Back to School Spring 2007

Volume LXX Mustang Daily Issue No. 109
Graduation 101: All that's left to do

By Josh Krause

As a senior looking to graduate this spring, I live in constant fear. I'm mostly afraid of what the heck I'm going to do with my life, but running close behind is the apprehension of making sure I've taken all the right classes and turned in the last-minute paperwork necessary for me to get my degree.

That would definitely ruin my senior year. But after realizing the utter stupidity of my investigation to make sure I've tied up all loose ends, I'll actually find that I have to be here another quarter.

Here's a general checklist of what I found all seniors must complete before graduating, starting with the easy stuff and moving toward the obscure:

Get your units

All students must take at least 60 units of upper division coursework before they can graduate. Transfer students must take a minimum of three general education courses at Cal Poly.

Fulfill your General Writing Requirement

After students complete 90 units, they can fulfill this requirement in two ways. The easiest is probably to take a GWR-certified English or literature course, which are listed in the "Cal Poly Almost Alumni Handbook" at www.almostalumni.calpoly.edu. Students need to pass this course with a C or better and also pass a 500-word, in-class essay.

Another option is to take one early on a Saturday and then take the Writing Proficiency Exam, a 500-word essay that must be completed in two hours. Dates of the test, which costs $25, are listed online on the Cal Poly Web site on the Student Planning Calendar under the "Class Schedule" heading.

Schedule a Student Loan Exit Interview

This mandatory meeting informs students who have taken out student loans of how to pay back their lenders and of their rights as a borrower. The interview helps students lay out their options, such as possibly consolidating their loans or deferring them if they are going to graduate school.

Financial Aid director Lois Kelly said the more responsibility students show in paying back their loans, the better credit they will establish.

"Loans will follow students long after graduation," she said, "whether they're in the financial marketplace or looking to buy a home or secure other types of credit."

Students can schedule Exit Interviews at the Financial Aid Office.

CSU board approves report for Fresno State development

FRESNO, Calif. — California State University trustees approved the final environmental impact report for a 43-acre development project on the Fresno campus that will bring apartments, a 14-screen movie theater and stores.

The vote during the board's meeting in Long Beach on Wednesday clears the way for Fresno State to start working on the architectural plans for Campus Pointe, which would include offices, a 200-room hotel and conference center on land leased to Fresno developer Khashan Enterprises LP.

The development deal has been opposed by city officials, who ask for $3 million to pay for street maintenance and public safety services, and local business groups who said the development would reap unfair tax advantages because it would operate on public land. The school said developers would pay other taxes that would equal property taxes.

Other opponents claim the university has backed Campus Pointe for the $750,000 annual share of rental income it plans to use to pay off debt from a $103 million arena.

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Avoid Burnout
Graduation continued from page 2
in the Administration building in room 222, or in the Almost Alumni Handbook online.

Complete a United States Cultural Pluralism course
This is a requirement I hadn't even heard of until the end of last quarter. And to my horror, it was also one I found I hadn't fulfilled when I called the Evaluations office. I was lucky enough to sneak into a USCP-certified class, although it threw a huge wrench into my epic schedule.

Some majors are better than others in incorporating these classes into their coursework. Students can check online for classes that fulfill this requirement by typing "USCP" in the general search at the Cal Poly Web site or by logging onto PASS.

Take a deep breath
Even if you aren't able to graduate on time, you probably still have options. Most likely, you'll be able to walk with your class, although you won't be able to receive a degree until you turn in the right paperwork and make up missing classes.

Talking with some advisers at Cal Poly definitely helped put my mind at ease. It looks like I'm on track to graduate on time, but even if I'm not, it's nice to know there are experienced people looking out for me.

"I'm always concerned when there's a student who hasn't completed necessary paperwork," said Dawn Sirois, who has been an academic adviser for the College of Engineering for 11 years. "We always do everything we can to make sure students get the correct information. We'll walk things to certain offices if we need to facilitate something quickly."

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The Open House committee meets Wednesday nights to plan for the April 19 to 21 event when new students and the community visit Cal Poly.

Open House gets ready to set sail

Amanda Reiter

Cal Poly's 14th Annual Open House is lifting anchor this year from April 19 to 21, encouraging students to discover the unknown, chart their course and set sail on the three adventure-themed days aimed at introducing Cal Poly to prospective students.

"We chose the theme of 'Explore Cal Poly: Begin Your Adventure' in May after last year's Open House. We chose basically to showcase how Cal Poly brings so many opportunities and options in people's lives," Open House 2007 Co-Chair Allie O'Leary said. "When they come to Cal Poly they are just starting their adventure and their new life in college."

Each day promotes the "Begin Your Adventure" theme and has a different highlight and numerous activities to get the word out to students who are thinking of attending Cal Poly, as well as providing some information and a dash of fun to the community and current Cal Poly students.

Thursday, April 19, kicks off the weekend with Club Preview Night at Farmers' Market, titled "Discover the Unknown." This leads to the mainly academic Friday, a day to "Chart Your Course." Prospective students will be introduced to the different colleges and the academics offered by each college. The day will ease up as the sun goes down with the Friday Night Invite in the University Union.

"There will be free music and pizza with free bowling," O'Leary said.

"The rock wall will be out as well as an art center."

This all leads to Saturday's activities on the "Set Sail" day with the Poly Royal Parade, the Kids' Fair, the truck and tractor pull and the rodeo.

"This day is open to the public and starts with the Poly Royal Parade," O'Leary said of the parade that will start at 9 a.m. at Grand and Perimeter, moving towards Via Carta.

Parade participants include the Mustang Band, ROTC and any club that would like to publicize with a float, by carrying banners, dressing up and more. The Grand Marshal this year is Monica Schechter, associate director of Study Abroad and International Programs, who will lead the parade by car.

"(The parade) leads into opening ceremonies on Dexter Lawn," O'Leary said. This will be a showcase of over 200 clubs and organizations passing out information and goodies.

Along with the club showcase, there will be a Kids' Fair from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the UU, inviting "people from the San Luis Obispo community, professors, staff and students to come and bring their families," O'Leary said. There will be a bounce house, face painting, games, performances by Zoo to You, Dr. Magic, and more.

More information about the events and scheduling can be found online at www.studentlife.calpoly.edu or by calling (805) 756-7576.
Clubs for all in the College of Liberal Arts

Janelle Eastridge
MUSTANG DAILY
At a university whose very name includes the word poly-
technic, it is often easy to overlook the quality liberal arts
education — both inside and outside the classroom — it
offers as well. Here's a look at some lesser-known College
of Liberal Arts clubs and activities:

Poly Players/Alpha Psi Omega
"U' yeti by a common love and passion for theater, Poly
Players, a student-run musical theatre-based group affiliated
with the theatre and dance department, annually sponsors
6atre-gear events:

The group is a sort of off-shoot from Alpha Psi Omega,
the department’s theatre club. As of next year, the group will
most likely be exclusively referred to as Poly Players.

On April 7, Poly Players will present a musical review
with excerpts from classic musicals. This theatrical group is
comprised of both theatre majors and non-majors alike,
though selection is based on an audition.

For more information, contact Ryan Cordoro via e-mail
at rcordoro@calpoly.edu or by phone at 805-445-2080.

Another Type of Groove
Created as a way to which to provide an open forum for
dialogue and the interchange of ideas, Another Type of
Groove holds monthly poetry sessions open to both the Cal
Polly and San Luis Obispo communities.

Although not within the College of Liberal Arts per se,
Another Type of Groove has been associated with the col-
lege in the past, and in May the group will be hosting a slam
event in conjunction with the college.

This poetry venue has attracted nationally renowned
poets, such as World Slam champions, National Slam cham-
pions and HBO Def Poets, to their events — the group gives
aspiring poets and interested audience members an opportu-
nity to experience the best of contemporary performance
poetry.

Another Type of Groove takes place the first Thursday of
every month in Chumash Auditorium from 8 to 11 p.m.
For more information, contact Kyan Cipriano via e-mail
at kcy6103@calpoly.edu.
More than half of CSU freshmen need remedial classes

BERKELEY, Calif. — About 40 percent of California State University freshmen showed up on campuses not ready for college-level math last fall and 45 percent needed remedial help in English, a new report showed.

According to figures presented to CSU trustees in Long Beach on Tuesday, 63 percent of entering freshmen were proficient in mathematics, a drop of 1 percent from fall 2005, and 55 percent were ready for English, the same rate as the previous year.

Still, administrators of CSU, the nation’s largest four-year system with more than 400,000 students, say they’re pleased by results showing that most students who take remedial classes end up on track with those who came in college-ready.

CSU began tracking freshman proficiency in 1998, when only 32 percent of incoming students were fully prepared for college in both math and English. Last fall, the figure was 44 percent. During that period, the class of first-time freshmen has increased by 150 percent, from 28,327 to 43,065.

The tracking program, begun in 1998, had a goal of reaching 90 percent readiness by fall 2007, although officials say it’s not likely that will happen.

Administrators say they will continue a program in which high school juniors can take a test to see if they’re up to college standards.

CSU officials point out that the freshmen all met entrance requirements and say their standards — equivalent to scoring 550 each on the SAT verbal and math sections — are high.

— The Associated Press

Clubs

continued from page 5

more information, including a schedule of events, check out www.studentlife.calpoly.edu/mul/atog.asp?dept=mul.

Model United Nations

This student-run organization provides the opportunity for students to explore complex international diplomacy issues throughout the year, and then represent various countries at conferences modeled after those held by the United Nations.

This year, Meghan Bailey and David Schwartz are acting as editors, and the contest is open to undergraduates and graduates in all fields. Production is a collaborative effort with two English majors serving as editors for the project, and an art and design major serving as art director.

This award-winning literary magazine publishes students’ fiction and poetry on an annual basis. Contest entries are judged by the English faculty, with the winners, including honorable mention winners, published in the magazine.

The contest is open to undergraduates and graduates in all fields. Production is a collaborative effort with two English majors serving as editors for the project, and an art and design major serving as art director.

This year, Meghan Bailey and David Schwartz are acting as editors, with Julian Castralia accompanying them as art director.

Byzantium can be purchased at El Corral Bookstore, with this year’s magazine debuting this quarter. For more information, go to www.cla.calpoly.edu/engl/byzantium.html.

Introduction is a collaborative effort with two English majors serving as editors for the project, and an art and design major serving as art director.

This year, Meghan Bailey and David Schwartz are acting as editors, with Julian Castralia accompanying them as art director.

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Most information on these clubs and others can be found at www.cla.calpoly.edu/cla/student/club_run.html.
Study suggests women value clothes over sex

Janice McDuffie

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — A closet filled with a brand new wardrobe, or spending over a year without sex, would the average woman actually choose fashion over a man? According to a pre-Valentine's Day poll taken by consumer product company Universe, the average woman would prefer to abstain from sex for up to 15 months in exchange for a closet full of new clothes. Two percent of these women were willing to abstain for three years.

The poll was taken by 1,000 women in 10 U.S. cities, was unscientific and conducted via the Internet. However, the response to the results was covered by companies from Yahoo! to the New York Post with headlines revealing the news: Women prefer clothes over sex.

While there may have been a more accurate way to conduct this study, the media embraced these results as the truth, and others remain unsurprised by the results.

"A woman's wardrobe reflects her personality, and they see it as a big part of themselves," said Joey Sula, freshman in LAS.

Sula also said that he believes the results would be very different if the survey questioned 1,000 men, because they would definitely choose sex over clothes.

On the other hand, more than half of the women, or 61 percent, responded that they would rather go without sex for a month than lose their favorite piece of clothing.

Carson Kressley, fashion designer and TV personality from the reality show "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy," released a statement with the poll results, which said "some people say clothes make the man, but the right clothes can even replace him."

While only 54 percent of these women believe in love at first sight when it comes to a man, 70 percent, responded that whether or not these women were in relationships or had regular sexual partners is a major factor in their responses. However, she said she also thinks there are several other contributing elements.

"It depends on where you are coming from as in what social background, your economic background, your political background," she said.

Regardless of these attributes, Mukherjee said that a very important reason some women may prefer clothes to sex lies in how clothes can help define one's identity.

"How many of us actually define ourselves in terms of our sexual preference?" Mukherjee said.

There are numerous reasons as to why these women responded with a preference to clothes over sex. Whether women find that their clothes boost their confidence and therefore make the idea of feeling sexy more appealing than sex itself, or that they simply aren't satisfied, remains unknown. Gill acknowledged all of these reasons and is not surprised that women would choose clothes over sex.

"I think it would be foolish not to suggest that sexual pleasure is not always so overwhelmingly wonderful that it supersedes a great wardrobe," Gill said.
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Facebook posts may jeopardize students' careers after college

By Tim Sampson
THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

BOWLING GREEN, Ohio — Facebook isn't just online anymore. More and more students are finding out that the popular social networking site is now being viewed by University officials, potential employers and other people they never thought would see their profiles.

When Bowling Green State University freshman Rosanim Fought applied for transfer to another college, she was surprised when the adviser at her new school asked her about a picture she had posted on her profile.

"I had a picture that looked like I was drinking, but it was just a bottle of water," Fought said.

Along with schools, potential employers will also view applicants' profiles.

In her teacher-prep classes, education professor Cindy Hendricks advises her students to be wary of what they post on facebook when it comes time to find a job.

"I tell students that you put whatever you want on there — that's your business," Hendricks said. "But you have to be willing to deal with the consequences."

According to Hendricks, some students in the education department have lost teaching positions as a result of photos and other items posted online. She said employers often view profiles as an indicator of character and professionalism.

"There are things that just don't fly well here in the conservative Midwest," Hendricks said.

"There have been cases where it (facebook) has been involved," said Michael Ginsburg, assistant dean of students. "For example, in a case where we get a report that someone has made direct threats against somebody on the site."

"There is no denying that Facebook plays a part in our lives," Hendricks said.

Although administrators don't actually patrol student profiles, they can use them as evidence in cases involving violations of the university's code of conduct.

"If you're an athlete, gambling of any kind can end your career very quickly," she said.
**GUEST COMMENTARY**

**College-age generation obsessed with fame**

Andy Hsi
<del>Drake Times (2002)</del>

Do you think you’re special? According to Jake Halpern, you’re not.

In his recent book “Fame Junkies,” Halpern explores the celebrity phenomenon. He finds that America is really obsessed with being famous.

This will not come as a surprise to anyone who has spent entire evenings customizing his or her Facebook page, or watching a “My Super Sweet 16” marathon instead of writing a term paper.

Halpern cites vague personality studies of high school and college students as proof that our sense of entitlement and narcissism is on the rise. He could have saved himself the trouble by going to honoconc.com, though.

Driven by Web sites such as Myspace and YouTube, youth culture encourages self-interest.

It’s a good thing that the inventors of ramen noodle wrestling and ghostriding the Volvo now get their due five minutes. It forces people to better themselves.

Halpern sees this growing self-facination as the trade-off to “self-esteem.”

People did everything they could to make young men and women feel good about themselves again, like they used to do in the good old days.

TV commercials encourage young men to be all they could be

(in the ARMY!) The police officers in DARE told us to “just say no.” By the time we hit adolescence, our generation was armed with an arsenal of dogmas for any situation.

The ensuing prosperity of the Clinton years exacerbated the problem. Parents could afford to send their kids to piano lessons and basketball camps.

“Of course I wanna be in the NBA,” became an acceptable answer to “What do you want to be when you grow up?” Most teenagers would rather be a celebrity’s personal assistant — or just a moocher, like Turtle — than something boring like an engineer.

In first grade, I was taught an exercise that I still remember: “What do you think you’re good at?” Most teenagers would answer “Self-esteem.”

Except instead of self-esteem, insert touchy-feely emotions.

To come to think of it, our president should consider the tactic for his latest commitment to diplomacy: “Mr. Kim Jong Il, I feel crummy when you treat me like I’m invisible because you keep blowing up nukes in violation of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.”

On the other hand, comic books gave us little boys years beyond middle school to battle superheroes for decades. And little girls have been holding out hope that they would be secretly princesses since the days of the Brothers Grimm.

So maybe it’s not that big a deal. It’s not as though we could help it if we tried. Even The Associated Press could hardly go a week without writing about Paris Hilton.

So, in the end, go ahead and think that you can alter the universe with the force of your own thoughts and that the world revolves around you. But don’t feel bad if you miss your turn. Be happy.

The show created cults out of two of the most coveted demographics: the elderly and the college-educated.

And, they all love him. How could they not? His fame reached incredible proportions in 1996 after Barker took hold of one of America’s funnest moments, a fistfight with Adam Sandler in “Happy Gilmore.”

“The price is wrong, bitch,” Barker said in the movie. That was for the MTV generation, but Barker has spent 50 years on television. Repeat: Bob Barker has been on television for half a century. He has won 17 Emmy Awards as host, which is more than any other performer in history.

Moreover, he is just so damn likable. As the show is taped in real time, during commercial breaks, Barker interacts with the audience, telling jokes and answering questions. I asked him what would happen to the show when he steps down. According to the legend himself, when Barker retires, “The Price is Right,” the longest running and highest-rated game show in television history, will cease to be a mid-morning spectacle.

Your time is running short. Whatever the cost, to see Barker in his element — the price is right.

**GUEST COMMENTARY**

**To see Bob Barker live, the price is always right**

Christopher George Wink
<del>Tempe News (Tempe, Ariz.)</del>

Your chance to enjoy one of the great American college experiences will soon be lost. Bob Barker, the legendary host of the famed game show “The Price is Right” is set to retire in June. For 35 years, he was the first and only host of the long-running show that could bring together the elderly and those college students who could wake up for a 11 a.m. time slot.

When Barker decided to retire in October 2006, I knew that, though I hadn’t watched the show in years, I had to see one of our country’s great cultural institutions before he left. I had been out of the country and traveling, but I finally found an opportunity (and a few hundred dollars) to book a plane ticket and hotel in Los Angeles.

Barker is in his mid-80s and has been one of the great constants in our culture, gracefully handling his slender microphone and twisting its lengthy cord while leading ecstatic T-shirt-clad strangers from Contestant’s Row to one of the show’s 80 games. The man has presided over nearly 7,000 Showcase Showdowns since the show’s debut in September 1972.

At 1 a.m. on a Thursday night, I took a cab from my Hollywood hotel to the Fairview district of Los Angeles. The night was otherwise quiet until I found 200 people lining up on the sidewalk leading to the gates of CBS Television City.

A show that has been taped four times a week for nearly twice the amount of years in my life managed to bring a line of, all told, more than 400 people willing to stay out all night.

The show created cults out of

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**NEWS**
U.S. restaurant chain Hooters, known for waitresses in low-cut blouses and short skirts, will open its first branch in Israel this summer, in the Mediterranean seaside city of Tel Aviv.

“I strongly believe that the Hooters concept is something that Israelis are looking for,” Ofer Ahiraz, who bought the Hooters franchise for Israel, told Reuters on Monday. “Hooters can suit the Israeli entertainment culture.”

At Hooters, scantily clad waitresses the company calls Hooters Girls serve spicy chicken wings, sandwiches, seafood and drinks.

Ahiraz said a specific location in Tel Aviv, Israel’s most cosmopolitan city, had yet to be chosen, but he said it would not open restaurants near large religious populations, and they would not be kosher.

He said his plan was to open as many as five Hooters restaurants in the next few years, including one in the southern resort city of Eilat.

The Tel Aviv version of Hooters is expected to mimic most of the chain’s other 430 restaurants in the United States and in 23 countries including China, Switzerland, Australia and Brazil.

Ahiraz said, however, he expected some minor modifications to meet Israeli tastes since U.S. chains have had a mixed response in Israel.
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LAWRENCE, Kan. — A new law requiring passports for all air and sea travel to Canada, Mexico and South America has increased passport demand and wait times. It takes 10 weeks to get a passport; a year ago it took four weeks.

The law went into effect Jan. 8 to fulfill requirements set by the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004. By 2008, passports will be required for land border crossings as well.

Lisa Beers, a general clerk at the Lawrence (Kan.) Post Office, said that the extra wait time was a problem for people who waited too long to get their passports. Students who plan on traveling to other countries during the summer should get to the post office.

"Summer is right around the corner," Beers said. "If you are going to apply for a passport, you have to do it now."

Students in a rush can pay $185, nearly double the regular fee of $97, to receive their passport in six weeks instead of 10.

Danielle Dragan, a University of Kansas sophomore, waited in line Thursday to get a passport for her summer trip to Italy and Germany with the art department. She said she was going to have to pay the extra money for the faster processing.

"I should have done it earlier," Dragan said. "But my mom said not to worry about it."

The line at the post office to get a passport has gotten longer as well. Beers said that wait times last week were up to an hour and a half, whereas previously they were only about 30 minutes. Dragan had to wait in line twice.

"I had to come back because they don't let you pay with a credit card," Dragan said. "It's kinda annoying to have to keep waiting in line."

Katrina Hibbs waited in four different lines before she got her passport.

"I went to the courthouse, Kinko's, and finally came here," Hibbs said. "Then they went to lunch and I had to come back an hour later."
Montana students continue to download music illegally despite RIAA threats

Alex Sakariassen
MISSOULA, Mont.—Waves of music rise and fall in the vast digital oceans of Limewire and BitComet, throwing up a white spray of tunes like Modest Mouse's new single "Dashboard." Music-hungry pirates roam these waters, seizing musical algae bloom as a result, and many in the music industry are struggling to fight back the tides of digital piracy.

"I think they're desperate in that the revenue models have completely changed," said Scott Douglas, manager of the University of Montana Entertainment Management Program.


The recording industry claims one of the chief reasons for decreased CD sales is the dramatic increase in digital piracy over the past decade. Since the glory days of peer-to-peer (p2p) pioneer Napster, file-sharing software engines have darted in and out of the limelight like fish. But instead of rivalry, usurpation and the individual public because they're least likely to fight back," Douglas said. The RIAA has brought suits against roughly 18,000 pirates since fall of 2003, including more than 1,000 students on 130 separate campuses. But why the sudden surge? One reason: "They're certainly streamlining effort on digital piracy nationwide this spring?" Douglas said. He believes the recording industry is "creating a viral message" for the general public and that "this isn't OK." Near-weekly rash of layoffs in the industry indicate a possible drying up of the revenue pool that may or may not be due to piracy, he said.

"They're certainly streamlining effort on digital piracy nationwide this spring?" Douglas said. He believes the recording industry is "creating a viral message" for the general public and that "this isn't OK." Near-weekly rash of layoffs in the industry indicate a possible drying up of the revenue pool that may or may not be due to piracy, he said.

The last place I'd want to be employer right now is on the label side," Douglas said. Though the recording industry is quick to point the finger at digital piracy, he said.

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Douglas said the RIAA will send hundreds of let­ters to computer users nationwide over the next few months demanding out-of-court settlements for copyright violations.

"I think they're going after students and the individual public because they're least likely to fight back," Douglas said. The RIAA has brought suits against roughly 18,000 pirates since fall of 2003, including more than 1,000 students on 130 separate campuses. But why the sudden surge? One reason: "They're certainly streamlining effort on digital piracy nationwide this spring?" Douglas said. He believes the recording industry is "creating a viral message" for the general public and that "this isn't OK." Near-weekly rash of layoffs in the industry indicate a possible drying up of the revenue pool that may or may not be due to piracy, he said.

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Support for education increasing, government study says

Michelle Williams  – WASHINGTON (WASHINGTON BUREAU)

WASHINGTON — If you think your state, county or city doesn’t care about your higher education, think again. According to a study released by the State Higher Education Executive Officers on March 8, state and local support “per full-time equivalent student in public institutions” increased to $6,325 in fiscal 2006 — a 5.1-percent jump from last year’s $6,017.

However, the study says that the higher education support per student ratio is still not the highest it ever been. In fiscal 2001, the support per FTE student reached its peak level at $7,371.

SHEEO measured the funding in constant dollars to take inflation into account, said Hans L’Orange, director of Data and Information Management at SHEEO. Besides the state and local appropriations, the numbers also include tuition revenue. All of these indicate how much is paid to get the education, he said.

“The (increase) is a positive statement of the value that both students and states put on education,” L’Orange said.

SHEEO’s report is not the only one that noticed an increase in the support for higher education at public institutions. The well-known “Grapevine” study at Illinois State University saw a 7.1-percent increase from fiscal year 2006-07 nationwide, said James Palmer, the Grapevine editor.

Another part of SHEEO’s study looked at the correlation between the support and FTE enrollment within the last five years. According to the study, FTE enrollments increased by 14.8 percent, while state and local support per FTE student fell by 14.2 percent on average.

Seven states — South Carolina, Nebraska, Tennessee, New Mexico, Wyoming and Nevada — were the only ones that had increases in support per FTE during that period.

However, the current net result, nationwide, is that there’s more money available. L’Orange attributes it to the fact that the revenue grew more quickly while the number of enrollment did not increase as quickly, he said. The FTE enrollment growth fell by 0.4 percent last year while the appropriations grew by 7.6 percent. The fact that the states are putting the extra funds that are available into education shows its importance, he said.

Both Palmer and SHEEO researchers believe the cause of the increase depends on the state of the economy, the politics, and the competition of scarce resources such as healthcare, corrections and K-12 education.

“...
With the phrase "Gospel Hymns for Agnostics and Atheists" as the name of their debut album, it's not too much of a stretch to see how Caesar Pink and the Imperial Orqy (another so-called shockingly immoral name) is already shredding in controversy.

But, that's OK: after all, the band's no stranger to controversy. In the past, the New York City-based band has had shows cancelled due to terrorist threats from radical religious groups, their Web site has been banned from in Web hosting company for being "an insult to God" and women's studies classes have debated how they present gender issues.

Though they may be virtually unknown on Cal Poly's campus, other universities and press outlets across the nation have deemed the band's music too controversial for the airwaves, and have even, in some cases, banned the songs from receiving any playtime.

College campuses from Washington, Delaware, New York and Georgia, to name a few, have very quickly labeled the music as "too controversial," "too political" and "anti-religion." Clearly, this isn't just an issue of the Bible Belt or religious extremists taking the reins on college campuses. Or maybe it is—but that's another issue.

"The music's good, the singing's good, the production's good, but we can't put it on the air," said Tamara Bagri, WEXP general manager of WDTS Philadelphia, Penn.

"Or maybe it is—but that's another issue. The idea isn't that religion is some big, bad monster out to devour people's minds. In fact, there's nothing that, from these lyrics, at least, would even suggest such a thing. But rather the idea is that evil is accomplished when religious references in both the lyrics and the style of the music, but, like the band points out, these songs are not written to promote an agenda either for or against religion. The CD also contains no foul language and no references to sex, drugs or violence.

"But these lyrics (and more) are not entirely what Pink and Bagri and others would have us believe. The idea isn't that religion is some big, bad monster out to devour people's minds. In fact, there's nothing that, from these lyrics, at least, would even suggest such a thing. But rather the idea is that evil is accomplished when religion is mixing into one specific genre, it seems the band itself has a unique mixture of counterintuitive ideas and unholy, powerful statements."

"To place the CD in context, although The Imperial Orqy's music usually consists of an "anything goes" mix of old-school punk, psychedelic funk and experimental art rock, the 'Gospel Hymn' CD spotlights a different slice of the group's creative pie.

The four songs are united by the use of blues and gospel lyrics to create a modern form of gospel music that does not promote any sect or religion, but expresses a more universal spiritual message," according to a recent press release from the band's label.

This is perhaps best represented in the CD's first song, "The Amazing Tenacity of Job & His Brothers." Lead singer Caesar Pink soulfully sings "cum-bye-yay lord(s)" as gospel singers back him up.

"No, Pink does make some expected "controversial" religious statements, singing "There's nothin' you can count on/and nothin' comes for free/the devil speaks with a child's tongue/and if you believe in those naïve dreams/his work will be complete."

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"The music's good, the singing's good, the production's good, but we can't put it on the air," said Tamara Bagri, WEXP general manager.
**New fashions popping up all over**

Flashy colors, big prints and chunky jewelry are this season’s must-have items.

**Hayley Bramble MUSTANG DAILY**

Put away your dark sweaters, black blazers and pinstriped pants; color is back in full force this season.

Spring 2007 fashion trends include the minidress, metallics, vintage prints with a modern spin and colors so bright they’ll make your eyes water.

Classic spring fashion means light colors and lightweight fabrics: white, pastels, khaki, linen and cotton are common threads year round.

But in lieu of airy pastel and subtle stripes, Sara Gallagher, manager of Lucky Lulu’s on Figuera Street, said the ticket this season is “right in-your-face prints and colors.”

Yellow and teal tops pop out from the racks at the downtown boutique next to loose-fitting, sheer shirts, which are also a big trend this year. The tops are loud, bold, psychedelic prints, but still manage to look feminine with their curvy patterns and transparent fabrics.

“What does really well is a sheer shirt with a tank top underneath,” Gallagher said. The shirts can be worn with shorts or jeans.

For the short shirts wearers, the cropped, cuffed and buttoned short will carry over from the winter season. This chic and streamlined style morphs a piece of clothing you would normally wear to the beach into something you can easily dress up or women who like a longer style or want to show a little less leg, Bermuda shorts are back this season. The mid-length shorts in denim, linen or cotton are a great basic in any girl’s closet.

This season, the shorts will “keep the tight look but go a little, higher,” said English senior Rachel Vinatieri, who works at Dizzi boutique on Marsh Street. The newer boutique carries a slightly smaller and slightly more formal selection than its sister store, Lucky Lulu’s.

Denim never goes out of season in California, and this spring is no exception. The classic blue jean is a staple in almost everyone’s daily wardrobe on the Central Coast and is always acceptable during the day off at night.

**Romance is in the air — get ready to have a spring fling**

Brittany Ridley MUSTANG DAILY

The flowers are blooming, the sun is out in full force and in case you haven’t noticed, everyone is running around in their bikinis again. Not only does springtime mean shorter skirts and tiny tank tops, but more importantly, spring fever.

Yes, springtime is a time when we are forced to appreciate the perfect San Luis Obispo weather by skipping class and hitting the beach. And who better to spend a day of hooky with than your significant other? This spring mix it up and try something new with your favorite friend, because the Central Coast has quite a few romantic getaways.

San Luis Obispo is the optimum place for great outside activities with your significant other, but there also are lots of great options just outside of town.

Go check out the elephant seals just north of San Simeon where mother seals sit on the beach playing with their newly born babies. Not only are these animals adorable and really entertaining, but the drive up U.S. Highway 1 is beautiful this time of year. The trip to the elephant seals is a great escape from town for the day. To find the best place to see elephant seals, go to www.slostateparks.com/nature/wildlife/elephant-seals.asp.

If the windy beach isn’t your dream date, then head east toward Big Sur to San Simeon Elephant Seals. This picturesque town is the optimum place for great outside activities with your significant other. But you can’t just be running around in your bikinis again, everyone is running around in their bikinis again. Not only does springtime mean shorter skirts and tiny tank tops, but more importantly, spring fever.

For those who aren’t interested in driving out of town, there are plenty of options near by. Avila Valley Barns — this picturesque barn is open seasonally and located on Avila Beach Drive. Stop by and purchase fresh produce, baked goods and ice cream, or use their picnic benches to relax and eat lunch. Check out what Avila Valley Barn has to offer at www.avilavalleybarn.com.

If hiking is more your style, drive north toward Big Sur to the San Simeon Elephant Seals. This picturesque barn is open seasonally and located on Avila Beach Drive. Stop by and purchase fresh produce, baked goods and ice cream, or use their picnic benches to relax and eat lunch. Check out what Avila Valley Barn has to offer at www.avilavalleybarn.com.

While the play may sound ridiculously taboo or even somewhat frightening, the actors manage to pull off a very satisfying performance.

You can join the Credit Union of Choice

The Golden 1 Credit Union

Faculty, staff and students of Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo are eligible to join the credit union of choice, The Golden 1. The Golden 1 offers members many great benefits, including the Student Pack for full-time students.

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Subject to approval. Must be approved for all products to receive the Student Visa and Student Pack products.
Fashion

continued from page 18

Gallagher said the skinny jeans are here to stay, but she expected the more traditional bootcut to equally popular.

"The novelty of the trend has worn off," she said, adding that the new trend is for people to wear the style of jean that fits them best.

"We sell more bootcut than skinny jeans anyway," she said.

Taylor Owen, a style similar, colorful spring display. Sara Legrady, an art and design junior, who has worked at the boutique for about a year, said that because of the already hot weather this year, the boutique is bringing spring in early and with another large shipment of seasonal wear soon.

This year, Tiamo is focusing on dresses, dresses. The popular cotton jersey dress is this season's must-have. The dresses are comfortable and feminine, and work for all body types. They are also more versatile than you might think.

"You can really dress up or down our dresses," Legrady said, which makes them wearable during the evening or on those not-so-sunny days.

Legrady said the tube dresses are done, and that Tiamo only had a couple in that style this year. Spaghetti straps and racerbacks are the new cuts. Although yellow and pink are very popular colors this year, printed garments dominate most of the stores downtown.

As far as accessories go, jewelry this season is funky, colorful and chunky. Gone are the semi-gothic long chain necklaces and the knot­

The Today Show," "Late Night with Larry King," and was nominated for an Emmy award for his work on "The Awful Truth with Michael Moore." Scher completed projects for Comedy Central and VH-1, and has made numerous appearances on "The Today Show," "Late Night with Conan O'Brien" and "Weekends at the DL."

For more information about the show check out clips and news updates at MTV.com or theman­giants.com.

MTV's 'giant' comedy series

Jackie Pugh

MTV's comedy "Human Giants" will premiere April 5 at 10 p.m. bringing comedians like Aziz Ansari, Rob Huebel and Paul Scheer to the screen to show-off what critics have called a collection of "recklessly hilarious," fast-paced short films.

Some might recognize the actors from other pop shows like VH-1's "Best Week Ever" or "Arrested Development," but all will star and executive produce in this seasons new comedy series.

"Well, I first saw the Human Giant sketches on the Web, I knew this was something special and had to work with these guys," Executive Producer of MTV Tony DiSanto said in a press release. "It's fast-paced, laugh-out-loud humor with a rebellious rock 'n' roll attitude."

The show's clips can be viewed on the internet as a preview of the type of comedy to come. Skits like "shutterbugs" and "the illusionators" have had over 30,000 hits on Web sites like YouTube and My Space and are gaining popularity.

In a viewing of the press reel of "Human Giants," the audience did not take a liking to the numerous skits that were woven into one episode.

However, video the audience did enjoy included one with Ansari carrying around a stereo on his shoulder blaring the "Shittiest Mix Ever" through parks and highly populated streets. Songs like "Kiss Me" by Scissorhands, and the Backstreet Boys hit song by Paula Cole "I Don't Want to Wait" blasted while Ansari walked around a city reciting curios jokes.

In another video, Ansari dresses up in a space suit and walks into a bar with the assumption that "chicks dig astronauts."

"The whole thing was kind of 'her­or-miss,' " industrial technology senior Rob Jordan said. "The magic tricks were ok, but the funniest one was the one about the bad mixed tape. But there was way more bad than good."

Landscape architecture senior Adrian Acevedo said that he probably wouldn't watch the show after seeing the press reel. "It had one really funny part, but all the other ones were lame," Acevedo said. "More real-life skits would make it better, like when (Ansari) was taking the boom box around town."

Ansari, the comedian that was the main character in all of the skins, is a standup comedian out of New York City. In 2006, he won the Jury Award for Best Standup at the US Comedy Arts Festival in Aspen, Colo. Rolling Stone also chose him as the "Hot Standup" in their annual "Hot List."

He has appeared on Comedy Central's "Premium Blend" and plans on doing more standup on television soon.

The other actor, Huebel is probably best known from his movie theater commercial campaign, "Consider the Cell Phone Man" and has produced for "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart" and was nominated for an Emmy award for his work on "The Awful Truth with Michael Moore." Scher completed projects for Comedy Central and VH-1, and has made numerous appearances on "The Today Show," "Late Night with Conan O'Brien" and "Weekends at the DL."

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The Fremont Theatre brings some of the most famous movies in Hollywood history to San Luis Obispo.

Cassie Gaeto  
MUSTANG DAILY

The Fremont Theatre downtown creates old movie magic each month through its series "Screening Room Classics," which brings Hollywood's greatest films back to the big screen. The Movie Experience, which owns a chain of theaters in Southern California, has been bringing classic films back for special showings for the past 11 years.

The Movie Experience chooses feature films based on votes and requests from the movie-goers, and delivers them in the original 35 millimeter format.

The "Screening Room Classics" movie season runs from October through July, voting ballots for the season's movies are available in April and May. Each Movie Experience Theatre location has different classic films based on the requests from their particular area.

"We started running one classic movie a month at one of our locations and it just took off. We were getting about 400 to 500 people per picture so we expanded the classics to all of our locations," said Harold Taylor, director of "Screening Room Classics." Two classic films are featured each month at the San Luis Obispo Fremont Theatre location. One of the films is part of the "Icons of the Golden Age" series that The Movie Experience shows at all of its California locations, and the other is part of the "Take a Walk on the Wild Side" series that is specific to the Fremont location.

"Icons of the Golden Age" is all about the essence of classic Hollywood, paying tribute to the directors and actors who were the original greats of tinsel town. "Take a Walk on the Wild Side" is a group of films that is only available in San Luis Obispo and shows the great movies from the 1970s.

For every film in the "Screening Room Classic" series there is a discussion and trivia session that takes place before the show. Movie patrons can learn fun facts about the making of the movie and win T-shirts and DVDs as prizes.

Favorite films for the month of April start with 1973's "The Sting," starring Paul Newman and Robert Redford, on Tuesday, April 3 at 7 p.m. The movie is part of the "Walk on the Wild Side" series. The "Icons of the Golden Age" movie of the month will be the 1941 film "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" on Tuesday, April 17 at 7 p.m.

The 2006-07 Movie Experience "Screening Room Classics" will continue through the end of its season in July. "Icons of the Golden Age" series will finish up by showing "The Big Sleep," "Rear Window" and "Gone with the Wind."

The "Walk on the Wild Side" series is scheduled to play "China Town," "American Graffiti" and "Jaws" for the remainder of the throwback to the '70s season.

"One of the great things about this series is the fact that we show the old movies the old-fashioned way with the 35 millimeter film. There are so many factors involved in getting the film, it's becoming much harder," Taylor said. "This season we were scheduled to play "The Godfather" and then last minute Paramount pulled the movie to restore it and it was no longer available to us. In the future, I am not sure if it will be possible to use the older versions."

To get the old film, The Movie Experience usually has to go through the big Hollywood production companies and battle the licensing fees.

So far this season, the biggest "Screening Room Classics" turnout at the Fremont Theatre was for "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" in February. "I definitely enjoy it when movie theaters show the classics. I went to go see "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" and everyone was really into it. People are really passionate about the old films, so it creates more interaction between the movie-goers," said materials engineering senior James Vance.

Times and dates for all movies shown in the "Screening Room Classics" series are available on www.themovieexperience.com.

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Celebrity life not breaking news

A bold, baldic Britney, a buried ex-bunny and another baby for Brangelina. Since when is this the “breaking news” that journalists strive to report?

I’ll be the first to admit that I am a sucker for celebrity gossip. I scan Perez Hilton.com daily, wait patiently for People magazine to arrive in my mailbox every Friday and I stop the channel changer if I see a “breaking news” headline on Entertainment Tonight. It’s my not-so-guilty pleasure and like many Americans, I am becoming more obsessed with celebrities than ever before...and I call myself a journalist?

The sad reality is that at the end of the day when I am kicking myself for not reading the article on _ _ _ _ another suicide bomber in Iraq or President Bush’s tour of Latin America, I still have the time (time which I could be using to address the important insect to flip through my roommate’s US Weekly and hit up the “OfTbeat” news section on CNN.com.

There is so much happening in the world that it is a shame that all the research, writing, editing and reporting is going to waste over something like a suggested drug-abuse by a would-be star that had a flicker of fame once in their entire career. Who cares? Oh wait, we do.

A journalism professor of mine recently told my class that the three national events that had received the most media coverage by news organizations were, in descending order, Sept. 11, the death of Anna Nicole Smith and Hurricane Katrina.

Does anyone else have that same stomach-jarring reaction I did? How can the death of one celebrity grab more attention and media coverage than the deaths of roughly 1,836 people from one of the largest hurricanes to ever hit the United States?

How can the death of one celebrity grab more attention and media coverage than the deaths of roughly 1,836 people from one of the largest hurricanes to ever hit the United States? And who is responsible? The viewer? The media?

Journalism is no longer an industry structured from values and played out by reporters who want to make a difference and give an unbiased view of the world. Today it is a business, where selling advertisement space is the main goal and supplying information, like celebrity gossip, is what gives the organizations customers. Through years of blending, the lines between commercial speech with profiting goals and informative stories have been eroded to a point where we can not identify a difference. How do we, as customers, distinguish the real news from “the stuff that sells papers”?

As cliché as this sounds, the world will be ours sooner than we think. What will we make of it if all that we focus on is how many facelifts Sharon Stone has had? We need to take control, listen with critical ears and watch with serious eyes to force a separation between entertainment and news. Without this, who knows where we’ll be in 20 years. I might be writing, but about what? Hopefully not a pop star’s change in hairstyle.

The thing is, the news is not going to go away. There will always be information and events around us and stories that need to be told. However, will there be people willing to listen?

Taylor Moore is a journalism junior and Mustang Daily staff reporter.

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I t probably goes without say­
ing that using corn to fuel up
your car is preferable to
importing more oil from the
Middle East. But those who
encourage the increased use of
ethanol need to better inform the
American public of the benefits to
using alternative fuels, without
ignoring the drawbacks.

Ethanol is simply another word
for grain alcohol, something with
which I believe a few students at
Georgetown are reasonably famil­
 iar. Used to make motor fuel, it
comes largely from fermented corn
in the United States, and is blended
with gasoline at either 10 percent
or 85 percent levels here. In Brazil,
located in a more tropical climate,
sugar is used to produce ethanol,
and many cars there can run on
pure ethanol.

President Bush and Brazilian
President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva
established an ethanol agreement
between their two countries during
Bush’s visit to South America last
week. The accord is unfortunately
vague and narrow, limited mainly to
joint research and development and
encouraging ethanol production
from other countries in the region.
It does not address the 54-cent-per­
gallon tariff the United States levies
on ethanol imports, which Lula
(and I) would like to see repealed.

Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa,
who supports the ethanol industry,
thinks that the narrow scope of the
agreement was a good thing, and
does not want the tariff repealed
because it protects American corn
farmers. The tariff is slated to expire
in 2009, but can be extended by
Congress. Ethanol is a great thing
for the American Midwest — as
well as the rest of the country —
and Sen. Grassley is certainly enti­
dled to defend the interests of his
constituents. But corn-based
ethanol will never be the fuel of the
future, and no one should pretend
that it is.

Corn is a very difficult crop to
produce. It requires lots of fertilizer,
water and energy to grow before it
can be processed into ethanol, mak­
ing the conversion to fuel some­
what inefficient.

Another problem with using
corn-based ethanol is the supply of
corn in America. The U.S.
Department of Agriculture esti­
mates that 14.4 percent of the corn
crop was turned into ethanol, earn­
ing a 2 percent share of domestic
gasoline consumption in 2006.
Extrapolating from these numbers,
even if we made the entire
American corn crop into ethanol,
the result would only meet about
see Ethanol, page 23
The New York Times

ACROSS
32 Prominent part of a dashboard
33 Easy as...— 14 letters 
34 Except
35 Birthday dessert
36 Embroidered sampler phrase
40 Guns, as a motor
41 Clavet
42 Almost everyone
43 Byron’s ‘before’
46 Commercial suffix with Gator
49 Each
50 Map book
52 County on the Thames
54 Repeatedly
57 Soup eater’s sound
59 Kitchen or bath
60 Aroma
61 Hearing-related

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0219

DOWN
1 Man of La Mancha
2 Transfer to a maftbame, maybe
3 Contaminates
4 Alphabetically first pop group with a P hit
5 — Foel
6 Tragic woman in Greek drama
7 Maxmally
8 Nasty
9 Nightmare
10 Beverly Spears’ ...—Steve 4’11"
11 Mr. Turkey
13 Jar tops
15 Ashes, e.g.
21 ‘Panic Room’ actress Foster
22 Ink soaker—upper
26 Make a 36 Across
27 Anger
30 Say again just to the record, say
33 Afternoons, for short
34 Queen who might create quite a buzz?
36 Pro’s opposite
37 Roll call call
38 Weatherman intro
39 Weatherman Scott
42 ‘The Simpsons’ dad
44 Agent, in brief
47 Pants
49 Put away
50 Noted family of philanthropists
51 Gulf land
52 Gayneth Fallob title role
53 Carrier to Stockholm
54 Put forth, as effort
55 In progress
56 A taste
57 Airports
58 Capt. Jean-Picard of the U.S.S.
59 Enterprise
60 Gwyneth Picard of the Enterprise

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Monday, April 2, 2007

Ethanol

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13 percent of our demand for gasoline.

Luckily, corn is not the only crop from which we can derive ethanol. Currently, ethanol is made by fermenting the sugar in crops. This process is obviously convenient when growing, say, sugarcane, but not so much with corn, since much of its organic matter is unusable during production. Further research and development can correct this problem.

Cellulose, which makes up most of the structure of green plants, is in fact made of sugar. However, the study composition of the material makes it very hard to break down in order to ferment this sugar into ethanol. Research into cellulose-based ethanol is an aim of the U.S.-Brazilian agreement, and this technology is incredibly promising.

Cellulose can be obtained from almost any plant material, including old trees, paper and many crops that grow much more easily than corn. According to a report by the Congressional Research Service, cellulose ethanol is expected to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80 percent over regular gasoline, thanks to the carbon dioxide absorbed by crops as they grow.

Ethanol production and research is important for moving toward energy security for America, and using subsidies for this end is justified. But the tariff, which makes importing foreign ethanol prohibitively expensive, serves only to stifle competition and innovation. Additionally, the tariff isn’t even universally supported among Midwestern agricultural producers. Sure, corn farmers love it, but what about the ranchers who have had to put up with skyrocketing prices of corn feed — which have doubled in the last six months — caused by increased ethanol production?

Ethanol, in any of its forms, will be an important way to reduce America’s addiction to oil. Corn-based ethanol is not the ultimate solution to our energy problems, and good folks like Sen. Grassley should remember that. But it is nevertheless a valuable step in the right direction, and its use should be honestly and openly encouraged along with ethanol produced in other countries like Brazil while we refine the process of making ethanol from just about anything.
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