Fraternities, sororities clean up area near campus

Taylor Moore  
MUSTANG DAILY

The Cal Poly greek community worked together Sunday to improve the image of their organizations while cleaning up a few busy streets near the Cal Poly campus. The Panhellenic Association, Interfraternity Council and the Cultural Greek Council came together to pick up trash and improve the image of greek life in San Luis Obispo," said Jessica Munson, crop science junior and vice president of finance for the Panhellenic Association.

Students from every sorority and fraternity on campus volunteered at the event, which had a goal to complete over 400 hours of community service.

"We try to do at least one all greek community service event per quarter to help make a positive impact in San Luis Obispo," said Courtney Sterk, journalism junior and Alpha Chi Omega member.

The Panhellenic Association, Interfraternity Council and the Cultural Greek Council worked together to pick up trash on Monday, March 5, 2007.

Irish Hills alive with sounds of construction

Hayley Bramble  
MUSTANG DAILY

Construction has been nonstop on Los Osos Valley Road in the new Irish Hills Plaza. Circuit City, located in front of Costco, is now open and many more stores are set to follow. Almost all of the new center’s tenants will be large chain retailers. PetSmart will have its grand opening during the first part of March, and OfficeMax, Linens ‘n Things, Old Navy and Beverages & More will open sometime during spring or summer.

For more info: Call Michael Pipes at (805) 431-7744.

COMING UP...

EVENTS CALENDAR

What: Middle East comments:  
Who: Michael Pipes  
Where: Spanos Theatre

What: Career Services will be hosting “Teacher Interview: Panel Discussion.”  
When: Wednesday, March 7 from 5:30 to 7 p.m.  
Where: Veranda Cafe

For more info: Contact Career Services at (805) 756-2501.

What: Students interested in running for ASI president or a position on the ASI board of directors must submit candidate packets by the end of this week.  
Where: Applications are due by 5 p.m. on Friday, March 9.  
Where: ASI Business Office on the second floor of the UU.

For more info: Contact Mia White at (805) 541-3422.

What: Attend the container gardening workshop, taught by members of the Environmental Horticulture Science Club. The workshop is free for anyone.  
When: Saturday, March 10 from 11 a.m. to noon  
Where: Cal Poly Horticulture Unit

For more info: Contact the Poly Plant shop at (805) 756-1106.

Economics master’s degree to be offered by fall 2008

Cassee Gaeto  
MUSTANG DAILY

The Orfalea College of Business’ planned 45-unit master’s degree in economics has been fully approved by Cal Poly and is awaiting chancellor approval to begin offering classes.

The program is expected to have 20 to 25 students, the majority of which will be undergraduates from Cal Poly, until the program gains awareness and attracts students from other campuses.

"Economics fills a wider role as an undergraduate requirement but it does not prepare you to be an economist," said Steve Hamilton, economics department chair. "Undergraduates in economics do not always have the technical and quantitative skills. You need some sort of graduate training to be an economist."

Classes for the degree are expected to open fall quarter of 2008, Hamilton said. However, if there is a large immediate interest on campus, it may start sooner.

Offering the degree at Cal Poly will put the campus on the radar for many Californians and out-of-state students because few universities offer this specialty.

"Creating this program affirms the polytechnic focus of this university. This degree can get students a higher salary with the economist title, but the reason to pursue a vocation is a passion. If you don’t like it, you are never going to be any good at it," Hamilton said.
Hills continued from page 1

"The building for the PetSmart store is all but finished," said Claudia Lemoine, project developer for the shopping center. She said they are currently stacking the shelves and putting the finishing touches inside the pet supply store. The large chain stores will provide a composition similar to Madonna Plaza.

"We're trying not to go head to head in competition with downtown. It's not boutique shopping like downtown offices," said Pearce, who has worked with Madonna Enterprises in the local construction industry since graduating from Cal Poly in 1991 with an agricultural degree.

A new coffee shop called It's a Grind will also join the major retailers in the center.

"It's a unique, small coffee chain based out of Southern California," Pearce said. The coffee house will offer live music, mostly jazz, on some evenings.

There were some questions raised about the center's similarity to the Madonna Plaza. The neighboring shopping center already has an electronics store, a bath and bedding store, an office supply store, pet supply store, and a coffee house.

"There is some duplication, but from a consumer standpoint, it drives prices down," Pearce said.

"Our intention was to build a regional shopping center that would be available to people in the area, as well as service the local market."

Animal science freshman Kaitlynn Wall said she had mixed feelings about the new shopping center.

"They could be putting in things that we need instead of things that we already have," she said.

Philosophy senior Maria Cuevas said she was glad to have the new shopping center in town and would definitely use it when it was completed. Cuevas, who lives in Santa Maria, said she currently has to drive to Ventura if she wants to go to Old Navy.

"Of the new center's resemblance to the Madonna Plaza, she said, "I think it's bad for the businesses, but it's always a better thing for us consumers."

With all the new stores going in, an increase in traffic can be expected on Los Osos Valley Road.

"In conjunction with all the work and the Costco project, there will be a new traffic signal," Pearce said.

The traffic signal will be near the Arco gas station at the freeway exit on Los Osos Valley Road.

"We're trying not to go head to head with downtown, and that's why we're trying to avoid head to head with the main mall," he said.

"The center, he said, "is unique, but it's not a mirror image of the bigger mall."

As part of their participation as chapters on campus, all sororities and fraternities partake in their own philanthropic events. However, the Hathaway cleanup was not affiliated with any one fraternity or sorority.

This is the first cleanup event to take place on Hathaway Avenue, which is littered with plastic cups, beer bottles and trash from student parties and heavy traffic. However, there have been similar events put on by the greek councils. At the end of Greek Week every year, all of the sororities and fraternities participate in a campus cleanup similar to Sunday's event.

The volunteering was fueled by the support of those active in the greek community who are bothered by the stereotypical view of fraternities and sororities.

"People on campus majoring in business and marketing in economics might find out that they want to pursue economics further, and now students will have a reason to do it here at Poly," said Kary Sturack, business junior and economics major.

To coordinate and support the degree, Cal Poly will be hiring a large number of new professors. The economics department is looking for more research-active faculty to get the program started and lead the first group of students through the course.

"Bringing a master's program and more experienced faculty will only give the college and our degrees a higher reputation," Sturack said.

The economics master's degree differs from the undergraduate degree in that it demands a much higher level of math and analytical skills that will ultimately allow students to determine what is driving consumer choices.

Once the program is open and has momentum, undergraduate students finishing up their senior year will be able to start taking coursework for the master's degree.

"Economists are one of the fastest growing occupations in California," Sturack said. "There are so many companies out there just collecting data and they need people who are capable of figuring out what the models are telling us."

Other graduate programs offered by the Orfale College of Business include business administration, industrial and technical studies and science in accounting-taxation.
BREA, Calif. (AP) — Firefighters and sheriff's deputies searched Sunday for a woman in a helicopter after reports that an aircraft may have gone down in a rural area of Orange County, a fire captain said.

A helicopter from Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and a helicopter from Los Angeles County Fire Department were assisting the Brea and Chino fire departments in the search, said Capt. Mike Brown, a spokesman for Los Angeles County Fire Department. The search was focused at the Firestone Boy Scout Reserve, he said.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Kenyan Fred Mogaka pulled away from countryman Moses Kororia in the last mile to win the Los Angeles Marathon on Sunday.

Kororia and another Kenyan, Christopher Kipyego, passed Russian Ramilia Burangolova in the 25th mile, but Mogaka surged ahead and crossed the finish line in 2 hours, 17 minutes and 14 seconds.

"I tried to store energy at the end," Mogaka said. "I wanted to have finishing power." Meanwhile, a man who participated in a marathon-affiliated bike tour died during the ride, fire officials said. The man's identity and cause of death were not immediately available. Two runners collapsed and died during last year's marathon.

SACRAMENTO (AP) — California may be joining the grocery stores and schools. Prepared in California's restaurants, value. Why have them?

for humans. that can mean longer shelf life for the artery-clogging substances

health crusade against trans fats,

"Trans fats kill people," said

"This show is about friendship and having the time of your lives," Grenier said during an appearance for the U.S. Comedy Arts Festival. "Every week we do something that we'll never do for a day on the beach," parks supervisor Jay Howard said.

Officials also plan to continue

Riverside. The scenic, rocky point that juts into the lake.

APSEF, Colo. (AP) — Adrian Grenier says he's not having to work hard playing Vince Chase, on the HBO hit series "Entourage." "This show is about friendship and having the time of your lives," Grenier said during an appearance for the U.S. Comedy Arts Festival. "Every week we do a new episode, we're in a new, exciting location. All we have to do is have fun all day long." In Aspen to speak on a panel for the festival last Saturday, three of the show's leads and its executive producer dined at the hot spot Mamuia and partied at the private Caribou Club.

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White supremacist gang's clot grows as another's diminishes

Gillian Flaccus

BUIENA PARK, Calif. — The white supremacist gang Public Enemy No. 1 began two decades ago as a group of teenage punk-rock fans from upper-middle class bedroom communities in Southern California.

Now, the violent gang that deals in drugs, guns and identity theft is gaining clout across the West after forging an alliance with the notorious Aryan Brotherhood, authorities say.

Police say the gang has compiled a "hit list" targeting five officers and a gang prosecutor — a sign of just how brazen Public Enemy has become. They make police officers very, very nervous," said Cpl. Nate Booth, a gang detective with the Buena Park Police Department in Orange County.

Law enforcement officials trace the gang's rise to shifts in the power structure inside prisons.

The Aryan Brotherhood has long been the dominant white supremacist gang behind bars, with the Nati Low Riders acting as its foot soldiers on the outside for drug dealing and identity theft.

In 2000, officials reclaimed the Low Riders as a prison-based gang and began sending its members to solitary confinement as soon as they were imprisoned.

The crackdown hurt the gang's ability to interact with the Aryan Brotherhood, which turned to Public Enemy, authorities say. The alliance was cemented in 2005 when Donald Reed "Popeye" Mazza, an alleged leader of Public Enemy, was inducted into the Aryan Brotherhood.

The pact has increased Public Enemy's recruiting power, said Steve Slate, a special agent for the California Department of Corrections.

In the past three years, its ranks have doubled to at least 400, but authorities suspect there could be hundreds of other members operating under the radar. They said heavy recruiting is taking place throughout California and Arizona, and members have been picked up by police in Nevada and Idaho.

"They move around. We find them everywhere," said Lowell Smith of the Orange County Probation Department.

The gang traces its roots to the punk rock subculture in Long Beach in the 1980s. It soon shifted in base to nearby Orange County and in the 1990s began recruiting what police call "bored latchkey kids" — white teenagers from upper-middle class neighborhoods.

Public Enemy is now involved in identity theft. Booth said the gang has gone from swiping personal information from mailboxes and trash to stealing entire credit profiles with the help of girlfriends and wives who work at banks, mortgage companies and even state motor vehicle departments.

Money from those operations is used to fuel its methamphetamine business, he said.

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Dan Joling  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — Officially, the state of Alaska has not decided whether to back a federal proposal to list polar bears as threatened under the Endangered Species Act.

But speaking at a federal hearing, Gov. Sarah Palin's point person on polar bears stopped just short of saying it was a losing idea.

"There's not a credible polar bear biologist in the world who would make that state­ment," he said Friday.

Cunning's testimony followed the lead of Palin. Two weeks after taking office in December, Alaska's new governor voiced concern for the state's economic health in a letter to the Interior Secretary Dirk Kemp­phorne.

"Listing polar bears under the Endangered Species Act has the potential to damage Alaska's and the nation's economy without any benefit to polar bear numbers or their habitat," Palin wrote.

The proposed listing is based on the pre­sumption that sea ice will be significantly diminished and that sea ice is the most important factor for their survival. Without citing which population of bears, she said polar bears are adapting to living on land.

"Preferred food sources such as some ice seal populations may be declining, but data indicate that the bears are adapting to use alternative food sources, including food sources that may be expanding," she said.

Derocher said people who have an eco­nomic interest in keeping polar bears off the threatened species list may be wishfully thinking that polar bears can thrive on land.

"As far as we're concerned, most of those food sources are not enough to maintain a viable population in the long term," Derocher said.

The Fish and Wildlife Service has two more public hearing scheduled, Monday in Washing­ton, D.C., and Wednesday in Barrow, Alaska. The agency is collecting public testi­mony until April 9. Its decision on listing polar bears is due next January.
Democratic presidential candidates Barack Obama, D-Ill., far left (in a white shirt) and Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-New York, along with former President Bill Clinton, take part in the traditional walk across the Edmund Pettus Bridge to commemorate the 42nd anniversary of the 1965 Selma to Montgomery March, Sunday March 4, 2007 in Selma, Ala.

"The fight for civil rights and equal rights and economic and social justice is more than just going to celebrations, even as won that his white ancestors on his civil rights at the University of California, Berkeley.

"If it hasn't been for Selma, I wouldn't be here," Obama said. "This is the site of my conception. I am the fruits of your labor. I am the offspring of the movement. When people ask me whether I've been to Selma before, I tell them I'm coming home.

But the former president stole the show from the two candidates. The audience cheered loudest for him when the three took the stage at the end of the march and the crowd mobbed him as he tried to make it to his limousine, delaying him when the three took the stage.

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Instead, Clinton held hands with her husband and Obama was several people down the line. Obama, who shed his coat and tie for the march, introduced Hillary Clinton at one point and the two chatted for a few seconds before moving back to opposite sides of the street.

The two candidates sounded similar themes in their speeches. Both said the civil rights movement is not over because inequality still exists in education, health care and the economy. Both criticized the Bush administration for failing to return Hurricane Katrina victims to their homes.

But Obama, who was three years old on Bloody Sunday, delivered a call to action that would be politically untenable for Clinton or any of his other white rivals. He said the current generation of blacks does not always honor the civil rights movement and needs to take responsibility for improving their lives by resisting violence; cleaning up "40-ounce bottles" and other trash that litters urban neighborhoods; and voting instead of complaining that the government is not helping them.

"How can it be that our voting rates dropped down to 30, 40, 50 percent when people shed their blood to allow us to vote?" Obama asked at a unity breakfast with community leaders.

At the breakfast, Obama got a key to the city and another to surround Dallas County from a probate judge, Kim Ballard. "Forty-two years ago he might have needed it because I understand it would open the jail cells," Ballard said. "But not today.

Obama said the fight for civil rights reverberated across the globe and inspired his father to aspire to something beyond his job herding goats in Kenya. His father moved to Hawaii to get an education under a program for African students and met Obama's mother, a fellow student from Kansas. Obama said he was not surprised that his white ancestors on his civil rights at the University of California, Berkeley.

"That's no surprise in America," he said and added that the civil rights struggle made it possible for such a diverse couple to fall in love.

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Speaking at his induction, Clinton said the 2008 campaign features "a rainbow coalition running for president.

"If it hadn't been for the Voting Rights Act, the South would have never recovered and two white southerners — Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton — never could have become president," Clinton said.

Other Democratic candidates are not leaving the black vote to Obama and Clinton. John Edwards, the 2004 vice presidential nominee, was speaking about Selma

CLINTONS, OBAMA PAY HOMAGE TO CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVISTS

Nedra Pickler
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SELMA, Ala. — Presidential candidates Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton crossed campaign paths for the first time Sunday as they paid homage to civil rights activists who they said helped give them the chance to break barriers to the White House.

The two candidates and former President Clinton, making his first appearance with his wife since her campaign began, linked arms with activists who 42 years ago were attacked by police with billyclubs during a peaceful voting rights march, "Bloody Sunday" shocked the nation and helped bring attention to the racist voting practices that kept blacks from the polls.

"I'm here because somebody marched for us," Obama, who would become the first black president, said from the Brown Chapel AME Church where the march began on March 7, 1965. "I'm here because you all sacrificed for me, I stand on the shoulders of giants."

Not to be outdone in the hunt for black votes, Hillary Clinton also appeared outside Brown Chapel for a pre-march rally, but came from opposite sides of the podium and inspired his father to aspire to something beyond his job herding goats in Kenya. His father moved to Hawaii to get an education under a program for African students and met Obama's mother, a fellow student from Kansas.

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Putting the ‘oh’ in organics

I have ever stopped to think about what you put in your body? With the rise of heart disease and cancer at surprisingly scary levels in the past decade, is it any wonder that, the benefits of fresh fruits and vegetables? We might be underplaying the benefits of organically grown grapes. What's more confusing is that you might assume a wine that is advertised as "sulfite-free" is organic, though wine that isn't necessarily organic, even if it is organic, can be sulfite-free. There are no "organic" grapes used at all. To be organically labeled, a winery must have all organic grapes and use no sulfur. Then there is the confusion of several more labels. If you pick up a bottle that states it is "transition-ally" organic, you might be pressed for an explanation of what that means. The winery must wait three years to "transition" from a conventional growing system to a purely organic one. Then you have your "sustainable agriculture" and "low-impact farming," which have no legal ramifications but refer to the use of more "green" techniques, like using owl boxes to keep rodents out of the vineyard or adding cover crops to increase soil nutrition. "Bio-Dynamically Grown" means that the grower used a method of incorporating the grapes with the moon and sun in order to connect the grapes to a higher power. It's a lot to take in — I'm not even going to lie. But the truth is, most wineries converting to organic are doing so because many wine buyers are weary of chemical-laden products — even wine. Since the organically grown grape is produced without insecticides, fungicides and herbicides, the organic wine provides no toxic chemical residuals. On the other hand, conventional growing requires that the previous crop season. In 1989, the organic wine market has grown quite popular over the years. The United States had only 200 organic grape acres planted. Then in 2003, voila, nearly 14,000 acres. Recently, bigger players such as Mondavi, Kendall-Jackson, Gallo and Beringer are all beginning to take steps toward becoming more "sustainable." Ban, pesticides, using less yeast for fermentations and beginning to move to organic production. The wine I selected today is Fetzer's organic brand, Five Hills Blue 2004 Cabernet Sauvignon (Trader Joe's $4.99). With a picture of a ladybug, one of the biggest helpers in a solely organic vineyard, the label helps to educate the buyer about organic farming. I found the wine to have a pleasant bouquet with hints of blueberry, raspberry and mint. It was sweet and smooth. As I finished it, I was quite content with the fact that I had bought something that wouldn't inadvertently kill me. Those things that may inadvertently kill me, I save for the weekend.

Lauren Jeter is a 2005 wine and viticulture graduate and is pursuing a master's degree in agribusiness. Feel free to send any recommendations, favorite wines or recipes to lawnejeter@gmail.com

Sibling rivalry ads fun twist to romantic comedy ‘Matters’

While it's not in every traditional romantic comedy that both the guy and the girl find the same woman of their dreams, "Gray Matters" is far from the typical popcorn flick.

Starring Heather Graham and Tom Cavanagh, focuses on a love triangle between siblings.

Brother and sister duo compete to win over the girl of their dreams

Kate Stanhope

As Oscar season officially closes, it's time to celebrate with a film a little lighter than the average multi-cultural ensemble piece or Irish Mafia blood fest. "Gray Matters," written and directed by newcomer Sue Kramer, is the perfect solution to the winter movie blues.

The romantic comedy "Gray Matters," starring Heather Graham and Tom Cavanagh, focuses on a love triangle between siblings. The romantic comedy "Gray Matters," starring Heather Graham and Tom Cavanagh, focuses on a love triangle between siblings.

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Hollywood actor visits Poly English class, shares poetry

Janelle Eastridge

"Communion is important to me. I find it with my wife, the son/ my family, in writing poetry/acting, reading poetry, watching/ movies & with a few creative people ... communication requires depth/ mystery, respect, a listening to one/ another."

Harry Northup writes in his poem "past periphery."

"He was hailed as the "poet laureate of east Hollywood," though Northup humbly demurred that his, Holly Prado Northup, also a poet, is more deserving of this title.

The 66-year-old proved to be a unique finale to the quarter, providing a rare classroom opportunity for students to ask questions about his poetry, which students have been studying, and the creative process in general.

Northup's road to acting and, ultimately, poetry, is a complex, simple one: He was born in Amarillo, Texas, in 1940, but primarily grew up in Sidley, Neb. He had been playing baseball, basketball, acting in plays and just keeping out of trouble, he said. After a three-year stint in the Navy and two years at the Nebraska State Teacher's College, Northup "romantically" took off for New York City at the age of 22 and just kept out of trouble, he said. "It was a real education. (After acting school), I would go to the New York public library and sit and just read. I remember I was living in a real dingy hotel ... but I'd go to the public library and read every play that I could. I'd go see every play that I could. I'd read theater history. I really educated myself," Northup said.

Method acting ultimately led Northup to poetry. In 1966, at the age of 26, fellow actor James Cushing introduced Northup to poetry; at the time, two off-Broadway jobs had fallen through and the emotions from this had to come out. Poetry has been a passion of his ever since.

"In method acting you learn that memory is bound up with the senses. (In a scene from "The Grapes of Wrath") Tom Jones is sitting under a tree and then his uncle comes along. So I just recreated a time in my life from when I was in the Navy, and the sun was beaming down on me after I had been standing there for four hours. And that just relaxed me. That was a learning point for me, to just relax and simplify. And to just use a real-life experience and then allow the emotion to take me where it may," Northup said.

"If you don't draw from your experience in acting, then you end up imitating other people's work. And the same thing happens in poetry," he said. "I try to go back in time to an experience, say, perhaps with my father. I'll be writing something about my father... And then the emotion is in the beginning, the middle, and the end of the poem. It's like an arch. When it finishes, that's the end of the poem."

In a way, he occupies a very unique position, straddling the line between famous, big name actors and the average man. And like other moderns, such as William Carlos Williams, his work has given him a perspective that few can come up with, Northup said.

"Some of those great films include "Taxi Driver," "The Silence of the Lambs," "Communion is important to me. I find it with my wife, the son/ my family, in writing poetry/acting, reading poetry, watching/ movies & with a few creative people ... communication requires depth/ mystery, respect, a listening to one/ another."

Harry Northup writes in his poem "past periphery."

"He was hailed as the "poet laureate of east Hollywood," though Northup humbly demurred that his, Holly Prado Northup, also a poet, is more deserving of this title.

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Acclaimed actor and poet Harry Northup, whose face might be recognizable from movies such as "Taxi Driver" and "Silence of the Lambs," visited an English class Thursday to share his poetry with students.

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**Matters continued from page 6**

Sam takes the easy way out as he and dream girl Charlie swap vows “after six whole days of dating, but it is the story of his not-so-together sister that really matters. As Gray struggles with coming out as a truly independent strong adult, as well as coming out as the lesbian she had no idea she was, the story’s deeper message shines through.

Moylanah is respectable but far from extraordinary, while Cavanaugh is winning and Graham surprising. Watching the two create a strong familial chemistry in a relationship that could have seemed easily fallen on the wrong note; Sam and Gray are prompted to search for their own acceptance, leave listeners in awe.

Nate Young and the band’s recent release ‘Blueprints for a Black Market?’ is sure to be their next chart single, or at least it should be. The record to an epic storming with positive words; fans got it, and critics are demanding an encore. “The Unwinding Mariner” is a number of unrealistically odd-ball characters such as Gray’s shrink Sydney, played by Spacey, and Alan Cumming’s utterly hopeless Gondy.

Overall, the story remains a good balance between pure fluff and good fun. Much of the credit goes to the scene-stealing supporting cast, including Spacey, Cumming and the especially hilarious Molly Shannon.

This year’s story of self-discovery in the 21st century is a true standout — there’s no gray area here.

**Northup continued from page 7**

Last year, Northup published his ninth book, "Red Snow Fence," on his small, independent poet’s cooperative, Cahuenga Press. Founded in 1989 with six other poets, including his wife, Holly Prado Northup, and Cushing, "Cahuenga Press’s common goal is to create fine books of poetry by poets whose work (they) admire and respect; to make poetry actual in the world in the ways which honor both individual creative freedom and cooperative support;" Prado Northup wrote in the group’s mission statement.

Written in diary-like form, Northup’s poetry focuses on "(things) happening in time, at a specific time, place, with real people in them, not imaginary con­structs. (They show) just a human person, in this case a man, writing about his life, firsthand experiences and images."

“My poetry is a procession. It has always been a journey … What I’m trying to do in my own work — well, it all goes back to Wordsworth. And Wordsworth said that what he does is show the growth of the poet’s mind.\" Northup said. "And that’s, in a way, the beginning — or at least an important essence — of modern poetry: the subjectivity or the way the mind works. Each one of us should value how each one of our minds work, and the way we see things."

To accomplish this, he said, he tries to be the same person on the page that he is on the inside, and as a result, as Wordsworth said, his mind on the page.

“I always feel that the mark of a good poet, and that’s what I strive to be, is putting my mind (and my emotions) on the page. To be honest, so that at least you know that I’m not lying to you, that I’m not trying to be something that I’m not… It heals my soul. And it gives me order in the midst of chaos," Northup said.

He does this by "writing about what (he) actually sees" and experiences, and not focusing merely on big, abstract themes.

“Try this sometime…we’ll get together with some poets, and people will start talking about this big poet or that big poet or some big thing or this or that. And all there’s these big ideas just floating around and finally, I’ll go like this, ‘What did you do today?’ And all of a sudden we are just in the moment, in the present,” he said.

“You can just feel the relief, everyone coming back to normal. People always want to have these big ideas to write a poem. But sometimes I’ll sit and write about what my cat did — the real. It always kind of centers me in the here and now. The real."

For the time being, Northup will continue to constantly capture his experiences — whether they concern matrimonial bliss or beloved cats or existential observations and ponderings while riding the buses of Los Angeles. He is "just" and "all in the limited space pro­vided by his plain 70-page, college-rulled blue Mead notepad."

“I think it’s important, too, to say Hey, I’m a human being This is how I live. This is who I live with. These are the things that are important to me," he said.

"Two hundred pages, or even 50 now, (I want) somebody to look back and say, ‘This is the way this person lived his or her life.’ As opposed to living vicariously through Jack Nickelson, Jodie Foster, as beautiful and great as they are."

“Poetry gives you a value, too — ( reaffirming) that your life is important, that you have self-esteem, and that you respect yourself and others," Northup said.
**TAKING CRONYISM TO NEW HEIGHTS**

There is no question that the Bush administration has taken the concept of the corrupt, ineffective presidency to new heights. Anyone familiar with this column can see as much.

One of the trademarks of Bush's inability to operate in a government in an efficient or effective manner, or at all, has been his continued appointment of political loyalists to govern- ment positions — along with those with any relevant experience or qualifications — and the removal of those who refuse to toe the political line he demands.

There are enough stories of the Bush administration's demands for political purities in government office to fill 10 columns. Take Gail Nainos for example. Mrs. Nainos left a comfortable position as a lobbyist to mining industry, where Bush appointed her to the position of the secretary of the interior. For those not familiar with the position, the secretary of the interior is responsible for the regulation of land use and implementing and enforcing environmental protection regulations. What did she do during her time in office? For one to profess to Islam is not synonymous with professing to violence and hatred. Believe it or not, not all terrorists are Muslims. Now, I know the defense of these vile actors will include the allege argument of "freedom of speech." I agree, by all means, freedom of speech is a valued piece of our constitution. But, there comes a time when the line is crossed.

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The Mustangs lost for the first time since a 5-2 record when they beat LBSU's Tigers 6-1 on Saturday at Long Beach State. The loss puts Cal Poly's overall record at 5-7 on the season and 2-2 in the Big West Conference. Cal Poly recorded one win in singles and one doubles victory. At the No. 4 position, freshman Brian Filip recorded a win for the Mustangs over Pacific's Vegerd Emmannuelle Tabraoui, 6-0, 6-2. Young's record went to 10-10 on the season.

The Mustangs declined doubles to record one team point and won five of six singles matches en route to the win. At the No. 2 position, sophomore Darryl Young recorded a win for the Mustangs over Pacific's Yegne Venkamag, 6-0, 6-2. Young's record went to 10-10 on the season.

Cal Poly junior Fred DeWitt captured a 6-2, 6-2 win over Chase Oliphant. Sophomore Nick Berger notched a win over Robert Price, 6-4, 6-2 in the No. 6 singles match.

The Mustangs evened up their Big West Conference record at 7-11-1 with Sundiy's win over Long Beach State.

At the No. 4 position, freshman Rob Foy defeated Pedro Toledo of the Tigers, 6-2, 6-2, 6-2.

The Mustang doubles team of Maria Malec and Shannon Brady picked up a win over Sandra Rocha and Rachel Porter of Long Beach State, 8-5.

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MUSTANG DIARY

Monday, March 5, 2007

Basketball continued from page 12

But the Mustangs were in control early on, leading 4-0 after the first 10 minutes. They took a 4-3 lead late in the first half, but Pacific tied the game with a pair of free throws early in the second half. The Mustangs led 5-0 and 21-13 at one point, but Pacific came back to win the game, 53-37 in the second half.

The Mustangs suffered a blowout loss to the Tigers, who took the game 66-52.

The Mustangs ended their season with a 24-8 overall record and a 13-2 conference record. They defeated Pacific in overtime to win the Big West Conference tournament.

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MUSTANG DAILY
www.mustangdaily.com

The paper doesn't put itself together. Take a virtual tour of the newsroom at mustangdaily.com

Day wins high jump at UCLA Invitational

SPORTS INFORMATION SERVICES

WESTWOOD, Calif. — Cal Poly's Anna Day placed second in the 2006-07 season in the UCLA Invitational on Saturday at Drake Stadium.

Shara Day highlighted the meet for the Mustangs, winning the women's 400-meter hurdles when she cleared 5 feet, 10.75 inches. Phillips Reid led the men's team with a second-place finish in the women's two-mile run with a time of 8 minutes, 41 seconds.

In the women's field events, the Mustangs had a strong showing from Nicki Lopez with a second-place finish in the javelin with a throw of 127-8. Julie Dufresne placed third in the shot put with a throw of 44-7.5.

In men's field events, Layton Heape placed third in the shot put with a mark of 57-3.

In women's track events, the team had solid performances from Cassie Atkinson with a second-place finish in the 1,500 with a time of 4:33 and Jhara Sana with a time of 1:40 in the 400-meter hurdles and a second-place finish.

Shara Day finished third in the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 14.83 seconds.

Other Mustangs competing included Stephanie Williams with a sixth-place finish in the 400 (58.81) and Nikki Chase, who finished just behind Williams in seventh (58.86).

On the men's side, Leaf Anderson placed fourth in the steeplechase with a time of 9:29 and Sean Lopez placed third in the 800 with a time of 1:55.

Classifieds

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Research Candidates Coastal Medical Research Group, Inc. is conducting a clinical research trial for patients with CANDIDIASIS. Are you 18 years or age or older? Do you have vaginal itching, burning or irritation? You may qualify to participate in this research study. Qualify through a telephone interview, study related medical exams, investigations of medication and reimbursement for time and travel. Call for more information: Coastal Medical Research Group, Inc. 805-549-5770

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SPORTS INFORMATION SERVICES

LOUIS ANGELES — The Cal Poly men's track and field teams opened the 2007 outdoor season at the UCLA Invitational on Saturday at Drake Stadium.

Shara Day highlighted the meet for the Mustangs, winning the women's 400-meter hurdles when she cleared 5 feet, 10.75 inches. Phillips Reid led the men's team with a second-place finish in the women's two-mile run with a time of 8 minutes, 41 seconds.

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Tristan Aird

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Tristan Aird

D reak Stockalper lowered his head, raced downcourt past two Pacific defenders and kept toward the basket with the ball extended in his right hand before throwing down a one-handed slam dunk.

And he did all that with a glove in his mouth after one of his teeth had gone through his lower lip earlier in the second half. The gutsy performance helped the Cal Poly mens basketball team to an 82-70 Big West Conference win over visiting Pacific on Saturday in a senior Day regular-season finale in front of a sellout crowd of 3,032 in Mott Gym.

"It feels like a bomb just blew up in my mouth," Stockalper joked in the locker room after the game before leaving to get stitches.

The Mustangs did go off on the possibility of Cal Poly having to play Thursday in the Big West Tournament.

With the win, the Mustangs (18-10, 9-5 Big West) secured the No. 2 seed in the Big West Tourney — which runs Wednesday through Saturday at the Anaheim Convention Center — and earned an automatic trip to the Fridays semifinal round.

Cal Poly, which has won seven straight and 12 of its last 14 games, extended its record of wins in a season since moving to the Division I level for the 1994-95 season. The Mustangs also clinched their best Big West winning percentage ever and are assured of their best overall record since going 19-9 at the Division II level in 1991-92.

"Going out with a win on Senior Night, 18-10, the (Division I) record Cal Poly’s ever gotten, No. 2 seed, it all came together tonight," Stockalper said. "Chaz had a giant game for us."

Indeed, sophomore point guard Chaz Thomas came off the bench to contribute 19 points, two assists and team-highs of six rebounds and four steals in 22 minutes.

"We wanted it so bad, we wanted the second seed," Thomas said. "We’re only two games away (from the NCAA Tournament). That’s our goal right now."

Pacific head coach Bob Thompson took notice of Thomas’ play.

"I thought Chaz Thomas was the difference in the game," Thompson said. "He made big shots."

Stockalper led all scorers with 25 points on 9-for-12 shooting, including a 4-for-7 mark from 3-point range. Dawn Whitner added 16 points for the Mustangs, who shot 70.8 percent from the floor in the second half and 51.9 percent for the game.

A wild celebratory scene ensued after the game in which players stood opposite the scorer’s table high-fiving fans and saluting a rousing contingent of Mustang Madness, who also surrounded head coach Kevin Bromley after storming the court.

"They’ll remember the rest of their life," Bromley said of seniors Stockalper, Tyler McGinn and Joe Henry. "It’s like having children — you get so proud of them."

McGinn had five points, two boards and a steal.

"It’s definitely the best game I’ve been a part of," McGinn said. "It feels good We’re the No. 2 seed."

Before tip-off the team went through Senior Day ceremonies, in which the three seniors were presented with framed pictures of themselves and they and their family along with Bromley at halftime received a standing ovation from the crowd.

Above, Cal Poly head coach Kevin Bromley (far right) celebrates his mens basketball team’s 82-70 win over Pacific on Saturday in Mott Gym. At left are players Dreshawn Vance (far left) and John Manley.

Below, Cal Poly sophomore point guard Trae Clark (0) battles for the ball with two Pacific players.

BY THE NUMBERS

1-8
Cal Poly’s record when trailing at the half, the first win coming Saturday.

10-1
The Mustangs’ record when scoring 80 or more points.

12
Seasons since 1991-92 Cal Poly has won at least 18 games in a season, this year.

NEWS STORY

Poly softball team edges Texas Tech

4-2 to continue best start since ’97

Among the Mustangs’ three wins over the weekend was a 6-2 victory over No. 9 Stanford.

FULLERTON — Sophomore shortstop Melissa Paris three-run homer in the top of the seventh inning propelled the Cal Poly softball team to a 4-2 come-from-behind victory Sunday against Texas Tech in the finale of the Worth Invitational at Anderson Family Field.

The Mustangs trailed 2-1 entering the seventh when sophomore third baseman Cremson Lee led off the inning with a double. The next hitter, junior designated player Sarah Bowa, walked ahead of Pura, who, after fouling off several pitches, swatted her sixth homer of the season to straight-away center field.

Cal Poly starting pitcher Robyn Konra, who scattered five hits, didn’t walk a batter and threw 71 percent of her 92 pitches for strikes, improved to a team-best 0-0.

see Softball, page 10