Fraternity initiates oldest living alumnus

By Cynthia Neff
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

In a break from what many people consider to be the stereotypical frat life, the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity has shown that it participates in more than just parties, rush events and sports.

The members of the Pike house have held a different kind of initiation — one for a 96-year-old man named Clarence Chieza. However, when the Pikes "adopted" Chieza, they didn't realize just how special he was to Cal Poly. Chieza is considered to be the university's oldest living alumnus.

Chieza was born in San Luis Obispo, and he has stayed in the area his entire life. He attended Cal Poly in the 1920s, before it was an actual college. Back then it was a two-year technical and vocational school, where Chieza took agriculture-related classes like crop science and blacksmithing. After finishing, Chieza went to work in various jobs.

By Andrea Coberly
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Eight out of nine women will not get breast cancer. Those eight women will not feel their hearts pounding as they hear the doctor tell them the bad news. They will not feel the agony of the side effects, and they will not feel the pain of looking into the mirror and seeing a flat surface where one of their breasts used to be.

But one of nine women will experience the horrors of breast cancer, and Erin Wassum is not taking that fact, or any of her other research about breast cancer, lightly.

For her senior project, Wassum, a speech communication senior, has organized a fashion show, titled Romance for Rebels, tonight at The Graduate. The show's earnings will go to the American Cancer Society.

It was only after Wassum researched breast cancer that she realized what a serious illness it is and how widespread it has become.

"You never know when it will affect you," she said. "It does influence our age. It usually happens in older women, but someone you know has been affected or will be affected by breast cancer."

Wassum's idea for the event came when she decided to assuage her love for fashion with her speech communication major. Her plan was to present a fashion show as a type of non-verbal communication.

"I love fashion and I thought it would be cool to incorporate it into a fund-raiser," she said. "Fashion is so mainstream. Clothing says something about society, and what someone wears says something about them. There is an aesthetic beauty to it."

The fashion show, which will begin at 7 p.m., will include models dressed in clothes that have been borrowed from several shops in downtown San Luis Obispo. From Ambiance to Unity Works, the shops worked with Wassum on picking the clothing that would best embody the store's image.

"We wanted to choose the clothes that would best represent each store," she said. "We also wanted to give each model a specific image by adding accessories. It will be kind of different."

While the show is planned to last around an hour, the night will also include a silent auction for donations from various stores and wine tasting from 6 to 7 p.m.

Tickets are being sold for $10 at Boo Boo Records and $12 at the door. Wassum is hoping to raise around $2,000.

Funds will go toward patient services, cancer research and education, said Amanda Rice, community services director of San Luis Obispo's chapter of the American Cancer Society.

see SHOW, page 2

Lab brings experience to undergraduates

By Malia Spencer
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Monica Britton is working on her senior project. She is working on changing the genes of yeast so that plants can help clean up pollution in natural habitats.

Britton, an environmental horticulture senior, doesn't consider to be the stereotypical frat girl.

"I used to be in a fraternity, but I realized what a serious illness it is and how widespread it has become," she said.

For her senior project, Wassum, a speech communication senior, has organized a fashion show, titled Romance for Rebels, tonight at The Graduate. The show's earnings will go to the American Cancer Society.

British environmental horticulture science senior, doesn't perform her research in a secret off-campus lab, but in the Fisher Science Center lab.

"Our committee chairs are really on the ball and the staff is full of enthusiastic individuals. This is sure to be another successful Western Bonanza, especially with all the features for undergraduates, said Peter Jankay, professor in the biological sciences department.

The Undergraduate Biotechnology Lab (UBL) was brought to Cal Poly three years ago as a result of roughly $400,000 worth of grants, including the Cal Poly Plan Grant and a National Science Foundation Grant, Jankay said.

With the university's emphasis on hands-on learning, Jankay said he thought it was important that the school bring this lab to the students.

"Hardly anything in today's society is not affected by biotechnology, so it is important to expose people to it," Jankay said.

The access undergraduate students have to the UBL is what differentiates it from similar labs at other universities, Jankay said. Most labs of Poly class plans livestock show

By Nadea Minia
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Fourteen awards were given out Friday, February 15, 2002, at the Western Bonanza press release.

Heather Daykin, chair of the public relations committee, said that 60 percent of the students want to be part of the class. No experience is required and freshmen and sophomores can both be a part of it since it is a lower-division class. Exhibitors will be involved in such events as a livestock knowledge contest, a scholarship award, and a photo and design contest.

The 350 exhibiters, students from various cities across California are held for students ages 9 to 21 to compete in different categories with animals.

The show has evolved from being exclusively a cattle show to exhibiting three different species. Steers, hogs and lambs are a few of the animals that are part of the show.

The show is sponsored by a Western Bonanza with special thanks to the University and Western Bonanza donors.

"We have a great group of students this year," said professor Wendy Hall. "Our committee chairs are really on the ball and the staff is full of enthusiastic individuals. This is sure to be another successful Western Bonanza, especially with all the features for everyone from spectators to participants to enjoy."
show continued from page 1
society
rate said that this fund-raiser is especially meaningful because of how fashion relates to women with breast cancer.
"When women go through the treatment, they lose their hair, they lose their eyelashes," she said. "They try to mini
mite the effects with fashion. This helps them to feel comfortable, and people around them feel more com
fortable."
The American Cancer Society will have a table set up at the fashion show to answer questions and to give
out information about its services.
"Cancer doesn't care how old you are and we want to make that
change," rate said. "We want our community to put us out of business."

biotech continued from page 1
this type is only used by graduate students, he added.
The UBL has two components that make it accessible to students.
First, there is a stationary lab that is located on the third floor of
the Fisheries Building. Everyone who needs to do DNA finger printing is located in this lab, Jankay said.
Second, there is a mobile lab that allows equipment to be wheeled from one department to another. For
instance, Jankay said that while a class in the biology department is working on one step in the process of
DNA fingerprinting, another class somewhere else on campus can simultaneously work on another step.
The department "recognized that biotechnology couldn't be stationed in one lab and still be readily avail
able to students," Jankay said.
Cal Poly's UBL also contains a $113,000 DNA-sequencing machine, with undergraduate research and education as its primary function, Jankay said.
All this equipment enables Cal Poly students to gain a better understand ing of biotechnology, Jankay said.
"We feel we are setting the bar for other institutions (to follow)," Jankay said.
Britain is one of many students who have been able to gain essential experience from the UBL.
"All my research has been done in Dr. Jankay's lab," Britain said in an e
mail interview. "I did my senior pro ject (in the biology department) instead of in the horticulture depart
ment because the resources I needed were only available in the biology department, so the UBL was essential to my work."
The lab has been used to train more than 15 faculty and 25 graduate students on the equipment, Jankay said. These people in turn help other students with their work.
"We want to promote undergraduate research," Jankay said. "This facility provides the equipment and the expertise."
For the most part, Jankay said student s really enjoy using the lab and conducting the types of research they see on TV or in books.
Non-biology majors are also encouraged to use the lab, so it has been incorporated into introductory biology classes. In Biology 111, students isolate their own DNA to iden tify the presence of a certain gene. The pictures of the students' DNA fingerprints can be found hanging outside the UBL.
"It is important that society be somewhat science-literate," Jankay said. "That's what education is sup posed to do and that is what Cal Poly is doing."

adoption continued from page 1
occupations including a meter-reader, a laundry truck driver and a bartender in the liquor business, where he stayed for 40 years.
Because Cal Poly did not gain col legiate status until 1947, Chieza never actually "graduated" from the school, but he still considered to be the old
est living alumnus. He now has a new title, though: Honorary Grandfather of Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity.
Chieza now lives at The Munroe on Mars, a senior assisted-living home. Marketing Director Susan Stewart said the fraternity approached The Munroe's executive director last year with the "novel" idea to adopt an honorary grandfather. The executive director in turn suggested Chieza for the adoption.
"No one has ever approached us before (with this idea)," Stewart said. "And (Chieza) was set in his ways since he's kind of a loner ... he really benefited from (the adoption)."
Chieza isn't the only resident to profit from the fraternity's community outreach program. During their most recent visit to see "Grandpa Pike," 10 fraternity members spent time with Cheza and four other Munroe resi dents.
"It works better to have other men there," said Steve Johnson, the fraternity's community service chairman. "Then there aren't 10 of us trying to talk to just Grandpa Pike."
The fraternity members have paid him two or three visits in the past year. During these visits, they listen to life stories, look at photographs and play poker with Cheza and other residents.
Johnson said the program "wasn't really anything" last year, and the plans to step up the number of visits from biannually to semimonthly.
"(The fraternity members) have responded the most to (the program)," said Johnstone. "It also gives us more community service hours."
But Johnson said he didn't dedicate himself to this program to give the Pike house a better name.
"The guys actually enjoy talking to (the residents). We hear their war sto ries and their experiences (from a different culture)," he said. "They've witnessed it all. We want them to know that we're interested, we're listening, we respect where they've been and what they've done."
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Mustang Daily

National & International News

Friday, February 15, 2002

19 injured in series of NY hit-and-runs

NEW YORK — Nineteen people were injured in a series of hit-and-run accidents in Manhattan that started Tuesday afternoon. Police are searching for the driver of the Bighorn Regal with New Jersey license plates.

The man driving the car hit three people in a crosswalk at 34th Street. "He came flying down 34th and took the corner hard," said a witness. "I saw two people fly up into the air.

A police officer stopped the vehicle, but as he approached, the driver took off and proceeded to hit five people at five intersections, said police Capt. Dennis DeQuatro.

As the car approached West 17th St., it struck a group of students from Liberty High School.

The car was found abandoned on 17th St. Its windshield had been shattered. Police did not identify the driver but believed he fled on foot.

One of the victims was a 12-year-old girl. Authorities said the worst injury appeared to be a broken leg. Seventeen of the victims were hospitalized.

— Associated Press

FBI: Beware of Teddy Bear Bombs

SANTA CLARITA — Hundreds of police agencies in the Southwest and Salt Lake City have been put on alert by the FBI for possible Valentine’s Day teddy bear bombs.

The FBI was given an anonymous tip that a man, 22-35, who was possibly Middle Eastern, purchased 14 canisters of propane, 12 packages of BBs and nine 20-inch Valentine’s Day teddy bears on Jan. 15 at a Walmart just north of Los Angeles.

The purchase was harmless, but the items could be assembled to form BB guns, according to the FBI.

In 1995, Saeed was arrested in Pakistan for kidnapping Westerners.

Anyone can own "Snoop De Ville"

LOS ANGELES — Although Cadillac has said it has no plans to issue a special line of cars called the "Snoop De Ville," as previously reported, one of the customized vehicles can be purchased through the Memphis Cadillac dealer that Snoop Dogg collaborated with.

"We think that the fact that Snoop Dogg chose a De Ville to personalize shows you that if you want to make a statement, you choose a Cadillac — and add some extra things to it, to really make it yours as a personality," said a spokesperson of the company.

Roderick Harvey, who worked with Dogg and Cadillac Of Memphis to personalize the car, maintains that others can purchase their own Snoop DeVille. "The car will be sold to whoever wants to buy the car," Harvey said.

"Several people have already placed orders for the car, including Puff Daddy and Ja Rule," Dogg said.

Dogg was supposed to have debuted the Snoop DeVille at a pre-Super Bowl party in New Orleans, Harvey said.

According to Harvey, the car is valued at $80,000. Customized features include mink seats, 17-inch chrome rims, three televisions, two DVD players, a surrond with controls in the back seat, a navigational system, and a logo spelling the rapper’s name while also incorporating the image of a dog.

— LAUNCH.com

International Briefs

Middle East

KARACHI, Pakistan — Officials remain confident that kidnapped reporter for the The Wall Street Journal, David Pearl, is still alive.

But Ahmed Omar Saeed Sheikh, a British-born Muslim militant whom has admitted to kidnapping the reporter, said that he believes Pearl is dead.

Sheikh, 27, appeared in court Thursday. Police bearing machine guns surrounded him. He was formally charged with kidnapping and ordered jail for two more weeks. He has a history of kidnapping Westerners.

Sheikh gave no details on where or when the reporter was allegedly killed. On Wednesday, Saeed had Pearl said Pearl was still alive.

"Until the body is found we cannot believe what Omar is saying," Interior Minister Moinuddin Haider said.

Police said that Saeed surrendered on Tuesday, but while in court, Saeed said that he had been in police custody since Feb. 5. No explanation of the discrepancy has been given.

The head of a citizen-police liaison, said that he believes Pearl is still alive.

— Associated Press

Africa

ROODEPoRT, South Africa — The Sparrow Rainbow Village, a village to house and care for people living with AIDS, officially opened on Thursday in Roodeport, South Africa. Nearly 300 politicians and local celebrities attended the ceremony.

The village plans to be able to care for 450 people, including 100 children. Some will live in igloo-like structures on the village while others will receive care in their own homes.

"In the coming years we are going to need a great many more villages like this," said the founder of Sparrow Ministries, which started the village.

The village, close to Johannesburg, South Africa, was built with donations from the South African and U.S. governments and private companies. It replaces an overcrowded three-bedroom house

Friday, February 15, 2002

Are you going to be homeless Spring Quarter 2002?

...Then come see what

Valencia

Student Apartments has to offer.

*Private Bedrooms *GPA Discounts
*Computer Lab *Fitness Center *Heated Pool
*Rental Rates for Spring 2002...$550 - $525 per month
555 Ramona Drive, SLO 543-1450
We have rooms available now and starting Spring Quarter!

Where are you working this winter?

Like all the colleges, CLA is examining an academic fee for 2002 and beyond!

Learn more and give your opinions!

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

CAL POLY

Like all the colleges, CLA is examining an academic fee for 2002 and beyond!

Learn more and give your opinions!

February

Tuesdays

Monday

19th

25th

Open Forum for the College and Fee Proposal(s) @ GRC Bldg 26, Room 106
Open Forum for the College and Fee Proposal(s) in Mott Bldg, Room 205

2:10 pm

4:10 pm

By Saurabh Chaturvedi and Ferdinand Miranda

300 staff needed to serve in a ministry that will challenge 15,000 campers this summer to surrender their lives to Christ.

contact Kiri Akina at (559) 335-2000 x214 for interview info!

— Mustang Daily contribut-

or Anne Guiford,
Cinema

The actual damage of ‘Collateral Damage’

By Chrystal L. Anderson

Mustang Daily Staff Writer

A normal day, a big explosion and chaos. Professionals walking around in burn-splotched suits, bodies covered with short white cloth, and doctors using every tool to help innocent victims and who are consumed by horror. The opening scene of “Collateral Damage” could be seen on every TV station from Sept. 11 to Sept. 18. The fictitious Los Angeles was an eerie reminder of the streets in New York City and Washington, D.C.

The striking similarities to Sept. 11 caused Warner Bros. to postpone the movie’s October release until Feb. 8. Schwarzenegger’s character was also changed from a CIA operative to a firefighter, at his request. Arnold Schwarzenegger’s powerful physique provides him with the necessary presence to portray the foremost man whose wife and son are killed in a Colombian Liberation Army terrorist attack. Schwarzenegger then uses good old-fashioned American vigilism as a way to avenge his family.

The journey to Colombia includes a few unscripted scenes, as do most of Schwarzenegger’s films, including the science fiction thriller “Total Recall” and spy thriller “True Lies.” “Collateral Damage” director Andrew Davis had a few of his own unrealistic stunts in his big box office hit “The Fugitive.”

The amazing death-defying stunts do not seem as entertaining after the reality of Sept. 11. (The movie portrayed things that most Americans now know are completely impossible to accomplish in the wake of the World Trade Center tragedy.)

The mantra for the terrorist parallels that of the U.S. government’s search for the perpetrators of the Sept. 11 attacks.

Booming from the background, the secretary of state declares, “We will find who is responsible.”

Film critics claim that the movie portrays Colombians as only drug-running terrorists, according to USA Today online.

“It is discriminatory against Colombians,” said Rev. Brian Jordan, a Franciscan priest who ministered to workers at ground zero. “The sins of the few should not be inflicted on the rest.”

However, the most frustrating part of the movie is that it fails to show, in a clear-cut way, how vigilism solves nothing. If the families of victims of terrorism took matters into their own hands, the end result would be mass chaos, with American citizens running around Afghanistan trying to invade Osama bin Laden’s terrorist network, complicating our government’s job.

I do not think that America is ready for Hollywood’s parallel to the reality of Sept. 11, but apparently, Schwarzenegger is.

“I think people want to get into the minds of the people who do this kind of thing,” Schwarzenegger said in a USA Today article. “And they want to see Americans kick their butts.”

There is no doubt that Americans win in “Collateral Damage,” but the movie does not explore what Schwarzenegger had hoped for. Ultimately, it does not probe the minds of these diabolical criminals — it only alludes to their psyche.

Assessing the “damage” was a little difficult considering that actor’s voices were low and the background noise was loud. I am not sure if the theater was at fault or the studio was, but I was constantly asking, “what?”

If a movie is going to have some detailed foreshadowing, the audience should at least be able to understand.

“Collateral Damage” debuted at No. 1 this weekend with a total gross of $15.1 million, according to www.online.com.

Schwarzenegger has not headlined a true hit since the mid-90’s when “True Lies” opened with $25.8 million and “Eraser” debuted in 1996 with $24.5 million, according to the site.

It’s anybody’s guess at this year’s Oscars

By Sean McCarthy

Daily Nebraska (U. Nebraska)

(U. WIBS) LINCOLN, Neb. — This year, Oscar is stuck with no sentimental favorite to vote for in almost every category. For Best Picture, there is no “Goliath,” type front runner to beat, and “America’s Sweethearts” cast Julia Roberts out of the Best Actress pool.

The Oscar race is wide open this year.

Look for “A Beautiful Mind” and “The Lord of The Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring” to square off for the Best Picture award. The only problem is each film has a major weakness the Academy typically considers.

“A Beautiful Mind” has elements the Academy loves — one man’s struggle with a debilitating illness (schizophrenia), a character with almost unworldly talent and a solid performance to back up all the drama.

Only problem is, much like last year’s “The Hurricane,” “A Beautiful Mind” has been criticized for its omission of key details of John Nash’s life (the man “A Beautiful Mind” is based off). It should be said the movie is a dramatization and not a documentary, but the criticism the film has been racking up may hurt it come March.

“The Lord of The Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring,” has something even more debilitating: It’s a fantasy film. Much like “Star Wars” and “E.T.,” “The Lord of The Rings,” is masterfully directed and well-acted, but for some reason the Academy chooses only to reward these cinematic masterpieces with token Visual Effects awards.

Speaking of token awards, the Academy felt it could get animated films away from Best Picture consideration by giving them a category all to themselves. Storks to be “Shrek” — the green ogre will have to lay the smack down with “Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius” to get a statuette.

You would think the Academy would at least nominate Richard Linklater’s round marvel “Waking Life” instead of “Species,” but they decided to play it safe. In terms of injustices, the biggest losers from Tuesday’s nominations have to be Christopher Nolan’s “Memento” and Gene Hackman in “The Royal Tenenbaums.”

“Memento” was regarded in many critic circles as the best film of the year. Unfortunately, the biggest nomination it got was for Original Screenplay. And for what seemed to be a mere formality of stencilling Hackman’s name into the Supporting Actor statuette, the Academy shamed him for his role in “The Royal Tenenbaums.”

John Cameron Mitchell, who gave arguably one of the best performances of the year in “Hedwig and the Angry Inch,” was tossed out of the Best Actor competition by his fellow castmates.

Another pleasant surprise was the nomination of Daniel Day Lewis to Best Actor. “The Hours,” is not a movie one would call an Oscar contender. It should be said the movie is a dramatization and not a documentary, but the Academy chose to ignore all that.

“The Lord of The Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring,” is masterfully directed and well-acted, but the movie is a dramatization and not a documentary, but the Academy felt it could get animated films away from Best Picture consideration by giving them a category all to themselves. Storks to be “Shrek” — the green ogre will have to lay the smack down with “Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius” to get a statuette.

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One of the strangest decisions the Academy made was a litigious “Damatie” was a literal “knees-up” of the season. The “Lord of the Rings” franchise passed the movie directed itself because Baz Luhrmann was not nominated for his directing skills.

In another turn that will hopefully be a sign of things to come, two black actors. Will Smith (“Ali”) and Denzel Washington, (“The Pianist,”) were nominated for Best Actor and Best Actress, respectively. Both performances saved the movies they were in, Washington, should edge out Smith in this category.

With no clear-cut favorite in the five major categories, you shouldn’t put too much money in the office pool this year. In a rare occasion, the Academy Awards, talent should be awarded token sentimentality when it comes to judging who should get the statuettes.
“Through Dr. Tom Fowler (Architecture), I met with Darrick and began observing his inter­action with the ImmersaDesk. I watched him work and learned what commands he needed to use,” says Chou. Working closely with McCormick, she designed an interface to accommodate his spoken commands. She enlisted fellow computer science student Michael Abraham to implement the design, which he did with Java Speech software running on top of Microsoft Speech.

After several refinements, the project evolved to allow McCormick much greater control of the ImmersaDesk environment.

“If employers were able to purchase such a system it could maximize their investment by providing an easier interface to use for virtual reality,” says Fowler. At his advice, Chou tested it with able-bodied students, as well. “They thought it was great,” Chou says. “I assumed they would find it clumsy, but that wasn’t the case at all. The benefit is that an employer can spread the cost of investment in such a system over many employees. It can increase their effi­ciency, as well.”

“I got a lot out of the experience,” says Chou. “It makes you appreciate what you have. Also, the experience of working with a client, determining their needs, implementing the project, compromising with a developer...it was an invaluable experience.”

Chou says her 485 class did more than inspire her senior project. “I’m very interested in virtual reality and user interface design now,” she says. “I now know that I don’t want to just sit and code all day. I like working with people, more along the lines of a project manager. It would be great to know that my work is benefit­ting people, the way this has helped Darrick,” she concludes.

New Device To Aid Motorcycle Riders
Robert Reisinger’s friend and fellow motorcycle enthusiast, David Joinville, is a carpenter who recently purchased a Harley Davidson motorcycle. Soon after, however, a work related accident severed three fingers on his left hand at the knuckles. Although his doctors were able to reattach the fingers, Joinville’s use of the hand would always be limited. He knew he would no longer have the strength to use the motorcycle’s clutch; he also suspected that Reisinger, a lecturer and graduate student in Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering, had the engineering skills to find the solution to his problem.

Motorcycles and engineering have been a integral to Reisinger’s life. Once a professional motocross racer, he “retired” at the tender age of 23, then came to Cal Poly to earn a bachelor’s degree in Engineering Technology (now Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering) in 1988. After graduation he worked in industry, lectured at Cal Poly, and developed and sold a successful bicycle manufacturing company. He is now a student in Cal Poly’s masters program in Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering while also lecturing in the area of computer numerical­ly controlled (CNC) programming, tool design, and material removal processes.

Reisinger gladly accepted the challenge of designing a device to reduce the strength need­ed to squeeze the clutch from the normal 27 pounds to as little as one or two pounds. He involved his IME 591 class, Integrated Product Development, in the project. They uncovered a growing segment of the market that needs help operating a motorcycle clutch. For example, they discovered that women are increasingly buying Harleys, while aging baby boomers remain enamored with the romance and status of owning a Harley. Additionally, these motorcy­cles are frequently driven in parades, requiring frequent shifting between the lower gears. For many riders, an easier to operate clutch would be welcomed.

Reisinger says that “a rider depends on the feel of the clutch to effectively operate the motor­cycle,” so his goal is to maintain a sense of connection with the motorcycle while allowing the user to adjust the amount of assistance needed for any given situation.

“The state-of-the-art rapid prototyping capacity we have at Cal Poly is a real benefit,” says Reisinger. “We can make a prototype faster and more accurately. This type of work would have taken much longer just a few years ago.”

He says he plans to use the flexibility of CNC to configure his device to fit on a variety of motor­cycles.

The company that bought Reisinger’s bicy­cle manufacturing business recently hired him as Director of Research and Development, so he’ll be pulling up stakes to move to Portland, Oregon. He says he’ll continue development of the Power Clutch, for his friend and for the rest of “easy riders.”
C onsider: Your lifestyle today was the stuff of science fiction 30 years ago. Today, you wake up to music, microwave a cup of hot tea for breakfast, turn on your digital cable or satellite TV, and log onto the Internet to check for email. You drive to school in a car with a keyless door lock and power windows, security alarm, CD sound system, air bags, and anti-lock brakes. Walking to class you receive a call on your cell phone. In class you open your laptop computer to take notes (you also watch DVDs on this five-pound wonder). You check your wireless Palm Pilot and read email from a friend.

Clearly, the future is now — and much of it has been brought to you by engineers and computer scientists. National Engineers Week (Feb. 17-23) celebrates the role of engineers in creating the future and offers an opportunity to show a new generation of students the incredible variety of engineering career choices available.

"We've got great stuff going on during N.E.W. — great outreach," notes N.E.W. commissioner Bob Little. I'm especially excited about our Club Fair at Farmer's Market next Thursday and the spectacular 'Be An Engineer' outreach program by the Society of Women Engineers," Andrea Massie, SWE's director of Outreach, explains that the group is coordinating hands-on engineering presentations to fourth graders at five or more local elementary schools. "That's about a 300 kid " she says, "and we have about 75 to 100 Cal Poly students participating in an event that I know will spark the imaginations of many future engineers."

Check the schedule in this publication for a complete list of National Engineers Week activities, including Free McPhee's, the Career Symposium, the MEP Awards Banquet & Corporate Social, Evening With Industry, a Fireside Chat with CENG Dean Peter Lee, and a host of forums to discuss the future of the college and a proposed academic fee increase.

Monday, February 18, 2002
- Poly's "P" Becomes an "E"
- Tenaya Hall Shows Its Colors: the engineering dorm decorates for NEW

Tuesday, February 19, 2002
- National Engineers Week Kickoff: Free at McPhee's
- National Engineers Week T-Shirt Sale

Wednesday, February 20, 2002
- Be An Engineer!
- SWE Outreach Program Hands-on activities at local elementary schools
- National Engineers Week T-Shirt Sale
- CSC Student Academic Fee Open Forum

Thursday, February 21, 2002
- CE/ENVE Student Academic Fee Open Forum
- Tenaya Hall Main Lounge
- "P" Becomes an "E"

Friday, February 22, 2002
- National Engineers Week T-Shirt Sale
- AERO Student Academic Fee Open Forum
- Engineering Club Fair Farmer's Market, downtown San Luis Obispo
- Career Symposium Rec Center

It isn't just full-fledged engineers who make a difference in our lives. Engineering students right here at Cal Poly are working with industry to produce innovative products that will benefit thousands in the future. Here are some examples.

Engineering Students Designing An Environmentally Friendly SUV

What do American's prefer in automobiles? Answer: light duty trucks and sport utility vehicles (SUVs), accounting for over half of all new cars sold in the United States today. But SUVs, unfortunately, have poor gas mileage and higher exhaust emissions than passenger cars. That's why a team of Cal Poly students is exploring ways to produce a more energy efficient SUV that generates fewer emissions while continuing to meet customer demands for safety, performance, functionality and comfort.

The team is competing in the FutureTruck 2002, a four-year program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy and Ford Motor Company that brings together the resources of industry, government and academia in a cooperative effort to address important environmental and energy-related issues posed by the growing demand for SUVs. Mechanical Engineering faculty members Brian Higgins and Chris Pascual jointly advise Cal Poly's multi-disciplinary team of almost 50 students, including majors in aeronautical, electrical, environmental, and mechanical engineering, as well as in business and marketing.

Selected to be among 15 top North American universities working to re-engineer a conventional, mid-size Ford Explorer into a cleaner vehicle with at least 25 percent better fuel economy, Cal Poly is the newest contestant in the...
FutureTrack competition. "We made the cut because of our reputation for our unique new design, past experience with competitions, and our famous, hands-on, 'learn-by-doing' approach," said Andrew Johnson, the team's marketing manager.

Ford provided each of the 15 teams with a 2002 Ford Explorer as a project vehicle, along with $10,000 in seed money. Cal Poly's team will convert their Explorer into a series hybrid electric vehicle (HEV). Their approach integrates the power and efficiency of a 300 HP AC electric motor with the range and convenience of an advanced combustion engine. The electric motor will be powered by a generator run by a converted 1.9 liter diesel turbo Volkswagen engine utilizing state-of-the-art Homogeneous Charge Compression Ignition (HCCI). This solution will raise efficiency while virtually eliminating harmful nitrogen oxide emissions. The engine will run on Ethanol 85, a renewable fuel source made from corn. Team leader Ryan Hoest says, "Cal Poly FutureTruck provides our members with experience in the practical use and implementation of cutting edge technologies in areas including electric drive technologies, electrical design, component interaction, system durability and production. This is the kind of team-oriented problem solving we'll experience in industry. It's a big challenge, and lots of fun, too."

Students will also get experience in fund raising. According to Hoest, the team already has over $40,000 in cash grants. "However, we need at least $100,000, so we're constantly fund raising while working on the project." For information about supporting the team, email Hoest at rhoest@calpoly.edu.

The Cal Poly team plans to have a functional vehicle ready for competition soon. Kevin Kendrick (Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering) is helping USS Posco develop a better system for manufacturing steel framed residential housing. Kendrick's senior project is helping USS Posco optimize their current manufacturing processes.

"I didn't think the CAD (Computer Aided Design) program they were using was best for them," Kendrick says. "The main area I saw for improvement was the flow of information from the architect's drawings to the manufacturing process. They literally had to take the architect's drawings and re-enter them into the computer, which would then direct automated equipment to cut the steel. Kendrick researched and recommended new software and ways of implementing it to drive the automated manufacturing process more efficiently. He says the reaction of USS Posco to his work has been positive. According to Kendrick's project advisor, Assistant Professor Kurt Calvin (IME), "If this project is successful, residential steel-framed houses will be built much faster and significantly cheaper than traditional wood-based methods."

Chris Bowles, who graduated from IME in June 2001, was also enlisted by USS Posco to help in another area of residential housing. "They saw steel stud design as mimicking wood construction methods, not just in assembly, but also in manufacturing," he says. "They wanted to start with a blank page and develop a whole new approach to construction. Posco gave us the opportunity to look 10-15 years down the road. They knew there was a better system out there and they came to us to find out how to use the steel sheet."

Bowles' project, part of a team effort, involved manufacturing and using specially designed steel sheets rather than studs as the best-cost approach. "This method greatly reduces the assembly time, and has shipping advantages," he says.

Both students spoke highly of the opportunity to work on projects that they felt offered a real benefit to society. Students in the College of Engineering and the College of Architecture and Environmental Design continue to explore ways to integrate steel framed residential and commercial buildings into our lives. Describing their work, Calvin says, "Not only does this project provide our students excellent real-world experience, but the potential benefit is the ability to manufacture more affordable housing for those in need."

TeamTechDesigns "Foot Mouse" for Surgeons

Imagine you are a surgeon driving a robotic surgical system. You operate robotic instrument controllers that seamlessly translate your hand movements into precise, real-time movements to manipulate tiny scalpels, scissors, forceps, clamps and suture needle tips inside the patient's body. You view your work through realistic 3-D images generated by a high-resolution camera. You use your hands and feet in unison to control...
From right, Carolyn Candido (Computer Engineering) and Frances Palomar (Electrical Engineering) are developing a "foot mouse" to give more functionality to the da Vinci Surgical System, a minimally invasive surgical system.

The da Vinci (tm) Surgical System Photo reproduced with permission of Intuitive Surgical, Inc. (C) 2002, Intuitive Surgical, Inc. All rights reserved.

speech recognition aids architecture students

sometimes, the hardest part of a senior project is finding a good topic. Often, the inspiration can come from unexpected places. Take computer science student Shirley Chou, for example. While pondering her senior project, Chou was enrolled in CSC 485, User Centered Interface Design and Development, a class jointly taught by Associate Professor Erika Rogers and Lew Hitchner (Computer Science). "I was searching for an interesting, cutting-edge and rewarding senior project and really didn't know what direction of computer science I wanted to pursue," says Chou. "I soon found out about Darrick McCormick, a quadriplegic architecture student at Cal Poly. Although unable to move below his neck, he has been able to pursue his dream of becoming an architect due to virtual reality software and special hardware, known as "ImmersaDesk," made available to him through a collaborative effort between the College of Architecture and the Computer Science Department."

With the ImmersaDesk, McCormick could navigate through the computer simulations of his architectural designs. However, he needed someone else to control the mouse and keyboard for him. His other option was to blow into a mouthpiece, which simulated a mouse. McCormick suggested a speech recognition interface would give him independence and the ability to more efficiently navigate through his virtual models.

The interface redesign team is working in three groups: mechanical, electrical and software design. They plan to complete a prototype by June and will continue refinements to be ready for the national competition held in Detroit, Michigan in October. The team hopes that the software they contribute value to Intuitive's system and may be protected by patent filings.

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To increase ease of use and functionality of this interface, members of Cal Poly's Society of Women Engineers (SWE) took on the challenge of redesigning the footswitch interface as their entry in the 2002 Boeing Team fierce competition. The Team Tech competition was established in 1992 by SWE with sponsorship from the Boeing Company to emphasize the key role of teamwork and collaboration with industry in the engineering educational process. A dozen members of Cal Poly's team, led by team leaders Carolyn Candido (Computer Engineering) and Frances Palomar (Electrical Engineering) are working with Intuitive Surgical as it looks toward adding more functions and controls, without increasing complexity.

Computer Engineering professor and student advisor Art MacCarley is the team's advisor. The interface redesign team is working in three groups: mechanical, electrical and software design. They plan to complete a prototype by June and will continue refinements to be ready for the national competition held in Detroit, Michigan in October. The team hopes that the software they contribute value to Intuitive's system and may be protected by patent filings.

Speech Recognition Aids Architecture Students

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Making a Difference continued on page 4
"Rollerball" remake needs more skate speed

By Sarah E. Thien

SURE, SOME STREETS have a bunch of stop signs. You might even think they're there to reduce travel speed, but they're not. Here's the scope:

CALIFORNIA ROLL

- Stop signs are installed to establish right-of-way at intersections.
- The city installs stop signs at an intersection only after carefully evaluating existing conditions to determine that installation is appropriate to improve safety.
- Stop signs reduce the number of broadside accidents.
- Stop signs are often installed to prevent vehicle, bicycle and pedestrian accidents where they've occurred in the past.

Come to a complete stop.

Cinema
Friday, February 15, 2002

Rebecca Romijn-Stamos and Chris Klein star in "Rollerball," a remake of the 1975 film of the same name.

CORRECTED PHOTO/WWW.MOVIEWEB.COM

COURTESY PHOTO/WWW.MOVIEWEB.COM

Rebecca Romijn-Stamos and Chris Klein

In the Bedroom
Innocence

Local Showtimes
Fremont
Collateral Damage (2:00), (4:45), 7:30, 10:10
Hart's War (1:45), (4:30), 7:15, 10:00
Return to Navar Land (2:30), (4:30), 8:30, 10:45
The Royal Tenenbaums (2:30), (5:00), 7:40, 10:20

Downtown Centre 7 Cinema
A Beautiful Mind (12:30), 6:30
Big Fat Liar (11:45), (2:00), (4:30), 6:30, 9:15
Black Hawk Down (12:20), (3:45), 7:00, 10:40
A Walk to Remember (1:45), 6:30, 10:00
I Am Sam (1:15), (4:15), 7:15, 10:20
Crossroads (12:00), (2:30), (5:00), 7:30, 10:00
Rollerball (11:30), (4:00), 8:20
Gosford Park (12:15), (5:15), 7:45, 10:45
Super Troopers (1:15), 7:15, 10:15

Sunset Drive-In
Amelia 6:45, 9:15
Innocentia 4:15
In the Bedroom 4:00, 6:45
Lantana 4:00
Donnie Darko 9:15
Monstar's Ball 7:00, 9:15

Palm Theater
Amelia 6:45, 9:15
Innocentia 4:15
In the Bedroom 4:00, 6:45
Lantana 4:00
Donnie Darko 9:15
Monstar's Ball 7:00, 9:15

Mustang Daily
A school is only as good as its students. And, since a university draws many of its students from the high schools in its respective state, one could argue that a university is only as good as the high schools feeding into it. California is home to some of the best public high schools in the country. In nationwide rankings, Silicon Valley Community College consistently rank near the top when it comes to common measures of student achievement.

Therefore, one could argue that the CSU system has access to some of the best students in the country. After all, when it comes to churning out college-bound students, quality suburban schools such as those in Silicon Valley and elsewhere are traditionally the top producers.

However, such an argument only sheds light on part of the issue. There is no denying that many of the best schools in the country are in California, but California is also home to some of the worst. For every school that ranks near the top when it comes to common measures of student achievement, there is another school that ranks near the bottom. There is evidence and forms of belief (check out Wall Street Journal, the LA Times and any number of other well-respected sources) to support the claim that there is a definite connection between high school performance and university performance. The program includes mentoring for inner-city and alternative-certificated teachers. The university has also identified 177 high schools that are at the bottom and even more that are average at best. These are also the students entering the CSU system every fall.

In 2000, approximately 45 percent of the 33,822 freshmen entering the system needed remedial math classes, according to a Feb. 10 Associated Press report. The number was even higher for those needing remedial English courses, at 45.5 percent. At Cal Poly, the numbers have been slightly lower, perhaps due to the heavily math-oriented curricula of the College of Engineering, the university's largest.

But this does not change the fact that the numbers are too high and that far too many students are entering the university unprepared. It is for that reason that CSU Chancellor Charles Reed has earmarked more than $200 million per year for programs aimed at improving K-12 education. Reed credits the heavily math-oriented curricula of the College of Engineering, the university's largest.

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It is this cooperation that is crucial to the success of these students. By increasing its presence in underserving districts, the CSU can help administrators in these districts design programs that better prepare their students to be successful.

By identifying the problems and their source, the university will be able to better prepare students for college...
History project fleshes out the meaning of Jim Crow

By Lonnice O'Neal Parker

(WIRE) NEW YORK — The nearly 130 folks in a multiracial crowd at Harlem's Studio Museum want to talk. From the balcony, a guy wants to know if any states still have segregation-era laws on the books and, if so, whether they can still be legally enforced.

Fourth row, a young man is anxious to talk. "Oh, they would play the music and dance. And their way of life, I think they were happier than the white people. To me this was wonderful, you know," he tells them. "Some white people, they were worried sometimes about losing their land or trying to make things go, you know, they were the leaders. But the black people, nothing bothered them."

Kate Ellis, a white anthropologist who collected histories for the oral history collection at Duke, interviewed Laveaux and others. The audience wants to know: Was it tough interviewing across racial lines? "I still find there is profound segregation in how the history is presented," Ellis tells them. "The whites are passing down their interpretation and their lived memories and the blacks are passing down theirs. These conversations are not taking place across racial lines."

Historian Raymond Givens heads the Duke collection of more than 1,300 oral histories on segregation, a project called "Behind the Veil." Ninety-three of its stories were used in "Remembering Jim Crow," a sequel to 1998's "Remembering Slavery book and documentary. According to Givens, current debates like the 2000 contested presidential election, school re-segregation, poverty and underemployment all have roots in Jim Crow segregation. In the ability to acquire, sustain and pass on wealth and power, there are historical gaps left by race.

Beginning in 1993, Duke graduate students, along with others from North Carolina Central University, Jackson State University and other Southern schools, formed out of 10 Southern states to interview people who had felt the brunt of Jim Crow. There are other significant oral history collections, telling of civil rights activism at Howard and Columbia universities, Southern culture at the University of Mississippi and the University of North Carolina, and black people's experiences at Jackson State and Delta State universities. But "Behind the Veil" is the most comprehensive collection from regular, working-class blacks.

“We thought this collection should be grounded from the perspective of the people who got the kick in the ass,” Givens says.

Oral history has been used to powerful effect in documenting a wide variety of experiences. In 2002, Congress established the Veterans’ Oral History Project, a national effort to compile stories from former war veterans for permanent storage at the Library of Congress. In 1994, Steven Spielberg established the Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation to record the story of every Holocaust survivor.

When talking about controversial public policy matters such as school re-segregation, Gary Orfield, a professor of education and social policy at Harvard University, disputes the notion of Jim Crow history as static. "The same family forced off the farm was the denial of the opportunity to live in the kind of neighborhood whites would live in and go to the kinds of schools whites would go to," he says. "They came to the city with no capital. They weren't allowed to buy a suburban house when they were cheaper and couldn't accumulate wealth. They face job discrimination, their kids go to inferior schools and have negative peer groups." The ripple effect can last for generations.
Coach asks Oregon fans for restraint
By Peter Hockaday
OREGON DAILY EMERALD

That's the message being conveyed by Oregon head coach Ernie Kent, who is trying to get his team out of the rut that started when Southern California head coach Henry Bibby ripped Oregon's students for taunting him during the Ducks' most recent home game.

Directly after hearing Bibby's comments, Kent said, "I don't know why that would be said," and avidly defended his Pit Crew's actions. But upon further reflection, Kent said he wants to make sure the students keep the intensity he loves without disrespecting opposing coaches or players.

"We can still be the most dominating home court not only in the Pac-10, but also in the country yet do it in a very respectful and courteous man to our visitors," Kent said Wednesday. "It's important for the students to know that, because we need them to be successful.

Kent said he felt somewhat assaulted by the media, who used his harsh comments in many stories the next day.

"I said this is an awesome crowd, this is a dominating crowd, and that's all that was in the papers," Kent said. "At some point, I'm doing something stupid if I'm even at that time, I said. 'As long as they handle themselves the right way, very respectfully,' that's all I said. I think that that's where the media jumps in that I think that's wrong for the media to do that.

Kent said he "has a put a call in" to Bibby after reviewing the tape of the game. Kent also wrote an e-mail to the Pit Crew that stressed his point.

"The next three home games are crucial in order for the Ducks to win the Pac-10 championship and advance to the NCAA Tournament," Kent said in the e-mail. "We've seen the best of the Pit Crew to be loud and dominant, but at the same time let's be respectful of our visitors."

UC Davis is lugging slightly behind the Mustangs with a 4-2 record in conference and 9-7 record overall. The meet with Davis will conclude the Mustangs' regular season and determine their standing as the team heads into the Pac-10 championships and possibly the NCAA championships. Cal Poly is 14-0 in dual meets this season.

Cal Poly's 174-pound senior, Steve Strange, earned an 11-1 win over Fresno's Brett Moore on Wednesday night. This match sets the team up to a 10-7 record in conference and possibly Big West Player of the Year.

"It was an emotional roller coaster," said Cal Poly head coach Lucio Jenkins in a news release. "We lost one we should have had at 33-5 and fourth nationally. Last year, Haymon came in first at the Pac-10 NCAA qualifiers. Leading UC Davis with five games left in the season, it's an important match.

"Last year, they had some guys go out nationally, but they have the upper hand because of our strong seniors," Ybarra said.

Davis beat Stanford University in its last meet, 22-15. The Mustangs feel prepared, Ybarra said, because they had a win of 25-18 over Stanford three weeks ago.

Saturday night's Pac-10 conference meet is also Senior Night for the Mustangs. The team will honor four graduating seniors: Charles Sandlin, Dan Lebray, Haymon and Strange.

Men's basketball hits the road; UCSD up first

UCSD sports information report

The men's basketball team will travel to UCSD (4-8, 8-5) this Saturday for a 7 p.m. game. Both Cal Poly and UCSD are tied for third place in the Big West Conference standings. The Mustangs have won five of their last six games since a 74-67 loss to the Gauchos back in Jan. 19 at Mott Gym. Varnie Dennis leads the way with 15.5 points-per-game while Brandon Beeson is averaging 12.2 pgp and 6.6 rebounds-per-game.

The Mustangs will be thinking ahead to the Big West Conference Basketball Tournament, to be held March 6-9 at the Anaheim Convention Center Arena, right next to Disneyland.

Students hoping to watch the tournament can meet at the Cal Poly Fan Headquarters, which will be at the Hyatt Regency Orange County. The Hyatt is within walking distance to the Convention Center Arena and Disneyland. A special $99 rate for Cal Poly fans has been set aside if reservations are made by Feb. 20.

For more information, call the Cal Poly ticket office at 1-866-GoStamps.