Students respond to Safe Ride alternative

Brittany Pelouquin

Students from Cal Poly will have a new option to fall back on for a safe ride home when they go out on the weekends: College Shuttle.

Associated Students, Inc. announced Wednesday that a 12-passenger shuttle van will circulate through six different stops from 10 p.m. to 3 a.m. Thursday through Saturday, beginning May 18. The stops are: Longs Drugs at Marsh and Broad streets, Campus Bottle at Hathaway and California streets, intersection of Chorro Street and Foothill Boulevard, the intersection of Cuesta Drive and Foothill Boulevard, the intersection of Patricia Drive and Foothill Boulevard and the intersection of Ramona Drive and Palomar Avenue. The program will serve as a temporary solution for students who have been looking for alternatives to getting home after Safe Ride was cancelled last month. ASI President Tyler Middlestadt worked with administrators and community leaders to work out a solution.

General engineering senior Melissa Meintner said she and her friends would probably use the new service.

"We used to use Safe Ride all the time," she said. "Instead we've been walking home in the dark."

But only students from Cal Poly will have access to the shuttle service. Some students wonder what type of inconvenience this might pose.

Construction management freshman Brian Azopardi said he thought it was a good idea to prevent people from drunk driving, but had a lot of questions about the shuttle service.

A new assembly bill to increase financial aid opportunities

Katie Hofstetter

The California State Students Association (CSSA) combined forces with the California State University to back an assembly bill promising to increase California's allotment of financial aid.

Assembly Bill 2813, authored by Assembly member Hector De la Torre (D-South Gate), seeks three core modifications to the Cal Grant Program.

AB 2813 proposes allocating financial support to Cal Grant B recipients to cover first-year tuition, increasing the number of competitive Cal Grants from 22,500 to 45,000 and raising Cal Grant age eligibility from 24 to 27.

"This bill is good for California students across the board, not just Cal Poly students," said Cal Poly director of financial aid Lois Kelly. As the Cal Grant program currently stands, there are four different groupings of recipients: A student is awarded either as an entitlement or a competitive grant in either the A or B category. An A recipient must have a 3.0 GPA and a B recipient must have a 2.0 GPA.

Entitlement grants are based on financial need and must be applied for within 18 months of high school graduation. For those who meet the criteria, the number of entitlement grants awarded is limited in California. Competitive grants, on the other hand, are far more competitive as their name implies. The 22,500

see Bill, page 4
Swanson continued from page 1

"It was a challenge to sit at the table with Mike Motroni, board of directors chair; and Mike Motroni. She had been involved in ASI for years with the opportunities we've been given," she said. "I love the people I work with and the opportunities we've been given.

It was her colleagues at the Women's Center, where she worked for the three years prior to her involvement in ASI, who encouraged her to apply for the chief of staff position. This year, she has enjoyed being a participant in the center's events like the Run to Remember, but she hasn't forgotten the ethics that her old stomping grounds instilled in her.

It was primarily her work at the Women's Center — which included the celebration of women and providing awareness about sexual assault and eating disorders — that motivated her to do a minor in women's studies.

"I was shocked at how much there is to do in the women's movement," she said. "I wasn't even aware of the issues." The difference in pay for men and women, the lack of a female president, the sexual assaults of solely women — these are just some of the issues that concern Swanson. But what scares her more is the lack of action being taken against these issues.

"Women before us had something to fight for — now it's almost silent," she said. "That's scary that we're going to live in the U.S. and have to deal with that.

For example, many women are reluctant to call themselves feminists because they believe it has a radical connotation, but in reality, a feminist is simply a person — male or female — who wants equal rights for men and women, she said.

"Not only did she seek to inform herself about the issues through women's studies, but she went out into the community and took direct action. She volunteers at the Sexual Assault Recovery Prevention center, answering calls on the 24-hour crisis line, and lends her time and an arm to women as an escort for Planned Parenthood on the days they perform abortions.

Though Planned Parenthood always has local protesting abortions, Swanson said that "it's never bad enough where you want to not continue. What is hard for her to witness is all the women who drive into the clinic, only to see the protesters and turn away from help.

"I really need to reach out," she said about situations like this. "That's all it takes."

Swanson's hard work in so many different organizations that earned her the Woman of the Year award, said Mary Armstrong, a women's studies and English professor at Cal Poly. Armstrong was asked to serve on the committee that elected Swanson, whom she was already familiar with as a professor.

"What really distinguished her from an impressive group was the breadth and depth of her commitment," Armstrong said. "It's a pleasure to see what she can do and it's a pleasure to know her.

For Swanson, it's all too easy to get involved and she cited the moments where she and a team are cleaning up after an event that takes months of planning as the best part of getting involved.

"She's terrific at teamwork and is eager to share the glory ... she's very pleasant person and she'll go very far in life I'm sure because she has those talents," Armstrong said.

After she graduates in June, Swanson wants to attend graduate school and get a master's degree in public administration, in the hopes of planning as the best part of getting involved.

"I was the first to come to the position. I was scared to death ... (but then) I thought I'd bring the outside view," she said, noting that the three had been involved in ASI for their first year in Cal Poly's student government.

"When I first came to the position, I had been involved in ASI for years," she said. "I wasn't even aware of the ethics that she held onto about situations like this. "That's all it takes."

The Mustang Daily is now accepting applications for editorial positions for the 2006-07 school year.

Submit a letter, resume, proposal and clips to Dan Watson in building 26 from 226 by Monday, May 15.
WHO SAID THAT?

It is by the goodness of God that in our country we have those three unspeakably precious things: freedom of speech, freedom of conscience, and the prudence never to practice either of them.

— Mark Twain

No pessimist ever discovered the secret of the stars or sailed an uncharted land, or opened a new doorway for the human spirit.

— Helen Keller (1880 - 1968)

Wordly Wise

Forlorn: Sad and lonely because deserted, abandoned, or lost.

Breaking News

Updated at the Speed of College Life

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Lawmakers question government collection of phone call records

Katherine Shadrer
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Lawmakers demanded answers from the Bush administration Thursday about a spy agency secretly collecting records of millions of ordinary Americans' phone calls to build a database of all calls within the country.

Facing mounting congressional criticism, President Bush sought to assure Americans that their civil liberties were "firmly protected."

"The government does not listen to domestic phone calls without court approval," said Bush, without confirming the program of the National Security Agency.

"We're not mining or trolling through the personal lives of millions of innocent Americans." The disclosure, reported in USA Today, could complicate Bush's bid to win confirmation of former National Security Agency Director Michael Hayden as CIA director. It also reignited concerns about privacy rights and touched off questions about the legal underpinnings for the government's actions and the diligence of the Republican-controlled Congress' oversight of a Governmental Program.

"Everything that NSA does is lawful and very carefully done," Hayden said Thursday in addressing the controversy.

"But the others.

"If the Justice Department told the court late last month it would seek to dismiss the case under the state secrets privilege but said that effort "should not be construed as a confirmation or denial" of the alleged surveillance activities. The foundation's suit added that "it's really tough to say there's a one party's government. It's a government the others."

"Telephone customers' names, addresses and other personal information have not been handed over to NSA as part of this program," he said.

"Edward Markey of Massachusetts, ranking Democrat on the House Energy and Commerce Committee's telecommunications and internet panel, had a different view: "The NSA needs for Now Spying on Americans." The companies said Thursday they were protecting customers' privacy but also had an obligation to assist law enforcement and government agencies in ensuring the nation's security. "We invite the trust our customers place in us. If and when AT&T is asked to help, we do it strictly within the law and under the most stringent conditions," the company said in a statement, echoed by the others.

Sen. Wayne Allard, R-Colo., said NSA was using the data to analyze calling patterns in order to detect "The NSA stands for the NSA direct access to the records of tens of millions of their customers' phone calls to the NSA program shortly after Sept. 11, 2001, said USA Today, citing anonymous sources that said it had direct knowledge of the arrangement. Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Arlen Specter, R-Pa., said he would call the phone companies to appear before the panel in pursuit of what had transpired.

"We're really flying blind on the subject and that's not a good way to approach the Fourth Amendment and the constitutional issues involving privacy," Specter said of domestic surveillance in general.

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Christina Caci
MUSTANG DIVER

Israel versus Palestine. A war that has been going on for years. People are dying every day in both countries, but both think they are right. Who is right? Or more importantly, whose right is it to determine the answer?

“Arna’s Children,” a documentary by Juliano Mer Khamis, tells the story of Arna Mer Khamis.

From the beginning to the end, the movie catches every audience member’s attention. The film starts with a woman, Arna, who looks about 90 years old, walking down the street. From the first scene, anyone can tell the woman has spirit. She may look frail, but she has more to her than what is physically apparent. When she gets in a room of children, her mannerisms stay the same but she takes on a different role.

She is a teacher. She wants it fast. She believes she is the one who knows what is right for the children in the refugee camp. She tells everyone how to handle it. You can see the adoration in their eyes when she talks. People listen to her. From her tone of voice, anyone can tell the woman has spirit. She may look frail, but she has more to her than what is physically apparent. When she gets in a room of children, her mannerisms stay the same but she refers to some as “love” and tells everyone the children are in shelter. At the end, they are walking around outside with almost nothing to wear. It is very symbolic of the whole film and puts a wonderful touch that gives the viewer closure. Arna acknowledges something early in the film that rings true for everyone. She says, “There is no freedom without knowledge.” What is more perfect to freedom than knowledge?

The film is more about the group of children and what their experiences growing up in the area of Palestine Arna’s effect on the children changed their attitude about the situation and how to handle it. You can see the adoration in their eyes when she talks. People listen to her. From her tone of voice, anyone can tell the woman has spirit. She may look frail, but she has more to her than what is physically apparent. When she gets in a room of children, her mannerisms stay the same but she refers to some as “love” and tells everyone the children are in shelter. At the end, they are walking around outside with almost nothing to wear. It is very symbolic of the whole film and puts a wonderful touch that gives the viewer closure. Arna acknowledges something early in the film that rings true for everyone. She says, “There is no freedom without knowledge.” What is more perfect to freedom than knowledge?

The focus was especially on the group of boys that went to the theater. The director watches them learn specifically through group exercises. He directs them to act like their English schoolteacher. All but one of the boys sit down in a row on the bench and wait. The one other boy comes out saying things in English. When the other boys don’t stand up as he enters, the teacher smacks all of them with a ruler. He does the same when they can’t name a letter of the alphabet. Flashbacks bring the viewer back to this childhood when the boys are interviewed as young adults later in life. When talking to one boy, Alu, about the possibility of his house getting destroyed, a clip appears of him as a boy sitting on the ruins of his other house that had been attacked by the Israeli army. Behind this clip is the sound of Alu talking and the subtitles run across the bottom of the screen. To realize what this man has been through adds sadness to the film that was also done on numerous other occasions.

I recommend seeing this film; it is all real footage and people. The sequence of events is enough to make you as a viewer bite your nails in nervousness the whole movie. When something disastrous happens to one of the boys from the theater, a little piece of your heart will go with them. It will make you understand why Palestinians want to be free. In a very early part of the film, all the children in the refugee camp are singing a song about freedom and revenge. They sing that all the other kids in the world get to be free, so why can’t they? The filmmaker ends it with the same thing. However, in the beginning, the children are in shelter. At the end, they are walking around outside with almost nothing to wear. It is very symbolic of the whole film and puts a wonderful touch that gives the viewer closure. Arna acknowledges something early in the film that rings true for everyone. She says, “There is no freedom without knowledge.” What is more perfect to freedom than knowledge?

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We parked in the ASI president's parking spot

Mike Matzke
Doug Bruzzone

M.HUMOR COLUMN

We also voted against brushing your teeth, but the dentists won that time too. But that's only because we're British.

We heard that Tylor was mad about the situation, but then we thought "Hey, that name sure is spelled weird." So overall, we didn't care.

So here's the deal. If you think you're badasses like us, and you can handle the fuzz comin' down hard on you, then you'll tell us. But you have to promise not to tell anyone. Promise? K. It's behind building 45 and... you told your friends? That's it, this is ending our column.

Classy: The Popemobile. It's protected from bullets, and you can squeeze a lot of honkers in there.

Uncouth: Stabbing people. Think about the Golden Rule: Would you want to be stabbed too? So, you are weird.

Mike Matzke and Doug Bruzzone are two classy guys and Mustang Daily columnists.

COMMENTARY

More to do in SLO than drink

When I talk to my friends back home, the conversation often turns to how Cal Poly is a party school. After all, there aren't any rules to do in San Luis Obispo, right?

This in itself seems strange to me, considering how, when I applied and was accepted, I chose to come here because of its high ranking in the basics.

Cal Poly is an extremely well-respected university that should be known more for its academics than its party atmosphere. We are some of the best students in the country, right? So why is it that we can't come up with anything else to do in our free time than drink?

Our little Central Coast town is filled with things to do that don't involve alcohol. And with students as smart as we all supposedly are, I don't think it should be that difficult to find them.

Obviously, the first and most well-known option for this area is the beach. We are fortunate enough to live right along the coast, next to some of the most beautiful beaches in California. Have a barbecue, go surfing, play some volleyball.

How about hanging out at a park? A friend of mine, for her 21st birthday, I had a barbecue in a local park, and we all played football — no alcohol involved.

Then there is the movie option. We have several local theaters to go to in the downtown area. Or, if you're trying to avoid the downtown scene altogether, why not visit the drive-in? There's even the option of renting a movie and hanging out at home with friends, which isn't a bad idea either, especially after a long week in the classroom.

Try taking a tour of Hearst Castle. There are several tours there, to choose from, so you can go back multiple times.

There are even recreational activities on campus. Attend a Cal Poly baseball game or club polo game, or go see the latest play, dance or musical concert. Go for a weekend excursion with Popemobile.

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The Mustang Daily is a "designated public forum." Student editors will make all final authority to make all content decisions without censorship or advance approval.

May 12, 2006
Volume LXIX, No. 133 ©2006
www.mustangdaily.net

The Mustang Daily is now accepting applications for Editor-in-Chief and Managing Editor for the 2006-07 school year.
**SPORTS**

**WHO TO WATCH FOR AT THE BIG WEST TRACK CHAMPIONSHIPS**

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**CLASSIFIED**

**HELP WANTED**

Leasing Consultant needed at The Tassels Retirement Apartment Homes Part time, great pay + commissions must be willing to work weekends call or stop by to apply (805) 543-7900

MODELING Ladies, interested in modeling or adding to your existing portfolio? Earn $50/hr modeling or adding to your existing portfolio. Email a headshot/measurements toades@visualpurple.com or call Don (805) 403-5327

**Rental Housing**

Lost blue/green striped bag containing entire senior student's belongings. $2.000 reward for info on stolen. Contact: 431-2972

Lost Tiffany's chain-linked ring.

Lost footwork's. Contact: 431-2972

Lost P5遇上球场, please call (559) 970-8966

Lost a Sandisk 256 mb usb pen drive containing entire senior project. If found please contact Jeff Estosheery (905) 322-7661

$1000 REWARD for info on stolen 1999 silver Volvo S70 model. Contact: 431-2972

Misled: A diamond that will impact the championship. Contact: 431-2972

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Oooh so spicy!
Track ready to race at Big West

Jennifer Bousdevin
ACCIDENTS DAILY

Despite a season complicated by injury, red-shirt and rain, the Cal Poly track and field team is ready for the Big West Championships today and Saturday at Cal State Northridge.

Last year, the men’s team placed a close second behind Northridge at the championships and the women’s team came in fifth. For the men to match that result, it will take some monumental performances.

“Due to injuries and the red-shirt situation, we are going into the conference with some major holes in quite a few events,” coach Terry Crawford said. “The group knows there is a necessity to really pull together and maximize our individual points for our best team showing.”

The men’s team expects to pick up big points in the distance events as well as pole vault and javelin. The Mustangs have the top three seeds in the 1500 meter with freshmen Joe Gatel and Evan Anderson as well as Philip Reed.

Luke Lluma goes into the 3000 steeplechase finals with the top seed, as well as one of the top times in the nation at 8:45.34.

In the pole vault, Adrian Ruark tops the list of Cal Poly qualifiers with a best of 16 feet 7.25 inches. Mike King and James Nummos have each cleared 15 feet and could score as well.

And, in the javelin, Aris Borjos is seeded second at 218 feet 2 inches, while teammates Jason Holmes and Jeremy Vokounovic could make the top eight as well.

One the women’s side, Dendre’l Bermejo, 5/50ths, and Willamina Cisco, 100m hurdles, top the list of Cal Poly qualifiers.

In the 4x400, sophomore Cassie Atkinson is seeded second with a best of 2:11.75. Freshman Cardin Schields is ranked third in the conference.

Cal Poly pole vaulter Adrian Ruark has already qualified for the West Regionals, but seeks to improve his seeding with a big jump at the Big West Championships on Friday.

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Big West winner comes down to final weekend of games; two tied for first

Kim Oswell
SPORTS EDITOR (HSU)

LONG BEACH, Calif. — After taking two out of three games at UC Davis last weekend, the 49er women’s softball team will play its last regular season game this weekend at the UC Santa Barbara Gauchos this weekend. The women hold a record of 28-19 and 11-4 in the Big West Conference.

This weekend marks a turning point for the Big West Conference Title because the Cal State Fullerton Titans hold the same conference record and could tie Long Beach State for the title. The Titans play UC Riverside this weekend and if LBSU and CSUF both win all its games, they will be named Co-Big West Champions. Cal Poly San Luis Obispo is not far behind the two teams at only two games back with a record of 25-22 and 9-6 in conference.

Heading into the final weekend of Big West play, Cal State Fullerton and Long Beach State are tied for first with 11-4 conference records while Cal Poly sits in third at 9-6.

The three-game series for LBSU begins Friday against the Gauchos who swept UC Riverside last weekend.

The 49ers have been productive this season by putting up numbers when the team needed it the most. The 49ers are 17-2 when leading after four innings thanks to timely pitching and offensive rallies.

LBSU star Michelle Turner is a candidate for Big West Pitcher of the Year and has been the Big West Pitcher of the Week six times this season. Turner leads the 49ers with four home runs and 24 RBIs with a collective .264 batting average and 13 doubles. Turner has walked only 17 batters this season with 170 strikeouts in the circle and holds a 23-9 record, rounding off a 1.56 ERA. Turner has dominated in league play with a record of 10-1 and kept opposing batters to only a .188 average.

Senior Tiffany Wedell has been an offensive force with a .259 batting average and 17 RBIs. She is ranked No. 10 in the league play with a .259 batting average and 17 RBIs. She is ranked No. 10 in the conference with four home runs and 24 RBIs with a collective .264 batting average and 13 doubles. Turner has walked only 17 batters this season with 170 strikeouts in the circle and holds a 23-9 record, rounding off a 1.56 ERA. Turner has dominated in league play with a record of 10-1 and kept opposing batters to only a .188 average.

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The report did not say how school officials learned about the campus police comments. Duke Police Chief Robert Drum offered details, explaining that the campus officer who overheard the conversation also did not ask Durham police any follow-up questions.

Those remarks by police were cited in an independent university report released earlier this week as a reason school officials underestimated the seriousness of the woman’s allegations and responded slowly.

The police did not say how school officials learned about the police comments. Duke Police Chief Robert Drum offered details, explaining that the campus officer who overheard the conversation also did not ask Durham police any follow-up questions.

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