Gutting corners: students, faculty protest budget cuts

Alicia Freeman
ALICIAFREEMAN.MU@GMAIL.COM

“What do we want? Education! When do we want it? Now!”

With whistles blasting, Cal Poly students, staff and faculty carried signs and shouted chants as they marched around the University Union Plaza (UU) April 13, joining in a statewide protest against education budget cuts.

With a $500 million cut to California State University (CSU) funds, students, staff and faculty took action as part of the “Class Action” rally. Some students took action beyond the “Class Action” rally, such as the more than 3,000 students who protested at Long Beach State on April 12. Other students from schools such as Cal State Fullerton, Los Angeles and Northridge attempted to “storm” administration buildings to stop operations and push for the resignation of CSU Chancellor Charles B. Reed, according to the student group Students for Quality Education.

With signs reading, “If you think education is expensive, try ignorance,” and “At least the war on education is going well,” among others, members from all over the Cal Poly campus spectrum joined together to rally against the proposed cuts.

Cal Poly physics professor Richard Saenz, who sits on the local California Faculty Association (CFA) executive board, said he participated in the rally because he said it is an important cause.

“We’re going to be in deep trouble if there are any more cuts next year,” Saenz said. “Fewer classes, fewer faculty, probably fewer students or more students in each class. It’s not going to look good. And they already say California’s not graduating enough people, particularly in some of the fields we need, like teachers and scientists, and if we cut back, it’s going to be bad.”

In fact, if proposed tax extensions do not go through, CSU funds may be cut an additional $500 million. The current cuts have required tuition to rise 10 percent, as well as an expected 5 percent decrease in faculty, staff and enrollment.

“Though some of the rally participants blamed Conservatives and Republicans for the lack of tax support in education, Glen Thorncroft, a mechanical engineering professor and the president of the local CFA chapter, said the issue rises above political ideologies.

“I never viewed this rally or anything that I do as purely a teacher issue,” Thorncroft said. “It’s not a purely liberal issue, it’s not a conservative issue. I never viewed my position as nothing more than inclusive to all parties because I really don’t think there’s very much difference between a conservative and a liberal when it comes to education. They may not want to tax it to support education, but they understand the concept that it’s a worthwhile investment.”

At the beginning of the rally, Thorncroft said every dollar invested in education by the state results in $5 back. He said it was important for tax payers to know that funding education is not just a “social obligation,” but also “sound fiscal policy.”

Giovanni Prinzivalli, a sociology junior and one of the organizers of the Cal Poly rally, spoke after Thorncroft. He said he joined in the rally because education funding is important to him. Prinzivalli, along with Thorncroft, led the group through the UU while chanting protests.

“I’m participating because I think education is the most important investment we can make,” Prinzivalli said. “It’s the best financial investment, and it’s the best social investment, so I guess you can say education is my thing. I really believe in it. And I don’t like it when education gets cut.”

Thorncroft said when education funds get cut and tuition rises, some students are unable to see Rally, page 2

Proposed 2011–2012 State Budget Allocation

(K-12 education)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>(in millions)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$25.8 million: proposed amount cut in funding to Cal Poly</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$500 million: proposed amount cut from California State University system</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1.4 billion: proposed amount cut from California higher education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Governor’s Budget Summary

CATCH UP ON YOUR FELLOW MUSTANGS

MUSTANG DAILY

Pick up a copy of the Mustang Daily today

Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday
The San Luis Obispo City Council met in a special session Tuesday to map the 2011-2013 city budget. Lasting four hours, the meeting concluded with the postponement of debate on the current $4.4 million shortfall in the city general fund.

Instead of reallocating money in the budget (to be adopted June 21), the council spent much of the meeting identifying major city goals for the next two years.

Councilmember Kathy Smith stressed the necessity of a renewed focus on objectives.

“We are not putting our money in major city goals,” Smith said in the meeting.

The council said its four most important goals for the 2011-2013 financial plan are: economic development, preservation of essential services, fiscal health, neighborhood wellness and traffic congestion.

Primarily focused on economic development, the council vowed to create more head-of-household jobs. "Most of the jobs we're bringing into town are minimum wage," Smith said. "We have coming (the) Pertumno Canyon development, which has Target, and we have Chinatown and Garden streets Terraces ... none of which are going to be head-of-household jobs."

Local, too, remain skeptical of the city’s pledge to bolster business.

Longtime San Luis Obispo resident Toni Patterson voiced her disinterest Tuesday during public comment.

“There aren’t any jobs,” Patterson said. "You can make (neighborhoods) beautiful and look like Disneyland, but you can’t draw people to a neighborhood where they can’t get a job.”

Patterson also commented on the spending in the budget.

"I'm very upset about the way my money's been spent," Patterson said. "I’m very upset about bringing in any more consultants."

San Luis Obispo resident Leslie Halls, who commented following Patterson, also said taxpayer money should not be spent on financial consultants.

“I don’t think we need to hire more consultants and pay them $100,000 to tell us we need to do something,” Halls said.

Upon hearing these remarks, the council said it would reduce the number of paid consultants.

Mayor Jack Marz said the economic evaluations previously done by consultants could be assigned to people currently on city payroll.

"Let’s train the staff we have and develop in-house," Marz said.

Another pressing budgetary issue is the renewal of Measure V, the half-cent sales tax increase the city voted for in 2006.

Though Marz said she advocated the continuation of Measure V, some disagreement on the matter exists within the council.

Councilmember Dan Carpenter said he does not think the council has properly spent funds accumulated from the added sales tax.

“We have to earn the right to have Measure Y renewed,” Carpenter said. "We don’t do it by spending money on consultants. If we need to take that $80,000, then let’s give it to neighborhood wellness, an area we hope for."

Though there is no consensus with regard to Measure V, the council said increased attention needs to be paid to neighborhood wellness.

The council, as well as San Luis Obispo Police Chief Deborah Lueden, discussed possible amendments to code enforcement, parking enforcement and the Student Neighborhood Assistance Program (SNAP).

Controlling property remains the most challenging aspect of neighborhood wellness efforts.

Carol Winger, the first speaker during public comment, described recent occurrences in her neighborhood.

"I think that people vote with their feet and just move out of town if it's too much hassle to live in some of these neighborhoods," Marz said.

Marx subsequently requested the implementation of "neighborhood specialist programs" to go along with SNAP and parking enforcement.

Budget items not covered Tuesday will be addressed April 19 in a city council meeting beginning at 3 p.m. A preliminary budget is scheduled to be revealed May 26.
State

WASHINGTON (MCT) — Whale watchers and other boaters will have to stay twice as far from Puget Sound's orca whales to avoid disturb­ ing the endangered species, under new rules issued Friday by the fed­ eral government. Boaters also won't be allowed to cut in front of a whale to intercept it, but the government dropped plans to ban vessels from the west side of San Juan Island dur­ ing summer after public opposition, according to documents released by the National Marine Fisheries Service.

The new rules take effect next month.

National

NEPAL (MCT) — Six people were killed by lightning in Nepal and eight were injured in different parts of the country, police said Wednesday. Officials said three people were killed in Sindhuli district late Tuesday and two were severely injured. Two people were killed in Makawanpur district early Wednes­ day as lightning struck amid heavy rainfall. Six people were injured in the district. One man died in Udaptpur district.

AFGHANISTAN (MCT) — Afghan President Hamid Karzai offered a scarcely veiled condem­ nation of Pakistan on Wednesday for a suicide bombing in Kunar province that killed at least 10 gov­ ernment-allied tribal leaders and wounded seven others.

The attack, Karzai said in a statement, was the work of "cow­ ardy foreign agents hired by our historical enemy." He didn't men­ tion Pakistan by name, but the reference was clear to all Afghans. Once again, a suicide attack in one of Afghanistan's eastern prov­inces was being laid to an as-yet­ unidentificd bomber suspected of coming from Pakistan's lawless tribal regions.

NATO allies publicly complained about the intensity and scope of the air cam­ paign against Libya's air defense sites since NATO took command, 97 of them have been flown by U.S. aircraft. Lapan said that, since April 1, U.S. aircraft have carried out 35 percent of the strikes, 77 percent of the aerial refueling missions and 27 percent of the surveillance flights.

U.S. air attacks in Libya continued after policy shift

David S. Cloud

WASHINGTON BUREAU

U.S. warplanes have bombed three ground targets in Libya since the Obama administration announced early this month that the United States was shifting to a support role in the NATO-led air campaign, the Pentagon acknowledged Wednesday.

Col. Dave Lapan, a Pentagon spokesman, said that U.S. fighter jets have attacked Libyan air defense sites as part of the no-fly zone imposed last month under a U.N. mandate to deter attacks against civilians by forces loyal to Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi.

Administration officials have said that the U.S. had halted strike sorties on April 4, several days after turning over command of the air campaign to the NATO alliance, and that attacks on Libyan tanks and other ground units would be handled by aircraft from Brit­ ain, France and other allies.

But the limited U.S. role has grown increasingly controversial in recent days.

In his speech last month announc­ ing the turnover to a non-U.S. NATO com­ mander, President Barack Obama said, "The United States will play a sup­ porting role — including intelligence, logistical support, search and rescue as­ sisstance, and capabilities to jam regime communications."

A senior military official said three attacks were launched last week against Libyan surface-to-air missile sites. U.S. F-16 and EA-18G fighters carried out the strikes with 500-pound bombs.

Lapan disputed suggestions that the attacks contradicted administra­ tion claims to have assumed a support role in the operations. He said the U.S. combat role was confined to enforcing the no-fly zone and that non-American warplanes were attacking Libyan mili­ tary units that threatened civilians.

"Having a few aircraft in this cap­ pacity (conducting airstrikes) does not change" the fact that the U.S. is in a support role, Lapan said.

But the Pentagon appeared eager Wednesday to counter the impression that the U.S. had withdrawn complete­ly from an active role in the air cam­ paign. Of the 134 missions to monitor against Libyan air defense sites since NATO took command, 97 of them have been flown by U.S. aircraft.

whales watchers and other boaters will have to stay twice as far from Puget Sound's orca whales to avoid disturbing the endangered species, under new rules issued Friday by the federal government. Boaters also won't be allowed to cut in front of a whale to intercept it, but the government dropped plans to ban vessels from the west side of San Juan Island during summer after public opposition, according to documents released by the National Marine Fisheries Service.

whale watchers and other boaters will have to stay twice as far from Puget Sound's orca whales to avoid disturbing the endangered species, under new rules issued Friday by the federal government. Boaters also won't be allowed to cut in front of a whale to intercept it, but the government dropped plans to ban vessels from the west side of San Juan Island during summer after public opposition, according to documents released by the National Marine Fisheries Service.

whale watchers and other boaters will have to stay twice as far from Puget Sound's orca whales to avoid disturbing the endangered species, under new rules issued Friday by the federal government. Boaters also won't be allowed to cut in front of a whale to intercept it, but the government dropped plans to ban vessels from the west side of San Juan Island during summer after public opposition, according to documents released by the National Marine Fisheries Service.

whale watchers and other boaters will have to stay twice as far from Puget Sound's orca whales to avoid disturbing the endangered species, under new rules issued Friday by the federal government. Boaters also won't be allowed to cut in front of a whale to intercept it, but the government dropped plans to ban vessels from the west side of San Juan Island during summer after public opposition, according to documents released by the National Marine Fisheries Service.
Alternative energy bill introduced by Brown could benefit state economy

Patrick McGreevy
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Gov. Jerry Brown on Tuesday signed into law a requirement that California get 33 percent of its electricity from renewable sources, such as wind and solar energy, by the year 2020.

Calling the new law the most ambitious clean-energy effort in the United States, the governor predicted that it would help jump-start the state's economy. He said he expects the aggressive shift away from coal and natural gas to create jobs while putting the state on the cutting edge of new technology.

"It's about California leading the country," Brown said at a signing ceremony in Silicon Valley. "It's America potentially leading the world."

The governor spoke at a recently opened SunPower/Flextronics manufacturing plant, a cavernous factory where more than 100 employees make solar panels.

U.S. Energy Secretary Steven Chu, who attended the ceremony, said he sees the measure as a model for other states. He also announced a tentative agreement for a new solar energy project in San Luis Obispo County that he said would generate enough power for nearly 60,000 homes.

The legislation will make it easier for renewable-energy companies to attract investors for green energy firms, said Sun Power CEO Thomas Werner. The measure "gives us long-term market visibility," he said.

Bernadette Del Chiaro, a representative for the lobbying group Environmental California, called the new law a "huge victory" for the environment. "California can power itself entirely on clean energy resources like wind, geothermal and solar power," she said.

Brown's signature raises the former renewable-energy mandate of 20 percent. Democratic state Sen. Joe Simitian, author of the legislation, said the 33 percent benchmark will reduce air pollution and U.S. dependence on unstable foreign sources of oil, while creating more than 100,000 jobs. That number is based on a study by the Center for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Technology, a trade group representing renewable energy companies, according to Simitian's staff.

"The new law will stimulate the economy and improve the environment, while protecting ratepayers from excessive costs," Simitian said.

His bill was opposed by many Republican lawmakers, who predicted that utilities would have to significantly raise electricity rates, leading some firms to move manufacturing jobs out of the state. One state study found meeting the mandate would cost utilities about 7 percent more than current levels of coal and natural gas use.


Simitian noted that his bill, SB 2X, allows the Public Utilities Commission to put a cap on what power companies would have to spend to meet the new standard. And it permits an extension of the 2020 deadline if renewable energy is not sufficiently available.

Brown made the expansion of renewable energy part of his campaign last year. On Tuesday, he seemed to relish the idea that the measure pushed the envelope on public policy. "I didn't get my name 'Governor Moonbeam' for nothing," he quipped.
Margaret Talev
David Lightman
Kevin G. Hall

McClatchy Newspapers

President Barack Obama on Wednesday unveiled his alternative to Republicans' deficit-cutting plans, a mix of $3 in spending cuts for every $1 in tax increases to shave $4 trillion from deficit spending over the next dozen years.

To get there, Obama would end the George W. Bush-era tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans — but not the middle class — at the end of next year, and close some individual tax loopholes. Republicans say they won't support tax increases.

Obama's plan does not call for any major changes to the Medicare program, including raising the eligibility age. Nor does he propose any reductions to Social Security benefits. Under the Republican plan, after 2021, future retirees would be able to choose private plans for coverage instead of Medicare, and would get federal help.

Obama hours before his speech saying they are all for cooperation but won’t consider any tax increases. "I thought the meeting was constructive in the sense that I think everyone at the White House meeting agreed that we need to kind of put the talking points aside and deal with what's doable," said Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky.

But House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, said Obama "heard us loud and clear: If we're going to resolve our differences and do something meaningful, raising taxes will not be part of that."

The Republican budget plan would cut $6.2 trillion from anticipated spending over the next 10 years, and dramatically revamp Medicare and Medicaid. States would get block grants for the Medicaid program, a joint federal-state effort that helps lower income people with health coverage. Under the Republican plan, after 2021, future retirees would be able to choose private plans for coverage instead of Medicare, and would get federal help.

To get there, Obama would end the Bush-era tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans — but not the middle class — at the end of next year, and close some individual tax loopholes. Republicans say they won't support tax increases.

Obama's plan does not call for any major changes to the Medicare program, including raising the eligibility age. Nor does he propose any reductions to Social Security benefits. Under the Republican plan, after 2021, future retirees would be able to choose private plans for coverage instead of Medicare, and would get federal help.

Obama hours before his speech saying they are all for cooperation but won’t consider any tax increases. "I thought the meeting was constructive in the sense that I think everyone at the White House meeting agreed that we need to kind of put the talking points aside and deal with what's doable," said Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky.

But House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, said Obama "heard us loud and clear: If we're going to resolve our differences and do something meaningful, raising taxes will not be part of that."

The Republican budget plan would cut $6.2 trillion from anticipated spending over the next 10 years, and dramatically revamp Medicare and Medicaid. States would get block grants for the Medicaid program, a joint federal-state effort that helps lower income people with health coverage. Under the Republican plan, after 2021, future retirees would be able to choose private plans for coverage instead of Medicare, and would get federal help.

Obama hours before his speech saying they are all for cooperation but won’t consider any tax increases. "I thought the meeting was constructive in the sense that I think everyone at the White House meeting agreed that we need to kind of put the talking points aside and deal with what's doable," said Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky.

But House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, said Obama "heard us loud and clear: If we're going to resolve our differences and do something meaningful, raising taxes will not be part of that."

The Republican budget plan would cut $6.2 trillion from anticipated spending over the next 10 years, and dramatically revamp Medicare and Medicaid. States would get block grants for the Medicaid program, a joint federal-state effort that helps lower income people with health coverage. Under the Republican plan, after 2021, future retirees would be able to choose private plans for coverage instead of Medicare, and would get federal help.
Jury selects art for annual student exhibition

University Art Gallery coordinator Jeff Van Kleeck said getting one's work on display in the student show is a very competitive process, but in the end it's worth it for students to see their hard work pay off. "They get to see their work in a gallery, set on a pedestal, hung on a wall and lit professionally," he said. "They are used to seeing their work in the classroom or pinned to a wall, but this will be a grand setting."

After an intensive jury process of art critique and judgment, the lineup of student work displayed in the Art and Design department's Annual Juried Student Exhibition has been selected. Photography, paintings, ceramics, sculptures and graphic design projects of all shapes, sizes and colors fill the space of the University Art Gallery for the student show, which opens today.

Regardless of their major, students taking any art and design course were eligible to submit their work to be considered for the exhibit. The competitive and prestigious aspect of the student exhibition comes from the two jurors who carefully chose approximately 50 pieces of art for the final show.

The jurors, Alex Klein and Arvi Raquel-Santos, both have extensive experience in the art industry and have been published and recognized for their work.

"(The jurors) spend a long day jurying, going through it to pick the best of the best," University Art Gallery coordinator Jeff Van Kleeck said. "It's very competitive."

Amber Kiwan
AMBERKIWAN.MUSCOCOM

COURTESY PHOTOS

STENNER GLEN
"Student living at its finest"
www.stennerglen.com

WE DO IT LOCALLY
LOCAL FARMERS. LOCAL FOOD. LOCAL NEWS.

Come visit the Mustang Daily's booth at Farmer's Market tonight!
Cal Poly student heats up competition for mainstream humorous websites

Hannah Croft
HANNAHCROFT.MD@GMAIL.COM

It was just last week when the Mustang Daily featured business administration sophomore Brett Edwards and his alter-ego, Mr. Eco. The rapping superhero also takes on the role of entrepreneur as he continues to develop his first website, whatthepic.com.

The site's purpose is to share funny pictures taken with cell phone cameras. The idea for whatthepic.com came from a trip Edwards and his family took to New York to visit his sister.

"I found myself wandering around the city taking pictures of anything that made me laugh," he said. "I would send them to a few select friends, but then I thought, 'Why not share this with everyone?'" So with that, Edwards presented his idea to the Entrepreneurship Club on campus, and began working with Web designers and developers.

"The ultimate challenge is to follow through with your ideas," he said. "I came up with things like this all the time, but I decided it was finally time to do something. This was tangible and feasible. I could actually make it happen."

His first stop was Web developer and computer science graduate Justin Appier, who found Edwards' idea innovative and creative.

"There are plenty of sites like this out there," Appier said. "But none that cater to cell phone pictures."

Edwards also called on graphic designer Michael Uribes, who worked with his mother at the Fresno State newspaper, The Collegian.

"She knew I was a graphic designer," Uribes said. "She asked me if she could give out my contact information for design work."

Uribes designed the logo for the site as well as the layout and design of it, while Appier wrote the code.

With the help of Appier and Uribes, whatthepic.com launched Feb. 7, 2011 — five months after his New York trip.

Since February, the site has had 5,849 visits from 3,230 visitors, and 25,085 page views. Of those page views, 1,600 are from San Luis Obispo. It has 170 "likes" on Facebook.

Edwards' immediate goal is to break through new friend circles, and make whatthepic.com the go-to place for sharing funny images captured in everyday life.

"It's time for people to start sharing the funny things they find on our website on Facebook, or with their friends," Edwards said. "The more people talk about it, the more people visit the site."

Edwards and his team are working to improve the site to create a better experience for their viewers. Edwards is now focusing his attention on the experience of his audience as well as acquiring advertisers for the site.
Art

continued from page 6

Van Kleeck said approximately one third of the submitted pieces were selected. But those artists whose pieces are selected get to reap the benefits of their creative hard work.

“They get to see their work in a gallery, set on a pedestal, hung on a wall and lit professionally,” Van Kleeck said. “They are used to seeing their work in the classroom or pinned to a wall, but this will be a grand setting.”

Van Kleeck also said gallery shows are great resume builders for artists, especially juried shows such as this.

One of the largest pieces in the room was created by art and design senior Chris Iseri. The 6-by-4 foot oil painting on wood panels took Iseri about three weeks to complete, but only after spending the majority of the quarter going through initial pre-production processes.

Iseri said he used neutral tones of brown, black and white to create a complex and captivating image that seemed to change a bit with each viewing.

“I wanted to portray a surreal landscape,” Iseri said. “I used to choose to use a combination of 3-D imagery and 2-D flats to confuse the senses of the viewers, forcing them to try harder to understand the planes within the landscape.

Iseri’s work from last year’s Student Exhibition won “Best in Studio.” He said those pieces helped to inspire some of the work he submitted this time.

Kenny Singh, a sculpture artist and art and design senior, also had work displayed in both last year and this year’s Student Exhibitions.

The delicate details of his ceramic sculptures required a skillful hand, and a small crowd surrounded him when he described the intense process of creating the pieces.

“I’ll probably keep sculpture as a hobby,” Singh said. “But I want to go into branding and identity.”

His skills in the area of his probable future career are also going to be on display in the show. In addition to two graphic design poster-style projects, the identity he created for a winery made it into the show. The wine bottle labels, bottle tops and supplemental brochures and information were all purposefully designed to create a memorable and appealing brand of wine.

In addition to the various animate art forms, one form of video art was made it into the exhibition this year. A viewing station will be set up for audiences to watch the short film.

All student exhibition art will be on display through May 7 in the University Art Gallery, located in Dexter Hall, room 171.

Website

continued from page 7

“We’re working to randomize the pictures on the site,” Edwards said.

“But really, we need more content before we can do that well.”

Appier said his codes and plans for the site were under wraps, but visitors would soon see some new additions and changes to the site.


“We’re launching version two soon,” he said. “It’s really just going to be cleaner and it will hopefully optimize the user experience.”

Edwards said his ultimate goal is to eventually establish a network of sites, much like the series that started with finylife.com. The network would encompass sites for funny cell phone videos, he said, and also break pictures and videos into common categories.

“There are so many different sites already,” Edwards said. “But cell phone pictures don’t really get credibility. If we get this off the ground, then we can establish more descriptive genres of cell phone picture sites.”

If it sounds like Edwards is counting on sites like peoplesleaf.com and awkwardfamilyphotos.com, it’s because he is. But he said what-the-pic.com is designed to cell phone pictures, which makes it stand out from its mainstream competitor websites.

“Our biggest competitor is Face­book,” he said. “You can upload things straight from your phone. So I’d really like to have iPhone and Droid apps for the site.”

He said he searches for developers on campus, and hopes to have apps up in the near future.

But for now, Edwards is focusing on making what-the-pic.com a household name. He wants people to immediately think of his site when they see something funny.

“How amazing would it be to have people say ‘Oh this should go on what-the-pic’ when they see something funny around school?” he said.

“I want to put that thought in people’s heads.”

And with the flyers and business cards circulating around campus, along with Edwards and his friends promoting the site on Facebook, Edwards said he hopes to reach a broad audience.

“Really, it has so much potential,” he said. “I just hope I can get to reach that potential.”

His team members said they feel the same way.

“What-the-pic.com has the potential to become a hub for funny things that people catch,” Appier said. “It’s got a bright future and could become one of those go-to-humor-based sites.”

Edwards, Appier and Uribe encourage students to explore and contribute to what-the-pic.com, and to spread the word about the site to friends and family.

“It has been very cool to be a part of something that can potentially reach so many people,” Edwards said. “I’ve found it baby, and I’m excited to see it grow.”

HOROSCOPES

THURSDAY, APRIL 14

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Has anyone tried to tell you that you’re doing something the hard way? You will have reason to believe that what you hear is quite true.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — An adjustment may be necessary before you are able to compete with the big boys. Consider setting your sights on a new goal.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — You have what it takes to impress even those who begin the day dead set against you and what you are trying to accomplish.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — A minor injury is likely to have a major impact, even though recovery can be quick, permanent and relatively painless.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — You must be willing to share some of your resources with others — and in some situations, with those who are rivals or critics.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — You may not be able to take part directly, but you can do something that proves to be invaluable to those who have that privilege.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — You want things to go your way, and yet you may not be willing to do what is necessary to pay for that kind of good fortune.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Your smile can work wonders on campus, and hopes to have apps up in the near future.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — You’ll want to turn your attention away from your primary responsibility in order to indulge a whim, but that way lies danger.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — A first pass at a difficult endeavor is likely to go quite well — and in the days to come, you’ll want to recapture the feeling.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Others are waiting for you to decide which course of action is for you — even those who are — nominally, at least — in charge.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) — You’ll have the chance to be a part of something rather big, but you must be in the right place at the right time. Luck is a factor.

-TWICE A MONTH IN THE COUNTRY LIFE-

STREET ADDRESS: 2800 DWEIGE ROAD
PO BOX 147 - SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060-0147
PHOTOGRAPHED BY: DEAN COOK
PHOTOGRAPHERS: GREG contype, CHRISTINA, ANDREW, JAMES, ANGELO, JENNY, VALERIE

ATTENTION OASIS MEMBERS:

NEW FORMATS

HEATHER COOK

F JAN. 2008

FREE COMPUTER LAB

CHRISTINE

WEBSITE

MARK SCHNEIDER

409 MACQUARRI ROAD
TAM LICK 
(831) 208-1439

COLLEGEB GARDEN APARTMENTS

Prices starting at:

Call Now!

1 Bedroom $925.00
2 Bedroom $1,105.00

- Single car garage for just this a month
- Walk (g. easy) to Cal Poly
- Laundy room facilities onsite
- Water & trash included
- Cable & high speed internet included

One year leases starting-

July, August or September 2011

805-544-9502 centralconretri.com

MAY 2011

ARTS

8
Seven signs that point to Obama in 2012

CHRIS VAN S NEWART

Hey, President Obama has formally announced his re-election bid! I’ve added the exclamation mark to help racket up the excitement.

It has been a long and difficult slog since Inauguration Day, so I’m going to assume that the looming inevitability of another presidential campaign is about as welcome as the prospect of trace radioactive elements in your milk. Still, attention must be paid. If you’re not up for pondering Obama’s current victory odds, no problem. I’ll do it for you. Here are the seven easy-to-read factors:

— Incumbency. Care to guess who has more than 10 years’ experience in the White House? The answer is: both candidates. In fact, the 2012 election will be the first that a former chief executive has faced. With no linkage to past administrations, both Obama and Romney have clean slates and citizens can evaluate them with little baggage.

— The seven easy-to-read factors:

1. Likability. Granted, an election is too important to be a personality contest. But don’t kid yourself, this stuff matters. People liked Reagan back in the day, even when they fundamentally disagreed with his take on issues. People like Obama today, regardless of the issues. All the polls say so; in an Associated Press survey last month, 84 percent of Americans said he was likable (a number so huge that it presumably includes some of the people who think he was born in Kenya or Indonesia). And Obama’s team is taking full advantage. The campaign announcement video features a North Carolina white guy who says: “I don’t agree with Obama on everything, but I respect him and I trust him.”

2. The message is aimed straight at the independent swing voters who often weigh likability as much as the issues. Indeed. Dowd, the aforementioned pollster for George W. Bush, to conclude that “she’s oddly heavily favor President Obama.” Incumbents are tough to beat, and this one will be, raising and spending roughly $1 billion. Meanwhile, the nonprofit Pew Research Center poll reports that 47 percent of Americans favor Obama’s re-election, while 37 percent support Romney. People like Obama. He’s just as popular as Ronald Reagan was in 1980.

3. The economy. Obama-busters see him as a one-termer, a casualty of the Great Recession, in the mode of Jimmy Carter (the only defeated Democrat these last 120 years). But Carter’s economy in 1980 was considerably worse. The big message that year was the so-called Misery Index — the jobless plus the inflation rate equalled 21.9 percent. Obama’s current Misery Index is a mere 10.9 percent, and economists expect it to shrink further. If voters (especially in the critical Rust Belt states) perceive that the economy is improving — and even GOP-friendly economists see the jobless rate dropping below 8 percent by Election Day — Obama is well-poised to benefit.


5. The voice of Cal Poly since 1916

— Letters to the Editor

By e-mail: mustangdaily@calpoly.edu

by mail: Letters to the Editor, Mustang Daily, Cal Poly, SLO, CA 93407

Online: mustangdaily.com

 corrections

The Mustang Daily staff takes pride in publishing a quality opinion copy. We reserve the right to edit letters for clarity and length. Letters, commentaries and columns do not represent the views of the Mustang Daily. Please limit length to 250 words. Letters must contain full name, phone number, major and class standing. Letters must come from a Cal Poly student or employee. Do not send letters as an attachment. Please send the text in the body of the e-mail.

by e-mail: mustangdaily@calpoly.edu

by mail: Letters to the Editor, Mustang Daily, Cal Poly, SLO, CA 93407

Online: mustangdaily.com

 notices

The Mustang Daily is a designated campus newspaper. As such, the Mustang Daily has full authority to make all content decisions without consultation from Cal Poly or the university. The Mustang Daily is a free newspaper. However, the removal of more than one copy of the paper per day is subject to the cost of 50 cents per paper.
The Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS
1. Not forward
2. Contract proviso
3. Many ft.
4. Japanese mat
5. Eating
6. Early European
7. First name in "Texas"
8. Subatomic
9. City conduits
10. Listening ear
11. A Line AND PICKING out THE FACTS TO THE SUNS WILL BEAT THE MIGHTY IN ROUND TWO
12. Noted limerick
13. Vaccines
14. Libretto feature
15. Comics orphan
16. Eating
17. Librarian's role
18. Type of bean
19. Ruby
20. Healthy snack
21. Parachute
22. Spectacular
23. Hound's due
24. Itches
25. Dernier —
26. Brick baker
27. Psychic's intro
28. Motel room fixtures
29. Fit of pique
30. Japanese mat
31. Lascivious
32. Down-to-earth
33. Waikiki setting
34. Subatomic
35. Has a snooze
36. Get by effort
37. Turn color, maybe
38. Debate side
39. Query starter
40. Optimism
41. Make illegal
42. Really liked
43. San Diego
44. Make illegal
45. Spiteful
46. Made with
47. Respite
48. Infra opposite
49. Bolt for a order
50. Lioness of
51. Has a snooze
52. Raison d'—
53. Has a snooze
54. Son of Odin
55. Petal extract
56. Petal extract
57. First name in "Texas"
58. Pleased sigh

DOWN
1. Mole cousin
2. Dictyosome
3. Dictionary
4. Russian proverb
5. Dictionary
6. Bit of plaque
7. Dictionary
8. Make illegal
9. Infra opposite
10. Lioness of
11. 4th Letter of
12. Dictionary
13. Dictionary
14. Make illegal
15. Make illegal
16. Make illegal
17. Make illegal
18. Make illegal
19. Make illegal
20. Make illegal
21. Make illegal
22. Make illegal
23. Make illegal
24. Make illegal
25. Make illegal
26. Make illegal
27. Make illegal
28. Make illegal
29. Make illegal
30. Make illegal
31. Make illegal
32. Make illegal
33. Make illegal
34. Make illegal
35. Make illegal
36. Make illegal
37. Make illegal
38. Make illegal
39. Make illegal
40. Make illegal
41. Make illegal
42. Make illegal
43. Make illegal
44. Make illegal
45. Make illegal
46. Make illegal
47. Make illegal
48. Make illegal
49. Make illegal
50. Make illegal
51. Make illegal
52. Make illegal
53. Make illegal
54. Make illegal
55. Make illegal
56. Make illegal
57. Make illegal
58. Make illegal

TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

BLANK BOXES SHOWN

1. Not forward
2. Contract proviso
3. Many ft.
4. Japanese mat
5. Eating
6. Early European
7. First name in "Texas"
8. Subatomic
9. City conduits
10. Listening ear
11. A Line AND PICKING out THE FACTS TO THE SUNS WILL BEAT THE MIGHTY IN ROUND TWO
12. Noted limerick
13. Vaccines
14. Libretto feature
15. Comics orphan
16. Eating
17. Librarian's role
18. Type of bean
19. Ruby
20. Healthy snack
21. Parachute
22. Spectacular
23. Hound's due
24. Itches
25. Dernier —
26. Brick baker
27. Psychic's intro
28. Motel room fixtures
29. Fit of pique
30. Japanese mat
31. Lascivious
32. Get by effort
33. Turn color, maybe
34. Debate side
35. Query starter
36. Optimism
37. Make illegal
38. Really liked
39. San Diego
40. Make illegal
41. Make illegal
42. Make illegal
43. Make illegal
44. Make illegal
45. Make illegal
46. Make illegal
47. Make illegal
48. Infra opposite
49. Bolt for a order
50. Lioness of
51. Has a snooze
52. Raison d'—
53. Has a snooze
54. Son of Odin
55. Petal extract
56. Petal extract
57. First name in "Texas"
58. Pleased sigh

SUDOKU

9 6 7
1 2 3
5 7 4

8 9 1
2 3 4
7 5 6

3 5 8
4 6 2
6 1 9

2 4 3
8 9 1
5 7 6

SU......
Tennis
continued from page 12

The Mustangs have won eight of their last nine matches and they've done it without the comfort of home court. The Mustangs have had three rainouts at home, with only one home match since March 5.

With a difficult road schedule, Sonesson said the team has missed their home fans and the extra energy they bring to the games.

"Playing on the road has been really tough," Sonesson said. "But to come home and have people in the stands screaming at every point you win, it's an indescribable feeling. It pumps you up a lot more and makes it much easier to get through the battle."

The team will first head south to Santa Barbara and Los Angeles on April 16 and April 20 before returning home April 23 for the last regular season game against UC Irvine.

"Every match is really important, just to keep our ranking," Sonesson said. "Right now we're on the verge of getting into the NCAA tournament. Every match to end this season is really important for us."

Bonds
continued from page 12

Bonds was one of 30 athletes summoned to the grand jury investigating steroid dealing. Although given immunity for illegal drug use, Bonds insisted his trainer told him the two steroids he was taking were flaxseed oil and arthritis cream.

Prosecutors presented evidence to jurors that Bonds tested positive for a steroid and a fertility drug in a urine sample taken several months before his grand jury testimony. The government also presented a surreptitious recording of his personal trainer, Greg Anderson, discussing how he injected steroids in response to questions about Bonds.

Anderson refused to testify at the trial and was jailed for its duration. He has spent nearly two years behind bars, mostly because he would not cooperate with the investigation into Bonds, a childhood friend.

Prosecutors said Bonds lied over and over again to protect his reputation. Defense attorneys accused the government of waging a vendetta against Bonds and of using lying witnesses to try to convict him.

Prior to Bonds' trial, four other athletes were convicted of making false statements in the investigation. Seven-time Cy Young Award winner Roger Clemens, accused of lying to Congress about steroid use, faces trial in July. Like Bonds, Clemens is considered one of baseball's all time great players.

Softball travels to Cal State Fullerton

The Cal Poly softball team hopes to stop the bleeding this weekend as the Mustangs travel to Cal State Fullerton for a three-game conference series. UC Santa Barbara swept the Mustangs last weekend, dropping Cal Poly to a 2-4 Big West record. If Anna Cahn, Rebecca Patton and the rest of the team can put last weekend behind them, the Mustangs have a chance to come out of this weekend above .500.
Men's tennis isn't satisfied with winning just yet

Bonds convicted of obstruction of justice

Maura Dolan
Jack Leonard
LOS ANGELES TIMES

SAN FRANCISCO — Home run king Barry Bonds was convicted Wednesday of obstruction of justice for impeding a grand jury investigation into illegal steroid distribution, closing a sordid chapter in a scandal that ensnared some of baseball's greatest players.

The verdict against the former San Francisco Giants star capped a nearly seven-year probe that focused on Bonds' denials under oath about knowingly using performance-enhancing drugs. Bonds, 46, sat grim-faced, showing no emotion when the verdict was read in a courtroom packed with reporters. The jury of eight women and four men, which began deliberating Friday morning, also deadlocked on three counts of perjury.

The trial culminates an era that saw the reputations of some of the nation's top athletes tarnished by disclosures of steroid and other drug use and that forced professional sports to grapple with calls for reform.

Jurors said they concluded that Bonds had been evasive before the grand jury, but they disagreed on whether he had knowingly lied to the panel about using steroids or human growth hormones.

One juror, a 68-year-old engineer who identified himself as Steve, said he was glad that the trial had taken place because he has a daughter who plays soccer.

"I'd like to see a level playing field," he said after the verdicts were read. "The jury called the ballplayers who testified about their own drug use at the trial "true heroes. I believe there is one man who just couldn't do it because of who he is."

Other jurors questioned the government's case against the athlete.

"I think the government feeling was they had a really big fish with Bonds and they wanted to finish what they started," said jury foreman Fred Jacobs, 56. "Maybe they tried a little too hard to make him guilty.""

Defense lawyers said they would ask to have the obstruction of justice count set aside. They questioned how a jury could have found that Bonds tried to impede an investigation without finding that he lied. U.S. District Judge Susan Illston set a hearing for May 20 to address that question and sentencing.

The probe into Bonds began with an investigation into a San Francisco Bay Area laboratory that was selling illegal steroids to professional athletes and expanded to include athletes suspected of lying to investigators. Bonds, holder of baseball's hallowed record for most home runs, was the probe's highest profile quarry.

Bonds career record stands at 762 home runs, surpassing Hank Aaron and Babe Ruth. "In terms of his legacy, it's officially tainted," said Robert Talbot, a professor at the University of San Francisco School of Law who has followed the trial. "It essentially says that he knew he was cheating."

While federal sentencing guidelines for the conviction recommend 15 to 21 months in prison, many legal analysts expect Bonds to be sentenced to home confinement. The U.S. attorney's office must decide whether to retry Bonds on the perjury counts.

Federal agents grew interested in Bonds in the early 2000s after learning he had appeared in an advertisement for the Bay Area Laboratory Cooperative, which was suspected of selling designer steroids and other drugs to professional athletes.

In these last matches, we just got to take into account that we have to fight even harder every single time.

— Andre Dome
Men's tennis player

Baseball hosts Cal State Northridge for weekend series

The Cal Poly baseball team looks to keep its hot bat as the Mustangs remain home to take on Cal State Northridge this weekend. With a seven-game, 14-hit victory over Santa Clara on Tuesday, it seems like the Mustangs have found their stride at the plate. They'll need to keep the offense rolling if the Mustangs want to keep the wins coming, and reverse their .255 season batting average.