Expansion could double size of Rec Center

Jessica Ford

An Arroyo Grande business holds an aromatherapy class where people learn to love their noses.

SPORTS

Find out what students like to do most at the Rec Center in today's Word on the Street.

Wife of presidential hopeful represents husband at Poly

Whitney Diaz

Humanitarian and environmentalist Elizabeth Kucinich captivated her audience as she spoke at an informal discussion at Cal Poly Tuesday. About 75 guests attended the event, and audience members asked questions about Kucinich's husband, Democratic presidential candidate Dennis Kucinich (D-Ohio), and his platform. "I felt the discussion was wonderful," Kucinich said after the event. "The questions really were reflective of the kind of questions that I get everywhere I go all around the country. Everyone wants to know the same thing; they all have the same concerns." The open discussion took place in the Alex and Faye Spanos Theatre. The audience was scattered and looked almost sparse when the event began, but Kucinich invited everyone to sit closer for a more intimate discussion. Sponsored by the Cal Poly Democrats, Kucinich spoke on a range of topics including gay marriage, environmental justice and the importance of "Generation Y's" involvement in social and political issues. Attendance was $5 for general admission and free for students with a PolyCard. She spoke about her husband's history as a congressman and explained that he would run for president again if he is not successful in the 2008 race. "Dennis has a 40-year track record of being a person who really stands for his principles, stands with his principles, and stands with the people," Kucinich said. "The people can be active outside the system and create a lot of noise, but until we actually align with the person with the integrity, the voting record, who always stands with the truth and the interests of America, that is where the power is." She explained that her husband supports gay marriage, opposes the war in Iraq and attempted to bring articles of impeachment against Vice President Dick Cheney (House resolution 333). "It's always interesting to hear prominent people's perspectives on the world, especially someone who's not native to America," Cal Poly Democrat see Kucinich, page 2

ASI will launch an informative Web site Nov. 20 to help students better understand the expansion. The Web site recexpansion.com will show sketches and renderings of what the project will entail if the vote passes. There will be a frequently asked questions section and a blog for students to ask questions and give input, Broom said. "I think students really want to be able to see an actual, tangible site where they can go and see about the top 10 priorities, renderings, sketches and what things are going to look like," ASI President Brandon Souza said. "I think that is the really big communication link between students, so that's why we decided to go ahead with the building of a Web site." Students can enter their e-mail address to receive regular updates leading up to the vote and updates during construction and campus clubs can enter their contact information to have an ASI representative talk to their group about the expansion. "We really want to make sure that students understand that this is a really big task that the whole student body, not just ASI, is undertaking," Souza said. "We are asking students to not only raise their quarterly fees, but also to really think about what they want to see happen with the Recreation Center. With it being such a large project, we think it garners the necessity for a separate Web site." see Expansion, page 2

See the Need Week helps local hungry, homeless

Sara Wright

It may be easy to get wrapped up in finishing schoolwork before Thanksgiving Break, but Cal Poly can't forget that there are many people who probably won't get the chance to enjoy a steaming turkey dinner this holiday season. See the Need Week is the university's way of helping the hungry and homeless in San Luis Obispo at a time when aid is sorely needed. The week-long event is put on by Beyond Shelter, a group within Cal Poly's Student Community Services (SCS) that helps local homeless aid organizations.

Jessica Sun, Megan Mastache and Samantha Dyer are the Beyond Shelter directors responsible for coordinating the events. "In America, in one in 10 are underfed, though one in 10 are homeless," Special Events Service Coordinator Leah Meeks said. She emphasized that there is a difference between the homeless and the hungry and that SCS wanted to host a separate week from other special service see Need, page 2
Expansion

continued from page 1

The total square footage of usable space in the facility would double with the expansion and the weight room would triple in size. A leisure pool and multipurpose activity center (MAC) would be added. The MAC would allow students to play indoor soccer and have an area to hold events and concerts, Broom said.

In an effort to encourage sustainability on campus, only student-used areas of the Rec Center would be air conditioned. The new buildings would be more environmentally friendly by limiting waste and energy usage.

The Rec Center would remain open during construction. The expansion is planned to occur in phases to decrease the impact on students. Construction would not begin until a year after the possible passage of the vote, Broom said.

The Web site is being funded through ASI reserves, a savings account for ASI.

"I just want this Web site to serve as a forum for students to get educated about this referendum," Souza said.

Need

continued from page 1

weeks this month.

"See the Need Week" is Cal Poly's response to National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week," SCS Director Coordinator Jared Gamm said.

National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week is Nov. 11 through Nov. 17. Last week was also National Service Week for Alpha Phi Omega.

A group of volunteers handed out flyers Monday in front of Campus Market with a list of needed items incoming customers could purchase at the store or donate from their own cupboards. A bin will remain all week for people to leave donations, which will go to the San Luis Obispo Food Bank, the San Luis Obispo Women's Shelter and the Prado Center.

A Hunger Dinner Banquet will be held at the Performing Arts Center Pavilion tonight from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., where political science professor Bud Evans will give a presentation.

Tickets are $5 and available at the SCS office in University Union room 217. Proceeds will go to a global hunger aid organization.

"Even the poorest (in America) are relatively wealthy compared to others," Gamm said.

On Thursday during UU hour, bowls of rice will be given out for any donation from SCS booths. The bowls are to represent a normal meal for many people.

SCS will serve breakfast at the Prado Day Center from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Friday. The meal will include hash browns, bacon and other items that are "better than what they normally get" at the shelter, Gamm said.

This weekend, SCS will execute a citywide food drive, which started last weekend.

Volunteers will stand in front of six different grocery stores in San Luis Obispo and pass out flyers with items customers can donate.

"It worked well (last) weekend and we look forward to more volunteers," Gamm said.

People can still sign up to volunteer by contacting Beyond Shelter at beyondshelter@gmail.com.

Kucinich

continued from page 1

platform.

"We stand for strength through peace, understanding that a strong America is an America that really stands for humanity," she said.

Kucinich stressed that students should get involved now, especially with the primary elections around the corner.

"The primary is your opportunity to vote for yourself, to vote for the person who truly represents you, to vote on your issues, to vote for your own self interest," she said.

"When it comes to the general election, it's too late for your choice to matter. You will be able to choose from a limited selection."

Hey! The Great American Smokeout is coming!

Really? When is it?

It's on Thursday, November 15th. Does our campus do anything about tobacco?

Yes! It's on Thursday, November 15th. Does our campus do anything about tobacco?

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State
SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Two-year-old twin girls who were conjoined at the chest and abdomen have been successfully separated, doctors at Lucile Packard Children's Hospital announced Tuesday.

The 9-hour surgery performed Monday on Yaela and Fiorella Roche-Arias of San Jose, Costa Rica went "much better than anticipated," but they are in stable condition following surgery.

"It was a very risky and complicated surgery, and the outcome is still unknown. The girls face many more hurdles in their path to recovery," Dr. Gary Hartman said in a statement.

SACRAMENTO (AP) — California's annual campaign against marijuana growers deadened nearly three million plants this year.

That breaks the old record of about 1.7 million marijuana plants, which was set last year — the most ever reported for a sexually transmitted disease, federal health officials said Tuesday.

More bad news: Gonorrhea rates are jumping again after hitting a record low, and an increasing number of cases are caused by a "superbug" version resistant to common antibiotics, federal officials said Tuesday.

Syphilis is rising, too. The rate of congenital syphilis, which can deform or kill babies, rose for the first time in 15 years.

PHOENIX (AP) — A smoking suitcase was spotted Tuesday in the cargo area at Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport, but did not contain explosives, airport officials said.

A baggage handler was loading bags on a US Airways plane about 10 a.m. when he noticed that one suitcase was hot and set it aside, according to a statement released by Sky Harbor authorities. The fire department was called when the bug began to smoke.

PASSENGERS who were boarding San Antonio-bound Flight 202 were taken off the plane, and the gate area that they used to board was evacuated, said Julie Rodriguez, an airport spokeswoman.

National
ATLANTA (AP) — More than 1 million cases of chlamydia were reported in the United States last year — the most ever reported for a sexually transmitted disease, federal health officials said Tuesday.

More bad news: Gonorrhea rates are jumping again after hitting a record low, and an increasing number of cases are caused by a "superbug" version resistant to common antibiotics, federal officials said Tuesday.

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International
VIENNA, Austria (AP) — Iran has met a key demand of the U.N. nuclear agency, handing over long-sought blueprints showing how to mold uranium metal into the shape of warheads, diplomat said Tuesday.

Iran's decision to release the documents, which were seen by U.N. inspectors two years ago, was seen as a concession designed to head off the threat of new U.N. sanctions.

But the diplomats said Tehran has failed to meet other requests made by the International Atomic Energy Agency in its attempts to end nearly two decades of nuclear secrecy on the part of Iran.

JERUSALEM (AP) — A security guard who shielded others when he picked up a firecracker that was thrown during a basketball game will still have the use of three fingers on his mangled hand, a hospital official said Tuesday.

Yoav Glitzstein has been called a hero for grabbing the homemade explosive before it could go off and possibly wound some of the players, coaches and fans at the Jerusalem basketball stadium.

The explosive was thrown less than two minutes before the end of Sunday's game between Hapoel Holon and Hapoel Jerusalem, Israel's top professional league.

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Do it Daily
This Thursday during UU hour Come vote for this years Best For Cal Poly Edition

Get a free shirt! VOTE! Get a free shirt! VOTE!
Be A Part Of Our Campus Promotion Team!
Come Attend Our Kickoff Meeting Today
5:45 PM at Chumash Auditorium. COOL GIVEAWAYS!
Close To Selling Out...Get Your Tickets Now!

November 28
Cal Poly Rec Center
San Luis Obispo, 7:30 pm

Word on the Street
“What is your favorite thing to do at the Rec Center and why?”
Compiled and photographed by Whitney Diaz

“I don’t really get a chance to go to the Rec Center very often because I live really far away and I don’t have time to get over there. When I do go, I work out.” — David Smykowski, agriculture science junior

“What’s the Rec Center?” — Kathryn Bosch, nutrition freshman

“I like swimming, just because I enjoy swimming laps. I’ve been swimming since I was six.” — Michael McBee, electrical engineering sophomore

“(I play) racquetball because it’s fast-paced. It’s just fun running around and fun to dodge the ball.” — Mark Hayes, software engineering junior

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Or more than that?
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CALIFORNIA WESTERN
SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego
What law school ought to be.”
Aromatherapy class explains the ins and outs of scented oils

Agnus-Dei Farrant

The parking lot was dark and the sun had met its horizon early before the 6:30 p.m. class started at A Natural Balance. Neighboring businesses in the Arroyo Grande one-story complex were dark and abandoned for the evening. Light glowing from A Natural Balance the night of Nov. 10 captured the sense of style. The class began wordlessly upon entering the establishment, engaging the sense of smell.

A Natural Balance, founded in 2001, is described as an "integrative wellness center." Upon first glimpse around the business, one may think that the retail room lined with shelves of vitamins, herbs, natural oils and countless various shaped bottles is the extent of the operation. However, the U-shaped halls leading from the front extend to rooms offering services such as acupuncture, massage, day spa treatments, hypnotherapy, intravenous vitamin therapy, chiropractic treatments, nutritional analysis and counseling and laser therapy.

Gary E. Foreman and spa manager Lynda Foreman hosted the free health class, "Nature's elixir: The art and science of aromatherapy." The class encompassed the history and science of essential oils: why essential oils work, the "essential five" oils to own (lavender, lemon, tea tree, peppermint and eucalyptus) and how to use them.

"I really rely on these oils to help me. There are many natural ways of dealing with common ailments, and they should be given a try," Lynda said.

"I heard about this from the newspaper," said Lee Ann Simmons, 71. "It's my first time in the store but I have friends that come here often. I dealt with a holistic doctor in the Bay Area and it worked; I believe in it."

The 36-sond available were taken Attendees followed along with the provided handout. "Aromatherapy and the essential five," turning pages simultaneously. Pens occasionally made short sentences on notepads. The audience was free to ask questions and offer feedback, but most remained quiet and listened intently to its hosts.

"Medicine is supposed to be fun and these (essential oils) are fun to use. I can give you a lot of boring information on why essential oil work but I encourage you to go out and use them," Gary said.

"You can be your own expert by being experimental. You should really have these (essential oils) in your home. There are hundreds, maybe thousands, of years of people from multiple cultures using all these."

A Natural Balance hosts five health classes on the third Tuesday of each month. Their "Healing at the speed of light" class will be offered 7 p.m. Thursday as an introduction to the healing capacities of laser technology. A schedule of their classes can be found on their Web site www.anaturalbalance.com, or by calling (805) 481-3442.

Those interested in attending a class are encouraged to call ahead as space is limited.

Advice books in dire need of help

Jason Lester

Now that Thanksgiving is just around the corner, it's a great time to grab a copy of Sarah Walker's "Really, You've Done Enough!

A Parent's Guide to Stop Parenting Their Adult Child Who Still Needs Their Money But Not Their Advice." Not only will it teach your overbearing parents and dad to give you enough personal space during your annual ritual of gorging on pumpkin pie and latex about on the sofa in a trypophan haze, but it will also instill the importance of keeping money freely flowing from their pockets and into yours well past Black Friday.

At least, one would assume that's what it does, based on the book's title and introduction. Sadly, however, "Really, You've Done Enough!" is a hodgepodge of rarely related topics that don't nearly begin to address the book's delightfully self-servingly facetious premise. Though written within the framework of informing parents about how to interact and not interact with their grown-up children (give them money, but don't watch porn with them), once Walker sets up a half-hearted explanation of how free money enables post-degree youth to discover the "cure" for global warming, the book quickly devolves into a struggle to find decent comedy fodder. Walker babbles at length on nearly any topic. She seems to think can fill up space, and no less than 10 percent of the book gets eaten up in deeply unfunny explanations of Facebook-related Internet technologies and drinking games that are "for the whole family."

Not to say the book is totally lacking in the funny. Comedienne Sarah Walker has worked on "Acceptable Childhood Myths To Still Instill Are True To Your Adult Child" made me regret I was never instilled with a proper fear of snow sharks in my youth. There are also some wonderful color illustrations of age-appropriate birthday presents for 20-somethings: a pony at age 20, a "preserved heart of a pony in a crystal jelly jar" at 24.

All in all, however, the book leaves more questions and half-filled promises than answers, and when Walker mentions she is putting so much work into her chapter on sex that she has to TiVo her favorite show "Dog's with Jobs," my only desire is to put the book down and find out just what sort of jobs dogs can do — and my word, there are quite a few — one of those, undoubtedly, is writing the companion book, of sorts, called, "Oh, The Humanity: A Gentle Guide to Social Interaction for the Feeble-Young Innocent," credited to Jason Roeder.

The book is broken up into sections with winning titles like "Why'd my AIDS joke bomb? I mean, I was at an AIDS benefit." Along the way is a barrage of flash-in-the-pan pop culture references, from "Fergalicious" to "Saw III," though at the same time Roeder is strangely compelled to spend an entire paragraph explaining why Jerry Seinfeld is.

Maybe the writer sincerely set out in a moment of cracked brilliance to write an unfunny book, with the result succeeding beyond his wildest expectations. Even so, should Roeder be applauded for artfully wasting his time on something that no one needs or wants, or should he just be stupidly ignored until he goes away like the guy muttering vaguely unnerving, incomprehensible remarks to himself at the bus stop? I don't think we need even one "humorous" self-help book to answer that one.
Fulfillment... with regulation

Chromatic's new album keeps it sexy with minimalist dance music and fun lyrics to be heard in moderation

The new Chromatics album "Night Drive" is not about bombing, but instead wanting to bone. Wanting to bone real bad. Freakishly bad. Like it seriously and obsessively (obsessively?) with personal emotional thought patterns. I would love over some hot sweaty about how she wants your nowrap that it's a dance album fool you. None of these songs move with a beat eerily close to a sexually aroused human pulse level with hardly any accompaniment beyond strum keys and hushed vocal. The minimalist style of the album pushes it to feel less like a sweaty, dance floor and more like, oh, the last free steps to your porch. Much of Chromatics' strongest material comes of the way of songs (Bruce Springsteen's "On Fire" and DNAs "Hands in the Dark") and this album is no exception with the strongest track by far being a cover of Kate Bush's "Running Up That Hill." It's the entire album in one score minimal beginning with Radlett whispering to a lover before the beat begins to pick up like a slow sex romp as her voice gathers without loudness but emotional intensity. And when she throws out lyrics like "So much hate for the ones we love" and "Tell me we both matter don't we?" it really does feel a little painful as her voice manages to balance lust and desire for love alongside the knowledge that her partner is unknowingly hurting her with his own sexual desires.

While "Night Drive" may be one of the best albums of the year, I would highly suggest regulating your intake of it. It's powerful and there are certain moments where you might not be able to take a sexy, lonely female voice calling out for love. Let me be your doctor here. Do not use this album after any sort of major breakup. Do not use it if you have any sort of构思 crash or deltaing crash on someone you care about work with. And under no circumstances should you listen to this album when you are alone after consuming any amount of alcohol. I'm just looking out for you.

Graham Culhertson is a journalism senior aud KCPR DJ. He's a music columnist for the Daily. If you're interested in more, feel free to send an email to graham.culhertson@umich.edu.

Michael Passman

MICHIGAN DAILY (U. MICHIGAN)

Of all the single-syllable words to chant in public, "strike" is probably the least fun. "Fight" is an old classic because, well, it's kind of fun to watch people fight. And if it's "Arrested Development" has taught us anything it's that a large group of people simultaneously chanting "speech" to no one in particular at a family function makes for good television, if nothing else. But "strike" is a different animal. It's not quite as imperative command like the others; you're just repeating something you've done. We get it. And from an outsiders perspective it means something you want for an indefinite amount of time, which is why the strike that rocked the entertainment world last week is so devastating. After what seems like years of posturing by both sides, the Broadway stagehands are finally on strike. It's unclear how long it will take to bring the stagehands back to work, but the likelihood of seeing Oprah's show this weekend is slim.

Oh, and the Writers Guild of America is on strike, too.

At this point it should be clear to anyone who's been following the Guild's situation that the near future is bleak. Currently the writers receive basically none of the revenue that's generated through new media efforts including DVDs, Internet downloads and streaming advertising revenue, and they're not going back to work until that's resolved — well, at least that's what they're saying now. The Guild certainly has a legitimate argument considering the rapid development of new media in the industry, but the two parties aren't even in negotiations anymore, and networks will always be able to fill time with cheaper reality programming. Industry insiders are hal-packing the strike at nine months, but who knows when they'll be back to work?

Still, I question how aware most people are of what this strike means for them. We've all seen Tina Fey pickinget, and the work stoppage is more definitively real, but television is such a passive vehicle that it's not reasonable to envision a future without new original programming. Television is like the mail: Most people don't give it much thought on a daily basis, but when there's no show up, you notice. At least for some people that's true, and here's where the strike becomes problematic. For someone who is just interested in having "Everybody Loves Raymond" episodes on in the background while they're making dinner and not really appreciating the show, or those who are just happy to see America's national karaoke tournament, the strike probably won't matter too much. But for a certain audience this strike does matter, and I question how aware the networks and this specific group of viewers is of this.

Television's current audience is smarter and more diverse than it has ever been because of the increased availability of programming through peripheral sources and the proliferation of material that's simply smarter than what television is used to. Yes, there is a ton of crap on television, but there's also a lot of intelligent serial programming that appeals to people who shun daytime serials. Still, I question how aware most people are of what this strike means for them. When it doesn't show up, you notice. At least for some people that's true, and here's where the strike becomes problematic. For someone who just interested in having "Everybody Loves Raymond" episodes on in the background while they're making dinner and not really appreciating the show, or those who are just happy to see America's national karaoke tournament, the strike probably won't matter too much. But for a certain audience this strike does matter, and I question how aware the networks and this specific group of viewers is of this.

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Sex, love, murder:  
‘Princess Diaries’ author goes dark

Teresa Reilly

You may know Meg Cabot as the author of "The Princess Diaries." It was a good book when you were 14, but her new book, "Big Boned," is good now.

It takes place in a college dorm nicknamed "Dorm Death" due to the murders that have taken place there. "Big Boned" is the third, but not final, installment of the Heather Wells series; you could probably catch on without reading the first two.

"Dorm Death" new murder case revolves around the untimely demise of the interim hall director, Owen Veatch. Dr. Veatch was last seen on Friday, April 20, while sipping his morning coffee in his new office. The heroine, Heather Wells, is the first to discover the body. The thriller, "Big Boned," combines the unusual worry of learning how to run the country of Genovia, with the uncommon worry of learning how to come up with the mystery plot.

Wells, an ex-teen pop sensation, is minimal, and people in her dorm come up with the mystery plot. "It's something I've always wanted to do," Cabot said. "If I'm really concentrating, I can do like five to ten pages a day. So it's something I've always wanted to do."

"Big Boned" obviates all the characteristics of chick lit but adds in a new factor and keeps a tight schedule. It takes place in a college dorm on New York College's campus. Her luck, as described in the first two books of the series ("Size 12 Is Not Fat Either" and "Size 14 Is Not Fat Either"), is minimal, and people in her dorm keep dropping like flies.

On top of the obvious errors that a murder can cause, the graduate students on campus have decided to strike, leaving Wells to pick up the slack. Wells' grad student, Raquel, is a video game enthusiast who's able to turn her boyfriend, Tad Tacco, for advice and support. Except Wells seems pretty occupied with her landlord, Cooper Carterwright. Cooper Carterwright is the ever-present brother of Wells' last boyfriend, boy band superstar Jordan Cartwright. Cooper, out of sympathy for Wells, moves into his apartment, which just happened to be down the street from New York College. "I think there is a little bit of my husband in Cooper," Cabot said. "Tad Tacco is actually named after someone named Tad Tacco. He called after the book came out and I looked at the caller ID and was like, 'oh my God!' So, now I'm really embarrassed, and I think he thinks I have a crush on him."

"Big Boned" obtains all the characteristics of chick lit but adds in a new element of mystery. "Normally, I have a fact she just realized," Cabot said. "I love cats, but it doesn't bother anyone. I don't go around wearing cats on my sweatshirt. Oh my lord, I just put a cat in that new book, and I'm just now realizing it."

"Big Boned" is also one of the first authors to be proclaimed a chick-lit writer. Chick lit is a new genre that Cabot is currently working on several new projects, including "Allie Frink's Rules For Gals," a middle school series that delves into the mind of a 10-year-old. The tenth (and final) book for "The Princess Diaries" series is due soon and her editors just asked for a fourth book in the Heather Wells series. Not to worry though, Cabot keeps a tight schedule.

"If I'm really concentrating, I can do like five to ten pages a day. So it can be like a month, usually. There will also be a lot of time when I'm supposed to be writing and I'll end up looking at gossip sites instead... All of a sudden. I'll be like 'What is Britney doing?' That is the worst time sucker," Cabot said.
Multiculturalism is wrong and if anything, has helped the enemies of America. Now, most people probably haven't read this far and have already sent an angry letter to the editor, but try to receive emotions until you finish reading this article. My intent is to show that multicultur­alism is flawed and that the title of my article, however shocking it might be, is comple­tely legitimate and (gasp) correct.

In America the biggest sin in the PC realm is to suggest superiority. In fact, the word itself brings up images of racism, arrogance and igno­rance. No doubt, some readers already think this of me, but with reason and logic they might get by this to actually address my points (not likely, but I can hope).

The starting point for my argument is to define multiculturalism. I believe it’s fair to characterize the multiculturalist’s standpoint as this: all cultures are equal and there exist no differences. Also, they believe that it is not fair to impose culture/values on another once neither is superior, only different. This approach, while giving us all a warm and fuzzy feeling of equality for all, denies reality. For example, India was ruled by the British from the mid-1800s to 1945. British rule was ruthless and included suppressing all revolts, opposition and dissent. Fortunately, it was the best thing that could have happened to India. For the next part of my argument I must cite Diane D’Ouver (liberals, keep reading please).

You see, the British imposed their culture on many aspects of Indian life, including their civil service sector, education system, business culture, legal system, military and other areas. One example of cultural im­position was the outlawing of an Indian cultural custom called “surtur.” This was the practice of Indian widows joining their deceased husbands on the funeral pyre and being burned alive in order to join their hus­bands in the afterlife and fulfill their roles as a wife. The British banned the custom. Now while you might say it’s obvious that it should be banned, a multiculturalist might say it’s their culture, and you can’t impose your culture on them. But Taylor, you say, obviously this rare occurrence was a violation of human rights and wasn’t central to their culture. That’s false, but what about a culture where violation of human rights is a central and accepted condition? In some cultures, and you can guess which, gays are executed, converts away from the state religion are put to death and there is no reason.

Now I’ve only talked about British culture, but the title of my article is about American cul­ture. For evidence you don’t have to look any­where but at the ports of entry to our nation. Are people leaving or coming? They are over­whelmingly immigrating. In terms of patriotism and pride in American culture you don’t need to look at conservatives for this, just look at im­migrants from Korea, Mexico and a number of others. They are fiercely proud to be Americans, where even the poorest of us are fat, people get married by falling in love and not by arranged marriages, and we actually ask children “what do you want to be when you grow up?” Just try to think about immigration in and of itself. Immigration is literally leaving your country of origin, turning your back on your country, and living in a foreign country where you are no one and no one knows you. To me this sounds like a terrible idea, but every year thousands upon thousands do it.

To a multiculturalist, immigrants don’t want to accept American culture but to preserve their own culture as much as possible. If this is true, then what reason is there to come to America since there are plenty of other countries to immigrate to? The great thing about American culture is that you can embrace it and be yourself. I don’t have to stop eating haggis just because I’m American, because here you can do it. In India, it comes down to liberty. Only in America do people say “sit” to their waiters. Only in America can you wear eye makeup, dress in all black and have multiple piercings and be not only tolerated, but accepted. Only in America can you actually say anything you want and nothing will happen to you (I wouldn’t recommend that in China).

Now of course American culture isn’t perfect. There are many prob­lems that we have to deal with, but we should all feel proud that we live in the best country on Earth; regardless of our political affiliations, race, gender or age, we are the freest people in the world.

Taylor Scott is an international business senior, a conservative columnist for the Mustang Daily and a member of the Cal Poly College Republicans.
During the last few years there have been many instances where Republicans seemed to be disconnected from reality; obviously the biggest one is their disconnection from the realities in Iraq and Afghanistan. However, as a business student I can't help but notice Republicans' detachment from the bleak realities surrounding our current economy, since they continue to fawn over George Bush's master-term of "laissez-faire" economics. Just last month, Fred Thompson stated Bush's handling of the economy was the "greatest story never told." Certainly, the two main headline numbers (GDP-unemployment) might suggest this opinion; however, a deeper look reveals Republicans are again disconnected from reality. So far "Bush's economy" has had the lowest rate of job creation in the last 40 years. According to data from the National Bureau of Economic Research, the annual compound rate of job growth under his presidency has been a paltry 1.26 percent. What this 1 percent basically means is that the United States workforce is several million workers smaller than it should be, and you don't need to take economics to know that's a bad thing. However, not only is America not living up to its economic potential during Bush's presidency, but American workers are also not receiving fair compensation as wages have stagnated for the duration of this "expansion."

According to the Census Bureau, from 2001 to 2006 the median income rose from $42,228 to $48,201. However, these numbers aren't adjusted for inflation; once you take inflation into account, the real wages of average working Americans have not increased during Bush's presidency. Not helping Americans' wallets either is that our dollars don't go as far as they used to. Bank of America, according to data from the National Bureau of Economic Research, has increased the national debt by more than $3 trillion, from $5.6 trillion to $9 trillion. Granted, this debt doesn't necessarily mean the U.S. will stop growing; it's not like there's some magic economic line that says "debt above this level is bad." However, when you look at recent financial headlines it's starting to look like we have reached our debt limits as countless credit defaults have emerged in the real estate market and could spread to other parts of the economy. In the past few weeks Citigroup, Merrill Lynch, Morgan Stanley and other big banks have reportedly cut their credit to businesses and consumers. This reduction in credit will severely stunt future economic growth for several months, if not years.

As a result of this sharp rise in defaults from credit-strapped Americans, many experts are now anticipating banks to dramatically cut the amount they lend to businesses and consumers. This reduction in credit will severely stunt future economic growth for several months, if not years. As a result of this sharp rise in defaults from credit-strapped Americans, many experts are now anticipating banks to dramatically cut the amount they lend to businesses and consumers. This reduction in credit will severely stunt future economic growth for several months, if not years. You can expect from the "greatest story never told."
Volleyball
continued from page 12

The 64-team-entering the 2007
big dance will be announced at
8 p.m. Nov. 25 on ESPNU. The first
and second rounds of tournament
action are scheduled for Nov. 21 to
Dec. 2 with the regionals planned
for Dec. 7 and 8.

If the Mustangs pull out two
victories to close out the regular
season, they will boost a new pro-
gram record for conference win-
ning percentage. A possible 15-3
(936) Big West finish for Poly will
outshine last year's 13-1 (.869) re-
cord.

Along with junior opposite Kyle
Atherton's numerous awards this
season, senior libero Kristen
Jackson, the Cal Poly and
Big West career digs leader, con-
tinues to break records. She is now
one of 25 players in NCAA Divi-
sion I history to break the 2,000-
dig barrier — she now has 2,034
total digs in her career and is No.
21 on the all-time Division I list.

With 64 more digs, she will sit at
No. 11.

Along with her digging prowess,
Jackson has competed in all 40
Poly games since her 2004 fresh-
man season.

Just 23 Division I players have
longer consecutive games-played
streaks and only 15 players have
played in every game possible in
their careers (a 400 game mini-
num).

Along with Jackson's stellar post
at libero, the Mustangs look to stay
dominant this weekend with their
blocking prowess.

Fluid
continued from page 12

Athletes compete in several races throughout the
year, including seven in the West Coast Collegiate
Triathlon Conference. There is also the triathlon cham-
пи onship at Treasure Island in April, Nationals in Tusca-
losa, Arizona, and Wildflower.

"We're rapidly growing, mostly in SoCal at the mo-
mom," Brown said, referring to its planned placement in
200 stores in southern California. Fluid will also be the
headline sponsor of the March Triathlon Series at Lake
Lopez, which includes 600 to 800 competitors and is
hosted completely by the Cal Poly triathlon team.

Fluid began in Brown's basement last year where he
and Smith made the product and gave it to athletes.

They were the now-renowned Brown and Smith to market the drink, which Brown stresses is a
nutritional drink like Gatorade.

The company encourages anyone interested in Flu-
id to come to their office in San Luis Obispo for free
samples and information about the company and part-
nerships.
**SPORTS**

**MUSTANG DAILY**

**New company fuels athletes**

Sara Wright  
**SPORTS STAFF**

**Sports Information Report**

Thanks to a career-best 32-kill effort in the No. 19 Cal Poly women’s volleyball team’s 3-1 defeat of UC Santa Barbara on Nov. 8, Mustang junior opposite Kylie Atherstone set a Big West athletics record Monday afternoon with her sixth conference Player of the Week honor this season.

Atherstone, the reigning Big West Co-Player of the Year, averaged a mammoth 8.00 kills per game against the Gauchos while hitting a match-best .889. She also added 32 digs and recorded her team-leading 15th double-double of the season. Thanks to Atherstone’s efforts, the Mustangs have posted back-to-back conference victories for the first time in 2007.

- **Thursday**
  - **Women’s Basketball** vs. Houston  
    - Mott Gym  
    - 5 p.m.
  - **Men’s Basketball** vs. Utah State  
    - Mott Gym  
    - 7:30 p.m.

- **Friday**
  - **Men’s Soccer** vs. Portland  
    - Alex G. Spanos Stadium  
    - 7 p.m.
  - **Women’s Volleyball** vs. UC Riverside  
    - Mott Gym  
    - 7 p.m.
  - **Women’s Tennis** Cal Poly Invitational  
    - Mustang Courts  
    - All Day

- **Saturday**
  - **Football** vs. Iowa College  
    - Alex G. Spanos Stadium  
    - 1:05 p.m.
  - **Women’s Volleyball** vs. UC Irvine  
    - Mott Gym  
    - 7 p.m.
  - **Women’s Tennis** Cal Poly Invitational  
    - Mustang Courts  
    - All Day

- **Sunday**
  - **Men’s Soccer** vs. Cal State Fullerton  
    - Alex G. Spanos Stadium  
    - 1 p.m.
  - **Wrestling** Cal Poly at Fullerton Open  
    - Titan Gym  
    - 9 a.m.
  - **Women’s Tennis** Cal Poly Invitational  
    - Mustang Courts  
    - All Day

- **Monday**
  - **Cross Country** at NCAA National Championships  
    - Terre Haute, Ind.  
    - 9 a.m.
  - **Men’s Cross Country** NCAA National Championships  
    - Hosted by Indiana State  
    - Wabash Valley Family Sports Center, Terre Haute, Indiana  
    - 9 a.m.

- **New company fuels athletes**

Jaclyn Houston (left) and Kylie Atherstone (right) were named Big West Players of the Week.

**Poly women rack up the accolades**

**SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT**

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Atherstone, the reigning Big West Co-Player of the Year, averaged a mammoth 8.00 kills per game against the Gauchos while hitting a match-best .889. She also added 32 digs and recorded her team-leading 15th double-double of the season. Thanks to Atherstone’s efforts, the Mustangs have posted back-to-back conference victories for the first time in 2007.

Monday’s award was the ninth of Atherstone’s career, tying her with Scott (1990-93) and Paciﬁc’s Elisa Stegemann (1995-99) for total honors during a Big West career.

Atherstone’s career-best 32 kills against UC Santa Barbara are also the most in Mustang history to win back-to-back Player of the Week honors twice in a single year.

Monday’s award was the ninth of Atherstone’s career, tying her with Scott (1990-93) and Paciﬁc’s Elisa Stegemann (1995-99) for total honors during a Big West career.

An injury-marred 2005 season hurt Atherstone’s chances for Big West honors, as she had just 11 matches with at least 20 kills. However, in 2006, Atherstone averaged 4.70 kills per game and was named the Most Valuable Player of the Big West Conference Tournament. She also had a career-high 23 kills against UC Santa Barbara on Nov. 8, 2008.

In addition to the triple-double, Atherstone also recorded her team-leading 15th double-double of the season. Atherstone’s efforts helped the Mustangs post a 15-17 record Monday afternoon with a win over UC Santa Barbara for their first win over a ranked opponent this season.

Atherstone finished with a career-high 23 kills against UC Santa Barbara, which was the most by a Mustang player in a conference match this season. She also added eight helpers and recorded her team-leading 15th double-double of the season. Thanks to Atherstone’s efforts, the Mustangs have posted back-to-back conference victories for the first time in 2007.

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