Making a difference

These Poly people are showing they're ready to help

BY MARIA T. GARCIA
Daily Staff Writer

Mother Earth can always use help. And some Cal Poly students, staff and faculty lend her a helping hand, through tree planting, beach clean-ups and recycling.

Some, however, are quick to say they do it for their love of the environment. Not because they're environmental activists.

"I'm not an environmental activist," said Rosario Quintero, "that word is too strong."

Quintero directs the Environmental Council branch of Student Community Services. Her "love" for the environment inspires her to direct beach clean-ups along the Central Coast. But that's not all the council does.

The council will host an Environmental Resource Fair Feb. 11. About 30 to 40 different organizations will be available to provide students with information about volunteer opportunities.

Educating students, Quintero said, is a way to combat apathy toward the environment. The education can be gained through tours of various places in the county. For example, the council is organizing a tour of the Diablo Nuclear Power Plant.

"The tour is to educate students," Quintero said hopefully, "not necessarily to take sides, but to form their own opinions."

Last quarter, the council planted oak trees to restore the native tree population at the Morro Bay Golf Course.

For Quintero, all the work is just a way to express her love for the environment.

"I believe in preserving the environment," Quintero said. "I just hate to see the environment destroyed the way it is."

Saving the environment, for some, is a full-time job.

Environmental engineering Professor Jeff Sczechowski teaches seven courses which range in subjects from air pollution to hazardous waste.

As part of the Cal Poly Pigs, Sczechowski is working to develop an environmental protection engineering lab.

"Students will be able to study the emerging, innovative technology dealing with hazardous materials," Sczechowski said.

Pollution prevention is an area of great interest to Sczechowski. He is currently busy researching pollution issues surrounding the semiconductor industry. These are the industries that make computer chips and integrated circuits.

Although Sczechowski said he is concerned about the effects of environmental pollution on future generations, he said he doesn't consider his work "a mission" to save the environment.

"It's just something I have some skills in," he said.

Kathleen McCullough's approach to helping save the environment is different. The cause, however, remains the same.

McCullough is an environmental engineering senior and president of the Society of Environmental Engineers trying to start a pollution prevention center. This center will focus on identifying which companies in the county are polluting and what they are emitting. It can include businesses like auto shops that have used motor oil and old car batteries or print shops that have disposed ink, she said.

She will also figure out ways to minimize companies' waste and emissions at little or no cost.

GREEN PROFILES

Rosario Quintero
ecology and systematic biology sophomore
director of the Environmental Council branch of S.C.S.
educating, planting trees, beach clean-ups

Jeff Sczechowski
environmental engineering professor
developing "green" lab on campus, researching pollution issues

Kathleen McCullough
environmental engineering senior
president of the Society of Environmental Engineers
trying to start pollution prevention center

Natalie Jowell
biology freshman
director of Yosemite Hall Council's environmental program

Phil Ashley
support technician for the biological sciences department
self-proclaimed "environmental watchdog"
sits on committee observing state pipeline project

Polly Cooper
architecture professor
protested Diablo Nuclear Power Plant, lives in straw-bale house

Inside:
Special sections featuring:
Water, Earth, Flora & Fauna
Updates on important local environmental issues including:
Hearst Corp. and San Simeon development
Measure O
Local hotel fights for a sea wall
Some still unhappy with Unocal
and Environmental artists

Daily cover photo by Maureen McDowell
Designs by Jeff Haber
Unocal strives to please community after reputation tarnished by spills

By Austin Tanaka (rt大街)

Seagulls gracefully soar over waves crashing along the shores of Avila Beach. Under the surface, however, lies an unsettling threat — an estimated 300,000 gallons of crude and gas oil. Unocal Corp., which has been transferring petroleum products in San Luis Obispo County for nearly 100 years, is responsible for this contamination and others in the area.

While plans for a complete cleanup are still being determined, sand has been added to the beach so the contamination doesn’t surface in stormy weather. In the meantime, Unocal has been gaining publicity about its good-faith projects in the community as well as criticism for its public relations efforts.

Unocal announced its new image at its open house in San Luis Obispo and Santa Maria several months ago. The company also has been distributing a full-color, folder-type brochure titled, "Commitment to the Community."

"If they spend half as much money on cleanup as they do on PR and ad campaigns, the polluted sights would be a lot safer," said Geoff Land, director of the Environmental Center of San Luis Obispo County.

Jim Bray, Unocal spokesman, said the company has every intention of cleaning up the contaminated areas. In the meantime, Unocal wants to work with the community.

"We’ve done many good-faith programs in Avila," Bray said. "We’ve funded a youth corps, bought Avila’s overestimated state water shares, funded the Avila Beach Front Street enhancement plan and proposed the Front Street deck plan."

In November, Unocal gave $1 million in cash and $350,000 in research equipment to Cal Poly’s Environmental Biotechnology Institute. The partnership was formed to develop natural solutions to clean up the contaminated areas.

Land said the donation is being used to beef up Unocal’s credibility.

"Those things are not solving the problem," Land said. "Its credibility in this town is zero, not just among environmentalists, but business people and others as well."

Bray said that Unocal’s donation to Cal Poly isn’t for brownie points.

"We have a history of donating to Cal Poly; it has happened for many years so this is not new," he said. "The difference here is because of all the publicity surrounding Avila. Anything because of the company’s past record of accidents."

"Unocal has a long legacy of spills throughout the county and a history of foot dragging on clean-up costs," Land said.

Aside from the contamination at Avila Beach, Unocal was responsible for environmental disasters on Tank Farm Road in San Luis Obispo, Land said.

Unocal is also responsible for an estimated 8.5 million to 20 million gallons of oil thinner that leaked into the ground in Guadalupe near San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties.

Although Land claimed that Unocal is notorious for delaying and diverting cleanup efforts, Bray said Unocal is eager to start cleaning up the spills.

"We could start tomorrow if we could get permits," Bray said.

"The environmental impact report (EIR) process needs to be completed, a plan needs to be adopted and clean-up levels need to be established. We would like to start tomorrow, but we can’t."

The EIRs for Avila Beach were started in August of 1996 and should be completed by May of 1997.

The EIR evaluates the impacts to habitats, community access and buildings, wildlife, water, air quality and municipal facilities. It must then be approved by the county planning commission, the board of supervisors, and the Regional Water Quality Control Board before clean-up work can begin.

Between Guadalupe and Avila Beach, Bray said Unocal has already spent close to $50 million on remediation efforts.

Unlike Guadalupe, there are many people who live and work near the contaminated area.

"Its credibility in this town is zero, not just among environmentalists, but business people and others as well."

-- Geoff Land, director of ECOSLO

"If we do right now is being analyzed and put in the spotlight."

"It is probably providing some balance in the community's perception of the company by showing that it is a good neighbor and is getting some positive publicity," Pillbury said.

Land said the abundance of Unocal’s negative press is because of the company’s past record of accidents.

"Unocal has a long legacy of spills throughout the county and a history of foot dragging on clean-up costs," Land said.

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Resort denied sea wall to save beach’s beauty

By Kimberly Kensey (Daily Staff Writer)

For the time being, Reef Rights in Shell Beach, one of the best surf spots on the Central Coast, has been saved.

At its December meeting, the California Coastal Commission denied the Cliffs Resort Hotel’s permit to construct a sea wall. The Cliffs wanted the sea wall, a large concrete barrier, to prevent erosion from exposing their sewage tank. A local environmental group claimed, however, that the wall would ruin the beach.

The San Luis Bay Chapter of the Surfrider Foundation got involved because sea walls can interrupt the natural process of eroding bluffs, feeding the shore area with sand. Sea walls in other areas have depleted beaches of their sand and changed the underwater topography near the shore, changing the way waves break, said member Bruce McFarlan.

The Cliffs project called for a sea wall with thousands of tons of boulders known as rip-rap placed at the base of the bluff to absorb the wave impact and prevent further erosion.

A solution to the erosion was and still is needed because rapid bluff erosion rates have brought a sewage holding tank within 10 feet of being exposed.

About the year 1997, the hotel owners failed to place the tank at least 100 feet away from the bluff.
Sierra Club chapter works to preserve, fights developers to obtain more open space

By Alan Durbar
Daily Staff Writer

One could easily debate that San Luis Obispo and its surrounding area offer some of the most picturesque natural scenes in California. The local Sierra Club chapter thinks so and fights to preserve that beauty.

"We are the advocate for the environment," said Pat Veesart, chairman of the Santa Lucia chapter of the Sierra Club.

The Santa Lucia chapter has been providing support and increasing awareness of the environment since the 1950s. Today, with nearly 1,800 members, the Santa Lucia chapter of the Sierra Club represents the largest public interest group in San Luis Obispo County. According to Veesart, other larger and statewide Sierra Club chapters are impressed with the local chapter.

"We're a very successful chapter," Veesart said. "We're the most active and effective chapter in the United States." The Santa Lucia chapter has two facets, the first involving outdoor recreation in the most picturesque natural scenes in California. The local Sierra Club chapter works to protect and keep public open space from further development.

The seemingly large cost of the land stems from the value of development entitlements that could be used to build about 20 homes.

"The more we buy, the less they can build," Felsman explained.

The Sierra Club has applied for two grants at the state and federal level. The state grant, called the Environmental Mitigation Fund, has been approved and will give the Sierra Club $100,000 toward project Morro. The Sierra Club hopes to raise the rest of the money through donations by local and outside businesses as well as many fund raisers like Cal Poly's Climb-A-Thon.

Both Veesart and Felsman would like to see Cal Poly students start up a local student Sierra Club coalition like many other chapters already have.

Veesart encouraged students who are interested because "they will have a lot of local and state support." For more information on what the Sierra Club is all about and how you can get involved, visit the web site at: http://www.sierrachub.com

Despite Measure O's defeat, city continues to buy land

By Brad Dorris
Daily Staff Writer

San Luis Obispo is still in the process of acquiring land for open spaces, despite Measure O's defeat in November.

The measure would have provided supplemental funding to buy land around the city which would be used as an undevelopable greenbelt. Money would have come from an additional fee charged to property owners within San Luis Obispo city limits, had the measure passed. The measure failed by a 51 to 49 percent vote.

"That vote shows me that there is quite a bit of support for the measure," Councilman Bill Roalman said. "But it also says that there are others not willing to tax themselves."

Roalman said there would have been more support for Measure O if financing wasn't such a concern.

"Perhaps we need to look at alternative means of funding," Roalman added.

Roalman, a Measure O proponent, said that the majority of city council members also supported the measure.

See LAND page 8

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SLO county environment at a crossroads

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**Editor**, Mary Alice Altiorfer's rehash of anti-abortion dogma was self-defeating. Her opinion revolves around a particular set of morals that she assumes ALL of us share. She asks, "If we want to remain a nation 'under God,' how can we support Ms. Altiorfer?" What is "that nation"? Is it a nation under any particular god or religion, last I checked. Summing up any opinions with the common illusion that there is a national religion or god displays an ignorance that destroys all credibility.

In my opinion, abortion is two issues: the tepid national debate and the intensively drieking personal decision of those men and women faced with an unwanted pregnancy. God and religion have nothing to do with the national decision, and everything to do with the personal one.

Judging by the 33 million abortions on America's conscience, it's not always Ms. Altiorfer's god and religion that people consult. And I, for one, refuse to judge them or their gods.

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**Emily Jonas, Student**

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**Crystal Brooks, Student**

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Cal Poly’s arboretum offers many botanical wonders

By Jennifer Burk
Daily Staff Writer

Most students on campus do not know what an arboretum is, or that the Environmental Horticultural Science (EHS) Department maintains one. An arboretum is a place where trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants are cultivated for scientific and educational purposes.

The Leaning Pine Arboretum, located at the north end of the EHS unit, occupies 5 acres of land that overlooks the campus in the Santa Lucia mountains.

The actual “Leaning Pine” that was transplanted from campus in the 1970s no longer stands in the arboretum. It blew down in winter storms and the roots were severely damaged.

According to Tom Eltzroth, chairman of the Arboretum Committee and EHS professor, since the arboretum was established by students and faculty in the 1970s it has survived several periods of ups and downs.

Eltzroth got involved with the arboretum in 1990. Under his direction, the site has been organized under a central theme of displaying landscape plants appropriate for the Mediterranean climates of the Central Coast. This theme utilizes five Mediterranean climates of the world. The arboretum already has three: the Californian, the Australian and the Mediterranean Basin. The Chilean and the South African are due for development soon.

Since the Central Coast is part of a Mediterranean climate, it is not difficult to maintain these gardens. Most Mediterranean plants are not water-based, so it became popular to grow during the drought.

EHS senior Jennifer Scaroni is one of three paid employees at the arboretum. She helps with the maintenance work but also spends a lot of time with the California collection.

She said there are many benefits to working there.

“I get to work outdoors and I’m up out of the greenhouses,” Scaroni said.

Although the employees are students, they take an important role in the planning of the area.

“Professor Eltzroth gives us a lot of freedom. He approaches it more by saying, what do you want to do? What do you want to see out here?”

Most of the developing comes through class projects and senior projects. EHS senior Mike Souza is also an employee of the arboretum, and he combines his job with work on his senior project which utilizes the small palm collection that has grown since the 1990s.

“It is a small collection, but it lacks something to attract attention,” Souza said. “I’m designing the area to include colorful plants, pathways and a stone grotto seating area.”

As an employee, Souza also helps keep up with regular maintenance and minor changes.

The student staff help develop new areas, such as the planned topiary garden. A topiary garden has trees and shrubs cut into odd or ornamental shapes.

“It is to be a formal garden,” Eltzroth said. “The focal point will be a Mediterranean style fountain.”

Additional areas planned include a collection of dwarf and unusual conifers (such as pine trees) and a collection of ceanothus, or spring flowers, to be placed in the California area.

In the future, Eltzroth said the arboretum will be one of the major collections in the United States.

Aside from offering EHS students a living lab, the arboretum is also used for entertainment purposes. For the past five years, the Central Coast Shakespearean Festival has used the area for performances. It is also used for post-graduation ceremonies.

“It really is a beautiful spot of land,” Scaroni said. “People don’t know it’s up there. To see people up there using it makes it all worthwhile.”

The arboretum is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, except academic holidays.

Local organization helps to rehabilitate wildlife

By Jennifer Burk
Daily Staff Writer

Have you ever come across a baby bird that has fallen from its nest? What did you do with it?

Pacific Wildlife Care (PWC), servicing San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties, takes care of this type of problem every day.

The non-profit organization was founded in 1984 and has been growing ever since. The organization is permitted by the state Fish and Game and also the Fish and Wildlife departments.

There are more than 300 members in the PWC. At least of which are active rehabilitators. The rehabilitators are trained by the International Wildlife Rehabilitation council and then are assigned to a senior rehabilitator.

Two local rehabilitators are Cal Poly students. Ecology and systematic biology majors Paloma Nieto and Darlene Woodbury aid fallen birds and other injured wildlife.

Nieto came to Cal Poly from Orange County where she was active in rehabilitation for four years. When she moved to the Central Coast, she looked in the phone book and PWC was the only one that serviced wildlife, her specialty.

Nieto is now the chairman of records for PWC and a senior rehabilitator.

Woodbury joined her in PWC after Nieto helped rescue a distressed owl nearby.

“My neighbor called and said there was an owl caught in the fence. So I called Pacific Wildlife Care and Paloma came out to rescue the owl,” Woodbury said. “I went with her to get it and she told me about all of the ways I could get involved with the organization.”

Ever since then, Woodbury describes Nieto as her “mentor.” Like the other facilitators, these two field emergency calls could get involved with the organization.

“People don’t know it’s up there. To see people up there using it makes it all worthwhile.”
Artists’ muse: Mother Earth

By Lena Chavdarian
Daily Staff Writer

Vincent Van Gogh once said that if you truly love nature, you will find beauty everywhere. Environmental artists along the Central Coast are taking the wonders of nature to a whole different level. The environmental art movement is a movement in which artists use the environment in their work, for their work.

Artists like David Bersohn, Marc Burns, Robert Reynolds and Steve White are contributing to environmental respect and awareness through their art. According to Bob Pelfrey, art history professor at Cuesta College, the environmental art movement “has been a very, very distinct movement for about 20 years, and it is very much in the news and newspapers.”

“It is constantly being explored,” Pelfrey said.
Pelfrey has noticed that environmental art is becoming more prevalent as “more artists are doing it and more art students are picking it up as well.”

Environmental art is a broad term. It can encompass anything from crafts and sculptures, to landscape watercolors. Organic and recycled paints and materials are primarily the lifeblood of these works of art.

Evani Lupinek, president of Alternatives a nonprofit gallery in San Luis Obispo specializing in non-mainstream art, said that artists who use recycled materials “don’t like to waste anything.”

Instead, the environmentally-conscious artists put the recycled materials to good use.

Lupinek remarked that “there has been a revival in this type of art at the museum level,” she said regarding landscape watercolors. “There is an awakening interest in the environment.”

Pelfrey thinks the movement is a favorable step in regards to respecting the environment.

“Environmental art draws attention to the environment in a positive way,” Pelfrey said. “It enhances the environment by its presence.”

David Bersohn is a strong believer in recycling.

“I don’t feel comfortable with throwing things away,” Bersohn said. “It bothers me to see recycled stuff end up in trash heaps.”

Bersohn’s work is a reflection of his beliefs. He makes sculptures using recycled metal, wood and anything he can find at yard sales, thrift shops and scrap heaps. Bersohn particularly enjoys working with rusted steel.

“Rust is the natural form of it,” Bersohn said. “I try working out in the environment so I can look up and see what’s around.” Bersohn said.

“One can make something that incorporates trees and birds.”

Currently, Bersohn is engaged in making tile-top tables. The table bases are old tables found at thrift stores and yard sales, while the tiles are from scrap heaps in top of the house. When the viewer flips a switch, the machine blows a stream of air through the house, hitting a metal object inside causing it to shimmer.

The idea behind Burns’ art is that people use machines all the time but never take the time to see the beauty in them. Burns doesn’t use his machines in harmful ways. Instead, he tries to bring out their hidden wonder.

“We are used to using (machines) but we don’t really see them,” Burns said. “All things are beautiful.”

“I enjoy seeing whatever beauty there is in the working of a machine itself,” Burns said.

Burns’ artwork is “completely abstract, but very concrete, so you can actually see them.”

Burns reuses old and natural materials for his work.

“Anything I see is subject to being used — trees, water, metal machines. Anything and everything,” Burns said. “I create objects that are part of the environment.”

Burns enjoys creating objects that people are familiar with but don’t always notice their various dimensions. His art makes people think of these everyday objects in different ways. Burns’ work has been shown at Linnea’s, the Coffee Merchant and the Cuesta Art Gallery.

In another form, Robert Reynolds, a Cal Poly art and design professor, is “always trying to celebrate nature.”

Reynolds paints landscape watercolors. Most of his work is of the High Sierras or the ocean. He enjoys painting streams, mountains, trees and especially rocks.

Reynolds is also known for his painting of Cal Poly’s “Remembrance Pond” on the front cover of the 1994-1997 university catalog.

“Nature is a starting point where you can renew yourself,” Reynolds said. “This is a subject area I know and love. It means more to me when I (paint it).”

Reynolds believes that landscape watercolor and the environmental movement are areas that “reach no limits.”

Some of Reynolds’ work has been shown in Stockton, Carmel and the High Sierra. Next week, the San Luis Obispo Art Center will feature a poster he created for the Mozart Festival.

Reynolds’ passion for the environment is shown distinctly in his paintings. “We all need nature,” Reynolds says.

See ART page 11
CLIFFS from page 2

The erosion process that will feed sand to the beaches for the next 10-20 years. Plus, waiting until the situation is urgent is what state and local laws call for.

Under these guidelines, the Cliffs will have to wait until the bluff has eroded to within 50 feet of the hotel before they will be allowed to build a sea wall.

According to the Surfrider Foundation, the Cliffs is still going to try and put in the sea wall.

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LAND page 3

In addition, Rumlman gave several reasons for the importance of land acquisitions around San Luis Obispo.

"If there's no open space we eventually will look like L.A.," Rumlman said. "Open space also protects key environmental resources."

He added that there is no guarantee that zoning and development ordinances will sustain greenbelt areas. Thus, he said it is up to the city to buy land in order to preserve some areas.

City Natural Resource Manager Neil Havlik said the measure would have added to other programs already in use by the city to purchase land.

"We have three or four mecha­

nisms available to acquire land," Havlik said. "Measures O would have given us another."

Some of these programs include: the city dealing with property own­ers toward land conservation, acquir­
ing portions of land from developers and starting programs that lessen environmental impacts of private and government development.

San Luis Obispo recently spent $1.4 million for two properties, using funds that were budgeted for land acquisition. About $1 million of that money was used to purchase the Maino property, a section of land adjacent to Ceres San Luis. The other portion was spent on the Goeddel Ranch, a parcel located south of the county airport.

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Hearst Corp. upset over county zoning of coast

Several landowners affected by the plan agree. They have filed lawsuits because the new plan subdivides the area into 160-acre lots. The minimum size had been 20 acres. Land owners who had 160 acres went from being able to sell eight pieces of property to one.

The Coalition to Save Cambria and San Simeon is also suing the county. Rick Hawley, chairman of the coalition, said the board voted in a 1979 act when it approved the plan. According to the California Environmental Quality Act, government agencies must look at the environmental concerns of projects and mitigate them before approval. Hawley said the board did not do that.

The Environmental Impact Report showed traffic would be greatly affected by the resort, he said. "It will impact Highway 1 to where there will be long stoppages in traffic between Cayucos and Cambria," he said. "There would be gridlock traffic."

By ignoring this issue the board clearly violated the law, Hawley said. But Rockey said the EIR was not wrong.

"Much of it was based on projection the county did in 1989 and 1990. But it was also at the time when the Hearst Castle is in the area of the proposed development. In 1990 they thought the traffic was going to continue to increase every year because that’s how it had been leading up to that year. No, their chart shows the line from ‘90 to ‘97 going way up. However in actuality, the curve has gone down," he said.

The other areas of the lawsuit filed by the Coalition to Save Cambria and San Simeon deals with agriculture and the illegality of leapfrog development. Leap-frog development is building large facilities that are not near other urban areas, a practice prohibited by the California Coastal Act.

"And San Simeon Point is way out there," Hawley said. "So, that’s ill-gotten gains."

He said agricultural issues also arise when a commercial development is placed in an agricultural area.

Pressure to build on areas adjacent to developments causes property values and inheritance taxes to rise. This makes it difficult for families to pass their farms onto their children, Hawley said. So, while controversy surrounds the land, all people on any side of the issue can do is wait. "It’s entirely up to the courts now," Hawley said.

Several landowners affected by the plan agree. They have filed lawsuits because the new plan subdivides the area into 160-acre lots. The minimum size had been 20 acres. Land owners who had 160 acres went from being able to sell eight pieces of property to one.

The Coalition to Save Cambria and San Simeon is also suing the county. Rick Hawley, chairman of the coalition, said the board voted in a 1979 act when it approved the plan. According to the California Environmental Quality Act, government agencies must look at the environmental concerns of projects and mitigate them before approval. Hawley said the board did not do that.

The Environmental Impact Report showed traffic would be greatly affected by the resort, he said. "It will impact Highway 1 to where there will be long stoppages in traffic between Cayucos and Cambria," he said. "There would be gridlock traffic."

By ignoring this issue the board clearly violated the law, Hawley said. But Rockey said the EIR was not wrong.

"Much of it was based on projection the county did in 1989 and 1990. But it was also at the time when the Hearst Castle is in the area of the proposed development. In 1990 they thought the traffic was going to continue to increase every year because that’s how it had been leading up to that year. No, their chart shows the line from ‘90 to ‘97 going way up. However in actuality, the curve has gone down," he said.

The other areas of the lawsuit filed by the Coalition to Save Cambria and San Simeon deals with agriculture and the illegality of leapfrog development. Leap-frog development is building large facilities that are not near other urban areas, a practice prohibited by the California Coastal Act.

"And San Simeon Point is way out there," Hawley said. "So, that’s ill-gotten gains."

He said agricultural issues also arise when a commercial development is placed in an agricultural area.

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Avila Beach.

Jessica Wiwi, employee of The Old Custom House in Avila Beach, said the entire town has suffered from the spill.

"All the so-called good deeds they've done are just a front," Wiwi said referring to Unocal. "They've totally screwed up the beach and the businesses here."

Wiwi said the media isn't helping the situation.

"The media puts out stories that Avila Beach is closed but they don't mention that all the businesses are still open," Wiwi said. "People don't come here anymore. They think the entire town is closed and it's not."

Some property owners are so angry they have filed suits against the oil company. One hotel owner was recently awarded $800,000 in civil damages.

Pillbury said that if Unocal is serious about its efforts to help the community, it will actively seek out information and input from the community.

Unocal recently sold $2 billion in its West Coast oil production to Tosco Corp.

Although Unocal still owns the property in Avila and Guadalupe, the company has plans to shift its oil and gas production to international projects in Burma, Thailand and other Asian countries.

Bray said that Unocal is still committed to the clean-up efforts in the local area.

REHAB from page 9

"People just don't realize (the animals) need a lot of care," Dorr said. "Sometimes you have to feed a baby bird at least every two hours. That is a big commitment."

It is against the law to let people keep the injured wildlife or mammals. Pigeons, house sparrows and starlings are the only wildlife not protected under this law.

"We try to calm people down and help them. Most people don't realize that wild animals rarely feel comfort around a human being, they'd rather be boxed up in a warm dark place."

Dorr is not a fully active rehabilitator, but she does go out on calls to take in wildlife and mammals to start the rehabilitation process until someone can take the injured home.

Funded by private donations, the PWC is hoping to be awarded a grant for rabies shots. As for other expenses, the organization covers supply and medication costs while some veterinarians donate their services.

Nieto said that it is hard for students to take an active role in PWC since most live in dorms or rental housing. Since rehabilitation is done from the home, most students can not accommodate this.

A new facility is planned to coincide with the Woods Humane Society that is looking to relocate on Los Osos Valley Road in two or three years. The PWC will be given two to three acres. Volunteers will be welcomed and students will be given the chance to help directly with the program.

"It is rewarding when you are able to release wildlife or a mammal that you have rescued and nursed to health," Nieto said, echoing Woodbury. "But then there are those that don't make it, and it hurts."
As an incentive to recycle, the tower that collects the most recyclables will win movie passes. Environmental activism can entail more than collecting garbage or educating others. For Phil Ashley, a support technician for the biological sciences department, it's being a self-proclaimed "environmental watchdog.

Ashley sits on the ad hoc committee that studies the impact of the state water pipeline on campus. He wishes, however, that there were more chances to get involved with environmental causes at Cal Poly. Ashley said he thinks the lack of environmental awareness stems from the philosophy that it's someone else's job.

"Beside public activism is the only way that species and biodiversity is going to be maintained," Ashley said.

However, sometimes activism isn't a purely positive experience. Environmental activism got architecture Professor Polly Cooper and her husband arrested more than a decade ago. Cooper along with a group of Cal Poly faculty and students protested the opening of the Diablo Nuclear Power Plant in May 1985.

"It was our way of preventing it from operating, rather than just going to Sierra Club meetings," Cooper said.

When it comes to saving the environment, Cooper and her husband take the matter to heart. After their Tassajara Canyon home was destroyed in the Highway 41 fire two years ago they decided to rebuild using straw bale.

Straw bale houses, Cooper said, are well insulated and are resistant to fire. They used rice straw that would be burned if not used. Cooper's straw bale house is easier to cool and easier to heat, eliminating the need for heaters and air conditioners. "It's not only physically advantageous to save the environment," Cooper said. "It's also spiritually and psychologically important."

"We're part of the whole ecosystem," Cooper said. "We're not a dominant part, we're a cooperative part. But we're somehow pretending that all this impact is not our fault. There's this guilt that comes from doing that."

"The environment interests me because it's my chosen field. But I'm self-proclaimed "environmental watchdog."

White was inspired by a video by the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers Association of it. "We're making people conscious of the impact they have on wooden surfboards in different metals salvaged from the railroad tracks. That's satisfying." White recognizes the need to spread environmental awareness and his art expresses this passion.

"My art has to do with the people. It's satisfying. "We're helping to change people's perspective on the environment," Pefley said.

Reynolds agrees that we must respect nature and strive to help it, not hurt it.

"That's our church out there," he said.
De La Hoya won't forget drug stamp days

By Ed Schoeller Jr.
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Oscar De La Hoya, who carries a food stamp in his wallet as a reminder of how things once were, will get $10 mil-
lion for his April 12 fight against Pernell Whitaker.

Whitaker will make at least $6 million for his WBC super lightweight title defense on pay-per-view out-
doors at Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas.

"I'll never forget where I came from," De La Hoya said of the food stamp. "It keeps my feet on the ground and my head on my shoul-
ders."

The Los Angeles Times has emerged as a star in a star-studded sport since coming out of East Los Angeles to become a three-time U.S. gold medal box-
er in the 1992 Olympics. The WBO super lightweight champion now lives in Whittier, Calif., but insists on being introduced as from East L.A.

The news conference Tuesday afternoon was on Madison Square Garden was a publicity tour by the

two fighters that will continue Wednesday in three Texas cities, then move on to Las Vegas and Los Angeles on Thursday and Mexico City on Friday.

All of this, however, nearly unraveled last Friday night at Atlantic City, N.J. With De La Hoya at ringside, Whitaker trailed on all three scorecards until he rallied in the 11th round to knock out relatively unknown Diobelys Hurtado.

"Pernell showed what he was all about," co-trainer Len Duva said. "We never thought we'd see the day he'd need a knockout to win. We went out there and did it."

Promoter Bob Arum said Whitaker's difficult victory would help the promotion because of the knockout.

"If it had gone to a decision and Pernell would have checked out a decision, it would have been bad," he said.

After Friday night, the odds favoring De La Hoya went from 2-1 to 1-3.1

"I know what I'm up against," said De La Hoya, who will turn 24 on Feb. 4. "He's supposed to be the best pound-for-pound fighter in the world. It's going to be a diffi-
cult boxing match."

"Everybody knows who the best pound-for-pound fighter in the world is for me," Whitaker said. "Oscar is a great fighter, and he'll be the best pound-for-pound some day."

Whitaker, a 33-year-old former lightweight, super lightweight and junior middleweight champi-
on, looked like an aging fighter Friday night. But De La Hoya expects something different come April 12.

"He will re-motivate himself," Arum said. "He'll re-ener-
gize. That night, he'll be like he's 25 or 26." De La Hoya, who out-
pointed previously unbeaten Miguel Angel Gonzalez, Jan. 18, has a 23-0 record, with 20 knock-
outs. Whitaker has a 39-1-1 record.

Arum said there is a provision in Whitaker's contract that would enable him to make $7 million. He also said each fighter would get one-third of all revenue above $2 million.

Besides being distributed for pay-per-view by TKVO, Arum said, the fight also will be avail-
able by closed-circuit television to bars, restaurants and clubs.

Scores

All-Star game

TODAY'S GAMES

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Cal State Hayward............66
Cal Poly..........................73
(Monday @ Mott Gym)

TOMORROW'S GAMES

• Men's basketball vs. Utah State @ Utah 7 p.m.

"Big West Conference"

Mustangs trying to get back on track

De La Hoya won't forget drug stamp days

By Franco Costaldini
Daily Staff Writer

Cal Poly almost became the first Big West team to lose to a non-Division I opponent this year.

At the start of Monday's resched-
uled game against Cal State
Hayward, center-court teams held a
• Men's basketball

19-0 record.

It took a 30-3

marathon in the second half to pull the Mustangs past
its Division II non-

ponent, 73-66,

and avoid becom-

ing the league's

first casualty in

front of 2,468 peo-

ple.

The near

upset attempt by Cal Poly came on the heels of three straight con-

ference losses. The Mustangs blew all three games in the se-

cond half. However, this time it wasn't a second half let-
down that put Cal Poly in the hole.

"First half, we were terrible," said head coach Jeff Schneider.

"First half we were terrible," said Cal Poly guard Shanta Cotright, who led the Mustangs in scoring with 18 points and seven rebounds. "It was a terrible dis-
play of basketball in the first half."

After the game's first 20

minutes, Hayward led by 11 points, to 11:43 in the first.

Cal Poly's late backluster perfor-
mance could be attributed to their

fourth quarter. Cal Poly was scheduled to return to San Luis Obispo at 9:05 a.m. on Sunday after its Saturday game against Long Beach State, but instead its plane was diverted
to Las Vegas just before landing.

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