The current economic downturn could soon have Cal Poly's evening bus riders threatening for riders unless subsequent state or federal funding for transit operations becomes available.

San Luis Obispo Transit has lost state funding for transit operations, which had spelled out about $228,000 low to the car's bus service, according to John Webster, the transit manager for San Luis Obispo.

"The only way we can offer that is to have a financial commitment from the state or the federal government," Webster said.

In addition to the LTT, the Transportation Development Act allows public transportation to receive money from State Transit Assistance (STA) funding, which comes from a state tax on gasoline and diesel fuel.

The state diverted $1.3 billion from the STA into its general fund during the 2007-2008 fiscal year and is attempting to divert $3.4 billion for the current fiscal year. Tentative plans for the 2009-2010 fiscal year, which begins on July 1, are completely eliminate STA funding for transit.

The combination of the reductions of these two sources of funding have forced SLO Transit to possibly raise fares and reductions to routes programs across the county, which includes extended bus service in San Luis Obispo.

"The challenge for us is not to maintain the service in downtown," Webster said.

Webster noted that a fare increase would not affect Cal Poly students and staff because the school has a separate revenue agreement with SLO Transit that relies on on-campus ticketing revenue.

On top of the LTT and STA funding cuts, see Bus, page 2

Matt Fountain
MUStANC. HaIIY

The proposal to raise college-based fees (C'HFs) moved a step forward Thursday when the Campus Fee Advisory Committee (CFAC) passed the proposal. Now it's up to the students to decide.

As a result of Thursday's decision, all Cal Poly students will have the opportunity to vote online on March 11 and 12 to decide if the university should raise C'HFs to $362 per quarter, an amount deans and administrators say is necessary to maintain the current level of faculty and curriculum.

Although students already pay C'HFs in different amounts — currently ranging from $60 to $252 based on their respective colleges — the increase to $362 would apply evenly to every student at the university.

Currently, the amount a student pays in C'HFs was assessed by the dean of the college and used to fund instructional necessities within that college such as faculty salaries and laboratory equipment. However, because some colleges have more expensive programs than others, a university-wide increase would mean a portion of a student's fees might not necessarily be going toward his or her particular college.

Before making their decision, CFAC heard short presentations by the deans for the College of Science and Mathematics and the College of Liberal Arts.

According to both deans, because of decreased state funding and rising enrollment and inflation, Cal Poly colleges are at risk of drastically reducing their class sections as soon as this fall.

"If it weren't for C'HFs, we would be under water right now," said College of Science and Mathematics Dean Hill Hailey. "It's hard to ask students to increase their fees, but I think we stand in the balance now of either remaining a great university or deteriorating. We ask the students to take the responsibility to maintain the value of a Cal Poly diploma and the excellence of a Cal Poly education. We just can't do it without more resources."

According to College of Liberal Arts Dean Linda Halisky, 87.7 percent of her budget pays for faculty. She noted that her college has already reduced the assignments of 130 lecturers to the equivalent of over 130 full-time instructors.
Education (continued from page 1)

And supporters note the new Pell dollars would be spent immediately — students can't save them while also paying off direct loans.

"Long-term, if we want a better economy, we need more people going to college," Education Arne Duncan told The Associated Press last week.

College leaders meeting in Washington this week for the American Council on Education's annual meeting will be grateful for the student aid boost. But they'll be closely watching how Congress bridges the huge gaps between how much the House and Senate versions propose spending to bail out state budgets and prevent drastic cuts in education costs.

The House bills call for $79 billion to prevent cuts to local school districts and public higher education. But it's not yet clear how the money might be divided between higher education and K-12 districts and public higher education, and a portion could go to things besides education. The Senate version calls for $42.5 billion.

Meanwhile, colleges are hoping Congress will agree restarting stalled building projects is an efficient short- and long-term investment. As they lose revenues from state support, endowments and tuition, hundreds of projects are on hold nationwide, from a library extension at the University of Oregon to new dorms at Washington University in St. Louis and a biology lab at Yale.

The California State University system alone has halted 130 projects, which it values at $850 million and says account for 13,000 jobs. Meanwhile, the system may have to cut 10,000 enrollment slots.

The House bill has $6 billion for such projects, while the Senate has none.

"We're ready to go. There's great involvement, and we're educating kids who wouldn't have other opportunities if we weren't there," Chuck Henderson, president of Roosevelt University in downtown Chicago, said Sunday. His university has a $13.5 million new building project under way with $8.5 million in bonds and offices on hold after financing dried up. Construction could be under way in six months, he says, providing 600 jobs for two years while helping Roosevelt's diverse student body.

Also helping students, the Senate and House both call for expanding the Hope tuition tax credit from $1,800 to $2,500 and making it partly refundable. Now, almost half of families with children pay no income tax, so the current tuition tax-credit system doesn't help them (the full benefit kicks in for families earning at least $43,000).

The Center on Budget and Policy Priority estimates the change would help 3.8 million students.

If the infrastructure spending survives, it would likely prioritize colleges with high minority enrollments, schools rebuilding from disasters like Hurricane Katrina and energy-saving projects. It may also take steps to make sure community colleges get their fair share, and private colleges — such as Roosevelt — are hoping the final version will allocate some to their sector.

The money would be for academic facilities, and wouldn't go directly to — things like gyms, food courts or chapels.

"That will hold everybody up across the university, in moving toward their degree," she said. "(The College of Liberal Arts) has about 60 percent of its instruction online. General education. Our commitment is to that. We believe those courses are intrinsic to the education of every student at Cal Poly and if we can't offer them, we're hurting everybody."

"We knew that there would be an evaluation of what time frames, if subsequent funding was not provid­ed" then the service would end.

Bus (continued from page 1)

Buses continued from page 1

funding from bond measures such as proposition 1B, which passed in 2006 and gave the state permission to sell nearly $20 billion worth of bonds for transportation-related improvements, cannot be used for operational costs.

Funding from such bond measures can only be used for capital projects, like purchasing new buses — and not for operational costs.

"You can buy the bus but you can't pay the driver or the driver drives it," Webster said.

He also said that there is a possibility of receiving short-term funding from the federal stimulus package.

The evening bus scheduling was put into effect in January 2007 and was expanded to its current full capacity in September of the same year.

The longer service hours, which currently run on the hour from about 7 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., were part of a pilot program started by funding from a state grant and were expected to continue for 18 to 24 months.

Webster said in an email that at the end of that time frame, "If subsequent funding was not provided then the service would end.

"Even if we close down the evening service, that's going to require a public hearing for the public to weigh in," Webster said. "You can't just shut that off overnight. There is a public process that is required for us to go through."

Associated Students Inc. is aware of this public process and is currently working on a resolution to submit to the San Luis Obispo County Council of Governments.

"We knew that there would be an evaluation process every two years," said AS President Angela Kramer. "They are definitely evaluating it, but we have a full recommendation to continue with the program."

AS Board of Directors member Kaithin Spak said that she has been working on the resolution and would recommend continuing the evening service at Cal Poly.

"They're the ones that actually make the decision about the decision," Spak said.

She added that if services needed to be cut, that she would personally prefer to see the weekend service end before the evening service.

Kramer remembered when the evening bus service started and referred to it as a "Godsend" for leaving school late.

"This campus would really be taking a step back­ward if we stopped the night service," she said.

"We're ready to go. There's great involvement, and we're educating kids who wouldn't have other opportunities if we weren't there," Chuck Henderson, president of Roosevelt University in downtown Chicago, said Sunday. His university has a $13.5 million new building project under way with $8.5 million in bonds and offices on hold after financing dried up. Construction could be under way in six months, he says, providing 600 jobs for two years while helping Roosevelt's diverse student body.

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Obama faces tough week; stimulus and bailout on tap

Jim Kuhnhenn

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama plunges into a difficult test of his leadership this week, struggling to get a divided Congress to agree on his economic recovery package while pitching a new plan to ease loans to consumers and businesses.

The Senate's $827 billion stimulus legislation seems assured narrow passage by Tuesday. Harder work for Obama and the Democrats comes in the days ahead, when the House and Senate attempt to reconcile differences in their two versions.

Obama and Democratic Party leaders had hoped to have a bill ready for the president's signature by Feb. 16 — a deadline that grows more challenging by the day.

At the Treasury Department, Secretary Timothy Geithner delayed the unveiling of a new bailout framework for financial institutions from Monday to Tuesday to let the administration focus on the Senate legislation.

Geithner is considering steps to broaden the use of a new lending facility at the Federal Reserve, provide government guarantees to help banks deal with their troubled assets, and continue direct infusion of capital into banks in exchange for securities and tougher accountability rules.

For Obama, the economy has become a two-front engagement, with one effort aimed at creating or saving jobs and the other at unfreezing the credit markets. Amid the urgency created by nearly 10 million new unemployed workers last month and new bank failures, Obama's economic prescriptions are coming under critical scrutiny by both Congress and the American public.

The House and Senate bills are about $7 billion apart in cost and overlap in numerous ways. But the Senate bill has a greater emphasis on tax cuts, while the House bill devotes more money to states, local governments and schools.

Lawrence Summers, Obama's top economic adviser, signaled the struggle ahead as he made the rounds of Sunday morning talk shows. "There are crucial areas, support for higher education, that are things that are in the House bill that are very, very important to the president," he said on ABC.

Rep. Barney Frank of Massachusetts, the Democratic chairman of the House Financial Services Committee, warned that reductions in state spending in the Senate bill would hurt local communities. "To get any Republicans at all, you had to adopt a car that's going to mean policemen and firemen are going to be laid off," he said.

Sen. John Ensign of Nevada, a member of the Senate Republican leadership, dismissed Frank's complaint as "fear-mongering.

The Senate bill is finely tuned. With only two or three Republicans on board, it is guaranteed, at most, 61 votes; the bill needs 60 votes to advance and avoid procedural hurdles. Any change in the balance struck by the Senate bill could doom it.

Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., a vocal critic of the stimulus bill, complained that Republicans won't be involved in the final negotiations. "That's the way the Bush administration, when we Republicans were in charge — that's the way we did business," he said. "But I thought we were going to have change."

Obama will take his case to the American people at 8 p.m. EST Monday with his first prime-time news conference. He'll also participate in town hall-style meetings in cities suffering particularly hard times — Elkhart, Ind., on Monday and Fort Myers, Fla., on Tuesday.

The House and Senate are scheduled to go on recess next week, but congressional leaders have said they will not leave until the bill is completed.

The bank bailout proposal that Geithner will announce Tuesday also carries policy and political risks. Congress approved a $700 billion bailout for the financial sector last fall. But since then, lawmakers from both parties have been critical of how the Bush administration spent the first half of the money.
Iraq's state women's affairs minister resigns in protest

Kim Gammel

Iraq's state minister for women's affairs has quit to protest a lack of resources for a daunting task — improving the lives of a "full army of widows," and other women left poor or abandoned by war.

In an interview Sunday with The Associated Press, Nawal al-Samarraie described how her office's budget was so tight that she often found herself dipping into her own pockets for the women who came begging for help.

She said she finally submitted her resignation last week in part because her budget was slashed from $2.5 million to $1.5 million per month — part of overall government spending cuts forced by plunging oil prices. The figure didn't include staff salaries.

"I reached the point that I will never be able to help the women," said al-Samarraie, whose job lasted just six months. "The budget is very limited — so what can I do?"

Al-Samarraie's resignation has cast a spotlight on the overwhelming problems facing Iraq's women, tens of thousands of them left poor or widowed by war.

An untold number have lost their husbands or other male relatives to violence or detention since the 2003 U.S.-led invasion, often leaving them alone with children and virtually no sources to help women facing great difficulties, but women face the additional danger of being sidelined in a male-dominated society. Widows in Iraq, for example, traditionally move in with their extended families, but many families find it increasingly difficult to accommodate them.

Other problems for women include homeliness, domestic violence and the random detention of women caught up in U.S.-Iraqi military sweeps.

Female lawmakers Sunday urged al-Samarraie to change her mind, and demanded that the government get serious about helping women.

"Iraqi women need a national strategy to empower them and support their constitutional, legal, health and social rights," Safiya al-Suhail, a lawmaker from a secular party, said at a news conference.

Al-Samarraie, a 47-year-old gynecologist and mother of five, said things quickly went downhill after she assumed her post on July 22, when her Sunni political party had a boycott to rejoin the Shiite-dominated government.

The former lawmaker, who previously served on the Iraqi parliament's health committee, was full of ideas about how to help Iraqi women, from establishing regional offices and vocational programs to building a women's center that would double as a mall.

But her office — with a staff of 18 — was not a full ministry and had insufficient authority or resources to help women facing great hardship after nearly six years of war, she said.

She gave some of her own money to one woman who was left home less with her four children after her husband was detained, her two brothers were killed and her father died.

"She's not educated, so she and her four children were in the street," al-Samarraie recalled. "I felt if I will not help her she will go in a wrong way. So I tried to help her to make a small shop." An independent commission was given priority in the Iraqi government strategy to empower them and support their constitutional, legal, health and social rights, Safiya al-Sahil, a lawmaker from a secular party, said at a news conference.

Al-Samarraie, a 47-year-old gynecologist and mother of five, said things quickly went downhill after she assumed her post on July 22, when her Sunni political party had a boycott to rejoin the Shiite-dominated government.

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"She's not educated, so she and her four children were in the street," al-Samarraie recalled. "I felt if I will not help her she will go in a wrong way. So I tried to help her to make a small shop." Al-Samarraie warned of the desperate Iraqi women who have become suicide bombers.

"Many of them are widows, or homeless or hopeless," she said. "No one opened the door for them."

Other Iraqi ministries have faced the same, steep budget cuts, but al-Samarraie insisted women should be given priority because they make up 65 percent of the population and because so many have been stranded by the war after their husbands and brothers were killed or detained.

Al-Suhaib, the female lawmaker, urged Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki to refuse al-Samarraie's resignation and instead work with her to create an independent commission for women, with a larger budget.

But al-Samarraie said al-Maliki signed her resignation the day she submitted it.

A government spokesman could not immediately be reached for comment.

"It's not such an important issue for him," she said. "It doesn't have the priority in the Iraqi government and not even the second or third."

But she said she planned to travel to Turkey for an international conference on Iraqi women soon and would think about the plea for her to return to the job "Maybe with the next government it will be a priority," she said.

Former reformist Iranian president will run again

Exercised by his bodyguard and allies, Iran's former reformist President Mohammad Khatami declared Sunday he would run again for president — and on a stage for a major political showdown in coming months between the popular reform leader — who made dialogue with the West a centerpiece of his eight years in office and the country's ruling hard-liners.

Khatami's candidacy poses a serious challenge to President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, whose mixture of anti-Western rhetoric and fiery nationalism sharply contrasts with Khatami's tempered tones and appeals for global dialogue.

Departure of the village plane that crashed in a muddy Amazon river managed to open the Manacapuru river in a heavy rainstorm the day before, ending the advance of several hundred passengers in Brazil's Amazon.

Firefighters recover a dead body from a plane that crashed at the Manacapuru river, near Manaus, in the Brazilian state of Amazonas, Sunday, 24 others to their death.

4 survivors, 24 dead after Brazil plane crash

Tales Azzoni

Four people at the rear of a plane that crashed in a muddy Amazon river managed to open an emergency door and swim to safety as the aircraft sunk, dragging 24 others to their death, officials said Sunday.

Most victims were members of a single family that had chartered the plane to travel to a birthday party, seven children died.

"It was all very fast. The plane sunk very fast", 25-year-old survivor Brenda Motoraz told Brazil's GloboNews TV. "We only had a chance because we were sitting in the last rows and could open the emergency door."

Divers on Sunday recovered two doven bodies from the twin turboprop plane that plunged into the Manacapuru river in a heavy rainstorm the day before, ending the advance of several hundred passengers and crew were accounted for, said firefighter Maj. Jail Ramos.

Aviation and fire officials said there were 28 people aboard the plane, a twin turboprop with a capacity of 21 people. Authorities said they are investigating the alleged overcrowdning.

A director for the company operating the plane denied the plane was overweight despite carrying more passengers than its capacity.
Wednesday, February 11th
5pm-8pm

Wear your PJ's to dinner at 19 Metro station or BackStage Pizza, then pop into the bookstore and receive a 30% discount on all:

- Regular priced Cal Poly clothing & gifts
- General reading & reference books
- Seasonal promotional gifts including:
  - Valentines
  - Greeting cards
  - Stationery
  - Gift wrap
  - Stuffed animals
- Student supplies including:
  - Art
  - Office
  - School

*Does not include: Textbooks & Courseware, Computer Department, Photo Department, Sale Items, Special Orders, Rainbow Sandals, Hard Back Bestsellers, Magazines, Food & Beverages and Health & Beauty.

www.elcorralbookstore.com
Health Center Fee Increase

To support an increase in the number of health professionals and improve the delivery of services at the Health Center, a proposal has been submitted by Health and Human Services at the end of fall quarter 2009.

President Baker has authorized the use of alternative consultation, rather than direct referendum, to determine the level of student support for the fee increase. Nine forums have been scheduled to serve as the venues in which written student input will be gathered. All nine forums are open to the entire student body regardless of college affiliation.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Building 03, Room 341</td>
<td>Orlando College of Business</td>
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<td>February 23</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Banderson (197), Room 104</td>
<td>College of Engineering</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>University Union, Room 220</td>
<td>Open Forum</td>
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<td>February 24</td>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Dean's Conference Room (12-210)</td>
<td>College of Agriculture</td>
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<td>Food and Environmental Sciences</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>University Union, Room 220</td>
<td>College of Liberal Arts</td>
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<td>February 25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Dean's Conference Room (25-2069)</td>
<td>College of Science and Mathematics</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 2</td>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Derby Building, Room 352/1100</td>
<td>College of Architecture and Environmental Design</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
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<td>March 3</td>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Derby Building, Room 352/1100</td>
<td>College of Architecture and Environmental Design</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>University Union, Room 220</td>
<td>Associated Students, Inc.</td>
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<td>March 4</td>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>University Union, Room 220</td>
<td>Open Forum</td>
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<td>March 5</td>
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International

ROME (AP) — Italy's health minister declared Sunday that there were problems with the clinic housing a woman in a highly debated case in which the government appeared to be trying a new tack to keep her alive.

Ms. Musatti, Secondo de Pasquadiddu said the "La Querra" clinic in Udine isn't the hospice or hospital facility called for by the Miasis appeal court, which has ruled that Emanuela Enaglia's feeding tube be removed.

* * *

HEALESVILLE, Australia (AP) — The landscape was blackened as far as the eye could see by the deadliest wildfires in Australia's history, leaving police to guard a checkpoint to a town that no longer exists.

"Maryville is no more," Senior Constable Brian Cross said Sunday from the road leading to the remaining ruins of the town, where witnesses said up to 90 percent of the buildings were in ruins. He added it to the list of casinos from the fire which killed at least 108 people.

It was one of several towns in the country's Victoria state left utterly devastated by the inferno, which destroyed 700 homes. Some victims were burned in their homes, others died in their cars as they fled. Authorities warned the death toll was likely to rise.

Iran

Iran continued from page 4

"I seriously announce my candidacy in the next (presidential) election," Khatami announced Sunday after a meeting with his supporters.

He said he decided to seek the presidency in the June 12 vote because it was impossible for someone like himself who was interested in the fate of Iran to remain silent. The 65-year-old liberal cleric said he is "attached to the country's greatness and the people's right to have control over their own fate."

Khatami's decision to run against Ahmadinejad could significantly shake up Iran's politics, appealing to critics disillusioned by the country's failing economy and Ahmadinejad's staunch anti-U.S. foreign policy.

Relations between the United States and Iran improved marginally during Khatami's eight years in office, and he encouraged athletic and cultural exchanges. But it deteriorated after the Sept. 11 attacks when former President George W. Bush declared Iran belonged to an "axis of evil." Ahmadinejad widened that gap after he was elected in 2005.
Recession sends more students looking for low cost education

David Kerr-Wedock

College students Elizabeth Heber's choice of a four-year school offered little in the way of expenses. George Hadfield, according to a spokesman, did not have to get a job to work. So, in the middle of this school year, both lasted at New Hampshire Technical Institute, which like other community colleges across the country, had suddenly grown a lot more crowded.

The two-year schools are reporting surprising enrollment increases this semester, driven by students from traditional colleges seeking more bang for their buck and by laid-off older workers.

But community colleges aren't exactly cheering in this down economy. Tuition doesn't come close to covering costs, and the state funds used to absorb the thousands of dollars in loans she was carrying — at age 18.

"We have seen it even more and more, mom and dad saying, 'Come back home, we can't afford it,'" said Jim McGrath, admissions director at Pennsylvania's Northampton Community College, where spring enrollment is 18.4 percent higher than a year ago — and for the first time is higher than it was in the fall semester. New Hampshire is marketing the transition trend.

"We are going to a much larger school out of state and paying $45,000 a year to go there," straight-A business major Elizabeth Leone says in a TV ad. "I am getting a better experience here at NHTI and it's more affordable and closer to home."

Loane transferred last fall after racking up $22,000 in loans and putting $5,000 more on credit cards for her first year at college in Pennsylvania. She couldn't imagine how much more she would have had to borrow to return.

"Going to a community college doesn't require giving up on hopes for a bachelor's degree, since credits often transfer to four-year schools. States including New Hampshire, Maryland and New Jersey have made it easier for students to begin their higher education at a community college and end it at a university."

Several community colleges can trace a bump in enrollment to area layoffs. In Boise, Idaho, after semiconductor maker Micron Technology laid off 1,500 workers, 245 students enrolled at Larry Sellars College of Applied Technology for this spring, more than double last spring's enrollment.

Northampton waives a semester's tuition for students who have lost their last 12 months because of the economy.

This semester, 200 students enrolled through the program, more than twice what the school expected. So why, with enrollment skyrocketing, are many community colleges hurting?

"I get that every place I go," said John Flinnmann, president of Maine's community college system. "People can't understand, with more customers, why that isn't good news." Tuition covers just 25 percent of the cost of education in Maine's system. Other community colleges vary, but all depend on county or state or else are running out of money as other types of funding.

Maine reported enrollment increases of 25 percent, after laying off employees and leaving vacant positions open to cope with a $2.9 million state cut.

At Wake Technical Community College in North Carolina, the president and two vice presidents are teaching classes because of a $3.3 million cut last fall.

Arizona community colleges have absorbed $19.3 million in cuts and are laying off 300 instructors and some support staff.

"Community colleges are built on access, so for us to turn someone away is like a surgeon saying I won't operate on you and put a bullet in your heart," said Kent.

Some states rely on legislative appropriation of tax dollars or criminal justice assessments to pay for crime compensation. Others make offenders pay surcharges and fees. The federal government chips in, too, matching state expenditures with grants. However, the grants typically lag two to three years behind expenditures.

Todd Richmond

On a June night two summers ago, Debra Rebisz-Steves tried to break up a fight between two women at a northern Wisconsin tavern. The husband of one of the women grabbed her wrist, stepping it in two places. Four operations later, she has racked up more than $31,000 in medical bills.

With no insurance and no job, the former cook turned to Wisconsin's crime victim compensation fund. But the cash-stripped program has covered less than half of her expenses, leaving her to fend off a new. a $9,000 creditor calls a day.

"I replied to them and try to explain to them, my husband, Jon Steves, 47, of Ashland. "But it just doesn't help. It's a nightmare."

"It's dire for everybody," said Kent. Around the country, state programs designed to help crime victims rebuild their lives are running out of money as claims increase, medical expenses rise and lawmakers curb the recession.

Several state programs face deficits or have cut benefits. Not every state is in the red. But programs co-ordinators say this could be the beginning of deeper problems as legislators desperate for money to shore up budget deficits drop victim compensation funds.

"Given the awful situation they're in now, states are looking at mowing these money into other parts," said Steve Detrie, executive director of the National Association of Victims of Crime Act Assistance Administrators. "It's dire for everybody on all fours."

Each state offers crime victims and their survivors money to cover medical expenses and lost wages, including low-wage jobs, counseling and dental medical bills and funeral. Maximum payments vary, but range around $25,000.

The programs provide about $450 each year to about 30,000 victims, according to the National Association of Crime Victim Assistance Organizations.

Some states rely on legislative appropriations of tax dollars or criminal justice assessments to pay for crime compensation. Others make offenders pay surcharges and fees. The federal government chips in, too, matching state expenditures with grants. How­ ever, the grants typically lag two to three years behind expenditures.

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valid 10-2, $5.00 in tuition and fees in state public four-year schools, according to the College Board. Average tuition and fees for private four-year schools are $25,143.

Factoring in financial aid, the College Board estimates the average net cost at community colleges is only about $100.
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Cinderella will tip-toe into Cal Poly on her glass slippers Tuesday as the State Ballet Theatre of Russia presents their version of the classic ballet.

More than 40 different ballet companies have produced adaptations of Cinderella since 1901, and there have been over 1,500 versions of the tale of Cinderella created over time. The State Ballet Theatre of Russia will perform a French interpretation of Cinderella choreographed by Charles Perrault in 1697.

Previous interim director of Cal Poly Arts Peter Wilt booked the show and said that he is excited that Cal Poly can bring a highly popular story ballet to the Performing Arts Center. "I am excited about the quality dancers that the people will be seeing on Tuesday nights," he said.

The State Ballet Theatre of Russia, which is the touring name of the Voronezh State Theatre of Opera and Ballet, began performing in North America in 2006. Many of the dancers are alumni of the Voronezh Choreographic School in southwestern Russia, near Ukraine. In conjunction with a full orchestra playing the 71 minute piece composed by Sergei Prokofiev, the company is comprised of director Igor Nepomnyashchy, artistic director Nabilya Valitova, dance choreographer Vladimir Vasiliev, and 55 dancers in a full-scale three act ballet.

Dance professor Moon Ja Min Suhr said that there are a number of different types of ballet, including classical, romantic, neoclassical, modern and folk. Pantomime, the act of conveying emotions by gestures without speech, is an extremely important component of ballet, Suhr said, and is expressed with comedy in this performance of Cinderella. The choreographer, she said, decided to make this choreography more entertaining for the audience, partly by emphasizing important messages with several props to give the audience simple and clear understanding from symbolism.

Suhr said that the relationship between music and dance is very important, and is portrayed well in the State Ballet Theatre of Russia’s Cinderella performance. "Orchestra and dancers should always breathe the same breath," she said.

A pre-concert lecture by Suhr will be held in the Performing Arts Center’s Gallery Level Lobby at 6 p.m. Suhr said that ballet or any other type of dance is a beautiful thing to watch on stage but watching and understanding dance performance is not easy, which is why she gives a lecture before the performance to inform the audience about the particular dance, as well as background history. Hopefully, she said, the audience will enjoy the enormous number of different movement possibilities and that will motivate them to want to dance.

"Art makes the human living experience richer and ballet provides opportunities to grow and develop further in life. Dress makers, dancers, musicians and artists can become influenced, inspired and come up with new ideas by watching the performance," Suhr said.

A master dance instruction class will be held by a State Ballet Theatre of Russia member for Cal Poly ballet dance students at 10 a.m. Tuesday. The ballet will take place at 7 p.m. on Feb. 10 in the Chumash Theatre.

Student and adult tickets for the performance range from $25 to $44 and can be purchased at the Performing Arts Center Ticket Office. If tickets are not sold out a special discount of $10 for students will occur 30 minutes before the curtain opens.

To order by phone, call 805/756-2787; to order by fax: 805/756-6088. To order online visit www.calpolyarts.org.
Jeffrey Wiesner, said in an e-mail. "Shepard Fairey was arrested on warrants related to a separate graffiti case. He has been arrested on warrants related to a separate graffiti case in the Roxbury section of Boston."

Wiesner, a spokesman for the Suffolk County District Attorney, said Fairey would also be arraigned on a default warrant related to the charges of tampering with evidence and other private property without permission. Fairey has spent the last two weeks in the Boston area installing the ICA exhibit and creating outdoor art, including a 20-by-50-foot banner on the side of City Hall, according to a statement issued Saturday.

The museum said Fairey was arrested Friday night on his way to the Institute of Contemporary Art for a kick-off event for his first solo exhibition, called "Supply and Demand." Two warrants were issued for Fairey on Jan. 24 after police determined he had tagged property in two locations with graffiti based on the Andre the Giant street art campaign from his early career, Officer James Kennedy said. One of the locations was the railroad overpass by the landmark Boston University bridge over the Charles River, police said.

Fairey, 36, of Los Angeles, is scheduled to be arraigned Monday in Brighton District Court, said Jake Wark, a spokesman for the Suffolk District Attorney. Wark said Fairey would also be arraigned on a default warrant related to a separate graffiti case in the Roxbury section of Boston.

Fairey has spent the last two weeks in the Boston area installing the ICA exhibit and creating outdoor art, including a 20-by-50-foot banner on the side of City Hall, according to a statement issued Saturday.

The museum said Fairey was released a few hours after his arrest. Boston police confirmed Fairey had been released but did not know exactly when or the amount of his bail.

A man who answered the phone at Fairey's Los Angeles studio, Studio One, declined comment.

"Shepard Fairey was completely unaware that there were any warrants for his arrest. Had he known, he would have resolved all such issues before the opening of his art exhibit at the Institute of Contemporary Art in Boston," his attorney, Jeffrey Wiseiner, said in an e-mail.

Fairey has been arrested numerous times for drawing on buildings and other private property without permission.

His Obama image has been sold on hundreds of thousands of stickers and posters, and was unveiled at the National Portrait Gallery in Washington before Obama's inauguration.

The image is the subject of a copyright dispute with The Associated Press. Fairey argues his use of the AP photo is protected by "fair use," which allows exceptions to copyright laws based on, among other factors, how much of the original is used, what the new work is used for and how the original is affected by the new work.

A California lawyer who has represented Fairey in the copyright case didn't immediately respond to an e-mail seeking comment on the arrest.

Genevieve Loggins

Cal Poly's Modern Languages and Literature Department will show a series of German films for students interested in a deeper analysis of the culture.

"A Nation Through the Lens: Historical Events in German Film" will showcase 11 films Wednesdays 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. in the Fisher Science building, room 287. This year's theme pertains to certain historical and political events within German history.

German department adviser Corinna Kahnke, with an academic background in modern German literature and culture, started the movie nights last year which reach out to all genres of film from love stories to horror.

"The films are a way to supplement the different German classes that I teach, in terms of language, literature and to get a feel for the culture and customs," Kahnke said. "This is done in a pleasurably way by setting up such film nights."

Students studying German are assigned three cultural events, and viewing one of the movies enables the student to complete the assignment, but also encourages a deeper learning environment, Kahnke said.

"The last couple of nights have been focusing on German history, and the last movie we saw pertained to Nazi propaganda, with a paragraph in English explaining the situation," business sophomore Lauren Young said. "It was very educational and gives me the chance to learn about a new culture in an aspect that I'd never heard of before."

Young, who is pursuing a German minor, said the movies offer an out-of-classroom experience.

"It helps me because the movies are in German, and then there's English subtitles, so I get to hear phrases that recreate the German language for me," Young said.

Kahnke's German culture, titled "From Flappers to Facists: Weimar Republic Germany" inspired this year's movie night theme.

"The films provide a wider look at German history, and range in depiction from a film we screened titled "Comedian Harmonists" which were the first German boy band," Kahnke said. "Other films pertain specifically to the modern 20th century."

The films are screened based on the connection with the courses the courses Fairey teaches, but he urges students from all majors interested in German culture to participate in these movie nights, even if just to practice listening to the language while looking through the eyes of German filmmakers.

"Students have been very interested, and most of them will be from German classes, or from the other language departments," Kahnke said. "People want to get a feel for the European cinema, versus the Hollywood cinema that one is used to."

Movies will include 2007 Oscar winner "The Lives of Others" and 2003 Golden Globe nominee, "Good Bye Lenin!"

The movie nights began Jan. 14, but six viewings remain and everyone is welcome to join each screening. The next movie night is Feb. 18, showing "Legend of Rita" about a radical West German terrorist who abandons the revolution and settles in East Germany.

"We learn a lot in the classroom, but you get to learn a lot about the German culture that we would have never been able to cover," Young said. "These movies really open new doors that I would have never heard of."
Are Cal Poly students smarter than fifth graders?

Do you ever sit around thinking about what it would be like to time travel Michael J. Fox-style? Of course, hippies would travel to the 1960s, intense drug users would line up to go to the Disco Bloodbath of 1976, and entrepreneurs would go to the Gold Rush of 1848.

I'd like to go to a time when our greatest technological advance was the refrigerator or the calculator. I feel inundated, not with technology (I love my computer, iPod, GPS and Jimmy Buffett Margaritaville Bluetooth), but with over-simplified advertising.

The new Blackberry commercial alone kills at least 24 of my brain cells every time I listen to it. Thank god for DVR (another technological advance I enjoy)! Blackberry's ingenius pitch is that the phone makes clicking noises when you touch it. Oh my god. It's the second coming of cellular devices! Seriously though, why is it that not one person, but a large group of educated advertisers think that is an appropriate and appealing way to attract the general public to their product?

Though slamming my head against any hard object nearby is always my first thought, the second is usually, "Does anyone fall for this?" Well, my answer up until a few days ago would have probably been no, but this week it was brought to my attention that maybe our generation's common intelligence is declining and we are more frequently distracted by "the shiny things."

I sat in my class this week with 20 other people, some who I consider to be smarter than me, others of equal intelligence. It is safe to say, however, that all 20 of us are highly intelligent (I mean, we go to Cal Poly). My teacher began to rant about not having the ability to see the world in its reality; this of course fell into a metaphor about using a viewfinder on a camera.

Not a hard metaphor to keep up with right? Well, at least that is what I thought. The majority of the class stared blankly at my teacher, all of them seeming to say, "A viewfinder! Tomfoolery! We've never heard of anything like that." It was as if my teacher has just told us our computers would have to be etched into stone instead of typed out on our computers. (Note: a viewfinder is the small hole you can look out of on a camera, especially if your digital screen breaks.)

This viewfinder debacle may seem to be a miniscule problem, but I like to think of it as a tiny window into the mind of an advertiser. We are in college, most would say to the prime of our intelligence, and yet in the minds of advertisers the most gullible. Are we losing our minds before Cal Poly can meld them into full functioning scholarly brains?

Our vocabulary is declining, our math skills are disintegrating, we are losing our common sense. I'm afraid that we might know quantum mechanics and be able to recite Wordsworth from heart, but wouldn't be able to win on "Are You Smarter than a Fifth Grader?"

I plead with all of you to put down the textbook and pick up some fourth-grade trivia flashcards. Relearn what Manifest Destiny is, remember just when Columbus sailed the ocean blue, play Duke Nukem and pick up an old camera that you can attach a flash bulb to (and use it). Relearn what you've forgotten.

Maybe the people at Blackberry are smarter than I think. Maybe they have college students pressing their faces up against the TV screen salivating over a touch phone that makes clicking noises. All I know is that when that "Are you Smarter than a Fifth Grader?" calls me, I'll be ready to tell Jeff Foxworthy that the capital of Oklahoma is in fact Oklahoma City.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Years after hurricanes devastated parts of the U.S., help still needed

After the devastation by Katrina and Rita in 2005, many students, including some from Cal Poly, spent their breaks helping to rebuild.

In following years, their numbers dwindled as the images of the destruction fade and are replaced by problems involving war, economy and environment.

While it is true that many areas have rebuilt, as a frequent visitor, I can tell you that the results are "spotty" at best. Yes, New Orleans has the Quarter and Garden District back for the tourists, but those areas were barely damaged. Many neighborhoods are still in bad shape. There are many that are concrete slabs with broken levees! Many schools are boarded up or in need of repair. Similar stories can be found all along the coast.

Without placing blame (there's plenty to blame around here), it seems to me that if we let one part of the country down, we hurt the whole country down. (Think if it were Sacramento with broken levees!)

So please consider spending time with one of the organizations dedicated to rebuilding and revitalizing the wonderful city of New Orleans and/or other coastal areas.
Phelps no longer on a pedestal
Give him a break — he's only human

He's fast. He's covered in gold. After bringing home eight Olympic gold medals and basically owning the 2008 Beijing Summer Olympics, Michael Phelps had quickly become a household name. He gave Americans and the rest of the world something to talk about. But he's in trouble. And after a London tabloid recently ran a photo of the Olympic hero apparently taking a hit from a bong pipe at a house party, there was more to talk about than his swimming career.

But what's the big deal? People smoke marijuana. Celebrities and important political figures have done it at least once or twice... Or more in their lives. Even some of our presidents have admitted to taking a decent hit.

There are many top athletes from a variety of different sports, from football to cricket, who smoke weed both in and out of the public eye. Many of them see the great effects of marijuana use. It can be used in a medicinal effort as a painkiller, muscle relaxant and antidepressant.

For example, take a retired two-time Superbowl champion like Mark Stepnoski, offensive lineman for the Dallas Cowboys. After his career in the NFL, Stepnoski became an outspoken advocate of the legalization of marijuana in 2001.

Claiming no shame, he asserted his "responsible use" of marijuana during his pro football career. "After a game you need something to relax," Stepnoski told Forbes. "I'd rather smoke than take painkillers or the face on their cereal box, you have to be a little more careful on how you handle your partying."

U.S. swimming officials suspended Phelps from competition for three months on Thursday. A sheriff in South Carolina said this week he was investigating whether the athlete broke any laws. After the incident broke out, Phelps quickly issued a public written apology to The Associated Press: "I engaged in behavior which was regrettable and demonstrated bad judgment. I'm 23 years old and despite the successes I've had in the pool, I acted in a youthful and inappropriate way, not in a manner people have come to expect from me. For this, I am sorry. I promise my fans and the public it will not happen again."

It's too bad that something like this could put a damper on Phelps' career.

In August 2008, it was estimated that Phelps could make $100 million during his lifetime from endorsements alone. Huge brands such as Nike, Speedo, MasterCard and Visa flocked to the 6-foot-4 Olympian to sign endorsement deals that would make him filthy rich.

But big corporations were paying Phelps big bucks to endorse their products as an American Olympic hero, not as a stoner. Now companies such as Kellogg's and Subway are pulling their lucrative endorsements from him.

"Sounds like it would have been a better idea for food companies to keep pot-smoking Phelps as the face of their company. Stoners can get a bad case of the munchies and heading to Subway in the middle of the night wouldn't sound like a bad idea."

But the truth is, if you know big brand names are counting on you to be their talking head or the face on their cereal box, you have to be a little more careful on how you handle your partying.

"I'm 23 years old and despite the successes I've had in the pool, I acted in a youthful and inappropriate way, not in a manner people have come to expect from me. For this, I am sorry. I promise my fans and the public it will not happen again."

It really shouldn't be that big of a deal. It's his personal life and his personal choices. But as his audience, we are playing Big Brother with him.

Let this be a lesson for a man constantly under the watchful eye of the public and for a man who has already achieved so much. Oh wait, didn't he already get in trouble for drunken driving in 2004? Well, Mike, until the day marijuana is legalized, don't get caught on a camera phone while engaging in illegal activities again and you'll be fine.

Krizia Torres is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily reporter.
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Lakers continued from page 16

Cleveland's first loss at home since Game 5 against Washington in the first round of last season's playoffs. "I didn't want it to happen," James said. "But I think glad it's over."

The Lakers weren't intimidated in one of the NBA's noisiest arenas and went undeterred on a road trip that also included stops in Minnesota, Memphis, New York, Toronto and Boston. Los Angeles' trip started rocky with center Andrew Bynum injuring his knee against the Grizzlies, but it couldn't have ended any better.

Beginning with Bryant's record-setting 61-point performance against the Knicks, the Lakers have gone 4-0 without Bynum. They didn't commit a turnover in the final 19:26 against the Cavs.

"We're playing for perfection," Odom said, "and in order to do that, it takes a lot of energy, focus and commitment to winning and doing whatever it takes. We get production from everyone."

Zydrunas Ilgauskas scored 22 to lead Cleveland, which shot just 28 percent (11-of-39) in the second half and couldn't turn a 10-point deficit into a 82-77 lead entering the final moments.

Antawn Jamison finished with 12 points and 10 rebounds, but he was clearly miffed by the league's decision.

"I never play the game for stats," he said. "It's all about winning." Odom, who added a season-best 14 rebounds, was equally frustrated by the ruling.

"Um, Should I say something?" he wondered before opting to keep his opinions a secret. "We won the basketball game and that's all that matters."

Lisa McBride
Tucson, AZ

Guided by Wally Szczerbiak and rookie J.J. Hickson, Cleveland scored 12 of Los Angeles' last 16 points to close the quarter, capturing his one-man circus with a two-handed dunk off a miss in the final second as the Lakers became just the fourth team this season to lead Cleveland at home after three.

But unlike the three other teams, the Lakers finished the job.

Los Angeles pushed its lead to 10 in the fourth before the Cavaliers closed to 93-89 on two free throws by Ilgauskas with 3:06 left. But Bryant hit a high-arcing fadeaway, and Gasol dropped one of two free throws to make it 96-89 when the jumbo scoreboard above midcourt went dark, a symbolic moment for Cleveland's players and fans.

James was stripped on the Cavs' next possession, and Gasol made two more free throws and scored on a putback as the Lakers put an exclamation point on one of their biggest wins in years.

Cleveland's crowd was at a playoff pitch from the outset for one of the most anticipated games of the season, a matchup of the league's top stars, both leading MVP candidates, and two of the NBA's best teams.

But the game never materialized into a Bryant vs. James affair as Odom stole the spotlight.

Bryant got more medical treatment for the game and was not available for interviews.

James was careful not to complain about losing his triple-double in New York, but he was clearly miffed by the league's decision.

"Um, Should I say something?" he wondered before opting to keep his opinions a secret. "We won the basketball game and that's all that matters."

Round-up continued from page 16

Softball

GAME 1: CAL POLY 7,
NO. 25 S D S U 3

GAME 2: NO. 4 U C L A 6,
CAL POLY 1

The Mustangs (2-2) averaged a last-minute loss to the Aztecs (2-1), beating them 7-3 on Sunday morning at the Stacy Wineberg Memorial Tournament.

Cal Poly senior shortstop Melissa Pata became the school's all-time RBI leader after the belted a three-run homer in the third inning.

The ho...
Los Angeles center Pau Gasol shoots over the Cleveland center Zydrunas Ilguskas during the Lakers' 101-90 victory on Sunday.

Lakers stop Cavaliers' home winning streak

Tom Withers

CLEVELAND — Kobe Bryant was sick. The Cleveland Cavaliers just looked it.

With Bryant suffering from the flu, Lamar Odom scored a season-high 28 points — 15 in the third quarter — and Paul Gasol scored 18 as the streak-ending Los Angeles Lakers dominated the second half and handed Cleveland its first home loss this season, 101-90 on Sunday to complete a 4-0 road trip.

Bryant was not himself. The superstar vomited before the game, shivered with chills throughout and never allowed his flustered opponent into the game.

Cavs’ loose this season, KM-9

The Cavs’ loose this season, KM-9

The Lakers stopped Cleveland’s winning streak on Christmas Day, using a 22-11 run to capture the game at the free-throw line.

Los Angeles guard Kobe Bryant scored a season-high 29 points and added a career-high 12 rebounds.

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