**The Great Pot Debate comes to campus**

Michelle Norgan

The True Life Debate series will return to Cal Poly on Thursday evening with its latest installment, The Great Pot Debate. Sponsored by Associated Students, Inc., the event will feature Steve Hagier, editor of High Times Magazine, and Robert Stutman, a veteran of the Drug Enforcement Agency, discussing the legalization of marijuana. "ASI chose this debate because we think it is an issue students are really talking about," said Dana Mat- teson, ASI Events special event supervisor.

Matteson said students today live in a world where the issue of mari­juana and other topics are in the fore­front and need to be discussed. "Students want to know about it and make their own decisions about whether pot should be legal or not," Matteson said.

Matteson said Hagier and Stut­man will be discussing, among other things, the legal implications of mari­juana. "They will talk about what one side sees as the benefits of legalizing it versus what the other side sees as what could go wrong if it was legal­ized," Matteson said.

see Debate, page 2

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**BUSINESSWOMAN AND OLYMPIAN TO SPEAK**

Rachel Gellman

Jennifer Azzi, one of the most ac­claimed basketball players of all time, a talented businesswoman and a motivational speaker, is scheduled to lecture on campus about "leader­ship edge," as part of Cal Poly's Business Council Professional Speaker Series.

"She's speaking about personal success and leadership. She has a lot to offer every student," Business Council president Andrew Flachner said. He noted that the lecture is open to all students on campus, not just those in the College of Business.

Azzi has won a plethora of bas­ketball honors in her career. She was Stanford's first All-American wom­en's basketball player ever in 1988-89. She was an NCAA National Champion in 1990 and in that same year was named the NCAA West Region MVP.

Azzi was also given the Naismith Award and the Wade Trophy, making her the best athlete in the nation. She went on to win an Olympic gold medal with Team USA in 1996.

She played professionally in Eu­rope, then in the American Bas­ketball League and the Women's National Basketball Association for several years. She now is on the USA Basketball Board of Directors and is a community ambassador for the NBA.

Azzi is also the youngest person ever inducted into Stanford's Ath­letic Hall of Fame. In April she was inducted into the Bay Area Hall of Fame. She stood among Jerry Rice, Will Clark and Jerry Cole­man at the induction.

Along with her athletic accomplish­ments, Azzi is a published author and the CEO of Azzi Training, a program that focuses on health from the inside out that won a national award for "Best New Business of the Year." The program of­fers children's camps, adult fitness programs and Well­ness Days, which promotes the idea that health starts with the whole person and not just the physi­cal body.

Azzi is also a member of the USANA Health Sciences Sports Advisory Board, which works to educate athletes as well as the public about nutritional supplements and their effects on health.

Former Business Council presi­dent Josh Burroughs works for USANA and has had the pleasure of meeting Azzi. "She's probably the most profes­sional businesswoman I've ever met," Burroughs said.

Burroughs has seen Azzi speak at two conferences through USANA. She speaks at conferences interna­tionally and takes her speeches to her audiences, whether they are for adults, basketball coaches and players, or corporate groups or chil­dren.

"If you want to learn how to set yourself aside from the crowd and have that leadership edge, you will drop everything to go and see her," Burroughs said.

Flachner said the Or­falesi College of Business is very excited to be col­laborating with the ath­letes department, Career Services and Associated Students. In fact, this event.

Shannon Stephens, director of academic services for the athletics department, said athletes, especially members of the women's and men's basketball teams, are excited about the event.

"She can motivate our athletes to become leaders," Stephens said.

The free speech and will take place in the Alex and Faye Spanos Theater at 2:10 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 18.

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**NEW WEB SITE SPONSORS NETWORKING AT THE GRAD**

Daniel Seguin

Wednesday night promises to be a very interesting evening as Col­lege Tonight Inc. invites students out to The Graduate for a night of networking.

The purpose of the event is to introduce attendees to www.col­lege tonight.com, a new social net­working site specifically for col­lege students.

"College kids are some of the most outgoing, social, intelligent people in the world," said Zach Sachin, the company president and CEO. "They should really have a service that allows them to do what they do best, which is go out and network."

The group is continuing its West Coast leg of the Disorienta­tion Tour, which runs simultaneously on the East Coast.

The event is being hosted by Trisha, one of the stars of the "The Disorientation," page 2

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**POLY GETS FESTIVE FOR FALL**

Giana Magnoli

The University Union Plaza and Mott Lawn were full of unusual booths Tuesday as Cal Poly faced off with the Seven Year Plan serve as Student-run humor Web

AKTS

Go online to hear a Game Online

rival UC Santa Barbara

Paul Holocher.

TODAY'S WEATHER

Sunny

High 68°/Low 48°

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**BASKETBALL BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND IS A COMMUNITY AMBASSADOR FOR THE NBA**

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Debate
continued from page 1

Matrino said the event will be moderated by a student who will be running the first half of the debate. In this portion, each speaker can give his views and facts on the issue. After that, there will be an hour-long question and answer session where students will have the opportunity to ask the speakers direct questions.

ASI program coordinator Michelle Curro said in the past, this turned one-on-one. "ASI students will probably stay after to sign autographs or answer questions, students will probably stay after to sign autographs or answer questions," she said. The debate will be held in Chumash Auditorium at 8 p.m. and is free with a valid student ID.

Disorientation
continued from page 1

Real World: Sydney" on MTV while the East Coast event is being hosted simultaneously by another one of the show's stars at the same time.

"They're really fun-loving and exciting, and people love to come out and see them," Suchin said. "They really host a great event." Suchin talked about the direction in which he would like to see the company head.

"Our goal is to show people that mobility can extend the author of the physical Internet," Suchin said. "The experience for College Tonight goes far beyond the dorm room chair."

The Graduate is located at 990 Industrial Way. The event begins at 10 p.m. and will feature several prize giveaways, including everything from T-shirts and shot glasses, to a spring break trip worth $1,000.
“What’s your favorite gaming system and game?”

Compiled and photographed by Jennifer Ingar

“I don’t play games.”
— Patrick Roark, English junior

“Tiger Woods” on PS2. I play with my roommates and it’s really competitive.”
— Tyler Johns, business senior

“You deserve a break.”

You: I need a break.
Sara: I don’t know. I just don’t think so. You deserve a break.
— Sara Wright, Campus Dining Staff Writer

Lucy’s Juice isn’t cheating

Sara Wright
CAMPUS DINING STAFF WRITER

Don’t get mad: Lucy’s smoothies are still the same size.

Despite appearances, you get just as much in your cup as last year. What’s the difference?

Lucy’s smoothies are still the same size.

Campus Dining has ceased the use of styrofoam (polystyrene) across campus as part of its efforts toward sustainability. That means no foam take-out boxes or cups.

Instead, Lucy’s Juice and Lucy’s Juice, Too are using plastic cups and lids like those used for cold drinks at Julian’s.

The plastic cups hold 20 oz. of smoothie, which, though hard to believe for some, is how much the taller poly styrene cups contained.

“The foam just took up more space than the plastic does in the new cups,” said Advertising and Promotions Coordinator Kathleen Pennington. “They still hold the same amount.”

At the start of fall Quarter, some returning students were disappointed to see the change at Lucy’s, though several were pleased with the shift from foam to plastic.

Lucy’s Juice, next to the Dexter building, is a firm believer in the new packaging, saying “The foam was overflowing and leaking down into the kitchen and I was selling (for my daughter) to get the mop.”

“We still hold the same amount.”
— Lucy’s Juice, Too

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Foster Klug

The Dalai Lama, after meeting privately Tuesday with President Bush, brushed off China's furious reaction to U.S. celebrations this week in his honor.

"That always happens," the exiled spiritual leader of Tibet's Buddhists said with a laugh while speaking to reporters gathered outside his downtown Washington hotel.

The White House defended the meeting in the president's residence and dismissed Beijing's warning that the talks and the awarding of the Congressional Gold Medal to him on Wednesday would damage relations between the United States and China.

The Dalai Lama is hailed in much of the world as a figure of moral authority, but Beijing reviles the 1989 Nobel Peace Prize laureate and claims he seeks to destroy China's sovereignty by pushing for independence for Tibet, where the Dalai Lama is considered a god-king.

When asked if he had a message for Chinese President Hu Jintao, the Dalai Lama playfully patted a reporter on the cheek and said, "You are not a representative of Hu Jintao."

He said that during their meeting, he explained to Bush what was happening in Tibet and said he thanked the president for "showing his concern about Tibet."

"We know each other and we have developed, I think, a very close friendship, something like a reunion of one famil-..." the Dalai Lama said, speaking of Bush.

The Dalai Lama says he wants "real autonomy," not independence, for Tibet. But China demonizes the spiritual leader and believes the United States is honoring a separatist.

Bush and U.S. lawmakers on Wednesday will present the Dalai Lama, who has lived with followers in exile in India since they fled Chinese soldiers in Tibet in 1959, with the prestigious congressional honor.

"China has reacted with anger.

"We solemnly demand that the U.S. cancel the extremely wrong arrangements," said Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi. "It seriously violates the norm of international relations and seriously wounded the feelings of the Chinese people and interfered with China's internal affairs."

Presidential spokesman Tony Fratto said, "We understand the concerns of the Chinese." But he also said Bush always has attended congressional award presentation ceremonies, has met with the Dalai Lama several times before and had no reason not to meet with him again.

No media access was allowed to Bush's meeting with the Dalai Lama in the private residence section of the White House. In an exception to normal practice, the Bush administration did not release any pictures of the meeting or put out a formal statement on it.

"We in no way want to stir the pot and make China feel that we are poking a stick in their eye for a country that we have a lot of relationships with on a variety of issues," said press secretary Dana Perino. "And this might be one thing that we can do. But I don't believe that that's going to soothe the concerns in China."

The Dalai Lama's visit here came as China was holding its important Communist Party congress.
Serving Poly some humor

Student-run humor Web sites The Seven Year Plan and Funnyology parody college life

Mollie Helmuth

Interviewing the creators of comedy Web sites The Seven Year Plan and Funnyology made it obvious that these guys are utilizing their gifts; they seem to enunciate hilarity without intention.

Let’s start with The Seven Year Plan (TYSF), a parody of college life featuring articles, videos, a “Guide to College” and a forum for discussing “mildly humorous nouns,” among other topics. The creator is business alum Noam Bleiweiss, who started the site about a year ago with the help of friends.

Bleiweiss collaborates with a core group of ten contributors to the site, including student writers, a content editor, a grammar editor and a web designer, most of whom are Cal Poly students and alumni.

“It’s a lot like the White House,” Bleiweiss explained in an e-mail interview. “If TYSF was America and I was stu­pid George Dubya, they’d be my group of really intelligent and hardworking advisors.”

Just because it’s a comedy site doesn’t mean there’s no truth to the advice columns. The “Guide To College” sec­tion addresses issues such as long distance relationships and living on a budget, as well as some more scandalous topics you can explore yourself.

“With comedy,” Bleiweiss said, “there’s an unclear line between what’s appropriate and what’s not.”

One of the purposes of the site is to create a forum for exploring comedic “gray areas,” to receive feedback and build an intelligent medium for comedy. The point is not to shock or offend, “unless, of course, it’s really, really funny,” Bleiweiss admitted.

The future of TYSF is bright; with steady participation and talented writers the site is pursuing a merchandise section and more high-profile ads for the future. “Ulti­mately we are trying to make something that people will enjoy, and hopefully someone will want to pay us millions of dollars for it one day,” Bleiweiss said.

If you are interested in posting something witty on TYSF e-mails can be sent to info@thesevenyearplan.com. “As long as it’s funny and (mostly) tasteful, we always wel­come new contributors,” Bleiweiss said.

Moving on to the newer, video-based Funnology, TYSF’s “sister site” is the brainchild of journalism senior Sean Michetti and marketing senior Jose Molina. It fea­tures comedy shorts that are inspired, filmed, edited, acted in and posted by the two creators, who are also mem­bers of the on-campus improv comedy group, “Smile and Nod.”

“It started this summer with me and Sean filming every day,” Molina said. “We just needed a creative outlet.” The guys began editing, using the broadcast equipment in the Arts building studio and creating shorts from the lengthy footage they filmed.

After Molina and Michetti bought the name “funny­ology,” they spoke to software engineering senior Chris Smeder, who is offering his talents in its design, and the site quickly developed. The logo is a cartoon depiction of Mi­chetti punching Molina in the face, indicative of the com­monly featured wrestling scenes in many of the videos.

Mostly improvised, a lot of their movie ideas come from real-life events that strike the guys as amusing. “Recogni­tion,” the video Michetti regards as “the first video I felt really good about,” originated from a parking garage situa­tion when the guys couldn’t get a friend’s attention and resorted to yelling variations of her name. The reenacted scene exacerbates their frustration and adds a few funny twists to the real situation.

Mechanical engineering senior Lee Barats regularly writes articles for TYSF and plans on getting involved with Funnology as well. “They help me with my comedy writing not only by getting my name out there but just by the practice of writing something, getting feedback and finding out what works in comedy,” said Barats, who is a co-director for Smile and Nod this year.

Although a job writing for Saturday Night Live would be the ultimate achievement, the sites are mainly about doing what the creators love to do. “It feels really good to make people laugh,” Molina explained. “If we can get a job doing what we love, that’s a dream come true.”

Eva Mendes talks fashion, sex symbols, Latina women

Nick Maslow

Gossip blogs may be abuzz with chatter that Eva Mendes is pregnant, but the actress left no room for a baby bump on Oct. 8. Dressed in a chic, form-fitting and floral­patterned dress, Mendes not only dispelled rumors, but also lived up to her repu­tation as a sex symbol. From America Ferrera on ABC’s “Ugly Betty,” to the Nig­htly News’ Katie Couric, Mendes is the closest thing you will ever get to having a Latina celebrity as the ultimate achievement, the sites are mainly about doing what the creators love to do. “It feels really good to make people laugh,” Molina explained. “If we can get a job doing what we love, that’s a dream come true.”

What I do want to do is get more serious roles, get meatier roles in Hollywood and really push myself as an actress.”

Indeed, Mendes picks her battles. At the top of her list: the lack of roles available to Latinas in Hollywood.

“Say I read a script and I love this char­acter,” she said. “I call my agent and I say ‘I have got to get in and see this director. I love this part. And then they’ll make the call. This is what I hear all the time: ‘The di­rector loves you and knows your work, but they don’t want to go Latina.’ They don’t real­ize that is so offensive.”

Mendes, convinced that Hollywood has made recent advances with Latina actresses such as America Ferrera on ABC’s “Ugly Betty,” but she said she is determined to make Hollywood more representative of the population.

“I am Cuban and I embrace that 100 percent, but I was born in the States, so I’m American,” she said. “As we’re growing as a culture, more people look like me. I’m not saying there has to be Latina movies out there, but just barely represent us. You know, we’re out there. We’re no longer just I.A., New York and Miami.”

The timing could not be better for Men­des to speak her mind. Her film “We Own the Night,” starring Joaquin Phoenix and Mark Wahlberg, hit theaters Friday.
Wes Anderson speaks

Devin Taylor

CAMPAIGN MANAGER

"But where do you go to my lovely? When you're alone in your bed? Tell me the thoughts that sur­round you, I want to look inside your head."

With these lyrics, the short film "Hotel Chevalier" was born. It eventually developed into "The Darjeeling Limited," the latest ven­ture from multi-faceted filmmaker Wes Anderson.

But what's more intriguing is the filmmaker himself.

Who is this man whose directorial debut "Bottle Rocket" was considered by Martin Scorsese to be one of the ten best films of the 1990s? He launched the careers of Jason Schwartzman and Owen Wilson and L. Jon Anderson, who collaborated with Anderson for the script "Ringu" (appropriately) than others.

"Of course this is the raw material for our number," Anderson said. "This will be Anderson's first film without using his own original screenplay. It's fun because Noah (Barns­back) and I were able to invent a lot of the story," Anderson said. "We wanted to try to write something that we thought Realhood would like. But at the same time we were able to use his story — and it's a very strong story — so it is an ad­vantage for us to work with.

"We went to India together to write and while we were there we would act out the story together," Anderson said. "When we did that, Jon would play his character Jack, Roman would play Peter and I was Francis.

Anderson-alum Owen Wilson plays Francis, the insecure elder brother who instigates the brothers’ neck through India. The deeply complicated character may have reflected Wilson himself, who recently had a stint in the hospital.

"The Darjeeling Limited has things from all our lives and the lives of people close to us and we used that as the raw material for our movie," Anderson said.

Anderson said his hands are in every aspect of the film from set design to wardrobe to the casting. This is a much easier process for a repertoire of talented stars who have previ­ously worked with him.

Adrian Brody, who plays Peter in the film, was the only lead actor who hadn't previously worked with Anderson. Also lending their talents were Bill Murray, Anjelica Huston and Ja­son Schwartzman, who collaborated with Anderson for the script. Similar to his previous film, Anderson said the soundtrack adds new dimensions to the story.

"When I wrote "Hotel Cheva­lier," I wrote it with that song (Peter Sandoz's "Where Do You Go to My Lovely") in mind. The song plays sev­eral times in it and the scene was sort of written to that music," he said.

Anderson has built quite the cata­log of artists featured in his movies including The Kinks, The Rolling Stones, Iggy and the Stooges, Burt and John Lennon.

"Sometimes I have the music that is really a part of the film, re­ally a part of how it's conceived and sometimes I'll find the music later," Anderson said. "Sometimes I might have a song that I want to use in a movie, that I have set aside, then I'll find the place to use it — I just try and use what works for the movie, what's suited for the scene.

The next project for Anderson is an animated adaptation of the Realhood Classic "The Fantastic Mr. Fox." This will be Anderson's first animated feature. However, he will use the same stop motion animation technique as he has used for the underlying animal in "The Life Aquatic."

"This will also be Anderson's first film without using his own original screenplay. It's fun because Noah (Barns­back) and I were able to invent a lot of the story," Anderson said. "We wanted to try to write something that we thought Realhood would like. But at the same time we were able to use his story — and it's a very strong story — so it is an ad­vantage for us to work with. George Clooney has already signed on to play the role of Mr. Fox, while several other anonymous actors are in talks to fill in the other roles.

"The design of the different characters, the design of the sets and everything has to be made from scratch because you can't re­ally use a location since the film is animated," Anderson said.

Anderson said he does have some other projects in the works, but "they're top secret."
"Across the Universe," which premiered in San Luis Obispo on Friday, Oct. 12, is a visually and musically mind-blowing film. It depicts the '60s, specifically the Vietnam War, through Beatles music. From left to right, Jim Sturgess as Jude, Eddie Izzard as Mr. Kite and Dana Fuchs as Sadie.

All you need is love

Rachel Gellman

Not just waves but tsunamis of joy were drifting through my open mind as I finally got to see the movie that had been inciting and inviting me all summer long. My cheeks hurt as I left the theater due to two hours and 11 minutes of straight smiling. I was speechless the entire walk back to the car. I felt like the creators of "Across the Universe" had tapped into my psyche and manufactured a movie that catered to my every interest. At the time I was too content to talk about it.

"Across the Universe" is a film about the '60s — Vietnam, counterculture, tuning in, turning on and dropping out — with the Beatles as the narrator. The Beatles' career evolved as the '60s did. Their early, elementary yet catchy songs such as "I Want To Hold Your Hand," contained '60s ideals while their later songs such as "Revolution" showcased the radicalism of the '60s, thus their songs serve as a perfect backdrop for a film about the era.

The film's plot is a mixture of dialogue and Beatles songs sung by the cast. The lyrics tell most of the story; it's a Beatles fan's dream — we get to see the lyrics we all know and love come to life on screen in an aesthetically pleasing way. Along with the songs, the screenwriters included many Beatles allusions. For example, one character, Prudence (allusion No.1) enters the scene "through the bathroom window" (allusion No.2).

The plot: A young man from Liverpool, Jude (Jim Sturgess), leaves England in search of his father in America. He meets Max (Joe Anderson), a radical student at Princeton University who eventually drops out and invites Jude to go to Cireenwich Village in New York with him. Their landlord, Sadie, is a Janis Joplin-esque singer who plays with a Hendrix-like guitar player. Jude falls in love with Lucy (Evan Rachel Wood), Max's sister. She follows the duo to New York and becomes very involved in the anti-war protests while Jude throws himself into art.

Forget drugs; drop some "Universe" to get your psychedelic fix. The film is cinematically beautiful and serves as an overload to all your senses. There is definitely something in the way it moves. As the scenes and songs change, the times change, the settings transform and the characters evolve.

The Beatles' songs are re-created on screen in ways that many would not think of by just listening to the lyrics. The song "I Want You (She's So Heavy)" was the most innovative segment of the film. A poster of Uncle Sam sings "I Want You" to Max as he enters the building in which he is tested for the draft and, once in uniform, he and fellow soldiers sing "She's So Heavy" while carrying the Statue of Liberty on their backs.

I did not merely enjoy this movie; I felt it throughout my whole body. I basically was in a happy coma. I fell in love. When Evan Rachel Wood sang "It Won't Be Long" early on in the film, I knew it wouldn't be until I had to see the movie again and again and again. Some people may think the film is cheesy and the plot is too simple, but I disagree. The film not only tells the story of two lovers through song, it speaks of an entire generation. In those whimsical scenes that some deem "cheesy" like when Jude sings "All You Need Is Love" from a rooftop, I believe the creators of this film completely captured the intent of the Fabulous Four. The Beatles wrote these songs in times of turmoil in hopes of promoting love and peace through their music. So what other way to show their intent than an over-the-top notion for love?

Bottom line: if you're a fan of musicals, The Beatles, the '60s, hippies, countercultures or just beautiful films, you have to see "Across the Universe." It's innovative, fresh, exciting and you'll leave the theater feeling fuzzy inside.

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Michelle Norgan

The conclusion of season 1 of the show "Heroes" was accompanied by the loud crack of my remote control hitting the wall. After finally getting around to watching the show, my favorite character was killed off in the finale. I'm somewhat amused a show could inspire such passionate frustration in me; but I admit I am saddened because attached to the characters and the general storyline early on.

Since then, I've been thinking a great deal about why, and so many others, enjoyed this show so much. Every kid (and secretly every adult) wants to be a superhero. We want some sort of power that sets us apart from everyone around us and makes us special.

But the thing that finally occurred to me is we already have that going on in real life. Everyone has a special skill or talent, whether or not we are aware of it or not.

Michelle Norgan is a journalism junior and a Mustang Daily reporter.

What about the real superheroes?

Michelle Norgan

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What about the real superheroes?
USE FACTS
Not f**king talking points when discussing Iraq

Thomas Jefferson once said that “a nation’s best defense is an educated citizen,” a belief that has served the United States well throughout its brief but illustrious history. Unfortunately, over the past few years we have seen this Republican administration and its apostles (Fox News) do its best to “dumb down” the level of public debate in this country by saturating us with meaningless political talking points and slogans. This shenanigan is especially common in describing the ongoing War on Terror where I am sure we all remember phrases like “Stay the Course,” “Mission Accomplished,” “Cut and Run” and many others.

However, no matter how ridiculous these talking points may sound, this president and his delusional followers continue to use what amounts to propaganda in public discussions with complete disregard for facts and statistics. That is why I will dedicate the remainder of my column to deconstructing the talking points when it comes to the current war.

1. “We are making progress in Iraq.”
This is the most frustrating talking point because it shows complete and total ignorance about how bad the situation is in Iraq for both our soldiers and Iraqis.

The U.N. estimates that since the war began, more than two million people (approximately 8 percent of the population) have fled the country and another 1.8 million people are internally displaced from their homes (domestic refugees).

This year CNN stated that 70 percent of Iraqis lack access to adequate water supplies and that 28 percent of Iraqi children suffer from malnutrition, even though the United States has spent more than $60 billion on rebuilding costs ($860 billion on military operations) since 2003.

In addition, one out of every four Iraqis is unemployed (that number is worse than)
what we experienced during our Great Depression) and inflation has stayed between 25 to 60 percent over the past four years (the cost of fuel and electricity actually rose 200 percent last year).

Given these catastrophic economic conditions, it is not surprising to learn kid-napping has become one of Iraq’s fastest-growing businesses. One study published in 2006 concluded that 20,000 Iraqis, half of them women and children, were kidnapped in one year.

Furthermore, let’s not forget the incredibly horrific civil war that has engulfed Iraq as Sunni and Shiite militias continue to roam city streets and ethnically cleanse rival neighborhoods. In his testimony to Congress about the “progress” of the Surge, General Petraeus even conceded that the “level of civilian deaths is clearly still too high and continues to be of serious concern.”

The Associated Press reports the Iraqi body count may double from last year’s figure, estimated by the U.N. at 34,000.

Of course our troops are snarky trying to police all this chaos and it has only led to more and more attacks on our soldiers. This September the Government Accountability Office (GAO) estimated insurgent attacks against U.S. troops had actually risen so far this year to roughly 160 per day (up from the 75 average last year).

2. “We are fighting the terrorists over there so we don’t have to fight them over here.”
President Bush and other Republicans have often invoked this month-to-month argument as justification for staying in Iraq.

However, Bush’s own intelligence agencies contradict this belief. In 2006, a National Intelligence Estimates (NIE) report referred to Iraq as a “cause celebre” for the jihadist movement...which is shaping a new generation of terrorist leaders and operatives.” Republicans will point to that same NIE study and say al-Qaeda is “damaged” because of the Iraq War, but that is a narrow-minded view since the NIE also states “the global jihadist movement is decentralized...and is becoming more diffused and more difficult to undermine.”

Another counterpoint to Bush’s talking point is a study done by Peter Bergen, a senior fellow at the New America Foundation, which found that since the Iraq War started there has been a 35 percent rise in the number of attacks worldwide with a 12 percent rise in fatalities. Furthermore, the rate of attacks on Western interests and citizens around the world has risen by almost 25 percent.

This study illustrates what Bergen calls the “Iraq effect,” that the Iraq conflict has actually increased the spread of the al-Qaeda ideological virus as shown by the numbers and the tragic bombings around the world, including London, Madrid and Kabul.

Given this information, it’s clear we are already fighting serious terrorist elements elsewhere besides Iraq and to continually focus all of our attention on one spot of the world (which is not resulting in any “progress”) only leaves us more vulnerable and unprepared for other attacks. Of course, I am sure Republicans will just call me a “na-tive liberal” and that’ll be the end of the discus-sion. Thomas Jefferson be damned.

Patrick Molnar is a business junior and a Mustang Daily liberal columnist.

GUEST COMMENTARY
British high court defies manmade global warming

Here is a story that you won’t hear from many in the mainstream media. A truck driver in England has sued the Ministry of Education for sending “An Inconvenient Truth” to 3,300 secondary schools as required viewing with no counter-argument. A recent ruling by the High Court has determined that there are nine factual inaccuracies in the film and those teachers who present the film must show the other side of the debate and draw attention to the factual inaccuracies. They are required to do this because of a law in England which requires teachers “shall forbear...the promotion of partisan political views in the teaching of any subject.”

We wish we had a law like that in our schools. Now here is the interesting part, the factual inaccuracies:

1. The snows melting on Mount Kilimanjaro are due to global warming. The government expert conceded this isn’t true.

2. The film suggests ice cores prove that rises in CO2 cause the temperature to rise. The court discovered that this is not the case; in fact that rises in CO2 lag behind temperature rises by 800-2000 years.

3. Blaming Hurricane Katrina on global warming is “unscientifically possible,” stating that you can’t blame one-off events to global warming.

4. The government expert also conceded that the drying up of Lake Chad cannot be attributed to global warming.

5. The film attributes drowning polar bears to disappearing ice. It turns out Mr. Gore misunderstood the study he cited and that the polar bears drowned due to a storm.

6. Global warming could cause the Atlantic Gulf Stream to stop, plunging Europe into another ice age. The evidence showed this is a scientific impossibility.

7. The bleaching of coral reefs was due to global warming. The court could not find any evidence that this was the case.

8. The film suggests that sea level might rise by 7 meters (23 feet) but evidence shows that sea level will only rise by 40 cm (15 inches).

9. The claim that the evacuation of certain Pacific islands to New Zealand, blamed on global warming, is unsubstantiated and false.

In a related issue, a study done by Dennis Avery, an environmental economist, and Professor Fred Singer, a physicist, has shown that global warming “is good, and not our fault.” They looked at the work of over 500 scientists, most of whom do not describe themselves as skeptics, and found it is very doubtful that mankind and cold spells kill far more than warm spells. As so the claim that weather gets worse with warming they concluded, “It was the harsh, unstable Dark Ages and the Little Ice Age that brought bigger storms, untrimester frost, widespread famine, plagues and disease.”

There you go. Call me what you will; you don’t have to believe me this time, but you should probably believe the High Court of England and more than 500 scientists.

Taylor Scott is an international business senior and the author of last Wednesday’s conservative opinion.
Cal Poly tied for 11th place in Aztec Fall Classic

SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT

CHULA VISTA, Calif. — The Cal Poly women’s golf team tied for 11th place with Portland State after the first round of play in the Aztec Fall Classic women’s golf tournament on Monday, finishing dead even with the Vikings in 11th place on Tuesday. Both teams carded 314 totals.

Coach Scott Carverwright’s Mustangs compiled a four-person 36-hole 50-over-par 626 total in the 19-team tournament hosted by San Diego State at the Salt Creek Golf Course.

UC Irvine was the team winner with a 17-over-par 593 total, followed by East Tennessee State and Hawaii, both with 603 totals on the 6,216-yard, par-72 layout. UC Irvine and Hawaii were sophomore Maddy Fletcher, competing as an individual, shot another 84, finishing in a tie for 81st place.

Sophomore Stephanie Yocum moved up eight positions Tuesday, carding a 76 for a 154 total and a tie for 31st place.

Junior Elise Walker slipped from 18th place into a tie for 45th place with an 81 Tuesday and a 157 total.

Also competing for Cal Poly were sophomore Maddy Fletcher, tied for 67th place with an 80 for a 163 total, and junior Hannah Brabb, tied for 74th place following her round of 80 for a 164 total.

Cal Poly senior Anne Sobierski, competing as an individual, shot another 84, finishing in a tie for 81st place.

Patty Chawaliththa of UC Irvine won the individual title with a final-round 72 and a two-under-par, 142 total, three strokes ahead of Cal State Northridge’s Krystina Cillenwater, who shot a 71.

Cal Poly returns to action Nov. 5-6 with the Firestone Cirillo/Civilian Golf Tournament hosted by the 24-year-old finished his career at Cal Poly in 11th place on Tuesday. Both teams carded 314 totals.

The club also on Tuesday released linebacker D.J. Lewis.

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You’ve been poked by The Mustang Daily

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Hey, we’ve got a real news feed too.

Broncos sign Poly’s all-time leader in tackles, free agent Jordan Beck

Cal Poly 2004 Buck Buchanan Award winner gets another chance in the NFL.

SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. — The Denver Broncos on Tuesday signed free agent linebacker Jordan Beck, head coach Mike Shanahan announced. As per club policy, terms of the deal were not disclosed.

Beck (6-foot-2, 233 pounds) is a third-year player who joins the Broncos from Atlanta, which waived him Sept. 2 after he competed in the Falcons’ training camp. Beck entered the NFL with Atlanta as a third-round (90th overall) selection in the 2005 NFL Draft from Cal Poly.

Beck has played 15 career games, all of which occurred during the 2006 season with Atlanta. He ranked second on the Falcons that year with 13 special-teams tackles after spending his rookie campaign in 2005 on Atlanta’s reserve/jured list with a broken foot.

The 24-year-old finished his career at Cal Poly as its all-time leading tackler with 449 stops to go along with 16.5 sacks.

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Ramses Barden added to Walter Payton watch list

Cal Poly junior wide receiver Ramses Barden has been added to the Walter Payton Award watch list announced Tuesday by the Sports Network.

Barden leads the nation in receiving yards per game (134.6) as well as yards per catch (27.2). He becomes the second Mustang to land on a Payton watch list, following running back Tyler Roehl and Colgate running back Jordan Scott.

Those players join eight other candidates on the revised list. The other Payton candidates include quarterback Liam Cavan of Massachusetts, running back Oussama Cuff of Delaware, running back Herb Donaldson of Western Illinois, quarterback Josh Johnson of San Diego, running back Mike McLeod of Yale, running back Kevin Richards of Appalachian State, quarterback Eric Sanders of Northern Iowa and quarterback Ricky Santos of New Hampshire.

Santos was the 2006 Payton Award winner, which goes to the FCS offensive player of the year. He is looking to become the first two-time winner of the award. Former Appalachian State linebacker Dxter Cookley is the only player to win more than one of the Sports Network’s major awards, earning the Back Buchman Award in 1999, too. The winner of the 21st Walter Payton Award will be announced at the annual Sports Network award banquet on Dec. 13 in Champaign.

The Back Buchman Award, the Eddie Robinson Award and the Sports Network Cup will also be awarded.

The Buchman Award goes to the top defensive player annually in FCS while the Robinson Award is given to the top coach in FCS.

The Sports Network Cup is awarded to the No. 1 mid-major team in FCS.

Eight players were dropped off the updated Payton watch list.


Despite seeing specialized coverage every game, Barden has grabbed 34 passes for 924 yards and 11 touchdowns in 12 games. Barden now has career totals of 116 catches (No. 6 all-time at Cal Poly), 2,404 yards (No. 1 all-time at Cal Poly) and 25 touchdowns (No. 2 at Cal Poly). He needs one touchdown reception to catch record-holder Kamal Lound (26 from 1994-97). Nationally Barden is seventh in scoring (114.0) and 29th in receptions per game (5.67). In the Great West Football Conference, he is first in receiving yards per game and yards per catch and second in both scoring and receptions per game.

Barden (6-6, 228, Altadena, Cali.) has caught nine passes in a game three times and his career high for receiving yards in a game is 219, set against Weber State earlier this season. Barden broke the school record with four touchdown catches against Weber State.

Barden was named to the All-Great West Football Conference first team in both 2005 and 2006. He blocked two field goal attempts in 2005 and 2004 for the second team. Barden now has career totals of 116 catches (No. 6 all-time at Cal Poly), 2,404 yards (No. 1 all-time at Cal Poly) and 25 touchdowns (No. 2 at Cal Poly). He needs one touchdown reception to catch record-holder Kamal Lound (26 from 1994-97).

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Win, lose or draw you know that the team is going to be fighting hard.

—Paul Holocher
Men's soccer head coach

Cal Poly men's soccer takes on UCSB

Cal Poly fights for sole possession of first place in the Big West tonight in Spanos Stadium.

Josh Ayers
MUSTANG DAILY

In this year's Big West coaches preseason poll, the Cal Poly men's soccer team was picked to finish fifth.

Tonight Cal Poly will square off against defending national champion and conference rival No. 15 UC Santa Barbara for sole possession of first place in the Big West.

"They're obviously a very experienced team," head coach Paul Holocher said. "They've just won the national championship. The players are full of confidence, they're used to winning."

The Gauchos are entering the game with a 6-2-3 overall record while the Mustangs boast an 8-1-1 overall record. Both teams sit atop the Big West standings with a 3-0-1 conference record.

Cal Poly is No. 1 in the nation in shutout percentage with seven in 10 games, something Holocher attributes to good team play in the backfield.

"Defending is a group effort," Holocher said. "We defend with 11 players. Our forwards work very hard to defend."

Specifically, Holocher pinpointed the team's four backs Brian Jones, Casey Condra, K.J. Lenehan and Josh Didonato as key components of the team's defense.

Cal Poly leads the Big West in goals allowed, giving up only eight all season. The statistic will be put to the test in the game as UC Santa Barbara leads the Big West with 200 shots on goal, an average of 18.19 per game.

Goalkeeper Eric Branagan-Francisco leads the conference with six shutouts and has emerged as a vocal leader on the field.

"I told Eric that the worst stat you can have is most saves because if you have a shot that says you've got the most saves it means there's a lot of shots coming on you," Holocher said. "The goal keeper's No. 1 job is to organize his defense in front of him and to order them in such a way that you're preventing shots from happening."

Branagan-Francisco's leadership was best displayed in Sunday's UC Davis game when Cal Poly allowed the Aggies an indirect kick — meaning UC Davis had to touch the ball once before scoring — from about 12 yards out.

The team organized a wall in front of Branagan-Francisco about 10 yards from the ball to prevent the score.

"In the very last second, Branagan-Francisco broke through the wall, he was on his goal line and told them to get on the goal line ... he was a one-on-one person wall and as soon as they [Petric] touched it to the side he raced out and deflected the ball," Holocher said. "It was a real-time decision and it was a good one."

Leading the offensive attack for the Gauchos will be Chris Pontius and midfielder Brian David.

Pontius played at the right-back defender position last season but has adjusted to his new spot up field with eight goals, making him the top goal scorer in the Big West. He is tied for 13th in the NCCAA in goals per game.

"He's physically fast, he's 6-1, strong and has explosive speed," Holocher said. "He's a handful ... he's someone we definitely got to keep an eye on, be very close to, have cover behind our defenders when he's around and basically you try and contain Chris."

Avila, who earned All-American honors in 2006, leads the conference in assists with four and assisted Pontius only once.

Cal Poly will be without its leading goal scorer Daniel Cumming, who was found to have torn his anterior cruciate ligament after scoring his fifth goal of the season in the Mustang 3-0 win over the Aggies. He will be out for the season.

"What that means is that other players are going to have to step up," Holocher said. "We do have players that can do that."

Of those players will be freshman David Zamora who is second in scoring on the team with Julian Alvarez. The two each have four goals.

Zamora has scored three goals in his past two games which earned him Big West Player of the Week and College Soccer News Team of the Week honors.

Another offensive threat has been Kyle Montgomery who has scored three goals this season and has also contributed in assists. Montgomery and Zamora have seven assists between the two of them.

Holocher insists that the home crowd is a major factor in the momentum of the game.

"The Cal Poly men's soccer team celebrating their win over then-ranked No. 11 Cal in an exhibition game earlier this season. Freshman David Zamora had a hat-trick in the 3-1 victory."

How They Stack Up

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cal Poly</th>
<th>UCSB</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Goals per game</td>
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<td>Total saves</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total fouls</td>
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</tbody>
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The Mustangs took a 2-0 lead over the Aggies in the first half and a 3-0 lead into halftime. The Mustangs scored their third goal in the second half to win 3-0.

"This is going to be a really exciting game and win, lose, or draw you know that the team is going to be fighting hard."