Today's Weather
High 72°
Low 48°

Volume L X I X , Number 125
Tuesday, May 2, 2006
www.mustangdaily.net

TODAY'S WEATHER
Low 60°
without Safe Ride

By the NUMBERS
25% Safe Ride users reported to be Cal Poly students.
17 taxis operating in San Luis Obispo.
9 p.m.
the time that all buses cease to run in San Luis Obispo.

Students left without Safe Ride
Liz Soteros-McNamara

Students are scrambling for options now that Safe Ride has closed its doors in San Luis Obispo. The April 19 closure sparked concerns from law enforcement, the day before Cal Poly's Open House. The weekend avoided major incidents, however a long-term solution to the loss of Safe Ride has yet to take shape.

As President Tyler Middlestadt stated that he is currently working on a temporary alternative to Safe Ride.

According to the San Luis Obispo Tribune, Safe Ride provided a way home for approximately 8,000 people per year. The article reported that 25 percent of Safe Ride users were Cal Poly students based on the number of rides to the university.

Problems with intoxicated riders and low wages for drivers were among the reasons cited for the program's closure in previously published information by the Tribune, KSBY and KCOY.

Without Safe Ride, students have limited options to avoid driving while intoxicated.

“We are disappointed with the cancellation of the Safe Ride program because it was a safe alternative to get home,” said Capt. Dan see Ride, page 2

Transportation

Universities meet at Poly for innovative human powered vehicle competition

Lauren Zahner

The Human Powered Vehicle West Coast Competition, hosted this year by Cal Poly, ran its course Sunday.

Cal Poly placed first in design and third in the sprint, California State University, Chico won first place in the endurance race, sprint races and overall.

At 8 a.m. the rest of the campus was still slumbering, in the light but constant mist, a crowd of about 100 people gathered around a man with a megaphone.

The American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) sponsored the annual event, which consists of presentations, safety tests and racing over a period of three days.

Some 30 universities from across the West Coast registered for the event. Washington State University Vancouver's human powered vehicle (HPV) was an elongated, red low-rider bicycle with purple flames. A group of students in camo-collage shorts circled their United States Air Force Academy vehicle, which resembled a grey and navy ship on wheels.

“It's mainly competitive so there's not a lot of sharing between universities,” said Andrew Traniuch, mechanical engineering junior and chair of the ASME Cal Poly Student Section.

Clustered together, participants cheered riders by as they completed each of the 40 laps of the endurance race.

HPV's began to fall as riders attempted to make the "hairpin," a 360-degree turn. Karin Hanzi, a mechanical engineering senior and the Cal Poly team's first rider, was one of the unfortunate initial wipeouts.

"I crushed the bike, ruined it," Hanzi said after finishing her four laps.

"This year the bike was a little different," Hanzi said. The HPV this year, unlike last, had reverse steering. She also won the women's sprint last year when Cal Poly placed first overall.

Hanzi said HPVs are a lot like cars and she feels more like a race-car driver than a bicycle racer. The HPVs are safer and more stable at the high speeds of more than 40 miles per hour reached in the sprint races.

"A lot of them are practical. You can carry groceries in them," see Vehicles, page 2

Many clubs celebrated Earth Day, sustainability

Amy Diedendorf

Cal Poly's Sustainable Agriculture Club hosted the third annual Earth Day Celebration from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday at the organic farm on campus.

The free event, co-sponsored by the Environmental Horticulture Sciences Club, Associated Students, Inc. and Sustainable Agriculture Resource Consortium (SARC), featured live music and guest speakers on topics relevant to preserving the planet and choosing environment-friendly alternatives.

Representatives of the organic farm and numerous Cal Poly clubs were on hand at the event to recruit new members, raise money and inform attendees about what they are doing to make the campus and community more sustainable.

Booths were set up by Cal Poly clubs and other participating organizations to sell food, art and jewelry.

Activities included an "Earth Hunt," scavenger hunt and a "Kids corner" for children to learn about the environment in an interactive way.

"We want to bring about awareness that we live on a beautiful planet and we have a responsibility to look after it," said Kyle Stice, a fruit science senior, president of the Sustainable Agriculture Club and organizer of the event.

Most of the clubs participating in the event, which was held at the organic farm for the first time, are part of a newly-formed campus coalition called Empower Poly.

"It's a coalition of clubs who have an interest in making our campus more sustainable," Stice said.

Many clubs celebrated Earth Day at the Cal Poly Organic Farm Saturday with booths and bands playing throughout the day.

Carol Erickson talks about the success of Cal Poly women's tennis

NICK CAMACHO MUSLANO DAILY

Matthew Scott, a mechanical engineering senior, wrote about the many human powered vehicles in this weekend's West Coast competition.

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Ride
continued from page 1
Blanke with the San Luis Obispo Police Department.
Blanke said people will have to make an effort to plan ahead for designated drivers or sober people who can come pick them up when the night is over. He said that walking home could be a worse option because people could then be cited for a drunk in public violation.
“It comes down to people being responsible,” Blanke said.
All buses in the city cease running by 9 p.m., with some routes to Cal Poly ending between 7 p.m.
One taxi service runs in San Luis Obispo with a total of 17 cars in the city limits. San Luis Obispo Taxi owner Jeff Goldenberg has seen “1 little spike in business,” over the last two weeks. He has plans to start a shuttle service between Cal Poly and downtown running Thursday through Saturday from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m.
“I think as long as we don’t have the same issues to keep people safe on the streets, it is a good idea,” ASI presidential candidate Todd Maki said. He cited reports of fighting on the buses, although in his experience with the service, he has not actually seen anything like the reported incidents.
“Sometimes they forget to pick you up and passed you by,” ASI presidential candidate Anne Giappuso said. She said that transportation issues were one of the primary reasons she has chosen to run in the ASI election.

Earth
continued from page 1
interest in sustainability,” Stice said. “We wanted to have an event together and see what each other are doing and see how much we can really collaborate.”
He said it’s important for the community to see how many people are contributing to an environmental cause and how successful it can be when supporters in politics, farming and agriculture work together.
“It takes professionals in all of these different areas to make the whole system operate. You have sustainable agriculture, but without the proper fuel you can’t drive the tractors. It’s all interconnected,” Stice said.
ASI President Tyler Middelstad said that ASI is also working with the coalition to make campuses more sustainable and to get the message out to Cal Poly students.
“We’re just trying to support the sustainability community on campus and create a space where people in the community and students all interested in the same thing can come together, celebrate Earth Day and each other, and hopefully, the process of making change on campus,” Middelstad said.
Richard Wagner, an employee of Cal Poly’s Facilities Services who works with the organic farm and a guest speaker at the event, said that an organization named Innovative Waste Management is going to donate two Earth Tubs to Cal Poly to be placed outdoors on the organic farm. The containers will be used for the disposal of food waste from campus dining facilities, reducing the amount dumped into landfills.
“Compost driving generates so much tonnage of food that goes to the landfill, so we’re trying to create compost out of that food waste,” Wagner said.
Organizers of the Earth Day Celebration set up trash, recycle and compost bins throughout the organic farm in an effort to produce as little waste as possible. All of the cups and plates used to serve food were either recyclable or biodegradable.
“I would hope that students and community members are more aware of the movements on campus and that they’ll be inspired to join up with one of the clubs and to make a change in the community,” Stice said.

Vehicles
continued from page 1
Tranwicz said. The utility race tested the vehicles’ ability to carry packages over bumps, potholes and other obstacles.
“ASME sponsors the Human Powered Vehicle Competition in hopes of finding a design that can be used for everyday activities ranging from commuting to and from work to going to the grocery store,” according to the asme.org Web site.
“I think anything that doesn’t require gas is going to be good,” Cal Poly rider John Hyland said.
He was recruited for the team based on his experience racing regular bikes. By 11 a.m., the sun had made its appearance. Tranwicz and his volunteers had been there since 2:30 a.m. preparing for the course at the corner of California Boulevard and Highland Drive.

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WHO SAID THAT?

The reason most people never reach their goals is that they don’t define them, or ever seriously consider them as believable or achievable. Winners can tell you where they are going, what they plan to do along the way, and who will be sharing the adventure with them.

— Denis Watley

I envy people who drink. At least they have something to blame everything on.

— Oscar Levant (1906 - 1972)

Wordly Wise

Microcosm: A smaller, representative system having analogies to a larger system.

Cal Poly

Name: Cory Harris • Year: senior
Hometown: Salinas • Major: journalism

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7pm

The Cal Poly Performing Arts Center

Presented by the Student Health Advisory Council

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic and Safety, through the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency.

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This program may contain explicit material
Tanya Tran
The Manager CSE State East Bay

Rally attendees were armed with whistles and given black T-shirts with the inscription “Raises, Rights and Respect” to wear during the rally and march that left from Agora Stage, went around Warren Hall and ultimately ended up at the Biella Room in the University Library, where negotiations had been taking place that day.

Javier Del Rían, supervising painter on campus, said that while the workload is increasing, the number of workers is diminishing.

“Our managers, campus president and Board of Trustees continually forget how much we contribute to the success of the CSU,” Corica said.

Robert Braun, executive assistant to President Norma Rees, said that the president is not involved in the bargaining process and had no comment.

University Police Department Officer Omar Makhail made sure that the current CSUEU contract ends June 30. A bullhorn was passed around at the march while CSUEU President Patrick Gantt and others spoke in defense of service workers on CSU campuses.

“We’re fighting for raises, rights and respect,” said Joseph Corica, library assistant and union chapter president. “We’re pissed.”

Claudia Keith, assistant vice chancellor of CSU Public Affairs, said that the Board of Trustees adopted a year-plan that is continuing to deal with salary inequities given the budget that the state provides.

“Do recognize that it can be a long process,” Keith said.

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“Do recognize that it can be a long process,” Keith said.
I could have done without "United 93." I could have continued to live my life pushing the thought of terrorism and the infamy that took place on Sept. 11, 2001 to the far corners of my mind. But I chose to remember, to experience and to take an emotional beating that no filmmaker has ever been able to give to me. But at what cost? Must we, as innocent moviegoers, carry the burden of these images? If you can to refuse one of the most horrifying and heroic stories ever told, "United 93" is waiting to tear your heart apart and leave you gasping for air. But it's just a movie, right? To put it all into perspective, "Passion of the Christ" has nothing on "United 93." Never has a filmmanaged to accumulate itself physically and emotionally with such an unbelievable force, the moment the credits for air, my face was numb from my ears to my chin and my heart wanted to burst out of my chest. The brave movie "United 93." is daring enough to invite the audience to step into the minds of the valiant passengers and crew aboard the fourth plane to crash on Sept. 11, the nervous yet proud hijackers and the powerless flight controllers on the ground whose jaws couldn't be lifted off the floor.

Writer and director Paul Greengrass ("The Bourne Identity") seems to know how to make a movie. Nearly every camera is handled and filmed using a lens that makes every scene look, all too real. Greengrass was very wise in choosing to have an entire cast of no-name actors. There's no better way to create a sense of realism than with a group of talented actors that you've never seen act in any other role. It's also surprising to see a few members on the cast playing themselves, such as a Newark International Airport tower controller.

Aside from the feeling that you are attending a memorial, "United 93" offers somewhat of a documentary-like, behind-the-scenes retelling that many will find both informative and depressingly. Most agree, however, that what all Americans really need is a plain documentary, not a film that asks its audience, "How do you make the last phone call of your life?" From the moment the terrorists first take over the plane to the gut-wrenching climax when the passengers unite and courageously try to win back their lives, "United 93" is a masterfully crafted film that I wish wasn't so painful and terrifying to watch. There is no entertainment in watching what no man, woman or child should ever experience. Nor is there any joy in feeling the hatred emanating from the hijackers eyes. However, there is great value in remembering and commemorating the brave and united individuals aboard "United 93.

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I could have done without "United 93," but as difficult and unsettling as it was to watch, the events that we have tried to forget for five years mean so much more to me now. So must we carry the burden of these images? I say yes, for it is our gift to them, the passengers aboard United 93, to remember. Now the choice is up to you, will you remember?
politics have no relation to morals

the soapbox diaries

jack ingram

from the liberal perspective

the conservative perspective

from the right way

be active, learn the issues and vote

on Monday, large groups of people nationwide were expected to join in work and protest in support of illegal immigrants. Many of those who are protesting, including union organizer Jorge Rodriguez of Los Angeles, want full amnesty for any immigrant who is here ilegally. In Los Angeles alone, upwards of 3 million people may protest. However, not all Mexicans or others that are in favor of illegal immigrant rights support this action. For instance, some Mexican radio stations have asked that demonstrations occur only on Saturday and Sunday. Cardinal Mahoney, an outspoken supporter of immigration rights, has opposed a walk and school walk.

However, our sensitive and compassionate Democrats of the state legislature have decided to support a walkout without canceling work for three days out of the month. Ironically, the Democrats want to leave work but still receive pay, so the Democrats want a walkout but don't want a "check-in" day on Monday and will not lose their $495 per day tax payer's handout. By checking in, the Democrats secure three days of salary, since spending more than three days out of session would have halted it (they would have been gone Saturday, Sunday and then Monday). On the other hand, Republican lawmakers will be working, but unfortunately won't be able to hold any votes, since they lack the necessary numbers to force a legislative event. I guess those Democrats feel entitled to their pay regardless of actually doing a good job. But after all, I can't think of any other Democrats who are better at wasting tax dollars than the ones in our state.

As college students, it seems beyond our power to correct the gridlock and ineffectiveness that part of our California government has been afflicted with. However, we do have the ability to make a small difference now. While midterm elections are not until this fall, there happens to be an ASI election this Thursday and Friday that I expect everyone to be voting in. Fortunately for Cal Poly, it appears (based on reading the major sources) that most of the ASI candidates are hard working, incredibly happy (the signs have giants) and ultimately have your best interests in mind. In fact, I was amazed to see that both the Cal Poly College Republicans and the Cal Poly Democrats were both supporting the same candidate for president.

While both clubs have many of their members running for positions within ASI, they are supportive of each other. The most amazing sign of cooperation is the Facebook profile of the president of the Cal Poly Democrats — a candidate for the ASI Board of Directors, who is recommend­ ing the president of Cal Poly College Republicans for the ASI Board of Directors. If only our real political leaders were willing to compromise to this extent, we might actually have tremendous progress in our nation.

As college students, it’s important for us to take an active role in the society that we live in. Unfortunately, we students live very busy lives and are often too busy to find time to research all the political issues. In fact, much of our current political information is limited by our sources, such as our professors and television. In our state, both of which are heavily biased and often uninformative. To balance these sources of information and get full value for your ASI fee, I encourage you to vote in the ASI election and to listen to political speakers who come to Cal Poly, such as conservative speaker Peter Schweizer coming Monday, May 8.

Brian Eller is a mechanical engineering sophomore and a Mustang Daily columnist.
Erickson

continued from page 8

Erickson is working on a concentration in finance and hopes to become an investment banker or financial advisor. She is a member of the Financial Management Association at Cal Poly She enjoys listening to oldies and movies and is a huge New York Yankees fan.

Although the season is over with the Mustangs falling to UC Irvine in the semifinals at the Big West Championships over the weekend, Erickson has two eligibility remaining and could be a team leader next season.

**SPORTS**

Track

continued from page 8

Also competing at the Stanford Cardinal Invite was former Cal Poly star Bruce Bruce. The Cal Poly 5000 record-holder was second in the mile steeplechase in a personal best 3:32.68.

Several athletes will compete at the Modesto Relay this weekend in a last-minute effort to hit conference and regional qualifying times. The rest of the team will rest up and travel to San Jose Northshore for the Big West Championships on April 12-13.

The SPORTS BAG

*A Duke University committee recommended Monday that the school's lacrosse team resume play next season, but said the team needed strict monitoring because of a history of problems tied to alcohol. "Although the pattern of misconduct in recent years by the lacrosse team is alarming, the evidence reviewed ... does not warrant suspension of the sport," a conserve of seven faculty members wrote in a report.

* Southern California coach Pete Carroll said emphatically Monday he doesn't believe the Trojans will have to forfeit games or lose a national championship.

"With the little bits I have, I'm not concerned about that one bit," Carroll told The Associated Press. "I'm more concerned with helping the process and making sure every thing comes to the front."

* The Associated Press

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A stress fracture in his femur, combined with Joe Gatel and Llamas for the top three. He was the pair finished 12-5. She led the team that season alongside partner Sheila Lewis and with her family."

"I work extremely hard, and I could not have achieved any of this without the help of the coaches, my teammates and the constant support from my family."

"I am also a very competitive person and love the challenge that tennis presents me with," she said. "Balancing tennis and school can prove quite challenging, though Erickson does not mind juggling both."

"It is very difficult to balance school and tennis, especially when we are traveling so much," Erickson said. "But then again, I could not imagine not having both ... at the same time. It helps me manage my time better and keeps me busy."

"I also enjoy the Big West Conference championships every year and spending time with the team, she said. "My teammates and I are extremely close, and they definitely are my biggest highlights," she said.

"Although tennis has always been important to the Erickson family, because both her parents played professionally, Erickson did not start playing until age 10 — relatively late for the sport."

"The reason I started to play tennis was due to a trip to see Wimbledon when I was 10 years old," Erickson said. "I fell in love with the game there and knew I wanted to play."

"The first match I saw at Wimbledon lasted six hours, and I did not flinch from my seat one time," she said. "She said her parents never pressured me to play, but helped her considerably when she first became interested in the game."

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Additionally, Erickson teaches tennis children.

Erickson played four years of varsity tennis at Torrey Pines High School in San Diego, where she and her team won four CIF championships. During her junior and senior years, Erickson was a finalist in the Individual CIF championships. She was player of the year for the Falcons in 2001 and 2002."

see Erickson, page 7