Conference changes the status quo

By Courtney Witt

Issues such as sexual orientation, diversity and volunteering will be addressed at the "Change the Status Quo: A Student's Role in Shaping Society" conference Feb. 28 and March 1.

"Being White and Wanting to Help" and "Taking a Stand, Speaking Out: Making Education a Safe Place for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender" are two of the many workshops that will be featured at the conference.

Along with the workshops will be slam poets and speakers.

British senior Haley Myers, Women's Center supervisor, began working on her workshop "Feminism: The F-word" at the beginning of fall quarter.

Her advice for people attending is to take the workshop and apply it to their own lives.

"I want people to gain a sense of empowerment to try and change things on campus," Myers said.

The panel's purpose is not to give a definition of feminism but to give people a better understanding about how to change societal standards, she said.

"We want to give people the resources, knowledge and people to change things," Myers said.

About half of the available spots are already taken.

One of the features of the conference is slam poetry, the art of performance poetry by Rachel Kann and Raegan Fox.

"We want to give people the resources, knowledge and people to change things."

Haley Myers

English senior

Kann has been performing her poetry at venues all around the country for the last few years. She went to the National Slam Finals in Seattle in 2001 with the Long Beach Slam Team.

Myers watched Kann perform last year.

"I have seen slam poetry before and it can be pretty lame, but she was really captivating," Myers said. "She talked about risky issues but she wasn't cliché about it."

Myers said she was also impressed with Kann's ability to present emotions such as love.

"She had a way of talking about love so passionately with so much energy," Myers said. "It made you want to listen to her."

Fox is a gay spoken-word artist. He was a member of the 2000 and 2001 teams that represented the city of Austin, Texas, at the National Poetry Slam. His short poem, "In the Back," was featured in the 2001 National Poetry Slam finals.

Business junior Pedro Viquez is attending the conference because of the speakers.

"I try to attend any conference or event when they bring in outside speakers," Viquez said. "Along with the two poets, nationally known as the bookstores that have a monopoly on this area," Wilson said. "The site allows students to communicate via e-mail to negotiate the lowest price possible for the buyer while still getting the highest price for the seller. According to the most recent see BOOKSTORES, page 6

San Luis Obispo's battle of the bookstores are not the only ones fighting for convenience and low cost. Screw the bookstore.com, has reinvented the way many Cal Poly students buy and sell books by allowing them to do it online.

Founders Ben Wilson and Kirk DeClark are giving students new options for their textbook purchases. Students can negotiate prices for buying and selling books online.

By Courtney Witt

Screwthebookstore.com creators Ben Wilson (left) and Kirk DeClark are giving students new options for their textbook purchases. Students can negotiate prices for buying and selling books online.

Aida's and El Corral Bookstore are not the only ones fighting for customers in the textbook market. San Luis Obispo's battle of the bookstores has a new combatant.

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EKRAH KENT/MUSTANG DAILY

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Founders Ben Wilson and Kirk DeClark worked for three months to develop the site and expect it to expand tremendously because of its convenience and low cost.

"We're not inventing the wheel here, but we are giving the students a real alternative to buying their books at the bookstores that have a monopoly on this area," Wilson said.

The site allows students to communicate via e-mail to negotiate the lowest price possible for the buyer while still getting the highest price for the seller.

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EGGING

continued from page 1

assaults, other clubs and organiza-
tions are doing their best to make stu-
dents aware of diversity issues and con-
cerns.

"The Multicultural Center, along
with other student groups, has rallied
to support of the GLBU," said Ken
Barclay, director of Student Life and
Leadership. "We want to ensure that
all students' rights are respected at this
university.

Last week, members of minority stu-
dent organizations met to discuss ways
to create more awareness around cam-
pus and with the administration about
discriminatory behaviors. A 24-
hour camp-out in front of the adminis-
tration building last Thursday and
Friday helped get their point across.

"Many students care about diversity
issues, but it's on the backburner,"
political science senior Ruby Moe said.
"I think we definitely got the attention
of the administration and building the
students.

Over the course of the 24 hour
protest, numerous community mem-
bers and students stopped by to offer
the campers food, warm drinks and
tools of encouragement. Among those
were Cal Poly President Timm
Baker. "I'd let us know things can't happen
overnight, but they're working on it," he
said.

Moe said.

Each visitor received a list of
changes the group would like to see put
into action by the next academic year.

Among those changes would be to
implement a Bias Response team, to
adhere to and uphold the university's
Zero Tolerance policy in discrimina-
tory matters and to increase monetary
support from the university to clubs
and organizations that encourage
diversity and multiculturalism.

"It is very commendable that
many students have been supporting
the GLBU through this," Barclay said.
"I have a lot of faith and respect for the
students at this university.

Heimbach said she believes the
egging incident has helped unite the
campus.

"I think it's making everyone a lot
stronger," she said.

As some members fear another
attack, the police insist that the Cal
Poly campus is a safe place to be.

"I hope (GLBU members) feel com-
fortable and safe here," Warner said.
"The campus is safe. A couple individ-
uals acted irresponsibly. That is just a
handful of students."

Anyone who has any information
regarding the egging incident is encour-
aged to contact UPD at 756-
2281.

Summer in Mexico

Spanish Language Immersion Program

General Information Meetings

Wednesday, February 26, 6pm
Buinses Administration and Education Bldg. (022), Rm. 113

Thursday, February 27, 11am
Erbart Agriculture Bldg. (10), Rm. 221

For further information, contact:
Dr. Gene Martinez, 756-3889, e-mail gmartinez@calpoly.edu

Dr. William Matteson, 756-3889, e-mail wmatteson@calpoly.edu

Continuing Education at 756-2323, e-mail continuing-education@calpoly.edu
http://www.continuing-ed.calpoly.edu/travel/mex.html

Cahuenncaca Institute of Language and Culture

Cerritos-located this summer: June 23, June 30, July 7, July 14, July 21, July 28, August 4, August 11, August 18, August 25
Cerritos-located this winter: December 19, January 2, January 9, January 16, January 23, January 30

Costs:
Intensive Program: $3,810 (Cerritos), $4,510 (Summer in Mexico)

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Mustang Daily

National/International News

Monday, February 24, 2003

National Briefs

Mustang Daily

have armed guards.

proposed biodefense lab, which would never have escaped from the

board investigating the Columbia dis-

runaway was disease-free — the center with no known cure, such as the Ebola

research center that the university says would supply animals to the proposed

California medical research lab, han­

would study the world's deadliest dis­

try from bioterrorism.

National Briefs

Powell vows alliance with South Korea, discusses North Korea with Japan's Koizumi

TOYOKO — Secretary of State Colin Powell acknowledged wide­

spread anti-American sentiment in South Korea and said Sunday the

United States will have to do a better

job of demonstrating the benefits of

the alliance between the two coun­

tries.

Winding up a 24-hour visit to

Tokyo, Powell told a news conference there are South Koreans who do not remember the half-century history of

U.S.-South Korean ties.

The alliance "created conditions for

solid economic growth over the years that has brought South Korea clearly into the

camp of democracy," Powell said.

"They have benefited greatly from this

alliance." He added that there are "always

issues and challenges in a relation­
ship that is certain in the case of

South Korea, but I think the relation­

ship certainly remains strong," Powell said.

Now that the heat has been turned on.

President Bush's effort to assemble

broad support for a possible war on dis­
am Iraq, both leaders are forcefully standing their ground, and the ques­
tion is whether either will blink.

With such proclamations as "Nothing today justifies war," Chirac's

international popularity has soared as his nation to take what it feels is

allow his nation to take what it feels is

its rightful place on the world stage.

Like a svelte, Chirac is suddenly rising now that the heat has been turned on.

Yet setbacks do fall, and his remarks that the countries of Central and

Eastern Europe should just "keep

quiet" may be like the slamming of an

door. Proclaiming himself a defender of

peace, he is leading the opposition to President Bush's effort to assemble

broad support for a possible war on dis­
am Iraq. Both leaders are forcefully standing their ground, and the ques­
tion is whether either will blink.

South Korea and said Sunday the

French president relishes role as

leader of global opposition to

U.S. military action.

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Opinion

Jackson: Not a molester, but not all there either

There are three things I miss about the 1980s: "Saved by the Bell," the Man and Michael Jackson. Sure, Michael is still around, but he is far from the one-eyed wonder I fell in love with back in the summer of '89, after seeing "Man in the Mirror." Must from a cassette player at a friend's backyard pool party.

The Michael people see today is the one who invited British music critic Martin Bashir, who spent eight months living with Jackson, into his world to interview him. The result - a two-hour ABC special that aired Feb. 3 in Britain and Feb. 6 in America, drawing 15 million British viewers and 27 million American viewers inside Jackson Michael's own realm.

The show revealed the singer to be a man with a weak grasp on reality. Essentially, his heart is in the right place, but his mind is not.

He is not a child molester, yet he is severely debilitated about what proper conduct with a child means.

Bashir asked Jackson, "It really seems appropriate for a 44-year-old man to share a bedroom with a child who is not related to him."

The singer replied, "The most loving thing to do is to share your bed with someone."

"What's wrong with sharing the love?" Michael fired back at Bashir. "You don't sleep with your kids, or some other kid who needs love."

Jackson, working as a slightly 12-year-old talking about pajama parties, went on to explain that his sleepovers include cookies and milk, lullabies, bedtime stories and sleeping bags.

Jackson's inability to comprehend basic realities, one being that men should not have slumber parties with children who aren't their own, is due to the fact that he is surrounded by people who tell him exactly what he wants to hear. Bashir witnessed the infamous baby-dangling incident and was shocked that no one had ever mentioned it to him, for fear he was surrounded by people who tell him exactly what he wants to hear.

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When someone asks, "How are you doing?" when you're not doing too well, it's as if the question is a demand. You should never have to ask for the other person's welfare.

During the inquisition, it emerged that Jackson did not mention his 12-year-old sleepovers in his will. He specified he wanted family members to take care of his children, with the court lottery to be used as a tie-breaker, if necessary.

In his eyes and his voice - two features that have remained unchanged - the old Michael, the cute and cuddly kid who charmed us all with "Rockin' Robin," the sparkly-socked superstard who moonwalked our way into their hearts; that Michael was most evident when watching him. Bashir speculated that Jackson "relies on the fame that his associates have built up, and he maintains many of the same characteristics of a child - ignorance, selfishness and innocence.

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Opinion

More letters to the editor

ASS needs spending caps, reform

Editor,

The vast majority of students probably have no idea what the ASS Board of Directors (BOD) is or that it even exists. The BOD passes resolutions for the most part, saying it agrees or disagrees with administration. Last year we passed a resolution saying Cal Poly should keep the quarter system. We also changed the election process so that ASS president and vice president run together and the chair of the board is elected by the BOD.

The reason I am writing today is to express my disappointment with the current BOD on the issue of campaign finance reform. We are a university with less than 20,000 students and our student government needs campaign finance reform. It is sad but true. Last year, over $150,000 was spent by the eight people running for president and vice president of ASS. Currently, there are no spending caps.

Last winter, a committee was formed to look into reforms. The committee chair was Jake Parnell and the committee never met. A few weeks ago the BOD drafted a finance reform resolution. However, instead of taking this action, the year 2001 BOD determined it did not have enough information and sent the issue to committee. It is unfortunate our current ASS student leaders have not taken responsibility for this issue.

I'm sure thousands of dollars will be spent again this year on campaigning. I know most of us like free stuff, but is that really what we should base who we get elected on?

Wendy Martin is an environmental engineering graduate.

Class sizes shouldn't get bigger

Editor,

Congratulations to Professor Hood, Forohar and O'Keefe for their comments regarding the detrimental effects of increasing class sizes in the CSUL system next year ("Costs mean larger classes for CSLU," Feb. 13). As pointed out, the faculty did just this during the last "budget crisis" back in the early 1990s. Not only were class sizes never to go back to original sizes when the state economic situation returned, our teaching budgets (the fraction that makes it to each department and is directly related to teaching) never increased significantly. Haven't we learned some lessons from this history?

For more and more students per class, each faculty member is telling the state that it can spend as little as it wants per student and we will just take it. These faculty must realize that they are not solving the problem; instead, they are allowing the causes of the problem to continue to fester.

Faculty need not feel guilty for keeping class size the same - the same as before the cuts, moreover, in Sacramento and Long Beach. Only when students and parents complain about accessibility and quality will these folks listen. We know historically they don't. But the DGA story is clear - every time the price of gas goes up, student enrollment decreases significantly. Haven't we learned some lessons from this history?

By accepting a workload increase, faculty will send the wrong message to students and their parents. We run this business like a business and we are still willing to teach under any conditions - not beyond it.

A. Ju.Ba, Ph.D., is a physics professor.

Oil is expensive regardless of location

Editor,

It seems like every time the topic of Bush's reason for a war on Iraq comes up, I have to hear about how it inevitably has to do with "saving our buddies" make more money with less oil. But could this really be the reason for war? Let's face it: Iraq oil is not the reason for our war with Iraq. There are many, many more important reasons to keep our soldiers out of Iraq, but could it be that they are not as important to us as the money in the pocket of our government? But is a war with Iraq worth it? You could say that it makes good economic sense. We need oil for transportation and we are paying $3 to $5 a gallon for gasoline these days. We have to make sure our oil doesn't run out, and we have to get the price of the petroleum we use out of our pocket. Until Americans can cut use of oil and bear the burden of the cost of American oil, don't expect the problems in the Middle East to go away. We can't afford to get rid of oil; no amount of wind, solar or nuclear energy will ever be enough to sustain us. But until we are able to accept the fact that the middle-class country's involvement in the Middle East will end.

Religious scare tactics don't go far

Editor,

This is in reply to Jonathan Dow's letter ("Christians act out of love to teach others," Feb. 13). ABEF: You mean since I am not a Christian, I am doomed to eternal hell and苦楚? Even if I live like a saint? Well, that makes a lot of sense. Thank you for the enlightenment! I need to go back to my animal sacrifice now.

I don't usually make fun of other's religions, but in your case I make an exception. I think that you right now that I am not a Christian, which you probably figured out, but I am a Jew. Know what that means? I believe in the same God you do. I have what's called 'a relationship with God.' However, I respect others' beliefs since although I believe there is a higher being, I do not know FOR certain for this, that is impossible (unless you've met Jesus or God personally, of course). Until I do know, I will be open-minded and allow everyone to have their own view, as long as it doesn't hurt others - which yours does.

Now I also ask that you put yourself into someone's shoes, a non-Christian. Imagine having to deal with insults toward you and your religion daily, to be denied and have others tell you that your God isn't the 'right' God, but instead Satan. Doesn't feel very nice, does it?

Do you honestly think scare tactics are the best way to convert?

Rebecca Levin is a theatre sophomore.

New ideas needed in letter to editor

Editor,

Personally, I am sick and tired of reading the same stupid or pointless arguments going on week after week in this section. I turn to your section loyal day after day to read about what matters to the people, and I am disappointed day after day because I don't want to read another letter about who gets the rights to abortion, or why war is good or morally very, very wrong.

Do people just write to you on anything else than those top-notch issues? If not, then fine, I'll read about someone's opinion on abortion next week again! Every once in a while, someone presents a very well thought out, real written argument or thought about the political, social, economic, or what have you. But other than that, most people's plagiarized "opinions" are just fillers for the time I have waiting for class to start.

So, maybe if I am not writing to you, I am writing to the student body as a whole ... new ideas, not an opinion you heard or written about a thousand times over in an English or speech class.

Katherine Conklin is a biochemistry sophomore.

Liberals are dragging the country down

Editor,

The philosophy of liberalism has it roots in many great accomplishments throughout U.S. history. We can usually character the progress made during the Civil Rights era as a liberal accomplishment. Throughout our history, liberals have always been there to defend their citizens when their civil liberties were violated. One can make a strong case that the founders of this liberal thought process were philosophers like Thomas Hobbes and John Locke, who comprised writings that influenced the very individual freedoms we have today. These founders of liberalism were men that despised tyrannies and were consistently making references that NO PERSON should live under tyrannies.

Consider this: Why is it that liberals today, specifically liberal peace protesters, find themselves defending the current conditions in Iraq? They believe that we should not go into Iraq, and that the conditions the Iraqi people are forced to live under are suitable. For if the Iraqi people are not living in tyranny, then there is no need for war.

For those people who don't know what I am talking about, Iraq does not have a bill of rights, they don't have the freedom to express themselves, they don't have a freedom to associate and when they vote there is only one person on the ballot and that man is named Saddam Hussein. The biggest problems with liberals in opposition of the war is they think that they have abandoned the most important thing: History.

Justin D. Kaechele is a political science senior.

Liberals wrong about foreign policy

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Letter policy

The above letters were received before the 250-word limit was strictly enforced. Mustang Daily reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, redundancy and length. Letters to the Editor of Mustang Daily Please limit length to 250 words. Letters should include writer's full name, please member, major and class standing.

By fax:
(805) 756-6784
By e-mail: MustangDaily@gmail.com
Letters must come from a Cal Poly email account. Do not send letters as an attachment. Please send the text in the body of the email.

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Mail will not be printed unless you submit it in the correct format.

Monday, February 24, 2003

Mustang Daily
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The event will feature various workshops with international topics such as the role of women, the force co-op and permanent employment opportunities. Weigard said the conference is open to the public and all students are welcome, but its focus applies primarily to students going into business, said business senior Whitney Market, executive director of the conference.

"We're mainly focused on the international aspect of business and bringing awareness of how globalization affects the business world," Market said.

Those interested in attending the event can register for $5 at a booth in the business breezeway today through Friday.

Weigard said the event provides Cal Poly students a chance to increase their cultural awareness and foster different ideas, especially considering the lack of diversity at Cal Poly.

For more information, go to icc.calpoly.edu.

BOOKSTORES
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numbers, there are close to 1,050 registered users who have books posted or have purchased books through the site.

Civil engineering senior Ryan Ferguson said he appreciated the Web site after he purchased two books at the beginning of this quarter.

"It's about time there is something like this," Ferguson said. "The Internet is accessible to practically everyone now, and it is a whole lot easier than waiting in line at one of the bookstores."

After purchasing a book, students must coordinate where to meet to do the exchange. Ferguson chose to meet one student at the dorms and the other at his apartment.

"It's completely up to them to decide where they want to meet," DeClark said. "Obviously there are weirdos out there, so we suggest meeting on campus during the day. If they are common sense there shouldn't be a problem."

Liberal studies sophomore Jill Rockway received one response after posting her books on the site.

"The guy that responded back to me didn't want to give me the price that I wanted," Rockway said. "I told him that I would just sell the book back to the store. He got angry but I never heard from him again."

On the site, the only exchange of information needed is an e-mail address. Students can decide whether they want to give out more information than that. There are suggestions located on the site to guide students with selling and safety tips.

Patience is important when posting books and expecting to get a response back right away, DeClark said.

"Most people want to sell their books during finals week and buy during the first week of school," DeClark said. "It takes a little time between there to wait, and a lot of students feel uneasy about doing that."

Although the concept is not altogether new, ScrewthebookstoreS.com will radically change the way Cal Poly students buy books, DeClark said.

"We created a site that allows students to do the negotiating themselves," he said. "Our goal is to get 50 percent of the students using the site. With that many users, students should be able to buy the books that they want."

Wilson and DeClark worked together to develop and create the site, but it was Wilson who got the idea to launch it. He heard about another student who attempted to do the same for his senior project at another university.

"We launched the site because we were tired of the bookstores always ripping students off," Wilson said. "We started the site since students to pay a lot less for their books."

Wilson graduated from Cal Poly last spring with a degree in business. DeClark graduated from University of California, Davis, and majored in economics and communications.

"It is fun to have the satisfaction of our own company," DeClark said.

The site was recently expanded to other universities. DeClark and Wilson created a link off ScrewthebookstoreS.com for more convenient use.
Softball

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 Jamal Howell took the loss against Kansas, surrendering five hits in 3 1/3 innings. The Mustangs collected three hits but committed three errors in the game.

Tucker collected the third hit.

The Mustangs shut out Utah 4-0 behind a seven-hit shutout by Eva Keen (2-2), who walked one and struck out five.

Spurrey went 2-for-3 with one RBI.

On Friday, the Mustangs lost in the tournament opener 6-0 to Kansas, but bounced back to defeat Utah 4-0 in the nightcap.

Jamie Gelhart took the loss against Kansas, surrendering five hits in 3 1/3 innings. The Mustangs collected three hits but committed three errors in the game.

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The Mustangs shut out Utah 4-0 behind a seven-hit shutout by Eva Keen (2-2).

Nelson walked one and struck out five to pick up her second win of the season.

Junior Ross Spurrey went 2-for-3 with one RBI in the game.
**Poly avoids sweep**

By Graham Womack

**MUSTANG DAILY CONTRIBUTOR**

The skies above Baggett Stadium may have been foggy and overcast, but Cal Poly finally came alive Sunday afternoon.

Playing with renewed vigor and determination before the home crowd, the Mustangs rallied to beat the Loyola Marymount Lions 3-1 and salvaged an otherwise disappointing weekend.

Freshman Garret Olson (1-0) picked up the first win of his college career, pitching three scoreless innings in relief. He surrendered only three hits, walked one and struck out three.

Freshman Righty Olson (1-0)

It was a big thing for us," lefty Scott Anderson said. "We played a lot harder today as a whole ball club.

Anderson hit the RBI single that put the Mustangs up 2-1 in the bottom of the sixth. Still, he didn't win supreme praise from Lee.

"Adam Herz was the guy today," Lee said.

Hersch got the start after Friday's starter Bret Berglund was absent to attend to private matters.

"I got my shot and made the most of a rare start, going 2 for 4 with two RBIs, including a run-scoring triple in the top of the eighth that solidified the game. The Mustangs had grabbed the lead two innings earlier in a two-run sixth.

For Cal Poly (7-7), it was the first win of a frustrating weekend against LMU (5-5). Sunday's triumph followed consecutive close losses, 5-4 on Saturday and 11-9 on Saturday. The Mustangs threw away a 5-0 lead Friday night and never recovered after falling behind 10-1 after five innings of Saturday's game.

The Mustangs mustered just two hits and recorded three strikeouts, came in after the rain in the sixth to relieve starter Andrew Gelbart as the California State University BakersfieldUnit Tournament final.

Gelbart allowed only three hits, walked one and struck out three batters in his three-hit shutout for the Mustangs in the two-hit shutout for Cal Poly.

The Mustangs in the two-hit shutout for Cal Poly.

"They're a good team," Lee said. Cal Poly took the field Sunday after a pre-game lecture from Lee about hustling more and better respecting the game.

"It was a big thing for us," shortstop Scott Anderson said. "We played a lot harder today as a whole ball club.

"You can't really say an early-season game is a must, but today was kind of a must for us," coach Larry Lee said.

Cal Poly fielded the game. After a pre-game lecture from Lee about hustling more and better respecting the game.

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