Summer Mustang

El Corral reinventing itself

By Wendy Conti
Summer Mustang

The director of El Corral Bookstore, Frank Cawley, knows the value of attractive presentation, and he is pleased with the store’s new look after being remodeled last summer.

“It hadn’t been remodeled since it first opened in 1967. It looked a little tattereil. We wanted El Corral to have a good retail image, just like all the new stores downtown,” Cawley said, noting that college students today “are more visually sophisticated than any other generation before them.”

Ultimately, the bottom line of El Corral’s remodel is just that: the bottom line.

“Sure, we wanted the remodel to increase revenues, too,” Cawley said. But he and Foundation are still waiting for those rising numbers.

Since its reopening Sept. 1, El Corral’s revenues have remained about the same.

Cawley admitted. Yet the former book-store manager at De-Anza College in Cupertino remains undaunted, pointing out the areas where El Corral is thriving.

“Our software sales have doubled,” Cawley said. The art and engineering supplies department received more space after the remodel.

Both the computer department and art and engineering supplies department increased revenue after the remodel.

That additional room came at the expense of other departments, like clothing and novels. Though El Corral carries bestsellers — selling for 35 percent off the hardcover price, opposed to Barnes & Noble’s 30 percent — it has cut back considerably of amount of literature and fiction books.

In their place, the “new” El Corral stocks more trade and academic books.

“Our primary mission is to supply Cal Poly students’ educational material in a timely fashion and at competitive prices,” Cawley explained. “Clothing is not that important in a student’s education.”

Though some students might differ on the relative importance of clothing, probably all would prefer to pay less for textbooks. Half of El Corral’s sales come from textbooks. Cawley understands students’ reluctance to purchase textbooks when chances are that El Corral might not buy them back at the quarter’s end.

“Faculty manipulate buyback. We don’t,” he said. “If (faculties) choose to use another edition or a completely different book next quarter, that’s something we have no control over.”

But often, the blame falls on the bookstore.

Cawley and his staff are working to change that image of El Corral “trying to rip students off.” According to a survey conducted by the Society for the Advancement of Management club during Spring 1998, 1,200 people believed El Corral stock more trade and academic books. Former manager gets his store, life back in the black

By Wendy Conti
Summer Mustang

As Cal Poly’s El Corral Bookstore works to redefine itself as a modern, convenient store, Court Wanen is working to establish his own new identity.

Now in charge of El Corral, Wanen is much more lighthearted these days.

Former El Corral director is needed,” Guerrero said.

“If the governor approves the act, then it will go into effect Jan. 1.

“We are confident that when the act gets to the governor, he will approve it,” said Ed Matoveck, Thompson’s chief of staff.

Last fall, Smart’s parents stood before a special senate committee to speak about their daughter’s disappearance, claiming Cal Poly police bungled the investigation.

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“Right now there is no protocol in place,” Denise Smart said in a telephone interview. “This law sets up a process.”

Van Halen rules, man!

Legendary band brings its act to Mid-State Fair.

By Shannon Pedrick
Summer Mustang

More than two years after the disappearance of Cal Poly student Kristin Smart, state legislators have approved a bill that would change the way colleges and universities investigate violent crimes.

“It passed the assembly and is now on its way to the governor,” said Willie Guerrero, a legislative aide to Sen. Mike Thompson (El-Napa Valley).

Thompson helped draft the Kristin Smart Campus Safety Act of 1998, which would allow universities to contact local law enforcement as soon as a violent crime occurs on campus. The measure was approved July 27 by a 61-0 assembly vote, following a 36-0 senate approval in May. Gov. Pete Wilson has until Tuesday to sign or veto the measure.

“Smart student prompts state bill

By Shannon Pedrick
Summer Mustang

Missing

Summer heat dominates Central Coast

Cooler weekend forecast too late to help many fairgoers

Shannon Pedrick
Summer Mustang

Record breaking temperatures have hit San Luis Obispo County throughout this week. According to the National Weather Service, Monday and Tuesday reached highs of 95 degrees, highs that have not been reached in more than 65 years.

While it’s hot in San Luis Obispo, Paso Robles is feeling the brunt of the heat wave. Temperatures reached 114 degrees on Monday, and have been more than a hundred degrees the past week.

“My mom and I were working out in our vineyard (in Paso) and were only able to work for about two hours. This heat is so tiring that my mom almost passed out from being out in the sun for too long,” Hillary Clay, a biochemistry senior said.

Cawley has been in Paso Robles every day for the past week and looks forward to coming home to San Luis Obispo in Paso Robles’ relatively cool 95 degree weather. San Luis Obispo has reached the mid-nineties every day for the past four days.

“It is really hot here, but Paso Robles is just unbearable,” Clay said.

Other San Luis Obispo residents are not complaining about the soaring temperatures. Those from other areas of California are used to extreme temperatures and are not slowed down by the weather.

“I am from Hemet, so this weather doesn’t even seem that bad to me. It hasn’t slowed me down at all,” Janice Kelley, an attendant of a physical

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Caliifornia Polytechnic State University San Luis Obispo

Over the airwaves

KCPR show provides a forum for local musicians.

Arts Weekly, page 6

June 16, 1998

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By Shannon Pedrick
Summer Mustang

Fair ladies

Stefanie Smith and Anna Aguayo, both 10, share a smile during Sunday’s COR concert at the Mid-State Fair. Fair goers can complete fair coverage see back page.

David Wood/ Summer Mustang

See Smart, page 2

See Corral, page 3

See Corral, page 3

See Heat, page 2
STATE FFA OFFICERS ATTEND POLY WORKSHOP

By Rory Cox
Summer Mustang

College of Agriculture faculty, staff and students participated last week in teaching a hand-picked group of high school students lessons in etiquette, achieving professional appearances and writing professionally.

The state Future Farmers of America officer team, a group of six high school graduates, was elected to represent more than 50,000 FFA members from all across California. The team arrived July 29 to attend a week of workshops on leadership and public relations skills.

"The team takes one year after graduation to serve FFA and visit over 100 high schools," said Charles Parker, assistant state FFA advisor. "We use Cal Poly because of the quality of teachers in the agricultural education department," Parker said.

Owen Bugbee, head of the agricultural education and communication department, said Cal Poly has been home to FFA since 1927.

The organization grew rapidly following World War II, with the increased need for agricultural production. During that era, the team of officers began touring the state, making presentations to increase agricultural awareness, educate younger students about farming, and do some low-ranking recruiting.

"We consider it an honor and a pleasure to get each new officer team and help them with their presentations to the high school students across the state," Casey said.

The officers, Casey said, often travel in pairs when they visit schools, but go as a team to meet industry representatives and on an international tour, a fairly recent addition to their year-long schedule. The team travels to abroad to meet with that country's FFA equivalent to make more presentations.

"It's quite a responsibility for six young students. They just graduated from high school in June and they are putting off college for a year to do this," Casey said.

Lindsey Bugbee, state FFA reporter, is one of the six officers chosen from 63 original applicants. The applicants were interviewed and the group was narrowed down to 12, who gave a speech in Fresno to more than 3,000 FFA members, who voted and chose the six officers to come to Cal Poly.

"Our goal is to promote agriculture and represent the organization for the next year," Bugbee said. She added that FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing leadership potential for quality leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

The group began touring yesterday in one of agricultural education and communication professor Joseph Sabol's classes. The presentation is part of six workshops the officers are responsible for developing and presenting.

The workshops cover a variety of subjects, including one geared to those interested in getting state-level, leadership, agricultural education and industry education and industry education and some other subject.

Porter said she and three other officers are considering attending Cal Poly when they complete the term next year.

"I love the campus and San Luis Obispo," Bugbee said, "I can't wait to go here."

STATE COLLEGE, Penn. (UPI) — Amid rumors of police brutality in response to the July 12 riot, a civil suit has been filed against four police officers.

The plaintiff is Seth Porter, a journalist; attorney; his attorney filed the suit, which says that his state and federal constitutional rights were violated when police officers violently assaulted him without apparent cause.

The suit is being filed against a State College Police Department officer as well as three unknown officers. Porter hopes to receive compensation for punitive damages and legal costs.

State College Police Chief Tom King said he could not comment on the civil suit.

Porter said he was walking to a friend's house just before 4 a.m. when he happened upon the East Beaver Avenue riot.

When line of police officers began to charge the people involved in the riot, Porter and others attempted to affect his decision. The group was narrowed down to 12, who gave a speech in Fresno to more than 3,000 FFA members, who voted and chose the six officers to come to Cal Poly.

PARKER continued from page 1

education workshop said.

Mark Patton, a construction work­er with J & P Construction in San Luis Obispo, said that after living in the area for 20 years, he still never gets used to this weather.

"I am melting. It has been getting pretty hot out here lately. We are lucky enough to be working indoors."

— Mark Patton
construction worker

"I am melting. It has been getting pretty hot out here lately. We are lucky enough to be working indoors."

Straying indoors is just one of the things that local health officials recommend to beat the heat. Sierra Vista Staff Nurse Penny Daugherty suggests people follow certain guidelines to avoid any heat-related illnesses.

"Drink lots of liquids, avoid physical activity, get yourself down and try to stay as cool as possible," Daugherty said.

However, not everyone is carrying on with business as usual. Russ James, the executive director for public relations at the California Mid-State Fair, thinks the heat might prevent some people from coming out and enjoying the festivities during daytime hours.

"Afternoon traffic here is very light. At about four or five, when it starts to cool down, people start coming out of the woodworks. From what I have heard people are waiting until later to come out to the fair," James said.

County residents can expect cooler temperatures over the weekend, for a more enjoyable summer. San Luis Obispo and Paso Robles are expected to be in the mid-eighties, a drastic cool­from this week's temperatures.

SMART continued from page 1

"We use Cal Poly because of the quality of teachers in the agricultural education department."

— Charles Parker
assistant state FFA officer

"We use Cal Poly because of the quality of teachers in the agricultural education department," Parker said.

"Being part of the organization has made us want to give back what we have learned through the programs. Bugbee said. "It's an awesome opportunity to represent over 50,000 people."

The team of young officers lives together in a house in the south of Sacramento. The group will spend the majority of their time on the road. Their expenses for their year-long commitment are paid, but they do not receive any cash payment. Parker said they will put on workshops and learning conferences at more than 100 California high schools.

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Porter said she and three other officers are considering attending Cal Poly when they complete the term next year.

"I love the campus and San Luis Obispo," Bugbee said, "I can't wait to go here."

Later that day, Porter was treated and released from Centre Community Hospital after he was arrested and arrested.

Porter also said he heard no warn­nings to disperse from police officers before he was attacked and arrested.

At Porter's preliminary hearing July 22, the charges of failure to disperse, and disorderly conduct against him were dropped.

At the same preliminary hearing, California Police Department Officer Shawn Weaver said he encountered Porter twice that evening.

"He went over on East College Avenue and again after he had been handcuffed. Weaver said Porter was acting disruptively at both stops.

Porter said he did not know what Weaver was talking about and the officer must have been mistaken.

Denise Smart said she thinks if the room was searched as soon as Flores was considered a suspect, police would have uncovered significant evidence.

"They found her hair in the room after it had been cleaned," Denise Smart said. "I can only imagine what they would have found had they searched his room sooner."

Denise Smart said that campus police departments do not have the resources to handle such cases as Kristen's, because this is not something that occurs on a day-to-day basis.

"It is not a car or bicycle that has been stolen," Denise Smart said. "It is our daughter."

Cal Poly Public Safety referred all questions to Cal Poly Legal Counsel Carlos Cardoza. Cardoza declined to comment.

Associated Students Inc. President Dan Geis said although Cal Poly is one of the safer campuses in the CSU system, this law will provide an even safer overall environment.

"The campus is safe until he is the first place that students call for help, but it's comforting to know that we now have someone who can be called in," Geis said. "We need to continue to foster a system where stu­dents feel safe and secure."

"Any opportunity to make Cal Poly safer is obviously to the benefit of the students," he said.
New asteroids won't threaten Earth, NASA scientists claim

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Astronomers have identified two new asteroids headed in Earth's direction, but neither of the mile-wide rocks is expected to come near this planet for several decades, NASA scientists said Wednesday.

The asteroids, named 1998 OH and 1998 OR2, were detected last month through NASA's Near-Earth Asteroid Tracking System, using a remotely controlled telescope operated by the Air Force at the 9,000-foot summit of Haleakula on the Hawaiian island of Maui.

NEAT began in 1995, scans the skies six nights each month when the Air Force isn't using the telescope to monitor satellites.

The program recently installed new computing and data analysis hardware to speed up the search for rocky bodies that potentially could slam into the Earth or come dangerously close, said Steven Pravdo, the NEAT project manager at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena.

1998 OH was discovered on July 19; 1998 OR2 on July 24.

David L. Rabinowitz, a JPL co-investigator, made followup observations of the two objects using a 24-inch telescope at JPL's Table Mountain Facility in Wrightwood.

He said their orbits did not pose any immediate hazard to Earth. However, each of the asteroids is large enough to pose a global threat.

"The reason they're interesting is that they're very rare compared to previous discoveries in the past year," he said.

Although the asteroids' precise paths have not yet been determined, preliminary projections indicate 1998 OH could get no closer than 3 million miles from Earth — about 20 times the distance from Earth to the moon.

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Although the asteroids' precise paths have not yet been determined, preliminary projections indicate 1998 OH could get no closer than 3 million miles from Earth — about 20 times the distance from Earth to the moon. 1998 OR2 could get no closer than 1.7 million miles from Earth, Rabinowitz said in an interview.

Carlos Ramirez, attending a PE workshop at Cal Poly, takes a break to browse the shelves of El Corral.

"That was my baby. I wanted to create a positive link to the university. It's also a public relations arm of the university," he said.

Carlos Ramirez, attending a PE workshop at Cal Poly, takes a break to browse the shelves of El Corral.

"That was my baby. I wanted to create a positive link to the university. It's also a public relations arm of the university," he said.

Warren might not recognize his old workplace anymore. Despite El Corral's more contemporary appearance, he doesn't believe it needed the remodeling.

Nevertheless, El Corral is in Warren's past. Now, he concentrates on his new job and his healthier lifestyle.

"My life since El Corral has been a very positive experience," he said. "I'm taking good care of myself."
Parking situations at Cal Poly have always been a hassle for me and most other students I know. Over my years here I have paid enough in parking tickets to cover almost a quarter of a room.

The main thing I don't understand about our parking system are the staff spaces. The staff are getting paid to be here while the students are paying to be here, yet they still get the good parking spots. There are so many staff spaces on campus that most of the time it is easier to find one of them than it is to drive around all of the general lots.

I cannot count the number of times I have come to campus just to run a simple errand. I might have to dump off a paper or ask a professor a quick question. It is easier to find one of them on their own. I have come to campus just to find a parking space, it is like a search for parking.

I have followed other students to their vehicles numerous times, just to ensure I would get that space. Sometimes it works and other times they are just going to switch spots anyway.

One time I got a ticket for parking in a staff space. It was by the stadium in a small parking lot used by the other side of campus and the stop blocks being marked with "Staff" in boxes. I showed the ticket to the officer. I got I was in reserved for staff. All of the stop blocks were blank and there was no sign that I entered the lot, not to mention that the lot was practically empty. When I returned to my car there was a yellow envelope under my wiper that contained a $20 fine.

Before going to the parking enforcement office, I cruised the area a little to look for signs or something I could have done wrong. Come to find out there was a large grey sign around the corner about 100 yards from the entrance that declared the lot to be for staff only.

After arguing my point and Googling the detective a date was set and a court date was scheduled. There is now a sign at the entrance of that lot that makes its status clear. I think they put it there just because of me.

Another thing that bothers me are the meters. I have used them as little as possible because they are so expensive. Very rarely is the task at hand so important that it is financially beneficial for me to use the spaces.

Have you ever noticed that most of the meters do not give you the full amount of time for your money? So the 90 minutes that are supposed to cost $1.50 really cost anywhere from 10 to 25 cents over.

Even when I do use them, I often notice how the staff spaces are much closer to the building I need to visit than the meters.

On the days that I have been driving the campus, I have noticed that most of the time there is a sign in our fight to find parking. I feel that when you are willing to pay through the teeth for a service that you should get the best that can be offered.

Recently I visited the California State University, Fresno campus to run an errand for a friend. I decided I did not know my way around well enough to park in their parking lot, so I chose to use the meters instead.

I grabbed a handful of change and thinking it would be gone when I was done feeding the green box, I was shocked to find that half of my money was left when the time was naned out. At their meters you get half an hour per quarter instead of the 15 minutes that we get I wonder what makes it so much cheaper there?

Another observation made while visiting was that the meters spaces were the closest possible parking to any of the buildings with the exception of handicapped spaces.

Other campuses. I have visited offered free 20-minute spaces for the quick errands you have to run. They are very close to the buildings and I am sure they come in very handy for students. Why don't we have those here? They could use some of the empty staff spaces.

I don't see that we, as paying students, have any say in our parking situation. I have seen other opinions on this subject in the Daily numerous times with no outcome. I think it is a hopeless cause and we will be exploited in this area for a long time to come.

I am just hopeful that I have caused others to think about this and that maybe someone out there reading this can do something about it that I can't.

In my opinion, we should be rewarded for attending college and trying to better ourselves, not fined for failing to see a sign in our fight to find parking.

And even though I am opposed to the whole sports complex, I have heard a rumor that it might lead to another of President Baker's projects, a parking structure. All I can say is, please hurry!

Shantelle Andrews is a Summer Mustang staff writer. But don't let her title fool you, she's still not allowed to park in staff spaces.

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**SLO drivers are too polite for their own good**

Today is "People driving who don't normally drive day." Groups of people who rarely get behind the wheel are now on the road en masse. One might think that this is a rare occurrence, but in fact it happens quite frequently. Willie nulle merging, signals not canceled, and of course, speed and the lack of speed on the road can all contribute to this special time behind the wheel.

The people who commit these driving crimes know who they are. They are the careless auto owners who obviously have heavy amounts of insurance under their belt.

I can never claim to have flawless driving habits. I have had big-city driving experience and can safely say that San Luis Obispo is much easier to drive in. LA or San Francisco, for example.

City driving is a survival instinct. A person needs to have merging, acceleration and braking skills down pat. If these basic driving principles are not mastered, you will find yourself driving to the curb or worse, in the middle lane of the freeway with no way out.

San Luis Obispo city driving is different. People will sit in the middle of the road and wave people around them. Very nice, but not good.

When "grandma" stops in the middle of the road to make a left turn in her Caddy to get to the pet store, she does not realize that the four or five cars behind her just locked up their wheels to avoid hitting her rear end. In the city, grandma would be headed to the hospital after she caused the four-car pile-up.

Country roads can be very hard to navigate at night. Drive down Price Canyon and see what I mean.

When driving down the desolate canyon road, the best thing to do is hit the high beams. The logical thing to do is dip the beams when someone rounds the corner or comes over the hill in your direction. Some drivers defy logic. I always get "Captain High," double dipping for me. Giving the courteous high-beam flash does not phase "El Captian."

As the only two beacons in the night head for each other. I always find myself blinded and having a really difficult time focusing on any distinguishable road marker to stay between the lines.

This feeling is double for the guy who has the nifty out-of-focus fog lights that are always trained right in the line of vision.

These examples of delinquent driving seem to happen more frequently in our fair county than anywhere else.

San Luis Obispo happens to be the hub of the poor driving habit. Downtown San Luis Obispo is the worst. People still don't get that there are one-way streets.

Now the big trend is to stop immediately for pedestrians a half block away that have the potential of crossing the street. Only in San Luis Obispo will drivers be courteous to pedestrians. Any other city, the pedestrian is fodder that needs to get out of the way. Bad for the pedestrian, but good driving habits.

Just be aware of your surroundings. Gas it when you need to go, brake when you need to stop. The best thing is to not use those actions between driving time. If you don't really drive, don't bother getting in the car.

Jeff Bialore is a Summer Mustang staff writer.
**Accusations of yellow journalism**

What a waste of space. After reading "Everyone should have one of these" in the Summer Mustang I felt that this piece needed a response. I'm not going to comment on the arguments made in the piece, or even sink to the infantile level. The issue that truly bothers me is the lack of public concern when it comes to the values and morals our country is built upon. This is not a new problem - impeachment. (I would hope in the future that no one, only those who hold themselves firmly in a positive public light. With so many scrutinizing eyes looking upon you every minute, you would think that Bill could control his urges for another couple of years. With this point made, I would like to point out that if we had elected Bob Dole, this never would have happened.

So, after all my complaining I feel it only necessary to offer up a solution. The decision is simple and solves the problem - imprisonment. (I would have chosen another option, but I am told that when you make threats like that, the Secret Service pays a little visit.) Not only because he has cheated on his wife, but because he has cheated on our country.

If the president truly cared about our nation, he could have put his own interests aside and made better use of those frequent 15 minutes. And those 15 minutes add up, you know. Maybe Bill could have called Chelsea and asked how college life was treating her, or taken his dog what's-his-name for a walk, or looked into ways to wring more funds out of taxpayers pockets. Who knows?

I am not saying that he is an evil person because he cheated on his wife. I can only imagine what it's like coming home to Hillary.

Maybe if people our age spent less time worrying about fights on the "Jerry Springer Show," and more time pondering the more challenging issues, this country would be a better place. And maybe not. But as long as people think about these issues, then we are on the right track.

When DNA tests of Monica's dress come back (if the results are not covered up), maybe then we will learn the truth. Maybe then people will start to take notice, and maybe even start to care. Come on people, give a damn already!

Shannon Pedrick is a Summer Mustang staff writer.
Welcome to the radio
KCPR show gives local bands access to airwaves

By Rory Cox
San Luis Obispo Daily Times
LCHC

The show, started in Jan. 1998 by KCPR DJs Sarah Wheeler and Graham Harris, has been creating a groundswell of interest. The show features a live performance by a local band each show. Bands under 21 toe the local anchors to provide exposure to local performers.

"It's for bands that possibly, said Harris.

Each performance by the bands is recorded live in the studio.

So we add to our library every week," Wheeler said.

According to Wheeler, bands such as Shambhala, Amphora, Glider and Locomotion are just some bands who have appeared on the show this quarter.

"It's a really great opportunity because it gives local bands the chance to be broadcast on a larger scale, which is something younger local bands don't get to do often," said Franklin. "(Haworth) and the other people under 21 toe the local anchors, and I think that's a really nice way of giving them exposure to local music from having funded the show.

Eric Benware, from the station.

Franklin agrees. "The show is a really great way".

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See RADIO, page 7
Guy Budd plays Mission Plaza
By Amy Lovell
Summer Mustang

In the Mission Plaza Friday night, the weather was cooler than it has been as the Guy Budd band played blues to an easy crowd. "I loved it. There was a warm, very receptive feeling from the crowd that made us more alive and enthusiastic," drummer Rafael Maldonado said. Martine, who drove from Bakersfield for the gig, said he really enjoyed playing with the group.

Lead singer and songwriter Guy Budd seemed to exude a vitality of the stage appeal. His smile and energetic movements made him appear happy to be performing.

"It was a blast—sort of a fun, party atmosphere," Budd said. Compared to prior shows in the "Concerts in the Plaza" series, the crowd arrived a little later. In the end however, the Plaza filled out.

Jessica Niland, journalism senior, said the music "wasn't what she expected blues to sound like.

"At first things were slower than I expected—then it loosened up, the people started dancing and that's always fun to watch."

The Mid-State Fair's attendance is good each week. "It's also great because it is so important to hear what bands sound like according to Wheeler.

RADIO
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Summer Mustang Daily

Wallflowers draw females

Smash Mouth shares bill at Mid-State Fair
By Jeremy Roe
Summer Mustang

The Wallflowers may be the creative drive behind a variety of teenager's web sites, but the audience at the Mid-State Fair Friday night indicated that they can draw a crowd of all ages.

From the seven-year-old humming along with hits like "Believers" and "Three Marlenas" to the couple in their fifties in front of me swaying and — could it be? — skanking to "One Headlight," the Wallflowers and Jakob Dylan provided the diverse audience with their stock-in-trade: Top 40 tunes and a couple of surprise covers.

Smash Mouth opened the show in Paso Robles, with lead singer Steve Harwell, in hand, saying he didn't care who he was opening for, "Let's get this f— party started."

The band "C3emm Cushing and the Ponderosa Stage moving.

Dylan stopped during the set to include several crowd members who were wielding laser pointers around the stage and apparently blinding the performers, a la Seinfeld's George Costanza.

"If you're sitting next to the guy who's got the laser, give him a swift kick," Dylan said. "It's not cool - I never knew anyone who got laid just because he had one of those."

The audience laughed and the laser-pointing bandits took a break for the rest of the show.

Dylan made a few friends in the crowd when the Wallflowers took a shot at Smokey Robinson's "Tracks of My Tears," and Rod Stewart's "Tonight's the Night."

Many of the girls in the front few rows threw their bras on stage.

Dylan collected as many as he could and tied them around his microphone stand.

"I guess everybody in this town wears white," he said.

Not neglecting their younger fans, they closed the set with an encore of their Godfella-standout hit, "Heroes."

Smash Mouth's Harwell made a fool of himself, trash-talking about the other bands like they were competitors for a trophy, but Dylan was too, uh, relased to think about what he
Van Halen rocks Mid-State Fair

By Mark Hartz

The sounds of Van Halen have always reminded me of my childhood at age 9. Their 1984 album was one of the first records I ever bought with my paper route money. It was one of those records that I wore out.

So when I heard that Van Halen was going to play at the Mid-State Fair, I jumped at the opportunity to see them live. I had lost interest in the band after the departure of David Lee Roth, and I wasn’t sure into the fact that Sammy Hagar refused to play older songs, even ones from their highly successful 1984 album.

And when the band signed on Gary Cherone from the band, Extreme, I was sceptical. How could a guy who ran around the streets of Boston singing “More Than Words” and “Hole in the Wall” ever just kick like Roth, or pull out a guitar and trade licks with Eddie Van Halen like Hagar?

Well, he couldn’t. The band was right on all night, even with Alex Van Halen, his drummer, clad in a neck brace. Cherone doesn’t have the stage presence of Roth, or the ability to pull out some of his older self.

The show was good, energetic, and even dangerous for Cherone, who threw his microphone stand in the air, yet forgot to move as it came down on his head. The damage: a deep cut in his head, blood pouring onto his neck and a big red stain on the back of his head.

The nudes were eager to help, as is their job, bringing out towels after songs, and ushering the singer backstage to wipe off his head.

The band played a good mix of old and new songs, with Cherone asking the crowd, “Are you ready to hear it all? Don’t you mind if we play some old songs, do you?”

The crowd of about 10,000 fans was very receptive throughout the show, even singing the chorus of some songs like “Always Wanting You,” and that Pepsi commercial, oh, I mean, “Right Now.”

During “I Can’t Wait to Feel Your Love Tonight,” Cherone was flapping on stage like a dead fish, and souring around like a prostitute looking for a trick.

“Thats’ the greatest looking thing I’ve ever seen,” said my travelling partner. “He’s like a fish, dude. All he needs is a pair of braces.”

Later in the show, Alex Van Halen did his obligatory drum solo, an aspect of rock music that needs to be dropped from live shows. With the exception of Neal Peart from Rush, one can be doing anything new with an extended drum solo. Being a drummer myself, I understand that everyone wants a shot in the spotlight, but for the man who rewrote the rule book, it seems like everyone wanted to be him.

Eddie Van Halen also did his own guitar solo, another outdate rock tactic, but for the man who wrote the book on how to play the electric guitar, it was worth seeing. Eddie started with a song he wrote for his son, “16,” and moulded into “Eruption.” While his solo was a long time, it was entertaining.

The band was definitely having a good time on stage. Mike Anthony, bass player, took over the microphone to sing “Somebody Get Me a Doctor.” He hit notes so high, dogs began to yelp.

The band encored with a new acoustic song, “Josephina,” and the all crowd-pleasing “Panama.”

During “Panama,” the band used a lot of call and response with Alex Van Halen scatting a few lines and Cherone pointing the microphone at the audience so they could shout back. It was a perfect lead-in to their finale of “Jump.”

The last two songs were the only songs off of the 1984 album, and it took me all the way back to my bed-room mirror when I was in the fourth grade when I WAS Eddie Van Halen for a brief, shining moment, with Mike Anthony keeping the beat behind me, Michael Anthony thundering next to me, and David Anthony flying around the stage kicking balloons.

The only problem on Wednesday night was that the guy from Extreme was doing the flying and kicking. It just wasn’t the same.

CCR, Doobie Bros break out the dancing bug

Classic rock bands draw good crowd, people of all ages from all places show up to get down.

Jaime Zuffoletto

It seemed like everybody wanted to see the Doobie Brothers and Creedence Clearwater Revisited play, and many did.

About 6,500 people, young and old, packed into the grandstand at the California Mid-State Fair last Saturday evening to listen to the rocking sounds of these two bands.

And nobody seemed disappointed.

“I’ve been a fan of both bands since they started,” said Billie Poston from her wheelchair.

“That was back in the day when my dancing shoes still worked. Back before many of these (concert goers) were even born,” she added.

Poston, who drove all the way from Fresno to see both bands play, and she had been wanting to see the bands play for more than 20 years.

“I’ve always wanted to see them live,” she said. “And I am so glad I did, they played all of my favorite songs.”

As the Doobie Brothers began their song “Black Water” they decided to give the security guards a run for their money.

Lead singer Pat Simmons stopped the music just before the chorus of “Black Water” and announced he didn’t care what they security people had to say if I liked any other bands.”

Even though only two members of the original CCR are still in the band, many people agreed that new-comer John Tristao gave the band that same old feeling.

“I was a little wary of how they were going to sound live without John Fogerty as the lead singer, but it was amazing (Tristao) sounded exactly like Fogerty,” said Williams.

Tristao was able to keep the audience on its feet with some of CCR’s greatest hits: “ Proud Mary,” “ Bad Moon Rising,” “Look,” and “ Suzie Q.”

“CCR put on a spectacular show,” said Janie Clark, also from Fresno.

“We drove two hours to be here and every minute was worth it. It was the same-old CCR we have grown to love.”

And the love just keeps on growing with new listeners being hooked everyday.

“I only knew a little bit of the songs,” said 10-year-old Stefanie Smith. “But I had a lot of fun dancing.”

She wasn’t the only one.

Curts Counts of Templeton had a great time dancing to the sounds of CCR.

“I love to listen to them, and from the looks of it do so many other people,” he said. “The best way to describe CCR is that they are a generation gap-bridging band. They bring in people of all ages.”

Both bands played well and meshed well with the crowd, and after hours of good music and dancing the bands retreated to what Tristao said he would never miss, a party.

And even though the beautiful summer night had to come to an end, at least it ended happily.