Students ‘See the Need’ for San Luis Obispo hunger awareness

Amanda Sedo
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The California State University (CSU) "student university fees" will now be referred to as "tuition" after the California State University Board of Trustees approved the change in terminology last week.

Unlike many other universities and colleges, money paid to the universities for teaching expenses were considered fees instead of tuition.

According to a press release from the Chancellor's Office, fees are services not related to instruction.

Claire Wilson, a recreation, parks and tourism administration junior said the word "fee" did not properly describe what the students were actually paying for.

"Tuition is associated with the price of classes and education whereas fees just kind of sound like you don't know what you're paying for," Wilson said. "It sounds like an extra obligation." Wilson said the word "fee" did not properly describe what the students were actually paying for.

Erik Fallis, a CSU media relations specialist, said problems arose for students at CSUs when the new GI Bill came out in August 2008.

According to the United States Department of Veterans' Affairs website, the post-911 GI Bill stated that veterans would be reimbursed for the highest state tuition rate for an in-state school. Since the CSUs are tuition-free, the terminology glitch could cost veterans thousands of dollars toward their education.

"The terminology caused some confusion for students trying to get benefits under the GI Bill," Fallis said.

Betsy O'Meara, a nutrition junior said the use of the term "tuition" would be an easy, simple fix for Cal Poly and other universities.

"I guess that I don't really know why we use the term 'fee' anyway," O'Meara said. "Most colleges go by "tuition.""

When the public university system was developed, the idea was for a tuition-free education so the pay- ment was originally coined a fee, according to the press release.

"The use of the word 'fee' in place of 'tuition' references back to when (the CSU system) was founded as a tuition-free university system," Fallis said.

However, since 1868 things have changed in California and the CSU system has charged fees synonymous with tuition. The increasing state debt and the failing economy meant that it was necessary to raise fees to the point that fees were no longer small charges. But this large payment charged to students amounted to what other universities called tuition.

"Fees were raised to support education which brought us away from just charging a fee and more towards tuition," Fallis said. "It's been decades and centuries since we've merely only had a fee by definition."

Unless students are receiving GI Bill payments or federal financial aid, the terminology will not affect them.

"It is only a change in terminology," Fallis said. "The money is not going to be spent any differently."

O'Meara said the change in terminology would not really affect her.

"I don't really think it matters to me," she said. "I guess it makes things less confusing."

Besides obliterating the confusion over the two different terms, the changes could also make the students more aware of what exactly each payment is going toward, Wilson said.

"If anything, students will just be more accepting of the costs," Wilson said. "(Also) (tuition) is more of a positive word because fee sounds like a negative.

The change will hopefully provide clarification for students, Fallis said.

"It was hard for students who were comparing out-of-state universities as well as University of California schools to the CSUs," he said. "It created some confusion."

The word "tuition" will slowly replace the older term "fee" on Cal Poly's student account "Money Matters" tab on the Cal Poly Portal by the end of the year.

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CSU terminology change turns 'student fees' into 'tuition'

Alicia Freeman
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In honor of Homelessness and Hunger Awareness Week, Cal Poly Student Community Services (SCS) will hold a number of events for "See the Need" week, urging students to volunteer and become more educated about hunger in both San Luis Obispo and national communities.

See the Need week started on Sunday, Nov. 14, with a canned food drive at local grocery stores and a dinner at the Marine Lewis Memorial Shelter in San Luis Obispo.

Missy Sparks, an environmental management senior, participated in the food drive on Nov. 14 at the Albertsons on Footbridge Boulevard. Sparks said she participated in the food drive because she enjoys seeing people help out.

"I feel like when you volunteer, you actually see where things go, you are kind of the behind the scenes type of thing," Sparks said. "We actually see the food bank trucks come and take the food to the shelter and then they try and really provide for our homeless population."

O'Meara loves a liberal studies senior, also participated in the food drive at Albertsons. Linsey said it was "nice to see people come together" for a good cause.

"When we got here, there was just a bottom layer full of stuff, now we're forty-four full. In two and a half hours, I think we're doing a pretty good job," Linsey said.

"It is only a change in terminology," Fallis said. "The money is not going to be spent any differently."

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Republicans in Congress are ready to slash excessive spending

David Lightman
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

Newly invigorated Senate Repub­licans are expected to take a small but symbolic step Tuesday to show that they're serious about curbing spending, when they formally back a moratorium on "earmarks," the thousands of local projects stuffed into legislation that add up to billions of federal dollars.

With a fresh boost Monday from GOP leader Mitch McCon­nell of Kentucky, who previously had been skeptical of such a ban, Senate Republicans are expected to endorse barring the practice. Republicans in the House of Rep­resentatives also plan to vote on a ban later this week.

Earmarks, usually inserted into legislation by lawmakers for bridge­es, buildings and other pet projects back home, accounted for $15.9 billion of the federal budget in fis­cal 2010, which ended on Sept. 30. That was less than 1 percent of all federal spending and would have put barely a nick in last year's $1.29 trillion deficit.

Still, earmarks have become symbolic to many of Congress' fis­cal indiscretion, and the GOP push to ban them holds political signifi­cance for that reason, especially now, two weeks after an election when voters resoundingly said they want less, and more responsible, spending.

"I welcome Senator McCon­nell's decision to join me and members of both parties who support cracking down on wasteful earmark spend­ing, which we can't afford during these tough times," Pres­i­dent Obama said Monday. "But we can't stop with earmarks, as they more powerful lawmakers get more," he said, "and they are also a tool to gain votes," since it's com­mon for incumbents to appear in front of a bridge or a building funded by an earmark.

House Democrats are likely to discuss changes in earmark policy later this week, but are unlikely to back a ban.

However, since the GOP will control spending bills in the House next year, they will probably strike earmarks from legislation there. In the Senate, though, Democrats will retain a majority, setting up a potential showdown on the issue when the two chambers must agree on spending legislation.

Democrats have cut back on earmarks in the past. In 2007, House democratic leaders cut the number of earmarks in half and required lawmakers to disclose any earmarks they received, as well as the beneficiary. Lawmakers also had to certify that they had no fi­nancial interest in them. Senators agreed to the certifica­tion rule, but not the disclosure provisions.

Last year, the House agreed to require lawmakers to disclose all their requests on their websites, while House Republicans banned all earmarks, a practice all GOP members except four followed. Earlier this year House Democrats banned awarding earmarks to for­profit firms. Senators, however, ad­opted none of the changes.
Hunger continued from page 1

Brittany Frost, an environmental engineering senior, is the SCS director and an important thing for students, "struggling to buy groceries and that's separately, Frost said.

Hunger awareness is especially important for students who, due to the economy, may be hungry themselves, she said.

"Especially with the economy, there are a lot of students who are struggling to buy groceries and that's an important thing for students," Frost said. "To be able to buy healthy food and good food for you is not the cheapest thing, so ... I think a lot of students struggle from the cost of food and cost of living in general."

However, the Need is not the only food drive occurring around San Luis Obispo. Tyler Johnsen, a business administration senior, and Tisha Babka, a child development senior, both participated in their own food drive at Ralphs. With the holiday season fast approaching, the two collected food for holiday dinners for needy families at the San Luis Obispo Child Development Center for a class project. The goal of their project was to show that hunger awareness comes in many forms.

Johnson said students in his class group chose to give to the Child Development Center because "the families are in need and very well deserving." He also wanted to give something tangible to the families themselves, instead of just money.

The group is hoping to raise $1,000 to buy turkeys for the families, Babka said.

According to an article by Gloria Hilliard for National Public Radio, "College Students Hide Hunger, Homelessness," due to the economy, there has been a rise in student hunger and homelessness, though "nobody has firm numbers." Students are not only losing jobs, but so are their parents, causing financial stress.

According to the article, University of California, Los Angeles has created an Economic Crisis Response Team to try to identify students who are struggling financially in order to keep them in school.

The rest of the Need Week will focus on collecting food and clothing for those in need. On Nov. 15, volunteers will collect clothing on Dexter Lawn, a food drive competition between colleges continues through Saturday and a screening of "Dine," a movie about a man who lived on a dumpster diving, will be screened at 7 p.m. in the University Union (UU), room 221.

On Tuesday, Nov. 16, there will be a Soup and Substance event at 11 a.m. in the UU, room 204, and a World Hunger Banquet Dinner at 7 p.m. in the UU, room 220. Wednesday will offer breakfast at the Prado Day Center (a day center for the homeless) which will offer the start of a 30-hour famine that ends on Thursday, Nov. 18.

Frost said the famine will show students what it is like for those that are starving and will have bulletin boards on Dexter Lawn for students to write their thoughts.

In celebration of the end of the famine, lunch will be held for participants on Dexter Lawn from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. On Friday, Nov. 19 there will be a carnival at the Boys and Girls Club in Paso Robles at 3 p.m. Friday is also the last day for the canned food drive competition. On Saturday, Nov. 20, another canned food drive will be held at local grocery stores to end the week.

Frost hopes more people will volunteer this year and become "passionate" about helping the hungry. However, she said the week is fun even if more people do not volunteer, she said.

"I know during hunger awareness week, I feel like we have the most volunteers over throughout the year," Frost said. "People just enjoy to go serve dinner and serve breakfast at the homeless shelter. It's really fun and it's an awesome way to give back."

Those interested in volunteer opportunities or more information can go to room 217 in the UU.

Facebook offers e-mail service to its members

Mike Swift
San Jose Mercury News

In a bid to become the junction box for people's digital communications, Facebook announced Monday it plans to launch a new communication platform intended to unify e-mail, instant messaging, text messaging and the social network's existing message system through a single "social inbox."

While each of the social network's more than 500 million users will have the chance to get an @facebook.com e-mail address at the new service gradually rolls out to members in coming months.

CEO Mark Zuckerberg said the goal was not to create the world's largest e-mail network, but to merge external e-mail, text messaging, instant messages and Facebook's existing internal messaging service into a new kind of seamless communication system.

News of the new message system, which was the product of 15 months of intensive work within Facebook, dubbed "Project Titan," has received intensive attention in the tech media.

There has been speculation in recent days that a Facebook e-mail service would in one fell swoop eclipse the world's largest e-mail networks — Microsoft Hotmail's 361 million users, Yahoo Mail's 273 million users or Google Gmail's 193 million users.

But Zuckerberg said Facebook's goal was not to steal e-mail traffic from its rivals.

Rather, the intention is to dissolve the fragmentation between the various computer and smartphone communication channels, including e-mail, IMs and phone text messages.

"This is not an e-mail killer," Zuckerberg told journalists at a heavily attended announcement in San Francisco, where the tech media is massed this week for the Web 2.0 Summit.

"This is a messaging system that includes e-mail as one part of it. We don't expect anyone to wake up tomorrow and say, 'I'm going to shut down my Yahoo Mail or Gmail account, and switch to Facebook."

The new e-mail system will allow Facebook members to send e-mail from within their Facebook page to any external e-mail address.

But it also will allow people to see incoming e-mail from outside Facebook or a text message sent from a friend's smart phone on their Facebook page, all integrated within a "conversation" assigned to that one single person.

Danny Sullivan, editor-in-chief of the website Search Engine Land, said that the success of the new system will depend on how easy people find it to use.

"While it might not trump more functional e-mail portals like Gmail overnight, for Facebook "it will tie people to the service" more closely.

The system will also allow essentially unlimited archiving of conversations with a particular person.

This means that a Facebook user could see their entire communication with that person in one place, across a variety of communication methods.

And Zuckerberg said that because Facebook knows its users' networks of friends, it would be much more efficient at filtering out spam or less important e-mail messages.

Andrew Bosworth, the Facebook engineer who headed "Project Titan," said Facebook's main thrust was to allow people to focus on the conversation, rather than whether they were doing it through e-mail, and instant message or a text message, and not to eclipse existing e-mail networks.

"The goal for us is to make it easier for people to connect with the people they care about," he said.

"If they find it easier to do that through Facebook, cool."
California Supreme Court gives immigrant students a break on in-state college tuition

Howard Mintz
SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS

The California Supreme Court on Monday upheld a state law that enables illegal immigrant students to pay lower in-state tuition at public colleges and universities.

The justices rejected arguments that the policy unfairly discriminates against students from other states who pay higher fees yet are U.S. citizens. In a unanimous ruling, the justices concluded that the state provision providing tuition aid to undocumented students does not run afoul of federal laws restricting public education benefits to illegal immigrants.

They emphasized that it is not up to the courts to address how the issue fits into the broader debate over illegal immigration. ‘This court does not make policy,’ Justice Ming Chin wrote for the court. "Whether Congress' prohibition or the Legislature's exemption is good policy is not for us to say."

The case has attracted widespread attention across the country as another legal battleground over illegal immigration.

The ruling is being closely watched because a number of other states have similar laws that are expected to come under legal attack by groups that consider such policies as public encouragement of illegal immigration.

A group of non-California residents sued in Yolo County to block the state law in 2005, arguing that it violates a 12-year-old federal law that bars states from providing benefits to illegal immigrants based on their residence.

A state appeals court sided with that argument, but the state Supreme Court overturned that ruling.

Among other things, the Supreme Court concluded that residency is not the sole factor in providing the benefit to undocumented students.

The justices noted that the law requires a student to attend a California high school for at least three years to qualify for the in-state tuition, as well as satisfy other criteria.

The lawyers on both sides could not immediately be reached for comment, but the group suing to overturn the law could still appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

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What to know when stitching up the holes in your head

Erik Hamen is a graduate student pursuing a Master of Public Policy and the "When I Was a Mustang..." columnist.

Last week we covered tattoo removal. Now let us go over removing the mild-mannered cousin, the piercing.

Specifically, this article is directed at anyone who:
- Has/had plugs in their ears up to a gauge of about four.
- Let their friend pierce their ears with a rusty safety pin at the age of 14, only to have been left with a couple of discolored holes they still wear earrings in.
- Or, is (a male) stuck with jock marks in both ears after the *NSYNC hoop earring wave slowly and regretfully receded.

Those lip, eyebrow and nipple piercings you hide from your parents every time you head home for winter break will usually heal on their own once you take the jewelry out, or are already nondescript. However, while you will fit right in with the rest of the bike messenger crew in San Francisco or Williamsburg with those plugs in your ears (along with that snazzy tattoo of a bike on your calf); even if you take them out, the holes in your ears will still make you look goofy at your new job at American International Group, Inc. (AIG) after you graduate.

Do not be sullen though; there is hope for you yet! In an age where you can get implants in your butt to look like Jennifer Lopez, stitching up your ears is chump change. Time to make an appointment with your favorite dermatologist — typically the same one you go to get all your Retin-A from to clear up those post-puberty zits that just won't go away. Dermatologists deal with piercings and plugs often; from tears and infections to minor surgeries.

Once you have made your appointment and are seated in the doctor's chair, a nurse will put a topical anesthetic on your ears and give you a shot in both ears to numb them. The shots are pretty important because the doctor is about to slice off the skin around the holes. This will usually only be done to the front of your ears (no one sees the back anyway), so the doctor does not want a new hole to form by slicing up the back as well. The doctor will then place one (or two for plugs) stitches on both ears, pulling the skin together and that is it — all done!

The procedure is quick, lasting no more than 10 minutes. Post-procedure care is easy too, only requiring your lazy ass to put Vaseline on the stitches in the morning and evening for the first five days — surely you can handle that. The stitches come out in two weeks and you can re-pierce your ears in six weeks (or whenever *NSYNC has that reunion tour you've been waiting for).

Beware that there are a couple of things to keep in mind before getting a piercing removed. The whole procedure will cost you about $200 to $300 per ear and, unless it is a life-threatening infection, insurance will not cover it. Also, similar to getting your tattoos removed, you will likely still be stuck with some sort of permanent reminder of decisions past. This will be in the form of very small, white scars on your ears where the stitches were. Like all scars, they will fade over time. A couple months after the procedure, they will only be noticeable if someone is uncomfortably close to you. Finally, anyone with plugs larger than a gauge of about four can still get a consultation from their dermatologist, but will likely be referred to a plastic surgeon.

I wish you all the best of luck stitching up those regretful holes in your head.
Stock up on vitamin A with Doctor Carrot

The Food Factor

Heather Backwood is a food science junior and Mustang Daily food columnist.

"Eh...what's up, doc?"

The famous words of one very popular bunny unintentionally gave a quick peek into the life of the bright orange carrot Bugs is always seen munching on. A quick peek into the life of the humble carrot with the gallant title of Doctor. A brief look into the history of the carrot may offer a glimpse into health? Years of service to the medicinal world, nutritious health benefits and sweetness even a screaming 4-year-old will accept after a shot. I do not know if these qualifications give me enough confidence to want Doctor Carrot operating on me if need be, but I will surely take his prescription to incorporate more carrots in my diet to keep me healthy and vital.

CLUE: This food is native to North America and present at 94 percent of American Thanksgiving dinners.

Moroccan Carrot Salad

(CLUE: This food is native to North America and present at 94 percent of American Thanksgiving dinners.)

In a medium-sized bowl, mix:
- 2 cups grated carrots
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 3 teaspoons ground cumin
- 1 tablespoon honey
- 3 teaspoons fresh lemon juice
- 1/3 cup olive oil
- 1 cup mild feta, washed and chopped

Directions:
Cover carrots and cook in two cups of water until just tender (approximately six minutes).

In a medium-sized bowl, mix:
- Charred, scrapped, sliced carrots
- Moroccan Carrot Salad dressing

Serve warm or at room temperature.
Holiday season marks hit and miss movie releases

Colin Covert
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

What's going on here? Like some kind of apocalyptic weirdness predicted by the Mayan calendar? No Yuletide-themed movies for year-end? Jeff Bridges competing against himself in the two most highly anticipated releases of the season? Shakespeare with a sex change? Half a Harry Potter film? A feel-good movie about a guy who hacks off his own arm? Movies opening on Christmas Day, a Saturday????? Has the world gone mad?

As 2010 rolls to a close, Hollywood's LA-la lunacy smells riper than usual. Sure, there are such franchise stalwarts as "Harry Potter 7.5," "Narnia: Better Than the Last Sequel," and "The Little Fockers: Now With Added Dustin Hoffman." But we've also got a psychological thriller about a ballerina sprouting pinfeathers, Johnny Depp playing dumb and dumpy, and an English import about stuttering royalty. Sometimes I feel like I'm in some kind of "inception" world where nothing makes any sense. Anyway, here's the rundown of holiday movies in order of openings:

Nov. 19: The last chapter in the Harry Potter saga is split in two; we won't get closure until the real finale is released next July 15. Until then, there are Death Eaters and Snatchers aplenty in "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1" along with audience members weeping because their childhoods are that much closer to being over. "127 Hours" stars James Franco as real-life mountain-climber/self-amputee Aron Ralston. The film has garnered hellaacious pre-release publicity because one person with health issues got stuck in a screening somewhere. Never fear. I've seen it and I promise you can stomach "Jackass," you'll have no problems here. Danny Boyle's film is intense but quite light on gore.

Nov. 24: With Cher and Christina Aguilera camping it up as hoochie-coochie dancers on L.A.'s Sunset Strip, "Burlesque" promises to be a major guilty pleasure. The trailer looks more like "Showgirls" than "Chicago." The ever-amazing MPAA has rated the film PG-13 for "sexual content including several suggestive dance routines and partial nudity," which sounds just like every other doomy-sounding film in terms. On the other hand, I fell hard for "Love and Other Drugs" when it screened recently. It's ultra-sexy, surprisingly funny and very touching. Jake Gyllenhaal stars as a hotshot pharmaceutical exec who falls in love with Anne Hathaway, who has A Very Bad Disease. It's not as contrived as it sounds. It's the kind of movie Tom Cruise would have made 20 years ago, the leads are scorching hot and director Edward Zwick steers it all like a Gran Prix racer.

Dec. 10: The Narnia series, dropped by Disney when chapter two disappointed, is back in high style. Fox put director Michael Apted in charge of the Chronicles of Narnia: Voyage of the Dawn Treader" and on the basis of the semi-finished print I saw, he nails it. The effects are thrilling, the comedy is funny and young Will Poulter, that scene thief from "Son of Rambow" runs away with the film as bratty cousin Eustace. I've only seen trailers for "The Tourist" but they worry me. Johnny Depp has somehow made himself look schlubby as an Everyman traveler drawn into some kind of comic espionage nonsense by Angelina Jolie. The impressive CGI got is of a film that's totally off the mark. It was directed by Florian Henckel von Donnersmark.

Dec. 17: You're not supposed to wait too long between sequels, and it's been 18 years since the original "Iron" brought its black light post-er videogame ethic to Pong-era moviegoers. What little I've seen via Internet outtakes and trailers leaves me lukewarm. There's been a lot of reshooting on this one. The potentially cool Daft Punk soundtrack sounds just like every other doomy sci-fi score. Maybe it'll look amazing in 3-D. On another planet entirely, the bouncy British comedy "Made in Dagenham" radiates good cheer like a stove throws off heat. It's a "Full Monty"-style rouser about blue-collar women bonding to improve their lives, and it's a sweetheart of a movie. Jim Carrey's long-delayed "I Love You Phillip Morris" — the shorthand for this one is "the gay jailbird comedy" — turns out to be quite nice. Ewan McGregor makes a fine love interest and the amazing-but-tragic story of high-finance fraud, prison breaks and improbable impersonations is riveting. "The Tempest," with Helen Mirren as a female Prospero, sounds like a high-falutin' entry from director Julie Taymor, but anything starring Mirren is worth seeing.

Dec. 22: Coen Brothers, Brendan. Damon. "True Grit." Naff said. Choking on their trail dust, we get "The Little Fockers," wherein Ben Stiller performs an emergency medical procedure on Robert De Niro involving a hypodermic needle and a very sensitive appendage. I suspect there's a reason this one didn't go trolling for honors on the festival circuit. One ray of hope: After Dustin Hoffman decided to sit this one out, the producers found several truck loads of money and he reconsidered. He may be diffiiter, but he's funny.

Dec. 25: OK, maybe a story about the King of England and his speech therapist doesn't sound like electrifying material, but "The King's Speech" scored eight British Independent Film Awards and generated serious Oscar buzz. Playing the stammering King George VI, Colin Firth is said to be a lock for best actor. The key scene, in which he peppers his speech with curse words to short-circuit the stammering, sounds awesome. I'm imagining a Merchant Ivory period production with David Mamet dialogue. Ooh, shivers.

Among the movies that will be making their way to the big screen this holiday season is the first half of the final movie of the "Harry Potter" saga, which will be premiering this Thursday at midnight.

Winter 2011 Registration

Know Your Prerequisites

View the catalog description for a course to check its prerequisites before adding the class to your schedule. Many courses have prerequisites that are enforced in CPReg during enrollment.

Check course descriptions in PASS or at www.catalog.calpoly.edu.

A message from the Office of the Registrar
Remembering the Crops House incident

Eric Baldwin is an electrical engineering writer and Mustang Daily libreman columnist. This article is purely his opinion about this incident and not related to his liberaman columns.

The last few weeks mark the two-year anniversary of a great blot in Cal Poly's history — the Crops House incident. Although the events may seem simple and straightforward in retrospect, the accounts of what happened at the Crops House — since demolished — were a confusing and contradictory mess.

I can't entirely figure out what happened. There was a prior-existing Confederate flag of some, a noise somewhere nearby (for what it's worth, this was Halloween and the students at the Crops House were involved with the corn maze) and there may or may not have been a sign with any number of innane or offensive statements. The New Times for caught on to the story and Cal Poly was quickly caught up in a whirlwind of conflict.

The central flaw in the majority of responses was that they weren't based on definite information. There were several rumors flying around with sometimes radically differing accounts, and many people simply ran with whichever version suited their preferred form of victimhood. Many of the responses that ended up proven correct after the facts became known were inappropriate anyway because they had been based on uncertain information.

Especially at first no one really knew what was going on, but that didn't stop people from leading marches through campus, writing hysterical letters and articles and calling for the expulsion of the students involved. Departments on campus competed to see who could write the loudest and most critical denunciation, and one department took out a two-page spread in the Mustang Daily enjoying readers simply to "hate the." The response to the Crops House incident was far more definite and violent than the incident itself; in my mind, the response was what you are doing is not enough — even if your response turns out to be accidentally correct.

Some people, I think, had a much longer view of the situation — for them it was the centuries-long turmoil of racism that was the central fact, and the incident at the Crops House simply a glimpse into that ongoing event. It was the idea of racism, racism in the abstract, that required a quick and vehement response. They weren't responding to racism — the event: they were responding to racism — the idea. The opportunity to prosecute the larger war was more important than determining the specific nature of what happened.

Racism is wrong. It is wrong because it refuses to treat the innocent and less fortunate as well as the rich and well-born. It is wrong because it doesn't matter what you are doing. The evil of racism is its dehumanization. ... it is the dehumanization itself that is profoundly wrong.

— Eric Baldwin
Electrical engineering senior

I came to Cal Poly and earned an engineering degree but it was my experiences working alongside my friends to build KCPR that converted me from an engineering student to being a real engineer. Finding your passion changes you from Learning by Doing to Learning to get it Done!

— Len Filomeo
In response to "Students learn to 'Major in Success'"

NOTE: The Mustang Daily features select comments that are written in response to articles posted online. Though not all the responses are printed, the Mustang Daily prints comments that are coherent and future intelligent dialogue on a given subject. No overgeneralization, please.
Have you ever tried to quit smoking or chewing? If you quit cold turkey, the Great American Smokeout day, you will also receive a voucher for a turkey sandwich. Also don’t forget to come support a good cause and the push for a non-violent conflict resolution class.
Wrestling
continued from page 12
co-head coach. Perry, who won two individual national titles at Iowa in 2007 and 2008, said in his eyes, Azevedo is still the head coach.
"He is modeling me the way he feels appropriate and after this sea­son I'll take over," Perry said.
Perry's recent experience as a na­tionally recognized collegiate wres­
tler may prove pivotal in helping the
Novachkovs toward champion­
ships of their own.
"I think there's some things they can learn from me," Perry said. "The Novachkovs have to do things right if they want to be
NCAA champions this year, in
every aspect of their lives."
As for the Novachkovs, they are
determined to do just that.
"My ultimate goal is to win
nationals," Filip Novachkov said.
"It's my last year and I'm putting
everything out there. I have noth­
ing to hold back. I want to wrestle
the way I'm capable of and end up
on top."

Raiders
continued from page 12
Tommy Kelly, ends Matt Shaugh­
nessy and Lamarr Houston and
numerous others are feeding off
Seymour's intensity and leader­ship.
The result is the No. 3 pass de­
defense, a tie for the second-most
sacks and less pressure on the line­
hackers, cornerbacks and safeties
to execute their assignments be­
yond three seconds.
"Tommy and Richard, there's
times when they're unblockable," Cable said. "They're really playing at a high level."
The consistent play of the de­
ensive line has enabled the Raid­
ers to impose their will on their
opponents.
"We're lining up and we're play­
ing and we're saying, 'Here we are, let's fight,'" Cable said. "That has probably paid off more for us than
anything else."
3. Young and new faces
Only five of the 22 offensive
and defensive starters — left guard
Roberto Galloway, right guard Coo­
ple Carlisle, tight end Zach Miller,
cornerback Nnamdi Asomugha and Kelly — were starting for the
Raiders at the end of the 2008 sea­
son.
Seymour, linebackers Groves
and Kamerion Wimbley, center
Samson Satele and quarterback
Jason Campbell arrived via trade
within the past two years.
Middle linebacker Rolando
McClain, Houston and Shaugh­
nessy, strong safety Tyrvis Branch,
wide receivers Louis Murphy, Dar­
rius Heyward-Bey and Jacoby Ford
came in the past two draft classes.
"Youth is probably the best thing
because this is a young man's game," Groves said. "We are growing to­
gether as a team. College is one
thing but the NFL is a totally dif­
ferent thing. We're learning how to
execute their assignments be­
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Wrestling aims for return to NCAA Championships

J.J. Jenkins
JJJEKINS.MD@GMAIL.COM

Fresh off an 18th place finish in the NCAA tournament, the Cal Poly wrestling team is back with its sights set on a Pac-10 championship. Of the 10 spots in the starting lineup, seven wrestlers rank in the top-25 in the country including one All-American.

Senior All-American Boris Novachkov, who is ranked No. 4 in the country at 141 pounds, said his goal is to win nationals.

"I've had a taste of it, I took seventh," Boris Novachkov said. "I'm just trying to climb that ladder."

Boris' big brother Filip, who is ranked 10th and will compete at 131 pounds, will be at his side all season.

"My brother is definitely one of my best workout partners, if not the best," Filip Novachkov said. "I drill with my brother everyday. He's one of the toughest people that I've ever wrestled. It's definitely good for both of us."

Ryan Smith, a junior who will wrestle at 197 pounds, said there is a reason why the team has such high goals.

"(My goal is) to be a National Champion," Smith said. "You've got to set your goals high so if you fall short you are still hitting All-American."

An added dimension to the team is the addition of two transfers, senior Barrett Abel from UC Davis, which cut the wrestling program last spring, and redshirt sophomore Articus Disney from Minnesotta. Both wrestlers found themselves in the preseason top-25 after changing schools.

Even though the addition of transfers did not change the dynamic of the team they are "a lot better than last year," Boris Novachkov said.

A sign of that improvement was visible on Saturday as Disney and Abel won their first matches as Mustangs in a dual meet against Cal State Fullerton.

Disney did not waste time against Kurt Klimke, who was ranked ahead of the Mustang heavyweight. Disney found an opening in the first 15 seconds and stepped into a head throw, taking his opponent straight to his back.

After a brief struggle, Disney got the pin to end the dual.

"It went well, what more can you say?" Disney said. "First collegiate match ever, so it was fun. To come out and get a pin in front of all these people."

Disney's pin solidified the Mustang's 36-14 win over Fullerton, as Cal Poly won seven of the 10 matches.

The Mustangs will wrestle at home three more times while students are in school, but an important match takes place against Wyoming in Most Gym on Jan. 14. The contest is the first in a series of three tough matches as the team travels to Oregon State and Boise State, which is ranked No. 2 as a team, this week.

Another change from last year is the head coaching position as Mark Perry, an assistant from last season, now accompanies John Azevedo as an assistant coach.

The Cal Poly wrestling team went 8-4 (5-2 Pac-10) last season and finished 18th at the NCAA Tournament.

Raiders staging a return to excellence

Steve Corkran
CONTEN DSPORTS TIMES

OAKLAND, Calif. — Oakland Raiders coach Tom Cable has told anyone willing to listen the past two years that the team he inherited from Lane Kiffin was on to something, that the Raiders were making steady progress towards ending their skid that began in 2003.

For the most part, it fell on deaf ears as the losses mounted and the tangible signs of a turnaround failed to manifest themselves in a concrete manner.

Three weeks ago, the Raiders entered a game against the Denver Broncos at 2-4 and at the precipice.

"You all thought I was crazy when we were struggling early in the year, and I just knew that we were that close," Cable said.

Cable isn't ready to pronounce the Raiders' arrival as an elite team just yet. However, he now has everyone's attention and a slew of evidence to support his contention that there's a revival taking place from the ashes of seven straight seasons of at least 11 losses.

The Raiders are above .500 this late in the season for the first time since 2002 as they enjoy their bye week. They tied with Kansas City Chiefs atop the AFC West and one win away from surpassing their victory total from any of the past seven seasons.

Players are all-in, that's for sure. Outside linebacker Quentin Groves was told by peers that he was going to a place where players "go for your career to die" when he was traded to the Raiders in the off-season.

He said he told himself that it couldn't be that bad and his faith has been rewarded.

"The sense that we have and the presence that we have is not the old Raiders, the Raiders of old, the Raiders of these past seven years," Groves said. "We have a sense of, 'OK, we can compete against anybody.' If we strap on our helmet, buckle our chin strap, we can compete with anybody. And that's the thing we take into each game, that, hey, you're not going to beat us, we can only beat ourselves. So once we do that, we're a hard team to beat."

The Raiders have seven games left this season. A game against the 3-6 Denver Broncos is the only one that qualifies as somewhat of a breath between now and the playoffs. Yes, there's hope this late in the season, where in seasons past there was none.

What follows is a look at the reasons there are people beyond Cable thinking the Raiders are a legitimate playoff contender and not just a first-half feel-good story.

1. Rushing offense

The Raiders are second in the league at an average of 162.2 yards per game. Darren McFadden has developed into one of the league's best all-around backs in his first season as the featured running back.

McFadden's ability to break tackles, turn short runs into long ones and keep the Raiders in favorable down-and-distance situations paves the way for an efficient offensive attack.

Michael Bush and Marcel Reece complement McFadden well and make the Raiders difficult to defend for an entire game. The ability to run the ball well also keeps the defense off the field for longer stretches and, by extension, fresher late in games.

2. Defensive pressure

Tackle Richard Seymour is playing as well as any defensive player in the league. Fellow tackle Ryan Siskidto Mustang Daily

Keddy nabs conference Player of the Week honors

Middle blocker Jennifer Keddy was tabbed as the Big West Conference Player of the Week Monday. She nailed a team-high 15 kills against Pacific on Friday and boasted 12 kills against UC Davis on Saturday. She also posted a team-high five blocks against the Aggies. On the season, Keddy is averaging 3.18 kills, 1.12 blocks and .88 digs per set. Her .366 hitting percentage ranks second in the conference and she also ranks fifth in blocks per set (1.06).