

Volume LXXI
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MUSTANG DAILY

Wednesday
January 23, 2008

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POLITICS



'Gypsy' brings
the best of
Broadway to
the PAC

page 10



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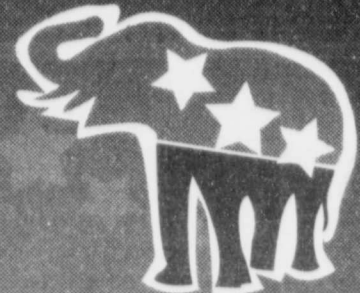


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MUSTANG DAILY POLITICAL ISSUE



Behind the red and blue

Whether you like it or not, it's everywhere. Scribbled on the sidewalk on your way to class, plastered on the stakes you pass by on the way to grab food, in the opinions section of the Mustang Daily every Wednesday — politics are a significant part of life at Cal Poly.

Or so you might think.

We wanted to look at just how seriously Cal Poly students take their right to vote and their part in the future of their country. A total of 377 students were selected to complete a standard survey inquiring about voting habits, party affiliations and political interest. And you might be a bit surprised by what we found. (Turn to page 5 for a survey breakdown or go to mustangdaily.net for a more complete, interactive multi-

media version.)

More importantly, we wanted to look beyond the stereotypes. We've all heard the stigma that Cal Poly is a conservative campus and that students are largely apathetic, but our reporters looked beyond the stereotypes and statistics. They talked to the people who make politics a substantial part of their daily lives, whether it's a job, a volunteer position or simply a passion. They even spoke with local and state politicians who got their start here at Cal Poly.

Though the 377 students surveyed and those interviewed represent only a fraction of the student body, that fraction had something to say.

And that's the first step.

— Kristen Marshall, editor in chief

Student apathy in light of youth vote

Jennifer Hall

SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Voter apathy, especially among young voters, has been the focus of many campaigns in the past.

In the 2004 presidential election, less than half of the 18- to 29-year-old citizens in the U.S. voted, according to youngvoterstrategies.com.

"It's a large issue. My biggest thing in politics is voter turnout," industrial engineering junior Conner Johnston said. "In 2004, our age group had a 41 percent voter turnout. Some people think that's good, but under 50 percent is unacceptable."

Cal Poly students differ as to whether they believe apathy exists among students on campus.

"It's not so much apathy but inaction," said Erica Janoff, an industrial engineering senior and Cal Poly Democrats Club president. "I think the difference is that we're young and the habit hasn't been developed yet."

However, Christina Chiappe, a social sciences senior and Cal Poly College Republican president, thinks students may just not like the candidates.

"Some people are disgruntled by what there is to offer," she said. "It's a combo of lack of information and understanding and being unhappy with the choices."

Conversely, modern languages and literature sophomore Mollie McFarland believes students don't really care because they have more important things to do.

"The truth is I think we're in a bubble. College is the time to do your work and party. It's just not common knowledge to really know about what's going on all over the world," she said.

However, as the chapter coordinator for Students for Barack Obama, McFarland thinks students could have an immense impact if they got involved.

"People don't think it affects them, but it will someday, and in 25 years it's going to suck," she said. "You have to fight for this stuff now and I feel like college is the perfect time to do it."

In fact, young voters do think this election will have an impact on the country. In a Time Magazine poll, 83 percent of voters ages 18 to 29 reported that they think the current election will have a great deal of impact.

And young people are becoming more involved.

The percentage of 18- to 29-year-olds paying attention to the presidential campaign this year was 74 percent, compared to 42 percent in 2004 and 13 percent in 2000, the poll said.

In San Luis Obispo, student votes were high during the Feb. 5 primary election. Polling locations that catered primarily to students reached nearly 40 percent voter turnout, according to the county Registrar's office.

"I'm really happy about the turnout, but I have an optimistic view that if we all voted, we could really change the world," said Johnston, who was a precinct coordinator for the election. "Every voice counts. It doesn't take that much effort."

Hans Poschman, a public policy graduate student and executive director of the Republican Party in San Luis Obispo, thinks students care more than people give them credit for.

"Students are the ones that are more able to go out and walk the communities and share what they believe in. They're motivated and active," he said.

And it's not hard to find something to do.

"Get involved in something that you enjoy and make the impact on your community," Janoff said. "Join something you're passionate about. Small groups can really have their voices heard."

Bringing bias into class

Rachel Gellman

MUSTANG DAILY

Have you ever had a professor who bleeds through his hemp shirt in the area of his heart, and wondered, "What does fair trade have to do with chemistry?" If so, you're not alone.

"Being conservative in our classes, to us, oftentimes it does seem like there is a bias or that our views aren't represented as much," said Christina Chiappe, the Cal Poly College Republicans president and a social science senior. "So we wanted to see if there was any correlation, or if it was our imagination, as far as professors and what their actual party affiliation was."

The Cal Poly College Republicans ventured to the San Luis Obispo County Clerks Office and found the political affiliations of every registered full-time faculty member on campus. The results show a higher density of Democrats in every college at Cal Poly except the College of Agriculture.

"To kind of put this in a nutshell, we all know as professors that we're outnumbered if we're on the conservative side," said Laura Freberg, a professor of psychology and the Cal Poly College Republicans faculty advisor.

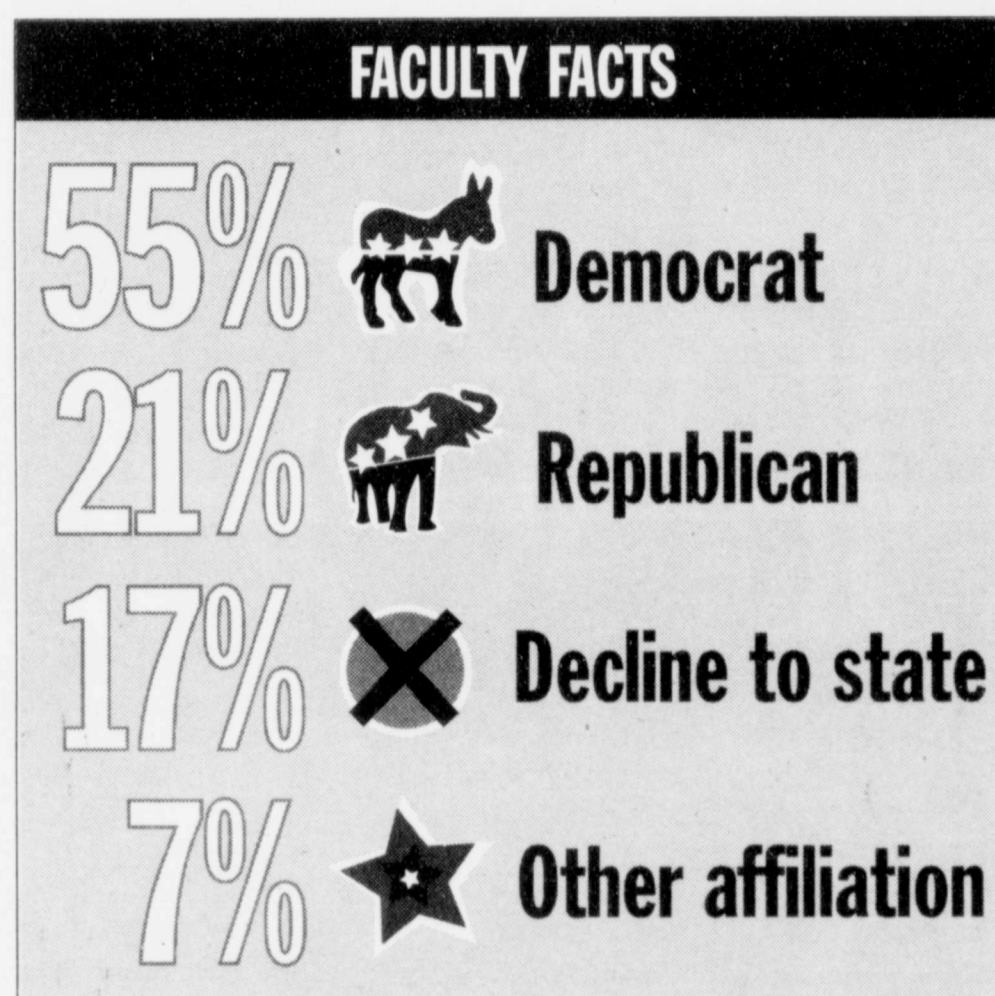
Freberg said that her work as a biological psychologist with a brain and behavior focus is quite apolitical. When her husband ran for several public office positions on a Republican platform in the '90s, however her colleagues questioned her.

"If someone asks me a direct question I'm going to give a direct answer," she said. "I spent a good chunk of the '90s in federal court trying to keep my job."

Freberg filed a discrimination suit against the university that was eventually settled in court.

"My position was that I was not being treated fairly, in my view, in terms of promotion," she said. Chiappe said another reason for the survey was because her club wondered "is it that liberals are more academic, and that's why they're professors, or is it that they are being hired more often because of their political views. If you are a Republican, are you less likely or more likely to be hired?" she said.

William Bailey, director of Employee Equity and Faculty Recruit-



LAUREN RABAINO MUSTANG DAILY

ment at Cal Poly said, "It's illegal for us to inquire as to someone's political beliefs."

Although it was confirmed that hirers cannot inquire about candidate's political affiliations, Freberg believes there are loopholes in learning such information. Simple indicators like the way an applicant dresses, socio-economic status or dissertation topics could lead hiring committees to make assumptions, she said.

She said she witnessed one of her colleagues directly ask a candidate in an employment interview what he thought of the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant "because in the '80s, of course, that was a real hot button issue," Freberg said. "The poor guy was just really flustered. He didn't know what to say. It's like, how does that have anything to do with being a psychology professor?"

Kaity Cofer, a nutrition junior, said, "My teacher currently is extremely liberal, and every assignment that we do kind of relates back to, 'oh, this is because Bush has done this to the economy or we're stuck in this rut because...' and it always kind of relates back to anti-Republican," but, "I think that teachers should be able to voice their opinions just like anyone. Being our age, we should be able to think for ourselves."

Freberg feels differently. "I'm

thinking 'what is it like to be a conservative student taking a class from somebody who really thinks all conservatives should just fall off the face of the planet?' It must be very difficult," she said.

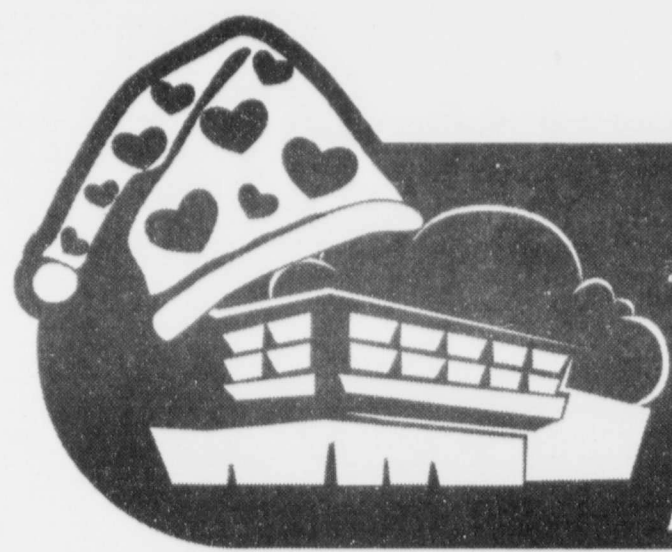
On the other side of the spectrum, Erin Mellon, vice president of the Cal Poly Democrats and a business junior, said, "If you really identify with one party or the other, if you're trying to teach, it's really hard not to bring that into your teaching."

Mike Latner, an assistant professor of political science, said that the Cal Poly survey results most likely represent a worldwide trend. "The idea of academic freedom and there being a safe place to pursue ideas is the whole foundation behind how we can lead to progress. So it doesn't surprise me that universities are liberal places," he said.

In a 2005 study of 11 California universities ranging from small, private religious campuses to large public schools published in the Critical Review, two economics professors found that across all schools studied and in all departments, there was a five-to-one Democrat to Republican ratio, and in the liberal arts, the ratio was higher than eight-to-one.

Latner, who is registered as de-

see Professors, page 6



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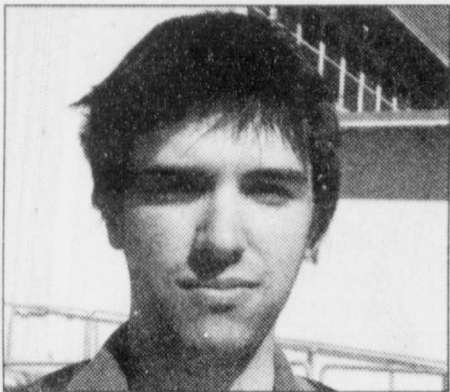
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WORD ON THE STREET

"What issue is most important to you in 2008 elections?"

Compiled and photographed by Rachel Gellman

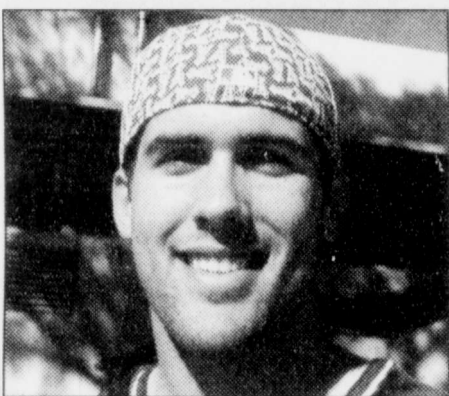


The economy. I have fears of the recession."

— Tyler Piper,
finance junior

"Health care and education because capitalist America squashes the middle class."

— Luke Johnson,
history senior



"Just that the president is intelligent."

— Molly Tavella,
biology senior

"Getting out of Iraq. I have brothers who may have to enlist as a last resort and I definitely don't want them over there, and I have friends there right now."

— Erica Orvis,
wine and viticulture junior



Former Poly student to advocate for students if elected in June

Coral Snyder

MUSTANG DAILY

While the college lifestyle allows many students to pass by politics and local issues without voice or notice, the upcoming June 3 election of the Fifth District County Supervisor may have a great impact on the lives of students.

Debbie Arnold, a former Cal Poly student, will be gunning for the position against incumbent candidate Jim Patterson. The position encompasses authority over Atascadero, Santa Margarita, Creston, Carrisa Plains and parts of San Luis Obispo, including Cal Poly and surrounding areas.

"If elected supervisor, I would welcome student input, and I would stress that the future is yours and the government will be what you make of it," Arnold said.

Arnold is a resident of Pozo and a member of a ranching family within the county, though she was raised in the Bay Area and graduated from high school in San Jose.

Afterward, Arnold attended Cal Poly in 1973 as an animal science major, but decided to pursue an associate of arts degree in early childhood education from Cuesta College.

With her degree, she owned and operated an Atascadero preschool until she became a legislative assistant to the former County Supervisor Mike Ryan. In 2004, Arnold became an aid for Assemblyman Sam Blakeslee until she left in 2007 to run for office. She is also currently a member of the Santa Margarita Area Advisory Committee.

"Working with Supervisor Ryan, I learned a lot about county government and processes and working with constituents. Working with Blakeslee, I learned how to use the legislative process and how to work with state and federal government to benefit the people of San Luis Obispo County," Arnold said.

She also said that Blakeslee helped her learn about problem solving issues and consensus building.

She has many overall goals for the fifth district as a whole as well as specific goals to help students who live in San Luis Obispo.

Her overall issues include focusing on safety within the community, protecting the environment and open space, making sure that the rights of homeowners are preserved, and restoring public trust.

When it comes to students, she advocates for programs that give students a safe ride home. She also helped advocate funding to continue an established program while she worked with Blakeslee's office.

"I believe it's a good program to have in San Luis Obispo because we have a student population and a social



RYAN POLEI MUSTANG DAILY

Debbie Arnold, pictured with her dog, will run for the Fifth District County Supervisor position in June.

aspect downtown. It is important to provide that population with services that fit their lifestyles," Arnold said.

She said that since students make up nearly 50 percent of the population in San Luis Obispo, they should be equally represented.

Arnold also said land use is a big issue relating to students because recreational opportunities are important for the college demographic and it is necessary to ensure the beauty of the county for the future.

"As a parent, I want to give something back so it will be this nice for your generation," Arnold said.

Aside from being a former Poly student herself, Arnold also has two children who graduated from Cal Poly in 2000 and 2002. One of her goals for the San Luis Obispo area is being able to help create compromises between local students and other residents.

Arnold emphasized that she feels it is important for students to educate themselves before voting and deciding which issues are important for the future.

"I understand how to work through the legislative processes at every level, and have made a lot of good contacts at the state and federal level," Arnold said.

"Having kids that went through Cal Poly helps her understand why safe ride programs are important for some students and it's good that she's willing to advocate for this kind of safety," nutrition senior Coleen Farias said.

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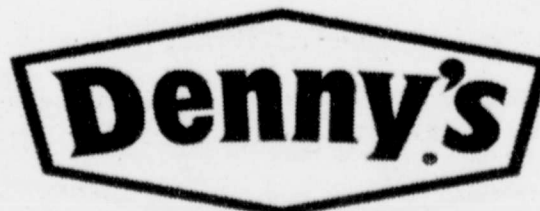
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Sidewalk chalk and posters: Poly students offer their support to the bigger picture

Jennifer Hall
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

As the primary elections went into full swing Feb. 5, so did the sidewalk chalk and posters promoting the candidates.

But all of that chalk had to come from somewhere, and many of the people behind the scenes of political campaigns are students.

Molly McFarland and Conner Johnston are just a few who joined the Students for Barack Obama campaign as chapter coordinator and get-out-the-vote coordinator, respectively.

"Our direct area went (for) Obama because of our direct efforts," industrial engineering junior Johnston said. "I feel like we made an immense impact."

That impact didn't come without some hard work, though. The Students for Barack Obama campaign began during the summer of 2006 on Facebook.com and has been opening chapters at universities across the nation since then, according to its Web site.

McFarland, a modern languages and literature sophomore, became involved with the Cal Poly chapter about five months ago after a man talked about the campaign at Linnaea's Café on Garden Street in San Luis Obispo.

"I turned off my iPod and started eavesdropping," McFarland said. "It was kind of a serendipitous meeting."

Since October, the grassroots effort has garnered support for Obama on campus by having students



Cal Poly students and members of Students for Barack Obama show their support for the presidential candidate after volunteering at the Nevada caucus in Las Vegas.

sign non-binding pledge cards that they will vote for him, registering new voters, and reminding students to vote on Election Day.

"One of the biggest reasons students don't vote is because they're not registered," McFarland said.

The week before the California primary campaign, volunteers plastered campus with chalk, signs and banners.

Obama won in San Luis Obispo county with 48.6 percent of the votes for the democratic presidential primary, but lost in California to Hillary Clinton, who garnered 52 percent of the votes overall, according to the California Secretary of State's Web site.

John McCain won the republican presidential primary in San Luis Obispo county with 39.8 percent, and for the state with 42 percent of the vote, the Web site said. Mitt Romney followed with 34.1 percent of the overall vote.

"SLO county came down to 500 votes (for Obama) and we got 500 people to pledge, and I'm sure more than that voted," Johnston said. "Cal Poly took SLO county for Obama. I want the Cal Poly students to know that they did make a difference."

The polling location in the University Union which serves the students who are registered on campus voted 82.35 percent for Obama, according to the county Recorder's office.

More than 50 students volunteered with the Obama campaign and coordinators like McFarland volunteered up to five hours a day during the final weeks before the primaries.

"I wish I could take the quarter off and just work for the campaign," McFarland said. "I'm a volunteer and I'm a student. It was a struggle and I'm still trying to catch up, but it was well worth it."

On the other side of the political spectrum, Hans Poschman, a public policy graduate student with a political science degree from Cal Poly, is the executive director for the Republican party in San Luis Obispo county.

Although the party didn't promote a specific candidate during the primaries, Poschman was still busy keeping the office open every day, organizing volunteer activities and registering voters. He also speaks routinely to groups to tell them what's going on with the party.

"I try to provide a presence in the community whenever necessary," Poschman said. "It's a lot of work. There's constantly something to do and you have to balance that with school."

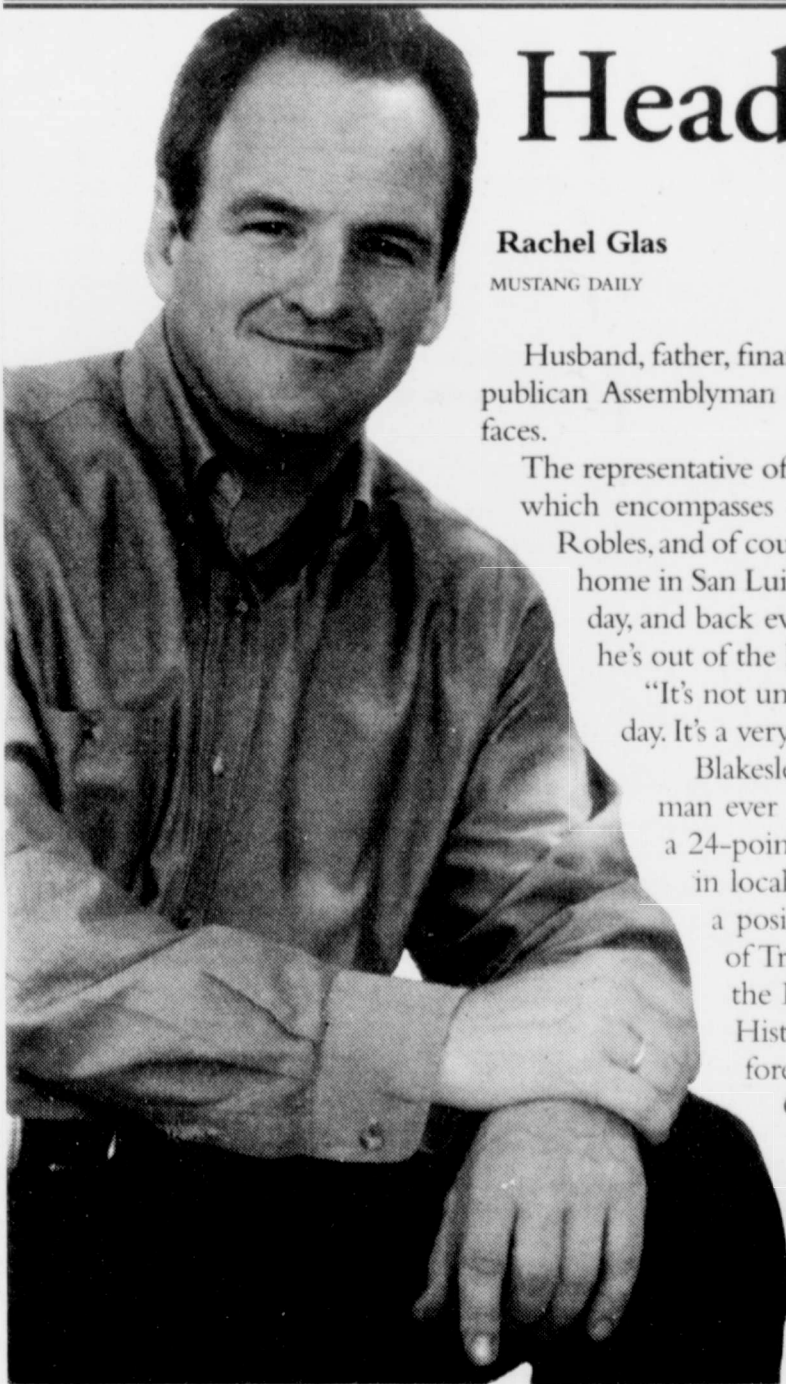
Most professors are understanding of the time commitment for the campaign, Johnston said.

"I've made announcements in my classes and a couple of teachers were proud of me since I was involved in the politics," he said. "A lot of teachers are excited because they can't get involved themselves."

As the presidential election in November and the local elections in June draw nearer, the students involved in campaigns will become even more involved.

But that's the way they like it.

"It's a great chance to have a say on what affects this nation," Poschman said.



Headline XYxyxyxyxyxyxy

Rachel Glas
MUSTANG DAILY

Husband, father, financial planner and politician — Republican Assemblyman Sam Blakeslee is a man of many faces.

The representative of California's 33rd Assembly District, which encompasses everything from Lompoc to Paso Robles, and of course San Luis Obispo, drives from his home in San Luis Obispo to Sacramento every Sunday, and back every Thursday. Once in Sacramento, he's out of the house from 5 a.m. until 8:30 p.m.

"It's not unusual to have a dozen meetings per day. It's a very fast-paced job," Blakeslee said.

Blakeslee has been serving as assemblyman ever since he was elected in 2004 with a 24-point margin of victory. He started out in local politics when he ran for and won a position on the Cuesta College Board of Trustees in 1998. Then he served on the Board of the Central Coast Natural History Association for four years before acting as treasurer for the San Luis Obispo Chamber of Commerce.

After a trip to India with his son, Blakeslee decided to run for

Assemblyman Sam Blakeslee, a native of San Luis Obispo, has served the area since 2004.

COURTESY PHOTO

assemblyman.

"The kind of poverty, environmental degradation and human condition that I experienced there convinced me that if you have an opportunity to engage in the public arena, you should take that opportunity," he said.

Since winning, Blakeslee has focused on protecting the environment, particularly in regards to alternative energy. He helped pass several bills focusing on environmental issues of the Central Coast, including a bill to fix the Los Osos sewer problem. He also passed a bill to study how to clean up the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant.

"I want a California that has the most advanced energy technology, the most green approach toward solving environmental challenges," he said.

Andrew Christie, director of the local chapter of the Sierra Club, considers Blakeslee a leader in pushing for alternative energy.

"Sam has been quite forward looking on alternative energy, far more so than your average Republican lawmaker," he said. "He is really out front in things like solar wind and the nuts and bolts on how to get from where we are to a clean energy economy."

Though Blakeslee touts his environmental record and points to the fact that he had more bills signed into law last year than any other Republican legislator, 2004 opponent Stewart Jenkins thinks the hoopla is unwarranted.

"Blakeslee has been quite ineffective as an assemblyman. He has pushed through many bills that are cosmetic in nature but get a lot of positive press," he said.

see Blakeslee, page 8

MUSTANG DAILY SURVEY BREAKDOWN



Democrats by college

AGRICULTURE 42%
ARCHITECTURE 16%
BUSINESS 42%
ENGINEERING 23%
LIBERAL ARTS 44%
SCIENCE & MATH 45%



Republicans by college

AGRICULTURE 27%
ARCHITECTURE 33%
BUSINESS 26%
ENGINEERING 22%
LIBERAL ARTS 19%
SCIENCE & MATH 21%



Other voters by college

AGRICULTURE 27%
ARCHITECTURE 49%
BUSINESS 26%
ENGINEERING 50%
LIBERAL ARTS 33%
SCIENCE & MATH 29%



Absentee voters

FRESHMEN 64%
SOPHOMORES 42%
JUNIORS 45%
SENIORS 47%



Political interest

[1 to 10 scale, by year]

FRESHMEN 7
SOPHOMORES 5
JUNIORS 7
SENIORS 8



Political interest

[1 to 10 scale, by major]

AGRICULTURE 7
ARCHITECTURE 7
BUSINESS 7
ENGINEERING 7
LIBERAL ARTS 9
SCIENCE & MATH 8



Student voting breakdown

OBAMA 67%
CLINTON 10%
PAUL 10%
MCCAIN 9%
HUCKABEE 6%

All statistics are based on a Mustang Daily survey of 377 Cal Poly students conducted after the Feb. 5 primary elections in California.

Professors

continued from page 2

cline to state, said he teaches an explicitly political set of classes and that "it would be a disservice to my students to try to pretend that I was neutral or to try to hide my own political views. I think of politics as an open forum and so I want to put my views out there and I want to put people who disagree with me out there."

By discussing alternative viewpoints, Latner believes professors prepare students for the real world.

"Ideology tends to fall apart when it hits the sort of messy world of reality," he said. "There is no time for radicalism (once you graduate) because you're in the rat race. Part of what the university is about is saving space for radicalism because radicalism has freed us from the tyranny of

tradition, in a way."

Chris Hartog, an assistant professor in the political science department, said he speaks of his personal political preference, decline to state, sparsely in class.

Hartog said while unconventional views could bother or mislead some people in a classroom setting, "it could also be that that minority point of view is the best one and everybody else is thinking something stupid."

Latner acknowledged California as generally a liberal state and said, "Republicans have a sense of being the underdog in California."

Of her colleagues in the liberal arts department, Freberg said, "They don't just not want to work with you, they hate you. Every time I've put out a broadcast e-mail advertising a College Republicans event, I'll send it to the liberal arts faculty. I get hate mail."

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1903

ROOSEVELT

comes to SLO to commend citizens for establishing Cal Poly.

1941

WWII

causes 24 Japanese-American Cal Poly students to relocate to internment camps.

1962

COLD WAR

and threats of nuclear attacks cause Army engineers to approve on-campus shelters.

1963

PROTESTS

break out on campus after three women students are suspended for attending off-campus fraternity events.

1968

REAGAN

comes to campus to deliver an inaugural address for the new Poly president, Robert Kennedy.

1969

ANTI-WAR

advocates protest Vietnam on Dexter Lawn.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

Left: A former ASI president addresses students protesting the Vietnam War in front of the Administration building in 1968. Right: Ronald Reagan, governor of California at the time, visits Cal Poly in honor of Robert F. Kennedy's appointment to president of the university.

A look back in time

Sitting in the middle of one of the most liberal states in the Union, conservative Cal Poly stands out like a sore thumb. Easily considered one of the most conservative schools in the state, the university has hardly been noted for the kind of student revolutions that led universities like Berkeley to fame. Yet even from within this relatively quiet campus, political moments for the history books have been written.

Marlize van Romburgh

MUSTANG DAILY

Teddy Roosevelt and a "common sense" school

Established by a state legislative act in 1901, Cal Poly opened its campus to students in 1903. Standing before the citizens of San Luis Obispo that spring, on May 9, 1903, President Theodore Roosevelt commended them for their "common sense" in establishing a polytechnic school.

"I am glad to learn that the State of California is erecting here the polytechnic institute for giving all of the scientific training in the arts of farm life. More and more our people have waked to the fact that farming is not only a practical but a scientific pursuit, and that there should be the same chance for the tiller of the soil to make his a learned profession that there is any business," the president said.

Cal Poly's first war

World War II hit Cal Poly with the same shock as it did to the rest of the United States, as the news streamed in through the radio that Pearl Harbor had been bombed. The first wartime issue of the student newspaper, on Dec. 12, 1941, proclaimed the words in bold: "U.S. FIGHTS AXIS," "WAR WITH JAPAN, GERMANY AND ITALY" and "HONOLULU BOMBED."

By the end of the week, Cal Poly was observing blackout restrictions. Yet in sharp contrast to the wars that would follow decades later, Cal Poly's student body seemed eager to take up arms for their country.

Student body president Walter Dougherty wrote in the newspaper, "We students of California Polytechnic... are training ourselves with certain specific objectives in mind. Now we are called upon to turn aside from these objectives and give to our country military defense. There can be no hesitation if we are asked to lay aside our books and papers, but rather a willing step forward to the task ahead. I know that none of us shall hesitate."

His words seemed to ring true around campus, with more than 80 students dropping out of school right after Pearl Harbor, even before the draft began calling them forth.

As another effect of World War II, the 24 Japanese-American students who had been enrolled at Cal Poly during the 1941-42 school year had disappeared by the end of 1942, forced to relocate with their families to government internment camps in California or Arizona.

Then by 1945, the war that had defined a whole generation of college students ended and Cal Poly faced new challenges again. Thousands of young veterans, all funded by the new G.I. Bill, flooded home and Cal Poly's already established "learn-by-doing" focus was exactly what many of them wanted. To accommodate the surge of post-war students, the university had to rapidly hire new faculty and begin a large campus upgrade.

The Cold War and Cal Poly's nuclear threats

By October 1962, the United States was firmly in the grips of the Cold War with the Soviet Union, and the Cuban Missile Crisis only further looked to chill relations.

In the aftermath of the the crisis, Army engineers approved eight Cal Poly buildings as fallout shelters. Rather casually, the campus newspaper noted, "In the event of all-out nuclear war, Vandenberg Air Force base, located 50 miles south of campus, could be a main target area. In the event of this occurrence,

Cal Poly could be heavily showered with radioactive fallout."

Mourning John F. Kennedy

A year later, the United States was hit by tragic news. On Nov. 22, 1963, "El Mustang" published its first "second edition," reporting on the assassination of President Kennedy.

Coming out just an hour and a half after the president's death, the student newspaper reported on the campus' reaction. "For some, the first inkling of the tragedy came when they noticed the flags near the Administration building being lowered to half-mast... Business stopped completely in El Corral Bookstore as reports came over the closed circuit radio system. Students with purchases in their hand stood and waited and listened. I've forgotten what I came in for now," said one student listening to the news."

"The hippie generation, student unrest and the psychedelic world"

Cal Poly saw one of its rarest occurrences, a student protest, in October of 1963 when students were disgruntled over university policy toward female students. Three women had been suspended for the rest of the quarter after they had attended off-campus fraternity events. The school proclaimed that it neither recognized nor approved of fraternities, and that the three women didn't have permission to attend the event.

In an uncommon show of emotion, the student body marched and petitions circulated, questioning the role of the university as a "surrogate parent."

Although the protests didn't bring immediate change to either campus policies or mainstream sentiments, they did begin to foreshadow the revolutionary youth attitude that would mark the country by the end of the decade.

Reagan comes to campus as Kennedy takes the reins on a restless generation

On April 3, 1968, Cal Poly held its first university presidential inauguration as it appointed Robert Kennedy as its new leader for the tumultuous decade to come.

Ronald Reagan, then governor of California, stood before the students of Cal Poly to deliver Kennedy's inaugural address and praised Cal Poly for being such a success.

Meanwhile, the student reporter who attended Kennedy's first press conference observed keenly the challenges that lay ahead for the new university president.

"Sitting in front of the typewriter for six hours preparing this story gave me time to reflect on this man in charge of such a respected institution. No other college president (on this campus) has had to face the hippie generation, student unrest and the psychedelic world," the reporter wrote.

Even heading a notoriously conservative campus, Kennedy was just as concerned about the oncoming tide of student demonstrations as the other university leaders of the time. As it turned out, his concerns were well-placed as Cal Poly proved to be no exception to the student protest phenomenon, especially as popular opposition toward the Vietnam War grew.

The Oct. 15, 1969 Vietnam Moratorium that drew millions of anti-war protesters History, page 9

2001

SEPT. 11

causes 50 students to hold a peace march on campus wearing green armbands.

2008

FOCUS THE NATION, a nationwide global warming and sustainability event, unites more than 4,000 students and community members.

“If students truly want to be represented by a democratic government then they need to understand how government is currently dictated by plutocracy and partisanship and take it back.”

—Allen Settle
Political science professor

Tyler Wise
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

If you've never had the privilege to meet Allen Settle, you only have to peer inside his cramped and cluttered office to understand just how academically involved this professor of municipal government, public law and finance, and member of the San Luis Obispo City Council, truly is.

But don't be fooled by the towering stacks of papers and books that line his office like a minefield of academia; he is neither a pack-rat, lazy or unorganized but a vigorously passionate Cal Poly political science professor and member of local government, involved in a plethora of activities on campus, in the local government and the state of California.

Just point to a mass of papers or a heap of hardcover books in his office, and Settle can explain their political or academic relevance in great detail.

That's just the kind of guy he is: a guy who works vehemently to know all the details of government, law and finance, and impart that knowledge to both his students and peers in government.

"Many students should have an interest in political science because finance and government have a closer relationship than they think," Settle said. "Students need to understand that money is driving policy making in government; not democracy but plutocracy."

What Settle implies is that the current form of policy-making in government is driven by money, and therefore public policy is dictated by those who possess the most of it.

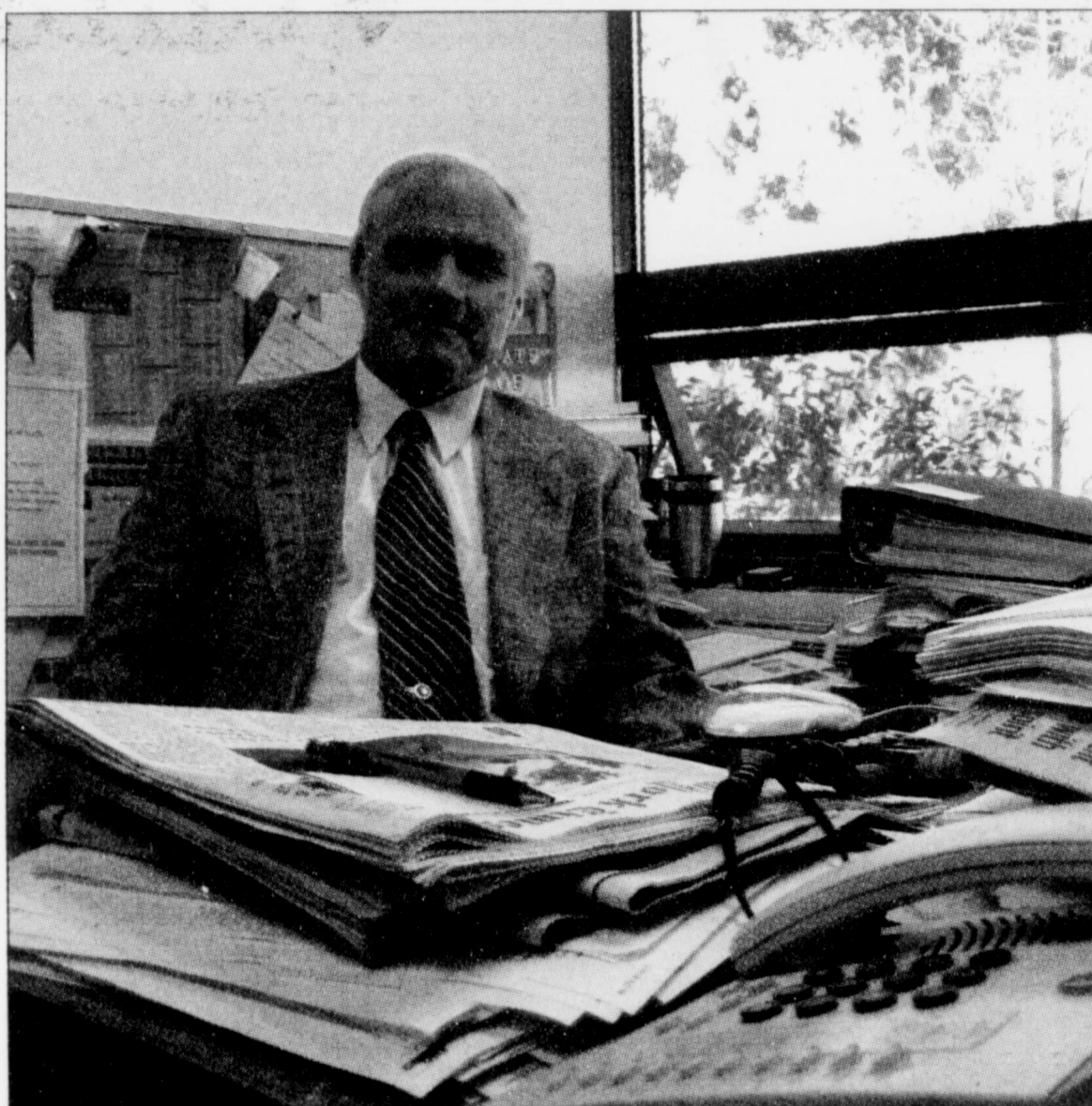
As he put it, the plutocratic characteristics of government are perverting politicians and thus policy, making which takes control of the government out of the hands of the people.

"If students truly want to be represented by a democratic government then they need to understand how government is currently dictated by plutocracy and partisanship and take it back," Settle said. "I encourage as many of my students to become engineers, city planners, finance directors, lawyers, or participants in as many facets of city, state or federal government," Settle said.

The core of his courses is an attempt to influence students to "try and keep it (government) democracy."

Originally from Boston, Mass., Settle and his family relocated to the Central Coast nearly 40 years ago. As an escape from the harsh winters of New England, the move

MAN OF LAW



BRYAN BEILKE MUSTANG DAILY

Political science professor Allen Settle has taught at Cal Poly since 1974, served four terms as the mayor of San Luis Obispo and is currently a member of the city council.

for the Settles also carried a political significance.

"My father moved us to this area for more opportunity but specifically because it was a non-partisan area," Settle said. "You didn't have to deal with all the bureaucracy of large city governments out here, and to this day San Luis Obispo is still a non-partisan city government."

He explained that San Luis Obispo's city council members are not permitted to run for office on party lines — Democrat, Republican, etc. — and therefore voters are not swayed or influenced by those party's political ideals, but by the individual merits of the those running for office.)

Settle said he was always interested in law

and government. From an early age, he knew that he wanted to be an active participant in both fields.

"I can remember the first time I knew that I wanted to know what the law was," Settle recalled. "I remember visiting a mobile-home park and I remember being confused because I didn't understand how you could own a (mobile home) but not own the land that it sat on. From that point on I became very interested in land use, taxation and regulations."

Settle immediately became involved in both education and government after graduating from UC Santa Barbara. Settle became a political science professor at Cal Poly in 1974, and a member of local government

shortly thereafter.

Settle has built quite the resume from then until now, having served in several city committees such as the City Planning Commission, Environmental Review Committee and the County Area Council of Government to name a few. He was also the mayor of San Luis Obispo, having served four terms between 1994 and 2002. Currently, Settle is one of five council members on the San Luis Obispo City Council.

Settle also credits himself with helping to promote and nurture downtown business, build an infrastructure mitigating traffic and fixing streets, and establishing the Damon-Garcia Athletic fields off of South Broad Street and Tank Farm Road, in order to provide more outlets for Cal Poly students in San Luis Obispo.

One of several perks Settle said comes from his dual profession as both a city council member and an educator is that many of the issues that he deals with in city council can be readily discussed and evaluated in his political science, law and finance classes.

"It definitely serves a beneficial purpose as being current, local and relevant to affairs of government," Settle said.

Though Settle teaches a diverse variety of courses in law, finance, and political science, there are two universal pieces of knowledge that he imparts to all of his students: first — understand the law; and second — understand money and finance. Engineers, agriculture majors, business majors, or any students interested in careers that involve management must be wary of financial affairs even before they apply for a job because more and more employers, corporate and government, are evaluating applicants by their credit scores, Settle said.

"Students really need to pay attention to their FICO (Fair Isaacs & Co.) Credit score because employers look at those more than ever," Settle said. "If you have a bad credit (a score as low as 450) then you can forget about getting hired because who is going to put you in a position to manage money if you can't manage your own?"

In business and politics, it boils down to the relationship of law, finance, and government. If you understand these things, especially if you plan on going in to positions of management or government, "You're good to go," Settle said.

Otherwise, as Settle said, "If you don't know them, you're crippled."

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History

continued from page 7

testers around the world was well represented in San Luis Obispo and on the Cal Poly campus.

The Mustang Daily reported, "Even this conservatively minded campus and this relatively isolated city were witness to conspicuous observance of this event."

Indeed, local observance of the anti-war event began the night before, with a rally in Mitchell Park, where campus speakers, folk music and discussions on war issues filled the otherwise quiet area. Protesters then held a candlelight march and gathered at the Mission downtown.

"The Vietnam War protest planned for Wednesday... received a degree of support from President Robert Kennedy. The college president refused permission for a meeting on the library lawn, but offered use of the Amphitheater for the entire day," the Mustang Daily reported.

"I do indeed support the concept that the war should be brought to a speedy conclusion," Kennedy said. "I have expressed it on many occasions."

As the actual day of the Moratorium rolled around, student protesters planted 20 white crosses on Dexter Lawn and drew a crowd of about 500 people as they delivered anti-war speeches.

About another 250 students marched to the Administration building and then to the Amphitheater, where Kennedy had made sure microphones had been set up for them.

It was later said that Kennedy's tolerant but firm attitude toward student sentiments helped keep the peace at Cal Poly, even as an unwanted war raged abroad.

On to modern times — Sept. 11 and beyond

2001 was easily the most polarizing year the campus had seen thus far in its history. As a traditionally conservative campus, the year's events, led by a still-popular Republican White House, would bring forth the blue-blooded patriotism that hallmarked a large population of the student body.

That fateful day in mid-September first stunned the campus into silence as news came from the East Coast of terrorist planes descending on the World Trade Center and Pentagon. Like the rest of the country, Cal Poly met the news with confusion and mourning.

A few weeks after the attacks, on Oct. 4, 2001, approximately 50 Cal Poly students held a peace march on campus, wearing green armbands inspired by peace protests at Berkeley. Organized by the Progressive Student

Alliance, the march was escorted through campus by university police to prevent uprisings.

When Operation Enduring Freedom dropped its first bombs on Afghanistan just three days after those protests, student reactions were again mixed on campus.

By November, the polarizing issue of a possible war with Iraq and the continued hunt for Osama bin Laden continued to cause a rift among the Cal Poly community.

The Nov. 15, 2001 rally led by the Cal Poly College Republicans was means to counteract the "divisive anti-American demonstrations organized by leftist groups on campus," the club was quoted as saying in the Mustang Daily.

The club put up posters around campus depicting Osama bin Laden and other images of the war on terror, and invited veterans and the campus ROTC to their rally. One of the most controversial images depicted the five-day weather outlook for Afghanistan with a mushroom cloud and temperature of 4,500 degrees anticipated for the week's end.

A faculty-led campaign, meanwhile, protested that Republican rally, calling the club's message "hate speech" and saying their posters stereotyped Muslim-Americans.

With the continuing concern over foreign policy, Cal Poly became just a small sample of the issues that began unfolding and shaping the Millennial generation.

Even California conservatives can turn into hippie environmentalists

Pointing to the environment and global warming as the biggest issue of our generation, Evans considers January's Focus the Nation summit at Cal Poly one of the most monumental political moments on campus.

The global warming summit served as the largest teach-in in America's history, according to the event Web site, with an estimated 4,000 to 5,000 students, faculty and community members who participated.

"The environment is serving the same stimulus for your generation as did Vietnam during its time," Evans explained. "It serves as a tipping point."

He said that over the past decade, various campus groups have come forth with initiatives to save water, recycle or promote alternative energies, but have all pretty much sparked up and then disappeared.

"Then to see this massive event come together, along with big coalition groups like Empower Poly, it really is a mark of the times."

When asked about Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's proposed education cuts, Blakeslee said, "Our challenge is to make those cuts in a way to have the least impact on the classroom. We want to ensure that quality education is attainable and remains affordable."

Blakeslee himself attended schools in San Luis Obispo since he moved here in 1965 at the age of 10. He graduated from San Luis Obispo High School, then left for Wyoming to build cabins. Five years later, after a failed marriage and a child to care for, Blakeslee returned to San Luis Obispo to attend Cuesta College. And though he left for 20 years upon graduating to pursue a Ph.D. and work at Exxon, he always felt a pull to return.

"I missed the Central Coast terribly. I wanted to reconnect with the community," he said.

And by running for assemblyman, he feels that he has.

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Blakeslee

continued from page 5

Jenkins points to the Diablo Canyon Nuclear power bill as an example.

"The bill only commissions a group to study nuclear waste; it doesn't solve anything," he said.

On the other hand, even Jenkins admits that Blakeslee's work with the Los Osos sewage bill was commendable.

But Blakeslee hasn't limited his focus solely on the environment. As a beneficiary of affordable higher education, he is passionate about making sure it stays that way.

Blakeslee, whose campaign was run with the help of Cal Poly and Cuesta students, is currently working on a budget reform bill he hopes will help keep college affordable.

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'Everything's Coming Up Roses' at Cal Poly this Valentine's Day

Dustin Stone
MUSTANG DAILY

Everything's coming up roses in San Luis Obispo this Valentine's Day, when the national touring cast of "Gypsy" makes a stop at the Performing Arts Center.

A classic by any other name, "Gypsy" has been one of America's favorite musicals since it first debuted at New York's Broadway Theatre in 1959. The show features some of the biggest songs in Broadway history, including "Everything's Coming Up Roses," "You Gotta Have a Gimmick" and "Some People."

"It's one of the greatest musicals of all time," said Peter Wilt, interim director of Cal Poly Arts. "Every song in it is good."

The play is based on the memoirs of famous actress and burlesque entertainer Gypsy Rose Lee, who was known as much for her intelligence and wit as

she was for her striptease act.

It follows the story of Mama Rose — the stereotypical, overbearing stage mother — in her quest to make her two daughters the brightest stars of vaudeville. She focuses the majority of her attention on her youngest, Baby June, who headlines the show while big-sister Louise (Gypsy) is stuck in the chorus.

Following some "contract disputes," Rose has no choice but to put a reluctant Louise in the spotlight. Once there, Louise flourishes and eventually transforms into the world-famous striptease artist Gypsy Rose Lee.

"She was a stripper — but she was a high-class stripper," said Wilt, who recalls seeing the real Gypsy Rose perform on television.

Over the course of its many revivals, "Gypsy" has collected three Tony Awards and featured such big names as Angela Lansbury, Tyne Daly and the original Mama Rose,

Ethel Merman. Daly won a Tony in 1990 for her portrayal of the role.

A nostalgic trip back to a time when vaudeville ruled the American stage, the play also explores some of the darker aspects of the human condition. Jealousy and the loss of innocence are themes addressed within the story. Other prominent themes include ambition, loyalty and family dynamics.

Tomorrow's performance promises to be an entertaining treat for Broadway fans of all ages. It also makes an excellent date for slackers who haven't made plans for Valentine's Day.

To sweeten the deal, any seats available one hour prior to the 8 p.m. show time will be made available to Cal Poly Students with a valid student I.D. card as \$8 student rush tickets. So now it's a cheap date.

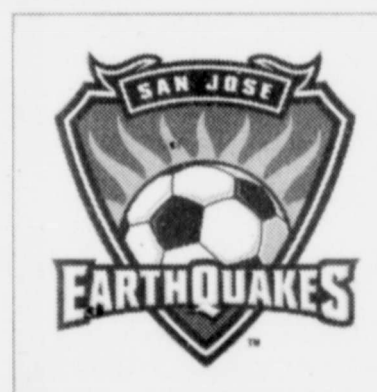
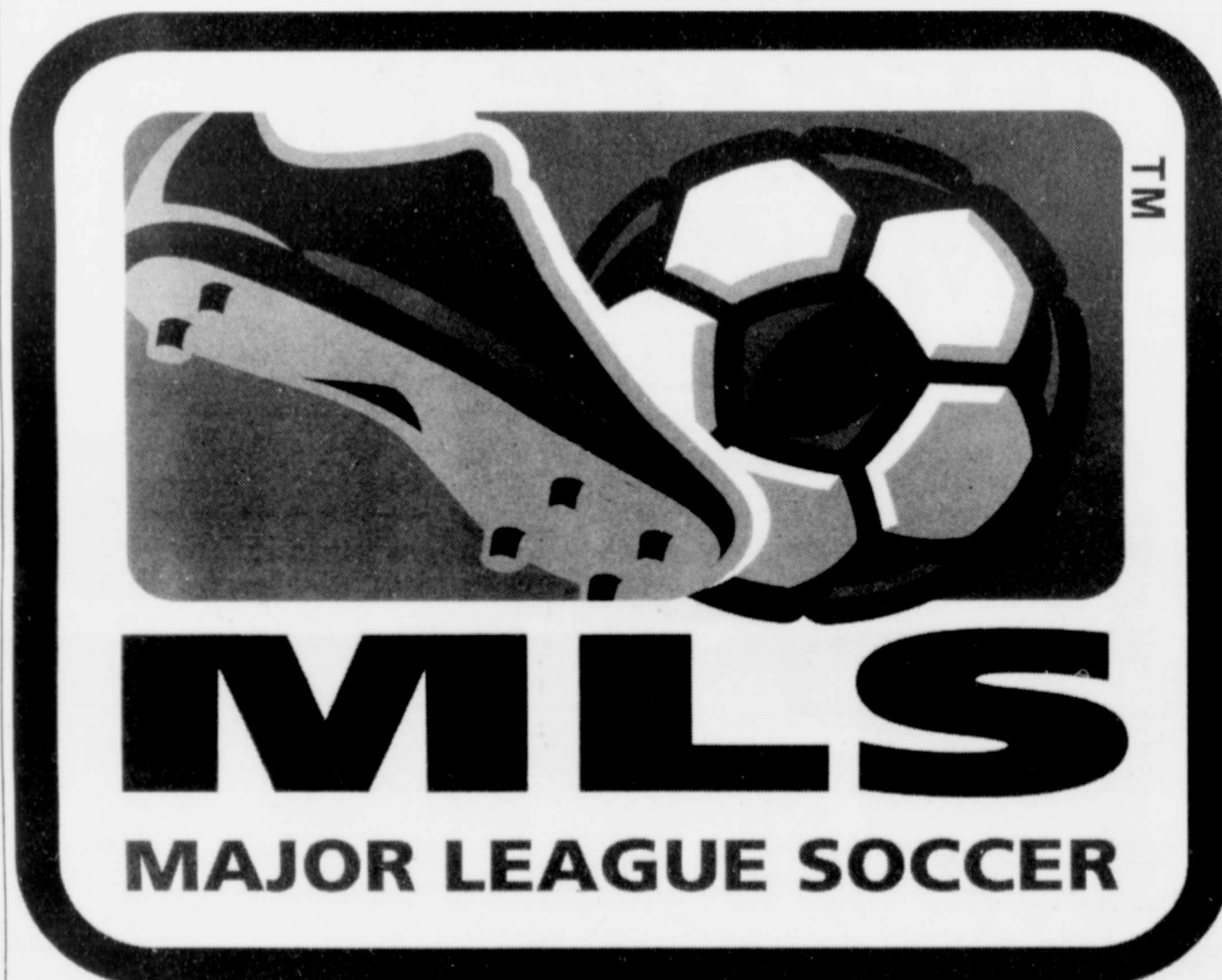
No excuses.



Based on the memoirs of Gypsy Rose Lee (left), "Gypsy" tells the story of the world-famous burlesque entertainer from the '30s and '40s.

COURTESY PHOTO

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COURTESY PHOTOS

Parisian electronic artist O.Lamm's experiments in pop music, as encompassed especially in his album "Monolith," explore new frontiers for the tired and worn-out genre.

A musical kaleidoscope of deconstructionist thought

Quite possibly the most underrated album of the year, O.Lamm's third full-length, "Monolith," is a juggernaut equal in might to any release by the other French notables of 2007. Whereas Ed Banger strongmen Justice and Sebastian slam the listener into a rock-solid wall, O.Lamm topples it over, leaving you no choice but to dig yourself out of the rubble.

O.Lamm is Oliver Lamm, a Parisian outsider in the electronic world who has, until recently, only released albums on the small French label Active Suspension.

While most French electronic artists and DJs follow in the lines of Daft Punk, O.Lamm ventures into unfamiliar territory, deconstructing pop songs with systematic precision. "Genius Boy," the second track on the album, begins with a build-up that lasts well over two minutes. The anticipation is immense. But rather than getting to what would normally be the "meat" of a classic J-pop song, O.Lamm decides to dissect, examine and re-examine the lead-up (which is usually overlooked).

The other songs on the album follow the same methodology. The typical verse-chorus-verse structure is abandoned, and in its place are pop sensibilities being sampled and sequenced through a sort of stream-of-consciousness song-making process. The results are brief pop moments whose edges are magnified and brought into focus.

What makes these experiments in pop music so success-

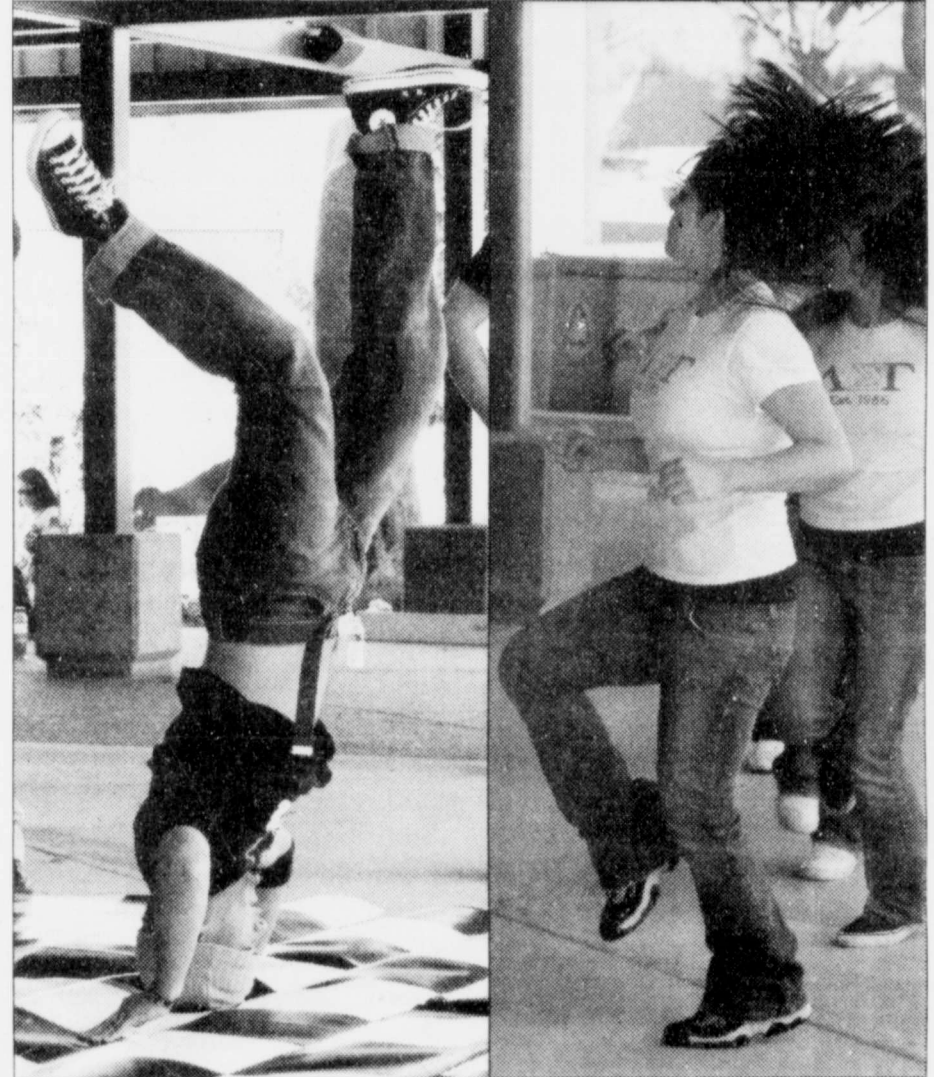
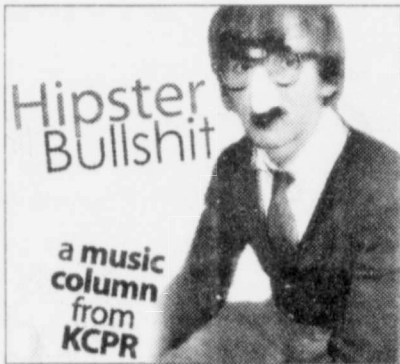
ful is the beautiful production of the album. While these songs are not hipster club jams, the bass hits with just as much thump. The steady, low-end swing that pushes "Return of the Night Goat" is offset by another layer of high-

frequency clicks and cuts, which makes the sonic palette of the song both diverse and balanced. Every discrete sound element that makes up each song is given its proper recognition in the mix. While listening to tracks like "The Macguffin," it's as if each individual sound rests in its own bubble and could be picked out with one's fingers. Everything is crystal-clear, and at no point, despite the complexity of the songs, is the mix muddy. Each track sparkles as every frequency is

exploited with the utmost clarity.

"Monolith," in its focused approach to experimentation, brings new life to the tired and worn-out pop song. While the idea of restraining a pop song to minimal parts is not new, O.Lamm's careful sonic deconstruction of those parts is unique. The real pleasure of this album comes from listening to the details. The kaleidoscope of sound and space that "Monolith" studies gives a structure of the part in order to better understand the whole.

Paul Cambon is an architecture junior and music director for KCPR, San Luis Obispo, 91.3 FM. He's also completely full of it.



NICK CAMACHO MUSTANG DAILY

In honor of Black History Month, student groups showed their stuff yesterday in a step-dancing showcase in the Spanos breezeway.

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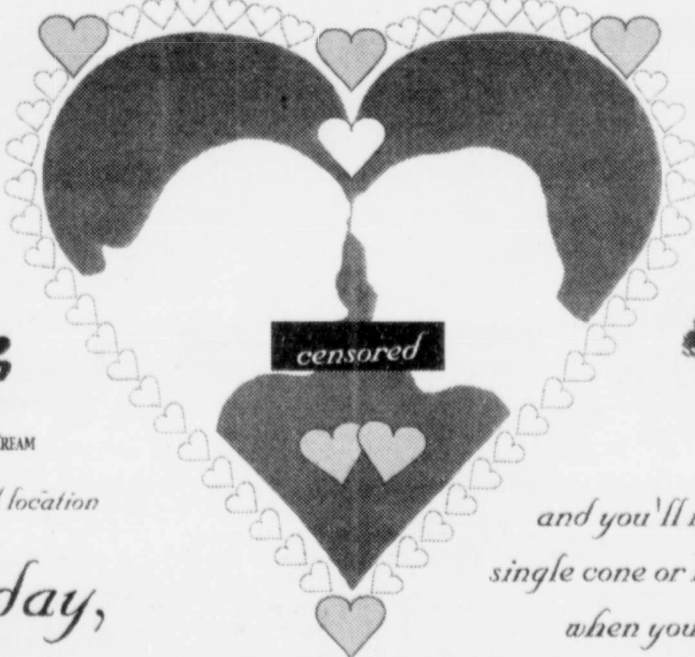
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Mustang Daily

"How much sperm do you really need, though?"

MUSTANG DAILY OPINION/EDITORIAL

Wednesday, February 13, 2008

Editor in chief: Kristen Marshall
Managing Editor: Ryan Chartrand

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12

How I joined the dark side

"It's a life!"

"It's a woman's choice!"

This was the scene unfolding in my AP government class four years ago. One staunch conservative and one screaming liberal. Except I was the screaming liberal and I was screaming at one of my (now fellow) Republicans.

I was a liberal before I fully understood politics and what being a liberal meant. I was a liberal back when the only two issues being discussed were (and sometimes still are) abortion and gay marriage, two issues that have repeatedly crossed party lines. Back then I would have said how liberal I was because I believed in a woman's right to choose and, if given the chance, I would have said how tired I was of the seemingly homophobic views of our previous generation and that our country needed to provide the right of civil unions to gay and straight couples alike.

These are two things that I still believe in, but since that scene four years ago I've figured out that none of any of my other views are aligned with the Democratic party (not to mention the Democratic party doesn't stand strong enough for gay rights anyway).

It all started with increased knowledge and exposure to those whose views I really agreed with. I moved in with the president of the Cal Poly College Republicans last year and I must admit I totally passed judgment. "Oh, no," I thought, "I'm going to be living with a Republican?! Not one of those!" But I had conversations with her about politics and I talked to the other people in the club and I repeatedly had bright moments of "Wait, that's what I believe in, too." And it felt good.

It felt good to no longer associate myself with people who made me feel guilty for being who I was and to not be the only person in the room who really didn't think that invading Iraq was such a bad idea and who didn't understand why the upper class was supposedly so evil.

I realized how conservative I am when it comes to most political issues. I think all taxes and government spending should be cut, that the government should have a smaller role in our lives in general. I support school vouchers because our government has failed to provide us with quality schools (especially in this state, but that's another article altogether). I wish our troops could be brought home, but I believe the threat is too great in the Middle East for that to be done right now. I think that our borders should be more secure and that health care should be left up to the free market. I'm definitely a Republican.

The hardest part of the whole thing was "coming out" to my mom, a loyal Democrat, and joining my dad, who, at the time, was the only Republican in our entire family. Then there's the judgment that people pass on you once you tell them you're a Republican. I've had to defend my views more often than I ever did when I was a liberal, which is probably why I was able to so easily slip under the radar as a Democrat for so long without even realizing I was a fraud. People assume that you automati-



COURTESY PHOTO

Jennifer Gilmore hides her face on Conservative Coming Out Day last year.

cally love Bush and you're pro-life and you somehow love to oppress the lower class.

The truth is that Bush has made mistakes that we, as members of his party, do acknowledge, and we definitely don't always agree with everything that he's done. But when was the last time you met a Democrat that loved every one of the members from their party? As for the "A" word, it's become clear to me that the issue will continually cross party lines because it's such a personal issue. Also, for the record, I can only think of one person I know who's pro-life. When it comes to the oppressing-the-lower-class accusation, I don't think believing that my dad shouldn't pay more of his paycheck he's worked so hard for to support those who don't work really counts as oppression. It's more like letting people keep what they earn.

This is the first election in which I've voted Republican and the entire process was really exciting. Instead of supporting someone that I assumed represented what I wanted, I was able to fully get behind a candidate and wholeheartedly support him. Even though my candidate didn't win (sorry, Mitt), I know that this November I'll enthusiastically support the party that really has my interests in mind, even if it took me a while to realize it.

Jennifer Gilmore is a microbiology senior and a Mustang Daily conservative columnist.

Electability equation isn't calculus

Nicky Berman

DAILY PENNSYLVANIAN (U. PENN.)

Journalists, pundits and candidates are engaging in the political calculus of finding the perfect electability equation, offering their best arguments about why their candidate is most likely to win the presidency.

As the Democratic nomination battle rages on, those of us voting in the back of the heat are coming to the refreshing realization that our votes might actually matter. Indeed, it's likely that come April 22 (Pennsylvania's day of reckoning), Obama and Clinton will still be wrestling for every vote.

In our newfound state of power as Pennsylvania voters, it's alluring to think that we have a role to play in landing a candidate of our party in office. We can't help but feel tempted to jump on the electability bandwagon, heed the endless debates about who's likely to beat the opposition and rely on this make-believe measure to determine how we will vote.

But there's a problem: The electability equation is not calculus, and there is no reliable way for any of us — including the pros — to

identify the more electable candidate.

As Paul Herrnson, a political science professor at the University of Maryland, explained to me, experts generally rely on several indicators to predict electability: image, message, resources, free media coverage, ads by independent groups, voters' predispositions and distribution of supporters in the states. But, he added, these measures are un-

quantifiable, imprecise and don't

definite answers.

Georgetown political science professor Jim Lengle echoed this sentiment. "Electability is a useful term," he said, "but any sort of measure of it is inaccurate."

Sure, we can toss around poll numbers that claim one thing or another about the general election. But as we've learned this year more than ever, polls can't be trusted (think Clinton versus Obama in New Hampshire last month). And history agrees: In March of 2004, John Kerry was slaughtering Bush in the general election polls; in July of 1988, former Governor Mike Dukakis was trouncing Bush the Elder. If you haven't heard of Dukakis, take that as an indication of just how unreliable polls can be — especially those

conducted months in advance.

Poll data aside, both Democratic camps propose compelling arguments about why their candidate trumps in electability. "Obama's policy proposals, as well as his approach to governing, can bring all kinds of people together — the bluest of blue states, but also independents and Republicans," asserted AJ Schiera, College junior and co-founder of Penn Students for Obama. "He's able to be competitive in all fifty states."

Patrick Bauer, freshman and Penn for Hillary's membership director, argues that Clinton's diverse coalition of support — which includes Latinos, single women, white men and youth — makes her most electable. "And she's inventive," Bauer added. "Republicans have been throwing attacks at her for 15 years, and she's still standing today."

With all these persuasive arguments swimming around, we can't be sure which holds the most water, what will occur in the nine months before the election to alter these electability equations, or whose theory will bear fruit come November. As such, Lengle admitted, "Basing your vote on electability is a dicey operation."

So I beg you; do not vote for who you believe to be the most electable; vote for who you believe will make the best president.

Granted, we can't be sure who that will be, either.

But in casting a vote, sorting out your own personal preferences seems to be a much wiser strategy than attempting to predict the voting behavior of the entire American electorate.



JOHN OVERMYER NEWSART

Politics: both sides of the fence

Your voice, your choice, our future

Campus politics are a means to an end. What you mean to do is get involved and what you end up achieving is an impact.

As students, we have the opportunity to shape the world, which doesn't end at the borders of the Cal Poly Campus. Though the scale may vary from local to international, the effect is always worth the work. There are those of you who know what I'm referring to — that amazing feeling you get when you help those in need.

As a freshman, I realized that in order to receive a genuinely thorough education, my learning would need to escape classroom walls. Over the past four years, I've been involved in clubs, organizations, campaigns and non-profits, and each individually influenced how I see the world today.

But I also realized how much numbers make an influence. Not just the numbers on the bank slip, either, but more significantly, the number of supporters.

On campus, there are many ways to show your support for the causes you believe in, and then there are those that you don't even realize you're supporting. Take, for instance, your job, or more specifically an on-campus job.

You might contest and say, "Wait, now that's not really supporting the organization," but on the contrary, you too are a part of the agenda. Associated Students Inc., for example, employs more than 500 students on campus, all of whom are unwittingly supporting ASI's corporate goals. ASI is a business first, and the voice of the students second.

Just like our own national government, it is the employees that keep an organization going, and the few at the top that impact our future. It is the role of these leaders to enhance our experiences, but it is our obligation to define their direction.

And if you work for ASI, you are a supporter, but that doesn't necessarily mean you have to go along quietly. As an insider in any organization, you can leverage your support conditionally and raise the right questions.

There are many adjectives that describe our generation, and all too often apathy is included. I'd like to believe that this isn't true, that this is just a word older generations use to quell their fear of change. As

LEANING LEFT
by Erica Janoff



if by defining us by our inability to mobilize and ignoring our efforts to do so, they can continue to promote the status quo.

But when I see groups like Students for Barack Obama or events like Focus

the Nation, I know we aren't apathetic. If thousands of students can rally together all across this nation in support of what they believe in, then this is just the start.

These last eight years, the Bush administration has made little effort toward positive development in this country. As a result, I can't help but feel a little cynical about politics as a whole.

The total lack of transparency and vast amounts of secrecy have left me jaded, but still I have hope. It's easy to deny the corruption and continue to sip from the silver spoon of ignorance. It's harder to fight, to stand up for our rights and realize that we can make a difference.

However small it may be, and wherever your passion might lie, take a chance and step outside your comfort zone. All too often we look to our leaders for guidance, but I urge you instead to look within, at your own experiences, for the right direction.

We tend to get caught up in school and work, justifying our lack of activism due to higher priorities. Yes, it is difficult to look beyond our experience here at Cal Poly and recognize where future efforts are most needed, but the two are not mutually exclusive.

Collectively, we share the same goals, and together we can achieve them. You may feel like you can't make a difference alone, but come together with thousands of other students who feel the same way, and you can't help but make an impact.

Because the truth is, everyone does better when everyone does better, and there's no denying that the world is in need of better. So join a club, volunteer at SCS, take a class on sustainability, participate in Relay for Life, or attend events like Change the Status Quo.

Make the effort to actively engage in the betterment of our future because now is the only time we have to influence its course.

Erica Janoff is an industrial engineering senior, the president of the Cal Poly Democrats and a Mustang Daily liberal columnist.

Journey of a Republican 'president'

My passion for politics began on Sept. 11, 2001 and continued to grow out of a deep concern for my country. Sept. 11 truly affected people's lives and still does every day. The moment we were attacked, it became clear that other countries affect us in a real way

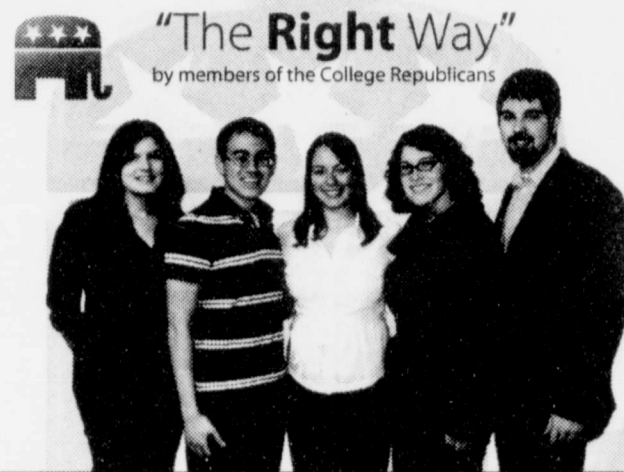
and that the U.S. isn't the indestructible edifice that we all took it for. I realized that the world was no longer the same, and that knowledge triggered a thirst for as much political and historical knowledge as possible.

Since then, it became clear that my values coincide with conservative and Republican principles, namely a large emphasis on smaller government and lower taxes. More importantly, my newfound passion for politics inspired me to be a leader, because I wanted to discuss things with others and share all the new ideas I was learning about.

This is where the Cal Poly College Republicans (CPCR) came in. My initial intention was to help others become informed about politics around the world as well as issues right here on campus—the way I became involved in CPCR was actually due to my interest in finding out about an ASI referendum advertised in 2004. It then became clear that too often, students are not informed—they are unaware of local and national politicians and issues. Frequently when students do get involved in CPCR, it is because they are drawn to the social aspects. Socializing is important to your college experience, but what is going on in this country affects all of us, and we should not take our responsibility to be informed citizens lightly.

After two years of being the president of the College Republicans (and the first female president in at least three decades, as well as the first president to take the reins two years in a row), the club is still facing the same challenges. Many students don't take the time to watch, listen to or read about current events, thus making it difficult for the club to draw in and maintain new membership. What some students don't understand is that getting involved in a political club is so much more personally enriching than just being able to learn about politics.

Being involved in CPCR has developed my character by being aware of the community and genuinely caring about what is going on within that community and around the world. When you give of yourself and your time, what you get in return is priceless. I've had the op-



portunity to get to know many fine people in this area, such as the mayor of SLO and great legislators and elected officials all over the state.

A fear of being labeled prevents many students from getting involved politically, but the most important

thing I've learned is just because you identify with one specific party over another doesn't mean that you have to always tow party lines. People should be able to have their own ideas and share those ideas within any organization. I am the president of the College Republicans, yet I still consider myself an environmentalist and an animal rights activist, and by studying social sciences and Spanish, I spend every day learning about new cultures.

Being a "Republican," perhaps I have labeled myself as sharing a basic set of ideals with others, but it doesn't mean that I'm less of a Republican if I care about air quality or volunteer at the humane society or consider myself a conventional feminist. I believe that both sides often go too far with their blatant labeling of one another and constant partisan policies. America is not about parties, it's about the freedom to have different opinions and share those opinions in order to form a better society.

In the same vein, one of the biggest mistakes that politicians make is trying to please all facets of their party by not being straightforward about who they are. A clear example of this lies within the Mitt Romney campaign. His speech that suspended his campaign was eloquent, direct and showed his true intentions, devotion to America, as well as his devotion to God and his religion. It was extremely inspirational—perhaps if he had given that speech earlier (minus the campaign suspension part), people would have been more inclined to go out and vote for him. Republican voter turnout is low and the party is divided because there are no motivating or relatable candidates, or no candidates who chose to be frank with the American people soon enough.

The future may seem uncertain for Republicans, but I hope that when I move on, my commitment to the College Republicans will continue to rub off on other students so they can keep it going for the sake of their peers, the campus, the community and themselves.

Christina Chiappe is a social sciences senior, president of the Cal Poly College Republicans and a Mustang Daily conservative columnist.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Response to 'Leave the meat out of it'

Save a cow, eat a vegetarian.
Steve Sharer
Industrial Engineering Major

Thank you Rachel Glas

I just wanted to thank Rachel Glas for her article on being a vegetarian at Cal Poly.

Like Glas, I have been a vegetarian for over seven years, and I find that the majority of the people that I meet here are strongly opposed to just the thought of not eating meat. I rarely bring up my vegetarianism unless I am asked about it because I try to avoid the anger and opposition it generally evokes. I also try to respect others' desire to eat meat, and I would appreciate the same respect for vegetarians.

Lauren Elliott
Business administration senior



I am curious... when did the Opinion section become the Complaining section? Last week's article about the guy who gets ragged on for smoking, today it's someone who feels persecuted for being vegetarian. What's next week, someone who gets crap for

being an engineer? You've made choices in your life, not everyone agrees with those choices, some choose to be vocal about that. Deal with it. I'd rather not be reading about someone BAAAAWWWWWWing every week because they're a nerd and all the jocks make fun of them or whatever. If I wanted to hear about complaining I'd start reading random MySpace posts, not the Mustang.

—Andy
Response to "Leave the meat out of it"

your turn

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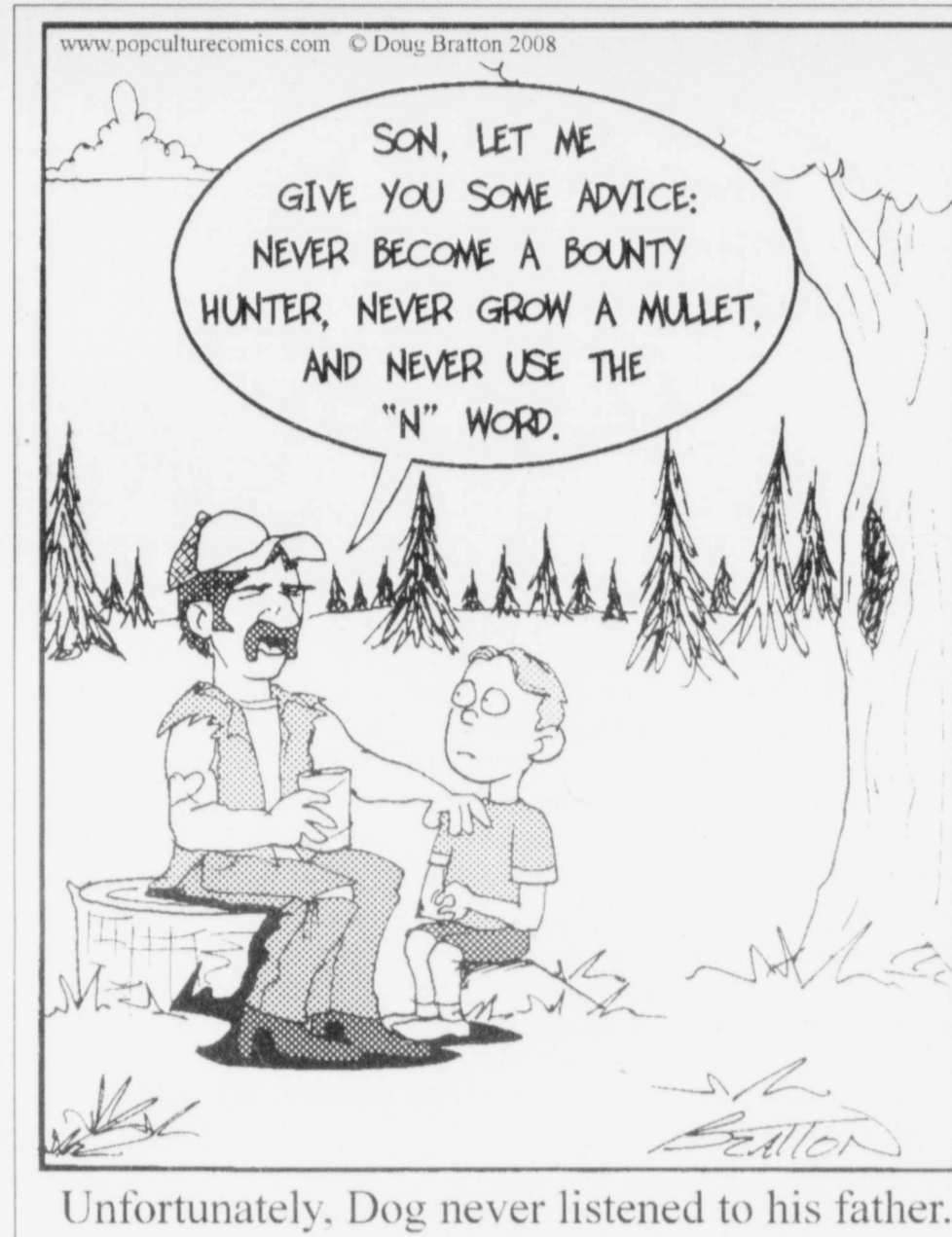
COMICS & GAMES

Pop Culture Shock Therapy by Doug Bratton

Girls & Sports by Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



Last Ditch Effort by John Kroes



Unfortunately, Dog never listened to his father.

The New York Times Crossword

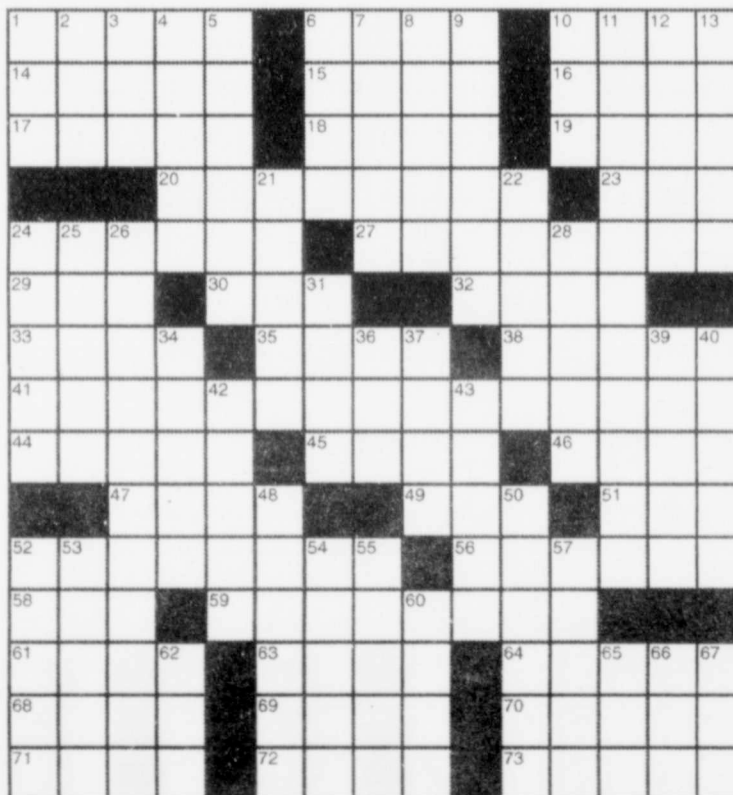
Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0102

- Across**
- Rivera of the original "Chicago"
 - "Dragnet" force, in brief
 - Org. for which a D.V.M. might work
 - Southwestern sheepherders
 - Mythical king of the Huns
 - Press
 - Unending pain
 - Ayatollah's land
 - N.Y. neighbor
 - With 59-Across, hint to this puzzle's secret
 - Grp. that conducts many tests
 - Honeymoon suite feature
 - Souvenir from a bad trip?
 - Le Figaro article
 - Epigram
 - See 65-Down
 - "Come here often?" e.g.
 - Chevy candy
 - River to the Rhone
 - What to do after completing this puzzle, with four straight lines
 - Children's author Blyton and others
 - Chief Whitehorse, e.g.
 - Subject of illicit trade
 - Japanese leader of the 1960s
 - "The Gift of the Magi" gift
 - Ample shoe width
 - Promoted
 - Gwen of the original "Chicago"
 - Berlin cry
 - See 20-Across
- Down**
- Half a dance
 - Keep all to oneself
 - New issue on Wall St.
 - Color faintly
 - Sanctuary
 - Dragon's (early video game)
 - Central courts
 - Alternative if things go wrong
 - Bread for burritos?
 - Order to attack, with "on"
 - Made a killing, say
 - Individually owned apartment
 - Former U.N. chief Kofi
 - Multiple-choice choices
 - Kind of approval
 - Actor Tom of "Amadeus"
 - Bialy flavorer
 - Some court attire
 - Violinist Schneider, informally
 - "Yikes!"
 - Like some hands
 - Gay (W.W. II plane)
 - Some votes
 - Cain of "Lois & Clark"
 - China company
 - Secy.
 - Dry
 - Jim-dandy

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

ABBA DRIVE LOAN
COEN EATEN OPIE
HEAD IN THE CLOUDS
ERN RISER ASSET
TAR ONE
HEART OF DARKNESS
ALBEE LAITY NAT
REOS FOURH ANTI
SNO TOWNE BRUIN
HANDS ON TRAINING
OLD TKO
CARGO SUITE ASK
HEALTH INSURANCE
ERIE ADDON STAG
WONG LEONE HERS



Puzzle by Patrick Blindauer

- Curtain puller of film
- Wrap up by
- Former Swedish P.M. Palme
- Beau
- City north of Cologne
- Any acetate, chemically
- Pope after John X
- ___ Foods, Inc.
- Instruments for drawing angles
- Animals
- Spanish skating figures
- Cain vis-à-vis Abel
- ___ Lama
- Freshen
- Be inclined
- Post W.W. II pres.
- With 32-Across, a ball game
- Response to a joke in an I.M.
- Rocker ___ Rose

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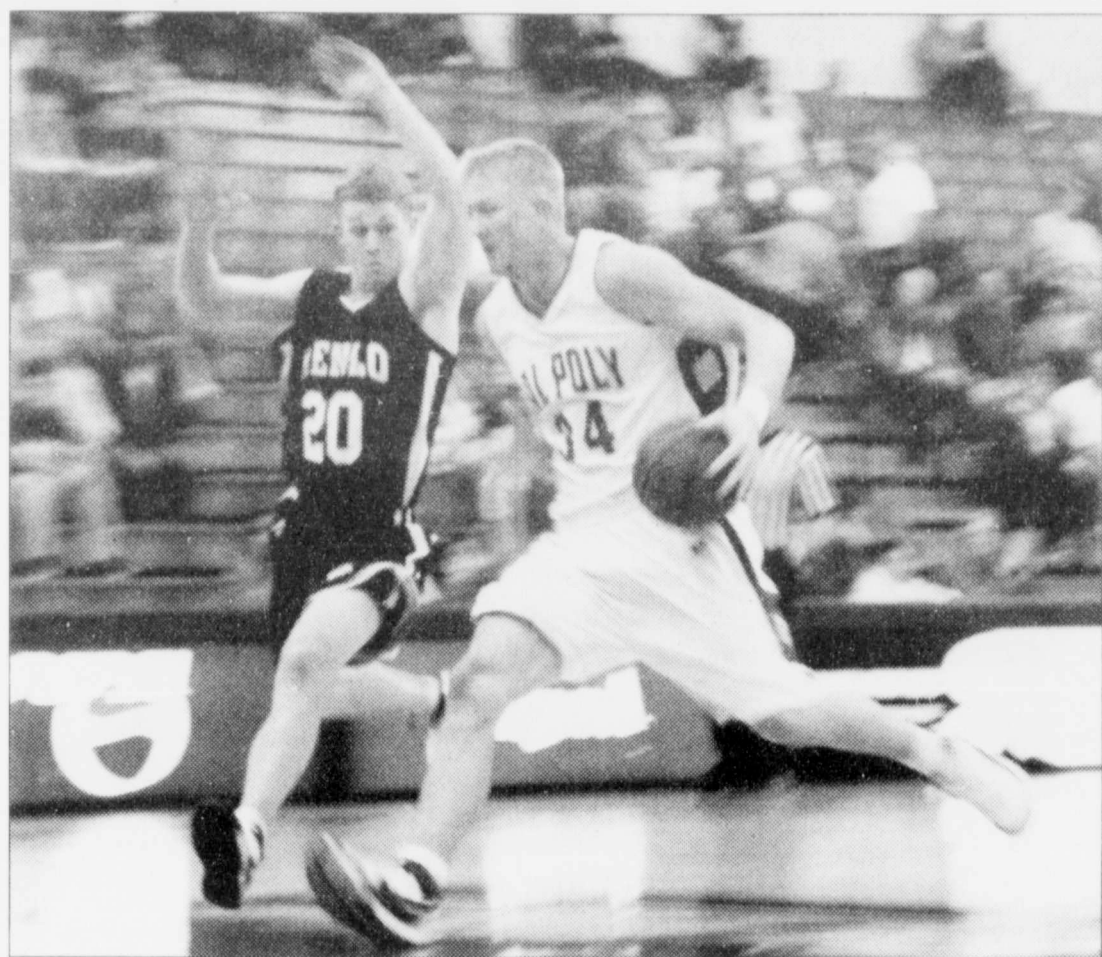
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GRAIG MANTLE MUSTANG DAILY

Hanson, shown here in Cal Poly's 66-44 win over Menlo College on Dec. 2, played at Vermont and St. Cloud State before transferring to Cal Poly.

Hanson

continued from page 16

Bromley and the Mustangs coaching staff jumped at the chance to add him.

"At St. Cloud State, he was playing and doing well," Bromley said. "But at the same time he was thinking, 'I'm a D-I player,' so he put some feelers out."

Hanson, who had to redshirt in 2005-06, has since become "an ambassador to (the Cal Poly) basketball program," Bromley says.

In November 2007, Hanson's brother, David Hanson, a senior 6-foot-6 wing also from Maranatha, signed a national letter of intent to play at Cal Poly.

"I'm glad he made his decision to come out here," Matt Hanson said. "Academically and sports-wise, it's a great opportunity to come out here."

portunity to come out here."

For now, Hanson, 23, is focused on helping the Mustangs (9-13, 4-6 Big West) prepare for the conference tournament, held in Anaheim from March 12 to 15 after they play out their seven remaining regular-season games.

The biology major plans to graduate in the spring and says he would like to try to play professionally overseas, possibly in Australia.

Having traveled so much, it seems he should have no trouble making himself at home wherever he may land.

"I've been on the East Coast and lived in the Midwest, but this is such a great place to live and a great school," Hanson said of Cal Poly. "Obviously I've been around, and I'm really glad I made the move I did."

Clemens

continued from page 16

lowed but sketchy, akin to Washington forward Tim Morris recently throwing a basketball off the face of UCLA's Alfred Aboya) have made this morning's proceedings must-see drama.

Despite seemingly overwhelming evidence and public perception, Clemens' defense has been nothing if not vigorous. His lawyer has issued a detailed report comparing him statistically to other great pitchers, and Clemens himself met with members of the committee face-to-face prior to the hearings.

Either Clemens is innocent, or in a Marion Jones-like state of denial, convincing himself that his record is clean. If the latter is the case, he is risking federal perjury charges.

Clemens' gamble is the largest in the sporting world since Phoenix Suns general manager Steve Kerr traded for Shaquille O'Neal. Granted, that was last week, but the point stands.

Either way, it will be headline news that provides fodder for sports-talk radio, as one emerges vindicated, while the other can only hope that the spotlight fades quickly.

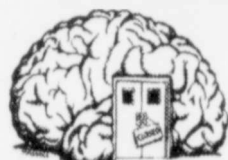
Kory Harbeck is a Mustang Daily reporter and sports columnist.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Former New York Yankees pitcher Roger Clemens walks with his attorney Rusty Hardin on Capitol Hill on Tuesday.

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9	4	3	7	5	8	1	6	2
7	2	8	1	9	6	4	5	3

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For previews of the Cal Poly men's and women's basketball teams' upcoming games at UC Santa Barbara, check out tomorrow's Mustang Daily.

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Truly a laker at heart

Forward from Minnesota makes mark hitting big shots, stretching defenses for Cal Poly

Donovan Aird
MUSTANG DAILY

Matt Hanson stepped to the line Thursday night knowing full well he hadn't made a free throw in a game for more than three weeks. There were only 1.4 seconds left, and if he could make one this time, his team would probably win.

As 1,676 people nervously looked on, Hanson went in his mind to his favorite fishing spot, Clubhouse Lake in his home state of Minnesota. His second try fell through the net like a sinker cast into water, giving the Cal Poly men's basketball team a 57-56 win over UC Irvine.

"Fundamentally, my shot's fine," Hanson says. "For some reason free throws are all mental for me. I just have to get in a good mental spot, relax and visualize myself being there."

Hanson, who has shot 36.2 percent from the charity stripe during the season, arrived at his solution with the help of team psychologist Jeff Troesch.

"(Troesch) said, 'Matt, it's not whether you make or miss them — it's the process, what you think about,'" Cal Poly head coach Kevin Bromley said. "You can't be thinking about, 'I've got to make these because of the consequences; if I make them I'm a hero, if I miss them I'm a goat.'"

Bromley, who called it an "art not to think about anything when you get to the free-throw line," said that through going to the lake, "that way he's not thinking anything."

While Hanson has freed his mind at the free-throw line, it's the Mustangs' opponents who've had to think of ways to match up with the 6-foot-7, 220-pound senior forward who shoots 42.9 percent from the 3-point line.

"He's versatile," Bromley says. "He's got a nice jump hook, can stretch defenses a little bit — he's an unselfish person, and really positive. Guys really like him as a teammate."

The Plymouth, Minn. native has shot 51.4 percent overall from the floor in averaging 8.4 points and 5.4 rebounds this season. His latter average ranks 10th in the Big West Conference, and all of the players above him play more minutes per game than he does.

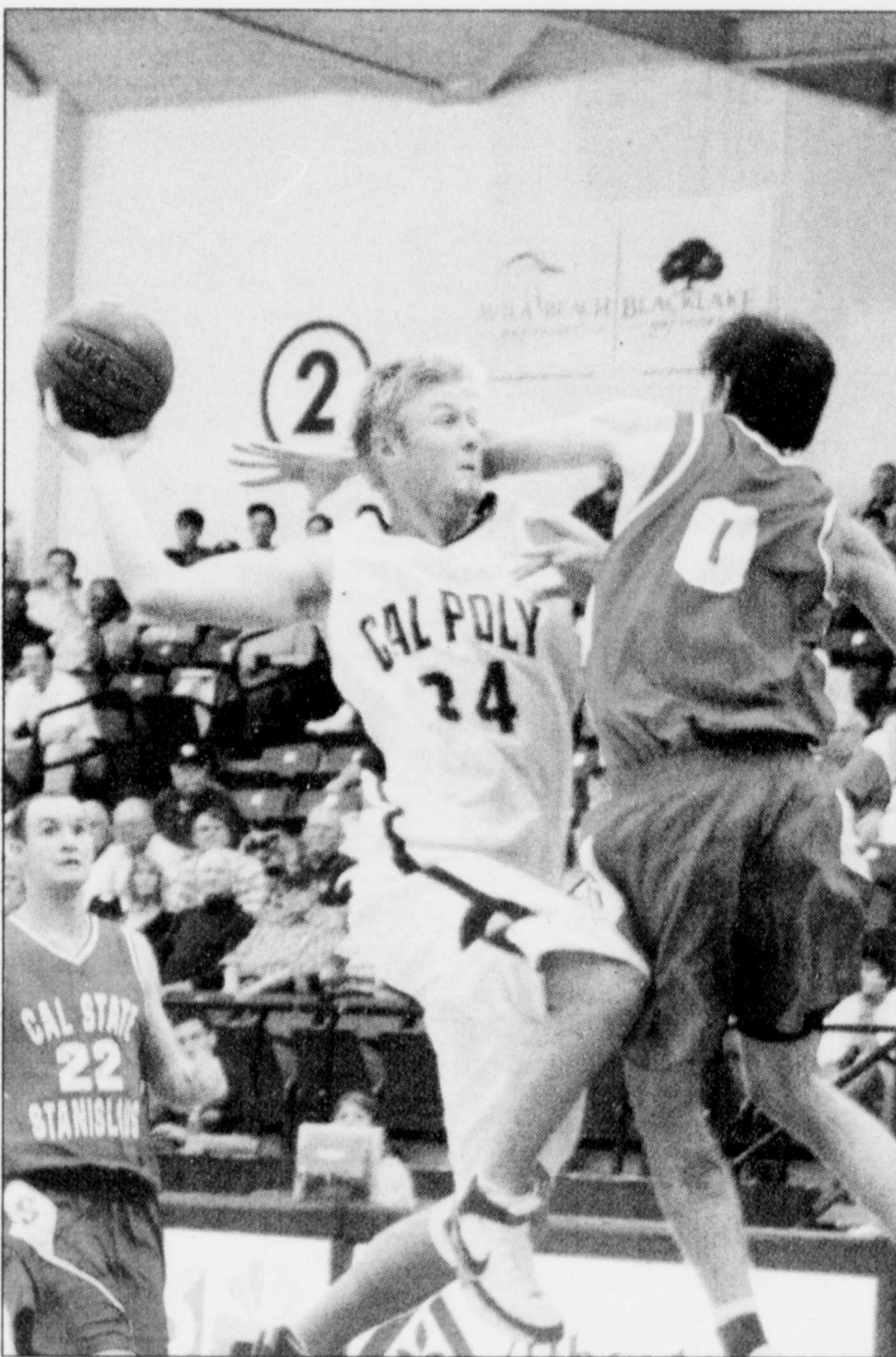
Perhaps his most memorable college basketball moment came Jan. 28 at Pacific, when he hit a 3-point shot from the top of the arc with under two minutes remaining to break a 59-59 tie, giving the Mustangs a permanent lead in their 69-64 win nationally televised on ESPN2.

On Thursday, the Mustangs didn't seem to be overly concerned with their teammate's free-throw woes.

"Free-throw shooting is all mental," Cal Poly center Titus Shelton said. "We had confidence in Matt. That's where you want to be at the end of a game."

Hanson's own deep-rooted assuredness goes back to Maranatha High, where he was an all-state selection as a senior, when he posted 23.4 points and 10.1 rebounds per game.

From there, Hanson began his



NICK CAMACHO MUSTANG DAILY

Cal Poly senior forward Matt Hanson, shown here in a 97-89 win over Cal State Stanislaus on Nov. 3, 2007, posts a team-high 5.4 rebounds per game.

college career at Vermont, for which he played 22 games in 2003-04. In the first round of the NCAA Tournament, he went 3 for 3 from the floor on behalf of the Catamounts in nine minutes off the bench for seven points in a 70-53 loss to eventual national champion Connecticut, which boasted five future NBA players, including stars Emeka Okafor and Ben Gordon.

Hanson then transferred closer to home, to Division II St. Cloud State in St. Cloud, Minn., where he started 27 games in 2004-05, averaging

9.7 points and 5.9 rebounds per game before transferring again, the second time to Cal Poly.

"I actually never saw the school until committing out here," Hanson said. He explained he first heard about the school through Mitch Ohnstad, who played at Cal Poly before transferring to Minnesota in 1997.

"He told me he knew coach Bromley well, and that's how it all came to be," Hanson says.

see Hanson, page 15

Pettitte tells Congress that teammate Clemens once told him of HGH usage

Ronald Blum
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Roger Clemens told Yankees teammate Andy Pettitte nearly 10 years ago that he used human growth hormone, Pettitte said in a sworn affidavit to Congress, the Associated Press learned Tuesday.

Pettitte disclosed the conversation to the congressional committee holding Wednesday's hearings on drug use in baseball, a person familiar with the affidavit said.

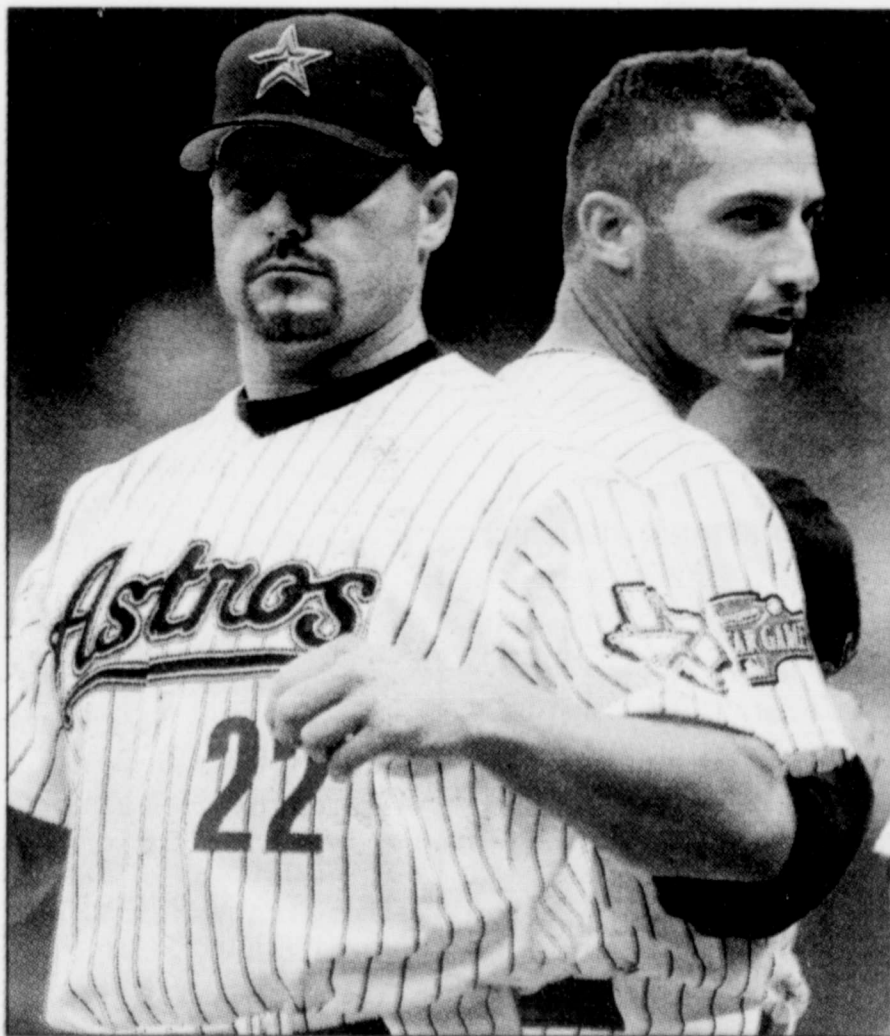
The person spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because the document had not been made public.

According to the person familiar with the affidavit, who said it was signed Friday night, Pettitte also said Clemens backtracked when the subject of HGH came up again in conversation in 2005, before the same House committee held the first hearing on steroids in baseball.

Pettitte said in the affidavit that he asked Clemens in 2005 what he would do if asked by the media about HGH, given his admission years earlier.

According to the account told to the AP, the affidavit said Clemens responded by saying Pettitte misunderstood the previous exchange in 1999 or 2000 and that, in fact, Clemens had been talking about HGH use by his wife in the original conversation.

The existence of the affidavit was initially reported by The New York Times.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Houston Astros pitchers Roger Clemens, left, and Andy Pettitte line up for opening day introductions on April 5, 2004.

SLO
Pitch

COMMENTARY



Rocket taking a huge risk

Kory Harbeck

ON ROGER CLEMENS

Rising temperatures and post-midterm laziness have made sitting through class especially difficult this week. On the way to class this morning, students are likely debating how important the upcoming lecture really is. Some might have taken the gamble and checked out for the beach.

For those who are suffering through class, take heart that your seat is not as uncomfortable as the one Roger Clemens will find himself in this morning. The heralded pitcher, who was 6-6 with a 4.18 ERA last year for the Yankees, is testifying before Congress this morning with his former trainer Brian McNamee.

After years of allegations and whippers, Clemens' name appeared in the Mitchell Report in December after McNamee admitted to injecting him with human growth hormone and anabolic steroids. The national media had a field day as they reveled in the idea that the greatest pitcher of his generation had cheated.

After a week of indecision, Clemens and his team of attorneys has led a spirited defense that paints McNamee as a troubled individual who would like nothing more than to bring Clemens down.

A few weeks of bickering was followed by subpoenas from the Senate Judiciary Committee, which is investigating steroid use in professional sports.

The last time baseball players were called to testify, in 2005, high drama ensued.

Sammy Sosa forgot the English language, Rafael Palmeiro seemed credible until he tested positive a year later and Mark McGwire still has not been seen since he refused to bring up the past.

Some time in the past two-and-a-half years, the steroids angle became so saturated with stories that the general public tuned out. Few cared about who was juicing; the only passion that could arouse the subject was the vilification of Barry Bonds. Of course, Bonds became public enemy No. 1, as media members put forth a campaign against players who threatened the integrity of the game.

It's easy to write, but when facing a decision that could be the difference between millions of dollars, steroid use becomes a gray area that a majority of the general public would see as a viable option.

But the Clemens-McNamee soap opera ordeal has reeled everybody back in.

Taped phone calls, bloody syringes and McNamee's claim he shot up Clemens' wife with HGH (a great plot twist, albeit bush league — al-

see Clemens, page 15