Students run to promote sexual assault awareness

Sara Wright

Get ready to run for sexual assault awareness and prevention.

The sixth annual Run to Remember race is today at 6 p.m.

The five-kilometer evening race is a fundraiser for Remember Week, which is meant to raise awareness of sexual assault and violence against women.

Run to Remember is organized by the Sexual Assault Free Environment Resource, or SAFER, which is Cal Poly's sexual assault resource and prevention program.

SAFER is a joint program between Student Life & Leadership and the Sexual Assault Recovery and Prevention (SARP) center, which provides 24-hour crisis line, counseling, advocacy and accompaniment services to survivors of sexual assault.

SAFER program coordinator Mariana Lightman said the run was moved from spring quarter to fall quarter two years ago because they wanted to include the run in their First 30 Days program.

Statistically, a woman is most likely to be sexually assaulted in the first 30 days of her college career. Therefore, SAFER wants to highlight the importance of safety and awareness early in the school year with events like those of Remember Week.

"It's a good way to raise sexual awareness," Lightman said. "We've been having programs in the dorms like self-defense classes for the First 30 Days campaign." People can register online at www.studentlife.calpoly.edu/saf/run.asp or at the SAFER office in room 217.

LAUREN RABAINO Mustang Daily

Cal Poly's water ski team is one of the top 12 in the country and is going to nationals.

 состоится венчание.

Senators are run up for a Bush's future veto

Andrew Taylor

WASHINGTON — Senate Democrats on Tuesday reversed President Bush's veto to education, health research and grants to local communities as they geared up for Bush's first-ever veto of a regular appropriations bill.

By a 79-18 vote, the Senate gave bipartisan approval to a huge health and education spending bill that will likely be the first of the fiscal 2008 spending bills. Democrat will ship to the White House to start a veto battle involving the budget for almost every domestic agency.

It promises to be a protracted battle and Bush has a decided advantage, but Democrats have seized on the massive health and education measure as the best measure with which to challenge Bush and his GOP allies in Congress.

The measure totals over $600 billion, but a raft of cuts sought by Bush to health research, special education and funding for grants to community groups that help the poor, among others.

The confrontation with Bush over domestic programs — many of which are also popular with Republicans, as demonstrated by the margin of passage — will come on the heels of the bruising veto battle over a children's health insurance bill.

Firefighters all but concede defeat to raging California wildfires; flames too big, too fast

Gillian Flaccus

SAN DIEGO — Faced with unrelenting winds whipping wildfires into a frenzy across Southern California, firefighters all but conceded defeat Tuesday to an unstoppable force that has chased an estimated one million people away.

Unless the fierce Santa Ana winds subside, which is not expected for at least another day, fire crews say they can do little more than try to wait it out and react, tumbling up spot fires and framing ribbons of airborne embers to keep new fires from flaring.

"If it's this big and blowing with as much wind as it's got, it'll go all the way to the ocean before it stops," said San Diego Fire Capt. Kirk Humphries.

"We can save some stuff but we can't stop it."

Tentacles of unpredictable, shifting flame have burned across nearly 600 square miles, killing one person, destroying more than 1,300 homes and prompting one of the biggest evacuations in California history, from northern Los Angeles through San Diego to the Mexican border.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger said the flames were threatening 68,000 more homes.

"We have had an unfortunate situation that we've had three things come together: very dry areas, very hot weather and then a lot of wind," Schwarzenegger said. "And so this makes the perfect storm for a fire."

In Rancho Santa Fe, a suburb north of San Diego, houses burned just yards from where fire crews fought to contain flames engulfing other properties. In the mountain community of Lake Arrowhead, cabins and vacation homes went up in flames with no fire crews in sight.

"These winds are so strong, we're not trying to fight this fire," said firefighter Jim Gelfand, an engineer from Vista, Calif. "We're just trying to save the buildings."

More than a dozen wildfires burning across Southern California since Sunday have also injured more than 40 people, including 16 firefighters.

The U.S. Forest Service earlier reported a fire death in Los Angeles County's San Clarita area, but officials said Tuesday that information was erroneous.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger flies over Lake Arrowhead, Calif., in a National Guard helicopter.

The fires also forced the evacuation of more than 350,000 homes, most of them in San Diego County. With the area's average household size of 2.6 people, that means the evacuation could encompass nearly 910,000 people.

"It's basically a mass migration here in San Diego County. The numbers we're seeing are staggering," said Luis Montenegro, a spokesman for the county's emergency effort.

President Bush, who planned to visit the region Thursday, declared
Fire
continued from page 1

a federal emergency for seven counties, a move that will speed disaster-relief efforts.

The sweeping devastation was reminiscent of blazes that tore through Southern California four years ago, killing 22 and destroying 3,640 homes.

The ferocity of the Santa Ana winds in 2003 forced crews to discard their traditional strategy and focus on keeping up with the fire and putting out spot blazes rather than trying to anticipate those that threatened homes.

Fire crews were especially concerned about dense eucalyptus groves in Del Mar and Rancho Santa Fe, fearing the highly flammable trees could turn neighborhoods prized for their secluded serenity into potential tinderboxes.

The usual tactic is to surround a fire on two sides and try to choke it off.

But with fires whipped by gusts that have surpassed 110 mph, that strategy doesn’t work because embers can be swept miles ahead of the fire’s front line.

In those cases, crews must keep 10 to 30 feet back from the flames or risk their own lives, Los Angeles County firefighter Daryl Parish said.

Added Rocklin Fire Department Capt. Martin Holm, “We do what we can. A life’s a lot more important than a house.”

Any flame longer than 8 feet is considered unstoppable and even water and fire retardant will evaporate before they reach the ground, said Gordon Schmidt, a retired U.S. Forest Service deputy director of fire management.

“In these situations, the strategy generally is to fall back,” he said.

“You pick and choose your priorities in terms of what you can protect. Instead of trying to stop the fire, you try to prevent it from burning resources.”

Run
continued from page 1

with a buddy to signify the need for the safety of women running at night and that women are not doing it alone in doing so.

The course starts on the Health Center lawn and continues around the Cal Poly campus, as far as the baseball fields and back to the lawn.

Adam Serafin, a Cal Poly graduate and current Student Life & Leadership employee, has been a participant in the race all five years he has attended Cal Poly.

“It’s a great opportunity to support the SAFHK program and go out and visibly show your support,” Serafin said.

“Sexual assault and prevention is an issue that needs to be addressed.”

Serafin emphasized the need for men to do their part in working against sexual assault.

“Men especially need to step up. It’s not just a woman’s issue but men as well,” he said.

Grand prizes such as certificates are awarded to the first three male and female runners.

The first 200 will receive a T-shirt. Runners also get SLO Passports, snacks and a water bottle and flashlights provided by the San Luis Obispo Police Department.

This year’s sponsors include many businesses — Boston Bagel, Mandolin Steamer Glen, Trader Joe’s, the Kennedy Fitness Club — and Cal Poly President Warren Baker’s office, which funded a lot of the event.

Ewoks always got cast as Munchkins in Wookie productions of The Wizard of Oz.
Sales of cranberries increase overseas

John Hartzell

An appetite is emerging overseas for cranberries, a staple in American diets since long before the Pilgrims arrived at Plymouth Rock.

The craving is so strong that Cheryl Urban of Wisconsin Rapids, a cranberry grower who also processes the crops of six other growers, said 30 percent of her business’ sales will go to foreign markets this year. In 2001, she had no overseas sales.

“It was just a matter of getting the message out about cranberries,” Urban said. “It’s becoming a staple for them just as it is for us.”

The message is that cranberries are tasty, healthy and versatile, showing up in everything from soap to nut breads.

The Cranberry Marketing Committee began promoting the product outside the country in earnest in 1999, said Michael Rocci, the committee’s export promotion manager.

Foreign sales were 14 percent of the market that year at nearly $8 million. That increased to 27 percent of the market last year with more than $30 million state at $26 million in sales.

The largest producer, Ocean Spray Cranberries Inc., has seen its foreign business grow by double-digit percentages each year for more than a decade, reaching between $300 million and $400 million annually in 80 different countries, CEO Randy Pappelis said.

Cranberries aren’t found in just beverages and Thanksgiving side dishes. Pappelis said Ocean Spray has cranberries in more than 1,000 products.

Some of the newest items include ice cream topping, crackers, pancake mix, soap and lotions, said Tom Papadellis, the company’s international sales manager.

Wisconsin, the nation’s top cranberry-producing state, expects to harvest 3.9 million barrels of the tart fruit this year, more than 70 percent of the country’s total production.

The redemption is substantial since then, especially in the United Kingdom, Germany, Australia, France, South Korea, Mexico, Japan, the Netherlands, Spain, Austria and Switzerland, he said.

Foreign sales were 14 percent of the market in 1992. The association estimates they were about 25 percent by 2001.

“Some residents will be allowed to return to their homes in the suburban city of Poway in northern San Diego County,” the San Diego Fire Chief Tracy Jarman says people who were evacuated yesterday from the coastal Del Mar Heights neighborhood and the Scripps Ranch area further east in the city of San Diego will also be allowed to go home Tuesday afternoon.

The message is that cranberries are a staple in American diets since long before the Pilgrims arrived at Plymouth Rock.

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Some residents will be allowed to return to their homes in the suburban city of Poway in northern San Diego County, Jarman said. "It's becoming a staple for them just as it is for us."
Iraq death tallies for October decline

Steven R. Hurst
Associated Press

October is on course to record the second consecutive decline in U.S. military and Iraqi civilian deaths and American commanders say they know why: the U.S. troop surge and an Iraqi groundswell against al-Qaida and Shiite militias extremist.

Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch points to what the military calls "Concerned Citizens," both Shiites and Sunnis who have joined the American fight. He says he's signed up 20,000 of them in the past four months.

"I've never been more optimistic than I am right now with the progress we've made in Iraq. The only people who are going to win this counterinsurgency project are the people of Iraq. We've said that all along. And now they're coming forward in masses," Lynch said in a recent interview at a U.S. base deep in hostile territory south of Baghdad. Outgoing artillery thundered as he spoke.

Lynch, who commands the 3rd Infantry Division and once served as the military spokesman in Baghdad, is a tireless cheerleader of the American effort in Iraq. But the death toll over the past two months appears to reinforce his optimism. The question, of course, Will it last?

As of Tuesday, the Pentagon reported 28 U.S. military deaths in October. That's an average of about 1.2 deaths a day. The toll on U.S troops hasn't been this low since March 2006, when 31 soldiers died, an average of one death a day.

In September, 65 U.S. soldiers died in Iraq.

Part of the trend can be seen in a volatile and violent band of lush agricultural land on Baghdad's southern border.

The commander of the battle zone, Lt. Col. Val Keaveny, 3rd Battalion, 509th Infantry (Airborne), said his unit has lost only one soldier in the past four months despite intensified operations against both Shiite and Sunni extremists, including powerful al-Qaida in Iraq cells.

Keaveny attributes the startling decline to a decrease in attacks by militants who are being rounded up in big numbers on inforatoriums.

"People are fed up with fear, intimidation and being brutalized. Once they hit that tipping point, they're fed up; they come to realize we truly do provide them better hope for the future. What we're seeing now is the beginning of a snowball," said Keaveny, whose forces operate out of Forward Operating Base Kabul about 35 miles south of Baghdad.

While U.S. death figures appear to be in sharp decline, the number of Iraqi civilians and security forces show a less dramatic drop. Any significant attack by insurgents or civilians caught in the crossfire could quickly wipe out the downward trend.

The current pace of civilian deaths would put October at less than 900. The figure last month was 1,023 and for August, 1,956, according to figures compiled by The Associated Press.

The AP tally is compiled from hospital, government, military and official Iraqi estimates and from reporters and photographers. Insurgent deaths are not included. Other counts differ and some have given higher civilian death tolls.

While the decline in deaths is notable, it is only one of many measures of potential progress in Iraq, said Anthony Cordesman, a former Pentagon analyst now with the private Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington.

Cordesman said a more balanced picture needs to include factors such as wounded civilians and soldiers and the number of people fleeing their homes. The U.N. refugee agency said Tuesday that between 1,000 and 2,000 Iraqis still leave their homes each day for safer havens in the country or in neighboring nations. "It's just been going up slowly," said U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees spokesman Astrid van Genderen Stort in Geneva.
A few store tips to help your hunt for the perfect Halloween costume

As the spookiest of nights gets closer, people are scrambling to find the perfect costume — or maybe just a last-minute one. There are more costume shops than usual to choose from in San Luis Obispo this year, and each one has its pros and cons.

The big box Spirit Halloween store, located at 870 Foothill Blvd., is the biggest and has the most merchandise, but a lot of it is children's costumes and decorations. While there are a lot of adult costumes, wigs, masks, random props and decorations, there is less variety than some of the other stores.

It has more in terms of pure volume, but has rows of the same theme (like pirates, priests and pimps) instead of different things. It has costumes for every price range, and a few well-placed accessories from here would do in a financial fix. It’s more of a one-stop shop for a family than a college student’s store, but it does boast a few K-rated items like a skull-shaped beer bong and a “tricky dick” costume.

Downtown, The Costume Shop offers the one thing every person looks for in such a store: a fitting room. Packaged costumes, props, accessory pieces and wigs can be tried on before buying them, which also opens up the shopping experience to peer review.

Michelle Perlich, an art professor and owner of the shop, said they purposely order middle-range costumes. Most of the packaged costumes are $30 to $80 and most of the wigs and other accessories are less than $20.

The most popular costumes this year are Spartans à la “300” for men and sailors for women, Perlich said, though pirates have returned for another strong showing this year.

The Costume Shop will be open year-round. It will also cater specifically to college students; its owners want to order merchandise based on theme parties occurring at the time, and may even attempt to coordinate with local fraternities and sororities.

Also downtown is Costume Capers, located at 984 Chorro St. This place is jam-packed with awesomely kitschy and has reasonable prices for costumes, accessories, wigs, assorted jewelry and makeup items.

Shopping there feels like spelunking — weaving through the dimly-lit rows finding stuff you never knew was there. If you need that one random piece to make your costume complete (or want the biggest colored-fishnets collection to choose from), you’ll probably get lucky here.

For those ladies out there who like to be scantily clad, there’s always Fanny Wrappers, located at 799 Higuera St. Like The Costume Shop and Costume Capers, it’s open year-round. As the name implies, it sells costumes with varying levels of scandal and does good business with the college-aged female crowd. For Halloween, they have a good selection of Leg Avenue and other brands that boast short-skirted versions of classic costumes. Who doesn’t want to be a skanky Alice in Wonderland?

The local shops cater more exclusively to their clientele, and it gets to show that you can’t judge a costume shop by its square-footage: bigger isn’t always better. The prices on big brand items were relatively similar from store to store, and prop and accessory item prices varied by quality and size.
Casey Affleck proves talented in ‘Gone Baby Gone’

Chris Kellerman

If "The Assassination of Jesse James" doesn’t prove it, this movie is in stone: Casey Affleck is the real actor in the Affleck family. Ben Affleck can stick to directing and screenwriting, which he does admirably in ‘Gone Baby Gone.’ The story takes place in the slums of Boston, where Casey Affleck plays a private investigator, Patrick, living with his girlfriend Angie (Michelle Monaghan). Patrick grew up in this tough neighborhood, and, while he finds more success in life than his childhood friends, he clearly still has “street cred” among them. After all, he stayed there and was true to them. He has cocaine-dealing friends, but they’re the good kind of coke-dealers (as only Hollywood can have us believe).

When 4-year-old Amanda McCready goes missing from her mother’s apartment, Amanda’s aunt (Toni Collette) asks Patrick and Angie to “August the investigation” since the Boston police department hasn’t had success. The initial investigation reveals Amanda’s mom is a drug mule, and, in fact, she’s doing coke at a bar at a bar the night Amanda was taken. Patrick and Angie assume Amanda may have been kidnapped after a drug deal went wrong.

Morgan Freeman plays the police captain in charge of finding missing children, and Ed Harris is the detective who serves as a liaison between Patrick and the police. After the entire team finds the man who may have Amanda, they set up a night meeting on a cliff to exchange her for a large sum of money. Shots are fired, the suspect ends up dead, and Amanda’s doll is seen floating in the waters below.

The show represents one-third of the story, and I’ll give too much away if I go further. It’s a very complicated plot with major shocks, and just when you think you know what’s going on, you’re surprised with a new revelation.

This is an excellent movie. Certain elements of the plot and setting are reminiscent of “The Departed” — a corrupt Boston police department, a mobster running and really bad language. But unlike the rich, witty and good-looking people in that version of the Boston crime world, “Gone Baby Gone” is the story of middle- to lower-class people with little education. They make up the most ignored sect of society in movies: think “Hustle and Flow.”

Another big contrast with “The Departed,” where most of the cast get killed, but at least all the bad guys are dead, is that here we’re dealing with much tougher questions of morality.

“Gone Baby Gone” was adapted from a book by Dennis Lehane, and though I haven’t read it, I imagine it’s great. This is one of the most exciting, powerful and morally complex films of 2007.

Another film comparison I must make, in terms of the questions of morality, is to “Million Dollar Baby.” Patrick, like Clint Eastwood’s character in “Baby,” is a Catholic who faces huge moral dilemmas. Ultimately the “big decision” Patrick makes is the opposite of what “Million Dollar Baby” would have chosen.

Casey Affleck in having a great year after co-starring in “The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford,” and now he delivers another fine performance. While this role won’t quite as challenging or starring as Robert Ford, I think it could boost Casey’s chances for an Oscar next spring.

Supporting performances from Ed Harris (“A History of Violence”) and Amy Madigan (“Field of Dreams”) are great. Morgan Freeman is also good, but in how many more movies will we have to hear him declare, “We will prevail!” Just wondering.

The film begins with Patrick telling us the advice his priest gave him on how to get to heaven. The priest quotes Jesus: “Behold, I am sending you like sheep in the midst of wolves. So be shrewd as serpents and simple as doves” (Matthew 10:16). Patrick tries his best throughout the movie to hold onto that high standard. It’s up to the audience to decide if he succeeds. In my mind, he does.

Crazy Jays

The Hottest Shoes For Every Outfit

The Hottest Shoes For Every Outfit

COURTESY PHOTO

HIPSTER BULLSHIT

a music column from KCPR

Submit your poetry, photography and short stories to MustangDailyArts@gmail.com for a chance to be featured in the Mustang Daily.

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Wednesday, October 24, 2007
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‘Robotron’ signals distinctly modern sound

Digital band Signal uses computers to create challenging instrumentation

Since the first instrument was electrified, musicians in the realm of electronics have dealt with the struggle between instrument and sound. Synthesizers were first made to recreate orchestras and new Macintosh contains a set of software devices emulating nearly every musical instrument. The tools of the digital generation were made for making sounds of a past generation. Signal, a band made up of Frank Bret Schneider, Cars ten Nicola and Leaf Bender, rejects this. Their debut album “Robotron” is an uncompromising manifesto of true digital sound.

The masterminds that make up Signal are architects of a distinctively modern sound. Signal realizes their tools for building and what they are best used for. The computer is seen as an instrument and then questioned. Signal zooms in on the basic unit of digital sound, the discrete sound element, and builds it up to reveal the true essence of the computer’s role as a musical instrument. The result is not an emulation of other instruments, but rather an unabashedly computer music.

It is no wonder then why this album will first come off as just noise to the inexperienced ear. The first track sounds like a skipping metronome sped up through a blown speaker. Stripped of all decoration is the equally sparse title track “Robot Ron,” which midway reveals a minimal melody of a few brief beeps. The tracks that make up the album sound as if the buzz of computer was stretched to its breaking point to reveal an internal rhythm. The rhythms are so abrupt the silence in between noise becomes louder than the noise itself. The deliberate architecture of “Robotron” brings to light how its sound was created. Staying true to their beliefs, Signal dismisses the use of traditional samplers and sequencers opting to create the pulsing rhythms of buzzes, clicks and cuts by precise algorithms and computer programming.

The unrelenting tightness of the rhythms demonstrates the computer’s superior accuracy for calculation. On a micro-level however, the pops and hisses that occasionally make their way into the beats make us aware of the computer’s inability to come to terms with conflicting codes. This contrast in scale brings a depth to the starkness of the record that rivals that of any orchestra.

Signal is also aware of the ritualistic act of listening to music and tactility of media. Gone is the cheap plastic compact-disc case always prone to cracking. Instead the CD is slipped into the folds of the softest and most pleasant cardboard. Unfolding the case is calming as the buttery surface slides across your fingertips. Inside, the disc slips into the most elegant of cutouts. The case itself is quiet to the eye and soft to the touch, to the sense of scale brings a depth to the starkness of the record that rivals that of any orchestra.

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Paul Canivash is an architecture junior and a music director at KCPR, San Luis Obispo, 91.3 FM. He is also completely full of it.
Walking past the black curtain into the unlit hookah lounge at Cloud 9 in San Luis Obispo, the paintings on the wall matched the dark atmosphere of the room. The pieces were wild and colorful, yet displayed a darker theme that coincides with the festive Halloween season.

Artist Chris Matthews, who describes his art as a mixture of urban, street and surrealism, is displaying his work at Cloud 9 throughout the month of October.

"The general art is just my own personal expression. Everyone has a dark side and most of my art shows this dark side," said Matthews, 32, of Paso Robles.

Matthews began painting in the late '80s when he was in junior high school and eventually went out with his cousins to learn the art of graffiti. Throughout the '90s Matthews painted on the boardwalk in Venice Beach and would sell his artwork throughout the day.

"I rode the bus for two hours every day and would leave to go and come home when it was dark, but I loved it," Matthews said.

Since then Matthews has been painting, selling and collecting his pieces for display at various art shows.

His style has some common elements with street graffiti in that the pieces have overlapping images and all seem to blend into each other. Many of the pieces look like they are bleeding paint or are washed out in places, but each has a distinct, though interpretive theme.

"It's a bunch of things piled on top of each other like graffiti on a wall. I'm trying to capture that look where you can't really read it, but it gets the point across," Matthews said.

Some of his art currently on display is representative of Japanese ghost stories that he read out of a book from the 1800s. "I was taken by it because of all the beauty of the culture and the stories." Matthews said.

Pieces from Matthews' collection are priced between $25 and $300. Most pieces, however, range between $100 and $150. These prices include prints of works and even originals.

Matthews names all of his work to represent the theme. Some of his works include "Radio Head," "Microphone Man" and "Art is not a Crime."

Co-owner of Cloud 9 Adam Meninke said, "We've known him for a while and we have a place for him to display his work. It's got a real dark connection, which is a good theme for the Halloween season."

Matthews' work can be viewed when the hookah lounge is open. The lounge opens Tuesday through Sunday at 3 p.m. and closes at midnight Tuesday and Wednesday, at 2 a.m. Thursday through Saturday and 8 p.m. on Sunday.

Cloud 9 is located in the shopping center on the corner of California Boulevard and Taft Street.

"It's meant to reach out to other people so they can make their own connections. I paint to get the reactions from other people," Matthews said.
Hearing the voice of a silenced minority

Our nation takes pride in the freedom and equality offered to all citizens. Almost a century ago, the 19th amendment gave women the right to vote and a voice to demand equality. Between 1954 and 1968, Americans fought to extend civil rights to citizens regardless of race or ethnicity by disbanding school segregation and workplace discrimination and restoring voting rights.

Consequently, our generation has been fortunate to grow up in a democratic country that affords prosperity, choice, tolerance, and understanding to its people. But certainly the work is not done and glaring discrepancies in the rights of some persist.

On Oct. 7, 1998, a gay American college student named Matthew Shepard was brutally murdered by two men who sought to “teach” him a lesson—stay in the closet or else. Although the two men are serving life sentences for their crimes, these types of vicious acts are never considered to be “hate crimes.” The Senate’s recent passing vote of The Matthew Shepard Act aims to amend this injustice.

Recognition for gay rights has always been a controversial subject, as the Presidential primaries creep closer, however, the issue cannot be ignored. In 1996, President Clinton signed the Defense of Marriage Act, stating that the federal government will not recognize any union between same-sex partners. However, this has not stopped Connecticut, New Jersey, California, New Hampshire, Vermont, Oregon, Washington, Maine, Hawaii, the District of Columbia and most notably Massachusetts from extending rights granted to opposite unions to any pair of citizens in a loving, long-term, monogamous, same-sex relationship.

It may make you feel uncomfortable knowing that two men are embarking on the rest of their lives together, sharing the same bed and parenting children; but there is one truth you cannot deny about these relationships: if you devote your life to another person, you are making a commitment and that’s what counts.

No legal discrepancies abound. Tax benefits and mortgage rates afforded to married couples are not the same as those given to homosexual partners. Furthermore, knowing that your family exists in the eyes of the law is something we tend to take for granted.

When two married heterosexual parents file for divorce, each parent has a legal responsibility to ensure their child’s wellbeing. However, if same-sex couples separate, there are no court records to enforce child support or establish custody rights, making no differentiation between spouses and roommates. Why are we losing people’s (supposedly free and equal under the law) to marry these choices? In 33 states you can be fired for being perceived as gay, lesbian, or bisexual, 39 if you’re transgender. The workplace should not be a battleground for moral agenda. This is not just a private-sector issue. In fact, the most blatant display of unfair treatment under the law and discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation is perpetuated by an organization that collectively receives the largest amount of federal funding— the U.S. Military. Among other qualities, our military is known for its “Don’t Ask. Don’t Tell. Don’t Pursue. Don’t Harass.” policy. Most troubling to me is that this creed trumps the anti-discrimination policies of any other institution they are affiliated with, including Cal Poly.

CSCU bylaws state that no campus entity shall discriminate against students or faculty based on their sexual orientations. However, our Army ROTC program (which operates on campus within the military sciences department) is able to deny acceptance to any openly homosexual students who wish to join.

Sadly, by tolerating this discriminating policy, Cal Poly, along with other universities around the nation, is sending a clear message to their students: we value federal funding over your rights, especially if you are gay. Remarkably, Cal Poly continues to propagate this message of exclusion toward certain minority students. However, looking at all the facts, it’s yet another demonstration of what our society offers the “queer” community.

Erica Jaroff is an industrial engineering senior, the president of the Cal Poly Democrats and a monthly Mustang Daily liberal columnist.
Islamofascism: One of the greatest dangers facing America

This week more than 200 university and college campuses across our country and worldwide will be participating in Islamo-Fascism Awareness Week. The goal of the week is to remind Americans about one of the greatest dangers facing America.

Let me stress that Islam, like Christianity, Judaism, or any other religion, is not a monolithic entity composed of people with the same exact beliefs. Therefore, Islamo-fascism does not apply to every Muslim or every Arab but instead applies to a select group with a specific ideology.

So what is Islamo-fascism? In the words of Stephen Swartz, who used the term directly after Sept. 11, 2001, "Islamo-fascism refers to the use of faith as a tool for a totalitarian ideology." For example, followers of Islamo-fascism believe that under sharia law, apostasy is punishable by death. They take literally Sura 9:29: "Fight those who believe not in Allah nor the Prophet, nor acknowledge the religion of Truth, among any of the people of the Book." This principle is deeply embedded in the foundation of the Islamic faith. The main goals of followers of Islamo-fascism are to replace democracy and allow the elected government to do as it pleases.

For the most part, the Western world does not know about Islamo-fascism because the American people feel that the government is supposed to protect us from this danger. Many believe that the government has silenced the voices of those who speak out against this movement, in order to protect the image of the United States. This is not the case.

This week, we are going to talk about the dangers that we face from this movement. We will introduce the concept of Islamo-fascism and discuss the real dangers that we face from it.

An outraged call for a revolution

Cassandra Carlson
MUSTANG DAILY

It was May 1, 2003 when the United States led the invasion of Iraq. The disillusionment provided by the White House administration and the media alike has provided a base for the apathetic nature of our current society.

I know this might sound harsh, but look at the facts. We did not see body bags or the flag-draped coffins of the fallen soldiers from 1991 until 2005 due to the Defense Department withholding the photos. The most famous picture of the government humbly the truth. The Pentagon released the pictures in response to a Freedom of Information Act request which had been forbidden by both President Bush and his own government, and then after looking solely at Muhammad and his written words, there seem to be several verses that command violence (Sura 9:5, Surah 47:14, Surah 2:191 and others). Likewise, Muhammad himself organized 65 military campaigns, personally leading 27 of them, and even ordered the execution of enemy soldiers. These extremists take literally that women are inferior to men because of verses in the Qur'an like Sura 4:34. According to Amnesty International and the Pakistani Institute of Medical Sciences, more than 90 percent of Muslim-American women have been struck or beaten. Some use the example of Muhammad marrying Aisha when she was six and consuming the marriage when she was nine as a lesson to take wives who are children accordingly. UNESCO reports that over half of the teenage girls in Afghanistan and Bangladesh are married.

If these believers take these verses as a strict guide to their actions, then they can be no compromise with the Islamo-fascist agenda.

There are many Muslims across the world and in our country who do not subscribe to the Islamo-fascist agenda. In fact, Muslim-Americans are one of the most productive and successful groups living in America. According to the New York Times, 70 percent of Muslim-Americans as a group get married, 82 percent are registered to vote and 59 percent are college-educated with a salary of more than $50,000 a year on average. They are just as likely to describe themselves as moderate as the general population and are actually much more likely to support gun control laws than the general public. These moderate Muslim-Americans are a voice of reason and moderation.

However, Islamo-fascism is a genuine threat to ordinary moderate Muslims just as it is to everyone living in America. Islamo-Fascism Awareness week calls attention to the victims of Islamo-fascism, which include over 200,000 moderate Muslims in Algeria along with many others in Sudan, Afghanistan and elsewhere. The goal of this week is to inform students about the threat of Islamo-fascism and its underlying causes. This Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in Philips Hall, the Cal Poly College Republicans will be showing the film "Islam: What the West Needs to Know". Followed by a question-and-answer session with director Gregory Davis.

Brian Elton is a materials engineering senior, a member of a member of the Cal Poly College Republicans and a conservative columnist for the Mustang Daily.

Your job: Sort through information

I am no Nostalgian, but I predict that those few who have the AWP and the MSM will dominate the United States. This will not be like any other revolution that has occurred in human history. Instead, it will be a movement with guns, sticks or even words. It will be fought in the mind of every single American, whether they are aware of it or not. In this revolution, the majority of participants will do absolutely nothing and thereby side with the incumbent power. This revolution will be a war for truth. This revolution will be between those that accept information as fact and those that accept information as biased and seek to find the truth. The first step to beginning this revolution is to realize that there is no truth. The second step to beginning this revolution is to realize that there is no truth. One thing that very few people realize is that every news source is biased to some extent. Even the most objective of news sources will contain a certain amount of bias. In every news source, there is an outrage and demands for resignations and impeachment. When the media decides not to tell a particular story, no one knows about it. What has happened, what studies have occurred, what discoveries have been made, what the media has chosen to not report?

Another source of information that is pertinent to college professors is the political orientation of students. Most professors are qualified to teach and do an excellent job informing students. However, there are a couple of major flaws with this type of system of information distribution. One flaw is that professors are not qualified to teach the student's words as truth. However good a professor is, they are always biased. When a competent professor teaches, they do so from their own opinions and their own perception of reality. One example: Every university in California has at least a 1-1 ratio for liberal professors against conservative professors. That means that nowhere does conservatives outnumber liberals, but in the great majority of institutes of higher learning the liberals outweigh the conservatives.

Regardless of your political orientation, you must recognize the obvious bias and potentially unhealthy imbalance this creates.
LOS ANGELES — When Southern California loses, it's usually an upset. That won't be the case should the Trojans stumble this weekend.

For the first time since Nov. 17, 2001, the ninth-ranked Trojans will be underdogs in a Pac-10 game when they face No. 5 Oregon on Saturday. It will be the first matchup between top-10 teams in the 41-year history of Autzen Stadium.

USC coach Pete Carroll's reaction to playing the role of underdog was no surprise.

"That means absolutely nothing to me," Carroll said Tuesday at his weekly meeting with reporters. "I never bring it up. If you guys didn't bring it up, I'd never know."

Perhaps not, but his players are aware of the odds.

"I heard that today," quarterback John David Booty said with a smile after practice Monday. "It really doesn't make any difference to us. You've got to go out and play the game."

The Ducks were listed Tuesday as 3-point favorites.

"We like it," cornerback Terrell Thomas said. "The rest of the season is all about respect for us. We're still SC football. We're after respect, we've got to get that back. When you lose a game like we did, that's what happens." Carroll referred to USC's surprising 24-23 loss to Stanford on Oct. 6, when the Trojans were favored by 41 points. That snapped the Trojans' 35-game home winning streak.

Oregon's loss was also at home, but not nearly as big a surprise — the Trojans were beaten 31-24 by California on Sept. 29.

The Trojans and Ducks both bring winning streaks into the game. Oregon is doing it with an offense that ranks second nationally in yards (550.9 per game) and scoring (46.6 points), while USC is third in total defense (252.1 yards) and 10th in scoring defense (16.6 points).

USC entered this season having won or shared five straight Pac-10 championships, going 37-4 against conference opponents. UCLA was a 3-point favorite over the Trojans in the final regular-season game in 2001, according to Las Vegas Sports Consultants, but lost to their crosstown rivals 27-6.

The Trojans went off as 21/2-point underdogs to Michigan in the Rose Bowl game last winter, and won 32-18.

"They deserve to be an underdog going up to Oregon," Jay Kornegay, director of the sports book at the Las Vegas Hilton, said of the Trojans. "Buttors have short-term memories. They only remember what just happened. You look at USC's last four games — you've got to throw out the Notre Dame game — they struggled against these other three teams."

"The way they've played, most of the bettors will probably come in on Oregon. On the other hand, I wouldn't be surprised if some of the bigger bettors came in on USC," Kornegay said if Booty starts for USC, that could influence bettors as well.

Boozy has missed the last two games because of a broken middle finger on his throwing hand. Mark Sanchez struggled in a 20-13 victory over Arizona, passing for 130 yards and one touchdown with two interceptions, but was much better during a 36-27 triumph at Notre Dame. Throwing for 235 yards and four TDs without being picked off. "Mark will take all the first-team reps. We'll prepare him to play the football game again until we know more," Carroll said, adding he had no timetable on naming a starter.

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ASSOCIATED PRESS

Southern California head coach Pete Carroll walks the sideline during USC's 24-23 loss to Stanford in a football game in Los Angeles on Oct. 6.

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"I think there are a lot of people that theoretically would want to cross over between the two clubs. We have a lot of waterboarders on our team and I've talked to their president and he said they have some guys that want to go out and ski too. In the future we would like to do some events together," Gibbs said.

For those who are interested in joining the water ski team, meetings are held every Tuesday at 8 p.m. in Clyde P. Fisher Science room 287. "To join the water ski team you have to like fun, sunshine and happiness," Desautels said.
Lack of black coaches in NCAA football

Tyson McCloud

PHILAELPHIA — The numbers are staggering. More than 50 percent of the players on Football Bowl Subdivision Championship (formerly known as Division I-A) teams are black, according to the Black Coaches and Administrators Web site.

Yet, only six of the 119 head coaches in the FBS are black. A seventh minority head coach, Mar­

The New York Times

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**SPORTS MUSTANG DAILY**

**Water ski team competes in Nationals for second time**

Jessica Ford

The Cal Poly water ski team, ranked in the top 12 in the United States, has cut and jumped its way to Nationals this year. The team will be competing in the National Collegiate Water Ski Association Nationals being held in Zachary, La.

National spots are from Oct. 25 until Oct. 27 and skiers will compete in slalom, trick or jump courses. This is the team's second time at Nationals.

In 2005, the team placed third at the Western Regionals and qualified them for Division 1 Nationals. At Regionals, Cal Poly competed against other schools from California, Washington, Oregon and Arizona.

I am incredibly happy we made it to Nationals that was our real team goal. To make it to Division I was a huge treat. Our goal is to do as well as we can... I would really like to make top 10, but no matter what we do at this point we have already put our name on the map and have impressed people,” club president Kyle Desautels said.

The team's next competition is a tournament in San Diego the weekend following Nationals.

“So far we’ve had a really good season. Definitely the best our team has ever had,” said Colin Gibbs, team member and former club president.

In competitions slalom skiers go through a set-up course, in which they have to navigate between staggered buoys at the fastest speed possible. The faster the speed, the more points earned. Once a skier reaches their maximum speed, the rope line is tightened, making it more difficult.

In trick and jump competitions, the team earns points based on the amount of tricks completed in a 20-second run. Each trick is assigned a number of points based on difficulty.

Jump skiers are on two skis and go off of a five-meter ramp. Once a skier reaches their maximum speed, the skier lands flat on their skis in mid-air.

The water ski community is a non-profit organization through Cal Poly Student Life and Leadership.

The water ski club is a non-profit organization through Cal Poly Student Life and Leadership. Skiers of all levels are encouraged to come out and participate in events and tournaments.

**Ultimate Frisbee provides escape**

Whitney Diaz

Imagine running down a green field toward the end zone, dodging seven players from another team and catching a white plastic disc as it rotates in mid-air.

That is Ultimate Frisbee. The game has been played for decades at Cal Poly and the men's and women's teams are ready for upcoming tournaments. For Cal Poly, Ultimate Frisbee is an intercollegiate sport, said Tyler Bacon, a SLO Core team co-captain and construction management senior. "It's a combination of football and soccer. Players are on a disc and movement and, in order to score you have to catch a Frisbee in the end zone¸”

The SLO Core is the official men's Ultimate Frisbee team at Cal Poly. Founded in 1978, it has represented the school in local and national competition with men and women's teams, according to the team's Web site.

On the other hand, the women’s team, SLO Motion, is only a few years old, but Danielle Shaw, the team co-captain and a wine and viticulture junior believes the team is more than ready for the tournament in November.

"We’re looking forward to playing in the tournaments,“ Shaw said. "Tournaments are at different colleges. We travel up and down the coast and play in their athletic fields." The first tournament is at UCLA on Nov. 3 and 4. Bacon said there are about 40 to 50 members on the men’s team and about 25 members on the women’s team, but only seven players of each squad will play in the tournament.

The teams practice at least twice every week at the lower Sports Complex on campus. SLO Core practices from 8 to 11 p.m. on Tuesdays and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sundays.

SLO Motion practices from 7:30 to 10 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays and 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Sundays.

Many players participated in sports in high school but did not continue playing in college. Ultimate Frisbee is a way for them to remain active and make new friends, Shaw said.

"It's a nice break from homework,” said the women's team co-captain Mollie Fanning. The senior animal science major said the joined the club because she loves the travel and activity. Bacon was involved in track field sports in high school, and he joined the team as co-captain Courtney McLaughlan, an animal science senior, played soccer.

Playing a game of Ultimate Frisbee, which is a non-contact sport, seven to eleven players squad on a field similar to a football field. The game's objective is to catch a pass in the opponent's end zone, Shaw said.

"Players cannot run with the disc in their hand but must instead pass to any player on their hand but must instead pass to any player on the opposite team,” Bacon said.

"Imagine running down a green field toward the end zone, dodging seven players from another team and catching a white plastic disc as it rotates in mid-air. That is Ultimate Frisbee."