Psychology class raises money for local nonprofit organizations

Kelly Cope

Many nonprofit groups native to San Luis Obispo received a welcome surprise last fall in the form of $10,000 in donations and gifts-in-kind after students in PSY 351, group dynamics, took them on as part of a group project focusing on fund raising.

This quarter, Shawn Burn, professor and associate chair for the psychology and child development department, said she hopes to continue the success her previous students have seen. To ensure this, at the beginning of the assignment she will test her students by suggesting a reasonable expectation of how much the students should accumulate—and it won’t be a low number.

“As a whole, my students raise about $7,000 and $10,000 in just a month,” Burn said. When she first assigned the project, she felt challenged (to reach that amount),” Burn said. And they succeeded.

Winter quarter’s class produced a strong result, raising about $8,500. The class generally found that time and organization were the biggest challenges in reaching their goals. “We had a very limited amount of time and there was a great deal of pressure. We had to arrange for plans A, B and C in case initial strategies didn’t work,” psychology junior Brett South said.

Child development senior Shelby Hysouka wasn’t sure her class realized their potential at the beginning of the assignment. “I don’t think that as a class we knew what we were capable of. (Fall quarter’s) class had raised a lot of money which made it a very intimidating act to follow,” she said.

Some students believed that they would have reached a higher goal had it not been for poor weather conditions during the quarter. Psychology junior Marlena Matusewicz’s group suffered a setback at the hands of Mother Nature. “Many groups planned on participating in fund-raising activities that are usually held outdoors, such as the Farmer’s Market downtown or on campus. The second-to-last week of the quarter, Farmer’s Market was actually cancelled due to a storm, which affected my group because it was the most important event we planned,” she said.

The course is structured to allow students to learn tactics in the first month, which deal with disagreeable circumstances during the quarter. Farmer’s Market downtown or at UU are usually held outdoors, such as the Farmer’s Market downtown or on campus. Students in the Psych 351 class are usually held outdoors, such as the Farmer’s Market downtown or on campus. The second-to-last week of the quarter, Farmer’s Market was actually cancelled due to a storm, which affected my group because it was the most important event we planned,” she said.

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Fund-raiser continued from page 1
ment, using effective communication, encouraging efficiency, successful group leadership and furthering teamwork.
In the second month the students actually test their skills and follow the university's creed of "learn by doing.
The project is designed to be an exercise in how to "run groups, set goals... and adjust (them) on a performance basis," explained Burns.
Students start with about $100 at the beginning of the project, supplied by the psychology and child development department, and are expected to gather measurable things, as they are also required to monitor their success. Since the aim of the project is to help the non-profit organizations thrive, typical collections include money or goods that the organizations may need.
Students have also enjoyed some success with collection of material items. Burns estimates that her students usually gather about 1,000 to 3,000 items during the course of the project.
The project is a fairly independent one; in that students set their own goals and strategies to reach the goals. Burn stipulates that students "most demonstrated a non-profit organization that embodies the values held by all group members" in order to more easily facilitate fund-raising.
"Research says that all members have to be committed to [the group's] goals" in order for their purpose to be accomplished successfully. Burn said. The democratic process of choosing an organization to sponsor helps the members, when thinking about what their personal values are, to discover common interests within the group and this aids the collection process.
The project has helped many organizations, including Hospice of San Luis Obispo, Family Care Network, the Child Development Department, and both drivers were rushed to the hospital.

Protest continued from page 1
criminal offense," she said. "I don't know what the solution is."
"This is the best solution so far," Neal responded.
Despite the repercussions the bill would bring, Hernandez believes that it is important to remember the value of illegal immigrants currently in California.
"Half the farm workers in California are illegal immigrants — it doesn't make sense to criminalize them," she said, adding that California is the leading state in the nation in terms of agriculture.
The bill has been protested nationally and locally. High school faculty and students throughout San Luis Obispo County rallied in opposition against the bill last week and 50,000 people congregated in Los Angeles on March 25 in support for immigrant rights.
But some students have different concerns on Thursday — namely that they could not hear the band they came to see.
"I'd prefer to listen to [The Ataris]," said Aaron Loomin, a fifth-year industrial technology student. "They did a bad job scheduling."
"This is one of the best bands we've had during UU Hour. I wouldn't mind (the protest) if The Ataris wasn't playing," Neal said.
Hernandez said the overlapping was not intentional; the club was merely trying to catch students' attention at a time when the UU would have a crowd.
"We didn't know a hand would be playing until last night," she said. The Ataris guitarra John Collazs was not at all bothered by the protests coming from across the UU during the band's performance.
"This is what college is all about," he said. "It's a time to express anything you feel.

Two cars collide on S. Higuera

Mariece Mendoza Mustang Daily

A high speed collision occurred on S. Higuera just before the Prado intersection Sunday evening. Two cars were involved and both drivers were rushed to the hospital.

An off-duty firefighter and a Cuesta College student were at the scene. The two pried the door open to assist the driver of a silver Pontiac Vibe involved in the collision. The woman, whose identity has not been released, was not breathing when the ambulance arrived, said a witness.

San Luis Obispo firefighters extricated the driver of the other vehicle, an older woman, who was conscious. The seriousness of the injuries for both drivers involved are unknown at this time.
Stay with the Mustang Daily for a full report to come in Tuesday's edition.
WHO SAID THAT?

Obstacles are those frightful things you see when you take your eyes off your goal.
— Henry Ford

For small creatures such as we the vastness is bearable only through love.
— Carl Sagan

Wordly Wise

Platonic: Of or relating to or characteristic of Plato. "Platonic dialogues"; free from physical desire: "platonic love"

Fear

The Face of Cal Poly presents...

Meet the Editors

Favorities

Drinks: Gin and tonic
Favorite food item: Dark chocolate
Kind of shoes to leave in your office: Ha. Painful ones. check under my desk.
Time of day After deadline

If You Could ...
— change the Cal Poly mascot?
No.
— Date a well-known person?
David Duchovny.

Other
— What scares you the most?
The little planes that fly into SLO. Or finding spiders in my room.
— What do you find most attractive in the opposite sex?
Intelligence and a good sense of humor. And height.

What is your most used AIM work or phrase?
Haha.

Name: Kristen Oato • Year: senior
Hometown: Anchorage • Major: journalism

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Education bill passes

Tanveer Ali
COLUMBIA DAILY SPECTATOR (COLUMBIA, NY)

NEW YORK — The U.S. House of Representatives approved the renewal of the Higher Education Act, a Republican-backed bill intended to make attending college more affordable.

The comprehensive bill encompassing financial aid measures such as Pell Grants and the TRIO program was passed largely along party lines by a vote of 221 to 199. The reauthorization, which was postponed in September 2005, comes two months after the House voted to cut student loan funding by $12.7 billion.

Republican backers of the bill said it would make college more accessible to lower-income students and touted an increase in the maximum Pell Grant to $6,000 which can now be applied throughout a year.

Congressman Buck McKeon (R-CA), Education and the Workforce Committee chairman, said in a statement that "unfortunately, even with historic levels of federal funding for higher education, the dream of getting a college education continues to elude many low- and middle-income Americans," he said. "This bill takes a huge step toward making that dream a reality." Most of the Democratic opposition came after failing to pass their own version of the bill which would cut interest rates on subsidized student loans from 6.8 to 3.4 percent.

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University Union
Sluggish ‘Slither’ fails as horror parody

Ryan Chartrand
MUSTANG DAILY

“Slither” could be the most shocking film of 2006. But it isn’t shocking in the “you-want-to-see-this-movie” kind of shocking. Instead, when the lights come up and the slime is washed out of your mind, it is shocking to realize that writer and director James Gunn (“Dawn of the Dead”) was able to quietly sneak a film as eccentric and pointless as “Slither” into theaters.

After making two box-office-friendly films, Gunn used his fame to write and direct “Slither,” a horror-parody film about an alien plague that turns a small southern town’s inhabitants into slug-like zombies. The plague comes to Earth as a ball of bubbling ooze that infects a man named Grant Grant who later mutates into a monstrous cross between Jabba the Hut and a squid.

The film spawned thousands of slithering minion slugs. It’s up to a cop with natural zombie-killing abilities, played by Nathan Fillion (“Serenity”), and the wife of Grant Grant, played by Elizabeth Banks (“The 40-Year Old Virgin”), to find a way to stop the outbreak of the slugs and stuff them into an hour and a half of off-the-wall K-rated humor.

Where a film like “Scary Movie” makes its purpose and target audience obvious, “Slither” sometimes can’t decide what kind of film it is. It’s obvious that “Slither” is a parody when Fillion casually asks a woman with thousands of slugs stuffed in her body, “So…what’s going on here?” On the flip side, when the plot does try to develop, there are some large gaps of time lacking any comedy.

“Slither,” when seen more as a parody, is a decent comedy that can get a few chuckles out of crowds looking for racy humor. Fillion does well speaking for the audience in completely bizarre moments. With mostly predictable humor, however, Fillion looks less funny than he actually is. Nevertheless, there are a fair amount of occasions in which “Slither” will get you wacky and over-the-top humor across simply because of its crude dialogue and outrageously repulsive “horror.” Listening to the sound of people chowing down meat is the gross and somehow mildly entertaining style that Gunn seems to know best. For some, these words alone will make their faces cringe and fold up like an accordion, but there are a surprising number of moviegoers that find great joy and comfort in beholding slugs and blood-splattered across a wall.

Luckily for Gunn, producing such an epic film of rather small proportions cost close to nothing. If you enjoy films that don’t take themselves seriously or find “Shaun of the Dead” to be a belly-ache of a good time, “Slither” still isn’t worth seeing as soon as possible. If you find that the word “goose” makes you flinch or wish that all films had a point, hope that “Slither” doesn’t slide out of the theaters sluggishly, or else the hype alone may tempt you to see it.
**EDITORIAL/STAFF**

editor in chief: Dan Warner
managing editor: Kristen Oato
news editor: Caitlin Donnell
assistant news editor: Erick Smith
sports editor: Frank Stead
assistant sports editor: Chris Guer
diversions: Maretac Mendoza
assistant diversions editor: Nick Coury
photographers: Tom Sanders, Brian Angel, Nick Camacho, Whitney Guer

**CORRECTIONS**

San Luis Obispo, CA 93407

inustangdaily@ginail.com

(805) 756-1143 advertising

(805) 756-2762 fax

mustangdaily@gmail.com e-mail

**EDITORIAL**

Monday, April 3, 2006

**COMMENTARY**

Does classroom etiquette still exist?

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

From day one, Bonds' abnormal growth has resulted in a serious cancer that is quickly killing the team spirit of players and fans alike.

Like Bonds, the Giants artifici­ally enhanced their image and cheated. Perhaps the Giants can testify with frigned humility that they are not legally culpable for Bonds actions, but legality and morality aren't the same thing and it's time to be prepared to answer questions and challenges, treat their col­ leagues with courtesy and respect and be willing to work hard to earn rewards. Over the years, stud­ ent classroom behavior norms have changed as students have more distractions. Thus, Professor Bom's has had to explicitly say that "reading newspapers, listening to iPods, checking cell phones or studying for other classes is clearly inappropriate behavior."

Although restrictions like these may seem unfair given that we our parents are paying for the Giants, the good or bad behaviors learned at college will probably persist in the workplace. Being prepared for their great class/workday, treating your instructor/boss and classmates/colleagues with respect, giving that extra effort on a class/work assignment are signs of a strong work ethic and are typically rewarded in school and at work. How many of us have rolled our eyes at classmates' behaviors and wonder how they will ever succeed in the work­place.

One last thing — dress attire in class. Although this is not your professional environment, you should understand that your professors come to Cal Poly to work and don't need to be in the workplace, place, as Donald Trump would say, "You're fired."

Alice Elbert and Jennifer Ballas are both marketing concentration with a goal of teaching others about business ethics.

**ENVELOPE/EDITORIAL**

1002 E. Douglas St.

Dan Warner

Editor in chief

Managing editor: Kristen Oato

www.mustangdaily.net

**Mustang Daily**

"Be the boss..."
Baseball

continued from page 8

The bases loaded, Walker capi­
tized with a two-run single

down the right field line to put

the Mustangs ahead 3-0.

In the sixth, Van Ostrand had his biggest

inning two and in the eighth

inning, to cap the scoring.

In the second game, Cal Poly won 6-3 with Bud Norris earning the win. Norris pitched six
ingnings and gave up three runs on

five hits and two walks.

Casey Fien relieved the junior starter with three innings of scoreless

work. Fien struck out two and

allowed two hits for his first save

of the season.

Fien said.

"We're not very deep, so I knew it was
go ing to be a struggle," Chione

said.

Coming off a 7-0 loss March 26 at

top-ranked Stanford, the Mustangs

routed visiting UC Riverside 7-0

Saturday. The Stanford loss was their

first since a 4-3 defeat Feb. 28 at the

hands of Furman University.

Cal Poly visits Fresno State at 12:30

p.m. Thursday and UC Irvine at 11

a.m. Sunday. The Mustangs then

host No. 20 Long Beach State at 1:30 p.m. April 14.

"Long Beach State is a huge

match," Erickson said of the Mustangs' fifth top-20 opponent this

season. "We're really looking forward to that."

Cal Poly will be at the Big West Championships April 27-30 in Indian

Wells before the NCAA Regional Championships begin May 12.

"They're great," Bream said of his team's postseason prospects. "We're one of the teams capable of winning the Big West." Erickson, who has won nine of her last 10 at singles, agreed.

"I think we're going to do really well in the Big West," she said. "It's going to be a lot of fun for us."
Cal Poly starting pitcher Gary Daley Jr. redeemed himself from a Friday night shackle by walking six and scoring in an 8-2 Sunday win over University of the Pacific at Baggett Stadium.

Daley lasted just two innings in an 11-9 Cal Poly loss, a game that concluded on Saturday following a rain-delay. The Tigers exploded for nine runs, eight earned, on six hits and four walks against the junior right-hander.

"We don’t have a No. 3 starter, that’s the (first season Daley started) and his low pitch total on Friday," Lee said.

Daley threw just 61 pitches in Friday night’s game and with the normal Sunday starter, Evan Reed, out due to injury, Lee turned to Daley for a second chance at the Tigers. In Sunday’s game, Daley surrendered just five hits, four of which were singles, and walked none while striking out six in six innings of work — a stark contrast to his previous performance.

"I got in a groove early," Daley said.

The success was a big boost to Daley’s confidence, Lee said.

"It was much needed. Six innings, no walks — that says it right there," Lee said. "It’s about not beating yourself... minimizing free passes."

Walks had hampered Daley in previous outings, averaging 3.8 per start prior to Sunday’s game. But six innings without a walk on Sunday translated to one of his best starts of the season.

As a team, Cal Poly pounded out 13 hits. Leading the way was Brent Walker, Josh Lansford and Grant Desme, each with two runs. Walker and Lansford led the team with two runs batted in apiece. Pacific’s Ty’Relle Harris (3-1) pitched 5 1/3 innings for the loss. He relinquished nine hits and three walks, giving up four runs, all earned.

The Mustangs got on the scoreboard first with three runs in the fourth inning. Desme and Matt Cooper each singled to the left side with Desme advancing to third base. Shortstop Brent Morel scored Desme with a sacrifice fly to right field. Harris then lost control, walking Jonathan Woodcox and hitting Jimmy Gardiner on a 1-2 count.

In Sunday’s game, Daley douses Tigers for series win

Cal Poly second baseman Brent Walker pulls back his bat from a bunt attempt in the Mustangs’ 8-2 win over University of the Pacific on the Sunday. Walker finished the game 2-for-3 with two runs batted in.

Cal Poly shut out UC Riverside to win the final game of a three-game series with UC Riverside 4-0. Pitcher Robyn Kontra pitched seven innings allowing five hits and walking two with one strikeout for the victory. The Highlanders’ star third baseman, Melanie Sanchez, was held (0-5) on a 2-for-3 day with two walks. The Mustangs were sure to pitch around the power-hitting Sanchez after she hit a towering shot nearly into the parking lot on Saturday.

"That was our plan defensively to not let her bat at all," coach Jenny Condon said. "We tried to get her to either chase pitches or we’ll walk her."

Sánchez came into the weekend series leading the Big West with a .486 batting average and eight home runs. Kontra knew the scouting report and although Sánchez kept the bat on her shoulders for much of the game, Kontra managed to put the slugger out late in the game.

"Somebody that doesn’t see good pitches very often," Kontra

Kontra shuts out UC Riverside

Frank Stranzl

MUSTANG DAILY

UCSB's Tristan Arial

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TOM SANDERS

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TOM SANDERS

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MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

Llamas second at Stanford Invitational

Last year, it was Ben Bruce dominating the collegiate steeplechase ranks for Cal Poly and this year Luke Llamas has taken the reins. The senior finished second at the highly competitive Stanford Invitational on Friday with a time of 8:43.54, a little under seven seconds behind the winner, Josh Mims, of Brigham Young University.

Adrian Ruark finished second in the pole vault with a best of 16 feet, 0.75-inches. The mark was well off his best of the season, but a small field and few heights kept Ruark in the mix.

In the javelin, Aris Borjas was third with a best of over 215 feet.

Chris White, the starting nose tackle for Cal Poly’s football team, took such place in the shot put as his first meet for the Mustang track team.

His best mark of 48-feet-8.25 inches was far from his performance at the Cal Poly Invitational where he competed unattached, but he should be among the best in the Big West region come May.

Joe Papalardo ran a season-best 21.90 to finish 11th in the 200-meter. The top female competitor for the Mustangs was senior Willamena Crosby. One of the top 100m hurdlers in the western region, Crosby ran a season-best 13.95 seconds in the final, good enough for fourth place.

Freshman Caitlin Schields ended up in fifth place in the triple jump despite posting a mark, 38-feet-2.75-inches, well below her best.

The women’s season opened with a best time for the 4x100 meter relay of 4:22.63.

Mustangs rout Pacific to stay perfect in Big West

Tristan Arial

SPECIAL TO THE MUSTANG DAILY

Less than a month ago, Cal Poly women’s tennis head coach Hugh Bream switched his doubles teams in a move designed to boost a group that had opened with an inauspicious 4-5 record.

Since, the Mustangs have won seven of eight matches, given up only two points in their last four wins and are undefeated in the Big West Conference.

"We just felt like there was another gear that we weren’t able to find even after five or six months of practice," Bream said. "So we switched up our teams and I feel like it's really given us a spark."

The latest victory came Sunday when Cal Poly (10-6, 6-4) handed visiting Pacific a 6-1 Big West loss.

"I think that really helped us," Cal Poly senior Sheila Lewis said of her match with Pacific Invitational. "We’re just getting along really well as a team and trying to maintain some good play." Lewis, who along with Samantha Walter was honored in Senior Day ceremonies before the match, won 6-4, 6-1 at singles over Helen Schneider.

Waller lost 6-3, 7-6, 10-5 to Natalia Kostenko in three sets that lasted more than two hours.

"I knew that would be a great battle because Samantha’s a great player," Pacific’s coach Bob MacLean said. "She’s always on top of her game."

Cal Poly junior Carol Erickson won 6-4, 6-2 to improve her team-leading record to 17-8.

"This is a confidence booster for us," Erickson said. "It’s a conference match, which is huge. This is what we work and train for."

The Mustangs got two more single points from Danson Beury (6-4, 3-6, 10-3) and Maria Matus (6-1, 6-3).

In doubles, Cal Poly’s Amanda Varela and Shannon Brady took a 5-0 lead and won 8-3 while Lewis and Beury could not recover from a 4-1 deficit in 8-3.

Pacific (8-9, 2-4) was playing without its Nos. 1 and 3 singles players, Vana Mazracic and Jelanka

see Tennis, page 7

see Baseball, page 7

see Tennis, page 7