New clubs question religious influence on campus

Brehnan Yobe-Mellor

Two new clubs on campus will offer students an alternative way to think about religion and spirituality with the Secular Society and the Cal Poly Brights coincidentally popping up at the same time.

"There needs to be a campus-wide discussion because there are so many religious groups," said Nick Sagan, the Bright's treasurer and computer engineering senior. "We're just as normal as everyone else, we're just as happy, we're just as helpful, we're just as giving to society and moral." Walter Handbofer, secretary for the Secular Society, had a similar hope for acceptance and awareness on campus.

"At the WOOF block party, we were surrounded by at least 10 different church groups," said Handbofer, an architectural engineering senior. "What we want to do is make people aware that there are other people like them out there on campus. If they're questioning God and the existence of God, if they're questioning their religion, if they're questioning the things that the government is doing, we want them to know there is a place to meet." Although they hope to come to each other's meetings...
What makes the Societies more inclusive than the Secular Society when it comes to different religious beliefs and beliefs focused on beliefs rather than actions?

(“The Secular Society”) can be pretty blunt with our perspectives,” he said. “The Brights are the bridge-builder...”

Again said the world Bright is an umbrella term for atheists, agnostics, no-thiers, naturalists and those of other beliefs that see the world as a natural place.

The slogan for the Brights is a “religious worldview-free from supernatural and mystical objects,” again said. “We want to put a good view of naturalism because right now the word ‘atheist’ is a pretty bad word.”

“Obviously it is a majority of Christians,” but that doesn’t tend to call this a Christian nation which is completely atheistic to come and discuss issues,

“One of the problems we’ve seen is a lot of people tend to call this a Christian nation which is completely wrong,” said Weinstein, a mechanical engineering senior.

“I was really pleased with that type of thinking that they came up with,” Kramer said. “I think it’s a clear example of what students are concerned about what happens in this community.”

Similar to the Brights, said he started the club to help keep church and state separate and have an open forum for atheists to come and discuss issues.

“It’s our big thing is to work with believers to show them the world is different religions and beliefs by focusing on beliefs other than atheism.”

Atheist, said that the Brights are some-religiously-based entity... (and break) the spell of not being an atheist. More than politics, this is really being able to question people’s beliefs.

Handful, wearing his club shirt, paired with a large scarlet A for atheist, said that the Brights are some-
Ann Sanner  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

John McCain said Monday that it was unfair for Rep. John Lewis to compare the negative tone of the Republican presidential campaign to the atmosphere a segregationist fostered in the 1960s.

McCain suggested that the comments by the Georgia Democrat and veteran of the civil rights moments carry more weight than those of a Virginia Republican Party leader who compared Democrats to Barack Obama to Sept. 11 terrorist Osama bin Laden.

"This is not just some obscure party official," McCain said in an interview aired by CNN. "And that's what's so totally unacceptable about it."

According to Time magazine, Virginia Republican Party Chairman Jeff Moulton recently told McCain to volunteers in the state that Obama and bin Laden "both have friends that bombed the Pentagon."

McCain has repeated similar past statements about Obama, but did not specifically address Frederick's comments in the interview.

"You have people in political campaigns on the outermost fringe on both ends of the spectrum," McCain said.

McCain and running mate Sarah Palin have said Obama failed to tell the truth about his relationship with Barack Obama during the primaries. McCain has accused Obama of "palling around with terrorists," meaning Ayers.

Ayers was a founder of the Weather Underground, a radical, Vietnam War-era group that claimed responsibility for a series of bombings, including a nonfatal explosion at the Pentagon and U.S. Capitol.

Ayers also hosted a reception for Obama in 1995, when Obama was beginning his political career. The two also have worked with the same nonprofit organizations in Chicago.

McCain's campaign has tried to exploit those ties, even while saying it disagreed with Frederick.

"While Barack Obama is associated with domestic terrorist William Ayers, the McCain campaign disagrees with the comparison that Jeff Frederick made and believes that his comment was not appropriate," said McCain-Palin spokesman Guill Gitcho.

In a statement Saturday, Lewis said McCain and Palin were "sowing the seeds of hatred and division" and "hostility in our political discourse," and noted the tone that segregationist Gov. George Wallace fostered in 1960s Alabama.

"George Wallace never threw a bomb. He never fired a gun, but he created the climate and the conditions that encouraged vicious attacks against innocent Americans who were simply trying to exercise their constitutional rights," said Lewis, who is black.

"Because of this atmosphere of hate, four little girls were killed on Sunday morning when a church was bombed in Birmingham, Alabama."

Obama's campaign said he doesn't believe McCain or his policy criticism is comparable to Wallace and his segregationist policies.

Lewis issued a follow-up statement Saturday, saying it was not his "intention or desire" to directly compare McCain or Palin to Wallace.
Syria establishes diplomatic ties with Lebanon

Albert Aji

Syria formally recognized Lebanon for the first time Tuesday by establishing diplomatic relations with its neighbor — meeting a U.S. demand to do more for regional stability even as Damascus pursues indirect peace talks with Israel.

Lebanon and Syria have not had formal diplomatic ties since both gained independence from France in the 1940s and the move by President Bashar Assad ends six decades of non-recognition. He announced plans to open an embassy in the Lebanese capital Beirut. Shortly after that, Lebanon's Foreign Minister Fawzi Salih said a similar decree had been issued in Syria for establishing a Lebanese embassy in Syria.

"This step indicates a new era in Lebanon-Syria relations marked by brotherhood and cooperation," he said.

Relations between the Arab nations have been lopsided since the 1970s, when Syria sent its army into Lebanon and retained control there for nearly 30 years. Ties unravelled when former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri was killed in a 2005 car bombing that many Lebanese blame on Syria — a charge Syria denies.

Hariri's assassination triggered huge anti-Syrian street protests and Damascus ceded to U.S.-led international pressure and withdrew its tens of thousands of troops from Lebanon a few months after the bombing.

But establishing diplomatic relations remained a pressing demand of the anti-Syrian majority in Lebanon's parliament, which saw Syria's refusal to do so as a refusal to recognize Lebanon's sovereignty.

"Do you think Sen. Barack Obama's connection to William Ayers hurts him?"

"I do not think so (with) all the political mudslinging that goes on. This is just one of the more minor details that Republicans are trying to release out there."

Justin Campbell, history freshman

"No, I think the Republicans are over-blowing the thing. (Obama) said he doesn't condone that kind of action and that he knew (Ayers) when was (he) much younger. It's not going to affect him now, he's still not friends with him."

Andy Andrews, civil engineering senior

"In some parts of the country it will. Overall no, because I think he's presenting himself well right now. He's sticking to the issues that are concerning people the most, which is the economy, and he's offering plans."

Rose Bodrian, English senior

Compiles and photographed by Josh Ayers

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WORD ON THE STREET

"I hope not, but I'm really not sure. I guess it's that some people believe what they want to believe and so that could be an excuse for people not to vote for him."

Domini Padua, architecture junior

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A Directory of Companies Attending Fall Job Fair

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continued from page 7
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Directory continued from page 10

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Ranked among the world's top ten semiconductor equipment manufacturers, KLA-Tencor offers a broad spectrum of products and services that are used by every major semiconductor manufacturer in the world.

Kraft Foods
Kraft Foods is a global leader in branded foods and beverages, with 2004 net revenues of more than $32 billion.

KTY Group
Architecture/Planning firm with offices in Irvine, Santa Monica, Oak-land and Denver.

L-3 Communications
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National Laboratory
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Linear Technology Corporation
Linear Technology Corporation (LTC) designs, manufactures and markets a broad line of high-performance standard linear integrated circuits using silicon gate CMOS, BiCMOS and Complementary Bipolar wafer fabrication process technologies.

Lockheed Martin
Lockheed Martin is a highly diversified $39.6 billion advanced technology company and the strategic leader in the aerospace industry with major positions in information systems, software development, space, launch vehicles, aeronautics, electronics, environmental services, and energy programs.

Marvell Semiconductor
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Maxim Healthcare Services
The Maxim name carries a rich tradition of providing superior medical staffing, home health care and wellness services.

Mechtronics Solutions, Inc.
Mechtronics Solutions, Inc. is a turnkey Product Realiza-

see Directory, page 12

Schedule of Events - Cal Poly

Career Fair
Thursday, October 16 - 9:30am-2:00pm
Cal Poly Recreation Center,
Main Gym & Blue Gym, Building 43

Careers in Consulting Panel
Thursday, October 16 - 4:00-5:30pm
Building 124, Room 117

Resume Drop Deadline
Thursday, October 16 - by MIDNIGHT
Mustang Jobs

Hitachi Consulting Networking Session
Thursday, October 23 - 6:30-8:00pm
Building 124, Rooms 204 and 205

On Campus Interviews
Monday, October 27 - 8:30am-4:30pm
Building 124, Rooms 204 and 205
By invitation only

Ready, Set, Explore.

Shape the Future at Intel
Recreation Center, Building 43
Thursday, October 16th 9:30 - 2:00PM
- Learn about career opportunities in
  - Software Development
  - System Level Debug
  - Hardware Design & Debug

Hiring various Majors, Including:
Computer Engineering, Computer Science,
and Electrical Engineering
(Masters or Undergraduates)
The jobs we're hiring for cover content learned in the following classes:
System Programming, Operating Systems, Digital Logic.
If you like these classes, you'll love working at Intel.
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An Entry Level Management Associate will typically rotate through at least three operating divisions working with the automation personnel to learn steel making processes and to be introduced to key managers in each division.

USS/POSCO Industries

A world class flat-rolled steel finishing manufacturer located in Pittsburg, California. USS-POSCO Industries was founded in 1909 by Columbia Steel. We are now a joint venture company established in 1986 with U.S. Steel and Pohang Iron and Steel of South Korea.

One of the most modern steel facilities in the world. USS-POSCO Industries ships more than 4,400 tons of steel each day to customers primarily in the 13 western states, Canada, Mexico and the Pacific Rim. The company hires engineers of various disciplines plus candidates with degrees in Business Administration.

Contact Marla Radosevich, Employment Manager at:
900 Loveridge Road
Pittsburg, CA 94565
email: mradosev@ussposco.com  fax: (925) 439-6179  phone: (925) 439-6204

Directory continued from page 11

At ConocoPhillips, we value knowledge, performance and diversity of thought and experience. And we draw on the capabilities of each and every one of our employees in our pursuit of excellence. If you are interested in applying your professional skills in the exciting energy industry, we're interested in you. For downstream engineering opportunities, please visit our Career Fair booth and Web site at conocophillips.com/careers. Together, we can pass on what matters ... to the ones who matter most.

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Careers with energy
conocophillips.com/careers
continued from page 12

are the backbone of the tech revolution.
Orbital Sciences Corporation
Orbital Sciences Corporation is the world's leading developer and manufacturer of smaller, more affordable rocket systems.

Pacific Gas and Electric
Pacific Gas and Electric Company, (NYSE: PGE), was incorporated in California in 1853 and is one of the largest combination natural gas and electric utilities in the United States. Based in San Francisco, the company is a subsidiary of PG&E Corporation.

Palm Inc.
By making products such as our award-winning category-defining family of Treo(TM) smartphones, Palm offers careers that are meaningful and cutting-edge.

Paramount Farms
Paramount Farms is the largest grower and processor of almonds and pistachios in the world, owned by Roll International, a $1 billion privately held, international conglomerate. Other Roll portfolio companies include Fiji Water, Paramount Crown, POM Wonderful and Telectro. Our vast processing and storage facilities span more than 13 million square feet. Along with size comes sophistication. We pride ourselves in applying state-of-the-art science and technology to the arts of farming, harvesting and processing. More than $100 million in capital improvements are in various stages of implementation. To prepare for this growth, we are looking for the right qualified, motivated individuals to join our fast paced, dynamic environment.

Parker Aerospace
Parker Hannifin Corporation - Technology and the World's leading diversified manufacturer of motion and control technologies and systems. The company employs more than 61,000 people in 48 countries around the world. Parker has increased its annual dividends paid to shareholders for 52 consecutive years. For the 2008 fiscal year, the company surpassed $12 billion in sales for the first time in its 90-year history. Sales increased 13.3% from the previous year. Industrial INTELL segment grew by 28% in 2008. Parker acquired ten (10) companies in 2008 with nearly $546 million in annual revenues.

Parsons
Founded in 1944, Parsons, an engineering and construction firm with revenues exceeding $3.6 billion in 2007, is 100% owned by the Employee Stock Ownership Trust. We continue to pursue the logical challenges and deliver landmark designs-build projects across the globe. Our ability to plan, design, construct, and operate diverse facilities and infrastructure systems has satisfied our clients' needs for more than 60 years. With more than 11,500 employees located worldwide, we team with an increasingly diverse group of global customers and stakeholders while preserving dependable services. We measure our success on one project at a time by exceeding expectations and satisfying our customers.

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The Pepsi Bottling Group (PBG) is the world's largest manufacturer, distributor and marketer of Pepsi and PepsiCo beverages.

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Preston Pipelines Inc. was founded in 1970. Preston Pipelines Inc. has grown into one of Northern California's leading Underground Contractors.

Progressive Insurance
Progressive is the nation's third-largest auto insurance company insurance. Founded in 1937, Progressive provides consumers choices in how they shop for, buy, and own a Progressive policy.

Promont
Promont (www.promont.com) is a global consulting and internal audit firm composed of experts specializing in risk and advisory services.

Qtia Corporation
In Qnia's team-oriented environment, you are an important part of the company from the day you start and every day in a learning experience.

R&L Brosamer, Inc.
R&L Brosamer, Inc. is a heavy highway engineering construction company. Incorporated in 1994, we currently serve the western states of Arizona, California and Nevada.

Raytheon Company
Raytheon Company is a global leader in defense electronics and complex integrated information systems. We are focused on defense, government and commercial electronics and business aviation and special mission aircraft.

REAL Software
REAL Software Systems (RSS) provides solutions for rights, royalties and profit participations management to companies involved in intellectual property and content licensing.

Rehrig Pacific Company
Rehrig Pacific Company is a leading global packaging manufacturer that has been family owned and operated since 1933.

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Siemens Energy
Siemens Energy is one of the world’s leading providers of energy and environmental solutions, building controls and automation system solutions. Siemens Energy is one of the world’s leading providers of energy and environmental solutions, building controls and automation system solutions. Siemens Energy is one of the world’s leading providers of energy and environmental solutions, building controls and automation system solutions.

Shiemann Construction
Shiemann Construction is a fast-growing, world-wide leader in the development of research laboratories and UlSNA products.

Sherwin-Williams Company
Sherwin-Williams Company, founded in 1866, celebrates 141 years of doing business. With annual sales at $7.8 billion dollars, it is the largest manufacturer and seller of paint and coatings in the U.S.

Shinnick Construction
Shinnick Construction - Become a part of a dynamic, growing player in Heavy Construction. Shinnick has an excellent reputation within the industry and has projects in the greater Bay Area and in Southern California.

Shopatron
Shopatron is the leading provider of retailer-integrated e-commerce, allowing consumer brands such as Brooks Running, to accept orders online and provide shipment or pick-up from a retailer's store.

Siemens Building Technologies
Siemens Building Technologies, Inc. uses its expertise in building automation technology to create buildings and systems that are more efficient and comfortable.

Sierra Summit
Sierra Summit is a mid-sized ski resort in the central Sierra Nevada Mountains. We offer about 300 seasonal winter jobs that are fun and challenging.

Smith, Lange & Phillips LLP
Smith, Lange & Phillips LLP is one of the largest law firms in the United States.

Solar Turbines
Headquartered in San Diego, California, USA, Solar Turbines Incorporated, a wholly owned subsidiary of Caterpillar Inc., is a leading manufacturer of industrial gas turbines with more than 11,800 units with over one billion operating hours in some 93 countries.

Southern Wine & Spirits
Southern Wine & Spirits history began decades ago in Florida. Founded by Harvey Chapel, Southern Wine & Spirits of America, Inc. is a privately held alcohol beverage distributorship with its corporate office in Miami.

SRI International
SRI is one of the world’s leading independent research and development organizations, was founded at Stanford Research Institute, 1950. At that time, SRI was a think tank designed to perform R&D for government, commercial, and foundation clients in information technology, engineering, pharmaceuticals, physical sciences, and public policy. Based in Menlo Park, SRI is one of the world’s largest independent research and development organizations, with more than 1,700 employees.

Stryker Corporation
Stryker Corporation, a leader in the worldwide orthopedic market, has been serving its customers since 1941 and has achieved 20% profit growth for over 25 years.

See Directory, page 14
Jazz singer Sophie Milman's performance at Cal Poly will mark the international artist's first trip to the Central Coast.

"We've enjoyed her music so far so we're looking forward to a good show," said Ali Semon, owner of San Luis Obispo frame store Frame Works and a sponsor of the event.

"Our whole staff will be there," added Semon. "It's our way of supporting Cal Poly Arts."

Since signing a record contract after only a few professional performances, Milman has been on a whirlwind tour all over the world. She has performed to sold-out shows everywhere from Canada to Japan to Europe.

"She's getting good reviews. She has a really good feel for the American Jazz style," said Neal Losey, music director at radio station KCBX and DJ for the station's "Morning Cup of Jazz."

Having lived in the United States for the past eight years, the Russian-born Milman is no stranger to the country. However, she has yet to visit and perform in San Luis Obispo.

At age 7, she and her family moved from Russia to Israel and at 16, Milman moved to Canada to begin a new life for herself.

"You wouldn't really know she has this background because when she sings there is no hint that she is from anywhere else," Losey said.

Milman's love of jazz developed in Israel, where the variety of scenes and cultures gave her more life experience and a topic for
The difference between a saxophone and a lollipop

1. The first rule of oral is you do not talk about oral.
2. The second rule of oral is you DO NOT talk about oral.

That is, except for me. I will take on the role of Tyler Durden, the oh-so-muscular character portrayed by Brad Pitt in the movie "Fight Club." I will make this sacrifice for all of you, taking on the role of the crazy, testosterone-driven person that will tell you all the rules (but we’ll exclude the testosterone to estrogen just to make me feel better). Only in this case, they will not be the rules of a secret underground fight club, but of another secret action: oral sex.

Though one of the most common sexual acts of today’s generation, it is one that is rarely talked about. Sure, you hear about the great sexual rendezvous of your roommate, and the conquests that she or he was capable of over the time period of a few short drunken hours this past weekend. But instead of hearing, “You’ll never guess who I banged last night?” came out and said, “You’ll never guess who I banged roommates giving oral sex to... well, anyone.

It’s not that I don’t love them enough to want to picture your roomie partaking in fellatio, you do love them enough to want them to be happy and satisfied.

Last week I discussed how important novelty is to relationships, using examples of different locations in order to spice things up to keep your libido flowing. Oral sex is another way in which to put some satisfaction and pleasure back into your time together. Some could say that oral sex, whether you’re performing fellatio or cunnilingus, is more of an art form. My opinion, however, is that it is a skill that is either natural or developed through practice. And once this is achieved, I’m pretty sure your partner will not be laying back thinking about how many partners it took to get you to that level of expertise, but only that the experience is unbelievably mind-blowing (no pun intended).

For those of you entrusted to the task of pleasing a man, take into account the wise words of a sexuality class professor: “I don’t know why they call it a blow job. Men don’t like it being blown on. It’s not a saxophone.” In fact, you’d be more on the right track to visit 50 Cent’s “Candy Shop” to lick the lollipop. Please don’t take that to mean that I think you should be licking a penis like a lollipop to see how many licks it takes you to get to the center, or until ejaculation in this case. A tongue is a very useful tool to your quest in conjunction with your hand, especially with a focus on the glans (tip) and/or the shaft. Some possible tips to use are the figure 8 with your tongue, going up and down simultaneously with your hand, or even a little symbolic suck on his finger to make him start thinking about it. Make sure to avoid using your teeth, as the idea of biting his member off is not something he wants to be worrying about.

Men or women, whoever gets the pleasure of pleasing a woman—I’m going to let you in on a little secret: It’s called the clitoris. It’s the only organ, male or female, whose only function is pleasure. And men, while you may be initially upset that you don’t also have a safely for pleasure center in your body, remember that you just found out the super-duper undercover location that is women’s sexual bliss. In fact, clitoral stimulation is the easiest and most common way for a woman to orgasm. For today’s lesson, the best combination is manual and oral stimulation, using your tongue to stimulate the clitoris by licking, thrusting, sucking, etc.

I’m sure even Brad Pitt would forgive me for breaking the rules of silence to try to rid the world of this horrible stigma. Oral sex should not be something that people are ashamed to talk about. Whomever you choose to have sex with, it is important to communicate about what it is that you want, because your partner is not a mind reader. Even just a moan every now and again could help to lead them in the right direction for what feels best for you. Items such as latex dental dams (to use on women), condoms (to use on men), and lubricant can be used to make this sexual experience both safer and more fun.

And as it is the month of Halloween, don’t be afraid to enjoy something sweet that will melt in your mouth and not in your hands.

Melissa Norman is a psychology senior and Mustang Daily news columnist. You can contact her at CPNorman0915@gmail.com.

Jarryd Guevara
5th year, Philosophy
“I like reading the news. It’s important to me.”
Get caught reading the Mustang Daily and win a free shirt!
Milman

continued from page 13

her self-titled debut album, which sold nearly 100,000 copies worldwide.

Her first album deals with her youth and the experiences that came along with moving to new countries and witnessing different cultures. Her life has changed drastically in the past three years and her second album reflects on the transformations that have occurred.

"Make Someone Happy" looks back to the past, to the present and into the future to inspire listeners to see the changes she has seen in herself and泛 spent trying to please everyone around her.

Milman is well known for her unique music; her sound contains a sophistication and maturity that transcends well beyond her 24 years. "She has a different sound that people may not have heard before," Lassey said.

Milman has also been the subject of much critical acclaim and is the recipient of the Vocal Jazz Album of the Year for "Make Someone Happy" at the 2008 Juno Awards in Canada.

Milman will perform Thursday at 8 p.m. at the Alex Spanos Theatre. Tickets cost $34 and student discounts are available. They can be purchased at the Performing Arts Ticket Office.

International jazz singer Sophie Milman will perform at the Spanos Theatre on Thursday at 8 p.m.

A LECTURE AND MEDIA PRESENTATION BY SEBASTIAN COPELAND

THE GLOBAL WARMING

ANTARCTICA

Friday, October 17, 2008
10 AM - 11:30 AM
Spanos Theater

FREE ADMISSION - OPEN TO PUBLIC
Parking Available at Performing Art Center Parking Structure

Sebastian Copeland will be available to sign his book, "Antarctica: The Global Warming" at the San Luis Obispo Art Center between 6:00 PM and 9:00 PM this evening.

Sponsored by

The Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs
San Luis Obispo Art Center
A right by any other name

The last presidential debate saw moderator Tom Brokaw ask the candidates whether they thought healthcare was a right or a responsibility. Predictably, the answers split along party lines, with Obama stating his belief that healthcare is a right and McCain declaring it a responsibility. While I harbor no secret partiality towards either candidate and consider them both quite helplessly inadequate and tragically misguided, I must confide that on this particular point McCain trounced Obama.

McCain’s clarity on this point deserves further elaboration. Recognizing healthcare as a responsibility, McCain spoke, however briefly, as an Old Republican. However, McCain is far from being a classical conservative, and I suspect that he and most of his constituents have only a partial understanding of the nature of rights versus responsibilities.

The word “right” is thrown around very frivolously and recklessly these days. Unfortunately, many Americans enjoy it when politicians misuse language. These people ostensibly find it pleasing to the ear to be told that they have rights to any number of things, from education, to jobs, to healthcare. It’s an understandable sentiment. Life is a scary and uncertain affair, and certainty, even false certainty, allows people a little comfort and security.

On the language of rights, the language is so hopelessly muddled as to be incomprehensible. This is an ideal Orwellian condition for politicians to exploit and they do so readily and adeptly. This is not good. We cannot hope to defend and preserve something, even something as important as our rights, when it has a fluctuating definition.

What should we accept as the definition, the foundation, of our rights? The logical and consistent definition, of course. That quest is best answered with a Lockean definition of rights, which essentially recognizes a single negative right, that is, the right not to be troubled so long as one does not inimicate violence against another. This is the principle tenant of Libertarianism, often referred to as the principle of nonagression. It is little understood nowadays, but in bygone years this concept had great resonance with the American public and our Founding Fathers. Its articulation is best seen in that pithy declaration that all are endowed with the rights to life, liberty, property, and the pursuit of happiness.

There is no adequate space here to grant the topic of rights the full discussion it deserves, but in making some sense of the recent presidential debate it is helpful that we understand at least one implication of the above definition of rights. Inalienable rights stand alone; they cannot be given or taken away. That is, if one is the sole individual on the face of the planet, he still enjoys these indisputable rights. No other individuals need exist to maintain or procure these rights for anyone else. This happens to be one of the surest and simplest litmus tests. If a right cannot be enjoyed without another person procuring it, it is not a legitimate right.

So to borrow a recently scandalized phrase, why put lipstick on a pig? Politicians must realize some advantages from tampering with the language. I’m afraid they do. It is no exaggeration to point out that such misuse of language is a veil for legalizing plunder. Recall that a Libertarian definition of rights makes no implications on anyone. Does the “right to healthcare” enjoy the same status? Of course it cannot. This false right embraces the notion that a person or group of persons has a right to someone else’s property (without a mutually arranged payment). Is this not a form of slavery?

Can one group of people be compelled to finance or otherwise provide another group a service or good? Obviously, I can with the use of force. But perhaps the more poignant question is, “Are we comfortable with a democracy that allows one group to enslave another?”

In the face of common sense, many politicians state the completely unbelievable that healthcare (or whatever else may be your favorite cause) is a right. Rather than weakening actual rights by misusing language, it is better to make a distinction, albeit unapplicable to some. Call them “government rights,” or “the right to other people’s property.” Call it socialism.

Jeremy Hicks is a 2008 political science graduate and the founder of the Cal Poly Libertarian Club. “Don’t Tread on Me” will appear in the Mustang Daily every Wednesday as a weekly political column. You can contact him at LibertarianColumns@gmail.com.
Baseball

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A season-opening, three-game series with 2003 College World Series champion Rice.

Other non-conference opponents include five schools from the Pac-10.

A change in the interior start date last year forced Cal Poly to play 13 weekend games, a number that will be repeated this year, including home and away sets with in-state rivals Saint Mary’s and Santa Clara.

The Mustangs begin Big West Conference play March 27 with a three-game series at UC Irvine. They will host four-time College World Series champion Cal State Fullerton for three games beginning May 8.

Cal Poly will return 18 lettermen from last season’s 24-32 team, including five position starters and seven pitchers.

Last year’s seventh-place Big West finish was the lowest for the Mustangs under Lee, who had guided Cal Poly to four consecutive winning seasons.

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CLASSIFIEDS
MUSTANG'S longest homestand in four years could come at just the right time

JOE STEVENSON saw something Monday he hadn’t seen in more than two years.

Since Sept. 4, 2006, Cal Poly women’s volleyball team hasn’t in the American Volleyball Coaches Association Top 25 poll.

"I looked at it and saw we weren’t in the top 25 and walked off to gather myself because it was a moment that really hurt," Stevenson said.

Cal Poly, which entered the season 10th, had fallen to 26th after a 5-6 start. It rose three spots after four consecutive Big West Conference wins, but dropped out after a 3-2 loss at Long Beach State on Friday.

“We worked hard as a group to get into that top 25 and we’re going right back in there,” Stevenson said. "How we react to this will say everything about where our program is going to be in the future.

It was against UC Santa Barbara, where we could come at just the right time. For’s going to be the right time on our home court.”

Senior middle blocker Jacyln Houston could symbolize Cal Poly’s potential for a quick turnaround at home.

She had a match-high eight blocks against Long Beach State and needs two more to break the Cal Poly record of 499.

“I would’ve been quite bitter about it,” Houston said. “I don’t regret the decision. I think I’ve come to doubt ourselves in part because of a couple losses this season, but I think we have a lot of work to do. We’re going to go out there and compete and win.

Stevenson said she was ready to simply forget about the defeat.

“For us as a team, it’s going to be the right time on our home court.”

DAVES BELKIE / MUSTANG DAILY FILE PHOTO
Cal Poly’s Hailey Fihian (17) sets up Jacyln Houston (11) during the Mustangs’ sweep of Pacific on Oct. 4 at Mott Gym.

Day prepares for Berlin

Omar Sanchez
MUSTANG DAILY

For many, life after Cal Poly is work, travel, break and work some more. For former Cal Poly high jumper Sharion Day, the surreal life that came a few months after graduating from Cal Poly reflected the opening ceremony to the 2008 Summer Olympics Games in Beijing. Both were full of surprises.

Today, Day is coming out of a month-long break, and her coach, Jack Hoyt, says he is getting her ready to qualify for her next major competition at the 2009 IAAF World Championships in Berlin.

"She took a good month off," he says. "We’re working on her conditioning now, but she’ll be training hard again soon.”

Day met the qualifying standard for Berlin by clearing a personal-best 6 feet, 4 inches March 17. About three weeks after graduating from Cal Poly with a bachelor's degree in kinesiology and signing a professional contact with AMCS, she finished third in the women’s high jump finals at the US Olympic Trials at Hayward Field in Eugene, Ore. on July 4. It earned her a trip to Beijing, where she jumped Aug. 21.

The pressure of competing, she says, was greater because it was the Olympics, but she’s already competed against most of the other jumpers there.

“The whole time I was, ‘Come on, come on, I’m ready to go,’” Day says. “It was so much fun, and it was so last-minute, Day says. “I’m excited to see what the other jumpers canceled last-minute so they called me.”

On the show, she cleared 5-10, getting Letterman to exclaim, “Wasn’t that absolutely beautiful!” and “It’s poetry in motion.”

The two-time Cal Poly Athlete of the Year has already experienced her share of perks stemming from the Olympics; earlier this month she visited the White House and met the president as part of the U.S. Olympic team. Now, the 23-year-old Costa Mesa native is living in San Luis Obispo, where many of her former classmates wished they would never leave, and says she plans to high jump as long as her body permits.

“Making the Olympic team, you have so many opportunities, so many doors open, and the perks are there,” she says. “All my hard work has paid off!”

“We need to prepare ourselves to play the tough points in a much better,” Stevenson said.

While Stevenson said the AVCA poll, which doesn’t directly determine postseason seeding, “is window dressing, in a sense, compared to the ratings percentage index (which more objectively takes into account strength of schedule), she added, “On a certain level, it hurts that we’re not.”

Five of Cal Poly’s losses came to teams currently ranked in the top-14.

“I think we have to doubt ourselves in part because of a very difficult preseason,” Stevenson said.

Long Beach State (14-3, 4-1) found itself 24th Monday. The 49ers fell UC Santa Barbara (7-9, 3-2) in five sets Saturday, but barely won over Cal Poly (9-7, 4-1), the two-time defending Big West champions, turned more heads. It was just the Mustangs’ third conference loss over their past 35 Big West matches, and their first loss to Long Beach State since Oct. 1, 2005.

“We had established a dominance over Long Beach State down there and in conference in general,” Stevenson said. “I just had the sense that Long Beach expected us to come out and beat them, so that loss was a little bit more difficult to take.”

Fresno State

Fresno State highlights Cal Poly baseball schedule

SPO TS EDITORS: Donovan Aird, Scott Silvey
mustangdailysports@gmail.com

see Baseball, page 19

The Cal Poly baseball team released its schedule Tuesday. It’s headlined by a pair of games with defending national champion Fresno State.

The Bulldogs, who pulled off an improbable run through the College World Series last year, lost the 2008 season series to Cal Poly 3-2.

The Mustangs will play 30 of the 50 games at Baggett Stadium in 2009, marking the first time under head coach Larry Lee that Cal Poly will have more games at home than on the road.

Cal Poly, which played in first 11 games of the 2008 season on the road, will play six of its first seven games at home this year, including