SAUDI ARABIA'S PUSH TO DEVELOP HIGHER EDUCATION LOOKS TO AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES FOR HELP

Giana Magnoli

Saudi Arabia’s push for engineering and technological advancement has caused many American universities to get involved in the country’s development of higher education. Cal Poly’s College of Engineering has proposed forming a partnership with Jabil University College to help it develop engineering curricula, recruit faculty and form relationships with local industry.

There may eventually be a facility exchange between the two schools if the deal goes through, though there are no plans for student exchange.

Many argue that the program will be discriminatory toward certain faculty, especially women, homosexuals or Jews.

International Education and Programs director John Battenberg offered some insight into the controversy surrounding the proposal. If one is overly Christian and wants to evangelize, you’re going to have to have a problem,” Battenberg said. “And that’s if you come from the U.S. or Western Europe or anywhere else. If one is Jewish-American or Christian-American and one is discreet, one should be able to work.

See Help, page 2

DIVERSE GROUP OF STUDENTS PETITION AGAINST CAL POLY'S INVOLVEMENT WITH JUC

Marlize van Ronsburgh

As campus-wide concern about the yet-to-be-finalized and controversial contract between Cal Poly’s College of Engineering and Jabil University College (JUC) in Saudi Arabia mounts, students are taking action to ensure their voice on the matter gets heard.

A petition requesting for an open forum between Cal Poly students, the Academic Senate and university administrators was circulated at the University Union this week, and presented at the Associated Student Inc. Board of Directors meeting later in the day.

The petition, which circulated for six hours, gathered 120 signatures in support of such a forum, according to Christina Chiappe, Cal Poly College Republicans president and one of the organizers of the petition.

“Id like to emphasize that this petition has unified several groups that often are not in agreement,” Chiappe told the board, adding that the Cal Poly College Republicans, Cal Poly Democrats, College Libertarians of Cal Poly and College of Liberal Arts Student Council had all signed on in support.

The proposed deal between Cal Poly and JUC has been met with heated contention ever since it became

see Petition, page 2

CUESTA STUDENT DIES IN COLLISION ON HWY. 101

Cuesta College student Ian Ambrose, 23, died in a car accident on the Cuesta Grade Monday night, officials said.

Ambrose was in the passenger seat of a 1989 Toyota pickup driven by his brother, Alex. According to California Highway Patrol officials, the pickup made an “unsafe lane change” from the slow lane across two lanes around 9 p.m. and was struck from behind by another car while traveling north up the grade.

The truck reportedly rolled several times before coming to a rest in oncoming traffic and was struck by an SUV, fatally ejecting 21-year-old brother suffered minor injuries.

The driver of the other car was released from Sierra Vista Regional Medical Center later that night. The driver of the other car was uninjured.

Ambrose was a resident of Morro Bay and wanted to transfer to Cal Poly and study wine and viticulture.
Help continued from page 1

free. It's the same with homos­
sexuality. There are girls in Saou­
di Arabia; it's just that they

they don't broadcast it."

Sectarianism is common in many sectors of so­
ciety, including higher education. JUC. is a co-ed institution, but
since Cal Poly's engineering program only has male students, it's safe to
assume that no female faculty would be allowed to teach, Bat­
tenberg said. He has taught fe­
male students in Saudi Arabia as a former U.S. State Department
Language Specialist but had to do
it through a closed-circuit TV in
which they could see him but he

could not see them.

However, he thinks it's less
likely that a female professor
would be allowed to do the same
with male students.

"If we start coming up with a
litmus test about what countries
need to do in order for us to have
an involvement with them, there
are going to be very few
countries on the list," he said.

"It's hypocritical because many
countries have severe reserva­
tions about American foreign
policy. By extension, should they
not send their faculty or students
here?"

Though there have been at­
ttempts to block the Cal Poly
program, many other U.S. insti­
tutions have already signed on to
help Saudi Arabian universi­
ties develop their programs. UC
Berkeley and Stanford have both
signed deals valued at $3.1 million
deals with the King Abdullah Univer­
sity of Science and Technology
(KAUST), while Cal Poly would receive $5.9 million for its part­
nership with JUC.

However, KAUST has a $10
billion start-up budget and is ex­
pected to have 20,000 students,
while JUC has only 435 students.
The deals are similar, with Amer­
ican universities assisting in the
development of the Saudi schools' engineering programs. Both
Berkeley and Stanford's deals are
centered with the mechanical
engineering department, while
Cal Poly's mechanical engineer­
ing department initially opposed the bill by a 15-1 vote.

As to the issue of the coun­
try's different culture, Batten­
berg stressed that a university-to-university relationship does not
mean one is endorsing a coun­
try's policies, but is merely
attempting to better understand
the region and its culture.

"It's an area that dominates
our headlines, television, radio
and newspapers but (some peo­
ple) have very little knowledge of it," he said.

He doesn't agree with Saudi prac­
tices, but supports Cal Poly's
proposal to develop a partnership
there.

"I think Saudi Arabia is a
country in transition. In the years
that we are going there, it will
become more liberalized and I'd
like to see that continued."

Petition continued from page 1

public in fall 2007, but students have
even yet to be given a chance to speak with
university officials about their con­

"We as students have valid con­
cerns about the proposed partnership," said ASI President
Brandon Souza at Wednesday's meeting.

The controversy surrounding the
proposal mainly stems from concerns
that female, Jewish or homosexual
faculty would not be welcomed by the
Saudi students to participate in the de­
velopment of their new engineering program.

"Due to Saudi Arabia's prosing
tends of Shariah law, including en­
forced segregation of the sexes, there
is strong evidence to support the state­
ment that there will be restrictions on
program participants and activities
program participants based on charac­
teristics such as gender, religion, and
sexual orientation. By entering into a
contract with JUC, Cal Poly may
not be fulfilling its commitments to
diversity and anti-discrimination," the
student petition noted.

Legally, Cal Poly must adhere to
state and federal laws that prohibit
employment discrimination, and vari­
ous administrators and members have repeatedly said Cal Poly will not sign a contract that
discriminates on any of those charac­
teristics, but have not elaborated on
how such an exchange would take
place in the context of Saudi society.

"I commend the efforts of the stu­
dents that have done this (petition),"
said ASI President Brandon Souza.

Although he said he would eagerly facilitate an open forum between stu­
dents and administrators to discuss the matter, Souza declined to express an opinion on the exchange proposal un­til
the student body has had a chance
to voice its opinion.

In a heated Academic Senate
meeting last week, Susan Oppen, dean of research and graduate programs, said that Cal Poly and JUC were still
in negotiations, and that no contract
had yet been finalized.

"I find it very interesting that no­
body has seen the contract yet," said
CLA board member Angela Kramer
at Wednesday's meeting. "I think
it would be very necessary that that con­
tract, signed or not-signed, be brought to the (open-forum) meeting."

Jim LoCascio, mechanical engi­
neering professor and member of the
Academic Senate, voiced his opposi­
tion to the proposal, saying that not
only is the proposed contract dis­
criminatory, it would also take away
valuable resources from Cal Poly, with
modest returns.

Last month, LoCascio proposed a
senate resolution opposing the Saudi
project, but the executive committee
of the Academic Senate voted not to
take up the matter as represented.

The proposal to secure a contract for Cal Poly to assist JUC in develop­
ing and implementing its engineering
school was first prepared in January
2007 by faculty in Cal Poly's College
of Engineering.

Cal Poly was chosen at that time
from a list of other American universi­
ties to assist JUC with the implemen­
tation of a new bachelor's degree pro­
gram in civil engineering. JUC later
requested that Cal Poly assist them
not only in the implementation of the
new civil engineering program, but
also program in mechanical, electrical
and computer engineering which will
be developed in subsequent years.

The five-year contract with JUC is
valued at $8.9 million, which cos­
ters both the estimated $4.6 million
in direct overhead costs, such as sal­
ares and wages for faculty, supplies,
and equipment, and airfare costs
and $3.1 million in indirect costs.
Cal Poly offered the indirect cost -
the actual money Cal Poly would
could be taking from any such deal -
the Saudis at the rate of 30 percent of
overhead, compared to the norm­
al 40 percent rate. The 10 percent
discount for JUC, apparently came
about during negotiations between the
two schools.

The still-pending agreement be­tween Cal Poly and JUC is part
of a larger push by the Saudi govern­
ment to expand the country's un­
dergraduate engineering education. UC Berkeley and Stanford recently
signed similar deals with King Ab­
duh University in Saudi Arabia, although in that contract each school will each get nearly $90 million, and women and minorities would be al­
lowed to participate.

"I just don't understand why Cal
Poly didn't also hold out for a better
deal like that," said LoCascio in an
earlier interview.

Students at Wednesday's petition
presentation apparently felt the same
way.

"I believe that any agreement with a university or organization that
reaches across any group, specifically my Jewish friends or their
Jewish professors, is an unethical de­
nision," said Brian Crawford, an ar­
chitectural engineering student and member of Hilfoil of Cal Poly.

"How can students change that?"

Kramer asked LoCascio.

"The only thing you can do is get enough people to say this is a bad
idea," he answered.
Happy St. Patrick's Day 2008!

DOWNTOWN BREWING CO
CALIFORNIA

MONDAY, MARCH 17
6AM - CLOSE

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY

FREE BREAKFAST BUFFET FROM 6AM UNTIL IT'S GONE!

1119 GARDEN ST, SLO

FIRST 20 THROUGH THE DOOR WILL RECEIVE A FREE T-SHIRT!

JAMESON SHOTS
IRISH STOUT DRAFTS

$2

Happy St. Patrick's Day 2008!
Briefs

National

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Authorities say they have rescued 16 people who were stranded for four days off the San Diego coast in an apparent smuggling attempt from Mexico.

Customs and Border Protection says the boat was found eight or nine miles offshore early Wednesday. There were no reports of death or serious injuries, but some people were dehydrated and sunburned.

All 16 were taken to the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego and placed into custody of immigration authorities. Their nationalities and immigration status were not immediately known.

SACRAMENTO (AP) — Democrats in the state Assembly on Wednesday proposed additional taxes on oil companies as a way to raise $1.2 billion a year for education, which faces billions in cuts at California universities with a deep budget deficit.

Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez scheduled a vote later in the day on the plan to tax petroleum companies 6 percent on the oil they extract in California and a surcharge of 2 percent on windfall oil profits.

The additional revenue would partially offset $4.8 billion in education cuts proposed by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger. The governor is considering a variety of options to partially offset $4.5 billion in education cuts.

CHICAGO (AP) — Trett Corne was out of her car for just minutes and no more than 10 yards away.

But that was long and far enough to land her in court after a police officer spotted her sleeping 2-year-old daughter alone in the vehicle. Corne had taken her two older daughters to pose $8.29 in coins into a Salvation Army kettle.

Minutes later, she was under arrest — the focus of both a police investigation and a probe by the state’s child welfare agency.

Now the case that has become an Internet flash point for people who either blast police for overstepping their authority or Corne for putting a child in danger.

WICHITA, Kan. (AP) — Authorities are considering charges in the bizarre case of a woman who sat on her boyfriend’s toilet for two years — so long that her body slumped in the seat on the day of the plan to tax petroleum companies 6 percent on the oil that they extract in California and a surcharge of 2 percent on windfall oil profits.

The additional revenue would partially offset $4.8 billion in education cuts proposed by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger. The governor is considering a variety of options to partially offset $4.5 billion in education cuts.

CHICAGO (AP) — Trett Corne was out of her car for just minutes and no more than 10 yards away.

But that was long and far enough to land her in court after a police officer spotted her sleeping 2-year-old daughter alone in the vehicle. Corne had taken her two older daughters to pose $8.29 in coins into a Salvation Army kettle.

Minutes later, she was under arrest — the focus of both a police investigation and a probe by the state’s child welfare agency.

Now the case that has become an Internet flash point for people who either blast police for overstepping their authority or Corne for putting a child in danger.

HONG KONG (AP) — Hong Kong’s government ordered Wednesday that all kindergartens and primary schools be closed for two weeks amid a flu outbreak, shutting down classes for more than a half million students.

The government also asked one of its top scientists to study three child deaths over the past week.

LONDON (AP) — Britain’s Press Association reports that the British Ministry of Defense is saying four Afghans civilians were killed and a fighter was injured in an attack called in by British forces.

The Defense Ministry told The Associated Press British forces were involved in an "incident" south of Helmand province and the ministry was investigating reports of civilian deaths in southern Afghanistan.

A military spokesman said the ministry deeply regrets the incident.

LONDON (AP) — As doctors struggle to eradicate polio worldwide, one of their biggest problems is persuading parents to vaccinate their children. In Belgium, authorities are resorting to an extreme measure: prison sentences.

Two sets of parents in Belgium were recently handed five-month prison terms for failing to vaccinate their children against polio. Each parent was also fined $4,000.

"It’s a pretty extraordinary case," said Dr. Ross Uphur, director of the international office for polio eradication at the University of Toronto. "The Belgians have a right to take some action against the parents, given the seriousness of the polio, but the question is, is a prison sentence disproportionate?"
WINTER CLEARANCE!

- SKIING
- SNOWBOARDING
- BACKPACKING
- CLIMBING
- HIKING

20-40% off
selected
skis, snowboards,
boots & bindings

20-50% off
selected
ski & snowboard
clothing

WE RENT SNOWBOARDS AND SKIS
WE REPAIR AND TUNE SNOWBOARDS AND SKIS

Custom Boot Fitting for
100% Comfort When Skiing

MOUNTAIN AIR SPORTS
Locally owned and operated for 25 years

667 Marsh Street • SLO • 805-543-1676
Hours: Mon-Sat 10-6 • Thurs 10-8 • Sun 11-4
Watching anime isn’t this club’s only activity

Angela Watkins

What’s the greatest anime ever made? Some say “Akira,” others, “Neon Genesis Evangelion” or “Ghost in the Shell,” but the members of Cal Poly’s Minna No Anime club say it’s a hard question to answer.

“It kind of changes, because sometimes I’ll see something new and I kind of go ‘oh wow’ but I still have loyalty to the old thing,” said club secretary and computer science senior Jennifer Pawlik. “I’ll always have a special place in my heart for ‘Twelve Kingdoms.’

This 17-year-old club meets from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. every Saturday to watch ten different animes picked at the beginning of the quarter by officers. Five hours may seem like a long meeting for some, but Minna No Anime’s president insists the time flies.

“It seems like a long time, but we’re watching shows,” said club president and graphics communication senior Aimaliese Christman.

The club uses their meetings to expose members to newer anime straight from Japan, that way, members who may have an interest in anime but are unfamiliar with seeking it out get a chance to widen their horizons.

However, Cal Poly’s Minna No Anime club isn’t all about watching Japanese cartoons. This group of 43 voluntary dues-paying members (members are encouraged but not required to pay $5) also attends conventions and competes in dance/costume contests.

Currently, the group is preparing a dance for a convention called Fanime in May.

“It’s a three-minute mix that starts off with ‘Thriller’ and it’s based off an anime that takes place in the 1930s,” Christman said. “It doesn’t look anything like stereotypical anime. The one we did last year, that was pretty stereotypical anime, we were dressed like school girls.”

As for other stereotypes of people interested in anime, Pawlik says they don’t represent her club.

“When I first started coming to the club, I would sit in the corner and watch a show and think ‘don’t look at me too hard or I might fall apart,’ but now I have no problem going up front and making announcements,” Pawlik said. “I definitely enjoy the excuse to get away from programming.”

Minna No Anime generally lets shy members come up and introduce themselves when they prefer. Mostly, they just want to offer people a venue to share their interest with others since it is difficult to find other people who enjoy anime.

As for that infamous subdivision of anime known as Hentai — pornographic anime — Christman says they don’t pay attention to it during club time, but she’s pretty sure there are members who have trouble staying away from that ten-tacle loving fan on their own time.

According to Pawlik, the Minna No Anime Hentai policy is “don’t ask, don’t tell.”

For more information about the Minna No Anime club, email minnanoanimeclub@poly.mail.calpoly.edu or visit www.minnanoanime.org.

COURTESY PHOTO
The Minna No Anime club practices a dance for the upcoming Fanime convention in May. Their dance is based off the song “Thriller” by Michael Jackson.
Film gives yet another dimension to the Iraq debate

The war on Iraq is good. No, the war on Iraq is bad (it’s worse than the better is bad/better is good debate). Honestly, I’ve probably changed my opinion about the United States’ military strong-arming of Iraq more than Hillary Clinton. But after viewing the short film “Una Ciaiisa Noble” at the San Luis Obispo International Film Festival this weekend, I may have finally found my official position regarding the war that keeps on taking.

The film takes place in Mexico and opens with a man’s return to his family. After toiling in America to financially support them. Because he (Ignacio) and his family aren’t legal citizens of the U.S., he must spend most of his time away from them. Though he is able to better provide for his family with his earnings, his wife and child are hardly better off without him. But when Ignacio comes home, he tells his wife he has found a solution to their troubles. There is a way to get documentation for he and his family, but of course, there are strings attached. In exchange for papeles, Ignacio would have to spend a year as a U.S. Army. He would probably get sent to some stateside location and do a few push-ups, and then his wife and son could be reunited with him.

Ignacio and his wife (sadly) decide to go through with the exchange so their son can have a better life. However, Ignacio gets sent to Iraq and ends up getting killed, leaving his wife and child with nothing except the shadow of Ignacio’s dream.

Although the story seems hyperbolic and dramatic, it is unfortunately a reality for many Mexican who have made the same deal with the devil. United states military support George W. Bush passed a referendum that stipulated the citizenship of Hispanic immorans contingent upon their service in the U.S. Army.

While no one is forcing these people to fight for a cause that isn’t their own, the U.S. takes advantage of the fact that so many are desperate for U.S. citizenship that they are willing to go to their graves to get it. Perhaps I have been watching too much F&F and not enough CNN, but I had not considered the war’s detrimental impact on nations that do not support it. Yes, the war was supposed to be a means to an end, but what is it doing now that there is no end in sight? Perhaps for the war is a “noble” cause, but it comes with a high price in the form of money, time and human lives.

Allison Baker is an English senior, Mustang Daily columnist and pop-culture enthusiast.

Thursday showtimes

Downtown Centre Cinema

The Band’s Visit 2:30, 9:45
The Band’s Visit 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30
Vantage Point 2:20, 5:15, 7:40, 10:15
The Other Bolen Girl 2:00, 4:30, 7:30, 10:00
Semi Pro 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8:00, 10:15
The Spiderwick Chronicles 2:00, 4:15, 6:45, 9:00
No Country For Old Men 2:05, 4:45, 7:25, 10:00

Fremont Theatre

10:00 B.C. 6:10, 7:45, 10:20
College Road Trip 5:00, 7:00, 9:15
Be Kind Rewind 7:55
Definitely, Maybe 5:10, 10:10
Sunset Drive-In
Palm Theatre
4 Months, 3 Weeks, and 2 Days 4:15, 6:45, 9:15
City of Men 4:15, 9:15
Juno 7:20
Meet the Spartans 8:45


DollDaily Mustang Daily Classifieds

Place a classified ad visit mustangedaily.net click on Ad Info, Classifieds

Buy one, get one FREE!
Several thousand miles away, people are forced to carry family members on their backs, and others who can't walk find themselves relegated to crawling. It may seem as if the more than 130,000 physically disabled people of Malawi, Africa are too far away to help directly, but an upcoming concert in San Luis Obispo will provide an opportunity for locals to do something about their plight.

Moral Support, a folk-rock band from San Luis Obispo, will headline a benefit concert for the Cal Poly Wheelchair Foundation at 7 p.m. Friday at the San Luis Obispo Art Center, located at 1010 Broad St. A $5 donation to the event will help send wheelchairs and aid to Malawi, whose people are also plagued by disease and malnutrition. All ages are welcome.

"It's hard for us to visualize having to carry our relatives, our sisters and brothers around town on our backs because there's no wheelchair for them," said business senior Josh Burroughs, project manager for the Cal Poly Wheelchair Foundation and member of Moral Support. "If you look at the U.S., you don't really see people crawling around on the ground or anything. It's totally different worldwide."

The Cal Poly Wheelchair Foundation, according to Burroughs, has set a goal of raising $1,500, an amount that would pay for 20 wheelchairs and could also help provide for much-needed water wells.

Moral Support is comprised of Burroughs, who plays keyboard, ukulele and harmonica, vocalist and guitarist Jack Poulis, guitarist and vocalist Kyle Slattery, drummer Kyle Cameron and bassist Scott Maguire. The group members met in 2006 in the dorms.

The band, which Slattery
Come Celebrate
Our Grand Re-Opening
March 14 & 15
Party starts at 8:30 am lasts until evening

No appointment necessary
Come in and enjoy:
Free Brow Waxing
Free Blow Dry
Make-up Gift Bags

Make an appointment while at the party and receive
20% off your next visit
* not applicable to all stylists

NEW LOOK
NEW OWNERSHIP
SAME GREAT SERVICE

805.544.5729

1601 OSOS STREET SLO

www.FacesAndAlaMode.com
Mustang Courts

Mustang Baseball 3-Game Weekend Series
VS. #11 UCLA

TONIGHT - 6 P.M.
FRIDAY - 6 P.M.
SATURDAY - 1 P.M.

Let us introduce you to our new football student-athletes.
Coral Snyder
St. Patrick's Day may fall on Monday of finals week this year, but never fear, there are several options available for those who still wish to celebrate the Irish holiday.

Crystal Castles — s/t

Crystal Castles, with tribal influences heads toward psychedelic disco-dance-punk group keeps it REAL.

Every week, KCPR, San Luis Obispo, 91.3 FM, adds a selection of the new and latest music to its ever-growing library. Below are some of the "adda" to the station this week. You can hear this music showcased on New Releases, which airs Mondays from 10 a.m. until noon or on any of the regular format shows.

Crystal Castles — s/t (Last Gang)

Most anticipated release of the year so far. This dirty, electro-disco-dance-punk group keeps it REAL.

High Places — "03/07 - 09/07"

Growing — "Lateral" (The Social Registry)

Brooklyn's response to the Kompact ambient series;

Sian Alice Group — "09.59"

Panda Bear pop. This is a collection of 7"s from Brooklyn's response to the Kompact ambient series;

High Places — "03/07 - 09/07" (N/A)

This London-based rock band owes as much to Detroit electronic music as it does to shoegaze for influences.

Hunting Lodge — "Energy Czar" (Yowda)

Loud rock with rhythmic, angular guitars and noise punk expanses.

Malawi

characterized as "acoustic jam folk rock," lists Radiohead, Johnny Cash and Jack Johnson among its influences.

"We draw influences from all over but ultimately a lot of it is just ourselves influencing each other," Slattery said. "It all depends what we write and share with each other."

For Moral Support, the opportunity to partake in a benefit concert was in accordance with the group's general outlook, Slattery said.

"Our music has always been a means of supporting each other — each band member was there to support us, and now it's like we can use our musical talent to support a good cause," he explained. "We've supported each other and now this is a chance to go beyond ourselves."

According to Burroughs, there are approximately 100 million people across the globe lacking mobility, and the problem is magnified in Africa due to its AIDS epidemic.

Hip-hop group Kauzafex of San Luis Obispo will open the concert as a special guest.

"They're unique and bring something different than us," Burroughs said of Kauzafex, which is made up of MC's Humo and Lemore and producer Evol.
Girls & Sports by Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein

I CAN'T DECIDE
WHAT I LIKE MORE:
THE PO WDER, BUMPS
OR TREE TRAILS;
THOSE DON'T COMPARE
WITH MY FAVORITE
PART OF SKIING:
TAKING OFF MY
BOOTS AND TUMPING
INTO THE HOT TUB!

WHAT'S THAT?

— «A

Last Ditch Effort by John Kroes

V O U B
RootmATt mx, IS
SOttt
sour
O P
eus O R murr
U e'S S M A R T , tu
ms om my.
RtAU -y OM T
V O a t> C A L L
— O O O R S M A R T .

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz
No. 0131

Across
1  Throw
5  It may be found in a cone
9  Homes for mil planes
13 Object of a manhunt, maybe
14 Score just before winning
15 Skylit courts
16 ' Not just stupid
18 Where William the Conqueror died
19 Kerosene
20 N.S.A. center who has pitched for McDonald's, Pepsi and Visa
22 ' Setting in Sherlock Holmes's "The Man with the Twisted Lip"
25 Snow ___
26 Les Trois Mousquotaires, e.g.
28 Strain
31 ' Eat a t ...
34 Shopaholic's delight
35 Canyon part
36 Daily or weekly, e.g. Abbr.
37 ' Perplexed state
39 1970s polit. cause
40 Early sixth-century year
41 Partner of aids
42 Come clean, with "up"
43 Slippery swimmer
44 "The ___ Report," 1976
47 Grid
49 "Informers"
54 Seven Sisters grads
57 Major Italian tourist site
58 "Ich ___ du" (German words for "I love you")
59 "Dessert made from a product of 10-Down"
60 Church perch
61 Satyric looks
62 Sleeper
63 This and that
64 "Finnegans Wake" wife
65 Major ris.
66 Ivy League school in Philly
67 Through
8 Granatelli of auto racing
9 Bits
10 'Orchard part
11 Tr è s ___
12 Did a number
15 Stimulated
17 Off good run
11 "That's ___!" (director's cry)
13 "Ditto"
14 Blunders
15 "Well, ___"
16 Hugo, 1975
17 Italian Adjani role based on a real-life story
18 Early eighteenth-century court
19 Partner of aids
20 Come clean, with "up"
21 Completely strange
22 Music download source
23 Music download source
24 The hot's

For answers, call 1-900-385-5566, $1.49 a minute, or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.
Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crossovers from the last 50 years: 1-866-7-ACROSS.

Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles. nytimes.com/crosswords ($39.95 a year).


Solution, tips, and computer program at www.sudoku.com

SU|DO|KU
© Puzzles by Pappocom
Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.
**Baseball:**

The true
American pastime?

Sean Yes. Baseball birthed our nation.

Oh, how I fondly remember the founding of our great nation, Mrs. America. You could say I've seen it all, from the Boston Tea Party to the Civil Rights marches. Each of these memories is laced with tales of legendary stockball games and mummers' matches. I'm talking of course, about baseball. Baseball has always confronted social issues before our nation was able to settle, it is the reason we can call America home.

You see, we won this majestic land from the British during a particularly scuffle-filled stockball match in the summer of 1776.

Some o f my top draft picks in last year's fantasy football league; Tomlinson and Johnson. Good, strong American names. Now manv future

basesball players are in the NFL? Sebastian Janikowski? and that's about it. Latin America only plays the kind of football that Japan doesn't even know what football is, but they'd still watch the Super Bowl. The only football thosejapanese outside of America ever seem to play is a Philippine game and it was played at a time when all the Miami fans were made. Yes, football is a much better choice of our nation's pastime than baseball.

The Mustang Daily staff takes pride in publishing a daily newspaper for the Cal Poly campus and the neighboring community. We appreciate your readership and are thankful for your careful reading.

Please send your suggestions to mustangdaily@gmail.com.

**Think you have something to say?**

Apply to be the new Tuesday columnist for the Mustang Daily

Visit the Mustang Daily newsroom in building 26, room 226 to pick up an application or contact the editors at 756-1796 for more details.

Applications are due by Wednesday, March 19

For more information, visit www.mustangdaily.net

Lee Barats is a mechanical engineering senior and Sean Michetti is a journalism junior. Barats and Michetti are Mustang Daily morning columnists and can be contacted at TitchiaBarats@gmail.com.
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Abortion display: What debate?  
The abortion display meant to provoke debate failed because it only showed one side. What I am expressing here is just another side that I think also needs to be said before reasonable opinions can be formed.

I'm sure we all see advertisements for "convenience," but where are the stories about unwanted teen pregnancies dropping out of high school? We're all human and we don't always make the smartest decisions when hormones rage. Rape happens all the time as a result.

Parents aren't always so supportive, either. I know someone who was kicked out of her home so she had to raise a kid when she could barely support herself at the ripe old age of 15.

Where are the stories about women who will actually die if they have a kid, or severely retarded or abused victims who have to raise a child when they can't even care for themselves?

There aren't nearly enough people seeking to adopt as there would be children available. But even if abortion made illegal, it wouldn't just disappear; it would go underground, risking both lives involved.

Also, couldn't it be said that since it takes sperm and eggs to make a life, that killing them would be genocidal? Could people be charged with manslaughter for manufacturing or having periods? When does the regulation go too far? I don't think there is a neat and tidy way to say how it should be dealt with. But we can at least show more than one opinion.

Diana Watkins  
Graphic communication junior

Check YOUR pulse  
This article is in response to Sarah Bailey's column on St. Patrick's Day. In Sarah's article, she states that she is going to celebrate, "This is just untrue. It's a religious duty to celebrate, not just a feeling. It is known that Christians drink wine at church as it symbolizes Jesus' blood. True wine is served at church (usually a bar of some sort) symbolizing drinking St. Patrick's blood..." Well, St. Patrick encouraged his worshippers (the Irish) to drink as much as they could in March 17. It is the day to show off how athletic your liver has become after a grueling year of intense training.

Also, I must add that on St. Patrick's Day everyone is Irish. So, when you say "to drink in moderation" that's like saying "exercise in moderation." When you go to the gym do you make sure you push an hour at your body a chance to process the push-up? No. The truth is you should be training your liver all year long. That's why St. Patrick's Day, because on that day you're not doing anything in moderation; you're going full-out just like you would if you had been training for a marathon all year.

Sarah's article is also filled with misinformation. For example, Long Island Iced Tea is said to contain 780 calories. This is just wrong. Anyone drinking a beer says he Google "Calories in long island ice tea" and clicks "I'm feeling lucky" will see Long Island Ice Tea only has 220 calories. Just assume the rest of the calories are exaggerated as well. Shame on you, Sarah Bailey.

Also in your article you mention what to do before, during and after drinking. Well you were 90 percent correct (beer being 90 percent wa­ter). Replace "a glass of water" with "Tall Kickers Irish Red" and you're dead on. If the next day you're blessed with a severe stomach problem call a hangover, remember this is just a reminder from St. Patrick that you are "not Irish." In the class of Alcohol 101, you fail, Sarah.

Justin McCarthy  
Materials engineering junior

Is it really about our feelings?  
Arlo White's guest column concerning abortion was absolutely correct in pointing out that many facts upon which our modern lifestyle depends are unavoidably unpleasant. The things we want and use do not appear out of nowhere, and there is a price to pay for what we get.

However, the column does make the assumption that morality is purely personal; if I really really want something, it's right (for me), if I really really don't like something, it's wrong (for me).

Our feelings and beliefs certainly do determine our sense of morality, but external truth exists, morality has value only where it conforms with that external truth. It is the center of my moral world, then I can justify anything I want to do. It's pretty simple, I am No. 1, after all. But if I am not the source of my own moral truth, my feelings and justifications are not as important as determining the requirements of external morality.

It comes down to this: absolute right and wrong exists, or it does not. Either the unborn are human, or they are not. If they are human, then abortion is murder, and if murder is wrong, then abortion is wrong. No amount of convenience or personal difficulty would erase that fact. If they are not human, or if they are but murder is not wrong, then there is nothing wrong with abortion. No amount of disarray or revolution would change that fact.

Eric Gondek  
Electrical engineering senior

Display was manipulative, destruc­tive propaganda  
We acknowledge that the recent anti-choice display on Dexter Lawns is fully protected under campus policies for free expression. We do, however, take issue with numerous factual errors that made the display misleading, as well as its disrespectful and sensationalist speech. The women's and gender studies department offers many classes that address the complex issues that intersect at the flashpoint of reproductive rights — including topics such as sex education, contraception, child care, reproductive technologies, and gender-related health issues. Women's Programs regularly runs programs on sexual assault prevention, body image, wellness and sexuality. Through­out the campus and in many ways, reproductive rights are addressed in all their intricacy and difficulty.

We don't promise easy answers nor do we expect that everyone will come to the same conclusions. But we do work to create a context that enables intelligent and courteous discussions.

We urge the Cal Poly com­munity to take advantage of the many resources available inside and outside of classroom opportunities to address these difficult issues in a manner that is fact-driven, civil and productive. There is no lack of spaces to engage in exchange that is adult and respectful, and there is no reason why our community conversations should be distorted by manipulative and inflammatory propaganda of the most destructive kind.

Mary A. Armstrong  
Women's and gender studies depart­ment

SAFER's actions limited freedom of speech  
I was deeply disturbed after reading the article "SAFER takes new stance for the campus." I'm a big fan of our Bill of Rights, especially the first amendment. It adds me to see that SAFER has appointed themselves as the govern­ing body of censorship here at Cal Poly. The members of SAFER self-righteously "sound, removed and shredded (the posters)" simply because they did not agree with the service being advertised.

I agree that SAFER has every right to be appalled by the idea of a lingerie maid service, and should be allowed to publish their own opinion, but they seem to be forget­ting that the College Cleaners has just as much of a right to advertise their services. SAFER should have taken a different method of protest, because childish acts like this only make me lose respect for their organization.

Stephen Zapud  
Business administration junior

Balanced budget Republican?  
Really? Are you seriously going to tell me that the Republican Party is as balanced as the balanced budget party? And your argument is that this budget deficit is the lowest it has been since halfway through this president's term? We mean, come on, just admit it, if the Democrats are "tax and spend," the Republicans are just "terror and spend up to the poor house." The biggest increases in the deficit have happened under Reagan and George W. Bush and our last surplus was under Clinton. Just give it up and go with the fact that Republicans have no inter­est in balancing the budget.

Nathan Giusti  
Computer science junior
Tennis

continued from page 16

dynamics between their most highly touted partners:
"Wong, they say, is seen as the more assertive of the two, while Blalock is more quietly relentless.

"They're a very potent combination," Bream said. "Steffi really loves the tactical aspects of the game. She has a good combination of power and finesse. Brittany loves to go out there and fight and do whatever she can to win every single match. She's got a fantastic return serve. As a team they've got good power — they make a lot of balls and they fight for every point."

A teammate of theirs, sophomore Diane Filip, added that while each is a strong competitor, their strengths vary slightly.

"Brittany's very strong from the baseline," she said. "Steffi's really strong at the net. With time, both of them will get better at what they're good but not great at by learning from each other. That's what we do as a team — learn from each other."

Though the duo, which opened the season ranked 22nd, started off a bit rough, they eventually found a commanding, effective rhythm. They each are quick to point out the respective strengths within their union.

"She's really strong and an all-around competitive player," Blalock said of Wong. "I know she has such strong volleys and serves, and it makes me more comfortable at the net."

"Wong returns the complimentary nod. "We have so many weapons," Wong said. "(Brittany) has a really big serve so it's easy for me to be aggressive at the net. Whenever we play other teams, we're more aggressive than they are and it puts a lot of pressure on them."

The Mustangs (8-6), who are yet to lose at home and upset No. 36 Washington State 4-3 Tuesday, have won four matches in a row and six of their past seven.

They host Gonzaga at 1:30 p.m. today at Mustang Courts as they continue to prepare for the Big West Conference Championships, held in Indian Wells from April 25 to 27.

"I feel we had a really good start this season," Blalock said. "We got a lot of good experience, both in singles and doubles. We're about a third of the way through the season. I'm excited about the rest of the year."

Basketball

continued from page 16

game-high 31 minutes.

No one played more than 24 minutes on behalf of Cal Poly. The Mustangs led 37-19 at halftime, in stark contrast to their 40-16 deficit at intermission in their tournament-opening 70-67 loss to Long Beach State on March 8, 2007.

UC Irvine's first-half output was its lowest of the season.

A 3-pointer by senior center Nicole Varzauskas gave the Mustangs a 13-4 lead just four minutes and 57 seconds into the game, and by the time Tratter completed a three-point play with 7:16 left before the break, the Mustangs led 29-9.

They established their largest lead of 23 at 42-19 on a Harris three-point play of her own 1:59 into the second half. Cal Poly, which won for the third time in four tries, faces No. 4 seed Pacific today, with tip-off tentatively scheduled for 2:30 p.m. — 30 minutes after the anticipated conclusion of the first quarterfinal match-up of the day.

The Mustangs lost twice in overtime to the Tigers this season, 89-88 in Stockton on Jan. 24 and 75-69 at Mott Gym on Feb. 23.

Santiago played a mere seven minutes combined in the two defeats, though.

breaking news blogs audio slideshows polls podcasts video
mustangdaily.net always something new.

NEED CASH FOR SPRING BREAK? WE PAY MORE!

TEXTBOOK BUYBACK

March 13 - 24, 2008 • 3 Locations!

In Front of El Corral Bookstore

March 13 • 7:45am - 6:00pm
March 14 • 7:45am - 4:30pm
March 15 • 11:00am - 4:00pm
March 17 • 7:45am - 6:00pm
March 24 • 9:00am - 4:00pm

Dexter Lawn Tent

March 17 - 21 • 8:30am - 4:30pm

Mt. Bishop Road Drive Through

March 17 - 21 • 9:00am - 5:00pm

10% BONUS

Deposit your buyback cash into Campus Express & receive an extra 10%
Cal Poly ID Required for Buyback
The club's progression can be seen by its competition in the NCWSA Division II Championships in 2006 and the 2007 Division I Championships. More than 130 collegiate programs compete in the NCWSA nationwide, according to a club press release.

"Last season was our best, with our club getting third place or better at almost all the regional tournaments," Gibbs said. "We placed third at regionals, and got to compete at the Division I nationals, which was like a dream come true. Things just kept getting better for us."

"Our hosting the national championship is really a logical next step in the quick pace that our club has grown," Wilson agreed. "From qualifying for, competing in, and now hosting the national championship, it's really great to see our club develop so well along with the skiers that comprise it."

The club is primarily funded through donations and fundraising, which is the club’s focus during the winter quarter offseason. Fall and spring quarters are the club's competitive seasons, and tournaments consist of two-day events which include slalom, trick and jump courses. During competitive seasons, the club practices four to five times a week at Lake Nacimiento in Paso Robles behind a 2005 Mastercraft Tournament Team 197 ski boat owned by alumni and maintained by the team.

"No one has to be an all-star, and everyone can contribute. We look to take advantage of the wide variety of talent that we have to work with."
Cal Poly's highest-ranked doubles tandem has led Mustangs to four consecutive victories

Agnes-Dei Farrant

The end of last season brought together an enterprising doubles tandem that remains a force for the Cal Poly women's tennis team.

Sophomores Brittany Blalock and Steffi Wong, the Mustangs' No. 1 doubles team, was ranked 38th in the country in the latest Intercollegiate Tennis Association poll and now stands at 17-6 overall and 8-3 in dual action this season.

"What makes them really dynamic is their ability, team chemistry and how they work together," said Cal Poly assistant coach Paige Esparza. "The explosiveness of both of them makes for a great doubles team."

Blalock, the 2006-07 Big West Conference Freshman of the Year, went 21-15 last year in singles and in doubles and is 13-8 overall as the Mustangs' No. 1 singles player this season.

Wong, the Mustangs' No. 2 singles player, earned 2006-07 All-ITA Scholar Athlete honors and is now 11-11 overall by herself this season.

Together, the auspicious duo has enjoyed not only individual accolades, but last season was widely recognized for its upset of Fresno State's then-No. 13 pairing of Melanie Gloria and Tiniesta Rowe.

"I just love the sport," Blalock said. "I played hard, worked really hard and was fortunate enough to get a scholarship."

Hailing from Indian Wells, Blalock comes from parents who both participated in collegiate sports at the University of Redlands, where her father played football and her mother played tennis.

Blalock, 19, has been playing competitively since she was 8. She played as a single player through middle school and high school to receive a college scholarship.

"I chose Cal Poly on the basis of a great location, a really good coach and a really good team," the business major said. "I thought I would fit in both academically and athletically."

The last year has given Blalock solid experience and growth in doubles competition.

"We improved so much in doubles the past year," she said. "I started playing with Steffi at the end of last year and we just clicked. Now I'm really excited to play doubles. It's strange how things switch like that."

Wong, a 20-year-old biomedical engineering major from Markham, Ontario saw similar benefits in Cal Poly.

"I'm not sure how (Mustangs head coach Hugh Bream) and I started talking," Wong said. "I hadn't heard about Cal Poly, but once I started talking to the coach and the team, and I saw the school, it had all the aspects I wanted in a school and a team."

Tennis wasn't such an early, immediate love for her, though.

"After trying numerous sports, including swimming and soccer, Wong found a great match on the court."

"For some reason tennis just stuck," she said. "I played a couple tournaments but nothing serious until I met (Toronto, Ontario coach) Casey Curtis when I was 13." Wong said. "He's been the biggest influence in my tennis career — he pushed me really hard to work at tennis and see where I could go."

Bream and Esparza are grateful for the Cal Poly seniors' sensation helps Poly advance

Mustangs reverse last year's tournament-opening failure, move on to face Pacific today

Kristina Santiago just keeps getting better and better.

The 6-foot-2 freshman took the floor as a center in her eighth start of the season Wednesday afternoon and led the Cal Poly women's basketball team to a 76-61 win over UC Irvine at the Anaheim Convention Center in the first round of the Big West Conference Tournament.

Santiago, a Santa Maria native, was 6 of 7 from the floor and sank 9 of 12 free throws on her way to game highs of 21 points and 11 rebounds in just 19 minutes.

Despite closing the regular season with overall averages of 6.4 points and 4.5 rebounds per game, she's posted 20 points and 10.3 rebounds in the Mustangs' previous three outings.

Her latest marquee performance came on the heels of being named Monday to the All-Big West Freshman Team.

She got plenty of help, though, especially from her frontcourt teammates, junior forwards Lisa McBride and Megan Harrison.

McBride was 5 of 10 from the floor for 12 points and eight rebounds and two blocks, while Harrison was 3 of 10, respectively, in adding 11 points, five rebounds and two blocks of her own.

Sophomore forward Rebecca Trater was 4 of 9 from the floor to chip in nine points and eight rebounds in 20 minutes off the bench.

Fifth-seeded Cal Poly (12-18), which outsored the eighth-seeded Anteaters 38-24 in the paint, held a 51-34 rebounding advantage despite shooting 27 of 56 from the floor compared to UC Irvine's 23-of-67 showing.

Anteaters senior forward Stephania Duda, who entered the contest averaging team highs of 12.4 points and 10.2 rebounds a game, was held to 3-of-10 shooting, six points and two rebounds.

Sophomore forward Kelly Cochran, UC Irvine's second-leading scorer, was 2 for 7 from the floor en route to five points and six rebounds.

Sophomore guard Rebecca Maessen was 5 of 9 from the floor to pace the Anteaters (7-24) with 13 points in 19 minutes.

Cal Poly's Tina Shelton drives to the basket against UC Riverside's Christian Soto at the Big West Conference Tournament in Anaheim on Wednesday night. As of press time, UC Riverside held a 51-45 lead with 2:25 remaining. For a complete recap, go online to mustangdaily.net.

SPORTS DAILY

Top-40 duo a hit on tennis court

Cal Poly sophomores Brittany Blalock (left) and Steffi Wong (right), the 38th-ranked doubles duo in the country, are 8-3 in dual play this season.

GREG SMITH

Top-40 duo a hit on tennis court

Cal Poly Water Ski Club to host 2009 NCWSA Championship

Aaron Gaudette

The Cal Poly Water Ski Club was recently awarded the host site for the 2009 National Collegiate Water Ski Association (NCWSA) National Championship, giving the reborn program further recognition in the national collegiate water ski arena.

"This is an excellent opportunity for us to continue to prove to the water ski community that we have what it takes to perform on a national level, both behind a boat as well as on the shore running an event," club president Kyle Desautels said in a statement.

Amanda Wilson, the club's coach and a recreation administration graduate, shares Desautels' excitement.

"It's a big deal for us to be able to host such a high-profile, large event," she said. "It's not like these events are planned over a weekend — you have to be a team willing to put in the work and prove yourself to the point that you get awarded the bid."

"This is really a great next step in terms of our club getting even more national recognition, which was started with our team placing so well in regional and national competitions."

The event won't take place in San Luis Obispo County, however, but rather at a two-lake site in Arvin, outside of Bakersfield.

"You have to have the facilities and personnel in order to be able to host more than 800 people," Wilson said.

"You have to have the facilities and personnel in order to be able to host more than 800 people," Wilson said.

"You have to have the facilities and personnel in order to be able to host more than 800 people," Wilson said.

"You have to have the facilities and personnel in order to be able to host more than 800 people," Wilson said.