Forum tackles sustainability
Cal Poly's 14th annual structural event to discuss current issues in the design profession

By Lacie Grimshaw
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Sustainability in design and engineering will be the focus of Cal Poly's 14th annual structural forum Saturday.

Open to the public, the free forum will feature three noted engineering professionals who will share their personal experiences with issues of sustainability and how it relates to engineering.

Not only will the event be beneficial to civil engineering students, said Clayton Pharaoh, assistant professor of engineering and Structural Engineers Association of California adviser.

The forum is hosted by Cal Poly's architectural engineering department's student chapter of SEAC and Krista Kelly, architectural engineering senior and club member, heads the event.

"Although sustainability is a new area of engineering, it is quickly becoming a big issue all over campus," Kelly said. "That's why we chose the topic this year.

The forum will open at 8:30 a.m. in building 3, room 213 and will run until 3:30 p.m. Presentations begin at 9:15 a.m. Guest lectures include:

- Charles Kibert, professor at the University of Florida is also the director and founder of the Powell Center for Construction and Environment. His presentation, "The Future Color of Construction is Green," begins at 2 p.m.
- Allan Savory, founder of holistic management class.

"Sustainability hasn't been a big focus for the department, so the forum will expose students to a concept not yet offered in the curriculum," Kelly said.

Because not all the speakers are from California, students will receive a variety of perspectives on the topic, she said.

Students can make reservations to attend a career symposium and大巴 for the end of the day of sustainability in structural engineering.

"The forum will give students the chance to have one on one interaction with professionals who care about the importance of their profession," Kelly said.  

Thinking outside the box

By Lacie Grimshaw
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

S he expected her first day in holistic management, as it's called, to be like any other agriculture class, but when she walked into a room with desks arranged into a circle, instead of rows, she knew this class would be anything but typical.

"The first day I knew it would be different," said animal science junior Dana Ekwur.

"It was a different world in terms of sustainability," Paster said.

"We chose the campus sustainability initiative, an on-campus environmental club comprised of students, staff and faculty, are trying their best to make a difference despite no budget or university recognition."

Former Associated Students Inc. president Angie Hacker and manufacturing engineering senior Pablo Paster founded Cal Poly CSI two years ago. It started as a group of concerned Cal Poly community members to voice their opinions on campus sustainability issues.

"We felt there were a lot of areas for improvement on this campus in terms of sustainability," Paster said.

"We knew that a lot of people were working on sustainability, but there was no unified entity," Paster said.

CSI uses the Brundtland Commission's definition of sustainability, which Paster said is the most widely accepted definition: "Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

Unfortunately the vision that Hacker and Paster had for CSI has
CITY
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and will take about two summers to build. One possibility in construction is to build one side of the bridge at a time, leaving the temporary bridge in place until one side is constructed, then switching. The cost is estimated at $2.7 million.

On Highway 1

Although a stoplight will not be a new addition to San Luis Obispo streets, there are additional turning lanes on Highway 1. There is now access to Stenner Creek Road from Highway 1 due to the median divider Caltrans workers have been working on for months. The divider was constructed after a high number of accidents occurred on the highway, Rob Rutherford, animal science professor said. Rutherford has been managing the sheep unit for the past five or six years and has observed the construction almost daily. He has also spoken with highway patrol officers and numerous landowners about the highway additions.

In the process of creating the median, a left turn lane was produced for those traveling southbound on Highway 1, allowing cars access to Stenner Creek Road. In addition to making a left turn lane, a lane off the right hand shoulder has been created, so people traveling northbound from San Luis Obispo can safely turn onto the road, which should reduce the number of accidents with those turning to turn right.

This has both positive and negative effects on those accessing the sheep unit and Cheda Ranch.

"It is an advantage, because now we can turn onto Stenner Creek Road," Rutherford said. "Before we had to turn on Highland Road and make a U-turn, which is difficult when pulling a trailer."

Despite the advantage, those leaving Cheda Ranch cannot turn toward San Luis Obispo, but must take a dirt road back to town, due to the median between northbound and southbound lanes.

"I can understand why they did it though, with people driving unsafe and too fast," Rutherford said. "Rather than making them drive safely, they put up a barrier."

Prior to the construction of the median, signs were posted prohibiting access to Stenner Creek Road from southbound Highway 1. This was due to a collision that ended in a traffic fatality a few years ago involving a Cal Poly student turning left onto the road.

CLASS
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wrong, then when a problem arose they could correct it without feeling like a failure.

Rutherford teaches students not to limit themselves or make assumptions. Instead, he attempts to teach them that they can do anything, he said.

"I'll ask students what they want to do when they grow up. They'll tell me they want to be veterinarians. I tell them, 'I didn't ask what you wanted to be, I asked what you wanted to do,'" he said.

Elow took Rutherford's class after an advisor's recommendation. "Taking the class was the best decision I've made so far," Elow said. "The class really opened my eyes to a new way of thinking." When something is managed holistically, there needs to be an understanding of what is being managed, and what the values and long-term goals are, Rutherford said. Every decision should account for each of these.

Rutherford teaches that when people make decisions, they use either a hard or soft systems approach.

People typically use a hard systems approach when deciding things. They're easier to understand, he said. Hard systems are predictable, like a car or a watch. If a part is removed from either of these, the system stops. If the part is replaced, it will resume.

Soft systems are more complex and are not predictable, like human relationships or emotions, he said. Soft systems continue to work when a part is removed, but they work differently.

We make daily decisions following a hard systems format. But the world doesn't work that way. It runs more like a soft system, he said. Something can't change one thing without affecting another. You have to consider everything before and during the decision-making process.

The thought process taught in holistic management can help everyone learn and become better people, Rutherford said. "Holistic goals can never be achieved, but they're something to strive for," he said. "The only hope for sustaining our current situation is to start making decisions differently."

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CSI
continued from page 1

deteriorated over the past two years.

Aside from students and faculty,
several Facilities Planning officials
contribute to CSI.

Director of Facilities Planning
Robert Kittama and director
of energy and utilities Edward Johnson,
repeated a joint statement regarding
CSI.

In response to the question of
whether CSI goals ever conflict
with administration's policies, they
said, "CSI's purpose is not to act as a
watchdog of the campus administra-
tion, but to promote sustainable
awareness on campus. The campus
master plan is an excellent document
promoting sustainable practices and
uses the Cal Poly master plan as a
reference for campus sustainability.""Middlestadt agrees with Kittama
and Johnson about Cal Poly's well-
written master plan, but he said that
he hasn't seen all the policies of the
plan executed on campus.

"In my opinion, the plan has not
been implemented to its fullest
potential, although it's well thought
ou"r, Middlet on said.

Although the master plan is con-
sidered by CSI members to be effi-
cient, there is always room for
improvement in efforts toward sustain-
ability, especially when considering
new projects like Student Housing
South.

CSI does not hold regular meetings
or events, but when a sustainability
issue arises that interests members,
they immediately set up a time to dis-
uss it. Their next meeting will be
held on Feb. 5 at 11am, in building
20, room 109.

For now, members are continuing
to educate themselves about sustainabil-
ity issues and what they can do to help.

"We are already doing the best we
can," Middlet on said.

Effort to save Cayucos farm

By Katie Schiller

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Effort to save Cayucos farm

By Katie Schiller

Staying active this year," Steven Marx,
Mustang Daily
Tylor Middlestadt said. "Now it's on
central point for the whole sustain-
ability movement," architectural
and physicist Amory Lovins to Cal
Poly for a presentation.

Today, members of CSI work on
separate sustainability projects and
connect through e-mail lists on
current issues and upcoming events.

"The Housing North project was a
central point for the whole sustain-
ability movement," architectural
engineering junior and CSI member
Tylor Middlet on said. "Now it's on
the back burner due to budget cuts."

Not being a sanctioned committee
limits the ability to promote aware-
ess on campus and to create change.

The group is comprised solely of
passionate volunteers who care about
sustainability issues. Without any
funding it is difficult for them to orga-
nize events and publicize meetings.

"It is difficult to accomplish our
goals without the proper funding," Past
President and CSI member
Alga Benahl said a similar opinion.

"I think they could do more if the
university recognized them as a com-
mittee," Benahl said. "They have a
lot of potential."
The sunlight creeps behind the curtain and you
© 2004 Mustang Daily

Commentary

The Super Bowl commercials this year were
steeped in a different kind of trashiness. Mostly inappropriate, yet still highly enter-
ing. This year the majority of the advertisements focused on unsuitable and sometimes disgusting ways of getting the point across.

While this commercial may have gotten a few laughs, the raunchy humor it utilized was inappropriate. The Super Bowl is a family event, and it really does not seem necessary to have a faux horse riding beer advertisement.

The first such commercial featured a couple taking
a nice carriage ride. After handing the girl a
train of alcohol while she gets her a beer. The man's not looking.

The second best commercials during the Super
Bowl, however, came from Budweiser and
certified the story of a dancer who dreams of being
a ballerina and spends a long time practicing by
putting her feet up

This commercial showed two attractive
models getting to a store and getting caried while
taking to bar jokes. The．The are people who want
to see commercials promoting safe drinking
which is definitely important. There were at least
two responsible commercials taking this position.
The first depicted basketball player Rick
Foy and country music icon Tim McGraw at a party in
which the opener begins the singer's dates
to be celebrities. The designated
car walks in with beautiful girls swarming him. For

The other ingenious commercial from Chevy
showed a kid of kids with soap bar in
his mouth. A father then goes to leave for work in his
new Chevy. Upon seeing the car his son says
"Holy shit!" and is soon pictured with a soap bar in
his mouth as well.

Throughout the Super Bowl commercials, were encouraging enough to keep people's attention as they waited for the game to start up again.
However, based on the fact that this is a show everyone should be able to enjoy, maybe compa-

The scene inside a bar infested by bar rats is
nothing short of surreal. Groups of bar rats will
gether in circles inside the Super Bowl.

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ing a nice carriage ride. After handing the girl a

Grocery store strike: Is that still going on?

As we set into 2004, an issue that was crucial during the end of last year still looms in Southern California. Picketers, though spread thin, still roam the front lines of the local Vons and Albertsons' remnant presence at all hours and in all weather, despite how little the union can afford to pay them.

It seems like life just went on and forget these people. No one cares anymore. “We haven’t heard anything at all. Talks haven’t happened on either side,” picker Joe Chavez said. Chavez, 36, has been out in front of the Vons in the Manzold shopping center on Broad Street since the strike started.

Some other supermarkets in the area have helped out by hiring the strikers. However, the grocers are taking a pay cut in their new jobs and are not receiving benefits. Some have paid the union to keep them, but most have just given up on the benefits.

By not working at all, they are already taking a monumental pay cut.

“We are finding new jobs to help with the loss of income,” Chavez said. “Since the union’s funds are depleted, we are getting paid less everyday to keep them out here. Scolari’s Market and Food 4 Less have helped out by hiring us, but some supermarkets are turning us away.”

It is about time. The strikers have been walking back and forth for months now and something has happened. Supermarkets have lost some business, but they are able to function regardless of replacement hires and fewer inventory shipments. Eventually, they will probably hire new labor that will work for no benefits and the striking issue will be in the past.

Though no change has come in the supermarket strike, many people depend on it as a source of income. The initial lockout stimulated the job market in San Luis Obispo, creating jobs for students who were having a difficult time finding work in such a small town. Students who have taken replacement jobs are making a healthy income and can enjoy the luxury of flexible hours. Furthermore, it can serve as a buffer to help combat debts which plague many college students.

Take my roommate for example. He is a 21-year-old Cuesta student who needed a second job.

“We were getting tough, and I needed a little income. I wasn’t glad that I did it, but it got me through my financial troubles,” he said. “I wasn’t glad that I did it, but it got me through my financial troubles.”

Please do not feel too sorry for the strikers. They are getting sufficient funding from a variety of unions called a hardship fund. Plus, they are still getting an income and are not receiving benefits. Some have paid the union to keep them out here. Scolari’s Market and Food 4 Less have helped out by hiring us, but some supermarkets are turning us away.

Fourth, confuse words. Holbus says the National Guard is not a “state” militia. He should know that “state” is synonymous with “country” in such a context. To anyone who knows this, his argument has no legs.

And last, but most importantly, mock France. In Republican circles, a good laugh at the expense of the French is more appreciated — and more accessible — than sound logic.

Daniel Nutter is a computer science senior.

Veritas cartoon misrepresentative

Editor,

The cartoon mockery of the Veritas Forum on Feb. 2 expressed several misconceptions. The cartoon suggested that the Veritas Forum was somehow falsely advertised and hypocritical. This impression is unfortunately based on two false points: (1) That the Veritas Forum attempts to “convert” people and (2) That it creates “straw men” out of non-Christian philosophical positions.

Contrary to the first point, just because theistic ideas, philosophies and views were among the topics of discussion during Veritas, that doesn’t mean it resembled anything like a church Revival. At no point during Veritas did anyone person or speaker encourage any kind of conversion. Rather, the theistic and non-theistic presenters presented their views by giving arguments and reasons for their particular beliefs in question.

Then, the lecture was opened up for questions in which further discussion was encouraged among the audience.

As for the second point, I encourage anyone who doubts the quality of presenters brought to Cal Poly last week (especially the atheist/agnostic philosophers Friday night) to simply ask any philosophy professor what he or she thinks of them. I am confident they will strongly affirm their academic, respectable and credibility. Therefore, there were no straw men.

Furthermore, there is no doubt that the ideas and claims of Jesus Christ and them in general are among the most influential and important in the history of the world, whether or not they are actually true. So therefore, theistic claims, philosophies and views ought to be a serious topic of discussion among any educated and open-minded group of people.

Kevin Hughes is a philosophy senior.

Vouchers give Americans liberty

Editor,

Will Weatherford’s letter (“Vouchers represent ‘double taxation’”) Feb. 2 shows a complete disregard for the founding principles of the United States.

School vouchers boil down to one word: liberty.

Parents should have the liberty to decide which school their child attends. If parents choose to send their kids to private schools rather than public schools, then public schools be damned. Vouchers don’t result in “money (being) taken from public schools and given to private schools.” The money in question does not belong to the public schools or the government. The money in question belongs to the parents. The government is rightfully theirs because they earned it. The government had no right to take it in the first place. School vouchers are a vital step toward individual liberty in education and a vital step away from government monopolies in education.

Any society that “provides basic services to its members,” by broaching individual rights (in this case, liberty and property) is threatened with anarchy.

Ray Cavalcante is a mathematics junior.
WASHINGTON — An international panel convened by Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman after the first U.S. case of mad cow dis­ ease called today for more restrictions on cattle feed, saying there's likely undiscovered cases among the nation's cattle.

Pete Quick, a spokeswoman for the department, said Veneman was briefed on the panel's conclusions and would consider its recommenda­tions, but declined to comment further.

Cattle can be infected by eating feed that contains brain or spinal tis­sue from an animal sick with the brain-wasting disease, which is caused by a misshapen protein. The government now bans using any blood, brains and spinal cord from cattle, sheep and goats in cattle feed but the panel said the disease still could be spread through other materials in feed.

Mad cow disease is a concern because humans can develop a brain­ wasting illness, variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, from consuming infected beef products: The disease destroys the brain.

RAPID CITY, S.D. — The former wife of American Indian Movement co-founder Dennis Banks told jurors Wednesday that she was with Anna Mae Aquash and others when Leonard Peltier, also an AIM leader, believed Aquash had a bomb.

She also testified that Peltier, also an AIM leader, believed Aquash was gaining strength.

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic — A Dominican infant born with a second head will undergo a risky operation Friday to remove the appendage, which has a partially formed brain, ears, eyes and lips.

The surgery is complicated because the two heads share arteries.

The patient, led by a Los Angeles-based neurosurgeon who successfully separated Guatemalan twins, the medical team will spend about 13 hours removing Rebeca Martinez's second head.

The 18 surgeons, nurses and doctors will cut off the undeveloped tissue, clip the veins and arteries and close the skull of the 7-week-old baby using a bone graft from another part of her body.

ALASKA — The Alaska Permanent Fund, created in 1971 to cushion the state against oil price drops, has hit $27.7 billion, a sum so large its earnings underwrite handsome checks for every state resident.

The proposed tax hike failed 59 percent to 41 percent. Rejection automati­cally triggers $544 million in spending cuts on May 1.

Rebecca Miller, a member of the Mi'kmaq Tribe of Canada, was an American who fought the U.S. government's attempts to take her homeland.

The surgery is complicated because the two heads share arteries.

The United Nations soon will dispatch a team to Iraq to resolve differences between the Americans and the Shi'ite Muslims, who have been leading opposition to the U.S. occupation of their homeland.

Most human cases have been traced directly to contact with sick birds, but say the disease is "nowhere close" to being declared a pandemic.

Health experts say the wide range of the bird flu striking Asia's poultry is dangerous and killing off millions of birds, which has in turn caused poultry prices to rise.

Al Qaeda apparently has shown interest in acquiring nuclear technolo­gy. Two Pakistani nuclear scientists were detained in late 2001 after meet­ing Osama bin Laden in Afghanistan on suspicion of giving away secrets, but they were later released without being charged. The military, which controlled the weapons program, also is known to have elements who sympathize with the Taliban and bin Laden.

Pakistan has for years denied spreading nuclear technology and claimed its arsenal was safe from extremists. But strong international pressure after Iranian revolutions forced Iraqis to begin an investigation of its weapons program in November. It admitted last month for the first time that scientists had leaked technology.

BANGKOK, Thailand — Asia's human death toll from bird flu rose to 15 Wednesday while China addressed its broadening zone of infected poultry with a new bird flu headquarters and Singapore turned in pet chickens for slaughter.

Health experts say the wide range of the bird flu striking Asia's poultry boosts chances that the virus could mutate into a global menace for people, but say the disease is "nowhere close" to being declared a pandemic.

Most human cases have been traced directly to contact with sick birds, and although human-to-human transmission has not been ruled out in the case of one Vietnamese family, the experts say there is no sign of a new strain that can easily infect many people.
More than a hobby

Members of the Cal Poly Footbag Club see their sport as a cultural activity that doesn't deserve its negative association with the slacker generation.

STORY BY MEGHAN REESLEY PHOTO BY MATT WECHEL PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY M.J. BEALS
Community more important than competition for footbaggers

"People don't realize this is a lifestyle, like surfing or skateboarding. People spend a lot of money every year to attend national events and meet other people involved in footbag." 

Dat Phan
Cal Poly Footbag Club president

Phan said one of the best aspects of footbag is the community because "everyone is so desperate to find someone new to play with." Phan said: "The elitism that exists in many other sports is almost absent. If you're a novice, players will welcome you in their circle and try to help get you going.”

Phan and other members said the notion of natural-born footbag skills is impractical yet keeps people from playing and the sport from becoming popular. "I don't think (footbag) will ever catch on as a major sport because it's not that easy," club member and mechanical engineering senior Paul Avanzino said. "People seem to like sports that they can easily pick up and does not frustrate them."

Avanzino recommended playing with other people when learning how to footbag. He said it is easy to become frustrated when playing alone, which causes many to lose their focus.

Lavering said it also takes a certain type of individual and mindset to be successful at footbag. "Footbag players look at someone doing a really hard trick and think, 'I could do that,' instead of, 'I could never do that,'" Lavering said. "Not everyone thinks that way." Phan said the public needs to realize that "footbag is nothing like the Jack In The Box commercial," because it is physically and mentally demanding.

The two popular forms of footbag, freestyle and footbag net, require stamina, flexibility and balance. Freestyle is the most common footbag sport and involves creating different combinations of tricks. Competitors are judged on execution. The Cal Poly Footbag Club held a freestyle footbag competition at Cal Poly on Nov. 22 with about 25 participants. Most of the competitors were from Southern California, but no actual voting took place because of organizing events and encouraging more people to get involved in the footbag lifestyle.
FOOTBAG
continued from page 8

By Kendra Hodges

FOOTBAG continues from page 8

PHOTOGRAPH BY SHILOH STONE

On Saturday in Davis, members of the Cal Poly Fixitbag Club will hold a demonstration of the sport of Hacky Sack. The members will thrive on the public ----

Sack to the public, they created the public. While marketing the Hacky Sack over a five-foot-high net.

stores nationwide.

Cal Poly Fixitbag Club members mark the Hacky Sack and promote according to the International jxjints.

Willing to come hack.

Marshall invented fcxithag in Oregon, Phan plans to organize a similar event and to wear the same shixis for years.

and to wear the same shixis for years.

Cal Poly Footbag Club members encourage all interested students to try the sport, even if they have no prior experience.

Since the game’s invention, Stalherger and Mike

students of the foot-

Slam said there is a need for people to cut holes in their shixis and to follow the same steps.

Students buy a new pair of

shoes can still participate in the sport. Slam said it is easiest to play footbag with shoes that have flat, non-slipper surfaces.

Cal Poly Footbag Club members encourage all interested students to try the sport, even if they have no prior experience.

“Come out and play with us,” Slam said. “We’re always willing to help anyone that wants to play. Have fun and learn a thing or two.”

Students can e-mail Slam at djslap@calpoly.edu to be added to the club list. Students on Slam’s e-

list are contacted with times and dates of freestyle footbag practices.

presented live and featuring major recording artists from diverse genres.

The Grammys are peer-presented awards, which are achievement, technical proficiency and overall excellence in the recording industry, without regard to album sales or chart positioning,” in the words of the Recording Academy.

The selection process begins when artists, technical crew and record companies submit entries to contest for the Grammy Awards. These entries are scanned and the eligible entries are placed in specific categories.

These scanning sessions are held by a diverse group of about 150 experts who divide music into 28 different fields, with 105 categories within these fields. The academy’s voting members then select five finalists in each category, who are nominated as the finalists for the Grammy Awards.

To help ensure the quality of the voting, members are selected to vote only within their fields of expertise and return their ballots to an inde-

pendent accounting firm that does the ballot counting.

Lists of the finalists are then sent to voting members of the Recording Academy with second-round ballots. The votes are counted in secrecy by an independent accounting firm responsible for the first set of ball-

lists.

Finally, the results are delivered in sealed envelopes to the Grammy Awards show, where the winners are revealed to the artists, peers and pub-

lic during the awards presentation cer-

emony.

Though this selection procedure seems to be foolproof, some argue that it may be influenced by the member-

ship of the panel of the voting mem-

bers. But with the panel size of 150 experts, any bias is mini-

mized, as the votes of all 150 mem-

bers, with each utilized expertise, are considered.

The 46th Annual Grammy Awards will be presented in Los Angeles at the Staples Center on Sunday, Feb. 8. The show will be broadcast on the CBS Television Network at 8 p.m.

.ops. U2/17

The Women’s Center

Cool Chick on Campus

JESSICA LAYMAN

5° year, Biology major

Before leaving Cal Poly she wants to start a media awareness movement.

What she envisions in her future—traveling, getting into conservation genetics, and see what cards life deals and then go from there.

How she defines herself as a woman—A woman who is independent and does not always conform to typical roles for women.

Words of wisdom—Be aware of yourself, strip away all that you have and gain from it.

Cal Poly Professor that she won’t forget—Professor Cushing; who said that “it all bullsh*t.”

If you want to nominate a Cool Chick on Campus come to the Women’s Center—Upstairs U2/17

The Women’s Center

Cool Chick on Campus

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If you want to nominate a Cool Chick on Campus come to the Women’s Center—Upstairs U2/17

3/1
Green-Bin Waste, a composting program for restaurants in San Francisco, is something Caporael would like to see implemented throughout the rest of California.

“It would be great if something like Green-Bin Waste could happen in our community,” Caporael said. “Our dream would be to have a Cal Poly student do it for a senior project.”

The family feels comfortable where they are currently but in time goes on, they said they will be able to accomplish more sustainable practices.

“We work to be sustainable, which is a challenge to get everything organic in a small, remote area,” Maegen said.

But asking questions on the practices of the farms they buy produce from has made a difference in their effectiveness, she said.

“Farmers realized the need, did research and are working to farm in a more sustainable manner,” Maegen said.

Caporael said. “Thinking about it now, we have an advantage and we can spread the word with other businesses and we won’t be in (a dangerous situation) in the future.”

Taking the extra mile to be sustainable, however, is not always more costly. It takes effort to make it work.

“Sustainability and cost-effectiveness can work together,” Caporael said. “With the composting alone, we saved $340 a month on the garbage bill.”

Through spreading the word to other community entities, the family’s conscience living ethics brings hope to the future.

“We believe every business has a role to play in sustainability,” Caporael said. “Small steps make a big difference in the end when every business works to create a more sustainable future.”

How are Grammy nominations picked, anyway?

By Pooja Patel

G A Y T R O N ( A N H E N T Y O F S O U T H E R N C A L I F O R N I A)

LOS ANGELES — The Grammys is one of the oldest award shows still running, consistently receiving more than 20 million viewers. Despite its popularity, viewers rarely know the intricacies of the selection process, a process that reveals why certain artists win while others appear to be snubbed.

The Grammy Awards are given by the National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences, Inc., also known as the Recording Academy. Since its conception in 1957, the Recording Academy aims for the promotion of the cultural conditions and overall lifestyle of all the people associated with music creation with the creation of music. This includes everyone associated with the making of a record, from the artists to behind-the-scene contributors such as producers and engineers.

What began as a TV special called "The Best On Record" has grown into today’s Grammy Awards ceremony, presented live and featuring major recording artists from diverse genres.

The Grammys are peer-presented awards, which are achievement, technical proficiency and overall excellence in the recording industry, without regard to album sales or chart position,” in the words of the Recording Academy.

The selection process begins when artists, technical crew and record companies submit entries to contest for the Grammy Awards. These entries are scanned and the eligible entries are placed in specific categories.

These scanning sessions are held by a diverse group of about 150 experts who divide music into 28 different fields, with 105 categories within these fields. The academy’s voting members then select five finalists in each category, who are nominated as the finalists for the Grammy Awards.

To help ensure the quality of the voting, members are selected to vote only within their fields of expertise and return their ballots to an inde-

pendent accounting firm that does the ballot counting.

Lists of the finalists are then sent to voting members of the Recording Academy with second-round ballots. The votes are counted in secrecy by an independent accounting firm responsible for the first set of ball-

lists.

Finally, the results are delivered in sealed envelopes to the Grammy Awards show, where the winners are revealed to the artists, peers and pub-

lic during the awards presentation cer-

emony.

Though this selection procedure seems to be foolproof, some argue that it may be influenced by the member-

ship of the panel of the voting mem-

bers. But with the panel size of 150 experts, any bias is mini-

mized, as the votes of all 150 mem-

bers, with each utilized expertise, are considered.

The 46th Annual Grammy Awards will be presented in Los Angeles at the Staples Center on Sunday, Feb. 8. The show will be broadcast on the CBS Television Network at 8 p.m.

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WASHINGTON (AP) — A Senate colleague was trying to close a loophole that allowed a major insurer to divert millions of federal dollars from the nation’s most expensive construction project — John Kerry stepped in and blocked the legislation.

Over the next two years, the insurer, American International Group, paid Kerry’s way on a trip to Vermont and donated at least $10,000 to a tax-exempt group Kerry used to set up his presidential campaign. Company executives detailed in documents obtained by The Associated Press, is a textbook special interest, which he has said, is "a symbiotic relationship. He needs the donors' money, and the donors need favors. Welcome to Washington. That is how it works," Lewis said.

The documents obtained by AP provide a window into Kerry's involvement in a two-decade-old highway and tunnel construction project in his home state of Massachusetts. Known as the "Big Dig," it had become infamous for its multi-billion dollar cost overruns.

Kerry's office confirmed Wednesday that as member of the Senate Commerce Committee he persuaded committee chairman John McCain, R-Ariz., to drop a provision that would have stripped $150 million from the project and ended the insurance funding loophole.

The Massachusetts Democrat actually was angered by the loophole but didn't want money stripped from the project because it would hurt his constituents who needed the Boston project finished, spokesman Stephanie Cutter said.

When the "AIG investment" was questioned, John Kerry called for public hearings to investigate the parties involved and the legality of the investment practice. However, he firmly believed cutting funding for the Big Dig was not the answer," Cutter said.
Sports

UMass hires McCutcheon

Cal Poly athletic director leaves for Atlantic-10 conference school

By Dan Watson

The University of Massachusetts formally named Cal Poly athletic director John McCutcheon as the new athletic director of the Minutemen in a press conference Wednesday.

McCutcheon leaves Cal Poly after 12 years of work. His accolades include: gaining Division II program and pulling it into Division I in 1994, leading the majority of the Mustang sports into the Big West Conference, and achieving upgraded facilities in numerous sports.

"He's done an extraordinary job in managing the program and understanding the importance of student-athlete academic success," said President Warren Baker Wednesday afternoon. "We're looking to replace a lot of things that he's been able to bring to the job.

Now the national search for a replacement begins..."

Asked when the process starts, Baker responded, "Very quickly, I'll be a new athletic director this fall. We did in the past recruiting John from Boston College... We'll use essentially the same process with a search committee that will screen candidates and have a chair that will be appointed or elected."

Baker also expressed the hope of having a new athletic director announced by the end of the academic year.

McCutcheon interviewed last Thursday for the UMass position, which opened in September when then athletic director Ian McCaw accepted the athletic director position at Baylor University.

UMass interim athletic director Thor Byrom said March 1 will be McCutcheon's first day in charge of the Minutemen program, one that has eliminated six sports since 2002 and continues to search for a football coach. Former UM-ass football coach Mark Whipple left the team to join the Pittsburgh Steelers' staff as a quarterbacks coach.

"I'll allow us to fix some things that are broken," Byrom said. "He'll bring an outside opinion with great experience.

Local ties make the Pittsburg native's hiring a homecoming. McCutcheon lived in Massachusetts for 15 years and was an associate athletic director at Boston College before hired at Cal Poly in 1992.

"We'll definitely miss him," said baseball coach Larry Lee.

One of McCutcheon's main legacies may be his part in the building of athletic facilities. His methodical and analytical personality. A real asset to the university," he said.

Women face Aggies, Vandals

Mustang Daily Staff Report

John McCutcheon is the only athletic director Cal Poly has had since joining Division I in 1994.

He's very down to earth, had a good understanding of the life of a coach," Lee said. "He's been around athletics a good many years and has a good sense about what a coach's life is about. He backed the baseball program 100 percent... He's allowed us to be equal and compete in one of the best conferences in the country.

Baker also had nothing but nice things to say about McCutcheon.

"We'll definitely miss him," said baseball coach Larry Lee. "One of McCutcheon's main legacies may be his past in the building of athletic facilities. His methodical and analytical personality. A real asset to the university," he said.

Kevin Bradley / Sports Information

Harassing the competition

This week, there will be peace in downtown San Luis Obispo.

As the men's basketball team travels to the frontiers of Idaho and Utah State, the sile dance team comes over to my apartment (ladies: this week, we salsa!), the small, stubborn, archaic Mott Gym will be darkened save for two women games, Halftime, signaling the absence of raucous fans.

It marks a huge shift from last weekend.

Though the Mustangs defeated a pair of bottom-dwelling teams, the Cal State Fullerton Titans on Thursday and the UC Riverside Highlanders on Saturday, Cal Poly fans raised the roof.

Commentary

All good.

This Thursday night that Titan guard Anthony Bolton made an out of himself in front of the student section, cracking under a mountain of derision. Members of the Sixth Man, who played and "WE WANT PIERCE!" hal meltdowns.

Pierce said.

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Pierce said. Whatever you think of Pierce and his homies, when Pierce and his homes spent much of the game yelling at the Highlander bench, calling out pine- dwelling freshman forward Jeff Mulhoffer, who never made it into the game.

The Sixth Man common hangar was buzzing with reaction players.

The bunch of Cal Pol fans upstairs in black T-shirts have appeared at almost every men's basketball game, home or road, seeming half party animal, half prostitute.

We're lucky they didn't wind up in the dihanger after their game at Mott Gym.

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"I got liquored up before it... We got crazy," Pierce said. "We were louder than all the Cal fans there.

We called everybody upstairs, and they didn't like it. Then our team won by a point, we nashed the court, we got ours.

One Sixth Man almost got arrested on the court, and Pierce said he was assaulted by a number of fans, including one who was beyond 70 years old.

"I think I bumped his wife acci-

dentally," Pierce said.

It's too bad no one's nashed the court at Mott this season, but Pierce said that will happen when the 7-9 Mustangs beat a big-time opponent or record a huge win, not just a pair of lopsided victories over backhander Fullerton and Riverside.

Fans have also been criticizing Mott, which was seemingly con­ structed during Biblical times and is certainly not equipped for the modern basketball audience.

Maybe the biggest praise for the roof came Thursday night.

"It wasn't much different Saturday," Pierce said. "W e'll definitely miss him," said basketball coach Larry Lee.

"One of McCutcheon's main legacies may be his part in the building of athletic facilities. His methodical and analytical personality. A real asset to the university," he said.

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