By Ashley Wolf

ASL leaders prepare for cuts

Last year's budget cuts saddled reserves dry. This year's budget cuts will turn Cal Poly's coastal oasis into a desert.

During the 2002-03 fiscal year, Cal Poly's budget was cut 10.6 percent, but colleges, services and other groups used money in reserves to help counteract the effects of the budget crunch. This year, Cal Poly is expecting another 8 to 10 percent cut from the Chancellor's office, and Associated Students Inc. is anticipating the damage.

"This is going to be big," ASI president and civil engineering senior Alison Anderson said. "There are going to be people affected this time.

The university is brainstorming ideas on how to cut costs in departments and services on campus. Ideas include eliminating summer school beginning this year, cutting departments and majors, increasing class sizes and offering fewer classes overall.

see ASI, page 2

Ag conference held today

By Amy Kocot

This year marks the 15th anniversary for the National Agriculture Ambassadors and the ninth annual National Agriculture Ambassadors conference.

The team-building event is meant to unite college. Last year 500 students participated from 45 colleges and universities and helped conduct workshops.

The three-day conference begins today with orientation for participants coming from out of town at the Sands Motel. It continues through Saturday, providing workshops, breaks and mixers for participating students and advisers.

Agricultural business junior and participant Jonnalee Henderson attended previous conference and said she thinks they are helpful.

see AG, page 2

Events Calendar

List of upcoming activities on campus

What: Open House 2004. All clubs must attend a mandatory information afternoon meeting.
When: Today, 11 a.m.
Where: Bldg. 3, Room 213
More Info: Contact the Open House committee at open-house- clubs@calpoly.edu or call 756-7575.

What: "RACE — The Power of an Illusion, Episode 1: The Difference Between Us," The film will be shown as part of We're In This Together Week.
When: Today, 7 p.m.
Where: UIU, Room 216
More Info: Call Charlene Rosales at 756-6749.

What: Statistics Colloquium. Statistical Consulting is an Ill-Conditioned Problem. Charles McCulloch, head of the division of biostatistics and vice-chair of the department of epidemiology and biostatistics at University of California San Francisco.
When: Today, 11 a.m.
Where: Bldg. 16, Room 220
More Info: Call Carol Erickson at 756-2709.

What: Benefit Art Show. Artwork by architecture students will be on display, celebrating student creative outside of the expected realm of architectural design.

see EVENTS, page 2

Students address assault

By Anastasia Killham

The largest group yet gathered Wednesday for a "Soup and Substance" luncheon focusing on issues pertaining to sexual assault and rape.

"Sexual assault is not just a woman's issue if 90 percent of perpetrators are men it should be a societal issue," Jill Lemieux, SARP Center representative.

About 50 mostly students gathered in an informal setting to discuss and gain insight about sexual assault.

The "Soup and Substance" forum was designed to inspire discussion about issues relevant to campus life.

The high turnout for this event shows that this is an issue which needs to be discussed, said Mark Fabioun, coordinator of multicultural programs, who helps organize the luncheons.

The gathering was held in the east wing of Chumash Auditorium and was led by Jill Lemieux from the Sexual Assault Recovery and Prevention Center.

Film event benefits SARP

By Anastasia Killham

The Palm Theatre is offering its premier showing of the movie "Girl with a Pearl Earring" to benefit San Luis Obispo County's Sexual Assault Recovery and Prevention Center.

There are only a handful of tickets left for the event, which is taking place Friday. Due to strong community support, center fund raiser, the event did not require a large amount of promotional activity, theatre manager Jack Connery said.

"The SARP people have a very wide backing," he said. The first showing, at 6:30 p.m., has already sold out. The $25 ticket

see ALARM, page 2

The call of the alarm

By Thomas Atkins

After more than 100 years of annoying alarm clocks' shriecches piercing the morning air, clock manufacturers are trying to make mornings more peaceful by giving the operator the option of waking up to more tranquil sounds.

However, this is an option that many college students say they will probably never use to. After years of waking up to the radio or the good old fashioned sound of BEEP, BEEP, BEEP, many say they are set in their morning routine.

Yet, after exploring several aides full of various brands and sizes of alarm clocks, students may want to start their morning schedule off with something new. I investigated four appliance stores within San Luis Obispo's Madonna Plaza to compare prices, brands, styles and noises of alarm clocks.

Radio Shack, Sears, Staples and Best Buy each had similar alarm clock sections, and all offered about a dozen different styles ranging in price from $9.99 to $159.99.

The alarm clocks varied from compact, pocket-sized travel clocks, to big, boom-box-sized clocks with separate speakers and remote controls. The clocks also came in a variety of colors and shapes. In fact, the only thing that they had in common was their basic function: To wake a person up.

Even then, each clock offered numerous ways and sounds to do the job. Some alarm offered "Graduate," which allows the volume to increase until it is turned off, and others allowed an alternation between different sounds. Most of the sounds available include the radio, a CD, a buzzer, a beep, a ring, a bubbling brook, birds of paradise or ocean waves.

While waking up to ocean waves may sound refreshing, for some students it doesn't serve its purpose.

"My alarm clock wakes me up with a very loud beeping," economics junior Jeff Little said. "I would prefer something more peaceful, but I need something with a bang to get me going in the morning."

Recreation administration junior Nate Moser also finds louder noises more effective.

"My alarm has a fast bell noise which sounds like an old-school oven," he said. "It does the job."

For those who aren't eager to get out of bed, most alarm clocks offer a "shut your mind button," more commonly known as the snooze button. In fact, most college students would say that
Summer in Mexico
Spanish Language Immersion Program

Summer 2004 - Cuernavaca

General Information Meeting
Thursday, January 22, 11 am - 12 pm
Erhart Agriculture Bldg. (10), Rm. 115

SARP
continued from page 1

SOUP
continued from page 1

Events
continued from page 1

The SARP Center works to pro-
vide crisis intervention to survivors of sexual assault and abuse, while raising community awareness of related issues in an attempt to pre-
vent future occurrences.
The center offers a variety of ser-
vices to help survivors of sexual assault and attempted assault, including counseling, a 24-hour cri-
sis phone line for survivors and their significant others, advocates, and 24-
hour hotline services.
The SARP Center works coopera-
tively with groups on campus because, unfortunately there is a high rate of assault on college-aged women," McDonald said.

One upcoming event co-hosted by the SARP is a four-hour self-defense workshop available to stu-
dents for $10. The workshop will take place January 26.

Marla Andaig, the Coordinator of Gender and Sexuality Programs at Cal Poly, said that the SARP Center responds to campus requests to hold events like the self-defense workshop.

We created the venue and help make sure that it is small enough that the center provides," she said.

These kinds of classes happen about once a month on campus.

For more information about the SARP center and services, visit their Web site at www.sarpco.org/index.html.

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National Roundup

PORTLAND, Ore. — Oregon agriculture officials on Wednesday ordered no cows be removed from a dairy near Boardman, after a cow was traced to the same Canadian herd as a mad cow-afflicted animal found on a Washington farm.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has been trying to locate all ani­mals essentially connected with that herd from an Alberta farm. The dairy involved is Columbia River Dairy, one of three dairy farms in the Boardman area that contracts with the Tillamook County Creamery Association, the well-known coastal cheese maker.

WASHINGTON — Federal regulators can trump more permissive state officials in some disputes over costly measures to limit air pollution, the Supreme Court said Wednesday in a ruling that departed from the court’s trend toward granting state governments more power.

Alaska’s governor wanted to allow the world’s largest zinc mine to be cheaper, less effective anti-pollution equipment, but the Ninth Circuit Environmental Protection Agency said no. The Supreme Court’s 5-4 ruling upheld EPA’s veto power in such cases.

The victims for environmentalists may be more symbolic than substantial. The portion of the Clean Air Act issue has not been front and center in the Roundman area that contracts with the Tillamook County Creamery Association, the well-known coastal cheese maker.

SEATTLE — Microsoft Corp. said Wednesday it will seek to have an antitrust lawsuit filed against it moved to a federal court in Western Washington from a federal court in San Jose, Calif., where the case was originally filed.

The Redmond, Wash., software giant said in a statement that it believes a court in Washington state is a better venue since both Microsoft and RealNetworks, the company that filed the lawsuit, are based here. Microsoft also argued that RealNetworks may have sought to file the case in Northern California because that area is home to “some of Microsoft’s strongest competitors.”

WASHINGTON — The two largest U.S. airlines, American and United, have agreed to temporarily curtail peak-hour flights at Chicago’s O’Hare International Airport to ease congestion and reduce delays that have averaged more than an hour.

A government order announced Wednesday required a 5 percent reduction in operations — a total of 62 flights — because delays were at an unreasonable level and were affecting all passengers as a result of O’Hare’s central role in air travel. Transportsation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta said.

— Associated Press

World Roundup

HAVANA — Erumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I was greeted by President Fidel Castro as he arrived in Cuba Wednesday night, the first visit by a Christian Orthodox spiritual leader to Latin America.

Dressed in his traditional black robe and cap and carrying his pastoral staff, the patriarch of the world’s 300 million Orthodox Christians was also greeted by scores of faithful from around the region when he arrived after the long flight from Istanbul.

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Pakistan’s decision to detain and question some of its leading nuclear scientists came after it dispatched top-secret investigative teams to Iran and Libya to check allegations that it had sold missiles and bomb technology to those nations, a Pakistani official told The Associated Press.

Documentation of the investigative missions indicates the seriousness with which the government is taking allegations of nuclear proliferation after months of public denial.

The investigation is also related to some researchers being banned from leaving Pakistan.

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran’s worst political crisis in years deepened Wednesday, with the government saying most of its ministers and vice presidents have submitted resignations to protest the barring of thou­sands of would-be candidates from upcoming elections.

Vice President Mohammad Ali Rezaee warned that unless the candidates are admitted, “the country will face many problems, both at home and abroad.”

Government spokesman Abdullah Ramezanzadeh told The Associated Press that most of Iran’s six vice presidents and 24 ministers have handed letters of resignation to President Mohammad Khatami. He didn’t identify them.

Karachi, Pakistan — An appeals court Wednesday again postponed a hearing on appeals by four Islamic militants convicted in the killing of Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl.

The Sindh High court ordered the latest postponement because the prosecution and a lawyer for three of the convicts failed to appear at the hearing, said Abdul Waheed Katpar, a lawyer for Ahmed Omar Saeed Sheikh, who has been sentenced to death in Pearl’s killing.

Government spokesman Abdollah Ramezanzadeh told The Associated Press that most of Iran’s six vice presidents and 24 ministers have handed let­ters of resignation to President Mohammad Khatami. He didn’t identify them.

Karachi, Pakistan — A Christian group said Wednesday the murder of a woman from its community in the central region of the country will face many problems, both at home and abroad.

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The investigation is also related to some researchers being banned from leaving Pakistan.

— Associated Press

College Roundup

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. — Virginia may finance a new public university in the South central region of the Commonwealth within the next decade.

Sen. W. Rescoe Reynolds, D-Martinsville, proposed a resolution in the General Assembly on Jan. 24 requesting that the State Council for Higher Education consider the establishment of a new public university in the region.

Virginia legislators Sen. L. Go T. KimTokan formulated the resolution in response to the anticipated swell of inner-city college students in the near future and the ongoing economic stimulus for surrounding areas.

NEW YORK — Both Bernard College and Columbia University said goodbye to paper grade sheets last semester. Faculty pro­fessors mailed the grades online for the first time while Columbia also tested Web­ grading to the professor’s ability to online grading.

The two offices worked together this semester to improve online grading and to introduce an integrated grading system for professors.

— University Wire
Looking at the possible benefits of war

Editor,

I am deeply concerned by the negative coverage of the war on terror in the media. The Democratic candidates for president are all claiming they were against the liberation of Iraq, which concerns me, considering the recent revelations of the San Luis Obispo Board of Supervisors to pass the Apple Pie Resolution to Defend the Bill of Rights in SLO County. It's time for the media to give this resolution passed.

The number of Civil Liberties Safe Zones, or communities that have passed resolutions similar to Apple Pie, has increased from 22 in 2002 to 352 cities, towns and counties and three states by the end of 2003. These resolutions cover more than 30 million residents — more than 80 percent of the United States population.

Remember "Give me liberty or give me death!" Remember "Don't tread on me!" Remember the American Revolution and the resulting blueprint for our country, the Constitution and Bill of Rights! Standing up for what the first Americans fought for is not a political issue, but is asking whether "that nation, or any nation, so conceived and so dedicated can long endure."

The U.S. Patriot Act was only the first step in destroying, as efficiently as possible, what made the country great. Congress continues to pass legislation that clearly violates the Constitution. Your freedom is going out the window.

Please do what you can right here in SLO County, by calling or writing a letter to your supervisors asking them to place the Apple Pie Resolution on the county agenda and support it when it comes to a vote.

Teresa Campbell and Mike Zelina are San Luis Obispo community members.

State of the Union lacked accountability

Editor,

President Bush's second State of the Union address was delivered on Jan. 22, 2003. This speech predicted the March 2003 invasion of Iraq, and Bush took us into warfare to make his case to America and the world for taking action against Saddam Hussein. He gave very specific information in his speech: He stated that Iraq had "25,000 liters of anthrax" and "program activities." There were no stockpiles, no weapons ready for deployment, no visa on the auction block for terrorists to buy.

What happened? Is U.S. intelligence so incompetent that they incorrectly assessed Iraq's weapons capabilities? Or did Bush lie to the American people to justify invading oil-rich Iraq? Either way, 15,000 Iraqis and 500 U.S. soldiers are dead. Everyone should demand answers.

Dan K. O'Leary is a political science junior.

A resolution to defend the Constitution

Editor,

The SLO-ROC PAC would like to thank everyone who supported the Bill of Rights in 2003 by attending meetings and signing in filled signature sheets asking the San Luis Obispo Board of Supervisors to pass the Apple Pie Resolution to Defend the Bill of Rights in SLO County. It's time to get this resolution passed.

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Mustang Daily is looking for a few good cartoonists and columnists.

Cartoonists should bring a proposal and art sample to Laura in 26-226. Columnists can send a proposal and 500-word sample to mustangdaily@hotmail.com. Please include your name, major and phone number with all submissions.

Letter policy

Letters become the property of the Mustang Daily. Mustang Daily reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, profanities and length. Letters, commentaries and cartoons do not represent the views of the Mustang Daily. Please limit to 250 words. Letters should include the writer's full name, phone number, major and class standing.

By mail:
Letters to the Editor
Building 26, Room 226
Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo CA 93407
By fax:
(805) 756-6784
By e-mail: mustangdaily@hotmail.com
Letters must come from a Cal Poly e-mail account. Do not send letters as an attachment. Please send the text in the body of the e-mail.

Attention: Your letter will not be printed unless you submit it in the correct format.
Opinion

On your mark, get set, date

Red Rover, red rover, send the next guy over.
He's got less than five minutes to prove himself to her.

A new-age form of dating is now available for fast-paced singles that have little time to date but the desire to meet new people. It's time-efficient, inexpensive and opens the door for subsequent dates with the partners of one's choosing.

Speed dating, originally designed in the 1960s to pair Jewish singles for marriage, has abandoned its religious connotation and has been exponentially in the love lives of people nationally and internationally. Its success is simple. A single person pays a cover charge to get into a dating party that has an equal number of men and women looking for love. Each single person will meet with every other single of the opposite sex for five minutes. During that time, either person can ask questions to find out more about their partner. Then, each party gets down notes, the bunny rugs and moves on to another potential date. At the end of the night, everyone marks down who they like to see again or get more information on. It is to the party hosts and, if there's a match, the host provides contact information for potential partners.

Speed dating might just be the solution for all the busy college students out there in dating land that don't have the time — or more importantly the money — to date around.

Just imagine it for a moment.

Joe Single shows up to cover charge of $25 to get into a speed dating party. With that money he's promised 24 five-minute conversations, with 24 single ladies.

It sounds like a painful word problem from first grade, but if the math is correct, that's only about 1 for every phone number he picks up. Not too shabby.

The only minor problem with this system comes into play when the beliefs singles have about love are introduced. Is there such a thing as love at first sight? Can one person be a real chemist with their date within the first five minutes they meet? Can anyone really determine if the chemistry is right across from them in what they're looking for?

If the answer to these questions is yes, then speed dating is a great way to spend an evening. If the answer is no, then maybe it's not the best solution for the woes of the single.

It's unlikely that speed-dating venues will pop up around San Luis Obispo anytime soon (at least not until SLOCC dates are scheduled to have drive-throughs), but when it does, Cal Poly students just may meet their match.

Nicole Angeloni is a journalism junior and Mustang Daily staff writer.

Brought up in a Barbie world

"I'm a Barbie girl / in a Barbie world / Life in plastic, it's fantastic." We live in the Barbie Age. Being thin and having a large bust, narrow waist, flaring hips, white teeth and a perfect complexion are essential qualities of women.

Women who look like Barbie are treated like goddesses. Women who do not look like Barbie struggle to succeed. We have been blessed as women because we have the pragmatism of upper-classmate idols. The logic behind the Barbie phenomenon has its roots in basic elementary school arithmetic. If one gorgeous seductress is a good thing, then it follows that two would be twice as good. When it comes to Barbie, that thought process is flawed.

Lots of girls will claim to have had threesomes, but in reality a pure-bred threesome is hard to come by. Usually, a girl will claim to have a threesome if she is merely present when two ladies decide to tangle tongues for a little while during spring break. Usually, he is ignored, a mere observer in the process.

Nay, a true threesome is among the rarest things to occur in nature and is truly a three-player game.

Of course, the evil cruelty of threesomes is that they are inherent paradoxes. You see, the only way a woman can belong to engage in a threesome are so riddled with STDs and emotional baggage that having sex with them is like playing Russian roulette with your balls. Despite this, men the world over pursue these smoke and mirror fantasies to the edge of insanity. Does Disney style, ruining their otherwise satisfying sex lives.

I place the blame for the longevity of the threesome fantasy squarely in the crotch of one man: Hugh Hefner. I'm quite convinced that ol' Hugh sold his soul, Faust style, way back in the 1950s in exchange for 80 years of the crotch of one man: Hugh Hefner. I'm quite convinced that ol' Hugh sold his soul, Faust style, way back in the 1950s in exchange for 80 years of the

Applications for his next threesome can be e-mailed to jwceo@yahoo.com.
Bush hails achievements

By Alan Fram

WASHINGTON — Laying out campaign themes, President Bush is banking progress fighting terrorism, recharging the economy and helping Americans afford health care. But Democrats say his election-year State of the Union address underscores how paltry his achievements have been.

The morning after he addressed a national television audience and a joint session of Congress, Bush was embarking Wednesday on a two-day swing through Ohio, Arizona and New Mexico to highlight his job training and counterterrorism proposals.

Those were among several plans he said he would offer in his 2005 budget.

Even as Democrats scuffled among themselves over who would oppose him in November, the achievements have been.

The address contained few major new proposals, underlining the limitations of a budget burdened by deficits and a campaign year in which reaching legislative accomplishments probably will be hard to come by.

From Congress to the presidential campaign trail in New Hampshire, where next week's presidential primary will be held, Democrats balked. They said Bush had ignored the job losses, ballooning budget deficits, diplomatic reversals and growing ranks of Americans without health insurance that have characterized his administration.

"President Bush's speech was not so much of a mandate that. He asked lawmakers to renew expiring portions of the U.S. Patriot Act that strengthened the investigative reach of law enforcement agencies, dual funds for assistance education and codify his administration's award of federal grants to religious charities.

"The State of the Union may look rosy from the White House balcony or the suites of George Bush's wealthiest donors, but hardworking Americans will see through this president's effort to wrap his radical agenda with a compassionate ribbon," said former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean, another one of the Democratic presidential hopefuls.

"By our will and courage, this danger will be defeated," Bush said.

"Americans will see through this president's effort to wrap his radical agenda with a compassionate ribbon," said former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean, another one of the Democratic presidential hopefuls.

With the death toll of U.S. troops in Iraq, which passed the 500-mark in recent days, has prompted demands by some for an end to the American commitment there, Bush acknowledged the dangers but described this as a surmountable problem.

"We are dealing with these things in Iraq, just as surely as we dealt with Saddam Hussein's evil regime," he said.
For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named.

- Ephesians 3:14

"Everyday" Inspiration

An art and design student's photo exhibit in the University Union explores religion's presence outside of church and prayer groups.

Story by Ashlee Bodenhamer  Photo by Brian Kent

Arts & Culture
Images portray Christianity in everyday existence

By Ashlee Bodenhammer

UU ART GALLERY curator

"The Earth's crammed with heavy/bad...find our common bush affixed with God."

These words, written by 19th-century poet Elizabeth Barrett Browning, are echoed in "Everyday God," the University Union Gallery's current exhibit. Inspired by an envelope, a mug, a passport, metal wind chimes and other ordinary objects, computer science senior Kristen O'Brien has snapped a series of photographs to illustrate verses from the New Testament book of Ephesians.

"I wanted to show people that the Bible is part of our everyday life," O'Brien said. Each of O'Brien's photos is accompanied by a verse, along with a brief explanation of the passage.

"Sometimes everyday objects can really explain the things that are hard to grasp," she said. In one photo, a slab of raw meat, trimmed into a heart shape and placed on the counter of a kitchen sink faucet, overflows with bubbly tap water. It is her self-described "passion for analogy" that led O'Brien to pair pieces of scripture with mundane, garden variety objects — things not normally associated with spirituality or found in places of worship.

O'Brien distinguished her exhibit from art for art's sake. The intent behind her photographs is to convey a message, she said. Still, exhibit-goersinger in front of her black and white photos as if they were looking at these common materials for the first time.

"I think art is inspired by different things, and it just happens that Kristen is inspired by God. I think she has the right to display that just as well as anything anybody else is inspired by."

Natalie Mathews
UU Art Gallery curator

"Kristen is inspired by God. I think she has the right to display that just as well as anything anybody else is inspired by."

O'Brien distinguished her exhibit as a biblical-themed show at a public school. "I was more excited and hopeful that it would make people think," she said. "I'm not fearful at all."

For most of her life, O'Brien said she wanted nothing to do with the Bible. "I understand that feeling of feeling like people are trying to cram something down your throat," she said. O'Brien stressed that her intentions were not to pass judgments.

"I want to reach people. I'm not here to condemn, whatever," she said. "I love people to come to the Bible, but to save the world."

"Everyday God" will be on display through Friday in the UU Gallery, which is located upstairs, in the Epicenter. Admission is free.

"As I read, all these pictures started popping in my head, and I just started writing them down," O'Brien said. The gallery's curator, art and design sophomore Natalie Mathews, said the religious nature of the show was not an issue but instead a form of expression.

"I think art is inspired by different things, and it just happens that Kristen is inspired by God," Mathews said. "I think she has the right to display that just as well as anything anybody else is inspired by."

O'Brien said she was not nervous about headlining a biblical-themed show at a public school. "I gave up on trying to headline something," she said. "I'm not afraid of it all."

O'Brien's display, entitled "Everyday God," depicts the ordinary instances in which people can find spiritual inspiration. O'Brien used the above photograph to signify the union of marriage.

Kristen O'Brien's display, entitled "Everyday God," depicts the ordinary instances in which people can find spiritual inspiration. O'Brien used the above photograph to signify the union of marriage.
Members of the four-piece band describe their sound as indie rock with a little punk mixed in. "We're kinda like the Foo Fighters and Jimmy Eat World," drummer Brad Stemke said.

The band has been together for 4 1/2 years, with various members rotating in and out of the band. Current lead guitarist and vocalist Chris Woodhead just joined the band last year, and Stemke joined in the beginning after creative differences with the original drummer forced the need for a change.

"He was kinda strung out," Stemke said of the former drummer, and going in a different direction than the other guys, so they told him they broke up and then started jamming with me."

The rest of the band is comprised of Jared Jones (rhythm guitar, vocals) and Jimmy Omega (bass). Since starting up the band, In Stereo has been playing anywhere from Los Angeles to San Francisco, mostly in smaller venues and warehouses.

"We played The Funky in Hollywood, but mostly we play in hard-to-find venues," Stemke said. The band also played at University of California, Santa Barbara in a late-night show on the campus radio station.

Despite having played mostly smaller venues, the band has name recognition in Simi Valley.

"I think in Simi most kids know who we are," Stemke said. "Our following is mostly college-aged kids and high school kids. It's a collage of ages."

The band has been working harder to get their name out, including recording an EP last year with their old guitarist on Killing Dreams Records.

"We didn't have a recording contract," Stemke said. "We wanted to put together a prep kit (to shop to record labels) and Killing Dreams helped us put out an EP."

While most members of the band are serious about music, they don't take themselves too seriously. The songs they play are written primarily by Woodhead, who said for three quarters of the band, at least, songs come from sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll — without the drugs.

"Someone told me girls like songs about breaking out of jail," Woodhead said. "So we wrote a couple of songs about breaking out of jail."

Woodhead said it's not a big deal to be deep and philosophical, but that sometimes that appears in the songs. This attitude is perhaps best reflected in a song the band has about Harry Potter.

"Jimmy and Jared are into Harry Potter," Woodhead said. "They bet me I couldn't write a song about him without mentioning his name, so I wrote a song. It's funny to us because we know what it's about, but people can relate to it without knowing it's about Harry Potter."

Woodhead is ready for the band's show, and said the anticipation intensifies his performance.

"I hope it's like our other shows," he said. "I used to get nervous but now I got excited to go up and play."

Unlike the band's other shows, though, the UU Hour is a venue where people don't have to pay admission to see them.

"It might be weird having people just walking in plugging their ears," Woodhead said. "But we do it (play music) for us and that's cool."
Car tax cut challenged in court
By David Kravets
SAN FRANCISCO — Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's fee campaign promise to roll back a tripling of the state car tax was challenged directly to the California Supreme Court on Wednesday by a coalition of college students and social activists whose members and clients all bear the brunt of his budget cuts.

Opponents of the governor's November tax cut, which saves motorists $4 billion a year in annual registration renewal fees, want a series of the seven high court justices to overturn the pledge, which has deepened the state's deficit and, along with it, the need for cuts to services.

The petition asks Schwarzenegger had neither the constitutional authority to lower the car tax nor the legislative approval needed to lend $150 million in immediate budget cuts — in addition to requiring future cuts — to offset the car tax reprieve.

The suit was the first legal attack on the centerpiece of Schwarzenegger's fiscal strategy of leveraging on budget cuts and voter approval of a $15 billion bond measure on the March 2 ballot to ease deficits without raising taxes.

Gov. Gray Davis tripped the vehicle fee by invoking 1998 legislation allowing a governor to raise the tax without legislative approval in a financial crisis. In one of his last acts after winning the election to recall Davis, Schwarzenegger repealed the measure, but the governor's car tax can only be lowered if there is enough money in state coffers to compensate for the loss of revenue.

"It was improper and inappropriate for the governor to lower the vehicle license fee when it compiled cuts," said Warrington Parker III, an attorney representing the groups that petitioned the high court.

The case, unusual in that it was filed directly with the Supreme Court and not the lower courts, is a classic showdown between the powers of the chief executive and the Legislature. While acknowledging the governor's veto power, the petition says the "California Constitution and California's statutes provide that the Legislature is solely charged with determining how public moneys should be collected and spent.'

When making the Dec. 19 order to slash $150 million, Schwarzenegger proclaimed he had such powers because he declared that California was in a fiscal emergency. Davis, his predecessor, invoked emergency spending powers to deal with the energy crisis.

A Schwarzenegger spokesman referred inquiries about the lawsuit to the Finance Department, which said the governor was exercising his powers appropriately. "We believe we are on solid legal ground on the actions he has taken," said H.D. Palmer, the department's deputy director.

The cuts, announced as lawmakers were in holiday recess, included a 0.5 percent reduction for the University of California and California State University systems, closing a vacant term-terminating hearing center and, among other things, reducing funding to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

The justices did not indicate whether they would take the case, but it would be highly unusual if they didn't.

The court generally takes cases after the parties maturate through the lower courts, even in times of constitutional crisis.

Before the Oct. 7 recall election, the high court declined to entertain several constitutional challenges seeking to block or postpone the vote, saying they were not ripe for review.

Parker said the University of California Student Association, Californians for Justice and the Equal Justice Society went directly to the Supreme Court in hopes that it would act immediately. A case of this scope commencing in a trial court could take months or years to resolve.
**Edited by Will Shortz**

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**Comments**

Pet ferrets should be legal. I could eat Blondie’s Pizza every meal every day of my life.

Dave Matthews should be President. And Polya’s Women’s Lacrosse should be recognized for being the shiznizzle!

“That’s what I said!” Booty traps!” from “The Goonies”

Journalism professor’s conspira
ty theory: “Lyso discourages men from picking up the toilet seat so they have a product to sell.”

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Theatre & Dance Department College of Liberal Arts & B&A
The Intercollegiate Tennis Association announced its preseason rankings, which has the Cal Poly women's tennis team ranked 63 nationally. Each member of an ITA regional committee votes on the team rankings. The Mustangs received 299 votes.

Cal Poly won two out of three doubles matches and five out of six singles matches as the Mustangs defeated host Cal State Fullerton, 6-1, Saturday, two days before their 7-0 loss to Pepperdine. The win against the Titans put the Mustangs at 1-0 for the season, 1-0 in Big West.

Sophomore Samantha Walker and Kristen Gradly defeated Ruya Inapulat and Ioana Sisoe at No. 1 doubles, 8-3, to open the match. Paige Billingsley and Carol Erickson followed with a decisive, 8-1 victory over Gina Le and Caroline Grady for the No. 2 position as Shelby Thompson and Nellee Lee lost to Mary-Lyn Tran and Carla Rocha, 9-8, in a epic battle.

In singles action, the Mustangs only dropped one match at the No. 1 position as Inapulat defeated Walker, 7-5, 5-7, 10-8. When the opponent hits 50 percent of the serves, there just aren't any reunions to get.

"We're competitive, not frustrated," said Bromley, who has the Mustangs' two losses, a 5-2 victory over Cal Poly in their season opener Saturday afternoon at the Western Tennis Center.

Fresno State, ranked 36th in the preseason poll, started strong by winning two of three doubles action. At No. 1, Sergiu Modoc and Greg Shearer defeated Van Ling and Nguyen 8-5 to start out the match. Another win ensued as Andy Sinn and Jakub Cech defeated Davey Jones and Brian Kent 8-5. The only win in doubles for the Mustangs came at the No. 2 position as Nick Tracy and Matt Baca defeated Jure Kekez and Stefan Suta 8-6.

Singles was mostly a breeze for the Bulldogs, who won in straight sets in four matches. At No. 1, Shearer took out Nguyen 6-0, 6-1. Suta followed with a convincing 6-3, 7-5 win over Kent. Also claiming straight-set victories were No. 6 Jure Kekez against Cal Poly's Matt Baca, 6-2, 6-3. The Mustangs' only victory in singles came when Van Ling defeated Sinn 6-3, 7-5.

The Mustangs had to deal with senior Stacy Meronoff out of action with a leg injury. Meronoff held the No. 1 singles position for the Mustangs for the last two seasons.

A winning Vegas trip

It’s no secret that scouts pine me off. Especially, when it comes to the lack of attention they pay Cal Poly sports.

From women’s soccer to men’s basketball, Mustang players toil in relative obscurity. Still, good things occasionally happen.

NFL scouts are scrambling just weeks ahead of the pre-draft combine to find Cal Poly game film. Though Mustang Stadium sits empty most days, the phones in there are lighting up as a result of the Las Vegas All-American Classic.

The game was an all-star, East-West classic, featuring senior season from schools like Washington State, Notre Dame and Michigan State. Punter Gilbert Rocha and cornerback David Richardson were the Mustangs’ two representatives, and each put up a performance worth boasting about.

Richardson’s week began on Friday, when the team arrived at the Westin Hotel in downtown Las Vegas. Saturday, they drove in a week of all-star practices before 150 scouts representing the NFL, CFL and NFL Europe.

"All throughout practice, the scouts were testing me for how fast I can run extremely well and they were surprised I hadn't heard of me," Richardson said.

Rocha emerged as one of the three captains of the West squad. It might have been the most important week of both Richardson’s and Rocha’s careers. Both men could be playing in the NFL eventually as a result of their trip to Sin City.

Richardson’s agent Brian Cox is still praying his client’s debutante ball. "He surprised everyone I would've put down on paper for him to do in the week," Cox said.

In a starting role, Richardson racked up seven tackles, almost had an interception and defended all three passes that came his way, helping his West team to a 17-7 victory.

Rocha also put up a solid performance, averaging 45 yards for 11 punts and only allowing one touchback. He said being apart of the Vegas extravaganza could help him become an NFL free agent.

"Going to a game like that helps out a lot," Rocha said. "You get a lot of exposure to the scouts ... All in all, it was an enjoyable weekend.

Cox estimates Richardson could be drafted in the late rounds this April. An invitation to the scouting combine next month could be forthcoming, as Cox has already talked to representatives from the Jacksonville Jaguars, Baltimore Ravens and Chicago Bears.

The one bad thing about the game was that it was moved just prior to gametime to DirectTV.

I guess there are still people who doubt the value of the game.

Graham Womack is a journalism junior and Mustang Daily staff writer.