

California Polytechnic State University

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July 26 - August 1, 2001



# Right in Cal Poly's

## Every Cal Poly college produces hazardous waste, official says

By Kat DeBakker

SUMMER MUSTANG STAFF WRITER

The words "hazardous waste" may bring to mind visions of spent nuclear fuel rods and biohazard space suits, but the hazardous waste denotation is more commonplace than many people may think.

"All of the colleges as well as Facilities Services maintenance generate hazardous waste such as acids, bases, solvents, photo chemicals, and asbestos and lead-containing building materials from renovations," said David Ragsdale, Environmental Health and Safety Manager for Cal Poly Risk Management.

In fact, even the printing of this paper generates hazardous waste.

"The main hazardous waste produced (from the printing of the Mustang Daily) is the used ink," said Dyles Davis, University Graphics Systems printing technician. "The ink is properly treated as a hazardous chemical and all our waste newsprint is placed in a recycling bin."

The Campus Hazardous Waste Procedures bulletin described hazardous waste as "materials that have a history of being part of hazardous waste disposal programs at Cal Poly or other educational institutions." Among items listed as hazardous waste in the bulletin were: discarded fuel or motor oil, discarded batteries, empty containers of pesticides, discarded preserved animals containing formaldehyde or alcohol and discarded material which would produce a

gas upon contact with water.

The Procedures bulletin stated that any department that has produced hazardous waste must put the waste in a compatible container and affix the appropriate hazardous waste label as provided by Risk Management. The Environmental Safety Office must be called to arrange for removal as soon as the procedure that produced the waste is finished, the container is full or the quarter has ended.

"All of the materials are transported off campus by a licensed hazardous waste hauler and disposed or recycled at an EPA-permitted facility," Ragsdale said. "We use a number of different facilities, depending on the specific waste."

The Risk Management Waste Management Plan described procedures for the disposal of medical, laboratory and biological waste. The plan estimated that Cal Poly generates between 200 and 500 pounds of medical waste per month.

Medical waste storage facilities are located at the Cal Poly Health Services loading dock, the Science North loading dock, behind the Cal Poly Veterinary Clinic and next to the custodial warehouse at Facilities Services. According to the Management plan, the medical waste is picked up at least once every seven days by BFI Medical Waste Systems of California, Inc., which then transports the waste to its Fresno facility

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## Programs preserve open spaces with community's help

By April Pack

SUMMER MUSTANG STAFF WRITER

A carefree walk on a hiking trail, a breath of fresh air, and green space with no development — these are all things that would not be possible without the work of environmental groups.

There are several organizations in San Luis Obispo County and on the Cal Poly campus that work toward preserving local resources.

One of these organizations is Land Conservancy, a local group that helps preserve open space. Brian Stark, the organization's deputy director, said that the group buys resource-valued land, becoming what's called a "land trust" organization. Stark said they are the only group that prides itself on buying land and "doing nothing with it."

Once they have the land, it is managed for resource enhancement.

Stark explained that land trusts are the fastest growing conservation groups right now, with about 1,500 of them in the country and varying in size.

Land Conservancy has protected 3,500 acres in San Luis Obispo County. One of their main projects is the Guadalupe and Nipomo Dunes.

Currently, they are removing non-native grass around the dunes so that it will not wipe out the native plant population.

Another project they are working on is the San Luis Obispo Creek Watershed program. Stark said that this year alone Land Conservancy has re-vegetated an entire mile along stream banks. They have also modified six steelhead migration barriers. Stark said that last year they took a dam out at Stenner Creek (their most active project) to allow for the fish's migration.

Stark explained that Land Conservancy is different from other environmental groups because they don't do any advocacy or protesting.

"We work directly with land owners who want to protect their land; it is a respectful view," Stark said.

The group has about 700 members, with approximately 100 of them being Cal Poly students. Stark explained that Cal Poly students are a major resource for their restoration projects.

"There is a lot of volunteer spirit at Cal Poly, and it makes our job easier," Stark said.

Another environmental group that reaps from the benefits of Cal Poly volunteers is ECOSLO, a non-profit

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CRYSTAL MYERS/SUMMER MUSTANG  
Nicknamed 'Ketcham's bone yard,' this dumping ground lies a few yards away from Campus Market. The site is intended for storage of excess materials; however, its gates are open allowing anyone to use as a personal landfill.

## No answers found to explain missing information and the existence of a mysterious waste site

By Sonia Slutzki

SUMMER MUSTANG EDITOR IN CHIEF

It was a strange series of events that lead our photographer, Crystal Myers, and I to what looked like a fenced junkyard in the middle of Cal Poly, near Campus Market and next to Brizzolara Creek.

We were looking for shots to use in our environmental issue. I had in mind a picture of an old tire floating in the middle of the creek, something I had seen while filming a creek contamination story for Cal Poly Television about a year ago. Instead we ran into "Ketcham's bone yard," a large area filled with piles of old refrigerators, couches, truck beds, shoes and even an abandoned Jacuzzi, all left behind to rust and wither away — at least that's what I thought it was when I first encountered the dump.

I called up Michael Ahler, a chemical hygiene specialist for Cal Poly, wondering if he could tell me what was supposed to be in that dump and who was in charge of overseeing it. Ahler provided me with its nickname of "Ketcham's bone yard" and a brief explanation of what it is.

He said various departments temporarily store or discard equipment in the bone yard. But there is no time limit to how long things can remain in storage, and late-

ly its gates have remained unlocked for days.

"If there isn't a lock there, I can't know where things came from," Ahler said and added that the way things are kept in the junkyard make it hard to tell between things meant for storage and those that have been dumped. Ahler's responsibility only comes into place when there are toxic chemicals present.

"Whenever I learn of abandoned paint can or car batteries, I remove them within days," he said. But as long as there isn't a hazard, he is not in charge of overseeing that lot of land.

He mentioned two names that might know more about it, Gary Ketcham himself, a Cal Poly farm supervisor, and Doug Overman.

While in his office, I remembered I had been there before talking to him about an environmental issue — and this is where a short story becomes long.

A year ago I had stumbled across an environmental report for the new Sports Complex. The report looked into possible environmental impacts during and after construction of the project and whether that area posed any danger to the public. There was one particular chapter that peaked my curiosity. It was titled "Hazardous Materials," but it was strangely missing from the report. In fact, it was missing from both copies available at Kennedy Library. I was able to get an original from Facilities Planning - nobody there knew why the chapter was missing. It didn't appear to contain any secret information students or the public should know about, except for a brief mention of some radioactive materials. To make sure I sent the papers to Ahler, he gladly accepted them and promised to take a look. That was the last I heard of it. It was not because of Ahler. I had just run out of time, moved on to other stories and the mystery of the missing chapters got pushed into limbo until this past Monday when Ahler's office refreshed my memory.

He remembered the report as well. He agreed that the only possibly controversial topic could have been the mention of radioactive materials.

As it turned out, there is a government-owned "sub-critical assembly," a component of a nuclear reactor, which contains 5,500 pounds of refined uranium on-campus. It has been under Cal Poly's



CRYSTAL MYERS/SUMMER MUSTANG

The sub-critical assembly stands four feet tall and five feet wide in an undisclosed location on campus. The location cannot be revealed due to safety precautions, but Cal Poly officials say that the radioactive material is not a danger to the public.

see DUMP, page 3



## backyard

## Poly resolves to become more environmentally friendly

By Anne Guilford  
SUMMER MUSTANG STAFF WRITER

Recycling at Cal Poly has moved beyond the glass, aluminum, paper and plastic bins around campus. This spring, Cal Poly's Academic Senate passed a series of resolutions that it hopes will help the environment by expanding the school's use of recycling and energy conservation. These resolutions affect the entire campus and have a range that covers everything from what types of paper can be purchased to what energy sources will be preferred in new buildings.

"There are a lot of things that we could be doing, that we should be doing, to make us a more environmentally friendly campus," said Harvey Greenwald, an Academic Senate member and mathematics professor.

The new resolutions were prompted by a number of factors, including the state's energy crisis. According to one of the resolutions, Cal Poly has "tentatively budgeted for over a 75 percent increase in the next academic year for electricity costs." Other factors include the school's currently revised Master Plan that has a strong commitment to the environment and Governor Gray Davis' Executive Order D-16-00, which states that

state-run buildings should become more energy and cost efficient and more environmentally conscious. The executive order also states that California should "provide environmental leadership." Currently the State of California spends \$2 billion annually for the design, construction and renovation for its buildings and

than steel when possible. The university will also use post-consumer paper whenever possible and limit paper distributions to a single copy per department unless "there exists a clear need for individual paper copies." But the resolutions may end up costing the university more money.

Greenwald said it is actually more expensive to buy recycled paper than it is to buy new paper.

The procurement policy established what standards are applied to goods and services that Cal Poly purchases. The goods and services purchased must be "produced using environmental-

ly sustainable practices." The policy also states that energy consuming devices must either be "Energy Star," rated or are "the most resource efficient devices based on life-cycle costing analysis." Contractors hired by the university must salvage materials "to the highest extent possible." The new facilities portion of the "Resolution on Environment" sets the standard for how designs of future buildings will be chosen.

One of the problems that the Academic Senate is trying to solve is that buildings that are relatively inexpensive to build will generally

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*"There are a lot of things ... that we should be doing to make us more environmentally friendly."*

**Harvey Greenwald**  
Academic Senate member

properties and \$600 million annually for the energy, water, and waste disposal at state-funded sites.

The "Resolution on Environment" creates new policies on procurement and a new design of new facilities. The resolution also states that "Cal Poly shall strive to recycle materials to the highest extent possible and practical" and that the school will "strive to use recycled materials to the highest extent possible."

The Academic Senate explained that this will be done by using materials that have a high-recycled value, such as using white paper rather than colored paper and aluminum rather

Poly Briefs By Cory Dugan

## Asbestos making Californians sick

As California continues to build more and more homes, the quality of life is diminishing.

Homes being built north and south of San Francisco are running into problems. These problems stem from the quality of air being destroyed by asbestos fibers found in green mineral serpentine. This serpentine is so popular; it's the state rock.

This mineral is nothing to praise, however. If ingested into the lungs, it has a history of causing cancer. The problem is that there are no signs of this mineral causing death. The only conclusive data that can be drawn is not available until after someone has already died.

So why are rock quarries all over the state using this harmful substance to pave driveways and build foundations for homes? For most quarries, it is a case of low cost and lack of an alternative substance.

Quarries have passed laws in the past to help minimize the inhaling of this harmful toxin. As a result, trucks cover their loads for deliveries and have their workers wear protective masks, however there is no rule that has been passed to get rid of this substance for good.

Residents in the effected areas are very concerned of their personal health. Toni and James Johnson, who have lived in the El Dorado Hills for the last decade both complained of bronchitis and pneumonia due to the toxins in the air.

Policy analyst for California Mining Association Adam Harper agreed that the asbestos is harmful to the environment and causes cancer. Yet he has yet to take real action.

New rules and regulations are ataring to be integrated into the 799 quarries around the state. This project is estimated to cost the homeowner \$50 and cost the developers \$200 to \$500 per lot.

## Arrests made in large-scale drug bust

A seizure ended last Wednesday with three in jail and over \$40,000 worth of high-grade Methamphetamine confiscated by San Luis Obispo Narcotics Task Force.

The seizure, which took place on July 18 at approximately 4:20 p.m., was not as routine as officials had intended. The task force concluded a month-long investigation after apprehending Ismael Maduena, 29, Jesus Maduena, 36, and Guadalupe Torres, 20. The three were arrested for being armed with a deadly weapon during the time of apprehension and for the sales and possession of the narcotics.

During the apprehension, one of the three attempted to run while pulling a gun on the officers. The officers quickly apprehended the man and confiscated the weapon without having to open fire on the man.

Assisting in this investigation and the apprehension of the suspects was the Drug Enforcement Agency and the San Luis Obispo Sheriff's office (narcotics & K-9 units). The U.S. customs and the San Luis Obispo County District Attorney's office, (investigation unit), and the SLO Police Department also were of help in the apprehension.

The officers involved in the seizure were unavailable for comment at press time.

## Program aims to lessen overseas oil use

The Minerals Management Service (MMS) is proposing a program to utilize the oil and natural gases in the United States so the dependency upon foreign countries for oil is less.

This program is proposed to run from 2002-2007. It will hold 20 oil and natural gas lease sales in the federal continental shelf between 2002-2007. The proposal, called the Draft Posed Outer Continental, plans to run sales in Mexico's Western Gulf, Central and part of Eastern planning areas. On top of that, the program plans to seek findings in Alaska's Beaufort Sea, Norton Basin, Cook Inlet/Shelikof Strait and the Chukchi Sea/Hope Basin.

Tom Kitsos, MMS acting director, said the plan is proposing to hold 20 offshore lease sales during the next five years in an effort to help this country meet its energy demands of the future. Even with increased conservation efforts, Kitsos is confronted with a national energy problem where the dependence on foreign oil will continue as well as the increased reliance on natural gas.

Kitsos said over the next 20 years the consumption of oil will rise 33 percent and the consumption of natural gases will rise 50 percent. With this drastic increase in usage the MMS plan is the only direction to turn to for oil and natural gases. It is impossible to rely solely on foreign countries to supply the United States with its resources.

Congresswomen Lois Capps said in a press release she has a positive feeling about the MMS decision to explore offshore drilling and gas leasing in California over the next five years. Capps said she feels the decision to explore other coastlines other than California's coast will be a nice change. She is pleased that the federal government is respecting the congressionally sanctions of our California Coast.

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# Local play puts 'odd' spin on classic film

By April Pack

SUMMER MUSTANG STAFF WRITER

Olive and Florence, two characters in the female version of the "Odd Couple," appear to have it all — two recent divorcees living together and making it on their own. They now have the freedom to do whatever they choose, and the luxury of having two Latin lover brothers living upstairs. But, looking a little closer, the picture is not so sweet after all. This odd couple's life is filled with bickering and conflict, as a slob and a neat freak try to deal with one another's quirks and foibles and attempt to live under the same roof without killing each other.

The female version of "The Odd Couple," written by Neil Simon, is now playing at the Classic American Theatre in Paso Robles.

The play was originally written with two male characters, Felix and Oscar, who were played by Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau in the movie rendition.

The female version tells the same story: every night, a group of girlfriends get together for gossip and a game of trivial pursuit at Olive's house (the set of the play).

One night, Florence arrives later than everyone else and announces that her husband wants a divorce after 14 years of marriage. She is devastated.

Since Florence has nowhere to go, Olive offers to let her move in. This is where it gets interesting. Because Olive is a slob and Florence is a neat freak, it becomes a continual battle between the two.

Denise Kudla, who portrays Olive, said she loves being this character.

"It is fun being a slob and not having to do my hair," Kudla said. "Women have to do all of that stuff all of the time, and it was fun and freeing to be Olive."

Christine Miller, who plays Florence, admitted that in real life she is more like Olive than Florence. She said it is fun to be Florence once in a while.

"Her heart is in the right place, but Florence is annoying," she said.

Throughout most of the play, Olive finds herself becoming extremely annoyed with Florence's tidiness. Olive sees her house and life trans-

formed from pantyhose draped on lights to getting yelled at by Florence if she ruins the nut patterns she has made on the snack tray.

Their battle escalates after Olive invites two Spanish brothers (Justin Parker and J.R. Richardson), both who live upstairs, over for dinner. The brothers accept the invitation and find themselves caught in the middle of a conflict they don't understand. In fact, they barely understand English. Most of the night ends up in a hilarious scene of them trying to translate what each couple is saying.

"When you have two actors that are part of the resident company putting on the play, then we cast them accordingly," said director Patti Kane.

She explained that Kudla and Miller worked well together, and so the idea came about for "The Odd Couple."

"The play is a great vehicle for them," Kane said. She explained that it is difficult to find actors who know how to play comedy.

Kane said that she loves doing Simon's plays because, "you could just sit there and read his lines and people would still laugh."

When asked why she thought that Simon wrote a female version, Kane said that it was probably because the original was so popular that people requested the other. Kane said that many people think that the female version does not measure up to the original, but she said she disagrees.

"It is as good, and it plays beautifully, and the laughs are still there," she said.

Kane said that she is always asked what her concept of a play is, and for her, it is whatever the author's intent was.

The production is being dedicated to Lemmon and Matthau, the original "Odd Couple," since they both died recently. Kane explained that the play is also perfect timing since Simon just had his birthday on July 4.

"The Odd Couple" is playing at The Classic American Theatre in Paso Robles every Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and every Sunday at 2 p.m. until Aug. 26. General admission is \$15, seniors and students \$12. Call the CAT box office at 238-3859 for tickets and information.



COURTESY PHOTO/THE CLASSIC AMERICAN THEATER

Above, actors from the Classic American Theater perform a humorous scene from 'The Odd Couple,' currently playing in Paso Robles. The show will run through Aug. 26.

## Dead poet's society: new study links words with suicide

(U-WIRE) AUSTIN, Texas — Poetry can be a dangerous career. Published poets have a higher suicide rate than both other authors and the general public, according to a University of Texas psychologist who on Tuesday published a study on the distinctive language use of poets who commit suicide.

James Pennebaker, a professor of psychology, compared the poems of suicidal and non-suicidal poets and found that poets who committed suicide used more introspective language, more first-person pronouns and did not write about others as often as the non-suicidal poets.

This may lend support for a psychological model that suggests suicidal individuals are unable to integrate into society sufficiently and thus become isolated and detached from social life, Pennebaker said.

The poet's lifestyle could contribute to the isolation, due in part to the difficulty of getting published. Poets who achieve fame must also face critics and public scrutiny, he added.

"You don't get your lunch pail and go to work, you have a fairly isolated life," Pennebaker said. "You better love rejection if you want to be a successful poet. It would be hard on anyone's psyche."

The study, funded in part by a grant from the National Institutes of Health, was published in the July/August issue of the psychological journal *Psychosomatic Medicine*.

Pennebaker conducted the research with Shannon Wiltsey Stirman of the University of Pennsylvania.

Using a computer text analysis program, Linguistic Inquiry and Word

Count, the scholars compared 300 poems taken from the early, middle and late periods of nine suicidal poets and nine non-suicidal poets. The program scanned the poems for words fitting into 72 different categories, including death-related, communication, sexual, negative or positive emotion and first-person pronouns.

Pennebaker said that for most of the suicidal poets, even if there was a higher instance of those distinctive word choices near the end of his or her life, they were also present throughout the poets' early and middle work.

The report stated that while it is premature to fingerprint potential suicide by text analysis, certain configurations of language may be indicative of future suicide.

"Text analysis can be used as a tool for understanding the way that psy-

chological pain, preoccupation with death and self and association between thought and feeling can be manifest in writing and potentially predict [or indicate the current state of] psychological and emotional health," the report stated.

"I hope one impact [of the study] is that it will cause people to look more closely at language as an important topic of research," said Richard Chervitz, associate dean of graduate studies. "Through language you wear who you are on your sleeve."

Rod Hart, professor of communication studies, uses the same kind of computerized analysis to study the speech of politicians and media figures.

"The underlying assumption is that word choice is something which most people don't have a dramatic amount of control over," Hart said.

He added that while analyzing word choice in a written work of poetry is different from analyzing speech, it is still telling.

"Poets use an excruciating amount of control in trying to pick the right words," Hart said. "Nevertheless, they aren't fully in control, in part because the culture that surrounds them and their social and religious backgrounds are also writing that poem."

The suicidal poets used in the study were Randall Jarrell, John Berryman, Sylvia Plath, Anne Sexton, Adam Gordon, Sarah Teasdale, Hart Crane, Sergei Esenin and Vladimir Mayakovsky. The non-suicidal control group included Robert Lowell, Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Denise Levertov, Adrienne Rich, Matthew Arnold, Edna St. Vincent Millay, Joyce Kilmer, Boris Pasternak and Osip Mandelstam.



# 'Dogs' coffee shop offers more than lattes

By Anne Guilford

SUMMER MUSTANG STAFF WRITER

Not many businesses go out of their way to open up shop in a foggy climate, but 2 Dogs Coffee Co. and Internet Cafe did.

"Fog has a tendency to make people drink more hot drinks, that's why we picked Morro Bay," said Bill Clayton, co-owner of 2 Dogs.

But Morro Bay offers more to the atmosphere than fog. The picture window at the front of the store looks out on the brightly painted shops of Main Street. If the sun happens to shine, there is outdoor seating, but if it doesn't, patrons can take refuge in the cozy shop and gaze at the hand-painted sun mural instead.

2 Dogs Coffee Co. began roasting their own beans two years ago but launched the business selling drinks from a cart in 1995.

"We actually started with a cart and two credit cards," Clayton said.

The cart, which was 2 Dogs' location for two years, now holds a prominent position as the condiment counter inside the shop.

They currently have only one location, but "we hope to open up three more shops in the next three years," he said. "San Luis is our current fantasy."

The roasting division is expanding as well.

"We are pursuing the grocery store market," he said.

Live music is also a big part of 2 Dogs' atmosphere.

"I was a musician and have always liked to have music around," Clayton said. "It just seemed like a natural thing to do."

In July they feature entertainment, on average, five days a week. On Sundays, Chris Anne, an acoustic guitarist and vocalist, always performs, and every Monday includes Poetry Night/Open Jam. Clayton said that the crowd for Poetry Night is "pretty eclectic" and famous people spontaneously participate once in a while.

As for the other entertainment, "it's a little bit of everything," Clayton said.



CRYSTAL MYERS/SUMMER MUSTANG

**2 Dogs' Coffee shop offers live entertainment five days a week and internet service daily. It is located on Main Street in Morro Bay.**

2 Dogs has a special technique for making drinks. Each latte is made separately — no mass-produced milk foam, and "the texture is a little different," Clayton said.

In addition to being well made, the drinks are creative. 'Billy's Special,' named so because Clayton has one every morning to test the quality of the espresso and the drinks,

is an Irish cream latte with strawberry flavoring. The 'Vienna' is a latte with orange flavoring and cinnamon. But traditional drinks, such as the mocha (espresso with milk and chocolate) or the Americano (espresso with hot water), are available as well.

"We take a lot of pride in our espresso," Clayton said.

2 Dogs' baked goods come from a local business just down the street, Willie's Bakery. Everything is extremely fresh.

The shop was among the very first batch of Internet cafes on the Central Coast.

"We started playing around with the

*"Fog has a tendency to make people drink hot drinks, that's why we picked Morro Bay."*

**Bill Clayton**  
co-owner

Internet around the same time as the cart," Clayton said.

Two years later, for the christening of the Main Street location, "we did the world's first virtual reality opening over the Internet," Clayton said.

They had built a 3-D chat room where people were represented as cartoons, but right now all that is available at their website, [www.2dogscoffee.com](http://www.2dogscoffee.com), is merchandise.

"We are currently in the process of re-vamping," Clayton said. "We are working on a very deep user-friendly site — it's quite large."

There are currently big plans for the re-opening of the Web site.

"You will definitely hear about it," he said.

Despite the name, dogs are not allowed in the coffee shop, but "it is very dog-friendly out front," Clayton said.

Large bone-shaped dog biscuits are kept on the counter for canine comrades.

When asked why the name 2 Dogs was chosen for the company, Clayton responded, "My partner's a dog, too."

# 'America's Sweethearts' has bitter aftertaste

By Erica Tower

SUMMER MUSTANG ARTS AND FEATURES EDITOR

With a line-up that includes heavy hitters Julia Roberts, Billy Crystal, Catherine Zeta-Jones and John Cusack, it's hard to imagine a film that doesn't hit its mark, but "America's Sweethearts" is an exception. This movie lacks inner confidence that knows what it is and where it is going, making for a mediocre film that is ultimately anti-climatic and flat. Though the opportunity does exist for a classic romantic comedy to surface, the director, Joe Roth, never pushes the script (written by Crystal and Peter Tolan) far enough, leaving audiences feeling cheated out of a potentially wonderful film.

"America's Sweethearts" stars Roberts and Zeta-Jones as sisters Kiki and Gwen. Gwen is an alluring, famous movie star, while Kiki has always been 60 pounds overweight

as well as her sisters personal servant. John Cusack plays Eddie, Gwen's leading man both on- and off-screen, until she is lured away from him by Hector, a Latin lover with a lisp, played by Hank Azaria. Not only does the breakup of America's sweethearts, Gwen and Eddie, send the press and public into overdrive, but it also causes Eddie to fall into a psychotic rage, in which he nearly mauls Gwen and her new man with a motorcycle. This is where the movie begins.

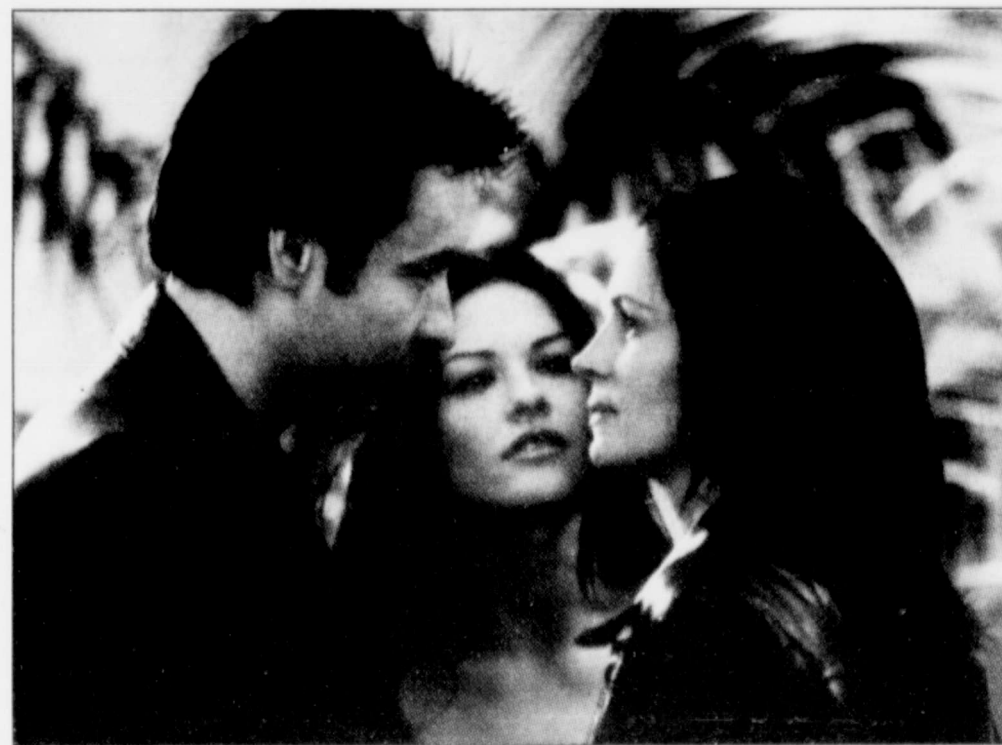
Meanwhile, director Hal Weidmann (Christopher Walken) creates his own controversy. After directing Gwen and Eddie in their last film (that has yet to be released) before their highly publicized split, he refuses to let anyone see the movie before clips are shown at a press junket. This sends studio heads into a panic, believing that the film may not be completed. Nevertheless, Lee, a public relations ace (Crystal) thinks he has the

answer to the potential disaster. Even though the film may not exist, he believes that the press can be distracted by convincing them that Gwen and Eddie have fallen back in love.

This is one of the film's blatant over-exaggerations. While it is true that some press junketeers care more about celebrity gossip than the movies themselves, as portrayed in the film, it is a notion too far fetched for even the biggest American media critic.

Though "America's Sweethearts" does have a bright beginning, the film slowly slips in praise-worthy content. Scenes appear to be more capriciously constructed as the film continues; the middle drags; the conclusion is both brash and disastrous. Simply stated: though the dialogue is comical in tone, the jokes are utterly cliché.

You can't blame the actors (although you might blame the casting director for Azaria, who doesn't



COURTESY PHOTO/WWW.MOVIEWEB.COM

**From left to right, John Cusack, Catherine Zeta-Jones and Julia Roberts star in 'America's Sweethearts.'**

seem plausible as the irresistible Latin lover, and Roberts, who doesn't quite fit the part of a fat girl starved for attention). Zeta-Jones is spiteful and selfish, Cusack is desper-

ately heart-sick, and Crystal is (as audiences would expect) convincing as the wise-cracking publicist. Unfortunately, the actors' skill is not enough to hold this picture together.



## Homegrown fuel: what the gas company wouldn't want consumers to know

Anyone out there who wants to pay lower prices for fuel and help out the environment at the same time? Yeah, I know I sound like a sound-byte from a recent energy policy press conference for the Bush administration. But what I'm talking about is real and doesn't involve destroying anything. You might also be surprised to know that it's been around for 101 years.

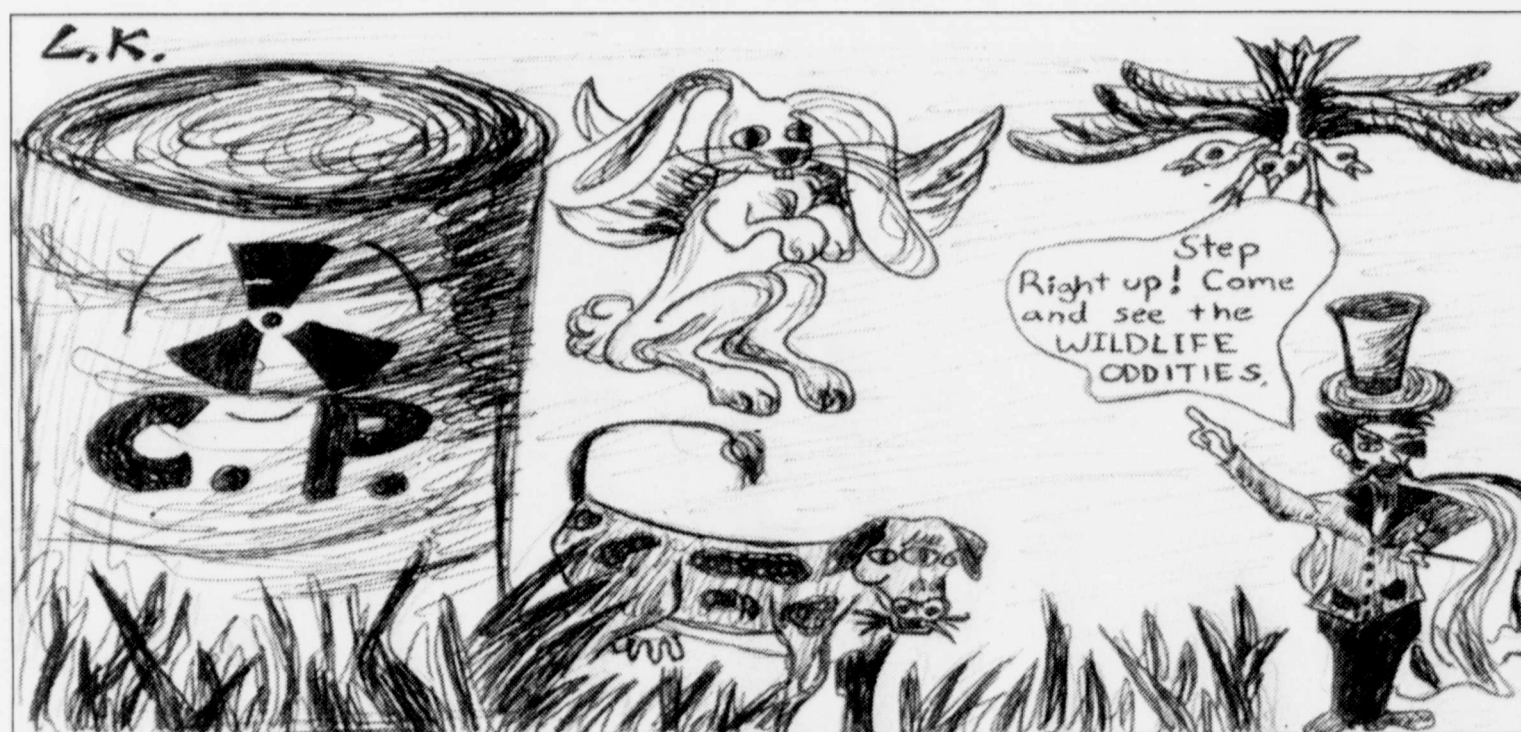
That's right, in the year 1900, Rudolf Diesel presented his diesel engine at the world technology fair, running on peanut oil. Flash forward 100 years, to a time when diesels are being all but banned by environmental standards, which take effect in the year 2004. More efficient than gasoline engines, the only problem with diesels is that the fuel that they burn is made from the leftover sludge filtered out from the gasoline refining process. Is anyone surprised to find toxic emissions from burning a toxic substance? The answer to our fuel problems in diesel engines is called Biodiesel. Biodiesel is a spin-off from the original peanut oil fuel that was used at the world fair 100 years ago. It combines any vegetable oil, (used or new), agricultural oil, or even in the case of Kansas City, animal fat with an alcohol-based fuel like ethanol or methanol and sodium hydroxide or potassium hydroxide (Lye), depending on the choice of alcohol. While this sounds complicated, the ingredients can be found at a local fast food restaurant (used fry pan oil), at the local auto-racing store or racetrack (methanol) and the local hardware

store (Lye). The ingredients must then be blended together and heated, followed by separation from the byproduct glycerine, which is used to make soap. What you are left with is a non-toxic, clean-burning, biodegradable fuel which can be used in any combination with diesel fuel or even by itself in any diesel engine.

Wow, that's incredible, you say! What does it cost? I'm not done yet, that's right, for no extra cost, you get the added benefits of outstanding emissions reductions compared to regular diesel fuel. Biodiesel significantly reduces four of the five regulated tailpipe emissions in addition to being sulfur free, a component in diesel fuel, which can lead to acid rain. For emissions figures, check out the Biodiesel lifecycle test performed by the Department of Energy [www.biofuels.doe.gov/docs/lifecycle](http://www.biofuels.doe.gov/docs/lifecycle)

On a small scale, using free oil obtained from local fast food places, Biodiesel can be made for a mere 70 cents a gallon! A whole dollar cheaper than the closest gas station price. With simple equipment like a couple of large fuel containers, a small outboard motor or paint mixer, a burner or heating device, and a PH tester kit, Biodiesel can be made in your own garage. It could pay for itself in less than a year, after which you would have plentiful cheap clean fuel. All this and it will only take about an hour and a half of your time to make a 40-gallon batch!

On a larger scale, Biodiesel is being used to power buses in several U.S.



cities including Chicago, Kansas City, and the San Francisco Airport. In Germany, Biodiesel is available at over 700 filling stations. Biodiesel is also great for marine applications because it biodegrades four times faster than petroleum-based diesel. Even when used in a mixture with diesel, emissions improvements are significant, and documented by the University of Missouri. Easy to make, easy to use, inexpensive and safe for the environment, Biodiesel holds promise for the diesel engine and for improving our air quality. So use it! Go out, buy a diesel, and make your own fuel. For more information on making Biodiesel, check out [www.veggievan.org](http://www.veggievan.org), or email me at [obarthol@calpoly.edu](mailto:obarthol@calpoly.edu). We can make this a cleaner planet and pay lower fuel prices, but not by continuing to follow destructive energy policies.

Obadiah Bartholomy is a mechanical engineering senior.

## Letter to the editor

### Why do I pay for athletics? Editor,

Anna Guilford brought to light the use of student funds for the Athletic Department's budget in her article, "Student money finances third of athletic budget" (Week of July 12 - July 18), and I am appalled to think that my opinion regarding tuition allocations was never consulted.

I find it simply amazing that my money is being used for athletic scholarships and various budget costs without my consent. I realize that athletics are an integral part of any school; however, my money does not grow on trees. Guilford said, "male and female athletics programs at schools must have a proportion of participants and funding that reflects the school's enrollment" based upon the Title Nine federal law. Who is playing hardball here, and why am I paying for team sports? Why does this law exist?

Is it to make sure federal funds are being used properly? Furthermore, the article cited that out of the 14,376 undergraduate students, only 450 are under in Athletic Department-run teams. Only 450!!! What about the rest of the academic population who are scraping by to pay for their engineering, architecture, or business educations? Even more so, there are many classrooms that are in poor condition and lack even a well-running slide projector (I've experienced it!).

Athletics are important, don't get me wrong; I played basketball in junior and senior high. Nevertheless, with the increase of fees, it churns my stomach to think that I'm paying for Miss or Mister Athlete to attend Cal Poly for free while I get to sit in a dark, damp classroom with no open windows and a slide projector that doesn't work ... or is missing.

Genesee Carter is an English junior.

# Meat-lover snubs vegetarian way of life

I do not eat vegetables. Just as vegetarians do not eat animals, I do not consume anything that could be construed as being of vegetable origin. While my preference is due largely to what many call my "unsophisticated palate" and not political activism, 21 years of vegetable-free living has allowed me to ponder the other, darker side of vegetarianism.

I truly believe that a partiality for vegetables is the result of childhood brainwashing (even look at Popeye — sending kids the message that they can't be strong unless they eat spinach!), and that eating vegetables may or may not have significant health benefits.

### Commentary

My favorite example is my own grandmother, who, like me, has lived a relatively vegetable-free life and not only survived lung cancer and a broken hip but is now a healthy 81 years old. My dad always used to say that it

was all the preservatives she ate that keep her in such good shape, and I find this theory difficult to refute. Vegetables, of course, have no preservatives.

Many vegetarians are sadly misguided souls whose only satisfaction in life is claiming a higher moral ground by telling those who eat a balanced diet things like "it takes 20,000 gallons of water to feed one cow," and the ever popular bovine-flatulence depleting-the-ozone-layer theory.

This saddens me, because I know that deep down inside no one gets excited about a big plate of steamed broccoli or a plate full of foul-smelling peas. It is difficult to deny that hamburgers, hot dogs and steak are as much a part of our American heritage as football and the Fourth of

July. I have tried tofu dogs and veggie "burgers," and they are clearly inferior in both taste and texture.

The American Council on Science and Health (ACHS) conducted a 1997 study that concluded the health benefits of vegetarianism are not necessarily due to the elimination of meat.

"Well-planned vegetarian diets can be healthful, but we cannot attribute any unique benefits to a meatless diet," said Dr. Elizabeth Whelan, ACHS President in a press release. "Lifestyle choices and dietary factors other than avoidance of meat are more relevant to good health."

It is also important to note that there are nearly 6 billion people on this earth. Imagine the ramifications if everyone in the world were suddenly to convert to vegetarianism. There

is only so much of the earth's surface area that is suitable for farming, and I do not doubt that the world's supply of produce would be consumed in a matter of days, creating a disastrous situation. People would resort to eating leaves, flowers and other ornamental flora that would otherwise be adding to the world's oxygen supply through photosynthesis. It would only be a matter of time before the world population would run out of oxygen.

The Boulder Vegetable Rights Association (no, I am not making this up) reminds us that above all, vegetables, too, are living organisms. Like animals they can reproduce, consume food and produce waste, and they have DNA. Some plants are carnivorous and can even hunt their prey. As Jerry Seinfeld once said, "why do people give each other flowers? To celebrate various important occasions, they're killing living creatures? Why restrict it to plants?"

"Sweetheart, let's make up. Have this deceased squirrel."

Kat DeBakker is a journalism senior and Summer Mustang staff writer.

### Letter policy

Columns, cartoons and letters reflect the views of their authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Summer Mustang.

Summer Mustang reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, profanities and length. Please limit length to 350 words.

Summer Mustang encourages comments on editorial policy and university affairs. Letters should be typewritten and signed with major and class standing. Preference is given to e-mailed letters. They can be mailed, faxed, delivered or e-mailed to [mustangdaily@hotmail.com](mailto:mustangdaily@hotmail.com). Do not send letters as an attachment. Please send the text in the body of the e-mail.

# Summer Mustang

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"This issue was cursed from the beginning."



## REPORTS

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cost more in the long run because they tend to be less energy efficient and need more repairs.

"Currently what happens in the state is you build it as cheaply as you can," Greenwald said. "In the long run it (a cheaper built building) is more expensive as far as maintenance, energy, etc. Over the lifetime of the building you would save considerably more."

Buildings at Cal Poly will now be designed considering long-term energy efficiency and environmental sustainability. Standards and specific energy preferences are more explicit in the "Resolution on Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Design and Construction Principles for Cal Poly Buildings, Landscape, and Infrastructure." The Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Design Resolution stated that the Administration must consider "implementing and expanding energy design standards and criteria for natural light and ventilation, passive (non-motorized/mechanical) heating and cooling techniques, and water utilization techniques." These new standards must go beyond default minimums that have been set by Federal, State and local mandates.

Buildings that will be affected by the resolution will be the proposed teaching facilities for the Colleges of Engineering; Science and Mathematics; and Architecture and Environmental Design.

The resolution orders the Administration to go off the Cal Poly campus. It states that the Administration must work with the Chancellor's Office to change California's regulations on construction cost guidelines to "include life-cycles cost practices and funding," because currently the construction guidelines "limit the campus ability to apply life-cycle cost practices in weighing design alternatives."

## DUMP

continued from page 2

supervision since the 1960s, when the government started providing universities with reactors as educational tools. The actual reactor was removed from campus in 1983. Dave Ragsdale, environmental health and safety manager, said the remaining component does not have enough radioactive material for a self-sustained reaction.

"The radiation released by the subcrit is far below from standards for the public," Ragsdale said. "Nothing can happen to increase the radioactive levels. The biggest risk would happen if someone actually took a piece of the uranium and started walking around with it."

For this not to occur, I was asked to not disclose where the "subcrit" - as they called it - is located. The building is, however, equipped with an alarm and motion detectors.

They took Crystal and I for a tour, armed with a small radiation-detecting clip hanging from our shirts (we'll know the results in two months). I have to say that it was indeed intimidating. The pile of sand bags stood about four feet tall and six feet wide.

"It's physically large but it contains small amounts of radiation," Ragsdale said.

The sandbags were placed to not interfere with radiation sensitive devices that were being used in the building.

Cal Poly has already petitioned to have the

Department of Energy take it away, but it appears that the process takes a while - there aren't many places where radioactive materials can be dumped. And dumping takes me back to the beginning of this story. By the time Summer Mustang went to print, I was not able to get a hold of anybody who would tell me exactly who was in charge of the "bone yard." A source in Facilities Maintenance told me there are many bone yards around campus and that the Planning department would know the details.

"It is used to keep excess materials that no one knows what to do with," said George Mead, manager of landscape services.

He said that it is part of farm operations within the department of agriculture; that it is also used by the Rose Float; to temporarily store tree stumps after landscaping operations; and no hazardous materials are to be stored there. But he said the person who would really know the details was his co-worker Doug Overman, whose voice-mail message said he would be out of town for a few days.

There is no definite answer or conclusion to this intriguing issue, just bits and pieces of information. The chapter dealing with Hazardous Materials in the environmental report for the Sports Complex has been crossed out since the first time I looked at it. A message now stands by it asking to contact Chris Clark at 541-2622 for more information, who also just happened to be out of town.

## WASTE

continued from page 2

for destruction.

"The largest quantities of waste chemicals are generated by the Colleges of Science, Math, Agriculture, and Engineering," Ragsdale said.

The Management plan estimated that the Biological Sciences Department each month generates 450 pounds of medical waste, mostly consisting of live bacterial cultures. The waste from this department, including glassware that will be re-used, is sanitized on site in an autoclave located in the Fisher Science building. After the waste is sterilized, it "will eventually find its way to the municipal sanitary land fill," according to the Management plan.

Maintenance operations are the biggest generators of asbestos and lead waste, Ragsdale said. While there is asbestos in many of the buildings on campus, the Management report stated that the asbestos is not a hazard unless the material becomes "worn, damaged, vandalized or loose, thereby releasing asbestos fibers into the environment."

"The most dangerous materials generated are probably old containers of ether and picric acid, as these are potentially explosive," Ragsdale said. "The good news is we only handle perhaps one or two containers of these materials every five years. We have had the county bomb squad come out and remove these materials on a couple of occasions in the past."

## LAND

continued from page 2

organization. Marsha Butler, the community-service work opportunity coordinator, said that Cal Poly students comprise a good portion of their volunteers. Butler said ECOSLO has been lucky to have the kind of relationship it does with Cal Poly's various clubs and fraternities. It is not uncommon for them to have 30 volunteers from one fraternity working on a project at the same time.

"I think that Cal Poly's awareness is getting better, and they are starting to support the area," Butler said. "They are a new energy, and they really invigorate us toward our goal."

ECOSLO's goals are similar to Land Conservancy's: creek cleanup, land and open space conservancy and pesticide watch. One thing that they do a little bit differently is that they take calls and concerns from the community and do research into those problems. For instance, Butler said that they receive calls every couple of

minutes from locals with environmental concerns. She explained that this could be someone who is complaining about another person cutting down his or her tree, or someone who has smelled something funny.

A current project of ECOSLO's is working with PG&E. Since the company recently released their plan to clear-cut some trees, ECOSLO has been going out and checking the legal ramifications of the cutting and also to explore other options.

ECOSLO also organizes hikes around the area twice a month. This is where they take people from the community and train them about the natural foliage around places like Laguna Lake, Bishop's Peak and Poly Canyon.

Butler said that twice a month they have "work parties," where volunteers and employees go to local trails and do clean up, mend fences, and pull weeds.

Another non-profit environmental group is The Nature Conservancy. The national group is based in Arlington, Va., with a local chapter

located in San Luis Obispo. Kara Smith, the project director, said that Nature Conservancy is one of the oldest conservation groups at 50 years old.

Smith said their mission is to "protect the bio-diversity of life in Earth." On a smaller scale, they look to conserve the old, historic, and natural aspects of California. Smith said their goal is for California to look the same in 50 years as it does today.

The group has just closed conservation purchases on the Cambria coast. Smith explained that when they purchase a piece of land, Nature Conservancy allows public access use in "a manner that is consistent with the resources." This includes using the land as a hiking site for the public.

Smith said that the Nature Conservancy also gets help from Cal Poly volunteers.

"The future of conservation lies with people at Cal Poly and other colleges who are studying biology and other related fields of study," Smith said.

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# TAKING A SHOT OVERSEAS

**Former Cal Poly basketball player Chris Bjorklund puts his business career on hold to fulfill a dream**

By Brian Milne

SUMMER MUSTANG SPORTS EDITOR



SUMMER MUSTANG FILE PHOTO

**Chris Bjorklund and his agent, Bill Sweek, have been contacted by four different professional basketball teams in southern France. The teams are interested in signing the former Mustang forward before the season tips off Aug. 20.**

Chris Bjorklund admitted he could, and probably should, put his college degree to work in order to get moving along a career path.

There's only one minor problem — he hasn't gotten basketball out of his system and he may not for another few years.

The former Cal Poly basketball player is just two months into the "real world," and he's already on a basketball odyssey that has taken him from pick-up games in his hometown of Baxter, Minn., to a professional tryout in Venice, Italy — a trip that will likely land him on a professional squad in southern France by next month.

"I've been playing ball all over the place," said Bjorklund in a phone interview just after returning home from his basketball vacation last week. "I've been working hard, playing in the clubs and at junior colleges in town, trying to stay in shape. And until I hear from somebody, I'm going to keep working out and weigh my possibilities."

Four months removed from his green and gold finale, and there are plenty of possibilities after averaging 10 points, six rebounds (in under 20 minutes) during the four-scrimmage tryout.

"I just tried to play as solid as I could," said the 6-foot-8-inch, 235-pound forward. "I was average size over there, playing against guys that were 6-10 to 7-4. I just tried to use my quickness and three-point ability."

So far, Bjorklund said his agent, Bill Sweek, has been contacted by four different French ballclubs that are interested in signing him as a small forward before the season opens Aug. 20.

"I think I impressed some people," said Bjorklund, who is currently managing a sportswear store in Brainerd, Minn., where he went to high school. "Right now I have an agent working with some contract negotiations, and we'll see where it goes from there."

Bjorklund packed an impressive enough resume for his basketball vacation. Not only was the business graduate named male athlete of the year prior to graduating in June, but he also

became the school's all-time leading scorer — finishing his career with 2,006 points.

"Chris had a brilliant career," head coach Kevin Bromley said following the senior's final game, "and I know he has a bright future ahead of him overseas."

There are some differences between Division I basketball and the European game, but Bjorklund said he enjoys the style of play.

"It's much more of a shooter's game over there," he said. "The lane is a trapezoid (versus the tradition rectangular key), and there's some other minor rule changes, so it's easy to be called for a travel or three (seconds) in the key."

The style of play isn't foreign to Bjorklund, who has evolved into more of a perimeter-orientated scorer over the years.

**Chris Bjorklund**  
Former Mustang

After establishing himself as an inside threat straight out of Brainerd High School — scoring 17.3 points a game en route to Big West Conference Freshman of the Year honors — Bjorklund developed his outside game in the off-season and became lethal from the high post.

As a junior, he continued to up his production on both sides of the floor, averaging 19.4 points and seven boards a game.

Last season, with the arrival of scorer Jamaal Scott, Bjorklund continued to develop into an outside threat, hitting a career-high 32 three-pointers.

He also anchored a team plagued by turmoil his senior season and poured in 23 points in his final game — a near upset of UC Irvine in the first round of the conference tournament.

His first postseason performance proved he was ready to play the game at the next level, although, he admitted he can't play ball forever — it's just a quest he isn't prepared to give up just yet.

"I don't think it's going to be a long-term thing," Bjorklund said. "I want to play for a couple of years, but I also want to come back and start a business. I love basketball. I want to stay around the game and always be a part of it. But sooner or later I have to get a real job."

*"I want to stay around the game and always be a part of it. But sooner or later I have to get a real job."*

## Man enough for Poly men's tennis team

By Jason Brennan

SUMMER MUSTANG STAFF WRITER

The men's tennis team at Cal Poly will experience their third coach within a year when Trevor Kronemann takes over this fall.



**Trevor Kronemann**

Kronemann, who was named head coach July 18 by Athletic Director John McCutcheon, comes to Cal Poly with an extensive resume that includes 10 years of professional experience on the men's professional tennis tour.

Kronemann was born and raised in Bradenington, Fla., where he first became serious about tennis through a well-respected youth tennis camp known as Ballitory Tennis Academy.

"I came from a lower-middle class family,"

Kronemann said. "My parents made a lot of sacrifices to put me through these camps when I was young."

Those sacrifices throughout his young career landed Kronemann a full athletic scholarship to UC Irvine where he became the only four-time

*"His resume speaks for itself. I'm glad the team is getting a good coach. I just wish I had another season to enjoy it."*

**John Cappello,**  
former Cal Poly tennis player

All-American in the program's history.

"Receiving my degree at Irvine was probably the most important thing I have ever done," Kronemann said. "Most professional tennis players finish their careers and have nothing to fall back on. I made sure that I wouldn't make

the same mistake."

From UC Irvine, Kronemann jumped right into the professional tour, playing against the top names in the business, in some of the most intimidating arenas the sport has to offer.

"Playing tennis was a dream of mine all throughout my childhood," Kronemann said, who has played in Wimbledon.

Following his tennis career, he spent 10 years as a financial consultant with the Merrill Lynch Corporation, where he realized how much he missed the game and decided to apply for the Cal Poly coaching vacancy.

"My wife and I absolutely loved the area for quite some time now," said Kronemann, who is currently coaching the Springfield Lasers. "I'm not the type of person to rest on my accomplishments. I feel as though I can bring Cal Poly to national prominence in the highly competitive Big West Conference."

Kronemann doesn't have any Division I coaching experience, but has proven himself on the court, which is something former Cal Poly

tennis player John Cappello said he respects in a coach.

"His resume speaks for itself," Cappello said. "I'm glad the team is getting a good coach. I just wish I had another season to enjoy it."

Cappello's senior season was thrown for a spin when former head coach Chris Eppright stepped down in the middle of the 2000-01 season.

Jeff Spalinger replaced Eppright as interim head coach, and the Mustangs played through a disappointing season.

"As soon as coach Eppright left, so did our team's work ethic," Cappello said.

Hard work ethic, fan support, and good team chemistry are what Kronemann said he plans to bring to the program — he expects the outcomes of their matches will help propel the school to national prominence.

**Trevor Kronemann** is a UC Irvine grad.

**He is currently coaching for the Springfield Lasers.**