

SUMMER MUSTANG

California Polytechnic State University San Luis Obispo

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Bush sends U.S. troops to Saudi Arabia

Iran-born professor says action will prove to be 'a fatal mistake'

By Steve Jones
Managing Editor

When President Bush sent U.S. combat forces to Saudi Arabia to assist in fighting off a possible invasion by Iraqi troops, he committed a mistake that will not only harm the Middle East, but the United States as well, according to a Cal Poly professor who was born and raised in Iran.

"Sending military forces into Saudi Arabia is going to be a fatal mistake," said Manzar Foroohar, a history professor. "We may accomplish our short-term goals, but in the long term it's going to prove to be a very bad mistake."

Last Thursday, Iraq invaded the tiny Persian Gulf country of Kuwait. After reports surfaced that Iraqi troops were massing at the Kuwait-Saudi Arabia border, Bush on Tuesday committed American soldiers and warplanes to a multinational force forged to forestall Iraqi moves in the oil-rich Saudi kingdom,

said Pentagon sources.

Bush's decision to send troops came after Defense Secretary Dick Cheney won Saudi Arabia's approval to permit foreign troops on its soil. Pentagon officials said U.S. forces moving into the region ultimately could number 90,000.

Foroohar said Saudi Arabian leader King Fahd's decision to allow U.S. troops to enter is going to have serious ramifications for that country.

"One result of Saudi Arabia being an agent of U.S. policies in the Middle East is going to be a major internal backlash (from other Middle Eastern countries and within Saudi Arabia)," Foroohar said. "As a result, I think they (the current Saudi government) will be overthrown."

She said that even though the Arab world has come out against Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, "they will always take sides with an Arab government over the U.S."

The intense dislike of the United States by the Arab world has deep roots, Foroohar said, going back to the U.S. support of Israel's invasion of Palestine more than 20 years ago.

In a televised speech Wednesday morning, Bush said that his decision to deploy

troops to the Middle East was part of a U.S. effort to "confront aggression."

"President Bush says he's doing this (sending troops) to stop aggression," Foroohar said. "But the U.S. never lifted a finger when Israel was doing the same thing (as Iraq). It's hypocrisy."

Another result of U.S. presence will be increased anti-American feelings in the Middle East, Foroohar said.

"This will result in more hostage crises, more airplane bombings and generally more anti-American sentiment in the Middle East," she said.

The current problems with Iraq are a direct result of U.S. foreign policy more than 10 years ago, Foroohar said. When Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein first came into power, "nobody took him seriously either politically or militarily."

But when the United States supported Saddam in Iraq's war against Iran, which lasted for eight years, it helped to put him into the position of a powerful leader, she said. The United States supported Iraq with weapons and intelligence information from American satellites.

"We helped create a monster that turned against us," Foroohar said.

She said this is the same mistake the

United States has made a number of times, most recently in Panama with Manuel Noriega, a leader once supported by the United States.

On Wednesday, Iraq formally annexed Kuwait. In a statement that day, Saddam proclaimed that "Iraq and Kuwait are one nation, now and hereafter."

Foroohar attributed Iraq's decision to invade Kuwait last week to arbitrary borders between countries in that region.

"The artificial borders created by western colonialism in the early part of the 20th century aren't accepted by middle-easterners," she said. "These borders gave this small country (Kuwait) lots of resources. Kuwait's resistance to the invasion is not based on nationalistic sentiment, but on economic motivations."

In accordance with a United Nations trade embargo issued Monday against Iraq, the middle eastern country of Turkey, a member of the NATO military pact, shut down oil pipelines that were a vital link connecting Iraq to the Mediterranean Sea.

"By putting pressure on Turkey to stop the flow of oil," Foroohar said, "we are

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CRAIG WILLIAMS/Summer Mustang

Construction workers prepare the ground for the new Faculty Office Building, which will rest between the Administration and Science buildings.

Workers bulldoze foliage on site of future faculty offices

By Mara Wildfeuer
Staff Writer

Workers broke ground on a site between the Administration and Science buildings last week in preparation for the construction of a second Faculty Office Building.

The latest addition to the Cal Poly campus will contain 90 offices and will house the statistics, chemistry and mathematics departments. The dean's office for the School of Science and Mathematics also will relocate to the new building, said Peter K. Phillips, the Cal Poly architectural coordinator.

The plans call for the building to follow the curve along

Poly View Drive. The three-story structure will be built into the hill's slope. Entrances will be located at different levels depending on the side of the building that is used, which is similar to the existing Faculty Office building, Phillips said.

The wing of the Science building closest to the new structure will be modified to create a courtyard surrounded by the two buildings, Phillips said.

"The building has been approved for construction for about three years," he said.

"It should be completed in 365 days if the schedule is correct."

Phillips said he estimates the building will cost close to \$4

million by the time it is completed. Funding for the project comes from the state of California as part of the CSU budget.

Phillip Bailey, dean of the School of Science and Mathematics, said the creation of the new faculty office building is due to a CSU ruling that states instructors are required to have single-person offices.

The existing double-person offices in the Science building will be remodeled to single-person offices, Bailey said.

"Cal Poly is the first school in the CSU system to begin this project," he said. "We are very excited to have this building."

Although the building will See BUILDING, page 3

Tuition fees increase for fall quarter due to state budget cuts

By Marie Byrne
Staff Writer

Although most Cal Poly students have paid their fall quarter tuition fees, they will be receiving bills in the mail in October requiring them to pay for a 5.2 percent fee increase passed by the state Legislature and the governor last month.

This is about half of a total increase of 10 percent from last year's tuition.

For students enrolled in more than 12 units, the additional fee will be \$12; for students taking six units or less, the amount will be \$8, said Cal Poly Budget Officer Rick Ramirez.

A 4.8 percent fee increase already had been included in fall quarter schedules when they were published last spring, adding up to a total increase of 10 percent.

Ten percent is the maximum amount fees can be raised for state universities in any given year, Ramirez said.

Students will be required to pay these invoices, or they will not be allowed to register for winter quarter classes. They will have no CAPTURE access, said Nancy Reynolds, Cal Poly Accounts Receivable supervisor.

The tuition increase came as a result of budget cuts made by the California Legislature and Governor George Deukmejian.

"They cut it off, and we make up the difference," said Janna Wedlake, a nutritional science freshman. "Education is important. ... I don't think it's fair."

Students such as Kristin Stewart, a physical education junior who pays her own way through school, said she may have a difficult time absorbing the extra fee.

"Before I got (financial) aid, there was no way I could pay for any increase," she said.

Students may not like the extra fees, but one student said he feels powerless about decisions made at the state level.

"We can't do anything about it," said Jeff Roodman, a computer science junior. "The reason I came to a state school was because of the money. ... I could go to a private school and pay these fees."

Roodman said that even if students were to band together and refuse to pay the new fees, the state might hold back money from future projects like the Rec Center or pull out money from the existing university budget.

The state budget, which was passed in late July, deducts \$71.2 million from the California State University system budget. Ramirez met with the CSU Chancellor's Committee on Finance in Long Beach on Friday to discuss how the cuts will affect students, faculty and staff.

The CSU and University of California systems knew in January there would be serious budget reductions when the governor started working on his budget proposal, Ramirez said. Now the universities are getting a clearer picture on how big the cuts really are.

Not all of the cuts have been identified though, Ramirez said. The state director of finance will cut the state operations budget, which includes state universities, by an additional 3 percent to generate another \$122 million in revenues for California.

"The director of finance still hasn't told the CSU system what their portion of the 3 percent reduction will be," he said. "We

See BUDGET, page 8

Opinion

Students on the Soapbox

How do you feel about President Bush's decision to send troops into Saudi Arabia to counter Iraqi actions?



"I feel fine about backing an ally — especially with the consent of the other major superpower — in a matter of invasion of national sovereignty."

John Evans
Political science

"He (Bush) had no choice to protect a commodity that we can't do without, but you should always look for alternatives to violence."

Henry Gilbert
Agricultural engineering



"I support it 100 percent to protect our oil industry."

Ernst Calais
Industrial technology



"If sending troops into Saudi Arabia protects our interests, then I support his decision."

Julie La Grande
Human development



"I think it is in the interests of our economy at the present, but I think that we should spend our energy developing our own resources."

Shannah Parnell
English graduate student

Reporter's Notebook



Oil companies should be condemned

By Bill Evans

The price of gas at the pump has risen drastically since Iraq, under the guidance of Saddam Hussein, invaded Kuwait a week ago. Is this a justified response from oil companies and independent station owners, or just another excuse to gouge the American consumer? A look at the history of the oil industry's behavior, as well as the facts of the present situation, will help figure this out.

A year ago this spring, America suffered the worst oil spill in its history when the Exxon Valdez punctured its hull on a sunken reef off Alaska. The amount of oil lost in the spill and delayed by the pipeline was a negligible percentage of the country's oil supply, but the incident translated into significantly higher prices at the gas pump.

Well, this certainly gives support to the idea that the oil companies have a history of price gouging. Now let's take a look at the current situation.

Less than 10 percent of America's oil supply comes from Iraq and Kuwait combined. Japan receives a slightly larger percent of their overall oil supply from that area, and international business experts report that its economy can handle the loss without price increases. If this is so, then why should American consumers be expected to pay higher prices when this country gets even less of its oil, percentage-wise, than Japan?

Oh, I wonder why. Could it be that the oil barons are taking advantage of yet another crisis to line their own pockets?

What it boils down to is that Americans are paying higher prices for oil that won't hit the market for another two weeks. The gas that is at the pumps now was paid for weeks ago, long before this current crisis in the Middle East came into focus. The only possible reason to raise the price at the pumps now is to fatten profits.

It should not be forgotten that these developments have occurred at a time when American commercial supplies of oil are at a nine-year high. This glut had sagged the American oil industry, but now it looks like the industry has found a way out — at the expense of millions of American consumers.

This is an interesting reflection of the oil industry's ethics, but it should be no surprise. Whenever new reserves of oil are found, the price of gas goes down slowly, very slowly. Yet, when there is the slightest dip in production, the price jumps in a volatile manner. Both situations ensure the large profits oil companies are accustomed to having.

Meanwhile at the pump, some independent station owners are saying they are raising prices in response to price increases at other stations. This doesn't make sense. If one station is offering lower prices, people will flock to it and buy more from it. Isn't the whole idea of economic competition, one of the hallmarks of this country, the concept of trying to sell more than the other guy?

All hopes of social responsibility in the oil industry are not lost, however. On Wednesday, Atlantic Richfield Company voluntarily decided to freeze prices for one week. This could be a promising development, but consumers need more assurance that they will not be victimized by the greed in the oil industry.

The oil companies should be forced by the government to lower prices to preinvasion standards. Their behavior over the past week is nothing short of an act of collusion.

Bill Evans is a journalism junior. This is his first quarter writing for the Mustang.

Letter to the Editor

Everything flows from environment

As I was walking across campus the other day, I was assaulted by the sight of dead trees and shrubs. One of the most beautiful spots on our campus — the wooded spot just across from the Administration building — had been bulldozed overnight to make room for the new Faculty Office Building. The little shrub caterpillar that once looked toward those trees now looked toward an expanse of heavy equipment, dust and pieces of concrete.

I guess what really bothered me was that the area that had been destroyed was more than just a spot of beauty — it was the symbolic center of calm at the very heart of our campus. There are other places to put office buildings, but there is only one spot of beauty in the campus core. Now it is gone, and in its place will be hallways leading to more hallways. If our campus

planners are striving for a total urban effect, perhaps next summer they can bulldoze Poly Grove and put in a used car lot.

To have that much beauty destroyed so quickly made me dizzy at the realization of just how powerless I am when it comes to having a say in the management of my environment, or at least how unconscious I am as to where the real power resides around this place. There was probably some public hearing five years ago that I could have attended or some memo three months ago warning me of the change. But nothing prepared me for the devastation of having that lovely garden, our Cal Poly "rain forest," wiped out in less than 24 hours. One day I was walking in beauty; the next day I was navigating a construction site.

We have all been degraded. Without those trees and space, it will be a little harder to find our way around campus now; it will be a little harder to be happy here, and hence it will be a little harder to be wise.

Now I know there are much more important and pressing land management problems than the fate of that small landscaped hillside, but damn it — it was our landscaped hillside, or at least I thought it was ours! And now that it is gone, I'd be less than responsible if I didn't mourn it and curse its passing. Beauty does play a role in education, and the sadness we all feel at the death of those trees is not sentimental.

When DQU University just north of Davis was founded, its first president, a Native American, commemorated the occasion with a speech in which he said that the most important people on any campus were its ground-keepers. He didn't say the students, or the faculty or the regents — he said the ground-keepers because they were the stewards of the land and they attended to the beauty of the place. Everything else flows from that. We should be as foolish.

Robert Inchausti
English associate professor

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Annual Mid-State Fair returns to Central Coast for 45th year

By Deborah Holley
Staff Writer

Summertime on the Central Coast for the past 44 years has included an old-fashioned country fair, and this year is no exception.

The 45th annual Mid-State Fair in Paso Robles opened Tuesday and continues through Aug. 19. The spectacular shows and exhibits promise to draw the largest crowds ever during the fair's 13-day run.

Carolyn Mason, a fair spokesperson, said that attendance this year probably will top all previous records, as over half a million people are expected to pass through the gates.

"The fairgrounds are beautiful, the flowers are all planted and blooming, the exhibits are up, and we have lots of great entertainment both paid and free," Mason said.

Known as the "Entertainment Center of the Central Coast" because its top-name entertainment that can't be beat anywhere, the fair is actually the largest entertainment event of its kind in the country, she said.

This year, paid grandstand shows include performances by Linda Ronstadt, Conway Twitty, George Burns, Tony Bennett, George Strait, Michael Bolton and rock group Heart.

Russ James, the special events coordinator, said that ticket sales for the concerts were "excellent" as of Monday.

"Our biggest selling shows are

Clint Black and George Strait, followed by the Michael Bolton-Kenny G. show and Heart," he said.

Tickets are available for all shows until showtime, he said. The Mid-State Fair grandstand area can seat up to 15,000 people.

James said a big attraction this year is the addition of the Cal Spas Wild West Stunt Show Spectacular.

"We're really looking forward to this," he said. "It's a beautiful building resembling a frontier town hotel-brothel where 10 Hollywood stuntmen will provide action and comedy in saloon fights and shoot-'em-ups."

There are 50 scheduled performances of the free wild west shows, he said.

Also included on this year's fair entertainment schedule is the Cavalcade of Draft Horses on Sunday in the horse show arena.

Ginger Channell, fair livestock assistant, said that the free, narrated and choreographed show will feature five breeds of big work horses performing log pulling, hay mowing and other tasks.

Channell said the ever-popular Budweiser Clydesdales also will be appearing daily through Saturday in the livestock area.

Additionally, the first week of the fair will feature the world-class Angus and Hereford cattle show during the open livestock division, which attracts breeders from all over the Western states. The junior livestock shows will be held during

the second week of the fair. After the shows, auctions will be held where buyers typically spend more than \$400,000 on livestock.

The fair's theme this year, "There's No Stopping Us Now!", reflects that the fair really does have something for everyone, Mason said. There is a circus, carnival rides and games, and free entertainment.

"Some of the free shows this year used to be grandstand entertainment," she said.

Additional acts appearing include the comic-relief team of Williams and Ree, Charlie Rich, Roy Clark, Louise Mandrell and the Charlie Daniels Band. The free shows are covered by the admission price, which is \$5 for adults.

In the commercial buildings, companies from all over the state will be displaying, sampling and selling their products, and many will offer special discounts to fair-goers.

Eighty-five food vendors will sell everything from ethnic and gourmet food to traditional country fair staple items such as corn dogs, caramel apples and cotton candy. For fair-goers over the age of 21, beer and margarita also are available.

The fair also boasts the addition of nylon, mesh screens for increased coolness in some areas and air-conditioned exhibit buildings.

Hours for the fair are 9 a.m. to midnight daily.

BUILDING

From page 1

not house instructional classrooms, Bailey said it will benefit students by allowing instructors to have more space and privacy.

However, not all students and professors are happy with the destruction of the ivy and pine trees that once grew where the building is to be located.

"I think the trees are better than any building," said Neal

Losey, a history major.

Kathy Hoy, a business major, said the School of Science and Mathematics is fairly small and that maybe the building should house offices for a larger school or include multiple departments.

Allan Cooper, a professor in the School of Architecture, said he has yet to view the site because he could not bear to look at it once he heard about the destruction of the trees.

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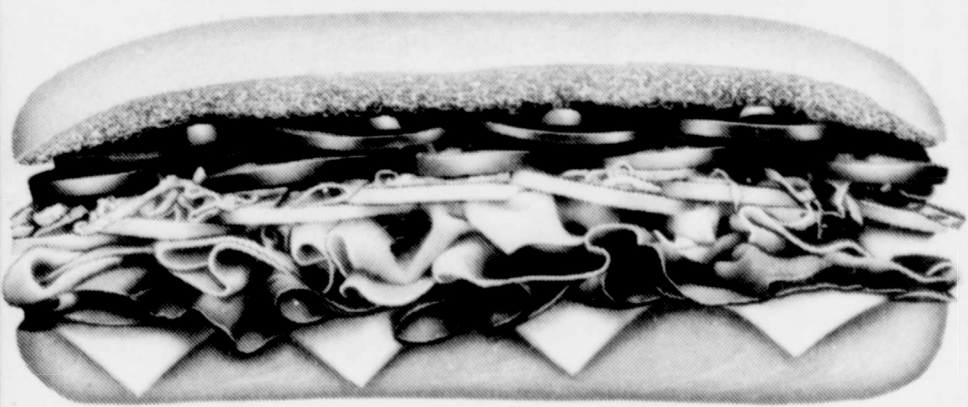
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SLO trash system will offer choice of three garbage rates

By Bridget Meaney
Staff Writer

People living in single-family residences are getting the opportunity to decide how much they want to pay for garbage.

The San Luis Obispo City Council discussed two critical aspects of the solid waste issue during its meeting Tuesday evening.

One aspect deals with the amount of waste going into the nearby Cold Canyon landfill, which may reach maximum capacity in as little as two years. The other aspect deals with the need to cut the amount of waste sent to the landfill by half within 10 years.

The new trash system, which begins on Sept. 1, gives residents a choice of three different price rates for their garbage collection.

Economy service will allow residents to purchase orange bags at \$1 per bag to use for their garbage. Residents can use an unlimited number of bags, and they will not receive a monthly bill.

"Basically, we are trying to reduce the amount of garbage put in the landfill," said David Elliott, administrative analyst for the city. "With the bags, there's an ongoing incentive to put out less garbage."

Standard service costs \$11, where the garbage company provides residents with a waste wheeler, a large plastic container on wheels holding the equivalent of three trash cans. Residents

also can opt to use three trash cans at this cost.

Premium service costs \$15, and users can fill two waste wheelers or the equivalent of six trash cans.

The old rate was \$8.50 per month for residents of all single-family dwellings. On June 18, the City Council adopted the new trash rate resolution.

With this new system, San Luis Garbage Co. will be responsible for billing users directly. Previously, the city of San Luis Obispo was responsible for the combined billing of garbage, sewer and water.

"I understand there may be some bugs in this system," Elliott said.

However, Elliott said he feels it is imperative that something be done regarding trash.

"We have to deal with these critical issues now," he said. "We wanted something quick and easy."

The San Luis Garbage Co. also will hold a clean-up day twice each year — once in January and again in June — where they will pick up bundles of trash and yard clippings. The San Luis Garbage Co. also will do an additional pickup for \$4.

One resident spoke out against the new rate system.

"We've replaced a simple system ... with a bureaucracy," said Ralph Jacobsen, a resident of San Luis Obispo. "I think it (the rate system) is with a lot of extra expenses."



Ben Parker of the CDF gives officials a tour of the most hazardous dry lands in SLO County.

Officials survey fire hazards, drought conditions in county

By Anthony Moir
Staff Writer

San Luis Obispo County is experiencing the most hazardous wildland fuel conditions since the 1880s, a county fire official said. The wildland vegetation is already in critical condition, a point not normally reached until September.

James L. McFadden, the California Department of Forestry fire chief and San Luis

Obispo County fire warden, said last week that he sees the possibility of another major fire in the Central Coast region due to extremely dry conditions.

Santa Barbara's Painted Cave fire in late June resulted in \$230 million worth of damage, according to CDF.

Last Thursday, CDF hosted a tour of county lands for local government representatives and

media personnel to raise their awareness of high fire hazard spots in the area. The tour included Parkhill (a rural community southeast of Atascadero), Highway 58 and an area west of Atascadero.

In these areas, CDF has made more than 600 inspections in the past few months to make sure homes have a defensible space of at least 30 feet from the structure. **See FIRE, page 8**

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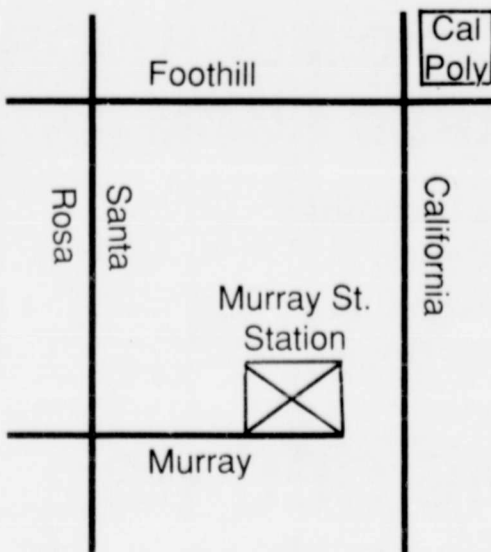
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County response to pesticide exposure upsets its employees

By Tina M. Ramos
Staff Writer

County administrators and employees agreed Monday to look for alternative building sites for county offices following an incident in which some employees were exposed to pesticides used to kill cockroaches.

About 40 employees working for the Assessor's Office, Technical Services and County Clerk offices walked from their workplaces in the Sperry Building on Monterey Street in May because of headaches, abdominal pains and nausea. They claimed that these problems started after the county sprayed the pesticides in the building in March. The building also houses Hudson's Grill, Osos St. Subs and Rose and Crown restaurants.

After being exposed to the pesticides Saproin, Diazinone and Pyrethrin, many employees experienced continued headaches, sore throats, coughing and fatigue. Several employees maintain the building is still a health hazard.

In spite of the agreement to look for alternative building sites, many employees said they are upset about the way the situation was handled.

County administrators held an informational meeting Monday to discuss mutual issues and concerns and to bring the employees up-to-date on recent developments, said County Administrator Robert Hendrix.

Instead, the meeting turned into a tense standoff between county administrators and angered workers who claimed their concerns were ignored.

"Our prime concern is for the safety of our employees," Hendrix said. "We want to make the building comfortable for everybody."

Deputy County Administrator Lee Williams said Rob Rossi, a local developer and the landlord of the building, will handle all future pest control for the entire

building. The county has stopped spraying pesticides in all work areas since March.

County Risk Manager Art Giumini said that on June 13, a non-toxic product named Magnetic Roach Food was applied in the building. Hendrix said that the product has so far been very successful in eliminating the need for spraying.

In accordance with recommendations from the San Francisco General Hospital's Occupational Health Center, the building will be cleaned, the carpets removed and walls re-painted with sealant paint to block off any chemicals in the walls.

Employees, meanwhile, said they believe the building will not be safe even if the recommendations are instituted. Many employees said that they have been affected by pesticides in the building, and, due to their fear, they have refused to work there.

"This is affecting our everyday life," said Wanda Waltz from the Assessor's Office. "We have gone through hell with this problem."

County Administrator Hendrix said he maintains that the pesticides used in the building were applied in accordance with state guidelines. The May report from CAL/OSHA, which is the authority in California on building safety, said residue from the pesticides was found only on the baseboard of the building.

Many employees were upset that the county administrators did not have CAL/OSHA examine the area before the carpets were cleaned and the ventilation system was fixed.

A secondary study, this time by the Agricultural Commissioner's Office, said there was no violation on pesticide use.

"All the pesticides used in the building were registered for inter-

rior use," Deputy Agriculture Commissioner Bob Lilley said at the meeting.

"The application was of a crack-and-crevice type application, perfectly routine for cockroach situations," he said.

But Lilley said the findings of the study were based on information by CAL/OSHA.

"You'll forgive me if I don't feel reassured by your report," one employee said.

Hendrix said the offices were sprayed only on March 5, but county employees said they were affected by the odors coming through the ventilation system from the spraying that occurred two weeks later in the restaurants below.

Giumini said Dr. G.B. Rowland from the County Health Department is willing to set up tests for employees, and the county will pay the costs.

But employees said they feel this comes a little too late for most of the ones who have been exposed to the pesticides and have been feeling sick for five months.

"Not once have we heard you are sorry," Waltz said. "All medical costs so far are coming out of our pockets."

County Assessor Dick Frank said, "We have lost all faith in county administration and in your landlord. We want nothing to do with your promises."

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SLO Transit repairs disabled access equipment on city buses

By Erika Dills
Staff Writer

The San Luis Obispo Transit system recently has completed repairs of the disabled access equipment on all of the city buses.

"We've been out of circulation on three of our six buses for the last three years," said Transit Manager Harry Watson. "But, as of July 23, all of the buses have been fully operating."

In the same month that the city buses were fixed, President Bush signed the Americans with Disabilities Act, which, in part, calls for "accessible public transportation."

Watson said that this happened "only by coincidence" and that it was just a matter of "great timing" and opportunity on behalf of SLO Transit.

"I had been researching this problem for the last four months ... and I was able to find a (company) in California that still made parts for our now-defunct lifts," Watson said. "They said, 'we can not only get you the parts, but we can train your mechanics to fix them, too.'"

Watson said by repairing the existing equipment, the cost to the city was only \$4,500, rather than the estimated \$60,000 it would have cost to replace the lifts.

Cal Poly political science major Sherry Swenson worked as an intern with SLO Transit on this project. Swenson said this project was particularly meaningful to her because she has cerebral palsy, which requires her to use a wheelchair.

Swenson said that because of her disability, she has been able
See TRANSIT, page 8



JON ROGERS/Summer Mustang

A non-disabled Poly student tries out a recently-repaired bus lift.

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Foreign students experience SLO life

By Mara Wildfeuer
Staff Writer

Students from six countries are experiencing a little San Luis Obispo culture to prepare them for home stays with American families.

High-school aged kids from Hong Kong, Iceland, Italy, Belgium, Spain and Paraguay are staying at Cal Poly and learning English. The program is sponsored by AFS, formerly called American Field Services, which is a non-profit organization that arranges international student exchanges.

"The reason why the group stays at Cal Poly is to prepare the kids for their home stays and to work on their English skills," said Sue Ward, site director and AFS area representative for the Santa Barbara region, which includes Cal Poly.

The 102 students' English skills range from never having

spoken English to having studied it in school for several years, according to Edie Morrison, director of student affairs for the AFS program at Cal Poly.

The students study English from 8 a.m. to noon each day. Their afternoons are free, or they can attend a computer skills class in the Macintosh labs on campus, Morrison said.

In addition to participating in educational programs, the students have gone on a number of field trips this summer. The group has visited Hearst Castle, Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant and Santa Barbara's Fiesta Parade.

The students have been discussing slang and learning cross-cultural skill adaptations during evening sessions, Morrison said.

"They have been learning customs that are acceptable here in the U.S. that may not be in their home country and vice ver-

sa," he said.

On Sunday, the students will spread out across California, Nevada and Arizona to begin their three-week home stays, Morrison said. Students from the same country are sent alone to different families or are placed together with students from different countries.

"We've found that students won't speak English as readily if they have a friend close by," he said.

Most of the host families have sent their own children on an AFS program, Morrison said. However, some families apply to be hosts because they want to learn about different cultures.

Po Leung, a student from Hong Kong, said the opportunity to come to the United States is a "fantastic" one and that she is doing things she would never be able to do in Hong Kong such as talking on the air at KCPR-FM and using a Macintosh computer.

MIDDLE EAST

From page 1

putting the Turkish government in jeopardy."

She said the Turkish government's cooperation with the West will be the perfect opportunity for Moslem fundamentalists, who have long sought political control of this region, to rally the people against the existing government.

U.S. officials said Tuesday that Egyptian and Moroccan troops were to join U.S. troops in Saudi Arabia. But Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak denied his troops would join the United States in Saudi Arabia. Foroohar attributed Hosni's decision not to send troops to Saudi Arabia to the U.S. military presence and the fear of an Arabic backlash.

The State Department estimated that 3,500 Americans, mostly oil workers, are still stranded in Iraq and Kuwait because the main roads and air-

ports are closed. Another 39 Americans are being detained in a Baghdad hotel. But Margaret Tutwiler, the chief spokesperson for the State Department, would not classify them as hostages because discussions between U.S. and Iraqi officials are still underway regarding their status.

Intelligence reports stated that part of Iraq's stockpile of chemical weapons were seen being transported toward the border. In addition to the 90,000 troops, the United States is said to have 100 aircraft and dozens of ships in or on their way to the Middle East.

"Standing up for our principles will not come easy," Bush said in his televised address Wednesday morning. "It may take time and possibly cost a great deal."

Associated Press and Los Angeles Times contributed to this story.

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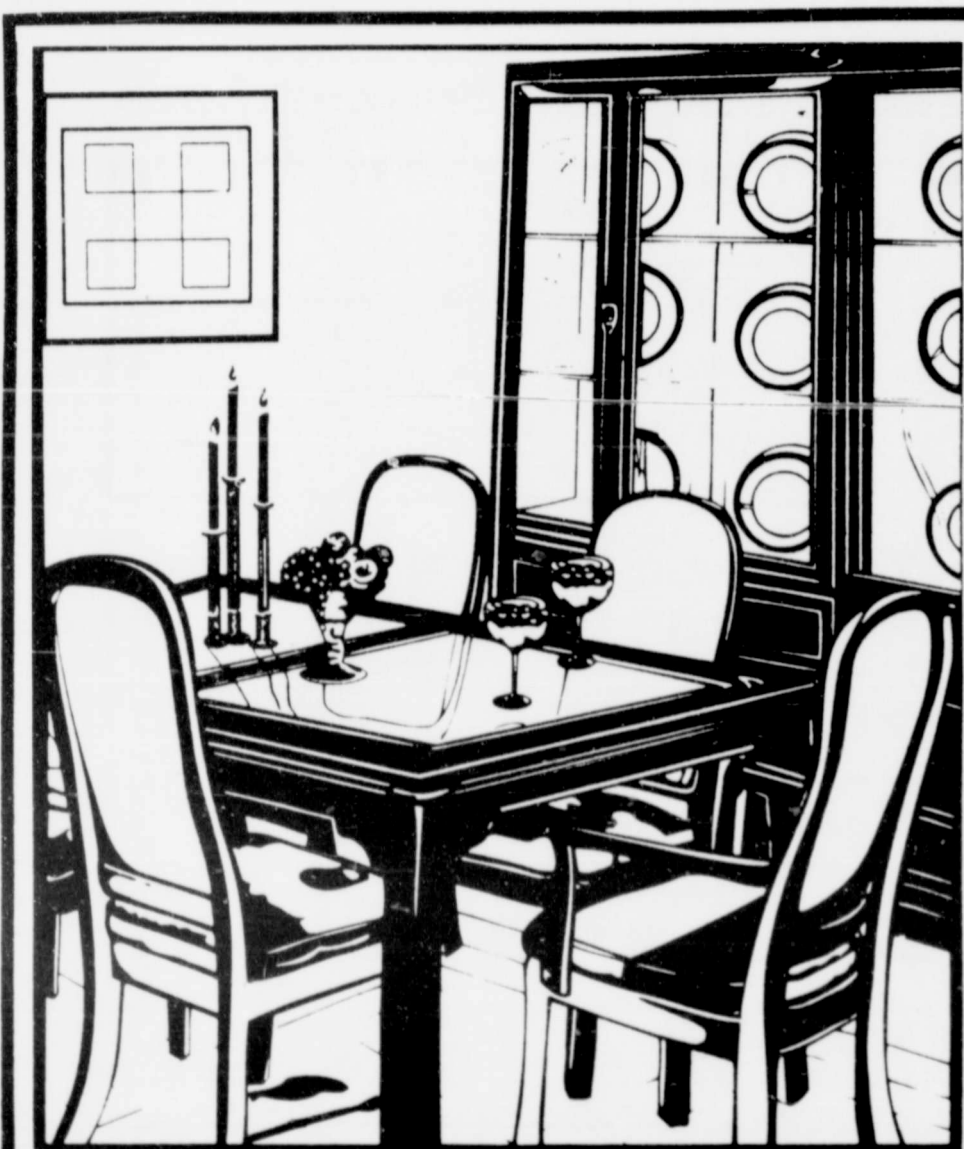
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Man sentenced for ill-fated burglary

By Kim Jarrard
Staff Writer

An accomplice to a man shot and killed while burglarizing a San Luis Obispo district attorney investigator's home last January was sentenced Monday for his part in the crime.

Edward J. Venegas, 23, pled guilty to one count of burglary on Monday, and he was sentenced to two years in state prison.

Venegas, who did not have a prior criminal record, originally had accepted a plea bargain with the District Attorney's office last May in which he would serve one year in county jail, according to court records.

However, Superior Court Presiding Judge Warren Conklin negated the plea bargain because of a claim for damages filed by Venegas and the deceased's wife, Blanca E. Montanez, against District Attorney Investigator Doug Odom and the County of San Luis Obispo.

Odom said Venegas has filed a civil suit against him alleging extreme emotional distress.

Odom refused to comment on the case because it is still pending. Venegas and his uncle Joseph Montanez burglarized Odom's home on Jan. 15, according to court records. Odom and his roommate returned home to find the two burglars.

According to a statement by Odom contained in court records, the two burglars came toward him. Odom told them to stop, but when they did not, he shot and killed Montanez and then shot Venegas in the left thigh with a gun he had in his jacket pocket. Despite the injury, Venegas was able to run away.

Venegas was arrested in the Fresno area a month after the burglary, according to court records.

Although Venegas was sentenced to two years, he will probably get let out in one year with time off for good behavior, said Dan Bouchard, the prosecuting attorney in the case.

TRANSIT

From page 6

to see the results of her efforts firsthand.

"The equipment still breaks down once in a while, but that is because it is older, and it has not been used regularly," she said. "We are trying to get the drivers to use the equipment more."

Swenson said that the buses are not only equipped with lifts, but also are "kneeling buses," which means they are designed so that they can hydraulically lower from about 11 inches to four inches off the ground.

The legislation requires all

public transportation to be accessible by the disabled, so if the city purchases downtown trolleys, they also would need to be accessible.

Ray Macias, the head of procurement for Cal Poly, said that the new legislation will not really affect his department.

Macias said that Cal Poly already has taken great pains to accommodate the disabled prior to the legislation. Disabled trams are available to the students, and one of the staff cars is equipped for disabled use.

Watson said that public

transportation has been important to both the disabled and the elderly because many times they are unable to drive or are on a fixed income so they can not afford specially-equipped vehicles.

Harriet Clemenson of Disabled Student Services at Cal Poly said she agrees.

"A larger percentage of disabled people use public transportation because accessible vans (ones customized for use by the disabled) are extremely expensive ... and many (of them) are on a limited budget."

FIRE

From page 4

ture clear of flammable vegetation, which McFadden said is a provision mandated by law.

McFadden and CDF workers describe dry, wildland fields as fuel with a great potential for burning.

The rest of the state is also very dry, according to Karen Terrill, CDF information officer.

"According to the Palmer Drought Index, (a scale that measures air moisture along with wildland fuel), we have the driest year since 1885 when the index began," she said.

Currently, she said, 61 percent of the state is covered with flammable, undeveloped land.

The tour stopped west of Atascadero to view Eagle Ranch, a 20-to-40 acre area, proposed as a controlled burn site.

"This area is very similar to the Painted Cave fire," said Mike Hicks, Atascadero fire chief. "If we are able to break up the fuel,

we can prevent the possibility of a major fire."

The danger area lies just beyond some residential houses, which Hicks said could be in danger if a fire were to break out in the area.

The burn could be scheduled for fall of this year if approved, according to Ben Parker, an employee of CDF in San Luis Obispo.

"(For a controlled burn, CDF must) pick a time of year when the fuel level is high enough to control and the moisture level high enough to keep the fire from getting out of hand," Parker said. "This is generally done in late spring or late fall."

The tour was arranged for State Assemblyman Rusty Areias, who spoke at the Eagle Ranch site.

Areias is currently chairman of the Assembly Committee on Earthquake Preparedness and Natural Disasters, a new state

committee created as a result of the Oct. 17 San Francisco quake.

"In the next few years, we want to develop a comprehensive state disaster plan," Areias said.

He said the plan would include fire safety standards, controlled burn guidelines and reinforcement of buildings to prepare for earthquakes.

Areias said he didn't know where to get the money for these plans in the budget as there are other problems the state faces.

Areias still has two more fire tours planned on Aug. 17 in San Diego County and on Aug. 24 in Alameda County, said Carol Thorp, legislative assistant for Areias.

Plans for county fire funding will start to be drawn up after the tours are completed. Because the Legislature goes out of session in September, Thorp said a bill will not be proposed until January, when the new session begins.

BUDGET

From page 1

have just been told that it can be no more than \$51.7 million. This would be on top of the original \$71.2 million reduction."

When budget cuts for state universities were first proposed in January, CSU budget officers began developing different scenarios. The CSU Board of Trustees approved a 4.8 percent fee increase to meet their share of the budget cuts.

In April, the Department of Finance announced that there was a \$3.6 billion revenue shortfall from state income taxes. During budget sessions in July, the governor and the Legislature approved an additional 5.2 percent fee increase to cover the revenue shortfall. This is what led to the 10 percent fee increase, Ramirez said.

Currently, the revenues from the 5.2 percent fee increase are designated to go back to the state. CSU Chancellor Ellis E.

McCune would like these revenues to go back to the CSU system and is discussing this possibility with the Department of Finance, Ramirez said.

The Legislature also passed a \$500 fee increase for non-resident students for next year, he said.

Lottery funds that are supposed to fund extra activities such as field trips and faculty research have been re-appropriated statewide for financing of instructional equipment and library volumes, Ramirez said.

Raises based on merit for faculty and staff have been frozen for six months, he said. Employees also are supposed to receive a step increase in their salaries on the anniversary of their hiring date. These salary increases will not be given until Jan. 1 of next year.

There have been no budget adjustments for price inflation of instructional materials, computers and other items, Ramirez

said.

"There has been great price inflation, particularly in technical equipment," he said. "Our purchasing budgets have been virtually stagnant. As a consequence, it affects our ability to teach and provide services."

"These are the worst budget cuts I've seen in the 15 years I've worked here," Ramirez said. "I was around when Proposition 13 was passed, and we had to make major cuts. It's been getting progressively worse ever since."

"Eighty-five percent of our budget is personnel," he said. "Cuts hurt people — faculty, staff, students."

State policymakers have been pushing state campuses to increase enrollment at the same time they have been reducing their funding base, Ramirez said.

Marianne Biasotti also contributed to this article.