wednesday to scandal-inspired legislation restricting lobbyist gift-giving and making lobbying activities more open.

WASHINGTON — The Senate gave lopsided approval Wednesday to scandal-inspired legislation restricting lobbyist gift-giving and making lobbying activities more open.

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — The death-penalty case against al-Qaida conspirator Zacarias Moussaoui went to the jury Wednesday after the prosecution asserted his lies were responsible for deaths Sept. 11, 2001, and the defense argued he had no part in the plot.

The nine men and three women on the jury will decide whether Moussaoui bears blame for at least 10 deaths, including those of his own client. The FBI would have had the identities of two of the hijackers in months covering 2000 to 2001, about his al-Qaeda membership and the plot to kill Americans using hijacked airplanes.

"Moussaoui was never involved other than in his dreams," MacMahon said, trying to minimize damage that Moussaoui might have done to himself when he claimed on the stand that he was to have crashed a plane into the White House on Sept. 11.

"The government cannot prove a hypothetical, what would have happened if Moussaoui had not lied," he said. "We will never know what could have happened in the 25 days between Moussaoui's arrest and Sept. 11." He said of his client: "He's now trying to write a role for himself in history, when in reality he's an al-Qaeda hanger-on."

Prosecution says Moussaoui killed with his lies; defense points to federal blunders before Sept. 11

Matthew Barakat

Moussaoui was executed.

"Zacarias Moussaoui came to this country to kill as many Americans as he could," prosecutor David Raskin said, wrapping up a case that saw Moussaoui bear the startling claim — disputed by his own lawyers — that he was to have piloted a fifth hijacked plane Sept. 11 and flown it into the White House.

"Instead he killed people by lying and concealing the plot, that resulted in the worst terrorist attack in the country's history," Raskin said.

Moussaoui lied "with lethal intent" when he failed to tell federal agents after his arrest in August 2001 about his al-Qaeda membership and the plot to kill Americans using hijacked airplanes.

Prosecutors contended that if Moussaoui had told the truth after his arrest, investigators could have tracked down 11 of the 19 hijackers. They asserted the FBI would have had the names, the phone numbers, and their addresses in some cases, Raskin said.

The bottom line, he said, was that, "He chose Osama bin Laden and because of that, 2,900 are dead."

He estimated about the beating, which left him lying on the street, hands cuffed and blood flowing from his head and face. Afterward, he told reporters that he still has headaches and back problems and even had to interrupt his testimony to take medicine.

"I went real high," he added, "but I can't tell you anything. I've been sworn to secrecy.

The retired elementary school teacher said he was "a private citizen here on business returning to my home. There was no need for what happened.

He said he had returned to the scene of the storm-struck city to check on his property and was looking for a place to buy cigarettes in the French Quarter when police grabbed him.

The videotape shows an officer hitting Davis at least four times on the head. Davis挺好ed and flailed as he was dragged to the ground by four officers. One officer freed Davis and punched him twice, and Davis is shown face-down on the sidewalk with blood streaming from his head and into a gutter.

Smith had ordered APTN producer Rich Matthews and the cameraman to stop recording. When Matthews held up his credentials, the officer grabbed him, jabbed him in the stomach and delivered a profan­

Randy Steiger

Attorney Joe Bruno, right, holds the door for Robert Davis, whose beating by police on Oct. 8, 2005 was caught on videotape, arrives at court to testify before a state grand jury in New Orleans on Wednesday.

Three New Orleans police officers indicted in videotaped beating

Mary Foster

NEW ORLEANS — Two New Orleans police officers and one current officer were indicted Wednesday in the videotaped beating of a retired teacher in the French Quarter last fall.

The Oct. 8 beating of Robert Davis, 64, was caught on videotape by an Associated Press Television News crew covering the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

Earlier, the grand jury had heard from Davis, who told reporters as he entered the courthouse that he barely remembers the attack and would not be able to recognize the officers who beat him. But Davis said he thought the three men deserved suffer charges as the misdemeanor offenses they were originally charged with.

Robert Evangelist, 36, was charged with false imprisonment and battery; Lance Schilling, 29, was charged with second-degree battery; and Stewart Smith, 50, was charged with simple battery, according to a statement from District Attorney Eddie Jordan.

Evangelist and Schilling were fired after the incident; Smith was suspended but remains with the police force.

False imprisonment, the most seri­

ous of the charges, carries a penalty of up to 10 years in prison. Second-degree battery is punishable by up to five years in prison and a $5000 fine.

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Smith had ordered APTN producer Rich Matthews and the cameraman to stop recording. When Matthews held up his credentials, the officer grabbed him, jabbed him in the stomach and delivered a profan­

Randy Steiger

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Brittny Peloquin

"V for Vendetta," the latest offering from the Wachowski brothers, depics a dystopian British society on the brink of a revolution. The film provides a good balance between drama, science fiction and action. Hugo Weaving plays V, a mysterious masked vigilante with a vengeful agenda with the spirit and attire of the historical Guy Fawkes. As he carries out each step to undermine the government's control, police investigator Finch (Stephen Rea) helps uncover V's motivation is not merely political, but personal revenge as well. V's actions, but she eventually becomes an integral part of them. The shocking and action-packed climax shows that each character's involvement is no coincidence. Portman gives a dynamic performance as Evey. She delicately portrays the contrasting feelings she has for V throughout the film, as well as her transition from victim to accomplice to soldier. Her British accent is questionable at times, but not enough to be distracting. The audience never sees V's face. Weaving does what he can as the voice behind the mask to ensure V's madness appears justified. Some of V's ramblings about revolution, poetry and using words that start with the letter "v" are unintelligible and overdone. His creepy costume is offset by his smooth skills with the knives that are his weapons of choice. Screenwriters Andy Wachowski and Larry Wachowski, known for writing and directing the Matrix trilogy, seem to have tailored this comic book story from the 1980s into a commentary on the state of world events today. V is dubbed a terrorist against a totalitarian government. He blows up buildings and assassinates who he deems to be evil leaders as he works toward starting a revolution. The Wachowskis bluntly show the government's use of spin and the media to control people, mimicking familiar real-life personalities. V's logo is even strikingly similar to the anarchy "A." It's worth the trip to the big screen, but be wary that you might leave the theater with your fists raised and thoughts of revolution stirring inside you.

Meg Charlton

WASHINGTON — Oh, Natalie, you bad- as. Who knew that beneath that Harvard graduate, pixie cut, body-of-a-12-year-old-boy exterior lay the soul of a gangsta?

On the March 4 episode of "Saturday Night Live," the weekly "Digital Short" featured Queen Amidala herself rapping her way to Internet immortality with "A Day in the Life of Natalie Portman." So, "Lazy Sunday" fans. Keep your "Magnolia" and Mr. Pibb. I'll take Ms. Portman's histrionic tendencies and alleged "yay snorting" any day of the week.

"Yes, two nerdy guys rhyming about cupcakes is amusing ... but the sheer absurdity of "A Day in the Life" provokes far more laughs than its witty counterpart.

What makes this video comedy gold is the juxtaposition of tiny, delicate, smarty-pants Portman responding to standard interview questions with a hard-core rap about sex, drugs and killing dogs for fun. Watching her scream and writhe with total commitment to the ridiculous premise is what prevents the skit from bordering on the embarrassing. She throws herself into the rap with no holds barred, to the point that viewers begin to imagine that maybe this is the real Natalie.

Disciples of the "Chronic-What-els" will find solace in the ever-hilarious presence of Chris "Parns" Parnell. His straight-faced impersonation of Chris "Parns" Parnel. His straight-faced impersonation of an obscenely famous worshipper centers the skit and provides the set-up for Portman's dead-pan zinger, "I never said I was a role model." She delivers the line with such understated viciousness it almost redeems her for "Star Wars: Revenge of the Sith." Almost.

But what makes the video a true classic is when the force behind "SNL's" digital revolution, Andy Samberg, rolls up in a Viking costume and joins in for the final chorus, telling Portman, "My d-eck is scared of you." So is mine, Natalie. So is mine.

SICK?
As a last resort, use the Mustang Daily as a tissue.
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The Ataris kick-off spring UU Hour

The Ataris show is just the start to an improved UU Hour lineup this quarter, including performances by The Clarks and Resination.

Brittney Peloquin

**University Union Hour promises to be better than ever this quarter as it kicks off this week with rockers The Ataris.**

The band, most recently known for their 2003 cover of Don Henley’s “The Boys of Summer,” from their last album “So Long, Astoria,” comes to Cal Poly today as one of the last stops on their current acoustic tour before heading overseas.

“I’m totally jazzed they’re playing here,” psychology sophomore Aimee Hamilton said. “I hope people come out and support them so we can get some other good bands.”

The band’s forthcoming album, “Welcome the Night,” features a completely different side of the band, reflecting a more mature sound compared to The Ataris’ hits like “San Dimas High School Football Rules.”

But The Ataris show is just the beginning of what the ASI Events staff plans to offer for this quarter’s UU Hour.

In the past, the weekly entertainment usually featured local bands, student bands or small acts passing through town looking for exposure. While this gives Cal Poly students a chance to hear up-and-coming music, they are trying to bring in bigger acts based on recent feedback.

Nicole Stivers, student supervisor for marketing and public relations and journalism senior, said they are trying to use resources to bring in more established bands.

“We love to see students out there having a good time, and we’re excited that we’re able to do that,” she said. “We want it to be fun, even if it’s just background music while you hang out with your friends.”

She also commented that the events staff always welcomes suggestions for entertainment.

Another band appearing this quarter is The Clarks, a popular East Coast guitar rock band that has played shows nationally with John Mayer, O.A.R. and Gavin DeGraw. Resination, a local reggae band that has previously played UU Hour, will appear again in May.

ASI also welcomes other groups to use the hour as an opportunity for a variety of clubs and organizations to gain exposure or put on events. Upcoming weekly entertainment will include a Remember Week presentation, Greek Week events and a Cinco de Mayo Celebration.

UU Hour is every Thursday from 11 a.m. to noon starting today. In the event of rain, The Ataris will play at Backstage Bizza.

For more information, visit asi.calpoly.edu/events.

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**Velvet Rope**

continued from page 8

ments, two-week vacations and immense responsibility.

I now find myself caught between two places yet again. Instead of holding onto the past for fear of the present, I now find myself struggling to cram in all the present for fear of the future.

With graduation on the horizon, I find that being in my early 20s, I’m at an interesting crossroad in my life. On one hand, I am scared of what the future will bring because school has been my life for as long as I can remember.

On the other hand, I feel the struggle between freely chasing my wild dreams and finding a career as quickly as possible.

Lost in the sea of decisions ahead of me, I have come to realize that, despite my doubts, there isn’t a wrong answer.

Instead, as I relax in my hammock enjoying the warm sunshine, I realize that when I reach that door to the “real world,” I will open it without fear.

---

**THE VELVET ROPE takes on Spring Break...**

**GO NUTS!!!**

Doing something wild for spring break? Send us your stories in 700 words or less!
**OPINION/EVENTIAL**

**editor in chief:** Dan Watson  
**Managing editor:** Kristen Oato  
**Editorial board:**  
- Caris Dobson  
- Kenten Oato  

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- Editor in chief: Dan Watson  
- Managing editor: Kristen Oato  
- News editor: Caris Dobson  
- Assistant news editor: Erin Smith  
- Sports editor: Frank Stroud  
- Opinion editor: Charis Dobson  
- Design editor: Jessica Greenhut  
- Copy editor: Joanna Freida  
- Managing editor: Kristen Oato  
- Editor in chief: Jan Watson  

**WRITE A LETTER**

Mustang Daily reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, profanities and length. Letters, comments and cartoons do not represent the views of the Mustang Daily. Letters should include the writer's name and class standing. Letters must come from a Cal Poly e-mail account. Do not send letters as an attachment. Please send the text in an online form. Please send your letter to Mustang Daily.

**SEX COLUMN**

No love in downtown SLO

I n a recent article entitled, "Urban Uturn," the New Times reported on a group of why and high-rent residents (my description) who want to be outfitters — our first cool store in, I’ll venture, a decade to get rid of their inappropriate book selection.

One mother claimed she was "shocked" at books like "350 Best Sex Tips Ever" and "Position of the Day Playbook," which are featured on tables amongst clothes racks and the hip décor (I purchased the latter book the second I saw it, for the record).

Although the overprotection and anal levels are off the charts, it just proves a bigger problem that seems to be sweeping the town: SLO citizens are afraid of sex.

I say SLO citizens because most Cal Poly students consider themselves students of the university, living (for a temporary amount of time) in the city of SLO.

We, gentle friends, clearly do not fear sex — just ask the patient nurse practitioners at the Health Center. Rather, it’s the inhabitants of San Luis Obispo, many of whom graduated from Cal Poly, that get up in arms about the second sex进出 our small community.

Examples include the brouhaha made over the "racy" display of lingerie in the Victoria’s Secret windows (for the record, again, I find Victoria’s Secret way too tame for my taste) and the cancellation of the Mardi Gras parade, which flaunted sex and booze.

But why is sex always made out to be the bad guy?

In Grover Beach two weeks ago some wacko killed two innocent men and wounded others before turning the gun on himself in Denny’s. In Shandon, a man was shot three times by an unknown suspect while driving a friend home over the weekend.

Personally, I never heard of anyone taking multiple lives in seconds with their respective genitalia. But no one seems to care when violent movies appear at Downtown Cinemas or video games glamorizing violence sell out at Best Buy.

I don’t really care about the gun stuff myself, but that logically seems like the bigger threat to our innocent children than a book of fun positions.

Now that I’m 21, I feel like I know everything there is to know about sex (don’t we all?). But I didn’t when I was 13, and I don’t believe that 13 year olds should.

Julie Wilson, one of the groups organizers, said kids that age, as quoted in the New Times, “...don’t need to see that stuff,” in reference to the naughty books on display.

They probably don’t need to, but it’s just like the slippery slope fallacy that claims anyone who smells marijuana smoke will enter the gateway and become a smoke addict.

A middle schooler leafing through a book on sex doesn’t fertilize the egg, lady. The oft-embarrassing sex talk parents have with children usually involves the phrase “Sex is a beautiful thing between a man and a woman.”

And any of us who has ever taken a break from the kink knows that slow and loving sex is a very beautiful thing.

So why is it feared? Why would a ten year old care about the lingerie in the window of a store? Why would an adolescent be scarred by the phrase “Sex is a beautiful thing between a man and a woman.”

— our first cool store in, I’ll venture, a decade to get rid of their inappropriate book selection.

Although the overprotection and anal levels are off the charts, it just proves a bigger problem that seems to be sweeping the town: SLO citizens are afraid of sex.

"Although the overprotection and anal levels are off the charts, it just proves a bigger problem that seems to be sweeping the town: SLO citizens are afraid of sex."

By Janice Edman

**COLUMNIST LINEUP...**

**Friday - Two Classy Gents**

They’re taken on President Baker, Scientology, love-in-akinji and Chuck Liddell. What will our humor columnists take on next?

By Mike Matick and Doug Brazeau

**ONLINE EXCLUSIVE LINEUP...**

**Monday - The Bottom Line**

Taking everyday locally issues to the business world

By Alan Elbert and Jonnette Ball

**Tuesday - Political columnists**

Talk back with Jack Elbert now.

**The Right Guy (Conservative voice)**

By Jack Ingemun and Brian Eker

**Wednesday - Poly Point-blank**

The ASI president writes about the issues that are important to the student body.

By Tyler Middelfadt

**Thursday - Sex column**

**Daniel Scraves is All (Male view)**

**Under the Covers with Janice** (Female view)

By Daniel Scraves and Janice Edman

**Tuesday**

**The Word on the Screen**

an online column exclusive

**Wednesday**

**Big...**

By Julianne Byer

**Thursday**

**Healthy...**

www.mustangdaily.net
Sex and drug themes: A free ride to a household name

When I walk into an Urban Outfitters, usually it's in search of something I want to wear. Occasionally, Russian Coke advertisements and lame pun plastered to their fronts. When I stumble instead upon books like "Splits," "How Animals Have Sex" or "Sex Flashcards," I'm not offended — I'm confused. It's like going to Michaels, The Arts and Crafts Store for silk flowers and finding a row of purple dildos tucked beneath the garland. It's like going to a baseball game and getting pants thrown at you by the vendor instead of foot-long hot dogs. Simply, it's getting what you didn't expect. The store markets itself as a clothesfor men and women of ages 18 to 30 (a group that shops for itself). But that demographic exists only in fine print, and, as was demonstrated in SLO, it won't keep parents and their tykes out of a trendy store. As an adult, the subject matter doesn't shock me, but it doesn't particularly interest me either. I don't need to pay $25 to a trendy retail store to read about sexuality in an insecure diary book. I have mature friends I can talk sex with, I have a cornucopia of provocative Cal Poly ladies, and every once in a while I even get to do it. Besides, the voice and tone in those books suggest to me that the publisher either written by high school dropouts or chimpanzees with typewriters.

It worries me, though, that the author might purposefully be writing down to the reading level of teenagers, which offends me since that would contradict Urban Outfitters' alleged marketing group. As for protesters, I disagree with the severity of their indignance, but I agree with their point: Urban Outfitters has a way better effort to keep young kids from buying sex than my generation had.

There are ways to solve this problem. Just like when I was a little kid at the movie store and I tried to sprint past the red curtain into the adult section to peep at the porn. My mom's arm was stronger than my legs and somehow "the alaways" switched me up before I could get a glimpse of any little boy's body — booties. I also remember a store called The Look which sold all sorts of gag gifts and questionable merchandise, similar to items found in Urban Outfitters. The Look's solution was to keep everything acceptable on the first floor and everything raunchier on the second guarded by a very strict-looking lady with short skirts, tight leather clothes.

As far as 18 to 30-year-olds go, I hope no body really buys that crap. Or at least, they buy very little of it. At best, stuff like that is fun for a buck or two, which is a small price to pay for thoughtless jokes from each other as you pass through the store, browsing at the same time. And you wear it, you're "not cool" but I think it's worth the sacrifice. You're bound to get the pain of a burn. It's easier to realize your eyelids are burning; but with those handy UVAs, no burning sensation is noticeable.

There is all this talk about tanning beds, though, and none about tanning the old-fashioned way — basking like a lizard in the sun. If you're one who firmly believes in the motto "no pain, no gain" when it comes to tanning, I applaud your work ethic, but I'm sad to say you're still going to get the cancer.

The sun, while being the sustainer of all life, unfortunately, can also be, for less careful humans, dangerous, since you can bombard your body with the same amount of radiation without for an abundance of desirous young shoppers. But, Urban Outfitters must not need their money.

The store has gone through this time and time again, and knows by now that some of their products cause real distress. In March 2004, Catholics in Pennsylvania protested a dress-up Jesus doll by picketing outside a mall. In November 2005, the Troy Community Coalition in Detroit urged a boycott because of products that glamorized drinking, drugs, and sex.

Urban Outfitters has even gotten flack for racist T-shirts. One that read "New Mexico: Cleaner than regular Mexico" ruffled feathers in July 2005. And the one constant throughout the controversy? Urban Outfitters employees are not allowed to remove merchandise designated for sale, and the store representatives never return calls in time for news stories, or (it seems) at all.

And finally I realize it. Clearly but obtrusively placed sex and drug-themed items have put Urban Outfitters in the spotlight, and as a result, Urban Outfitters has thrived in the past 35 years and has become a household name. The negative associations are mild enough to be overlooked. Like a misbehaving child, negative attention is better than no attention at all.

Daniel Gingras is a civil engineering senior and a Mustang Daily columnist. For questions, comments or for a game of Sex Flashcards, write to daniel.gingras@calpoly.edu.

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Alabamans joins growing number of states looking to ban abortions

Katie Stallcup
THE CRIMSON WHITE [TUSCALOOSA, AL; ALABAMA]

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — Alabama has joined a growing number of states that are considering bills to ban almost all abortions as direct defiance of Roe v. Wade, the 1973 Supreme Court decision that made abortion a constitutional right.

State Sen. Hank Erwin, R-Montevallo, and Rep. Nick Williams, R-McIntosh, are sponsoring a bill in the state Legislature that would ban all abortions except for those needed to save the mother’s life. The bill has no exceptions for rape or incest.

“The bill is similar to an abortion ban enacted in South Dakota last month. Similar legislation is being considered in a number of other states, including Mississippi, Tennessee and Georgia.”

Williams said his bill makes performing an abortion a felony.

“I feel very strongly about abortion personally,” he said. “I support the bill and what it would mean for Alabama.”

Jane Robinson, a junior majoring in English, said she thought the bill was a terrible idea.

“If our legislation doesn’t think women are smart enough to make their own choice, they’re not serving the constitution,” Robinson said. “I think there’ll be a lot more lives lost if it passes. Women take things into their own hands if medical access is not available.”

Will Grice, a junior majoring in political science, said he would support the bill.

“You’d be kind of glad to see it happen,” Grice said. “I think it’s probably something that needs to be tried by the Supreme Court. It could be an opportunity to give the issue back to the states.”

Liz Smith, a freshman majoring in public relations, said she does not think abortion is right, but it’s an individual choice.

“I’m a Christian, so I’m against it, but I think a woman should have the right to decide,” Smith said. “They shouldn’t tell a woman what to do. It’s her body.”

Cassandra Madden, a freshman majoring in accounting, said the Alabama bill at least needs to exempt rape victims.

“I don’t agree with abortion, but they shouldn’t limit it that much,” she said.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

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The bill was a terrible idea.

“This is a very strong bill,” Williams said Tuesday. “And it is a statement to say that we’re going to address the issues of trying to protect issue of unborn children. We need to do everything in the world to help that baby get into the world and experience the American dream.”

The two identical bills, introduced last month, are in committee for discussions. Erwin said the Senate bill is in the judiciary committee for debate. The committee held a hearing on the bill Tuesday, Erwin said.

“It was a very passionate public hearing,” Erwin said. “I’m not against debate. It’s an issue we need to deal with, and all voices and opinions are welcome.”

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PARIS — An Algerian was convicted and sentenced to 10 years in prison Wednesday for his role in a deadly series of terror attacks.

A Paris criminal court convicted Rachid Râdaa of acting as a banker for, and giving logistical support to, Algerian terrorists who bombarded the Paris subway in 1995. Râdaa, who operated from Britain, was one of a 10-year extradition battle with authorities in London, who finally handed him to France in December.

— The Associated Press

TORONTO — Canada said Wednesday it was suspending assistance to the Palestinian Authority because the new Hamas-led government refuses to renounce violence and recognize Israel. The announcement Thursday echoed concerns in the West Bank and Gaza of an impending crackdown on opposition activists and other nations were expected to follow suit.

— The Associated Press

SIDE, Turkey — Thousands of skygazers gathered in an ancient temple of Apollo and let out a cheer Wednesday as a total solar eclipse turned day into twilight, casting an eerie blue glow across the sky and the Mediterranean Sea.

NASA astronomers handed out protective glasses to hundreds of Turkish children before the eclipse cut a dark swath across the sky, a band that stretched from Brazil, across West Africa, Turkey and Central Asia, then disappeared at sunset in Mongolia.

The last total solar eclipse was in 2003, and that best was viewed from sparsely populated Antarctica. Wednesday’s eclipse blocked the sun in highly populated areas.

— The Associated Press

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan — Taliban militants launched a rare attack on a coalition base in southern Afghanistan Wednesday, killing an American and a Canadian soldier and sparking U.S.-led retaliation that left 32 insurgents dead in the bloodiest fighting in months.

The attack came a day after at least 10 people were killed in two separate roadside bombings and reflected a growing intensity of militant assaults after the Taliban declared a monthlong cease-fire earlier this year.

"Over the last five or six weeks, we have been各种 preventing attacks mainly at night by the Taliban on that base, but I think it is fair to say this is the largest we have seen thus far," British spokesman Col. Chris Vernon told Kandahar.

— The Associated Press

Palestinian president swears in 14 ex-prisoners to Hamas Cabinet

By Sarah El Deeb

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip — Hamas formally took power Wednesday, with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas swearing in 24 Cabinet ministers, including 14 who served time in Israeli prisons.

Soon after the ceremony Abbas announced it was suspending aid to the cash-strapped Palestinian Authority, and other nations were expected to follow suit.

Foreign Affairs Minister Peter MacKay said Canada had no choice but to suspend assistance and decline any contact with the new Hamas Cabinet.

The stated aim of this government has not addressed the concerns raised by Canada and others concerning nonviolence, the recognition of Israel and acceptance of previous agreements and obligations, including the roadmap for peace," MacKay said.

"As a result, Canada will have no relations with the members of the Hamas Cabinet and is suspending assistance to the Palestinian Authority."

However, Ottawa emphasized it would continue providing humanitarian aid to the Palestinian people, but "we are not going to provide funds to a terrorist organization."

And we are not going to provide U.S. funds to a Hamas-led government."

With Hamas now in power the Palestinian government faces a crippling international economic boycott, a U.S. State Department spokesman said the United States is looking for ways to get humanitarian aid to the Palestinian people, "but we are not going to provide funds to a terrorist organization."

The Palestinian Authority gets a large part of its approximately $1.9 billion annual budget from overseas aid sources. Without money from the United States, a Hamas-led government would be in trouble. The newly installed Palestinian Information Minister Nuseif Bitri, who called the Canadian action "hasty" and said it "shows obvious bias."

"Who we need from the Canadian government is that it ask the Israelis to admit that they are occupying Palestinian land," he told The Associated Press.

Wednesday’s swearing-in ceremony came just a day after Israel’s elections and drew clear lines of confrontation.

Hamas says it will not soften its violent platform and Israel’s victorious Kadima Party says if that is the case, Israel will set the borders of a Palestinian state itself, without negotiations, and keep large areas of the West Bank.

The first to be sworn in was Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh, who walked along a red carpet, then placed his hand on a copy of the Muslim holy book, the Quran, laid out on a low table. He pledged to "serve the homeland and its sacred places."

Haniyeh later told a news conference his government would cooperate with Abbas. He reiterated Hamas won’t negotiate with Israel under the current terms, but appeared to be softening his message. Haniyeh said if Abbas wants to go ahead with peace talks, "it’s his prerogative and we have no problem with that."

Abbas then held a separate news conference and said the new government "knows what is required" of it, including dealing with Israel. Abbas reiterated that many differences remain between him and Hamas, and that both sides should try to bridge them.

In all, the new Cabinet has 24 ministers, including Haniyeh. Ten are from Gaza and 14 are from the West Bank. Nine have engineering degrees and the rest are university graduates in other fields. Nineteen are Hamas activists and five are independents.

One is a woman and one a Coptic Christian.

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— Chapman University College, Santa Maria Valley

International
briefs

Thursday, March 30, 2006

MUSTANG DAILY
INTERNATIONAL
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13
Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (Isis) was “under protection.” The Interior Ministry insisted Afghanistan protect personal beliefs. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice called Karzai last week and appealed for a “favorable resolution” of the case. Afghanistan’s new parliament debated Rahaman’s release and demanded he be barred from leaving the country. But no formal vote was taken on the issue.

Some 500 Afghans, including Muslims leaders and students, also gathered at a mosque in the southern town of Qalat, in Zabul province, to demand the convert be forced to return to Islam — and make its formal return to Islam. As Wednesday, 27 U.S. military personnel had died in March — the lowest monthly American death count since February 2004 and the fewest deaths in the number of execution-style killings among Iraqis. Since the beginning of the month, at least 385 people — an average of more than 13 a day — have been found slain, the apparent victims of sectarian hatred and settling of old scores after a Shiite victory in the February 22 elections. The count climbs to at least 486 when the last six days of February are added, according to figures compiled from daily AP reports based on police accounts.

Either way, the staggering shift in the number of executions-style killings among Iraqis, the reasons for which are hard to find. It is not always easy to war zones to separate criminal thugs from political thugs, and Iraqis have been made up of several disparate groups.

"These are concentrated efforts to paralyze the country. They are either from al-Qaida or from the remnants of Saddam’s regime. They want to tell the people that there is no government," Kundhwaicha Mahmoud Othman, a deputy interior minister, told The Associated Press. "All these operations have one aim: to freeze life in Iraq and sabotage the democratic process. They want to force us back to the dictatorship," said Maj. Gen. Ahmed al-Allafy, a deputy interior minister. He added, "We have to instruct Mr. Karzai and said "we will work day and night to arrest them."

The violence that has hit Iraqi businesses may be aimed at oil-line Sunni business moguls. It could be the work of either criminal gangsters, or of death squads operating in or tolerated by the Sunni-dominated Interior Ministry, which controls the police.

Organized crime now accounts for a majority of violence in the country, said Matthew Sherman, who joined two weeks ago as the first ever civilian director of the Interior Ministry.

That, he notes, in a recent interview with an online publication of the Council on Foreign Relations in New York, "lives for us to answer what traditional military counterinsurgency operations cover."

Across the country, meanwhile, Iraqi politicians struggled but failed to form a government that the United States — U.S. officials hope — will put a lid on the latest surge in the American death toll. The new government is said to be suffering from the hoped-for start of an American troop withdrawal this summer. The West has promised the process will prove possible so far.
Baseball
continued from page 16
Cal Poly has beaten Pacific seven of the last 13 games and 18 of the last 22 games against the Tigers, 26-25. The series began in 1946. C'al Poly snapped a 3-3 tie with an RBI single to right field. Larry Lee, in his fourth season as Mustang mentor with a 117-84-2 record, hit his 400th career hit in 2005 to a tie for second place in the Big West Conference with Beach State, both 14-7 and two games behind 2004 national champion Cal State Fullerton. The Mustangs finished 36-20 overall, but were denied an NCAA Tournament berth.
Cal Poly continues Big West Conference action next weekend (April 7-9) with a three-game series at Cal State Northridge. The Mustangs host UC Irvine on April 13-15.

Cal Poly freshman utility player Stephanie Tam was named the Big West Softball Player of the Week after the Mustangs earned two wins against Santa Clara University over the weekend. Cal Poly defeated Santa Clara 11-6 in game one of the doubleheader and 4-1 in game two. Tam had a team-high four runs batted in and scored twice to go along with three hits in game one of the doubleheader. In game two, Tam had three more hits and score one run and had a stolen base. For the weekend, Tam had a batting average of .750.

This season, Tam has scored 14 runs, hiting two doubles, two triples and a homerun. She also records nine RBIs and three stolen bases for 2006 while maintaining a batting average of .292. The 5-foot-1-inch freshman has all the ingredients for a crack at the Pacific League's Most Valuable Player award. "Stephanie is a talented player, and we have high expectations for her," said head coach Lee. "She has the ability to get on base and score runs, and we hope to see her hit for average and power as well.

With a strong 22-7 singles record and a 3-3 doubles record with friend and teammate, Bebt Van Linge, Nguyen gives credit to his increased court time and his strict training regimen as the reason for his strongest season yet.

"This is definitely my best year, my best record, I've played stronger, played more," Nguyen said. "I've definitely just spent more time on the court and had better conditioning."

Standing tall in the No. 1 slot at his last Mustang season comes to a close, Nguyen's love for the game is deeper than just the competition.

"I really enjoying playing tennis, it's a lot of fun, it's what I like to do most," Nguyen said.

Sports Information Report

N寻guyen continued from page 16

Poly and its Division I tennis program that eventually brought him to San Luis Obispo. "While playing in a tournament at Avila Bay I met coach Kronemann, liked the program and what they had to offer and ended up coming here to play tennis," Nguyen said. Despite the pressure that accompanies the No. 1 spot, something the Nguyen doesn't mind being on top. "I like being No. 1, it's feels good to be No. 1 and have other look up to you," Nguyen said. "I like being a source of motivation for my teammates."

Balancing the responsibilities of school and sports can be quite difficult, and Nguyen's case is no different. "The time and effort is definitely the hardest part, and you have to manage your time better because of the practices and all the traveling," he said.

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**SPORTS**

**Thursday, March 30, 2006**

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**M. LACROSSE**

CHARGES PENDING DNA TESTS

Jake University's highly ranked lacrosse team will not play again this season until school administrators learn more about allegations that several team members raped an exotic dancer at an off-campus party, the school said.

A woman told police she and another dancer were hired to perform March 13 at a private party in an off-campus home. The dancer, a student at North Carolina Central University, told police she was pulled into a bathroom, beaten, choked and raped by three men.

No one has been charged.

The president of Duke University met Wednesday with students who feel his suspension of the lacrosse team during a rape investigation was not enough, urging them to be patient while police look into the matter.

"I don't want to say I'm satisfied, but I will say that what happened in there makes us feel like we're mov­ing in a good direction," sophomore Bridgette Howard said after the roughly hourlong session. **- Associated Press**

**WRESTLING**

**MENDES NAMED ALL-AMERICAN**

Ill-American and Pac-10 champion Chad Mendes picked Cal Poly in the NCAA Championships to a 23rd place finish, as the sophomore standout took sixth place at 125 pounds. Mendes' performance means Cal Poly has had a Mustang All-American three straight years — Vic Moreno in 2004, 2005 and David Vasquez in 2004.

Mendes secured his All-American title after defeating No. 3 Kyle Ott of Illinois by pinfall and outlasting No. 14 Chad Galloway of Penn State in overtime.