Sen. relays pride to June grads

By Shannon Akins
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

State Sen. Bruce McPherson shows off his Cal Poly pride when he wears his alma mater's letterman's jacket—reminiscent of his football days—to legislative meetings.

McPherson plans to convey that pride to June graduates in a commencement speech.

"I’m honored and flattered to come back to my alma mater to speak," McPherson said.

The message he wants to convey to graduating seniors is that "everything you do matters," he said.

"I feel fortunate to be a graduate of what I sincerely feel to be the best university in the CSU system," McPherson said.

McPherson was a football player who graduated in 1985 and majored in journalism. Before being elected to office, he spent 26 years as an editor for the Santa Cruz County Sentinel.

"He's a big supporter of education and the environment," said Ken Barclay, director of Student Life and Activities. "He's done a lot in his political role for education and the environment."

President Baker chose McPherson to speak at the commencement ceremony because he's done a lot for Cal Poly.

see MCPHERSON, page 2

Regional planning classes win awards for Atascadero downtown redevelopment

By Andy Castagnola
MUSTANG DAILY EDITOR IN CHIEF

Thirty Cal Poly students are planning their way to better resumes.

Students in two city and regional planning classes came up with a plan to revitalize downtown Atascadero last year. The project has now received praise from two national planning associations—recognition that may help these students score jobs after Cal Poly.

The group traveled to New York last week to receive a national award from the American Institute of Certified Planners for its project.

"The students earned the community in good dialogue," said Paul Soldana, director of community and economic development in Atascadero. "Everybody was impressed with their resourcefulness and presentation skills."

Atascadero is currently updating its general plan to handle recent growth pressures. City officials will use the project's ideas and information as they finalize the plan by the end of the year.

The project evolved in stages during three quarters, said Zeljka Pavlovich Howard, the students' lead faculty adviser. The first step included meeting with community members to discuss the city's needs. The meetings allowed the students to interact with residents and learn about their resources environment.

see ATASCADERO, page 2

Castles in the sand

Architecture 253 students, from left to right, Daniel Roberts, Raphael Vasquez and Michal Healy build sandcastles for their class at the Pismo Beach Pier. The assignment was to represent the spirit of downtown San Luis Obispo in a sand castle.

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see ATASCADERO, page 2

Swallows can return home

By Monica McHugh
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

A resolution concerning cliff swallows and their nesting on the Fisher Science building has finally emerged. Swallows will be able to once again nest on campus.

After a faculty vote of 16-6, it was decided that the nets put up to keep swallows from nesting should be taken down. Part of the net over the doorway of the Fisher Science building was left up as a compromise.

"As soon as those nets came down, swallows swarmed the area," biology technician Phil Ashley said. "At the risk of sounding anthropomorphic, those birds looked very happy to me."

Swallows are migratory birds that travel to southern Brazil and Argentina in the winter and then return to their place of birth in the spring to reproduce. They like to see SWALLOW, page 2
By Christine Powell

Top industry award given to GRC pro

Graphic communications professor Philip Ruggles was presented with the Edward S. Wade award on Tuesday. The Wade is given to a person who has made outstanding contributions in the area of sales and marketing for the graphic communications industry. Dick Gorelick, one of the industry’s leading consultants, presented the award on behalf of the Graphic Arts Sales Foundation, a major industry education and training group. Gorelick presented Ruggles with the award at the conclusion of his presentation. “What’s Going on in the Graphic Communication Marketplace?” in an audience for graphic arts professors in the graphic communications department.

Ruggles was chosen for the award for his contributions to the industry and his book, “Printing Estimating.” It addresses costing methods for digital and traditional graphic imaging and is in its fourth edition.

Cal Poly is the leading university in the western United States that offers a major in GRC. Ruggles has had 10 years of teaching experience at Cal Poly and was awarded Cal Poly’s Distinguished Teaching Award in 1996. His areas of expertise include estimating, costing, pricing and marketing. Ruggles has written numerous articles and digital premedia for print and electronic communication media.

Ruggles claims that the concept of “know the market” is the key issue for any company providing a graphically imaged product or service to a customer or client. Ruggles’ interest in the field stems from his childhood when his parents owned two printing companies. He coordinates a graphic communications department program that connects industry experts with the department.

Different experts teach 10-week courses on various topics. Ruggles wants to remind his students that they are exposed to at Cal Poly is preparing them to make sound decisions in the industry.

“Information yields knowledge, and knowledge yields wisdom,” he said.

Top industry award

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) — State governments are fearful of lowing billions in tobacco settlement money are scrambling to find ways to keep the cash coming in the face of lagging cigarette sales and high litigation and insurance costs.

The states already took a billion-dollar hit last month when their payments were decreased to reflect a 15 percent decline in U.S. cigarette shipments.

Pennsylvania received $198 million, about $20 million less than projected, and other states reported similar declines of 10 percent to 15 percent.

That means some state officials say may continue, could shave more than $20 billion from the $226 billion due to 46 states over 25 years to cover health-related costs, under a “volume adjustment” clause of the settlement.

Even worse, states say that payments could be delayed for years by any eventual crippling punitive award in a Florida class-action lawsuit involving an estimated $50 billion in tobacco industry assets.

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how to work with professional planners and how to work with the general public.

Another way of saying it is, “Definitely gives us some real-world experience. We’re doing what planners do,” Ruggles wants to remind his students that they are exposed to at Cal Poly is preparing them to make sound decisions in the industry.

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Nike publishes sweatshop monitoring report done by students

"It seems logical that a factory's going to clean up if they know someone's coming,"

Amy Shelton
University of Kentucky Spanish junior

Adler doubts the report will have any real bearing on Nike's practices, but said he will follow the company and waits for their July 1 response to the report.

"It seems logical that a factory's going to clean up if they know someone's coming," said Amy Shelton, a Spanish and linguistics junior.

"My mom's coming to visit me, so I'm definitely going to clean my apartment. I expect my mom everyday, my apartment would always be clean," said Jerome Pepper, a music and history senior, said the report confirmed many of his suspicions about the factories, but he was disturbed by the way the report was presented.

"It was critical of the monitoring process but was phrased in a passive way," he said. "If I write down every item, it's pretty appalling what's going on."

"I hope people will look at it and realize, yes, there's been problems, but that's it pretty much the only, or the first, time students have been able to review the process being used by the FLA (Fair Labor Association)," Fugate said.

Second-largest triathlon starts next week

By Christine Powell
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF writer

The second-largest triathlon in the Western U.S. is in route to start next weekend.

The 18th annual Wildflower event at Lake San Antonio is scheduled for May 5 to 7. There are three separate events that have attracted over 3,200 athletes to compete. All races have been sold out since March. Participants in the events range from ages 5 to 75.

The Olympic Distance Triathlon is for the amateur age group and relay teams. It consists of a 1.5-mile swim, a 5.6-mile bike and a 13.1-mile run. The Mountain Bike Triathlon is an exciting sprint distance event for novice/beginner competitors, and consists of a 3-mile swim, a 10-mile bike course and a two-mile run.

The triathlon nationally and internationally. It consists of a 1.2-mile swim, a 5.6-mile bike and a 13.1-mile run. The Mountain Bike Triathlon is an exciting sprint distance event for novice/beginner competitors, and consists of a 3-mile swim, a 10-mile bike course and a two-mile run.

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The University of Colorado has been catching all violations at the factories. While students at Nike said workers felt comfortable addressing grievances, workers who visited other factories said workers either were not comfortable addressing grievances or didn't know how to file grievances.

Students were also concerned that the audits to monitor working conditions at the factories may not have been catching all violations at the plants.

"Currently, (PriceWaterhouse Coopers) audits are scheduled with management to two to three weeks in advance," the report said.

"With such advanced notice, there is a natural concern that factory conditions could be modified or improved just for the day of the audit."

The report praised the monitoring process, and the lion's share of our coverage has been publicizing the parts of the report prominently on their web­site and has been publicizing the report.

"What these 16 students have done is taken a long hard look at our monitoring process, and the lion's share of our coverage has been publicizing the parts of the report prominently on their web­site and has been publicizing the report. We've taught them a lot. We take their observations and recom­mendations very seriously, and com­mit to their observations and recom­mendations very seriously, and com­mit to make changes that will improve conditions, such as cleanliness and venti­lation, to be positive. The students also found little evidence of underage workers at the factories. But, students found, workers had little understanding of the right to freedom of association, leading the students to believe that workers may have feared gathering to right any wrongs.

Eventually, students said, most workers probably didn't understand the freedom of association because their homeland didn't have such concepts integrated into their basic civil rights and the concept was fur­ther muddled in translation.

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Currently, Facility Services monitors such plants said workers felt comfort­able addressing grievances, students who visited other factories said workers either were not comfortable addressing grievances or didn't know how to file grievances.

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Greek system just needs a little work

But up with all of the attacks on the greek system lately! The whole thing reminds me of Columbine. School kids go on a rampage and lawmakers decide to attack the gun industry. Wrong tactic. In the same way that tighter gun controls won't prevent violence, the greek system won't prevent peer pressure and alcohol abuse. Just because the system has problems doesn't mean we should ditch it, but rather to address its problems and aim to fix them.

All during Greek Week we saw what was good about the greek system: community service, camaraderie and fun. So what's wrong with it? The main issues come out of the Sigma Chi case, which editorials described as "hazing. What's wrong with it? The main issues come out of the Sigma Chi case, which editorials described as "hazing."

We all know that alcohol abuse is a problem, not just within the greek system, but within the university and society as a whole. But is hazing itself the problem? Hazing is a problem, yes, but we need to weigh them. We should enforce the existing law prohibiting hazing, and take action when there is negative behavior. We need to take a stand against hazing and publicly repudiate it. I applaud those who have already done this. I have a friend who was in college in the late 80's and quit. Why can't others do the same?

The Sigma Chi case probably never would have come up if the greek system was enforced. The Sigma Chi case was just an example of what's wrong with the system. Fraternities and sororities need to take a stand against hazing, or else they shouldn't be allowed to exclude, whereas clubs are open to everyone.

It is interesting that Mr. Weber's financial aid application was single out for "review," but not surprising. Just as we shouldn't be easy to make hazing a problem if they weren't always the ones putting on the parties, but the fact is that they do. Not all fraternities have alcohol, however. Recently, Theta Chi has been much publicized for its no alcohol policy. Have you ever thought about what separates a club from a fraternity? The difference is that fraternities are allowed to exclude, whereas clubs are open to everyone. The Sigma Chi case probably never would have come up if it had not excluded its "victims" from membership.

Fraternities and sororities could avoid a lot of stereotypes (e.g. buying your friends) by abandoning exclusivity.

For starters, I want to say that I would also like to defend the financial aid institution with comments on its great progress in eliminating the "red tape." According to the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance, for this year, a total of 4,144,890 applications have been processed between January and April 16 (www.ed.gov/offices/BC/ACSFA/t4914.html). How has it been possible to process so many in such a short time? The Title IV modernization plan requires "improving service, reducing cost, improving and integrating support systems, and developing an open, common, and integrated delivery and information system" (www.ed.gov/PDFDocs/59body.pdf). This is evident by the implementation of a system that I personally took great pleasure in using: www.fafsa.ed.gov. This Web-based application process greatly reduced my time in processing, my need for sending snail-mail letters and, subsequently, my anxiety level (though the March 1 deadline will come a little too soon).

I believe our Cal Poly financial aid office personnel deserves applause, since it, I would estimate, personally processes over 10,000 applications. It is required to collect, disseminate and file all of this information before students return for fall quarter. That, I believe, is a monumental job that deserves praise.

Financial aid office should get praise for hard work

Editor, Mr. Craig Weber puts forth good points in his April 25 column ("Financial aid office is not about aiding"). Regarding the extensive and exhausting amounts of bureaucratic red tape necessary to acquire financial aid, I must agree that the system overwhelms most students. However, I take offense at his sensational and fictional dramatization of the process and would like to make a case in favor of the financial aid office.

It is interesting that Mr. Weber's financial aid application was singled out for "review," but not surprising. Just as repeat offenders to the Internal Revenue Service are flagged for auditing, so it seems with the public collegiate financial aid institutions. I do not mean to suggest that Mr. Weber ever violated any regulations. Maybe he simply filled out the forms incorrectly the first time around, which placed his name in a "high risk of non-repayment" category (statistically speaking), and he was subsequently asked to provide factual support to the following year's FAFSA information. This shouldn't have been too much of a problem if good records were kept. Remember, too, that "attitude is everything" — especially when you're trying to get money from someone else.

Letters to the editor

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Clint J. Dague is an industrial technology alumnus and current graduate student. Police need to write tickets, not e-mails to stop speeders

Editor, If San Luis Police Obispo and Campus Safety think that sending everyone an e-mail will slow speeding drivers down, then I've got a bridge over San Luis Creek to sell them. How about handing out some tickets! I know it sounds too simple to actually work. Why not try that instead of sitting around in air conditioning working on e-mails, student safety presentations and campus newsletters? Why is it so hard for police agencies in California to enforce the vehicle code? Pull the radar out and start pulling people over for doing anything over the limit through the school zone. If students, faculty and staff choose to ignore the posted limits, then they should pay the price.

Oh, and about handing out some tickets over on Foothill between California and Santa Rosa? The average speed through there couldn't be less than 65 mph.

Christopher S. Campbell is an architectural engineering senior who doesn't really think he's a cranky old man.

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Whether it's a love of punk, rock, electronic music or the environment, Cal Poly radio station KCPR has the answer for everyone at the all-day, all-ages EarthFest on Saturday.

From noon until 10 p.m., local bands and groups from across the country will be playing for an environmental cause at Odd Fellows Hall at 520 Dana St. in San Luis Obispo. Money raised will go to the local non-profit organization ECOSLO, which promotes environmental advocacy for resources throughout the county.

The tentative lineup for the afternoon is The Starlighters, Zod, The Dylan Group, Cubby Creatures, Brian and Chris, Little Wings and Corisciana. The evening performances, beginning at 7 p.m., are by Internal/External, SubDebs and Dub Narcotic Sound System.

The two local bands playing are The Starlighters, which includes Cal Poly art student David Metcalf, and Little Wings. Earthfest coordinator Carver Quides described Little Wings as "folky" with vocals like Neil Young. Its newest album is called "Discover Worlds of Wonder."

Part of the concerts' goal is to promote bands that have great potential, he said, and bands like these are a prime example.

"I really think good things can happen for them," Quides said.

Quides is also excited about The Dylan Group (no, it has nothing to do with Bob Dylan or his son). This group from New York centers its music around vibraphones and plays a wide variety of music, such as Latin lounge music, hip-hoppy trance and improv ambiance. The band's most recent album is "Ur-Klang Search."

"They'll probably have the most stunning performance of the day, with vibraphones and a couple of drummers," Quides said. They are scheduled to perform at 1:30 p.m.

Zod is a group that includes two members of CAC, a local band from the mid-1990s, and has vocals, bass and drums. Cresciana also has members of CAC and Bottle, another former local group, and features a loud, rocking, groove-oriented instrumental style.

By Karin Driesen
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

see EARTHFEST, page 8
Bush and Moby bring ‘alternacraze’ to campus

By Victoria Walsh

Bush and Moby are the next to invade Cal Poly on the MTV Campus Invasion Tour, which brings chart-topping performers to colleges across America.

On Monday, the gang from MTV will take over the University Union in front of the College Union Building to become the next MTV talent. The village will also have a new music tent, an interactive music tent, a music game show tent and a Choose or Lose tent.

“The village is always a lot of fun. The students love the chance to audition for whatever contest they’re having that year,” said Diana Cozzi, Associated Students Inc. Events adviser.

Moby will take to the Rec Center stage at 7:52 p.m., with doors opening at 6:52 p.m.

“I’m excited for the show because Bush is a big group from the early ‘90s and it’s making a comeback right now,” Cozzi said. “Moby should be fun to watch because the hype on him has been pretty high.”

Bush offers rock for the masses, topping the alternative charts with its new album, The Science of Things.

“Moby should be fun to watch because the hype on him has been pretty high,”

Diana Cozzi

ASI Events adviser

when he gets on stage. I’m so excited to see them again.”

This is the fourth time MTV has returned to Cal Poly with the Campus Invasion Tour. MTV began the Campus Invasion Tour in December 1998 with Third Eye Blind and Eve 6, and continued the invasion with Sugar Ray and O.E. in April 1999 and Garbage and Lit in November 1999.

Cal Poly is the only campus in the nation that has played host to every MTV tour.

“I think it shows that we’re tun to our concert history and know we can do bigger and better shows.”

Bush offers rock for the masses, topping the alternative charts with its new album, The Science of Things.

Bush and Moby bring ‘alternacraze’ to campus

large shows, like MTV concerts, draw big crowds to the Rec Center, which means taking extra precautions for ASI.

“We want the concertgoers to enjoy themselves, but we’re also responsible for everyone there,” Cozzi said.

“Typically with these MTV concerts, we always staff the venue with a high level of security so we can provide the safest atmosphere for everyone present.”

The student response to both artists has been positive, accredited mostly to the popularity of both bands.

“I think a lot has to do with students liking Bush’s sound,” Cozzi said.

“Also, it seems there’s more reaction to Moby than Bush. It should really be a great show.”

General admission tickets can be purchased at the Mustang Ticket Office. They cost $25 for Cal Poly students and $31 for non-students.

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SATURDAY, JULY 29 AT 8:00 PM

The California Mid-State Fair welcomes Blink 182 to the 2000 Budweiser Concert Series

Blink 182 is a wildly popular, pop-punkstar band from San Diego, whose infantile behavior attracts fans, but isn’t afraid to tackle issues of modern society. Frequent MTV performers and nationwide concert sellout, their current album, Enema of the State has spawned hits Adams Song, and What’s My Age Again. Tickets are available for $25 and $27.50.

COURTESY PHOTO
I Madonnari fills downtown sidewalks with chalk art

By Sarah Goodyear
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Art of all sorts will entice the senses this weekend in downtown San Luis Obispo when I Madonnari splashes color on Mission Plaza and surrounding streets.

Bright panels on concrete canvases will attract eyes at the ninth annual Italian street painting festival. Sidewalks will be divided into 200 squares that artists will fill with chalk drawings.

Chalk dust will fill the air as several local artists and students become madonnari, or street painters, keeping with a tradition that dates back to the 16th century. Early vagabond Italian street painters used to travel from town to town transforming village sidewalks into temporary galleries for their work.

The tradition continues annually in San Luis Obispo and in the village of Greizu di Cartoone, home to the international street painting festival.

While they draw, madonnari can listen to the music of the Merryweather Madrigals, the Latin jazz group Salson and the Three Corner Symphony. Refreshments will be available from Palisades restaurant and Coffee 'n Things.

Those who want to try their hand with the pastels can purchase 2-foot squares and a set of chalk for $6 during the festival.

The featured work for the weekend is by Chino artist Julie Kirk. Kirk will begin creating her piece based on Caravaggio's "Madonna de Loreto" Thursday and continue throughout the weekend. She will draw the 12-by-16 rendering of the Renaissance piece in front of the Mission.

"It's going to be interesting to see how it's rendered," project liaison Kathy Friend said. I Madonnari art can be seen on Broad and Monterey streets and within Mission Plaza. Admission and musical performances are free to the public.

All proceeds from artist sponsorships will benefit the Children's Creative Project, a nonprofit organization that provides art experiences to local schoolchildren throughout San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties.

"Because it's free, it allows the public to become involved in the arts, and that's how it should be," Friend said. "It's really about educating all of us about the arts. We shouldn't take those experiences for granted."

Visitors can view the art Saturday and Sunday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Uncle Beezus lays down fat grooves at SLO Brew

Everyone needs a small dose of soul jazz in their life. We're lucky we have Uncle Beezus around to administer that dose. For about a year and a half, Uncle Beezus (it's a band, not a person) has been improving its way through sets at bars and parties in San Luis Obispo.

Playing soulful instrumental jams with some jazzy vocals thrown in here and there, guitarist Brian Gleason, bassist Mike Price, drummer Steve Saturno and saxophone/vocalist Sarah Wheeler describe their music as soul-jazz-funk-R&B. They rip through covers by the likes of James Brown, John Scofield and Medoki Martin & Wood, all while adding their own original funkled-up parts to each song. For those guys, the groove comes first. Laying down the fat groove leaves plenty of room for improvisation, something Uncle Beezus does extremely well.

"We just try to feed off of each other on stage and communicate through the music," Gleason said. "At smaller places like the Frog & Peach, we feed off the audience, because we're right down there with them."

You can feel the energy at an Uncle Beezus show. Up on stage, band members love to toss solos back and forth, all the while trying to outdo and outshine each other. Bassist Price lays down the solid, bottom-heavy groove, and the train that is Uncle Beezus starts to chug along, gaining speed as it goes. Gleason and Saturno match each other's rhythms until Gleason launches into a solo that will make you sick with funk.

One of the key elements that sets Uncle Beezus apart from other bands is the group's sense of humor. Wheeler joined the band a couple months after they had already started playing.

"It all kind of worked itself out," Saturno said of Wheeler's induction into the band. "We were all talking about jamming with Sarah, and at the same time, she was looking to jam with us."

The core of Uncle Beezus has been set aside now, but there's talk of adding some more horns. And after jamming with a keyboard player at a party a few months ago, the band is looking for someone to hop on the Rhodes organ they have sitting in their rehearsal space.

Check out Uncle Beezus this Friday at SLO Brew at 3:30 p.m., and if you're lucky enough to be attending Wildflower next weekend, see them Friday night from 8 to 10 p.m.

Graham Hawsorth is a journalism student who hosts The Local Beat on KCPR 91.3 FM every Wednesday from 6 to 8 p.m.

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Their music is somewhat psychedelic in flavor. The group features guitar, bass, keyboard, and horns, similar to the Jon Spencer Blues Explosion, and the recent Sound System are a diverse indie-electric, horns said. "There's no in that aggressive marketing, music just-to-make-money thing," Corde said.

The entire festival is centered around environmental awareness themes and is held in conjunction with Friday's National Millennium Arbour Day. Throughout the day booths will be set up from local organizations to talk about the environment and trees will be available for planting. There may also be a creek walk at some point, as well as the possibility of vegan and vegetarian foods for purchase.

Circumstances kept EarthFest from happening in the last two years, but it was a yearly event in the early '90s. "EarthFest in 1993 featured well-known artists Beck and Green Day, and Corde believes that some of his favorite performers could be on their way to some major recognition as well.

Tickets, which of course are printed on recycled paper, are available at Boo Vox Records, the KCPR booth in the University Union and at the door. The afternoon and evening sessions each cost $5, or $10 for the full day.

Top artists rock free fair shows

By Monica McHugh
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

"Weird Al" Yankovic, Chubby Checker and Three Dog Night are just some of the many musicians who will perform on the California Mid-State Fair's free stages this year. "It's a great way to see a lot of entertainers that anywhere else you'd have to pay a lot more to see," fair publicist Carolyn Mason said. "We're very proud that we can offer these shows for just the price of admission."

Admission to the fair, held in Paso Robles from July 26 through August 6, is $6 for adults, $4 for youth and $2 for children.

Some other musicians who will be playing on the free stages include country stars Kenny Chesney and Ty Herndon, as well as rock group War. Herndon is on the country charts right now, and Mason said, "WAR is going to be huge."

"Yankovic, a Cal Poly alumna and the undisputed king of parody, is the artist currently drawing the most attention. "I would pay to see Weird Al," biochemistry junior Codi Cullen said. "I can't believe I can see him for free."

While most performers on the free stages will perform twice, Yankovic is only doing his show once. Mason said several people have already called asking about buying tickets to see the performer, and were amazed to learn that they can see him for free.

Chubby Checker came America the other day.

"Weird Al" Yankovic

Two Members of Three Dog Night. These groups will perform free at the Mid-State Fair.

U-WIRE - The sophomore jinx has ended plenty of promising musical careers, just ask Hoobastank and Bluefish, the Spin Doctors and Goo Goo Dolls. "It's a great way to see a lot of entertainers that anywhere else you'd have to pay a lot more to see," fair publicist Carolyn Mason said. "We're very proud that we can offer these shows for just the price of admission."

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"Weird Al" Yankovic

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U-WIRE - This just in: Elliott Smith is still sad. On his new album, "Figure 8," Smith has returned to what he does best, making emotionally rich music with sweet melodies.

Smith was thrust into mainstream America when his music filled Gus Van Sant's "Good Will Hunting," and "Miss Misery" was nominated for best original song. Fans wanted on the movie's soundtrack, "Good Will Hunting" but bashed at Smith's newest studio album, the rock edged "Figure 8.

"Figure 8," Smith does plenty of what Smith's soulful material, with enough rock instrumentation to keep it from drowning.

The album kicks off with "Son of Sam," a catchy pop rocker. The lyrics about the famous New York serial killer provide an interesting juxtaposition with Smith's cheerful voice.

On "Somebody That I Used to Know," Smith does what he does best - painting a heart-wrenching picture of a failed love. The acoustic guitar has Smith's familiar, deep, dull thunder voice, which he sometimes achieves by filing the body partially with dirt.

By the fifth track of the album, Smith becomes almost indistinguishable from melancholy with "Everythings Means Nothing to Me." The tune features similar themes as "The Beatles." "Because," which Smith covered for the "American Beauty" soundtrack.

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Letters to the editor

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

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

Mustang Daily encourages comments on editorial policy and university affairs. Letters should be properly signed and addressed to opinion@mustangdaily.calpoly.edu. They can be mailed, faxed, delivered or e-mailed to Mustang Daily, 956 Foothill Blvd. #B, San Luis Obispo, CA 93407.

Opinion

Editor,

'Home away from home' means more than reader thinks

Editor,

It seems the anti-greeks on this campus, including Samson Blackwell, should get their reasons for hating fraternities and sororities in order. Are we socially inept or are we exclusive cliques? Blackwell called having a "home away from home" superficial. Yes, it's possible to have a second home here at Cal Poly, but how many non-greeks can honestly say that the apartments and houses they live in are truly home?

Every greek on this campus has a house they can live in and come back to after they graduate. Every fraternity and sorority member has formed friendships that will last throughout their college careers and possibly their lives. These are important values that non-greeks should not trivialize.

Cal Poly's greek system is strong and it is absurd for Blackwell to assert that it is the administration's obligation to dismantle it. Maybe he should take some of his own advice and form his own social structure instead of criticising ours.

Xavier Lanier is Interfraternity Council Executive Member and member of Delta Sigma Phi.

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Editor,

As a member of the greek community here at Cal Poly, I have been offended and shocked at the amount of ridicule and contempt that has passed through your paper in the past few weeks. I am a firm advocate of free speech, but blatant ignorance should be overlooked, not published. The apex of my position was reached after reading an article by Samson Blackwell, who so prophetically denounced the whole greek system at Poly. Being an open-minded person myself, I believe strongly in the power of an education. So without further ado, I present the truth behind the myths, legends and generalizations that have been conjured up recently. Ladies and gentlemen, unravel the greek mystery!

I begin by posing a couple of questions. What group of people comprises 76 percent of our nation's senators, 70 percent of the top Fortune 500 executives, 71 percent of the men listed in Who's Who in America, all but three of the U.S. Presidents in the last century, 85 percent of student leaders nationwide? What do Martin Luther King, Jr., Johnny Carson, Neil Armstrong, Elvis Presley and Michael Jordan all have in common? Well, the answer to both of these questions is that they are all greek.

First and foremost, I would like to address the reason most people join a fraternity or sorority. Though most people would assume that we do so for a good round of hazing, the myth is just that. Most of us join for a sense of camaraderie that we may otherwise lack in a school of more than 16,000.

To quote Blackwell, "fraternities and sororities are exclusionary, supercilious cliques that only succeed in perpetuating the most Neanderthal and utterly backward ideals of humanity".

In the past year, my fraternity has donated its time to many great causes such as The Make A Wish Foundation, the Richard Neatheright Help Fund, SLO County Aquatics, Care 2000, local schools, YMCA, Special Olympics and even Cal Poly. We have also made donations to numerous worthy causes. If serving the local community with more than 1,800 hours of community service over one year is "Neanderthal", then count me in.

In fact count my whole fraternity in. Better yet, count the other 17 fraternities and six sororities on this campus who have a similar track record of service. Many people feel that greeks never walk out of their element. That is just another opinion. Here are the straight facts. Right now our ASI president and vice president are both members of fraternities. While greeks are less than 10 percent of the campus population, the other 90 percent of campus can't even throw together 20 candidates. Maybe the rest of campus should try stepping out of their element before they begin to begrudgingly accept the most active 10 percent of their student population.

Stewart Grilli is a physics junior and a member of Pi Kappa Alpha.
**Giants win fifth straight**

MIAMI (AP) — Before Wednesday's game, Florida Marlins manager John Boles lodged a good, natured complaint about San Francisco Giants' reserve outfielder Armando Rios, who had delivered the game-winning double the previous night.

"All that you do against us is hit doubles," Boles said.

That's no longer true.

A few hours later, Rios hit a two-out RBI triple in the 12th inning to help the Giants beat the Marlins 8-7 for their second extra-inning victory in 24 hours and their fifth win in a row.

Rios doubled home the tie-breaking run in the 11th inning Tuesday.

"When you don't play very much, it doesn't get any better than when you help the team win," said Rios, 7-for-21 (.333) this season with five extra-base hits. "I'm happy I got the chance."

While Rios was happy, manager Dusty Baker was relieved. His team won after blowing a 6-0 lead.

And Boles was livid. He held a team meeting after the game and chastised his players for poor execution, two missed signs and what he considers a complacent attitude by several players.

"I'm so angry I could spit nails," Boles said. "It's not good enough to come close."

The Marlins are perhaps baseball's most surprising team at 13-10, and Boles said several players considered a winning record good enough.

"I'm talking about a handful of kindergarten kids," he said. "I think we should be 18-5. You come out, you compete for nine innings and you hurt when you lose — or win."

The Giants' winning rally started when J.T. Snow led off the 12th with a single against Antonio Alfonseca (0-2). Pinch-hitter Calvin Murray took second on an errant pickoff throw and went to third on a balk. Bobby Estalella struck out to set the stage for Rios, who entered as a defensive replacement in the 11th.

Rios drilled a fastball from Alfonseca into the gap.

"You know he's going to come at you," Rios said. "You look for that one pitch and try not to miss it."

Florida's Matt Kozay hit a game-tying three-run homer in the ninth, depriving Livian Hernandez of his first win this season. Hernandez, back in uniform after a one-day work stoppage because of the Elian Gonzalez case, gave up 14 hits and three earned runs in eight-plus innings and remained 0-4.

"That's baseball," Hernandez said. "I threw the ball good today. I feel good every game, but I'm not winning."

Hernandez departed after Mike Redmond and Derek Lee singled to start the ninth. Kozay then hit his third home run off Robb Nen, who blew a save chance for the second time in 24 hours.

 Rookie Aaron Funke (1-0) pitched two scoreless innings for his first major league victory.

**HOKEY** continued from page 12

Competitiveness between the two teams only remains on the rink; the two teams are friendly to each other outside of competitions. Competition at the 32-team tournament, held in Florida, was fierce. The Michigan State Spartans came away as national champions for the second straight year, successfully defending their title.

"Almost all the teams improved from last year," Wallin said.

"We knew we would get to nationals for the season were high. There, we played every game like it was the championship game," he said. "When we do that, we can beat anybody."

The core of the team will remain intact, since only four of the 11 team members are graduating this spring.

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**Sports**

The Doctor is in: Rivers wins NBA coach of the year award

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — All things considered, Doc Rivers would rather have been somewhere else Wednesday.

The playoffs began without his Orlando Magic last weekend, and winning the Red Auerbach Trophy as the NBA's coach of the year didn't soothe the pain of being eliminated from contention in the next-to-last game of the regular season.

"I tell you, I would have loved to have been in Indiana receiving this award," said Rivers, whose team finished 41-41 but finished a surprising 41-41 but finished a game behind Milwaukee in its bid for the eight position in the Eastern Conference.

The Bucks meet the Pacers in Game 2 of their best-of-five, first round series Thursday night.

"Having said that, getting it is still nice ... If you look at our organization, we're absolutely headed in the right direction. As tough as that loss to the Bucks was for me and the players, it makes you want it more now. It makes you put a value on what it takes to get things done."
BARRINGER

continued from page 12

joint and drilled a hole in the bone to stimulate cartilage growth.

After the surgery, Barringer spent his sophomore season in rehabilitation to regain full range of motion in his arm. He said it was difficult not being able to play.

"It’s tough to watch," he said. "You want to be out there playing. I’ve been playing my whole life, and when you get an injury like that, it’s kind of a setback."

Head coach Ritch Price said he was really impressed with how hard Barringer worked to get back on the field.

"A lot of students would have gone through the surgery and rehabilitation process and then would have stopped playing," Price said. "What’s impressive is his dedication to the game."

Barringer was placed on a specific rehabilitation schedule that included weight lifting and a throwing program. He started playing catch at short distances and slowly increased the distance as his arm grew stronger.

"Once I started the throwing program, there were points where it was too much pain to throw, and I’d take a few weeks off," he said.

Price said he stuck to the rehabilitation schedule and didn’t rush him back onto the field. He said he wanted to prevent Barringer from any setbacks he might encounter, like further injury, so he was completely cleared to play.

Barringer wasn’t able to throw at the start of the season, so Price used him primarily as a pinch hitter and occasionally as the designated hitter.

When Barringer finally got a chance to start both games of a doubleheader against California Christian College on March 30, he responded with a pair of home runs. His name has been penciled in the starting lineup almost every game since then, and he has come far from simply stepping into bat for someone else.

"As he recovers, he has the chance to become a real impact player," Price said.

Barringer has started in 16 of Cal Poly’s 42 games this season and is hitting .329. His hustle has won the game in the lasting against the University of the Pacific, and his three-run home run against UC Santa Barbara, have helped the Mustangs get to within three and a half games of first place in the Big West as they make a run at a post-season berth.

If his arm strength continues to improve, Price said it would help the Mustangs because Barringer has one of the best arms on the team, and his greatest tool is his ability to throw.

Barringer said last year was a long struggle, but that it felt good to be out on the field again.

"A year off made me want to come back more and work harder to get back to where I was," he said.

Barringer has three home runs and 18 RBI since returning from injury.
Clutch return for Mustang slugger Jason Barringer

By Kara Knutson
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

On opening day his name wasn't in the starting lineup. It shouldn't have come as too much of a surprise, since his name hadn't been in the starting lineup in more than a year.

But, during the past month when the Mustangs have played as well as any team in the Big West, Jason Barringer has done more than get his name in the lineup—he's helping the Mustangs make a run at an NCAA Regional berth.

Not many people would endure surgery and a year-long rehabilitation process to continue playing a sport. The doctor's visit, the rehabilitation exercises and the doubt in the back of your mind whether you'll ever be able to play again can be a nightmare. However, that's exactly what Barringer went through this past year. Now his team is reaping the benefits, with Barringer's .316 slugging percentage and nine RBIs.

Barringer played baseball for the Mustangs his freshman year. He had a strong year and ended the 1999 season second on the team in home runs.

After the surgery, Barringer had exploratory surgery on his right elbow after injuring it from overuse. He said the tissue lining his elbow joint was inflamed and was getting caught in the joint. So doctors cleaned the see BARRINGER, page 11

Outfielder Jason Barringer has made a successful return after missing the 1999 season.

Rollerhockey finishes third at nationals

By Matt Sterling
MUSTANG DAILY ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Cal Poly's rollerhockey team finished third in the nation this season after falling to Colorado State 7-6 in rollerhockey's Final Four.

Defensiveman Chad Wallin said the team found itself looking toward a final game matchup against the Michigan State Spartans, but it underestimated the Rams.

On the way to the Final Four, the Mustangs defeated Texas Tech 12-1, Rochester Institute of Technology 5-2 and UC Santa Barbara 5-2. They also defeated both Miami and Becker, and tied Purdue in round robin play. The victory over the Gauchos was the team's second of the year. Cal Poly defeated them earlier in the season.

"A lot of teams were surprised that we beat UC Santa Barbara," Wallin said. "We didn't expect to play UC Santa Barbara before the Final Four," he said. "Overall, we were happy where we finished." Santa Barbara and Cal Poly are the strongest teams in the west region, and the rivalry between the two teams has been going on for several years. The Gauchos had the upper hand last year when they finished second in the nation. Yet the