Media influence on election up for debate

Alisha Axsom
Mustang Daily

"Does the media really influence votes?" Find out at the next Associated Students Inc. True Life Series event on Oct. 29 at 8 p.m. in Chumash Auditorium.

Cliff Kisciaed, editor of conservative watchdog organization Accuracy in the Media, and Norman Solomon, founder and executive director of the Institute for Public Accuracy, a national association of policy researchers and analysts, will debate the topic, "Does the media sway votes?"

"The True Life series is really just an event that provides students with the information and education to make up their own minds about controversial topics," said ASI Program Coordinator Michelle Carro. "It's a way to provide students with an education without being biased one way or another."

The True Life Series happens once a quarter and Carro said they wanted to do something related to the election for fall. With no way to get the actual presidential candidates on campus for a debate, and with the popularity of shows like "Saturday Night Live," Carro said ASI decided on a media debate.

"We wanted to see if there is a debate out there that talks about the effect of the media and do they sway votes?" she said.

They called a production company that gave ASI the names of two people, Kincaid and Solomon, who were touring college campuses debating that very topic. Neither man is a journalist, however, which may seem strange given the subject.

"We try to choose the two people who have the most experience in the topic and they happen to see Debate, page 2
Compost

continued from page 1

stream it would be fined $40,000, equal to the sal­

ty of a full-time lecture. He said he'd rather keep a

ser that the compost was tested

and pathogen samples as a precautionary measure.

track which goes directly onto the organic farm's

If someone gets sick from the compost or animal

Wehner and Thulin said they decided to relocate the

stream of pathogen samples as a precautionary measure.

Both Thulin and Wehner said there was no pre­

In May 2008, Timothy Bolander, project designer and

the compost without looking at research or testing

future of composting.”

Wehner and Thulin said that the piles were fully

Wehner and Thulin said that they did not read the

pathogen samples for Fecal coliforms (feces) and

Students who are up in arms aren't going to have to pay the fines. Finding a new site for

compost came with liabilities with water and water quality.

—David J. Wehner

College of Agriculture Dean

Debate

continued from page 1

to be Cliff Knudsen and Nor­

“Students should figure out for themselves if what they are voting on is really

what they've heard in the media. The reason I feel so strongly that they do (way
to debate both sides incredibly accurately.)

Wehner and Thulin said that the piles were fully

decomposed, but Torres claims that the

Gal Poly trucks and a hired company hauled the

remaining sites from Chrens Creek Farm off US

Highway 1 while other compost was taken to field

34 near the dairy units on campus.

Wehner and Thulin said that the piles were fully

decomposed, but Torres claims that the piles taken from the site had not fully com­

pleted the “curing process,” meaning that the compost was not ready to go into the

ground since it normally takes about 20 weeks to normally decompose.

The food waste compost won the Innovative Waste Reduction award last summer at the seventh annual UC-CSU/ CCC Sustainability Conference.

Cal Poly shared the honor with the Integrated Waste Management (IWM) Program who helped start the program in 2006 by providing at least 10,000 dollars to start up the composting. They also took part in research of the project.

The way this compost was implemented showed that the university is doing such a good job of marketing it. Why wouldn't people market politics if they market everything else?”

Cassandra Keyse

3rd year, Journalism

“ I like the opinion articles and the sudoku.”

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**Feds disrupt alleged plot targeting Obama**

Two white supremacists allegedly plotted to go on a national killing spree, shooting and decapitating black people and ultimately targeting Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama, federal authorities said Monday.

In all, the two men, whom officials described as neo-Nazis, sketched a plan to kill 88 people — 14 by beheading, according to documents unsealed in U.S. District Court in Jackson, Tenn. The numbers 88 and 14 are symbolic in the white supremacist community.

The spree, which initially targeted an unidentified predominantly African-American school, was to end with the two men driving toward Obama, “shooting at him from the window’s,” the documents show.

“Both individuals stated they would see Plots, page 4

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**WORD ON THE STREET**

“Do you think polls showing Obama ahead is an accurate prediction for the November election?”

“I think the polls seem to be accurate, but they are never going to show anything for sure.”

-Lindy Wortman

business junior

“I think it’s a for sure win because of McCain’s choice in Palin has seemed to really drop his popularity, so that gave Obama a real boost in the polls.”

-Cresson Sorby

history sophomore

“No, because not everybody answers in the polls and it’s not accurate. Everybody (may) change their minds, so you don’t really know the outcome until you vote.”

-Vanessa Soto

kinesthetic sophomore

“No, I do not. The polls show a for sure win because there are a lot of voters out there that haven’t actually decided yet. The polls show Obama winning now, but when the time comes for voting, it could go either way.”

-Josh Okerman

industrial engineering senior

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**75th ANNIVERSARY WEEK**

October 27th - 31st

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**El Corral Bookstore**

75th Anniversary
1933-2008

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**Prize Drawings for Thursday, October 30th**

Enter Now at Customer Service to Win:

- Class Ring with Diamond ($850 Value)
- $750 gift card
- 75 Second Shopping Spree
- Free Textbooks for a quarter
- $75 gift card
- Set of Roxy Luggage

**Store Specials, October 27th - 31st**

- $75 8GB iPod nano (first ten customers)
- 75% off selected Cal Poly hats
- 75¢ filler paper

Cake on Thursday, October 30th during UU hour
Plot

continued from page 3

dress in all-white tuxedos and wear top hats during the assassination attempt, the court complaint states. "Both individuals further stated they knew they would and were willing to die during this attempt."

An Obama spokeswoman traveling with the senator in Pennsylvania had no immediate comment. Sheriff deputies in Crockett County, Tenn., arrested the two suspects - Daniel Cowart, 20, of Bells, Tenn., and Paul Schlesselman, 18, of Helena-West Helena, Ark. - Oct. 22 on unspecified charges. "Once we arrested the defendants and suspected they had violated federal law, we immediately contacted federal authorities," said Crockett County Sheriff Tony Kyos.

The two were charged by federal authorities Monday with possessing an unregistered firearm, conspiring to steal firearms from a federally licensed gun dealer, and threatening a candidate for president.

Cowart and Schlesselman were being held without bond. Agents seized a rifle, a sawed-off shotgun and three pistols from the men when they were arrested. Authorities alleged the two men were preparing to break into a gun shop to steal more.

Jasper Taylor, city attorney in Bells, said Cowart was arrested Wednesday. He was held for a few days in Bells, then moved over the weekend to another facility.

Until his arrest, Cowart lived with his grandparents in a southern, rural part of the county, Taylor said, adding that Cowart apparently never graduated from high school. He moved away, possibly to Arkansas or Texas, then returned over the summer, Taylor said.

Attorney Joe Bynum, who has been hired to represent Cowart, said in a written statement that he was investigating the charges against his client and would have no further comment. Messages left on two telephone numbers listed under Cowart's name were not immediately returned.

No telephone number for Schlesselman in Helena-West Helena could be found immediately.

The court documents say the two men met about a month ago on the Internet and found common ground in their shared "white power" and "skinhead" philosophy. "We must secure the existence of our people and a future for white children," and to the eighth letter of the alphabet, H. Two "8's" or "H's stand for "Heil Hitler."

Court records say Cowart and Schlesselman also bought a rifle and ski masks to use in a robbery or home invasion to fund their quests, during which they allegedly planned to go from state to state and kill people. Agents said the skinheads did not name the African-American school they were targeting.

Jim Cavasagna, special agent in charge of the Nashville, Tenn., field office for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, said authorities took the threat very seriously.

"They said that would be their last, final act - that they would attempt to kill Sen. Obama," Cavasagna said. "They didn't believe they would be able to do it, but that they would get killed trying."

SAUCRAMENTO (AP) - Painting a gloomy picture of California's finances, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger said Monday that the revenue shortfall in the state's five-week-old budget has grown to more than $3 billion.

He said he would call the lame-duck Legislature into special session immediately after the Nov. 4 election to find a way to close the gap, deal with the state's housing crisis and stimulate the economy.

"I think it's very important that right after the election that we go and have the special session and have the Legislature deal with this crisis as quickly as possible because it's much bigger than we knew just a month ago," he said after meeting with legislative leaders.

SAN DIEGO (AP) - Prosecutors argue that a man should be convicted of murder for killing a professional surfer in La Jolla, but the man's defense attorney says the fatal punch was thrown in self-defense.

Prosecutors said in opening statements Monday that 22-year-old Seth Cravens and four other men went to the home of Emery Kauanui one night in May 2007 to get revenge for a previous confrontation at a bar.

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WASHINGTON (AP) - Ted Stevens, a pillar of the Senate for 40 years and the face of Alaska politics almost since statehood, was convicted of a seven-felon string of corruption charges Monday - found guilty of accepting a bogus home renovation and fancy trimmings from an oil executive and then lying about it.

Unwowed, even defiant, Stevens accused prosecutors of blatant misconduct and said, "I will fight this unjust verdict with every ounce of energy I have." Stevens says he will stay in the race for his seat against Democrat Mark Begich for Nov. 4.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) - Police said they have information that they hope will lead them to the killer of a television anchor-woman who died days after a brutal attack in her home.

Police said they do not yet know the suspect's identity, and would not say what evidence they have linking the person to the attack on Anne Pressly, 26, who died Saturday. Her mother found her badly beaten on the morning of Oct. 20 when Pressly did not answer her regular wake-up call.

"We do have an individual. The suspect has not been arrested," police spokesman Sgt. Cassandra Davis said.

SUKARIYEH, Syria (AP) - A cross-border raid by U.S. special forces killed the al-Qaida-linked head of a Syrian network that smuggled fighters, weapons and cash into Iraq, an American counterterrorism official said Monday.

Blood stained the earth in this border village as anguished Syrians buried relatives they said were killed in the U.S. helicopter attack Sunday. Some shouted anti-American slogans and carried banners reading "Down with Bush and the American enemy."

GOMA, Congo (AP) - Fears mobbed stores U.N. peacekeepers' compounds Monday and thousands of desperate people stood advancing rebel troops as chaos returned to eastern Congo, fueled by festering hatred left over from the Rwandan genocide and the country's unsettling civil wars.

In what appeared to be a major retreat, hundreds of government soldiers pulled back Monday from the battered eastern city of Goma, the nation's second-largest city and the economic capital of Goma - fleeing any way possible, including using tanks, jeeps and commandeered cars. Soldiers honked their horns angrily as they struggled to push through throngs of displaced people on the main road.

We are the Mustangs

Cal Poly Mustangs

WE ARE THE MUSTANGS

Admission is FREE for Cal Poly Students for all home Athletic events.
Swedish import thrills with mysterious plot

Chelsea Bicker

In a few words, "The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo," by Steig Larsson can be described as unsettling, detailed, and... amazing. Murder mysteries are not exactly my forte, but after seeing the large display at the book store dubbing the novel an official "must-read," I had to give it a shot and found myself setting forth on a twisted intricate tale of a missing girl, a series of brutal murders in Sweden displacing at the book store dubbing the novel an official "after fact," rather blatantly and shockingly to "Men Who Hate Women." This novel does not survive on light after decades of injustice. Larsson states fact forces the reader to take note. Its beautiful writing or personal touches Larsson may have intended for the reader were left somewhere in limbo from Swedish to English.

Written quite journalistically, this novel does not survive on its beautiful writing or personal prose. Instead, Larsson states fact after fact, rather bluntly and forces the reader to take note. At times I felt as though I was reading a rough documentation of a series of happenings, rather than a novel. I was at first turned off by the lack of character development, and after reading the entire work, am still not sure if I was truly able to connect with any of the characters by the end. I wanted to know more of their insights and feelings as the novel progressed. They remained a bit one-dimensional for my liking. I will however, in defense of one hell of a mystery, say that this is a translation, and I would assume that much of the personal touches Larsson may have intended for the reader were lost somewhere in limbo from Swedish to English.

The issue in the novel turned out to be far more than a simple who-dunnit with so many family trees and timelines to keep straight you might think you are reading a history book. The book begins with a slow start, with just enough action to keep you wondering where Larsson is going. After the third chapter, though, I was sufficiently engrossed in the sometimes horrific portrait that is the mystery of Harriet Vanger's disappearance.

Mikael Blomkvist, a journalist and publisher of Millennium magazine, finds himself on the losing side of a libel case involving Swedish industrialist, Hans-Erik Wennerstrom. Without the resources to prove his innocence, Blomkvist finds himself in a predicament any journalist, or human being for that matter, would dread. Feeling exiled from his livelihood, he agrees to a seemingly random offer to move to the small island of Hedby to write the family portrait of the well-to-do Vangers. Of course, this is only the surface of the issue, with the real job being on uncovering a cold-case disappearance of then 16-year-old, Harriet Vanger.

Immediately sensing that the assignment is impossible, Blomkvist agrees to try, knowing that at the end of his one year "sentence," he will be paid by the withering Henrik Vanger, who had dedicated his life to cracking the mystery, regardless of whether the job is completed or not. Vanger also promises him something he cannot refuse in reward for his efforts that could solve his lifelong mystery: A three million kronor bonus if he can figure out what happened to her. Although Blomkvist was not reading it, I wanted to be reading it. I had to know what was coming next, and I suppose that is a sign of a good, engrossing novel. Many times I sat back and marveled at the intricacy of the details. Between dates, times, places and the endless list of Vangers, it was unbelievable that Larsson could keep it all straight himself. At 465 pages, I would not recommend this if you are in search of a light "beach-read" of sorts. Oh no, reader beware, this novel is a full-time commitment, but once you get past the obligatory first 100 pages, you will have a hard time putting it down and an even harder time forgetting it. It was a perfect combination of chilling, entrancing and mind spinning.

I also found out after I was well into my reading that Larson had written three novels at the time of his death in his 2004. This book was addicting early on. If I was not reading it, I was thinking about it. Eventually, I found myself more interested in her tale than the actual mystery overall, and as a character, I think she was well described and quite deep. Her story is an unfortunate one, and she is frustrating to read about at times. Brilliant but bothered, it is Salander that takes this story to the next level or me. This was addicting early on. If I was not reading it, I wanted to be reading it. I had to know what was coming next and I suppose that is a sign of a good, engrossing novel.

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Civil trial of Keanu Reeves begins in LA

Anthony McCartney
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — Just like “The Matrix,” jurors in a civil trial featuring Keanu Reeves may have to wade through several versions of reality.

A jury was selected Monday to hear the case, which stems from a March 2007 incident in which a paparazzo claims he was seriously injured while shooting photos of Reeves behind the wheel of his Porsche.

A lawyer for Alison Silva contends Reeves struck the photographer with his car, causing him to fall to the ground. But Reeves’ attorney, Alfred Gerstl, told the panel that the photographer repeatedly changed his story depending on whether he was talking to paramedics, a deputy or doctors.

“Mr. Silva, during the course of that night, has told at least five different versions of what happened,” Gerstl said during opening statements.

Reeves, the star of action flicks such as “Speed” and the forthcoming remake of “The Day the Earth Stood Still,” quietly sat in the courtroom.

He spoke to jurors only to wish them “good morning.”

The actor could spend up to three hours on the witness stand Tuesday, when he is expected to testify about his recollection of the incident.

Reeves, 40, is set to play a movie star fighting for his life in the upcoming action thriller “The tasted Man.”

In Los Angeles, where several prospective jurors indicated ties to the movie industry, the trial will likely feature testimony from several doctors describing the damage to Silva’s wrist, both sides acknowledged.

The paparazzo incurred his wrist injury earlier this year, but Farzam contended Monday the injury was sustained much earlier.

“The selection had a distinctive Hollywood flat, with several prospective jurors working in the film industry,” she said.

One woman who listed her occupation as “actor” said she knew people who worked with Reeves, who smiled slightly as she spoke.

One man who said he was once the voice of Bugs Bunny did an impromptu impression, causing laughter in the courtroom.

Another man who said he had taken part in a movie theater in 38 years said a friend gave him one of Reeves’ movies with specia
tacular special effects, possibly describing “The Matrix.” In the film, Reeves’ character joins a war waged on multiple planes of reality.

Whatever the film, the plot threw the man, who said “Frankly, I didn’t understand it.”

Those three potential jurors were dismissed, along with an entertainment attorney and others who expressed a negative view of the paparazzo.

Many were familiar with his film roles, and complemented his acting ability. Those who re
tained by Smi h on the panel include a law office clerk who described his firm’s celebrity clients as “just folks,” an animator for “The Simpsons” and a government worker who serves as a liaison between film studios and public officials.

In R.

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In EEEEEEE.

In FFFFFF.

In GGGGGG.

In HHHHHH.
The "Saw" franchise has always been centered on one question: How much blood would you shed to stay alive? But with its fifth installment now in theaters, the bigger question these days is "How much money will audiences continue to shed to keep a dying series alive?"

Ever since Darren Lynn Bousman ("Saw II-IV") took over the helm from original director James Wan ("Death Sentence"), the series has continued to disconnect itself from its innovative beginnings on the way to becoming blood-splattered trash reminiscent of the later "Friday the 13th" and "A Nightmare on Elm Street" sequels. "Saw V" is no exception, as it forgoes all originality in favor of a sloppy storyline that only serves as a way to tie up the loose ends from the previous films.

Although producers made the right decision to replace Bousman as a way of breathing new life into the franchise, they clearly made the wrong choice in choosing David Hackl, a production designer for the past three films with no previous directing experience. Hackl does not revert to the series' creative roots but instead takes this opportunity to reflect on his past visual work. While the movie does feature one of the most inventive Jigsaw traps to date, and slightly better acting than in the past, these improvements are heavily overshadowed by the film's horrendous main plot thread.

The film picks up where "Saw IV" last left off with Special Agent Peter Strahm (Scott Patterson, "Gladiator: Gates"), left alive to put the pieces together as to who is the last remaining apprentice of Jigsaw (Tobin Bell, "Saw IV"). Meanwhile, Detective Mark Hoffman (Costas Mandylor, "Beowulf"), who secretly revealed himself as Jigsaw's apprentice in the last film, is starting up his master's last wish, a trap where five seemingly unconnected people face a gruesome lesson on teamwork. When putting together a sequel, it is always to the director's advantage to create a movie that has the ability to stand on its own. One of the major drawbacks associated with the third and fourth "Saw" films was that, unlike the first two movies, these films overlapped each other and only made sense if you had seen both of them. Unfortunately, this film requires you to be familiar with all of the previous films in order to it to be relatable. The worst part, though, is that this film is not even necessary to begin with; all the film does is reveal some additional background that is neither interesting nor significant.

This franchise has often been categorized under the sub-genre of "torture porn" for the excessive amount of torture, mutilation, nudity and sadomasochism that comes with it. Although the series has notoriously become excessively gorier with each new installment, this film actually appears as if some of the needless brutality has been turned down a notch. However, it is difficult to tell whether this reduction was an intelligent, conscious decision by the producers or just an illusion that comes as a result of the movie including an abundance of previously seen torture montages that audiences have already been desensitized to.

Regardless of whether the grisly violence has been toned down or not, this film still lacks any real sense of terror. Blood and guts are really only frightening when fittingly used to supplement the fear in a horror film. Like many horror flicks these days, this movie uses gore solely as a gross-out element. Nowadays, audiences are only covering their eyes as way to prevent puking, not nightmares.

While the acting performances in this film are a cut above those usually found in this franchise's low-budget casts, it does not make a noticeable difference. In all honesty, no one really goes to these films expecting spot-on portrayals of heavily developed characters anyway.

For diehard fans of the series, "Saw V" may serve as an acceptable nostalgic trip to past films, but, for everybody else this movie will only disappoint. So, for now, audiences can only hope for a more frightening experience next Halloween when the already confirmed sixth installment will fight to keep the franchise breathing.

Scott Patterson stars in "Saw V," which was released last Friday. The movie grossed $30.5 million during its first weekend and has received mixed reviews.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Kramer deserves praise for column

ASU President Angela Kramer deserves high praise for speaking up on Prop 8, a very controversial issue that has been polarizing the electorate. The passionate level of civic concern is evident in the large number of both pro and con slogans displayed on yard signs, bumper stickers and billboards that have popped up everywhere. The high frequency of TV ads on this dubious and unnecessary proposition is yet another surrogate metric on the fervor of campaign from both sides.

Past ASI Presidents have typically been hesitant to hold a stance and speak up on highly controversial issues. In this regard, Angela has fully lived up to her promise that provides us with the courage and conviction to be a more engaged and informed citizen. While it is true that the “Biblical” definition of marriage basically consists of “I, now pronounce you man and property,” it may he true, they may he not — it really doesn’t matter because the people post are completely anonymous and unaffected. Our online facilitation with each other’s lies seemed to have started a few years ago when social networking hit the vernacular. MySpace didn’t want Facebook fully unfledged, and we could only wonder what these new virtual connections could mean for face-to-face interaction. The all went along with it, eventually realizing that there are benefits to these sites if they’re used in moderation.

In between texting and poking strangers, Facebook does have legitimate networking usefulness — as any reporter struggling to find a source would attest. So let’s find a way to kind of school and find a long-lost classmate from elementary school.

Then, the dynamic changes. Along comes a whole other animal: JuicyCampus.com. Juicy Campus is an online forum where students can post their thoughts about anything, anonymously and without login required. The perfect gossip site, in other words. It’s so juicy that it even has a pop-up window when you first go on that verifies that you’re 18 or older (can you think of any other kinds of sites that do that?).

As the Mustang Daily reported last week, JuicyCampus.com recently added Cal Poly to its list of about 50 universities and colleges, meaning we can gossip about our fellow Cal Poly students that much easier.

But why? It’s unclear how site creator Matt Verster goes about making his selection on which universities.

By the time you finish reading this editorial, another one of your fellow students or two will have been slammed on the Internet’s newest college-themed Web site, their names trashed for any of their peers to see.

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Policy of declaring at application depletes many students of new experiences

When I applied to schools my senior year of high school, my dad advised me to make a list of the pros and cons for every school I applied to. While compiling information about the financial side of the deals, I found that the students I talked to about major and deadlines, I came to the conclusion that there was only one negative on my list for Cal Poly: deciding my major. Students shouldn’t have to decide on their major as incoming freshmen. At the age of 17, I didn’t have much of a clue what I wanted to do. It seemed what I deemed important in finding a school were the following: how close to town was, what the on campus food was like, how many of my favorite shops were downtown, the distance of the school to the beach and what campus housing was like. And to think that I actually considered going to a school because it had a conservice for students so they didn’t have to do their laundry.

Once acceptance letters are received, starting out with a major help or hinder your decision whether or not to attend Cal Poly. My friend was accepted as an architect major after having only four to five years in school, panicked before the April 1 housing deadline and decided to consider other schools. College is about new experiences and meeting new people in a completely different environment than you are used to. These experiences help you learn more about yourself. The decision of choosing your major may be a little overwhelming when you don’t want to feel restricted. You may say to yourself, “If I go to Cal Poly I will be a (whatever your major is)” whereas “If I go to another school I will have a couple more years to figure out who I am and what I would like to do with my life.”

By making students choose their major prior to coming to Cal Poly, the school is forcing people that don’t have a definite idea about what they want to do for the rest of their lives to cross Cal Poly off their list. And Cal Poly only accepts a certain number of applicants for each major so students that apply for majors with higher requirements may be great students but were turned away because of the major they chose.

Elections help students get a feel for other subjects that aren’t related to their major. These are really important especially if you didn’t get to take many in high school. Fortunately, my major allowed me to take numerous classes outside its curriculum. However, doing that has also made me realize that some other majors may have suited me better.

Cal Poly’s goal to have students graduate in four years leaves little time to rethink your major. Also some of the requirements to switch majors seem almost as if they don’t want you to change your mind.

I was told last spring that I could not double major because I would be taking up two spots and it would take much longer to graduate. Since I had taken the majority of major classes, it would be foolish to change. It seems like we are only allowed to change majors and add another when it is most convenient for the school. Starting our major classes fall of freshmen year makes it harder to switch along the way since we will have so many useless credits. Other schools are more flexible and don’t pressure you to decide until your general education courses are finished.

Love Cal Poly but are you really denying me the right to learn what interests me most?

Jennifer Tizcomb is a journalism junior and Mustang Daily reporter and copy editor.

Local candidates matter: where the (bike) rubber hits the road

Local government is “where the rubber hits the road” as Barack Obama said in reference to the role of local governments in making change. While our national presidential candidates “yak in the Senate,” mayors and city council members have to fill the potholes and trim the trees,” and make decisions that often directly affect the daily lives of Americans more than a national celebrity or marvick.

With one week to go before elections, I encourage you to take a few minutes to look at local candidates. If you know enough, I think you’ll arrive at the same decision the Empower Poly Coalition did that Jan Marx should once again serve on San Luis Obispo’s City Council. But before I tell you about Jan’s plans for San Luis Obispo and why she is deserving of your support, I want to address something we’ve been hearing an awful lot about lately: the youth vote.

Because as much as politicians like to talk about how we are the country’s future, it is rare to find a candidate who has an actual track record of supporting an issue important to young voters, let alone in a town where the student population outnumber only four or five years. Believe me, as a local who you’ll learn that local politicians do not have to cater to student issues because we are not a large enough voting block to decide the election.

But if there was a local candidate whose record and platform positively affected the lives of Cal Poly students? They would need a large number of votes from students to win, right?

This is why the Empower Poly Coalition voted to endorse Jan Marx for San Luis Obispo City Council.

Through her experience as an environmental activist, an attorney, a business owner and a former city council member, Jan has acquired a unique perspective on how to work towards sustainability at the local level.

A self-described conservationist, both fiscally and environmentally, Jan is a unique politician who truly understands that our economic and ecological futures are directly connected.

And nowhere is this ideology more evident than in her championing a campaign this last year with her Rotary Club and Cal Poly students to fund the “missing link” of the new Railroad Safety Bicycle and Pedestrian Trail being built by the city parallel to California Boulevard.

As chair of the local Rotary Club’s Clean and Green Program, Jan helped raise more than $32,000 from hundreds of community members and Cal Poly parents and helped persuade the city to fund the 500-foot trail section from Cal Poly’s border to Foothill Boulevard.

When the trial is completed, a Cal Poly student will be able to safely and quickly ride from Cal Poly over the 101 (on a new bike bridge) and downtown. With long-term plans to connect this trail to the train station and other bike and pedestrian trails it is imperative that we have a leader like Jan who understands that bike trails improve local air quality, save citizens (and students) money and promote healthy living.

Another outdoor project that Jan supported was the opening of Bishop’s Peak to the public in the ‘90s. Much like the bike trail, Jan worked with local environmental organizations to raise community funds and persuade the city, county and state agencies to purchase, maintain and plan trails around Bishop’s Peak. As a believer in people power, Jan has a track record of using grassroots fund raising efforts to improve the city in ways that are beneficial for both residents and students.

Her connection with Cal Poly students goes beyond leading important community projects. She and her husband, a Cal Poly English professor, are neighbors to students, choosing to live in a densely populated area close to Cal Poly. She also appointed the youngest member ever, a Cal Poly student, to the San Luis Obispo Planning Commission years ago while on city council.

If elected, Jan will make smart decisions about the future of this city while always lending an ear to the voice of students. She will work to implement cutting edge renewable energy and smart growth policies, expand local bike trails and appoint more students to city commissions and advisory boards. So come Nov. 4, I encourage you to vote for Jan Marx and help give our local government the traction it needs to pedal to a sustainable future.

Chad Worth is an industrial engineering senior and former President of the Empower Poly Coalition.
Football
continued from page 12
that returned 10 starters from last year's unit that finished behind only national champion Appalachian State in total offense. "It became pretty apparent to us that we had drilled pretty well," Tober said. "The only thing I felt could increase our chemistry was experience. Entering the season with a group of guys already accustomed to what we do, anything was possible." Tober, who caught six passes for 106 yards and two scores Saturday, is one of seven Mustangs who've amassed at least 200 all-purpose yard this year.

"I think we have a very unique collection of individuals," Tober said. "We all contrast and complement each other. We've got special players at every position.

Even without senior running back James Nobile — the third-leading rusher in program history who's recovering from surgery on a broken left hand that sidelined him for two straight games — the Mustangs have made a mark. They've accounted for 177 yards on that span.

"We're not trying to force the ball into anybody's hands," Ellerson said. "All those guys are a little bit different and have their own little unique styles." Ellerson pointed to ball security and blocking as areas left to fine-tune. "We were exposing the ball at times we didn't need to," he said. "We have some big gains for error out there. A pretty good block is enough sometimes, but as we go forward, that margin for error is going to go away." Going forward figures to be a slight incline leading up to a tail up the foot of a mountain.

Two more home games, against Idaho State and North Carolina Central — which have combined for one win — will be followed by another home date, against UC Davis (which has won four straight) and a regular-season finale at Wisconsin.

"Cal Poly (5-1) — now ranked third in the FCS coaches poll and fourth in the media's — was left with three bees over a five-week period when McCool called for a punt that would set up a 77-yard touchdown return.

"It was so farling for us just to be able to play twice in a row," Tober said. "This time we why we looked like kids in a candy store out there (against Southern Utah)."

That kind of enthusiasm has seemed to go hand-in-hand with a less relentless scoring mentality.

"Would Ellerson consider slowing things down, if not to make the scoreboard look like one from Meat Cline to steadily move the chains, get first downs and give his defense a rest?"

"I think we're better than that," Ellerson said. "I think we expect to score when we stop the ball."

Off the Page
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The Mustang Daily Classifieds

Classifieds
continued from page 12
and that's not going to change any time soon."

While his predecessor usually wore press-on teeth and hair was styled to look like his TV appearances, Singletary showed up in khaki cargo pants and a T-shirt, looking less like a hedge fund manager and more like a drill sergeant on his day off. Although fans still don't know what kind of enthusiasm has span.

"He's not the kind of guy that is, and I did what I had to do so that he wouldn't be so much of a distraction," Davis said. "That's probably why we looked like kids in a candy store out there (against Southern Utah)."

Singletary knows Davis possesses a measure of passion the Niners coach has shown during his playing days with the Chicago Bears, but without the mental awareness that made Singletary among the best to ever play his position.

"Vernon is not a guy who doesn't come to practice," Singletary said. "You have to tell Vernon, 'That's enough. Don't hurt the guys. That's your teammate.' He works his tail off. You don't have a problem with Vernon that way. You have a problem with is with some of the decisions he makes at crucial times."

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Stop by UU Room 217!
Mustangs getting offensive

Donovan Aird 14TH FLOOR STAFF

Sure, there was a chill sharp enough by California stan­
dards to toll the dundies, chest-painted fans in the Alex G.
Spagos Student Union to cover up, and enough fog to make out-of-state observers assume San Luis Obispo
was no other Los Angeles or San Francisco, nor somewhere in between.

But despite elements that suggested otherwise, the Mustan­
gs’ football game against Southern Utah on Satu­
day had enough scoreboard updating to feel like another

sport.

It wasn’t just that Dave Fullkrom’s school-record, 
90-yard return of a fumble recovery in the fourth quar­
ter mimicked a coast-to-coast steal and layup when he
stepped in front of a pitch in a play of once-in-a­life­
time peculiarity.

By the time his touchdown turned a potentially two­
prompt question mark into a four-prompted resolu­
tion, enough had already been done to remind of ba­
ketball.

Rameses Barden snatched first downs out of the sky like
a power forward forwarding the glass. Jonathan Dally scat­
cried around the baseline looking to rifle outlet passes and
routinely found Tre’dale Tolver on the fast break. Ryan
Moile and Jons Grayson died through clusters of defend­
ers stumbling next to their crosswers.

The final score was 69-41 — just four points fewer than the Cal Poly and Southern Utah men’s basketball teams combined to score at Mott Gym last season.

Although the Mustangs’ points were a single-game re­
cord for the program since it moved to the Division I level in 1994, other numbers may be more impressive.

Dally’s passing efficiency rating of 211.1 is the best in the Football Championship Subdivision (formerly Divi­
sion I-AA), safely ahead of the runner-up 181.3 of Mon­
tana’s Cole Burgquist.

Barden’s 147.2 receiving yards per game are easily the
most in all of Division I.

Dally and Barden shared The Sports Network’s Na­
tional Offensive Player of the Week honors Monday.

Perhaps most telling, the Mustangs’ 44.8 points per game also lead the FCS.

That’s a far cry from an offense that in 2006 failed to
score more than 18 points in seven of 11 opportunities.

“We’ll take (wins) any way we can get them,” said Cal Poly head coach Rich Ellerson, an architect of Arizona’s
“desert swarm” defense in the early 1990s. “I can love win­
ing 69-41, I can love winning 2-0. It’s an interesting year
that way because it really is explosive.”

It’s a culmination-in-process for a triple-option scheme

Singletary stays cool after blowing up

Greg Beacham 14TH FLOOR STAFF

SANTA CLARA — Mike Sin­
gletary realizes a public apology for
his team’s poor play and his poste­
game trash of right end Vernon Davis
were the most memorable highlights of the San Francisco 49ers’ sorry sea­
son.

Just don’t expect the interim
couch’s next postgame news con­
ference to be as entertaining as his ani­
imated debut.

“I probably will talk a little more wa­
ter,” Singletary said Monday. “Maybe
I’ll breathe a little bit.”

After a day to cool down from the
49ers’ 34-13 loss to Seattle, Singletary was ready to have a calm discussion with Davis, whose reaction to a per­
sonal-foul penalty drove Singletary to
banish the tight end from the field.

“Vernon is not a problem guy,” Singletary said. “Vernon just forgets sometimes that the team is more im­
portant.”

Singletary also made a bold move late Monday, naming Shaun Hill his starting quarterback for the Niners’
next game at Arizona on Nov. 10.

The new coach benched struggling starter J.T. O’Sullivan shortly before halftime Sunday in favor of Hill, who will have two full weeks to prepare for his third career start.

But Singletary won’t attack San Francisco’s myriad problems by changing his style, which got wide

public attention Sunday for the first
time since the Hall of Fame linemen­
backer retired after the 1992 season.

That’s good news for 49ers fans who thought Singletary’s frank, cre­
ative assessments of the 49ers’ short­
come were a welcome change for a franchise that’s been among the NFL’s dullest outposts for the last half­
decade under Dennis Erickson and

Mike Nolan.

“I don’t talk a whole lot, but when
I’m talking, I do know what I feel, and I do know what I want to say,”
Singletary said. “I don’t ever want to
come in here and be a philosopher, an analytical person. That’s not who I am. I guess the thing that’s comforting to me is that I think I’m making a difference on the field.”

Three synthetic turf fields will replace grass fields that stu­
dents didn’t like because they
“couldn’t use them during bad
weather or while they were be­
ing reconditioned. Our field
will be permanently lined for soccer and another for flag foot­
ball,” Payne said.

“Students really wanted fields they could play on when it rained — fields that were con­
stantly good quality,” he said.

“It’s definitely something stu­
dents were really passionate
about, especially sports clubs and intramurals.”

One such team is the Cal Poly women’s field hockey club

team, which is looking forward to
playing on the new turf fields instead of the Rec Center field
it has been using.

“We’ve been dying to get on
turf fields for pretty much the
entire time I’ve been here,” said
club president Lisa Clark, who
has been on the team for five
years. “For field hockey, every­
thing we do is on the ground. We
play on the Rec Center field and
it’s so uneven and bumply. It’s kind of dangerous.”

Clark has played on turf fields
before, such as at UC San­
taba Barbara, and said she’s excited Cal Poly is “finally (getting it).”

“It’s just a whole different game when you’re playing on
it,” Clark said. “You can do more moves, you’re faster and it’s re­
ally good. We probably have the worst field in the league right now for field hockey.”

Clark put in a request for the
team’s championship game to be
played on the new fields and said she hopes they’re ready by
then.

Payne said the fields should be
done by the end of fall quar­
ter and will be available for stu­
dent use at the beginning of
winter quarter. The use policy is
still being developed, but he said
there will be open hours when
students can play on a first­
come, first-service basis.

Some time will be blocked
off for specific games, but “ASI
has a commitment to preserv­
ing that space for student use,”
Payne said.

Even teams that prefer play­
ing their sports on a traditional grass field will benefit from the
new fields.

The Cal Poly rugby club nor­
mally plays on the Lower Sports Complex fields and president Ben Cannon said the team prob­
bably wouldn’t use the turf fields
except during bad weather or if
all the other fields were already
taken.

“It’s important because I hope that with these new fields, we can have more time on our own
field, and hopefully it will be in
better shape for our games,”
Cannon said.

Cannon prefers to play on grass fields because rugby players
get tackled often and turf fields,
often made of ground-up tires, can cause severe rug burns.

“If I had to play on turf, I
would do it, but you can’t beat a well-kept grass field,” he said.

“It will definitely give us a lot more options so we can get the practice in that we’d really like to have.”

Students interested in the
progress of the turf fields can
check out the ASI Web site (asi.
calpoly.edu) and click on the
ASI facility construction link, where a live Web cam of the turf installation is available.

The sun sets on the Cal Poly Sports Complex, where fields have recently been upgraded for use by students involved in intramurals and clubs.

New fields should be ready by winter quarter

Alisha Axson 14TH FLOOR STAFF

Students, intramural teams and sports clubs at Cal Poly will soon be able to play all year round on the new turf fields currently being installed at the Upper Sports Complex. The fields are part of the Recreation Center Expansion, which was approved by 75 percent of students who voted last year.

“ Athletics will use them oc­
casionally, but they’re there for the students,” University Union advisory board chair Carl Payne said.

Three synthetic turf fields will replace grass fields that stu­
dents didn’t like because they
“ couldn’t use them during bad
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ing reconditioned. Our field
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years. “For field hockey, every­
thing we do is on the ground. We
play on the Rec Center field and
it’s so uneven and bumply. It’s kind of dangerous.”

Clark has played on turf fields
before, such as at UC San­
taba Barbara, and said she’s excited Cal Poly is “finally (getting it).”

“It’s just a whole different game when you’re playing on
it,” Clark said. “You can do more moves, you’re faster and it’s re­
ally good. We probably have the worst field in the league right
now for field hockey.”

Clark put in a request for the
team’s championship game to be
played on the new fields and said she hopes they’re ready by
then.

Payne said the fields should be
done by the end of fall quar­
ter and will be available for stu­
dent use at the beginning of
winter quarter. The use policy is
still being developed, but he said
there will be open hours when
students can play on a first­
come, first-service basis.

Some time will be blocked
off for specific games, but “ASI
has a commitment to preserv­
ing that space for student use,”
Payne said.

Even teams that prefer play­
ing their sports on a traditional grass field will benefit from the
new fields.

The Cal Poly rugby club nor­
mally plays on the Lower Sports Complex fields and president Ben Cannon said the team prob­
bably wouldn’t use the turf fields
except during bad weather or if
all the other fields were already
taken.

“It’s important because I hope that with these new fields, we can have more time on our own
field, and hopefully it will be in
better shape for our games,”
Cannon said.

Cannon prefers to play on grass fields because rugby players
get tackled often and turf fields,
often made of ground-up tires, can cause severe rug burns.

“If I had to play on turf, I
would do it, but you can’t beat a well-kept grass field,” he said.

“It will definitely give us a lot more options so we can get the practice in that we’d really like to have.”

Students interested in the
progress of the turf fields can
check out the ASI Web site (asi.
calpoly.edu) and click on the
ASI facility construction link, where a live Web cam of the turf installation is available.