Budget crisis halts Poly construction

A Cal Poly staff members quilt will be featured the inauguration.

Josh Ayers

Recent developments in the current state budget crisis in Sacramento have rippled through the California State System and will immediately impact scheduled Cal Poly construction projects.

Some of the projects affected at Cal Poly are the Anderson Pool renovation and upgrades to the switchgear substation, the center for science and the science building.

"We've been told by the chancellor's office to plan for a three month suspension of all these projects," said Mark Hunter, executive director of facilities services at Cal Poly.

CSU Chancellor Charles Reed announced on Dec. 22 in an e-mail addressed to all CSU employees that the nation's largest public university system was reviewing certain bond-funded construction projects system-wide with the anticipation of suspending some of them.

The move came following the request in executive order S-16-08 from Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger on Dec. 19 that asked University of California, CSU, and California Community Colleges to review "other mitigation measures to achieve budget and cash savings for the current and next fiscal year."

Reed said via an all-staff email that the system would heed the governor's request.

For Cal Poly, this meant the suspension of projects funded by bond monies, primarily from funding allocated by Proposition 1D, for projects such as the Anderson Pool and switchgear substation upgrades.

Proposition 1D was passed California voters in 2006 and aimed to provide $10.4 billion to K-12 schools as well as other higher education institutions.

Despite orders to halt construction projects on campus, Hunter said that work will not completely stop for another three weeks.

"We've also received instructions in suspending projects at a point that makes fiscal and safety sense," he said.

The Anderson Pool project will continue for three weeks, long enough to pour a concrete slab and slope back the excavation sides to make the project shelf-safe until construction resumes.

Although completion of projects will be affected by the suspension, contractors will also be affected. DPR Construction, which won the contract for the Anderson pool and, according to Hunter, has been cooperative with the situation.

"They've been disappointed but understanding and they've been working with us well," Hunter said.

Because the projects are not entirely funded by Proposition 1D, but rather from multiple sources, it was hard to say how much exactly is being used from the Proposition 1D fund, according to Teresa Ruiz, a public affairs communications specialist for the CSU.

"Many of these projects are diverse and have many different sources of funding," she said.

Ruiz also said that as of right now, the anticipated suspension of construction is slated for 90 days. The switchgear substation, located in Poly Canyon, is an electrical grid that handles the input of electricity to the campus.

Hunter said that the current grid is antiquated and that upgrades are still needed.

"A lot of the breakers are 1960s vintage and we're replacing them with modern breakers," Hunter said.

see Construction, page 2

Gaza protests target US consulate in Pakistan

Ashraf Khan

A US Embassy spokesman in Islamabad said US diplomats did not get close to the consulate, which was closed Sunday.

Washington provides a large amount of foreign aid to Israel as well as military and weapons assistance. Israeli military action is often perceived in the Muslim world as being financed and supported by the US. While Pakistan's government is a US ally, anti-American sentiment is pervasive in the Muslim majority country.

In Spain, as many as 100,000 attended rallies in Madrid and the southwestern city of Seville, urging Israel to "stop the massacre in Gaza" and calling for peace initiatives. Spain's Foreign Minister Miguel Angel Moratinos will tour the Middle East starting Monday to promote solutions to the conflict.

In downtown Beirut, an estimated 2,500 Lebanese and Palestinians protested peacefully, waving Palestinian flags and chanting anti-Israel slogans, and several hundred of them marched outside the US Embassy.

Israel launched its campaign in Gaza on Dec. 27 to stop rocket fire from the militant Palestinian group Hamas. Gaza health officials say nearly 870 Palestinians have been killed, roughly half of them civilians. Thirteen Israelis have also died.

Some 2,000 protesters in the Pakistani port city of Karachi burned US flags and chanted anti-Israel slogans, and several hundred of them marched outside the US Consulate, senior police official Ansar Sheikh said.

"They were in a mood to attack," Sheikh said. "They were carrying bricks, stones and clubs."

see Protest, page 2

Greek life discusses future at summit

Samantha MacConnell

With the recent death of Cal Poly student and Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity pledge Carson Starkey hanging over them, leaders of the Cal Poly greek community met in Cambria for this past weekend's annual Greek Summit to discuss the realities of greek life.

Normal greek activities, which had been suspended since mid-December, were reinstated; however, formal winter rush has been suspended for the time being.

Cal Poly's Pan-Hellenic Association, Interfraternity Council (IFC), United Sorority and Fraternity Council (USFC), along with each campus fraternity and sorority president were present at Saturday's meeting.

Greek Summit is a retreat for the three organizations - Pan-Hellenic, IFC and USFC - and the fraternity and sorority presidents that take office every January.

"The purpose of this weekend was to come together as a greek community and address the negative areas that sometimes overshadow all the good we do," said Anton de Leon, Interfraternity Council President and business senior.

The organizations aimed to have open conversations about sensitive topics, including hazing.

One goal the organizations had for the summit was to re-evaluate what Cal Poly greek life stands for.

This includes changing the way fraternities and sororities inaugurate new members.

"It's definitely going to be a very long process, but I feel like this weekend was the first step in achieving what we need to get done," de Leon said.

"Something we did accomplish is we came together and after identifications we were able to take a step forward," he added.

see Greek, page 2
construction
continued from page 1
said.

The project is only 40 per-

cent complete at this point.

"The intent is to restore

these but for the moment

they've been stopped," Hunter

said. "We're just on a three-

month formal suspension."

Hunter did note that plans

for the new recreation cen-

ter, the Tech Park project, the

completion of Poly Canyon

Village, the addition of arti-

ficial turf for the sports fields

and renovations to the Univer-

sity Union will not be affected

by the current suspension.

Greek
continued from page 1

tried the issues, those under-

lying, sensitive issues that are

really tough to talk about, we

were able to come together and quantified

some goals," said Kristen Bow-

man, city and regional plan-

ning junior and Pan-Hellenic

Association President.

The Greek Summit pro-

duced an emotional response

from Bowman, who felt this

particular meeting was a land-

mark for the greek commu-

nity.

"People were opening up.

They were willing to change," she

said. "It was moving. It was

one of the most moving expe-

riences I have ever had.

"Honestly, being in this

room with all these strong lead-

ers from the Cal Poly campus

and in the greek community,

I had chills running up and

down my body," she added.

protest
continued from page 1

ends in solidarity with Gaza, medics.

Some protesters set fire to a large Israeli

flag, while children held bloody dolls

representing Palestinian children killed

in Gaza.

The death of children in the Gaza

assault has become an enduring theme

at protests.

Children carrying effigies of bloody

babies headed the march attended by thousands in Brusse,

which later turned violent before police intervened

with water cannons and arrested 10

protesters. Belgian lawmaker Richard

Miller told Le Soir newspaper that he

was hit in the face by a stone thrown by

a demonstrator.

In New York, thousands of support-

ers of Israel rallied near the United Na-

don, thousands of people gathered at

Trafalgar Square to support the action

in Gaza, while anti-Israeli protesters

held a counter-demonstration nearby.

In Antwerp, Belgium, home to a large

Hasidic Jewish community, some 800

people took part in a peaceful pro-Israel
demonstration.

In a letter published in Britain's Ob-

server newspaper Sunday, 11 leading

British Jews urged Israel to end its Gaza

campaign and negotiate a settlement for

security reasons.

"We are concerned that rather than

bringing security to Israel, a continued

military offensive could strengthen ex-
tremists, destabilize the region and exac-
terate tensions inside Israel with in one

million Arab citizens," the letter said.

In Syria, as revolutionary songs

blared from loudspeakers, demonstra-
tors accused Arab leaders of being com-

plicit in the Gaza assault. "Down, down

with the Arab rulers, the collaboration," the

crowd in Damascus shouted.

Separately, activists protesting the Is-

raeli campaign were driving from Tur-

key to Syria in a convoy of 200 cars,

and participants hoped Syrian protesters

would join them at the border Mon-

day, according to Nezir Diner, an ac-

tivist with the Istanbul-based Solidarity

Foundation.

A few thousand people marched

in largely peaceful pro-Palestinian rallies

in the Italian cities of Rome, Naples and

Venice. In Rome, municipal authori-
ties were dispatched to erase graffiti —

including Stars of David and swastikas —

that had been scrawled on Jewish-

owned stores and restaurants overnight.

Supporters of a Pakistani Islamic party Jamaat-e-Islami burn an Israeli flag during a rally to condemn Israeli mili-
tary attacks on Gaza, Sunday, Jan. 11, 2009 in Lahore, Pakistan.

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more than 75 companies in attendance
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Madonna Inn Wine Cellar from 7:00-9:00 PM
Come mingle and enjoy appetizers with students teachers, and company reps
AIDS battle burnishes Bush's legacy in Africa

Claire Nulisi
ASSOCIATED PRESS

In her AIDS-scarred South African township, Sweetness Mxoli leant a chorus of praise for George W. Bush that echoes to the deserts of Namibia, the hills of Rwanda and the villages of Ethiopia.

Like many Africans, Mxoli looks forward to Barack Obama becoming America's first black president Jan 20. But — like countless Africans — Mxoli says she will always be grateful to Bush for his war on AIDS, which has helped to treat more than 2 million African patients and saved so many people's lives.

Mxoli, 44, was diagnosed with the AIDS virus in 1999 and formed a women's support group to "share AIDS, page 5

A patient is shown using a nebulizer during a test for the presence of TB at the Tembalete, a U.S. funded Right to Care Clinic at the Helen Joseph Hospital in Johannesburg Wednesday. • • • • •

DENIS FAHERLY/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Salmonella prompts peanut butter recall

Kantele Franko
ASSOCIATED PRESS

An Ohio distributor says it has recalled two brands of peanut butter after an open container tested positive for salmonella bacteria.

Federal health officials said the company's peanut butter had not been conclusively linked to a national salmonella outbreak. KCN Companies said in a statement that it asked customers to stop distributing all peanut butter under its King Nut and Perrelli Pride brands with a lot code that begins with the numeral "K.

The peanut butter was distributed only through food service providers in Ohio, Michigan, North Dakota, Minnesota, Arizona, Idaho, New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Florida. It was not sold directly to consumers.

Preliminary laboratory testing found salmonella bacteria in a pound container of King Nut brand creamy peanut butter, the Minnesota Department of Health said Friday.

The Minnesota tests had not linked it to the type of salmonella in the outbreak that has sickened almost 400 people in 42 states, but the department said additional results are expected early next week.

The federal Food and Drug Administration also is analyzing samples of peanut butter from King Nut and Peanut Corporation, spokesman Stephanie Kwizuk said Sunday. The agency has not conclusively linked the peanut butter to the strain of salmonella that has sickened people in the outbreak, she said.

King Nut's president, Martin Kanan, said Sunday that the recall involved approximately 1,000 cases of peanut butter. He said he did not know the names of the company's customers, but he planned to release more details Monday.

"We don't know exactly where they sell it," Kanan said. "They could sell cross-state, too."

"We just want everybody to know that safety is our highest priority," Kanan said. "We just wanted to recall it right away."

King Nut, based in Solon, Ohio, said it canceled all orders with the manufacturer of its two peanut butter brands, Peanut Corporation of America, based in Lynchburg, Va.

Peanut Corporation said in a statement posted on its Web site that it is working with federal food and health officials to determine whether in products are connected to the national outbreak. PCA does not sell its products at grocery stores or directly to the public.
Senate boosts wilderness protection across U.S.

Matthew Daly
ASSOCIATED PRESS

In a rare Sunday session, the Senate advanced legislation that would set aside more than 2 million acres in nine states as wilderness. Majority Democrats assembled more than enough votes to overcome GOP delaying tactics in an early showdown for the new Congress.

Democrats complained that Democrats did not allow amendments on the massive bill, which calls for the largest expansion of wilderness protection in 25 years. But Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., and other Democrats said the bill—a holdover from last year—was carefully written and included measures sponsored by both Republicans and Democrats.

By a 66-12 vote, with only 59 needed to limit debate, lawmakers agreed to clear away procedural hurdles despite partisan wrangling that had threatened pledges by leaders to work cooperatively as the new Obama administration takes office. Senate approval is expected later this week. Supporters hope the House will follow suit.

"Today is a great day for America's public lands," said the bill's sponsor, Sen. Jeff Bingaman, D-N.M. "This big, bipartisan package of bills represents years of work by senators from many states, and both parties, in cooperation with local communities, to enhance places that make America so special." Besides new wilderness designations, the bill would designate the childhood home of former President Bill Clinton in Hope, Ark., as a national historic site and expand protections for dozens of national parks, rivers and water resources.

Reid said about half the bills in the lands package were sponsored by Republicans. Most had been considered for more than a year.

"I am happy that after months of delay we will finally be moving forward," Reid said.

The bill's chief opponent, Sen. Tom Coburn, R-Okla., denounced what he called Democratic bullying tactics.

"I am disappointed the Senate majority leader has refused to allow senators the opportunity to improve, amend or elimi­nate any of the questionable provisions in this omnibus lands bill," Coburn told fellow senators.

"When the American people asked Congress to set a new tone, I don't believe refus­ing to listen to the concerns of others was what they had in mind," Coburn said. "The American people expect us hold open, civil and thorough debates on costly legislation, which they said would deepen the nation's dependence on foreign oil.

Environmental groups said the bill set the right tone for the new Congress.

"By voting to protect mountains and preserve wildlands, Congress is starting out on the right foot," said Christy Goldfuss of Environment America, an advocacy group. "This Congress is serious about protecting the environment and the outstanding lands that Americans treasure."

Andrew Taylor and Phillip Elliott
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Senate Democrats prepared Sunday to answer a request for the remaining $350 billion in financial industry bailout funds as the Bush administration and President-elect Obama undertook a tag-team effort to obtain the money from reluctant lawmakers.

A vote in Congress is likely as early as this week, several senators predicted after receiving a rare Sunday briefing from top Obama economic adviser Larry Summers on the Wall Street bailout, as well as on Obama's separate $800 billion or-so-economic recovery plan.

President Bush would request the additional money for the Troubled Asset Relief Program, or TARP, but the incoming administration would make the case for it by laying out a series of changes in how the program is run. More of the money would go directly to refinance homeowners threatened with foreclosure, said Senate Banking Committee Chairman Christopher Dodd, D-Conn.

A fuller accounting of the money already spent is needed as well, Dodd said.

"Larry Summers made a very strong argument for why it's important and critical for the overall recovery," said Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass.

"And I think that's an argument that most senators understand."

Quick tapping of unspent $350 billion in works

Jocelyn Noveck
ASSOCIATED PRESS

When George W. Bush left office in his helicopter on Inauguration Day, leaving Washington to make way for Barack Obama, he may not be the only thing disappearing into the horizon.

To a number of social analysts, historians, bloggers and ordinary Americans, Jan. 20 will symbolize the passing of an entire generation: the baby boomer era.

Generational change: A passing of the torch. The terms have been thrown around with frequency as the moment nears for Obama to take the oath of office. And yet the reference is not to Obama's relatively young age—at 47, he's only tied for fifth place on the youngest presidents list with Grover Cleveland and Theodore Roosevelt. Rather, it's a sense that a cultural era is ending, one dominated by the baby boomers, many of whom came of age in the '60s and experienced the bitter divisions caused by the Vietnam War and the protests, the rights struggle, social change, sexual freedom, and more.

Those experiences, the theory goes, led boomers, born between 1946 and 1964, to become deeply motivated by ideology and mired in decades-old conflicts. And Obama? He's an example of a new pragmatism: idealistic but realistic, post-partisan, unthreatened by dissent, eager and able to come up with new ways to solve problems.

"Obama is one of those people who was raised post-Vietnam and really came of age in the '80s," says Steven Cohen, professor of public administration at Columbia University. "It's a huge generational change, and a new kind of politics. He'll trying to be a problem-solver by not getting wrapped up in the right-left ideology underlying them." Obama, it must be said, is techni­cally a boomer; he was born in 1961. But he long has sought to draw a gen­erational contrast between himself and the politicians who came before him.

"I am not the 1968 generation," Obama said while watching the psychodrama of the baby boom generation, according to old grudges and revenge plots hatched on a handful of college campuses long ago. "I'm trying to play out on the national stage," he wrote of the 2004 and 2008 elections in his book, "The Audacity of Hope." But he long has sought to draw a gen­erational contrast between himself and the politicians who came before him.

In Obama, many see an end to the baby boomer era

Dear Emily, I love you! Happy Valentine's Day! Love, Scott

Deadline for submissions: Monday, February 9 @ Noon

Bring this ad to the Mustang Daily Office: Building 26 room 226 with Check or Exact Change. If submitting a picture please bring it to the office with payment or email the photo to mustangdailysales@gmail.com

Restrictions: Keep it clean. The Mustang Daily reserves the right to decline publication of advertising material.

If submitting online, payment must be received by Monday February 9 Noon or ad will not run

Bottom Left:

Little Love Notes

Your message will run in a special section of the Mustang Daily on Friday, February 13.

Dearest Ashley,
You're my princess!
Love, Andy

Dearest Ashley,
You're my princess!
Love, Andy

Two Ways to show your love!

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Monday, January 12, 2009
First U.S. count finds 1 in 200 kids are vegetarian

Mike Stobb
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sam Silverman is co-caption of his high school football team, and a vegetarian himself. He is in the top 10 percent of his class academically, and he is involved in several extracurricular activities, including band, debate, and student council. He has volunteered at a local animal shelter, and he is an active member of his church. He is also a good student, with a 4.0 GPA. He is considering attending a university with a strong environmental or animal rights program.

Silverman believes that the government should be doing more to promote vegetarianism, and he would like to see more vegetarian options available in schools and restaurants. He also thinks that people should be more aware of the benefits of a vegetarian lifestyle, such as improved health and reduced environmental impact.

Silverman's parents are both vegetarians, and he was raised in a vegetarian household. He has always enjoyed eating a variety of foods, and he finds that he has more energy and feels better overall since he became a vegetarian.

Silverman enjoys reading and spending time with his friends. He also likes to play sports, especially football and basketball. He is a member of the National Honor Society and the Science Club. He plans to attend college after high school and pursue a career in environmental science or animal rights advocacy.

He is a firm believer in the power of education, and he is passionate about promoting vegetarianism and animal rights. He hopes that someday, everyone will understand the importance of a healthy and ethical lifestyle.

Silverman's message to the world is: "Eat right, live right, and be kind to all living things." He believes that by making more conscious choices, we can create a better future for ourselves and for the planet.

Silverman is a shining example of the benefits of the vegetarian lifestyle, and he is dedicated to promoting it to others. He is an inspiration to many, and his message is one that we all should heed.

Silverman, a high school senior, is a vegetarian and a member of the Student Council. He is also a member of the track team and the school newspaper.

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Make [responsibility] count.

Join PricewaterhouseCoopers in New Orleans for two days of community service that will inspire a new generation of leaders. Learn more and register for a chance to participate at www.pwc.tv/neworleans
Merle Haggard sues environmental group

John Geronie
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Country star Merle Haggard has sued an environmental awareness group, claiming it illegally used his name and likeness to raise money.

The lawsuit was filed Thursday in Chancery Court against the Green Train, a Nashville-based organization, and its founder, Robert K. Wolf. It seeks unspecified compensatory damages.

Haggard claims in the lawsuit that the group forged his signature and exaggerated his involvement with the organization to solicit money. The Bakerfield, Calif. native says his reputation could be irreparably harmed by continued association with the group.

The Green Train bills itself as a nonprofit that educates the public about environmental issues. Its concert-and-train tour scheduled to depart Portland, Ore., in April and traveled through 28 states on a six-week whistle-stop tour with several concerts along the way before ending in Washington D.C.

A phone message left with the organization was not immediately returned.

Haggard said he donated $20,000 to the Green Train and agreed to ride the train as support and entertainment. He also attended a fundraising lunch and said he would ask a few of his fellow artists if they would agree to ride the train.

see Haggard, page 8
Poly's own represented in inaugiral quilt celebration

Clinton McGuire

Just a short week after President-elect Barack Obama was voted into office, Denise Campbell received a phone call that presented her with the opportunity of a lifetime—an invitation to take part in the president's inauguration.

Cal Poly's associate vice president of Student Affairs Denise Campbell was asked to make a quilt to be featured in the "Quilts for Obama: Celebrating the Inauguration of Our 44th President" display at the Historical Society of Washington, D.C. Sunday.

When she first received the call, Campbell was in shock and didn't believe that the request was real. She held back her desire to tell others because she half expected a phone call back apologizing for the misunderstanding. "I thought to myself, 'there are so many other more qualified quilters,'" she said. "It was so surreal. I wasn't sure I could do something worthy of the occasion."

With only weeks to work, Campbell responded to the pressure with her thought-provoking quilt "From Kenya to Kansas the World Rejoices" which will be represented along with 43 other quilts to commemorate the inauguration.

The theme of Campbell's quilt is diversity. The title of the quilt lends itself to be interpreted as such.

"I wanted to show diversity of not only how different people are experiencing this moment, but how different cultures are experiencing it too," she said.

Nothing about this quilt is simple. From the general shape to the detailed people included in it, intense thought went into every aspect of the piece. The circular shape of the quilt was made to represent "O" for Obama.

The green cloth that provides a background to the different characters and settings of the quilt represents, as Campbell put it, "(Obama's) sensitivity for sustainability and the economy."

The lawn of the White House was quilted in an oak leaf pattern, which was a way of threading commonly used by enslaved quilters. "We were asked not to focus on the past, but on the journey," she explained the reason for using the pattern. "This was just a subtle indicator that enslaved African Americans built the White House."

Campbell has been quilting since 1979 and some of her works can be seen in such books as "Textural Rhythms: Quilting the Jazz Tradition" and "Threads of Faith." Cal Poly will also be involved in the celebration. Included in one of the scenes portrayed on the quilt is a veteran standing by a wall that has congratulatory messages written on it. Cal Poly students and faculty, as well as members of Campbell's husband's oncology staff, wrote those messages.

Chris Campbell is feeling the effects of a form of pneumonia that hasn't received a definitive diagnosis. He first became sick in 2008 and continues to receive chemotherapy today in hopes of eliminating the hemorrhaging blood vessels causing the problem.

Needless to say, this year has been a difficult one for the Campbell family, but they've found a bright note with this celebration.

"This is the biggest moment I'll have in my life, as an artist anyway, to be asked to celebrate this moment in such a tangible way," she said.

Haggard

Assistant vice president of Student Affairs Denise Campbell (below) created a quilt (left) to be displayed as a part of Barack Obama's inaugural celebrations. Campbell's quilt is called "From Kenya to Kansas the World Rejoices" and is meant to highlight diversity in the world.

 polyster

 located at 817 palm st.
 downtown near the mission

 i've loved you so long
 (pg-13)
 Fri: 4:00, 6:45, 9:15
 Sat: 1:30, 4:00, 6:45, 9:15
 Sun: 1:30, 4:00, 6:45

 stumdog millionaire
 (nr)
 Fri: 4:00, 6:45, 9:15
 Sat: 1:30, 4:00, 6:45, 9:15
 Sun: 1:30, 4:00, 6:45

 the reader
 (r)
 Fri: 4:00, 6:45, 9:15
 Sat: 1:30, 4:00, 6:45, 9:15
 Sun: 1:30, 4:00, 6:45

 mustangdaily.net

 tired of using two hands to read the paper?

 Haggard continued from page 7

 But the lawsuit said the group "greatly exaggerated" Haggard's support and stated that he has personal involvement in the project's operations.

 Haggard, who has had 38 No. 1 hits stretching back to 1966 including "Okie From Muskogee," said that without his consent, permission or knowledge, the group used his name and image on all materials for the Green Train and forged his signature on "personal letters" and other solicitation materials and on merchandise sold on e-Bay and in nightclubs.

 The forged letters went to some of Haggard's friends in the entertainment industry, including Dolly Parton, Jewel, Vince Gill and Amy Grant, the lawsuit states.

 Haggard also contends that the group did not have a state permit to raise contributions and did not report the contributions, and that "substantial amounts" of the tens of thousands of dollars it raised went to Woff's personal use.

 "By using Mr. Haggard's name and other aspects of Mr. Haggard's identity to promote the Green Train project under these circumstances, defendants create the false impression that the project has been operated in a credible, ethical and legal fashion, when in fact that is not the case," the lawsuit alleges.

 Besides compensatory damages and attorney's fees, he asks that his name be removed from the Green Train. He also asks the court to bar the group from keeping contributions illegally raised in his name without making "full and complete disclosure of all relevant facts to the donors."
Let's get the obvious ones out of the way first: this year I resolved to graduate in March, drive a Mercedes convertible by June and be more famous than Tom Cruise by October.

That may not be completely attainable. At right, I resolve to learn to speak Vietnamese, salsa dance and really "go green." Not much more within reach! If what I brushed up on Spanish, acceptable that I dance like a just dropped ice down my shirt, and just "go a nice shade of chartreuse." Now that's more like it.

Resolutions last about as long as a John Stamos sitcom. Every year beg the question, why should I be so resolve in the new year? The new year has always been about repairing what was broken before the previous year, undoing past mistakes. This year, I'm taking it back. I'm not resolving. I'm considering wavering on what may or may not be possible for me to accomplish.

This January, instead of swearing off shopping binges I am just going to accept that 2009 may not be the year for me to rise up out of蛟池. I will dare to "Does that come in turquoise?"

In February, instead of forcing yourself to go on a bad Valentine's date or sit at home with a sad movie and a box of candy, accept that March might be a better time of year for you to meet someone.

This April, when your friend is four months

by Rachel Newman

that what she said

Many will give priority to seniors, majors or minors ...

but then there are the more ridiculous games of chance such as picking numbers or names out of a hat.

Melissa Holgren is an animal science junior and a Mustang Daily guest columnist.

The simple fact is that this conflict far exceeds not only your lifetime, but mine and yours combined! If you want to understand more about the conflict, I suggest opening a history book as many as possible. Be baffled that this conflict a "simple" solution is so completely naïve that you undermine any real discussion about the problems that exist in the region. Rocket fire has been raining down in southern Israel since at least 2001—a total of over 11,000 rockets and mortars—squaredly into Israel with the intent of better you is lined with be memorable at the very least. You still want to try? Well, I suggest all of you so resolve in your new habit for the new year to tread softly and carry a taser gun because the road to a better you is lined with people like me.

Rachel Newman is an English junior. "That's What She Said" takes a fresh and light-hearted look at issues at Cal Poly and in San Luis Obispo.

Is this supposed to be funny? This isn't very clever, and you should probably consider your audience here. I'm pretty sure you just described about 90 percent of the female population in SLO. You made a simple list... anyone can do that. I mean, what's wrong with makeup and oversized glasses?

- Poly Daily

Response to "Once upon a time at Cal Poly there was a little princess"

Honestly, I think it's hilarious. Certainly no different than the author's previous article on douches. Perhaps you should get off your sparkly pony, Princess Poly Daily, and not get so offended as to another's opinion on silly, in my opinion) clothing trends.

- Katy

Response to "Once upon a time at Cal Poly there was a little princess"

The Mustang Daily is a "designated public forum." Student editors have full authority to make all content decisions without censorship or advance approval. The Mustang Daily is a free newspaper; however the removal of more of one copy of the paper is subject to a cost of 50 cents per issue.
Basketball continued from page 12

I think we need to relax, rebound the ball and everybody needs to play better defense in order for us to win.

—Lorenzo Keeler
Cal Poly junior guard

UC Irvine dominated the court in the second half shooting 60 percent from the field and a blistering 83.3 percent from beyond the arc. Cal Poly could not compete with Irvine’s shooting, hitting just 34.4 percent of their shots for the game.

UC Irvine junior center Kevin Bland added 11 points, seven assists, and showed his outside range in hitting the first 3-point shot of the game. Freshman forward Eric Wise contributed 16 points and seven rebounds for the Anteaters.

Mustang sophomore forward Wes Dippney had a team-high eight rebounds.

Coming off a near triple-double against Cal State Fullerton on Thursday, senior guard Chaz Thomas added 14 points and three assists for Cal Poly while sophomore guard Lewis had 10 points.

Cal Poly head coach Kevin Bromley said that his team must work on their defensive effort and rebounding before they take the court next week.

“I thought the biggest problem in the game was when we went into a stretch where we couldn’t get them stopped,” Bromley said. “We couldn’t defend, they had too much momentum and we couldn’t get there stopped.”

Cal Poly hosts the UC Santa Barbara Gauchos (7-9, 1-3) this Saturday at 7 p.m. at Mott Gym.

UC Irvine junior guard Michael Kinsfield

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sports designer: Kate Nickerson

Chargers continued from page 12

The Chargers had the ball for only 17 seconds of the third quarter to the Steelers' 14:43, thanks to Pittsburgh's nearly eight-minute scoring drive that ended with Roethlisberger’s 8-yard TD pass to Heath Miller. Rivers also had an interception on a first down from the Pittsburgh 23 and the Chargers had a punt that bounced off Eric Weddle's helmet and the Steelers recovered.

Keeping Rivers and Spikes off the field so long allowed Pittsburgh to stretch in lead from 14-10 late in the second quarter on Parker's 3-yard run to 28-10 early in the fourth on Gary Russell's 1-yard run. Weddle — hit again — was flagged for a 44-yard interference penalty before Russell scored.

Even as Rivers went 21-of-35 for 308 yards and three touchdowns, the Chargers failed to improve on one of the NFL's worst curiosities: They’re 0-13 in Pittsburgh during the regular season, but previously weren’t rusty or off their game.

The Steelers weren’t as defensively dominant as they were while holding eight teams to 10 or fewer points during the season, but they also weren’t rusty or off their game as the other three home teams this weekend and now are 13-4. The Chargers ended 9-9. Roethlisberger again looking like the can’t-be-shaken quarterback who led three road playoff wins in three chances for the Steelers won the Super Bowl three years ago, converted three times on third down plays of eight yards to go or longer ahead of his TD pass to Miller.

That scary concussion Roethlisberger sustained against Cleveland and might have sidelined him if Pittsburgh had played a wild-card game? Also not a factor.

For all of Roethlisberger’s playmaking — on one play, he even threw a block to help Holmes pick up extra yardage — it was a healthy Parker who made the major difference in a Steelers offense that was the worst statistically of the 12 playoff teams.

Parker, who fought through knee and shoulder injuries during his first sub-1,000-yard season as a starter, had his most productive game since running for 138 yards and three TDs against Houston in the Sept. 7 opener.

San Diego had one excellent chance in the third quarter to make a game of it.

Spies’ kickoff return provided the Chargers’ best field position since their opening drive, but Rivers’ pass was tipped by defensive end Brett Keisel at the line of scrimmage of the second half until 14:50 was left.

Eight weeks after the only 11-10 game in NFL history, the Chargers returned to nearly the same weather that day: cold, with temperatures in the 20s, and snow flurries that lightly dusted the field.

The sunny-weather Chargers didn’t exactly look as if they were out of their element, at least on their opening drive, but they again couldn’t make an early 7-0 lead hold up.

The Steelers, one of the NFL’s worst return teams, got their first touchdown in an unconventional way. Santonio Holmes fielded Mike Scifres’ punt at his own 37, cut toward the middle, then ran down the San Diego sideline before leaping over Legedu Naanee at the 13 on a 67-yard punt return.

Pittsburgh hadn’t scored on a punt return since Holmes’ 65-yarder against Carolina on Dec. 17, 2006.

The long Pittsburgh drive and two turnovers meant San Diego didn’t run its second play from scrimmage of the second half until 14:50 was left.

Last home meet for the 2009 senior class!

Senior NIGHT WEDNESDAY MOTT GYM 6PM

Cal Poly sports news and views + adds & sets + videos

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Walsh introduced as Mustangs head coach

Scott Silvey

The nationwide search for Rich Ellerson's replacement needed to look no further than the former Cal Poly football coach's future destination.

Flanked by athletic director Alvon Crane and Cal Poly President Warren Baker, former Army offensive coordinator Tim Walsh was named Cal Poly's 16th head coach on Friday. Selecting Walsh from a pool of 10 finalists interviewed over the last week, Cone and her hiring committee had specific qualities in mind when looking for a new head coach.

"We were looking for a knowledgeable football coach who is a leader and knows how to get a group of young men to work toward a common goal and to win football games," Cone explained of the committee's decision. "We were also looking for a quality individual who will help young men maximize their potential and become great men; academic students as well as great football players."

Walsh brings 18 years of head coaching experience to the Mustangs, including 14 years at Football Championship Subdivision (former-I Division I-AA) program Portland State. He said that the challenges of coaching a Cal Poly team that finished this season with the nation's top offense but will be attempting to retool after losing many starters are part of why he chose to apply for the job.

"Rich has created some challenges here in his uniqueness in what he does offensively and defensively," Walsh added. "But to me, that's part of being a football coach."

Walsh said that he would like to keep the Mustangs' unusual triple-option offense intact while adding a few variations but that he was not committed to Ellerson's flex defense.

"Differences in the team's new defensive philosophy also meant changes in the assistant coaching ranks," Walsh said.

Rich has created some challenges here in his uniqueness in what he does offensively and defensively.

—Tim Walsh
Cal Poly football head coach

The Mustangs' defense will have to adjust to playing the team's new offensive coordinator, former Army offensive coordinator Ian Shields, offensive line coaches Greg McKernan and Bill Tripp and assistant coach Andy Guyader as members of Ellerson's usual Army staff.

"It's really important that you hire a good staff that understands that recruiting in college football is extremely important," Walsh said.

January is when most college football recruiting takes place. National Letter of Intent signing day is Feb. 4. Walsh compiled a 117-82 record as his team's offensive coordinator at Portland State over the last six seasons. Walsh filled Ellerson's defensive coordinator position and was his offensive coordinator for four seasons.

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Tim Walsh

Mustangs fall to UC Irvine

Samantha MacConnell

The Mustangs suffered their sixth-straight loss after falling short defensively in an 80-63 Big West Conference men's basketball game against UC Irvine Saturday night at Mott Gym.

Cal Poly (3-11, 0-4 Big West Conference) led early on, but the score was even at 36-32 early in the second half. Then, UC Irvine (11-6, 2-3 Big West Conference) led 39-36 before Cal Poly senior forward Titus Shelton backs down UC Irvine forward Eric Wise during the Anteaters 80-63 victory Saturday in Mott Gym.

MUSTANG DAILY

Steelers unplug Chargers, win 35-24

When the Ravens supposedly put bounties on several Steelers players — and by 13-9 during the Dec. 14 rematch in Baltimore that secured the division title for Pittsburgh — the team's defense was at its peak.

They were two of the NFL's most physical games this season, with injuries all around, and playing for a chance to go to the Super Bowl with the NFL’s top-ranked defense. Now, it's time for Ravens vs. Steelers Part II. —

The Steelers had the worst offense of any playoff team coming in, only to put up 35 points to support the NFL's top-ranked defense. Now, it's time for Ravens vs. Steelers Part III next Sunday — the third and most intriguing matchup this season between the can't-stop-each-other AFC North rivals.

"What else would you expect, us and the Ravens," Steelers coach Mike Tomlin said. "It would be big if it was a scrimmage. This is for the AFC championship." The Steelers have never beaten the Ravens three times in a season although they've never had the chance, but they did beat Baltimore's Foreman-era old Cleveland Browns, three times during the 1994 season. Pittsburgh won the earlier two games, 23-20 in overtime in Pittsburgh — when the Ravens supposedly put bounties on several Steelers players — and by 13-9 during the Dec. 14 rematch in Baltimore that secured the division title for Pittsburgh.

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