Innovation in a globalized world

Jennifer Boudrevin
MUSTANG DAILY

Innovation was the word of the day Wednesday, when a near-capacity crowd filled the Spanos Theater for a speech by Jeff Henley, chairman of the board of directors of Oracle Corp.

His presentation, "Collaborate to Innovate — Critical Skills and Technologies for Tomorrow's Global Leaders," emphasized the importance of constant innovation in business, discussed why globalization may not be as threatening as it is often portrayed, and outlined key factors for both personal and business success.

Oracle, the largest enterprise software vendor, is an innovation-driven company, he explained, and its ability to execute on innovation is key.

"We certainly like to think that we are innovative," he said, "but quite frankly we are responding to the innovation of others."

He cited the necessity of a company to get its products on the market ahead of the competition — "speed to market," in business lingo.

On the topic of growing concerns of a global marketplace, Henley thinks the concern may be unfounded.

"Understand that we are entering a global world; don't be threatened by it," Henley said. "As long as we take advantage of this global world we will be successful!"

In terms of suggestions for success on a less-global scale, Henley had a few key points to share with the audience.

"My advice to you is to find something that you really like and go for it," he said. "Don't be afraid to take some risks. Don't reach too hard and fall on your face, but you have to stress yourself to some degree." He recommended gaining experience in multiple industries, as well as internationally, thinking outside the box, developing personal integrity and maintaining a strong corporate governance ethic as a means for success.

He emphasized the importance of finding work that excites you, saying, "If you aren't turned on every day you go to work, you won't be successful!"

This philosophy is not new to Henley, whose company is honored Cal Poly with a Peace Pole Tuesday in a dedication ceremony that celebrated the first year that Cal Poly is part of the top 25 universities in the nation to recruit students into the Peace Corps.
Tuesdays events marked the second day of Community Pride Week, which includes six consecutive days of events designed to educate and celebrate lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) students.

The organization's goal is to "try to smooth the waters and help parents (with homosexual children) understand that this is still the same person they've always loved," Rick Tibben, 63, a member of PFLAG, said.

Despite the attempts to increase the visibility and acceptance of LGBT students, sometimes "the bigotry is still there," Leckie said.

Several similarity comments were written on the display set up on Dexter Lawn as a part of Pride Week, including one that read, "Homos are gay, heteros are straight!" she said.

To curb such ignorance, Leckie said the Pride Alliance constantly encourages training the allies for the homosexual community.

"An ally is somebody who's willing to put on a (pride) shirt, somebody who's willing to hold hands with someone of the same sex," she said.

A "Soup and Substance" luncheon, held on Tuesday in Chumash Auditorium, addressed fraternity life as a gay man.

"Homos are gay, heteros are straight." Volunteers are assigned tasks based on their skills. These can include anything from education, health, business development, environment or agriculture. Cal Poly provides students with the necessary skills to accomplish many of these tasks, Andrews said, noting in particular the agriculture students. Of the Southern California region which she oversees, Cal Poly is one of the few universities that has agriculture students.

"There are also great engineers, as well as nutrition grad who are improving health all over the world," she said.

Clark's plans are to draw even more majors into the program.

Henley continued from page 1

and joined the board of directors in June 1993.

He visited Cal Poly as part of the Ortale College of Business Distinguished Speaker Series. The Ortale College of Business, College of Engineering and San Luis Obispo Chamber of Commerce sponsored the presentation.

Deppte Henley's many recommendations for achievement, his point was simple and eloquent: "At the end of the day, you can't go wrong with common sense and good business judgment."

Peace
continued from page 1

has been among the top 25. The Peace Corps is an organization which strives to build world peace and friendship by sending Americans to countries that have invited the Peace Corps to get involved. Though it is an international program, Shelby Clark, the new regional recruiter for the San Luis Obispo area, said most volunteers travel to Latin America or Africa.

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"There are also great engineers, as well as nutrition grad who are improving health all over the world," she said.

Clark's plans are to draw even more majors into the program.

"I'm hoping to get a lot more diverse volunteers," she said, listing animal science and education as beneficial majors.

Even some soon-to-be Peace Corps volunteers were in attendance. Penny Porter, a Cal Poly alumna, will travel to Armenia in June to serve as a teacher-trainer. "It's really my background — it's perfect for me," she said.

She said she has done a lot of reading on Armenian history in preparation for her trip, though surviving in a foreign country is the least of her worries. She could be found on Tuesday listening to the experiences of veteran volunteers and asking if anyone would take care of her cat for the next two years.

"I want to make the biggest splash with my little rock — I want to do something for the world," she said. "The goal is to promote peace and that's the only way it happens — one-on-one."

For more information about the Peace Corps, visit the Web site at www.peacecorps.gov. Recruiters are available to talk to in the Kennedy Library, Room 207 on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
WHO SAID THAT?

The problem is never how to get new, innovative thoughts into your mind, but how to get old ones out. Every mind is a building filled with archaic furniture. Clean out a corner of your mind and creativity will instantly fill it.
— Dee Hock

Ninety-eight percent of the adults in this country are decent, hard-working, honest Americans. It's the other lousy two percent that get all the publicity. But then — we elected them.
— Lily Tomlin

Wordly Wise Spoonerism: The transposition of usually initial sounds in a pair of words.

BREAKING NEWS UPDATED AT THE SPEED OF COLLEGE LIFE
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UNDER FOUR? OR SAYING “I DID WHAT?”
52% of students never experience memory loss due to drinking. The average CP student drinks less than 4 in a sitting.

Based on a survey collected by Cal Poly Reality of 912 randomly selected Cal Poly students with an error margin of +/- 5%.
Bush wants National Guard to fight illegal immigration, urges Senate to find ‘middle ground’ or citizenship

WASHINGTON — The Senate rejected a call Tuesday to secure the nation’s borders before tackling other immigration-related concerns such as a citizenship for millions of men and women in the country illegally, a victory for President Bush and supporters of a comprehensive approach to a volatile election-year issue.

The vote was 55-40 against a proposal by Sen. John Ensign, R-Nev., who said that anything less than a border security-first approach amounted to “a wink and a nod one more time to those who would come here” unlawfully.

Republican and Democratic supporters of the sweeping Senate bill said Ensign’s approach would be self-defeating and derail the approach that Bush backed in Monday night’s prime time speech from the Oval Office. “We have to have a comprehensive approach if we’re going to gain control of the borders,” said Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass.

In all, 36 Democrats and 18 Republicans joined with one independent to torpedo the amendment. Thirty-nine Republicans and seven Democrats supported it.

Eager to blunt any political fallout from opposing Ensign’s proposal, the bill’s sponsors countered with an alternative of their own. Backed by Sen. Kent Salazar, D-Colo., it said immigration changes envisioned in the legislation could proceed if the president declared they were in the national security interests of the United States. It passed, 79-16.

The Senate cast its first votes on the immigration bill as Bush renewed his call for Congress to act.

“The objective is, on the one hand, protect our borders; and, on the other hand, never lose sight of the thing that makes America unique which is, we’re a land of immigrants and that we’re not going to discriminate against people,” he said at a news conference with Australian Prime Minister John Howard.

Bush drew continued criticism from House Republicans for his speech, and the White House sought to explain the border security elements of the president’s plan.

“This is going to be a tremendous piece of support partnering with the U.S. Border Patrol Chief David Aguilar told reporters at the White House, anticipating the deployment of up to 6,000 National Guard troops to states along the Mexican border.

“We can certainly do what is asked by our commander in chief, said Lt. Gen. Steven Blum, National Guard Bureau Chief.

Blum, Aguilar and others stressed that National Guard forces would function in support roles, leaving front-line law enforcement against illegal immigrants in the hands of federal Border Patrol agents.

Republicans expressed support for new attempts to secure America’s porous borders, but they rebelled against another element of what Bush calls a comprehensive plan to alter immigration laws.

“Faithfully upheld attempts to proscribe amnesty cannot be tolerated,” said Rep. Tom Price, R-Ga. “While America is a nation of immigrants, we are also a nation of laws, and rewarding those who break our laws is not only dishonors the hard work of those who came here legally but does nothing to fix our current situation.

Any legislation that emerges from Congress will eventually come from House-Senate negotiations.

But first, the Senate had to act, and there, Bush’s speech won praise from Republicans and Democrats alike lining up behind long-stalled legislation.

Sen. Mel Martinez, R-Fla., said he and other supporters had the support needed to defeat any crippling amendments offered by critics. Bush’s speech “solidified some votes,” he told reporters.

“If the president gets it,” added Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill.

Behind the rhetorical lovefest lay political calculations — politicians of both parties stressing their election-year credentials as tough on illegal immigration in an era of terrorism.

Chuck Brown

OMAHA, Neb. — The NAACP sued Nebraska’s governor and a state committee Tuesday over a new law that divides Omaha Public Schools into three racially identifiable districts.

The law, passed by the Legislature at the end of its recent session, split the Omaha district starting in 2008 into three districts: one mostly black, one largely Hispanic and one predominantly white.

It was aimed at solving a dispute over school boundaries in the state’s largest city after Omaha Public Schools tried to take over some suburban schools.

The NAACP’s federal lawsuit says the new laws violates the constitutional principles embodied in the 1954 U.S. Supreme Court ruling in Brown vs. Board of Education, which said separate but equal facilities have no place in public education.

"Segregation is morally wrong, regardless of who advocates it," said Toussaint Wilson of the Omaha chapter of the NAACP.

Supporters said the plan would give minority communities voice in school board and ensure that their children were not disenfranchised.
Powerful earthquake rattles islands north of New Zealand

Ray Lilley 3553328400

WELLINGTON, New Zealand - A powerful earthquake hit deep under the South Pacific late Tuesday north of New Zealand, and it rocked a wide area of the country, but no damage or injuries were reported.

The Pacific Tsunami Warning Center issued a bulletin saying the magnitude 7.4 quake had not generated a destructive Pacific-wide tsunami but warned it could spawn a small tsunami within 60 miles of its epicenter.

USA Today reported last week that three of the four major telephone companies had provided information about millions of Americans' calls to the National Security Agency. However, Verizon Communications Inc. denied on Tuesday that it had been asked by the agency for customer information, one day after BellSouth said the same thing.

Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, said that at least two of the chief judges on the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court had been informed since 2001 of White House-approved National Security Agency monitoring operations.

"None raised any objections, as far as I know," said Hatch, a member of a special Intelligence Committee panel appointed to oversee the NSA's work.

Hatch made the comment in answering a question in an interview about recent reports of the government compiling lists of Americans' phone calls. He later suggested he was also speaking broadly of the administration's term-related monitoring operations.

When asked if the judges somehow approved the operations, Hatch said, "That is not their position, but they were informed." The surveillance court, whose 11 members are chosen by the chief justice of the United States, was set up after Congress revised key laws in 1978 that govern intelligence collection inside the U.S.

The court is charged with considering individual warrants for physical searches, wiretaps and traces on phone records when someone is suspected of being an agent of a foreign power and making the request to a regular court might reveal highly classified information.

Since Sept. 11, 2001, the court has been led by U.S. District Judge Joyce C. Lamberth, and then by U.S. District Judge Colleen Koeller-Kotelly, who succeeded him.

Bush was asked Tuesday about the reported lists of calls.

"We do not let others do our phone calls without court approval," Bush said.

He appeared to acknowledge the NSA sweep of phone records indirectly, saying that the program referred to by a questioner is "one that has been fully briefed to members of the United States Congress in both political parties."

"They're very aware of what it is that's taking place. The American people expect their government to protect them within the laws of this country and I'm going to continue to do just that," Bush said.

Spokesman Tony Snow later said Bush's comments did not amount to a confirmation of published reports that the NSA's surveillance included secretly collecting millions of phone-call records.

Verizon, meanwhile, called into question key points of a USA Today story that has led to wide coverage by other news media in the past week.

"Contrary to the media reports, Verizon was not asked by NSA to provide, nor did Verizon provide, customer phone records," the New York-based phone company said in an e-mail statement.

A day earlier, BellSouth Corp. had said NSA had never requested customer call data, nor had the company provided any.

A story in USA Today last Thursday said Verzion, AT&T Inc. and BellSouth had complied with an NSA request for tens of millions of customer phone records after the Sept. 11 terror attacks.

USA Today, spokesman Steve Anderson said Tuesday, "We're confident in our coverage of the phone database story, but we won't simultaneously dismiss BellSouth's and Verizon's denials without taking a closer look."

The Senate Intelligence Committee is to hold a confirmation hearing Thursday on Bush's nomination of Air Force Gen. Michael Hayden to head the CIA.

Hayden is sure to face vigorous questioning as the NSA director from 1999 until last year, Hayden oversaw the creation of some of the government's most controversial intelligence surveillance.

"We sure did feel it. Our building was swayed a bit," he said.

A lawyer in the east coast town of Whakatane said "some cracks were reported on land, but that's all we heard."

The powerful quake north of New Zealand, which seismologists said registered at magnitude 7.3, rocked a wide area of the country — but was unlikely to have caused damage, seismologist Ken Gledhill told The Associated Press.

"It has been felt very widely but is unlikely to have caused any damage," Gledhill said, adding that within half an hour more than 500 people had reported the quake's impact.

"It was too deep to have ruptured the sea floor," Gledhill said, adding a tsunami was unlikely "at that depth is correct."

A policeman in the east coast town of Whakatane said he was sitting on a chair talking to the police communications center in the northern city of Auckland when it struck.

"Things started moving and I thought, this is a goodie," said Sgt. Andrew O'Reilly.

Wellington police inspector Peter Stokes said there were no immediate reports of injury or damage.

"We sure did feel it. Our building was swayed a bit," he said.

Rarotonga was the center of a series of earthquakes during a volcanic eruption in March that killed more than two dozen people.

Some conservation workers returned to the island last month to perform tasks that were interrupted by the eruption in March that killed a New Zealand Department of Conservation worker and forced the evacuation of the island.

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"There was no immediate word on whether they were affected by the quake."

The quake was felt far to the south as Christchurch on South Island.

New Zealand is among more than two dozen countries taking part in the drill to test the Pacific warning system that has been in place since 1965.

During the exercise early Wednesday, the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center in Hawaii will send out warnings about mock earthquakes off the Chilean coast and Luzon Island in the northern Philippines that are powerful enough to set off a tsunami across the Pacific Ocean.

Governments will test if and how fast they receive the warnings and how rapidly they are relayed through domestic emergency alert systems.

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Chair Nominations
Nominations for the DB-07 Chair of the University Union Advisory Board (UUAB) will be accepted at the UUAB meetings on May 9 and 23 in UU 216 at 3 p.m.

Elections will be held at the May 23 meeting

Membership on the University Union Advisory Board provides a "front row seat" for experiencing issues involved with the University Union, Recreation Center and Sports Complex operations. The UUAB is the official advisory board to the University President and ASI Executive Director regarding UU fee funded facilities, programs and services.

The Chair of the UUAB also serves as an officer of Associated Students, Inc. www.asicalpoly.edu/government/

For more information call the Student Government office at 756-1291.

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Mustang Daily AUTO SERVICE DIRECTORY
Brian Wilson was the creative and infamously unstable genius behind the Beach Boys, who rose to fame in the 1960s with whimsical surf and California-inspired tunes. Their collective output evolved into one of the most influential rock and pop groups of all time. Their 1966 opus “Pet Sounds” is ranked the No. 2 album of all time by Rolling Stone.

How Brian Wilson saved my father

It was 1963, and the generation gap had never yawned wider. My grandfather, the principal of Lennox High School in Hawthorne, Calif., had suffered a particularly bad day; two young scoundrels named Brian and Dennis Wilson had caused a scene by bonging onto his closed campus during school hours, getting the engine of his souped-up ‘57 Chevy in the parking lot. The plan was to whisk their cheerleader girlfriends to the beach, but he’d removed them in a screaming display of authority.

Now, in his own home, he was receiving a rapturous lesson from his 8-year-old son, Dale, about how these delinquents were actually members of the most famous rock band in the country. Dale displayed his priced possession — the 7-inch single for “Surfin’ USA,” which he’d played with single-minded intensity for weeks. And then he had to grab it back, when his father threatened to smash it over his head. Forty-two years later, Brian Wilson crashed back into my father’s life, just when he was needed most desperately. But this time, I was around to complicate matters hopelessly.

By the time my dad had children, the apple fell much closer to the tree. As the only child, I shunned my mother’s interests (ballet, math, feminine decorum in general) and grew into my father’s enthusiasm for trumpet, guitar and ‘60s rock. Hours of shared practice on the instruments, and even more spent listening to classic rock, kept us close — especially when he suffered a near-fatal brain tumor in 1993, and we passed the months of sterile hospital hours comparing The Beatles trivia with forced levity. He predicted then that we would collaborate someday, on something unprecedented and fantastic. At the time, it seemed merely hopeful; our future was not guaranteed, or even imaginable, in those bleak surroundings. But several surgeries later, he was renewed — fueled in some ways, but more confident than ever in our impending collaboration.

Twelve years later on a lazy October afternoon, it arrived. While trolling music news online, I read one fan’s enthusiastic coverage about the Brian Wilson Katrina Relief Challenge, which was currently underway on the musician’s Web site. The premise: Donate to the national hurricane relief effort, and Wilson would make a personal phone call to you.

“I don’t give a goddamn about the Beach Boys!”

— Stacey Anderson

MUSTANGDAILY
2-PART SERIES

This is the first installment in a special two-part The Art Beat: Pick up next Wednesday’s Mustang Daily for an interview with the former Beach Boy.

Fifty-two years later, Brian Wilson crashed back into my father’s life, just when he was needed desperately.

“Time is running out,” he sighed. “I don’t know what to do.”

These comments had become repetitive, but no less depressing. My father, aside from being a bilingual public schoolteacher, had been a Bay Area singer-songwriter for years. His easygoing folk-rock had always fared well with students and state radio stations; in the late ’60s, he joined forces with one of the oldest independent labels in the country. He didn’t seem an immediate match for them — their typical offerings were cloying novelty songs — but he had recently received airplay on over 350 contemporary radio stations around the country. It was one step closer to his ultimate goal: enough popularity to headline a series of ambitious charity concerts for children. (Sort of like Live Aid for the under-8.) But the promotional expenses were bleeding him dry, and now he only had a few weeks left in his promotion contract, then airplay of his songs would halt for good.

“They ain’t nothing but a poor little rich boy...”

— Brian Wilson

But the promotional expenses were bleeding him dry, and now he only had a few weeks left in his promotion contract, then airplay of his songs would halt for good.

And so would his only dream.

“If this attempt fails, I’m done,” he said “I lose.”

He dialed a phone line, and 200 miles away, I listened in silence. Our talks had evolved to a dismal routine: I spent my days immersed in coed life and my own idealistic future plans, only to spend hours delving into his brutal mid-life misery. Sometimes he broke down, teary in his blue period. He was right — without the new recordings and radio promotion he couldn’t afford, his newfound career would plummet. But that one night, I thought of something ridiculous.

“Why don’t you talk to Brian Wilson?” And I made sense; my father needed a buoyant spirit, a trouper, someone filled with inspiring musical shop-talk. After all, he’d identified with Wilson for decades; he too had felt the emotional hari-kiri of a cold and disapproving father (my grandfather has refused to acknowledge Dad’s musical accomplishments from fourth grade to present). After his brain tumor and surgery, he learned far more to his creative instincts, and came to imagine Wilson as a positive leader, a mentor. So maybe he would get a good nudge forward.

Brian Wilson, formerly of the Beach Boys, now records as a solo artist.

Brian Wilson

Diversions editor: Mariecrist Mendtiz
mustangdaily@mustangnews.com

Wednesday, May 17, 2006
www.mustangdaily.net
'Just My Luck' saved by supporting cast

Matthew Zane

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Let’s be clear from the start: “Just My Luck” is a cotton-candy movie aimed at teens and tweens, not a college audience.

Duney channel alumna Lindsay Lohan plays Ashley Albright, a New York public relations agent who is blessed with impossibly good luck. Albright can’t help but to catch break after break. When she steps outside, the clouds part and stop raining, and lottery tickets are more like mini-ATMs than games of chance for her.

It is Lohan’s supporting cast though, that just barely keeps the movie afloat alive the murky depths of typical teenage movie mediocrity. Chris Pine plays Jake Hardin, the polar opposite of Lohan’s character. Hardin has a horrible janitorial job in a local bowling alley. He’s

see Luck, page 9

Wilson continued from page 7

fund-raiser form, listed the hours and days that Wilson could call. Our times spanned 20 hours over two weeks, which my dad spent the duration of eyeing the phone impatiently.

But a week passed, then two, and Wilson didn’t call. Ticker-tape littered the ever-dwindling space around the dusty phone, and Dad slept skittishly. Even a week past the specified times, there was never a Beach Boy on the line.

And our great plan seemed a disaster — now my father had been let down by his record label and his hero.

Two nights later, after the e-mail had faded from concern, I logged onto a campus computer and discovered a response to the letter! It came from his wife, Melinda Wilson. I gaped before opening it, starstruck at the idea of communicating with a superstar’s spouse.

Too bad she was pissed off. In fact, she was furious and quite verbose about it, citing my letter the first “nasty” response she and Brian Wilson had ever

see Wilson, page 9

To add your event, email KCPRPromotions@gmail.com
Wilson continued from page 8
received about their Relief’ Challenge (“ever” was highlighted-
ed in a startlingly red shade). She claimed that Brian Wilson had
tried to call me on father on two sep-
ate occasions, and went head-on to my other accusations, slashing
my statements with venomous indignation for her husband. The
duo had mercifully attempted to assist in a national crisis, and my
callow behavior marred the pro-
cess.
Right about there, I started to sweat — because the overall tone
was not angry, but wounded. Melinda Wilson was as committed
to her man as I was to mine, and her words pricked tears in
my eyes. Though Brian Wilson had obviously not tried to call, I
still had offended and hurt him and his wife. I'd added a political dimen-
sion to a charitable undertaking. In one succinct moment the whole
situation, from origin to present, seemed to solely exist on my hurt-
ing others — first my dad, then a rock legend and his spouse. And
scolding Brian Wilson was a terrible accomplishment — after all his
mental problems and seclusions, attacking him was akin to waving
a knife at a kitten. I couldn’t get

Wilson continued from page 8
lower.
So I wrote her back, tail lodged
firmly between my legs. In my
guilt, and the environment still lin-
gering, I explained my concern
for my father — that, I would not
apologize for What did it matter? I mean:
Brian Wilson hadn’t lifted his dul-
ing finger in the times Melinda
Wilson claimed, but he certainly
wouldn’t be ringing now.
Afterwards, I started walking
home, sobbing in exhaustion, guilt
and helplessness. Ironically, after
this confrontation with Brian
Wilson’s camp, I had begun to
understand what it felt to be
unhinged — and it was awful.
I dialed my parent’s line, and
voiced to reporter — and once my
dad answered, attempted to do so in
a hysterical, memorable way. I
heard more than alarmed. But
once he could discern that my situa-
tion wasn’t find, he laughed. "I have
a story for you," he said.
"No, I have a story for you!" I
countered, and breathlessly began
to recap Melinda's terse response. I
started, and breathlessly began
to recap Melinda’s terse response.
I was wailing unthinkingly once
more, when my dad cut in.
"But Brian Wilson just called!"

Wilson said that Albright is indeed lucky and
adorable girl.

"I’d added a political dimen-
sion to a charitable undertaking. In
eight Storied bowing alley janitorial
shop, he no longer needs since he
is living the penthouse life of a
superstar band manager.

The cleaning job is the basis for
some genuinely funny physical com-
ed kids from Loban, such as when
she scoops old pieces of gum from
the bottom of tables, and one falls
into her mouth.

After seeing through the first 30
minutes of the movie watching
Lohan’s character have nothing but
good luck, or perhaps because of a
bit of real-life jealousy, it’s enjoy-
able to see her being put down a
powerful man.

Still, it’s impossible to truly root
against her, and you always hope
that she will eventually rebound back.
It is this delicate balance that
makes this movie work.

Sure it’s a cotton-candy movie:
It’s fluffy, lacks a lot of substance and
and sometimes be a bit too soft
for her ear.

Just like red cotton candy
though, this movie can be enjoy-
able as long as you’re not expecting
it to be a real meal.

So if you see “Just My Luck,” for-
got any expectations of seeing the
next great cinematic masterpiece,
turn off your brain for a little bit,
and just go along for the sugary ride.
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Letters to the Editor

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NOTICE

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"There's a lot of activism going on. It's because of the nice weather."

Mustang Daily

"the voice of Cal Poly"

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Potential to launch ahead on shuttle service

The Mustang Daily reserves the right to shorten or edit letters to the Editor for content, length and format.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Matt Huston
Mechanical engineering junior

Thank God for prayer, parties and T.C.G.

So the other day I was busy burning pentacles and phallic images into the back of my car when a little birdie flew onto my shoulder and told me what's up. He was like, "Steve, you know what! Christians aren't really that bad, you should go easier on them." I was like, "Dude no way!" You see earlier in the week some inquisitioners had broken up a perfectly hearken crack/prostitutes party I was hosting, so I was a little miffed at Christians in general, but the birdie set me straight.

He told me that I should be more aware of these three things: Christians have great solutions to modern problems, they are going to throw the best party EVER in just a few years and best of all that Jesus is responsible for my own dual beacons of light, the Two Clancy Gentz.

First off, Christians have a powerful solution for all of our problems: the power of prayer. Nothing gets the job done like closing your eyes and saying words. Our troops in Iraq don’t need more body armor or more effective leaders, they need people to pray with them, bowing their heads and hoping for good things. Shower, next time I get a life threatening disease I’m not going to the hospital, I’m going to hold hands with my brothers in Christ and I’ll wish that cancer away!

Secondly, it is a huge misconception that Christians are party poopers. They’re actually just saving up for the most crackin’ party this world has ever known. We now have party rats until dawn, but what about a party that lasts all eternity? This is what we’re going to call heaven. Plus nothing is more of a downer than killing a keg at 2:01 a.m. … everyone knows that there will be no more booze for at least 4 hours. But when you’re chillin’ with a guy that turns water into wine, NO PROBLEM! Also, this guy on the corner tells me that this party starts with the end of the world, which apparently is coming very, very soon.

Perhaps the greatest thing about Christianity is its creation of the Two Clancy Gentz. Wouldn’t it be a surprise: would it surprise some- body that any other industry makes more money in its particu lar field than a business that does not specialize in that sector? Perhaps Coury should have attended a few more of those educational classes.

Though seemingly palatable on the surface, one doesn’t have to look very far into his arguments to find that he is not only lacking facts to back up his claims, he is lacking a cohesive argument. Sure, America’s defense contractors are making money during wartime, which should be obvious to anybody. This is no surprise to us; we know that regardless of any other industry makes more money in its particular field than a business that does not specialize in that sector.

Perhaps Coury should have attended a few more of those educational classes.

Quite rapidly, Coury leaves this argument behind to attack the president’s Iraq policy. We would like the College Shuttle to serve all areas of San Luis Obispo, but for now we’re starting small. You’ve got to work your way up to the campus Bottle, Santa Rosa/Foothill, Cuesta/Foothill, Patricia/Foothill and Ramona/Palomar.

The shuttle is guaranteed for a four-week pilot period, ending on June 10.

The shuttle costs $4 per ride or is way only from downtown home.

ASI is selling 500 $3 promo tickets at the ASI Epicenter.

While there is a temporary solution in place, the work isn’t done. We need your feedback to help develop a more comprehensive service to launch next fall. We would like the College Shuttle to serve all areas of San Luis Obispo, but for now we’re starting small.

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Tyler Middletast is the ASI presi dent of Cal Poly's Iraq team. He can be reached at 756-5828, mid- dletast@jscoe.pdx.edu, AIM: CPASI President.

For the next four weeks and treat the service respectfully unlike those

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Frankly continued from page 12
record in Big West play. It doesn’t matter how many quality wins you have or what conference you play in if you have a sub .500 conference record, you don’t make it to postseason play or the "Less-than- Average Class;" if you can’t beat the teams in your own conference more than half the time you play them, you’re not a tournament-caliber team. It doesn’t matter if you’re playing in the Big West, the Big East or the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference — if you can’t take care of business in your conference, you do not deserve a chance to play for a national championship. And what about Cal Poly taking two-out-of-three from UCSB? Shouldn’t that indicate a wealth of information play at least a semi- significant role in selection process? Why play conference games if they don’t matter? Common sense should prevail in this situation.

Unfortunately, this issue wasn’t resolved. Had it been USC jumping over UCLA for a tournament bid in men’s basketball, people would have noticed. However, in conflict in softball between Cal Poly and UCSB of the Big West Conference isn’t even going to find its way onto the front page of the Los Angeles Times. The world thinks less of softball and the regionally-recognized Big West.

The same scrutiny facing the selection process for men’s basketball needs to be applied to all sports. Why does UCSB get the nod over Cal Poly? Why did Cal State Fullerton surpass the Mustangs in 2005? Why even play conference games if they don’t have value in the selection process? That’s the message the NCAA selection committee is sending.

Water skiing continued from page 12
Four of the qualifying athletes will be attending the competition in Iowa this weekend. Matt Bettenbrock will compete in men’s slalom, Patrick Wyatt in men’s jump, Amanda Wilson in women’s slalom, trick and jump, and Liz Sesan in women’s trick and jump.

"They’re all really good skiers," said water ski team president Collin Gibbs. "If it is a first year, so it’s pretty amazing that she’s already getting to go. Amanda will be in all three events, which is pretty unusual."

The team is currently up to about 40 members and is looking for more.

"The cool thing is the camaraderie in the sport," said Gibbs. "It’s not necessarily a competitive atmosphere; it’s really laid back."

"All the teams really connect together," he said. "You go to tournaments every weekend and see the same teams, it’s a lot of fun and a great way to meet people."

The team practices a few times a week at Lake Nacimiento in Paso Robles and competes in the fall and spring quarters. There are skiers from a variety of skill levels, ranging from beginners to more advanced that are comfortable competing. In the end thought, "we’re all about going out on the lake and having fun," Gibbs said.

For more information, visit the team’s Web site at www.calpolywater-ski.com.

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Don’t miss the show.
A look into baseball's world of luck

Christina Casci

Since its beginning, baseball has been full of superstition. Many players have practices they swear make them play better, and many llegers are not the only ones with these strange beliefs. Elementary school kids, high school all-stars and college players all have superstitions. Some common ones include not touching the foul line, talking to a bat or ball or not washing clothing after a win. Though they may seem crazy, players and coaches swear by their habits.

Former Cal Poly catcher Kyle Bumper said he had many superstitions, said Jimmy Van Ostrand, senior first baseman for the Cal Poly baseball team. "Everything he did, he had to cancel," Van Ostrand said. "If he knocked over a bat, he would have to pick it up and knock it over again."

Baseball is a game of superstition, Cal Poly coach Larry Lee said. "If they do something once and follow it up with a good game, they link it to that," he said.

There are many famous curses in baseball. The "Curse of the Bambino" is the most well-known of all curses. According to answers.com, when the Boston Red Sox owner Harry Frazee sold Babe Ruth's contract to the New York Yankees, he ruined any winning streak they had. The Boston Red Sox only went to four World Series between the curse and 2004. They lost every game on days, according to factmonster.com.

"Some players go a whole season without reaching their clothes," Lee said. "Some pitchers have to walk up to the mound before they pitch." "If players eat something and play well," Van Ostrand said. "They will eat it again."

It's bad luck to have a bat against the dugout, said Jimmy Gardiner, senior infielder for the Cal Poly baseball team. "If we lose one up against it, I have to kick it down," he said.

Cal Poly outfielder Jimmy Van Ostrand (right) rubs teammate Adam Buschini's (left) red hair as part of his routine and superstition. "We, as humans, have a responsibility to call out, "Erroneous!" when the computed statistics come out wrong."

The computer system gave UC Santa Barbara an edge over Cal Poly — presumably for its win over No. 10 Stanford. Cal Poly's best win came against No. 23 Arizona. The comments made by the Mustangs — a recurring theme on the San Luis Obispo campus.

Last season the Mustangs finished in second place and were leapfrogged by third place Cal State Fullerton for a trip to the NCAA tournament. This year it was fourth place UC Santa Barbara skipping over the Mustangs for a tournament bid. The culprit: It all comes down to a computer ranking system known as the RPI. Think about the BCS a computer-generated figure that determines which teams play for college football's national championship and you have got the gist of the RPI. The equation balances such things as strength of schedule, road wins, bad losses and other intangibles.

Cal Poly's performance warranted a No. 70 RPI ranking at WarrenNolan.com. The Gauchos were just ahead at No. 89. The NCAA won't reveal the exact method they use to select which teams dance and which teams ride the "left out" bench, but computers have increasingly found their way both into the selection process as well as the ensuing controversy.

"Computers are smart, don't get me wrong here. They can process vast amount of information and whip out facts and figures at the click of a button, but they can't think," said Chandler. "We, as humans, have a responsibility to call out, "Erroneous!" when the computed statistics come out wrong."

The computer system gave UC Santa Barbara an edge over Cal Poly — presumably for its win over No. 10 Stanford. Cal Poly's best win came against No. 23 Fresno State.

"Nevermind that Cal Poly defeated the Gauchos on two-off-three occasions; never mind that the Mustangs finished ahead of the Gauchos in the Big West standings; never mind that the Gauchos managed just an 8-10

see Frankly, page 11

Frankly Speaking

The Cal Poly softball team will face another big opponent — again. Chelsea Green and Teresa Miller have played their final games in Mustang uniforms and coach Jenny Condon's team will again sit through the off-season wondering what went wrong. Despite finishing third in the Big West and playing a brutal non-conference schedule, the NCAA selection committee found a way to slight the Mustangs — a recurring theme on the San Luis Obispo campus.

Water skiing finishes strong in 'Paradise'

Jennifer Boudevin

After being nearly shut down by dwindling participation five years ago, the Cal Poly Waterski Team is back on the water and leaving the competition in its wake.

The team closed out the season last weekend, placing No. 2 at "Paradise Found," their home tournament held in Bakersfield. The team defeated 12 competitors from California, Washington, Oregon and Arizona.

Noteworthy performances were turned in by Amanda Willson, taking 4th place in women's slalom and 5th in women's overall; Jamie Hastings, 6th in men's slalom; and Patrick Wyatt, 7th in men's jump.

The Western Collegiate Water Ski Association's All Star Qualifiers were also held last weekend, where the Western Collegiate Water Ski Association made the cut to compete in the National Collegiate Water Ski Association's All Star competition.

see Water skiing, page 11

'Stangs win sixth title in a row

Amanda Retzer

Lacrosse sticks all over the nation have once again crumbled to the Cal Poly women's lacrosse team after it won a sixth-straight national title in the Women's Division Intercollegiate Associates National Championship on Saturday.

The Mustangs blew away No. 4 Michigan 13-7 in the championship game Saturday. Both teams stepped out onto Tom Kimbrough Stadium with hot sticks. Michigan was coming off of a 15-6 upset against No. 1 Colorado State, while No. 2 Cal Poly had the upper hand with five previous national titles and a win against Colorado State 10-6 the day before.

Cal Poly anticipated another championship game against Colorado State and when the underdog Michigan came from behind for the win, the Mustangs were a littlethrown off. "I think we were more worried just because we are more comfortable playing Colorado State," Chandler said.

"Some players go a whole season without reaching their clothes," Lee said. "Some players have superstitions that most would find a little unusual. Pitcher Turk Wendell brushes his teeth and chews black licorice between every inning, and Wade Boggs only ate chicken on game days, according to factmonster.com."

"Some pitchers have to walk up to the mound before they pitch," Lee said. "Some of this is superstition and some is just routine," Van Ostrand said.

"It's bad luck to have a bat against the dugout, said Jimmy Gardiner, senior infielder for the Cal Poly baseball team. "If we lose one up against it, I have to kick it down," he said.

Cal Poly outfielder Jimmy Van Ostrand (right) rubs teammate Adam Buschini's (left) red hair as part of his routine and superstition. "It's bad luck to have a bat against the dugout, said Jimmy Gardiner, senior infielder for the Cal Poly baseball team. "If we lose one up against it, I have to kick it down," he said.

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