CLA dean accepts CSUN provost job

Leah Mori
MUSTANG DAILY

After six years at Cal Poly, College of Liberal Arts Dean Harry Hellenbrand is resigning. He will become provost at Cal State University, Northridge. Hellenbrand applied for the provost position in late November. He became a finalist and was offered the job. Hellenbrand decided to accept the position last Wednesday and will begin at Northridge on Aug. 1.

"I accepted because the position is yet another challenge," Hellenbrand said. "I'll learn a lot doing it. And Northridge faces a host of problems: low retention rates, improving links with K-12, streamlining GE, expanding the physical plant with a limited budget, firing more diverse students into tightened offerings, and nurturing new faculty, that are crucial to the success of the entire system."

As provost, Hellenbrand will focus his attention on university-wide issues, as opposed to his current, narrow focus on liberal arts. He will have more responsibility but less direct control.

The news of Hellenbrand's departure did not come as a surprise to Interim Provost and Vice President Robert Detweiler. Hellenbrand told President Warren Baker, when he first accepted his position as dean, that he would be leaving in five to seven years. He recently told Baker and Detweiler that he was a finalist for the provost position at Northridge and they were contacted for background information, Detweiler said. They knew Hellenbrand was likely to take the position. The dean sent out an e-mail to the College of Liberal Arts faculty members Monday, informing them of his decision.

College of Liberal Arts Dean Harry Hellenbrand is resigning.

Survey: Information gap hurts college diversity

Michelle Locke
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BERKELEY — Scent awareness of financial aid is creating a barrier between Hispanics and college, according to a new report.

"Their expectation is that college is too expensive and out of reach for them," said Harry Pachón, president of the Tomas Rivera Policy Institute, which conducted the research.

The result, he said, is that potential students are stranded on a "paper frontier," daunted by the sometimes confusing forms required to get student loans and grants.

Three out of four Hispanic young adults surveyed who weren't in college said they would have been more likely to go if they'd known more about financial aid.

The survey was conducted for The Sallie Mae Fund, a charitable organization funded by Sallie Mae, the nation's largest provider of student loans. Fund officials said they will expand existing programs aimed at helping potential students.

Possible Drug Overdose: High schooler was visiting Poly

A high school student was wheeled out of The Avenue on Tuesday, after a possible overdose on prescription painkillers. He was taken to Sierra Vista Hospital. The minor's name was not released and officials refused to comment on his condition.

Flames consume students' home

Ji Jun
MUSTANG DAILY

Five Cal Poly students were left without a home when a fire nearly destroyed the Murray Street house.

None of the students were home when the San Luis Obispo Fire Department responded to an emergency call made for 1152 Murray St. at 6:55 p.m. Monday.

Aerospace engineer Brian Miracle was grocery shopping at Albertson's with two of his housemates when he got a call from a friend telling him their house was on fire.

"We didn't think it was our house at first," Miracle said.

The three did not arrive until 30 to 45 minutes after the emergency call was made and found the contents in the rear of the house burned and charred. The rest of their house suffered smoke damage.

Next-door neighbor and mechanical engineering junior Garrett Casas was called 911 when he heard people gathering excitedly outside on the sidewalk.

"I saw flames coming out the back window," he said. "Everybody was watching."

The "silly smoke alarm," was contained in three to five minutes, said fire Capt. Rik Grencik from Station No. 2.

"The fire had involved two rooms," he said. "The fire was coming out those windows and one door. It had been burning for quite some time before we got the call."

A halogen lamp was determined as the cause of the fire, Grencik said. See Fire, page 2.
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Advocate for diversity, was responsible and has advanced and raised efforts for students whose families to campus, has increased outreach and has contributed immensely to Cal Poly and will be missed. "To be candid, I'm disappointed Harry is leaving," said Detweiler. "He's been an asset to Cal Poly."

Hispanics raising awareness about financial aid in the Hispanic community. Among other things, the fund is hosting 40 of its 135 "Paying for College" workshops in Spanish this year and will launch a 20-city bus tour targeting major Latino population centers.

The report was based on a telephone survey of 1,200 Hispanic parents of children ages 18 to 24 and a separate sample of 1,250 Hispanic adults ages 18 to 24. Survey respondents were drawn from seven major metropolitan areas across the nation and the survey had a margin of error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

Key results included findings that:

- More than two-thirds of parents surveyed said they didn't receive financial aid information while their children were in grades K-12.
- More than half of young adults surveyed who weren't in college said they had not received financial aid information in K-12.
- More than two-thirds of young adults who were in college were at least familiar with some financial aid options, compared to only half of young adults not in college.
- Nearly 65 percent of Hispanic families preferred to learn about financial aid through face-to-face meetings, rather than the Internet or printed material.
- About half of Hispanic parents preferred to learn about financial aid in Spanish while more than half of young adults preferred English.
- Historically, Hispanic enrollment in higher education rates has lagged behind the national average, said Tom Joyce, spokesman for The Sallie Mae Fund. An estimated 10 percent of Hispanics have a college degree today compared to a national average of about 30 percent, he said.
- In California, Hispanics make up about one-third of the population, and about 16 percent of enrollment at the University of California. More than 20 percent of students at the California State University system are Hispanic.
- U.S. has been bilingual pamphlets on financial aid to Hispanic families and is engaged in a number of ongoing programs having direct contact with prospective students and their parents, said UC spokesperson Luann Lonick.
- "Unfortunately, those programs are in peril right now because of the fast pace of the governor's proposed cutting out all of their funding."

On the Net
Survey report: www.thesalliemaefund.org

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Thursday, April 8, 6 pm
Erhart Agriculture Bldg. (10), Rm. 220

For further information, contact
Cal Poly Continuing Education

Dr. William Martinez, 756-7662, e-mail continuing-ed@calpoly.edu
http://www.calpoly.edu/polypro/conted.html

Nine students arrested in eviction protest

IRVINE (AP) — Nine students were arrested Tuesday for protesting the eviction from a trailer park that officials plan to demolish on the University of California, Irvine campus.

University officials do not plan to press charges against the students, who were arrested on suspicion of trespassing and failure to disperse, said Robert Ameele of the UC Irvine undergraduate housing program.

Students living in the trailer park say they will be unable to find affordable housing in Irvine if the university removes them from their homes. They pay $130 each month for a space in the park, as opposed to $820 for new student housing.

Irvine has one of the highest average rents of any U.S. city with a population greater than 100,000.

Fire continued from page 1

"Something was placed on the light, or it was too close to the wall and it ignited the fire," he said.

Being careful with candles and lighting around the house, general good housekeeping and being aware of your surroundings were tips Gretchik offered residents.

Gretchik said he also could not stress enough the importance of having renter's insurance, which shouldn't be confused with homeowner's insurance.

"If they got wiped out with everything you own, think about how that's going to affect you," he said.

Miracle did comment, "What a way to start off the new quarter."

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State Briefs

SANTA ROSA — Santa Rosa city officials are considering job cuts and fee hikes to try to overcome a $7.5 million hole in the general fund budget.

The city is considering $5.8 million in spending cuts and $1.7 million in fee hikes to try to balance its general fund budget. Nearly half of the spending cuts would come from the fire and police departments, which were targeted for $2.8 million in reductions under a budget outline released Tuesday.

Under the preliminary budget, the fire and police departments would bear the brunt of the job cuts. The two departments would lose 21 jobs, with another 10 positions being cut across the rest of the city.

SAN FRANCISCO — U.S. Navy and San Francisco officials have ironed out their differences over transferring a polluted former shipyard to the city, a deal that paves the way for the one-of-a-kind waterfront property to be cleaned up and developed.

The agreement signed by the Navy on Wednesday appeared to end more than a decade of friction between federal and local officials over the fate of the old Hunters Point Naval Shipyard, which closed in 1974 and has been on the list of highly contaminated Superfund sites since 1989.

The 936-acre site, of which about 443 acres are usable, is the largest tract of undeveloped land in San Francisco. Located on the city's southeastern corner, it abuts the bay and a neighborhood that once housed shipyard workers but has become plagued by poverty and persistent violence.

VENTURA — The California Highway Patrol and railroad operators are cracking down on motorists and pedestrians who behave recklessly near Ventura County tracks.

Officers at several crossings between Oxnard and Moorpark have written dozens of citations, given verbal warnings and reported an additional 25 traffic violations as part of the Officer-on-a-Train program.

The program is sponsored by rail operators and Operation Lifesaver, a nonprofit national organization founded to promote rail safety and reduce accidents.

— Associated Press

NATIONAL/BRIEFS

NEW YORK — Martha Stewart requested a new trial Wednesday, saying one of the jurors who convicted her failed to disclose a checkered past that includes an arrest on assault charges.

Stewart's lawyers said juror Chappell Harridge has been sued three times and has been accused of stealing money from a Little League group — but improperly left the accusations off his jury questionnaire.

YAKIMA, Wash. — The state of Washington should issue additional permits to divert water from the Columbia River only if those withdrawals can be stopped when low water flows imperil threatened salmon, a study released Wednesday said.

The study by the National Academy of Sciences could make it difficult for additional farmers to get water for crops. Environmental groups praised the results, while some irrigators argued the findings failed to provide any new information.

The state Ecology Department commissioned the $488,000 study as part of a plan to establish new rules for future water rights and to better manage the river, which is a source of electricity, transportation, recreation and irrigation. The Columbia River basin touches on seven states, one Canadian province and several Indian reservations.

LAS VEGAS — The Energy Department is dusting off a backup plan to ship radioactive waste through rural Nevada by truck in the first years of the Yucca Mountain nuclear waste repository.

"It's possible that we want this rail line when we are ready to ship, and so we have to have a contingency," Energy Department and Yucca Mountain spokesman Allen Benson told the Las Vegas Review-Journal. "You have to be prepared, and that's what this is." 

Nuclear waste casks would be placed on rail cars at nuclear reactors in 39 states and shipped to a Nevada transfer station, possibly at Caliente in southeastern Nevada, according to an internal Energy Department analysis performed this month. The casks would be rolled onto specially designed tractor-trailers and hauled across the state to the repository, 90 miles northwest of Las Vegas.

— Associated Press

World Briefs

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan — A lone militant who was holed up in a house blew himself up early Thursday, ending a standoff in the Uzbek capital. The official statement contradicted accounts of militants holding a large number of hostages.

The incident appeared at first to mark a fourth straight day of violence in the Central Asian country, where police and Islamic militants had allegedly engaged in battles and bombings that had taken at least 42 lives.

Oleg Bichenov, Tashkent city police anti-terrorism deputy chief, said early Thursday they were no hostages and that a lone man — barricaded in a house and surrounded by police — had detonated explosives, killing himself.

FALLUJAH, Iraq — In a scene reminiscent of Somalia, frenzied crowds dragged the burned, mutilated bodies of four American contractors through the streets of a town west of Baghdad on Wednesday and strung two of them up from a bridge after rebels ambushed their SUV.

Five U.S. soldiers of the 1st Infantry Division also were killed when a bomb exploded under their M-113 armored personnel carrier north of Fallujah, making it the bloodiest day for Americans in Iraq since Jan. 8.

The four contract workers were killed in Fallujah, a Sunni Triangle city about 35 miles west of Baghdad and scene of some of the worst violence on both sides of the conflict since the beginning of the American occupation a year ago.

VIENNA, Austria — With fuel costs already at uncomfortable levels for consumers, OPEC took a step that could push prices even higher by announcing Wednesday that it would cut its crude oil production target by 4 percent.

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries hopes the cut, which takes effect Thursday, will prevent a slide in prices this spring, when the global demand for oil usually slips to a seasonal low.

Some analysts said the cut could soon push crude prices above the psychologically important threshold of $40 per barrel, though future markets fell on Wednesday.

— Associated Press
Study adds to debate on morning-after pill

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Teenagers who have emergency “morning-after” birth control pills at home are no more likely than other young people to have unprotected sex, a study found.

University of Pittsburgh researchers questioned women ages 15 to 20 who had immediate access to the pills and those who did not. The study, published in the April issue of the Journal of Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology, was conducted between 1997 and 2001.

“People seem to be really worried that if young women knew that they had this that they would drop their usual methods and go out and have rampant sex,” said Melanie A. Gold, the study’s lead author.

At the end of the six months, 26 teenagers who were given the pills reported using them 35 times. In the group that was not given the pills but had to go out and get them, 20 teenagers reported using them 24 times.

Morning-after pills are high-dose birth control pills that can be taken soon after unprotected sex to prevent pregnancy. They work by blocking the implantation of a fertilized egg in the uterus.

In February, the Food and Drug Administration delayed a decision on whether to allow the pills to be sold over the counter because it wanted more information on the use of the pills by 16- and 17-year-olds.

Opponents have argued that making the pills too accessible could lead to more cases of unsafe sex and an increase in sexually transmitted diseases. Proponents say the pills reduce the number of unwanted pregnancies.

In this latest study, researchers followed 301 women who were recruited from a clinic at Children’s Hospital in Pittsburgh. Participants agreed to speak with researchers once a month about their sex lives and use of contraception.

The study found that those who were given the pills used them much sooner than the teens who did not have them.
NY Judge quizzes doctor about potential fetus pain

NEW YORK (AP) — In questioning that at times turned graphic, a judge deciding the constitutionality of a new ban on some abortions grilled a doctor Wednesday on whether a fetus feels pain during the procedures.

The inquiry came in U.S. District Court in Manhattan after lawyers on both sides had finished questioning Dr. Timothy Johnson, a University of Michigan professor and research scientist at the school's Center for Human Growth and Development, saying he had been told studies of a form of abortion usually performed in the second trimester had concluded they do.

Johnson said he did not know, adding he knew of no scientific research on the subject.

The exchange touched a key element of the government's argument that the ban blocks a particularly gruesome type of abortion that causes pain to the fetus and is not needed to protect a woman's health because other options are safer.

Abortion-rights advocates and their physicians say the procedure in which the fetus is partly outside the woman's body before the abortion is completed is sometimes the safest option and often protects a woman's health rather than harms it.

The constitutionality of the law, signed by President Bush in November after eight years of congressional research, is being decided in simultaneous trials in New York, San Francisco and Lincoln, Neb. Before the start of the New York trial last week, Casey declined to exclude evidence about fetal pain.

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WASHINGTON (AP) — A U.S.-Canadian drug trafficking ring believed responsible for 15 percent of all the ecstasy smuggled into the United States America has been wiped out, authorities said Wednesday. They announced 68 arrests and criminal charges against 170 people.

At its height, the ring distributed 1 million ecstasy tablets per month in the two countries and laundered $5 million a month using travel agencies and bank transfers in the United States and Vietnam, officials said.

Drug Enforcement Administration Chief Ken Tandy said the two-year investigation culminated in the arrests of nearly all the trafficking operation, from carriers to couriers.

"We wiped out this entire organization," Tandy said at a news conference. But his team has found that prolonged, heavy use of ecstasy can cause confusion, depression, anxiety, aggressiveness and memory loss, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

It has mapped and watched the attention of an increasing range of criminal enterprises, largely because of the big profits. Pills sold at about $4 an apiece wholesale in the operation typically cost $15 to $20 each on the street.

The organization targeted by U.S. and Canadian authorities consisted largely of people with Asian backgrounds, according to court documents. The alleged ring leaders were Zeyad Wong, 46, a Chinese citizen, and Mai Phuong Le, 36, a Vietnamese citizen. Wong was arrested in Toronto and Le in Ottawa.

They operated three labs in Canada, which were discovered and dismantled in August, authorities said. The pills were sometimes smuggled across the U.S. border or inside Canada in compartments within vehicle gas tanks, making the drugs hard to detect, particularly for drug-sniffing dogs.

The Supreme Court on Tuesday unanimously ruled that government agents have broad authority to search and even dismantle vehicle gas tanks to combat smuggling at U.S. borders.

The ring also used hidden gas tank compartments to transport cash. In one instance, the search of a vehicle headed for Canada in Burlington, Vt., yielded $750,000 in U.S. currency concealed in the compartment.

Authorities said the Wong-Le organization differs from previous ecstasy trafficking groups because it is the first to use a large-scale operation on a large scale in North America. The main sources of ecstasy previously have been the Netherlands and Belgium.

These methods, said Deputy Attorney General James Comey, "are a signal to us that, as we found the fact, its availability in ecstasy is attracting new traffickers and new ways of trafficking."

U.S. and Canadian charging documents accuse Wong of leading a drug distribution ring in 18 U.S. cities and Canada and contend that Le orchestrated the laundering of drug money for the operation. They and the others are charged with a lengthy list of counts including conspiracy to distribute and operating a continuing criminal enterprise.

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Student Fee Referendum
April 14th and 15th

Two separate proposals

1. Increase Health Services Fee
2. Increase ASI Fee supporting student athlete scholarships

have been approved for a student referendum on April 14th and 15th.

The following Open Forums have been scheduled where students can ask questions and learn more about these two important proposals.

**Wednesday April 7, 3:00-4:00 p.m.**

**Thursday April 8, 3:30-4:30 p.m.**

**Monday April 12, 1:00-2:00 p.m.**

**Location: UU 220**

Additional information including an Objective Statement & Financial Analysis, Pro and Con Statements, sample ballot and polling times and locations is now available on the web, by clicking on the link located on Cal Poly’s home page (www.calpoly.edu).

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STORY BY THOMAS ATKINS PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY NATHAN CASWELL
When it comes to breakfast, students think cheap

Get a bowl, fill it with cereal, add milk, lift spoon to mouth. Even after years of the same old morning routine, it is because of these simple directions that college students still prefer cereal for breakfast.

Students agree that not only is this cereal habit simple, but it tastes good and fits easily into the college-student budget and fast-paced lifestyle.

Plus, if chosen wisely, cereal can be a healthy way to jump-start the morning.

"Cereals are fine for breakfast because they contain complex carbohydrates, fiber and some are high in many vitamins and minerals," food science and nutrition lecturer Susan Swadener said. "I eat cereals that are high in fiber and low in sugar and ones that taste good. I think that reading the cereal label is very important."

Swadener said she has been eating cereals that contain flavored, instead of buying cereals high in fiber and low in sugar, students say they mainly focus on Swadener's third reason for eating cereals: They taste good.

"The main reason I eat cereal is because it's fast, and it tastes good," business sophomore Tyler Biddulph said. "This morning I had Kix, but I basically just go for taste and whatever is cheap."

Many students agree that price is also a significant factor in picking cereals, and they say they usually go for the cheaper cereal instead of the healthy cereal.

"Cheapness is why I eat cereal," undeclared freshman Lucas Libbon said. "The healthy cereals that I like, such as Banana Nut Crunch, are too expensive for me to buy."

In Ralph's Grocery on Madonna Road, the average box of cereal costs about $4.

Ralph's large cereal aisle contained more than 100 choices of cereal brands, varieties, flavors, textures and sizes.

But, as Libbon pointed out, the healthier cereals were usually more expensive, while the ones containing more sugar were cheaper. For example, a box of Quaker 100 Percent Natural Granola was $5.49, while Quaker Honey Graham Ohs was $2.99.

Yet even when spending more money on cereal, students still said they would get a "sugar cereal" like Cap'n Crunch, Fruit Loops ... basically anything with a cartoon character or a game on the box. I haven't grown out of the kid stage yet."

According to www.uswinn.com, though, even these kid cereals aren't too bad. In fact, most cereals on the market today, including "sugar cereal," are equipped with enough vitamins and minerals for one serving to provide 20 to 100 percent of the daily required amount of a given vitamin or mineral.

Besides, eating a "sugar cereal" is much better than eating nothing.

"I think cereal is healthy to eat, especially if the alternative is not eating," food science and nutrition lecturer Susan Gollnick said. "I love cereal and eat it everyday. We usually have at least five or six different types of cereal in our house and I try to mix them up so I don't get burnt out on just one. Most cereals have lots of vitamins and minerals, and if you eat it with milk on it, you get a pretty good start."

Gollnick recommends combining several different types of cereals together to get a variety, as well as adding food, such as dried fruit and nuts, to increase the cereal's benefits.

"Adding food will increase the calories and can also make you feel full for a longer time," she said. "You can still have a little sugary cereal if you mix it with one that has less sugar and maybe more fiber in it so that will get you to eat it."

She also says she looks for cereals with at least five grams of fiber per bowl and fewer than six grams of sugar per serving, though. Among other things, cereals are a good source of omega-3 fatty acids, seven grams of carbohydrates, fiber and some are high in many vitamins and minerals.

While some students opt for a sugary jolt in the morning, nutrition professionals suggest healthy cereals as an adequate start to the day.

Correction: The PK-50 was added to the campus value program, accessed through your PolyCard, which can be used at restaurants on campus, El Corral Bookstore, Health Services, Pay-Prints, and for printing at Open Access computer labs. This secure and convenient program makes it easy to get around campus without cash. Your CAMPUS EXPRESS CLUB saves time because there are no checks to write, no change to count and no credit card to verify so you’re through the line in no time. Save money, too! For discounts currently offered when you use your CAMPUS EXPRESS CLUB (or Plus Dollars), check www.cpfoundation.org/express/
Cereal

come to mind), here are some lists of cereals for students who don’t want to read the labels and would like to know which cereals are healthier than others. These are some of the cereals that are either high, moderate or low in carbohydrate (more than 50 grams of carbohydrates, more than four grams of protein and less than 40 percent of carbohydrate is sugar) — Cheerios, Rice Krispies, Corn Flakes, Special K and Total. Low density (more than 40 percent of carbohydrate is sugar) — Cinnamon Toast Crunch, Captain Crunch and Frosted Flakes.

Book points out ‘Madness’ of American economy

Jeremy Buckley

‘An Empire of the Obese’ details the rise and fall of some of the prominent players in the pornography industry. Reuten Sturman might be the biggest tax evader in American history, but his name is almost completely unknown outside the circle of porn connoisseurs.

The first line in Chuck Palahniuk’s book “Choke” starts, “You do not want to read this book…”

When I finished the book, I understood why he said that. "Reefer Madness" had the same effect on my psyche.

It’s filled with hypocrisy, and no one ever has to answer to why sit-down comissars do not want to read the book because it lacked quality and information. Rather the information set forth in the book’s text and seemingly with the encouragement of the state government. It’s filled with hypocrisy, and no one ever has to answer to why sit-down comissars do not want to read the book because it lacked quality and information. Rather the information set forth in the book’s text and seemingly with the encouragement of the state government.

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Thursday, April 1, 2004

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Cal Poly and Downtown

Reuse, Recycle, Redecorate!
The cookies always win

Commentary

It may sound odd, but there are some people who have an issue with Girl Scout cookies. Yes, that's right, good, old-fashioned Girl Scout cookies. In fact, some people are even boycotting them.

The reason for the boycott is not because of the cookies themselves but because of what the money made goes to support. Planned Parenthood's sex education programs. For some angry parents in Texas, this is a problem because of the curriculum taught by Planned Parenthood. Their sex education program includes teachings about homosexuality, masturbation, and condom use. For this reason, some Texan parents are withdrawing their daughters from Girl Scouts and refusing to buy cookies.

On the local level, this has not harmed the Girl Scouts or the sales of their cookies. Members of Troop 399, which represents San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura, don't think the Boycott will affect them.

"We have seen a drop in our cookie sales or any parent pulling their kids out of the troop," CEO of Girl Scouts of Troops Condysy Candler has said. "We've only had one call from a parent who was misinformed about the issue, but that was it. I think it is unfortunate that this is taking place because it is negatively impacting a wonderful organization as well as the girls involved.

People need to realize that the Girl Scout cookie money goes toward other things. Without this money, the girls won't be able to go on trips, and they would miss out on a lot of opportunities.

However, she said each Girl Scout troop is run differently.

"Each Girl Scout council makes their own decisions on what they are going to do," said Salmon. "We try to focus on building strong girls, and we encourage the parents to discuss things like sexuality with their children. If parents were going to come in and give a talk about something controversial, it would be discussed with the parents first."

But, she added, "We don't want to stand on a soap box like this."

Even though I don't wholly agree with the methods of Planned Parenthood's sex education teachings, it would be hard for me not to support the Girl Scouts and the Cookie Program. This is why I admire the Texas parents' courage and strength to hold back from eating these tasty treats.

However, although boycotting is an important way to fight and get your message across, boycotting Girl Scout cookies is sending the wrong message. It only makes matters worse, especially for the Girl Scouts who have no say in the situation.

I also disagree with the withholding of cookie orders that have already been taken, which two Girl Scout troops have done in Crawford, Texas. It's criminal to have someone expecting something as good as these cookies and then not deliver. It's torture.

So if these people want to pick a fight, they should do it with Planned Parenthood, not with the Girl Scouts. Besides, it will be hard to fight the tempting taste of the cookie.

In the end, the cookies will win. They always do.

Thomas Aitken is a journalism senior and a Mustang Daily staff writer.

April fools' day is centuries old

Commentary

"Pish and poph — the world is lost — the fools are out again." 

Sung in England about 400 years ago, these words come from a dirty, "Fool's Paradise," which was originally written as a court masque that has come down through history as April Fool's Day.

Beginning under the reign of King Edward II, April Fools' was at first a time for the general populace to forget their griefs and celebrate life, albeit in a somewhat disorderly fashion. People would wear costumes and everyone would run around shouting "April Fool's!" at their neighbors and anyone else who believed anything written so far.

APRIL FOOLS!"

The real history of April Fool's Day is actually much different than the kind of gibberish and absurdity that makes an April Fool's holiday, stems from quite a serious event.

A Stage 1 emergency.

Now, instead of the air conditioners, we turn on the air conditioners. Normally, we don't even pay our own utility bills; even if we do, we gripe about them and assume that the system is OK, just because the lights are on. Because we're never turned off, day or night. If anything goes wrong, we're quick to blame somebody else. We blame the city's Department of Water and Power. We blame the utility companies. We blame our own personal habits. But we rarely blame our own personal habits, to solve the energy problem.

The cheapest solution is really simple, but last time out when the lights went out, you didn't see them. Or turn off the air conditioner. Or turn off whatever else might be eating up the power. It sounds like common sense, but it's amazing how many people don't do it.

For example, the spotlights on top of VRC are never turned off, day or night. When the power goes out, you see them all over high noon except maybe.

That's not to say that the utility companies are guilty. They do their part to fix the system. Politicians and regulators need to do their part too. Politically, we are going to take years to replace outdated equipment, build new plants, establish new policies, and so on. We can't afford to wait that long.

We can't be complacent. We can't assume that the energy crisis is over. It's just OK just because the lights are on. Because if we're not careful, these lights may start flickering before long.

Peter J. Scordari is a writing for the Daily Trojan at the University of Southern California.

The real history of April Fool's Day is actually much different than this kind of gibberish. Today, the" April Fool's" holiday, stems from quite a serious event.

Many people didn't know about the origin of April Fool's Day. And in addition, many people were set in their traditions and had no desire to change. But we rarely blame our own personal habits, to solve the energy problem. We blame the power grid is still in sorry shape. We need to keep fixing our infrastructure and rethinking the industry, because the chaos of 2001 could happen again. This time around, it could theoretically be even worse than before.

I mean I sound like I'm being alarmist, but I'm not. Last August, a cascading blackout hit the northeastern United States and Canada. The collapse paralyzed New York, Toronto, Cleveland, Detroit and hundreds of millions of people in many countries. Some areas remained dark for days.

A lot of people wrote off this as an isolated incident. But soon after that, a similar blackout swept across Italy.

In both cases, it turned out that the power grid had been strained past its breaking point. Sometimes the demand exceeded the supply, and sometimes the transmission lines were inadequate. There was no easy solution, but it would be hard to fix the system.

Of course, in our everyday lives, most of us don't even think about our power usage. If we want to turn on the lights, we turn on the lights; if we want to turn on the air conditioner, we turn it on. Normally, we do this for the air conditioners. We don't even pay our own utility bills; even if we do, we gripe about them and assume that the system is OK, just because the lights are on. Because we're never turned off, day or night. If anything goes wrong, we're quick to blame somebody else. We blame the city's Department of Water and Power. We blame the utility companies. We blame our own personal habits. But we rarely blame our own personal habits, to solve the energy problem.
Springtime and the attiré's skimpy

Like a drip of hot wax on the skin, the San Luis Obispo sun burns deep into your flesh, sparkling memories of sweat, sex and sin. The beat of the air is an inspiration to the heat of your hormones, riled and rallied by 80-degree weather and 100-degree women. The smell of smoke fills your senses, rising outward and upward over the city like the fallout from some great barbecue bond, fueling thoughts of appetite and lust.

As you cross campus, you notice something different, an air of sexual edge, a devilish seductive grin. The pulse of the campus is alert, alive and dripping in sexual undertones. Everybody is beautiful.

Spring quarter when did everybody become so gorgeous and where did all the hot women come from? Welcome Cal Poly, to spring quarter in San Luis Obispo, the sexual district of the year.

Spring quarter at Cal Poly is like a class trip to the sex factory, a place where the awkward introductions and awkward conversations are happening. The lighting attire of winter are cast aside, disassembled and remanufactured into daring libidos' boiling like the sun that fuels them. Women — tanned, beautiful and bold — appear from thin air. Houdini style, magically appearing in the University Union after two quarters of disguising themselves in Poly sweatshirts, jumpsuits and jeans. Classmates, previously bald and unrecognizable themselves like drunken debutantes, revealing to the world their inner freak, unashamed and emboldened by the levity of the weather. Who would have thought, when the fog of winter was lifted from our eyes, that the homey girl in bobs would now be a rock star, the face of a porno star and killer tan to boot?

It's amazing what a little time in Mexico can do to a person.

Indeed, spring quarter is the time of tank tops, mini skirts, sandals and shades. It's the only time of year when the sexual wasteland of San Luis Obispo is on an even par with the famous beauties of Santa Barbara and San Diego. Where these ravishing beauties go for the rest of the year is a mystery to me.

As you cross campus, you notice something different, an air of spring quarter. Indeed, spring quarter is the time of tank tops, mini skirts, sandals and shades. It's the only time of year when the sexual wasteland of San Luis Obispo is on an even par with the famous beauties of Santa Barbara and San Diego.

The Rec Center pool becomes a veritable sea of glistening bodies, oiled to the eyeballs and shimmering in the sunlight like mirages — mirages almost unrecognizable to the common, awe-struck exercisers will become paralyzed on the ledge above, unable to avert their eyes from the sight.

Many a class will be missed this spring quarter, sacrificed to the sexua1 activity. Half meat market and half runway show, the UU in spring quarter is smoking. As you cross campus, you notice something different, an air of spring quarter. Indeed, spring quarter is the time of tank tops, mini skirts, sandals and shades. It's the only time of year when the sexual wasteland of San Luis Obispo is on an even par with the famous beauties of Santa Barbara and San Diego.

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Kristen Davis is an electrical engineer–

graduate.

The relationship of 'Sean and Lisa'

I've been walking around campus lately and have noticed little signs spray painted on the ground. I'm really curious to know who Lisa and Sean are and why they like each other so much that they painted those messages on the ground. I heard from a friend that Lisa doesn't even actually like Sean and that it's just a joke her friends are playing on her. All I know is that I don't know Lisa and I don't care if they like each other or not.

What I do care about is the fact that people have been writing crapping letters to the editor lately. Are the people who are spray painting those messages on the ground aware that people are actually reading these? It seems like they have something to say always that lane? Is there any good, luck to Sean in making friends with Lisa that the really does like him.

Derek Kurtz is a computer engineering

senior.

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Google to offer free e-mail service

MOUNTAIN VIEW (AP) — Search engine Google Inc. announced Wednesday it would launch a free, Web-based e-mail service to compete against popular services from rivals Yahoo Inc. and Microsoft Corp.

Google’s service, called “Gmail,” will include a built-in search function that will let people quickly search every e-mail they’ve ever sent or received using Google.

According to company executives, users will be able to type in keywords to sort e-mails or find old messages. And it will come with 1 gigabyte of free storage — more than 100 times what some popular rivals offer and enough to hold 500,000 pages of e-mail.

To finance the service, Google will display advertising links tied to the topics discussed within the e-mails. For instance, an e-mail inquiring about an upcoming concert might include an ad from a ticket agency.

“Gmail is a logical extension of the world’s most popular search engine,” said Google co-founder Larry Page, who is said in an interview.

For now, Google is only opening up the service to invited users but expects to make it accessible to everyone within a few weeks, Page said.

Officials at Yahoo and Microsoft’s Hotmail division declined to comment on Google’s entry into a new category.

But analysts said that Google — whose technology is behind nearly four out of every five Web searches — could shake up the free e-mail market.

Yahoo dominates the niche, with 45.4 million users. AOL has 40.2 million paying users.

Industry analyst David Ferris said Gmail is a logical extension of the world’s most popular search engine. But he said Google may run into trouble if it tries to charge for e-mail eventually.

Rivals have kept stripped versions of e-mail free and asked users to pay annual fees up to $30 or more for extra storage and spam protection. “I know that companies offering free e-mail are very frustrated because the consumer expects it will stay free — they simply will not pay any money for them,” said Ferris, president of San Francisco-based Ferris Research. “Although there’s a clear tendency for these free services to offer for-fee extensions, users are very resistant to taking them up. The level of adoption is very disappointing.”

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Is it a sprain or a fracture?
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Check out the SELF-CARE MANUAL.

Where do I go for care after hours, and how do I use my private medical insurance?
Check the Health and Counseling Services Home page at http://hes.calpoly.edu
For the love of sports

While the rest of the student body deals with crushing classes and buying textbooks, the baseball team heads to the Aloha State for a six-game series against the lowly Hawaii-Hilo Vulcans (7-26).

It will be the final series prior to the start of West Coast Conference play for the Mustangs, who dropped out of the Sports Weekly/ESPN poll after losing three games to No. 1-ranked Stanford.

Game times are 6 p.m. Pacific today (doubleheader) and Friday (single game), 1 p.m. Saturday (doubleheader) and noon Sunday (single game), all at Kahuku-Kona.

The Mustangs, in the midst of a stretch of 12 straight games and 19 of 22 on the road, are 22-12-3 overall in 2004.

Hawaii-Hilo dropped all four games of a weekend series against fellow Big West Conference member UC Riverside.

Cal Poly highlights were second baseman Adam Levitt, catcher Cory Taillon and third baseman Kyle Blumenfeld, who each had four hits in the series. Dennis DeLuce had 2-2-3 scoreless innings in two relief appearances.

Stanford held Cal Poly to a .255 team batting average and just eight runs in three games en route to a sweep for the third straight year.

The Mustangs, who hit just .169 in their opening series of the season, have raised their team batting average to .308 in the last 32 games and had won eight of 10 games prior to the Stanford series.

The Mustangs own a 9-5-1 record. DeLuce, the right-hander with a staff ERA of 6.78, will start Thursday's opener. Right-hander Jimmy Shull (6-3, 4.41 ERA) will start Saturday's opener.

Cal Poly has lost to the Vulcans since 1998.

UConn — the championship game on Monday and the 20 Major League Baseball teams that begin play Sunday and Monday.

Rambles:

-- Does anyone else wonder why we had a word processor on the computer, anything about Candlewood "throw it down young girl" Parker, the 17-year-old girl phenom who won the McDonald's Slam Dunk Contest before her phenomenal feat Tuesday? -- Someone needs to tell Cal State Northridge, who was again put on probation for the second time in five years, that it still does not have a "get out of academic probation free" card.

Dan Watson is a journalism sophomore and Mustang Daily columnist.

Childress may go pro; Wooden candidates

\[\text{Cal Poly}
\text{will make the trip to}
\text{Hawaii}
\text{before returning to the main­}
\text{land to begin Big West}
\text{Conference play. The}
\text{Mustangs}
\text{5-5-1 all­time}
\text{against the}
\text{Hawaii­Hilo}
\text{Vulcans.}
\]

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

Aloha: Baseball hits road for 6-game series

"Today's game starts at 6 p.m.
and can be heard on
gopolyl.com.

-- Cal Poly has not lost to the
Vulcans since 1998.

-- Stanford forward Josh Childress will
declare himself eligible for the NBA
draft but will still leave open the option
of returning for his senior season.

-- I plan on putting my name in and
testing it out, trying the waters," Childress said in a telephone interview
Wednesday. "I do not plan on hiring an agent right now just from the standpoint of coming back if I need to."

On Tuesday, the All-American for­ward told coach Mike Montgomery his decision.

Childress said he would complete his sociology degree at Stanford at some point.

Okafor, Dahon and Lucas led their teams to the Final Four. The five finalists will be announced this weekend, with the winner determined in voting by more than 1,000 members of the media and college basketball experts.
A roadblock in the master plan

New route creating two-way access on California Blvd. may put 100-year-old Founder’s Tree at stake

Devon KINGDON
mustang daily

Relief for campus traffic problems may come fall quarter. The construction of a new thoroughfare extending California Boulevard to Highland Drive will create two-way access to the west side of campus. The cost: $900,000 and possibly one historic tree.

The construction of 350 new feet of roadway is expected to get underway this month. The road will allow for a direct traffic route from California and Foothill boulevards to the north end of campus near the railroad bridge and the new engineering building.

An unexpected speed bump in the plan, however, is the historic Founder’s Tree, which was planted by Cal Poly’s first graduating class in 1906. The tree came with the idea that each subsequent graduating class would plant a tree.

The notion that the tree could be cut down has angered some alumni and San Luis Obispo residents.

“I’m outraged that they would even consider cutting the Founder’s Tree down,” said Cal Poly graduate and San Luis Obispo resident Bob Goldman. “The tree is not even in the way of the road. If the tree is cut down I think it will speak volumes on how the administration feels about campus traditions and the pioneers who founded this university almost 100 years ago. This is not just any tree and it has immense significance and to chain saw it down is insensitive.”

Cal Poly Public Affairs Director Leah Kolt said everything is being done to preserve the tree.

“We are currently working to preserve the Founder’s Tree and are hopeful that it will not have to be cut down,” Kolt said.

Kolt, who claimed she was partially quoted in a Tribune article regarding the construction on Monday, clarified that officials were actually worried about damaging the tree.

“The tree is very old,” Kolt said. “We were afraid that the paving of the new road would damage the roots of the tree and possibly kill it.”

The project is part of the Cal Poly Master Plan to improve campus circulation and is being funded by Proposition 47, the Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2002.

The road will allow for a direct traffic route from California to Foothill boulevards.

So, um… got plans tonight?

Top 5 ways to ask someone on a date

The Food and Drug Administration approved Ketek Thursday. It’s the first ketolide, a new family of antibiotics structurally similar to drugs like the old standby erythromycin — but different enough to offer an alternative that could prove important for certain patients, said FDA anti-infective chief Dr. John Soreth.

Doctors are “eager to have another option,” she added.

Dr. Paul Lannini, a Yale University professor of medicine who helped research the drug, predicted it will quickly become a first-line choice. A type of strep bacteria that causes community-acquired pneumonia is increasingly able to overpower one or more antibiotics. About 20 percent of Streptococcus pneumonia in the United States are drug-resistant, Lannini said. Newer antibiotics called fluoroquinolones have been used to treat drug-resistant strep pneumonia, but a few strains resistant to these drugs are starting to form.

Ketek not only would offer an important option for patients running out of other options, but it may prove more likely to spur germs to resist antibiotics, Lannini said.

First, it more specifically targets bacteria in the respiratory tract than germs throughout the body; many other antibiotics are more broad-ranging.

Second, it has chemical properties that seem less likely than certain other drugs, such as erythromycin, to push a vulnerable germ into true resistance, Lannini said.

Drug-resistant pneumonia aside, Ketek is approved to treat acute bacterial sinusitis and acute flares of chronic bronchitis, conditions that affect thousands of Americans. Patients would use the drug for five to 10 days, depending on the condition being treated.

In studies that compared Ketek with certain other antibiotics, the drug proved equally effective and had similar side effects, Lannini said.

While Ketek has been sold in other countries since 2001, its U.S. approval was hand-worn. The FDA first raised questions about possible liver and heart side effects that same

Ex-student who planted bombs found incompetent

Cedar Rapids, Iowa — A former college student accused of planting pipe bombs in a “smiley face” pattern across the Midwest nearly two years ago was declared incompetent to stand trial Thursday by a federal judge.

Luke Helder, 22, was ordered to return to the Federal Medical Center in Rochester, Minn., where he will undergo another round of psychological evaluation to determine if he is competent to stand trial.

Judge Mark Bennett could free him if he is found not to be a significant risk.

Helder was caught after a nationwide manhunt in May 2002, when 18 pipe bombs and anti-government letters were placed in mailboxes in Iowa, Illinois, Nebraska, Colorado and Texas. Six pipe bombs exploded in Iowa and Illinois, injuring four letter carriers and two residents.

After his arrest outside Reno, Nev., Helder told authorities that by scattering the bombs across the country, he was trying to draw a “smiley face” on the map.

Bennett found Helder incompetent based on three forensic reports prepared by government doctors. The reports have been sealed by Bennett, who did not elaborate on Helder’s diagnosis.

Helder, in court for the first time since his June 2002 arraignment, turned and smiled at his parents several times before and after the hearing, but otherwise sat calmly through the proceedings. Helder’s parents declined to comment afterward.

FDA approves first in new class of antibiotics to fight pneumonia

WASHINGTON — Doctors are about to get the first in a new class of antibiotics to treat patients with a type of drug-resistant pneumonia, as well as those with sinusitis and bronchitis.

The Food and Drug Administration approved Ketek Thursday.

Lauran NEERGAARD
ASSOCIATED PRESS

While Ketek has been sold in other countries since 2001, its U.S. approval was hand-worn. The FDA first raised questions about possible liver and heart side effects that same
Rod

continued from page 1

Business will remain open. However, a portion of the Poly Grove Staff lot (C-4) will be closed. A second phase of the project will redesign the lot to add at least 50 new staff parking spaces, according to a press release.

Traffic heading up California Boulevard toward Campus Market, the Kennedy Library, agriculture buildings and University Police will use Campus Way and South Perimeter Road. Highland Drive will remain open during the entire construction phase but will also be subject to delays and lane closures. Pedestrian and bicycle traffic may also be affected by closures and detours.

Updates on the project are available online at the Cal Poly facilities Web site at www.calpoly.edu/campusnews/updates.html. Traffic and detour information can be found on the University Police Web site at www.aps.calpoly.edu/police.

Transportation plan to help alleviate six SoCal counties

SAN BERNARDINO — A regional agency on Thursday approved a $215 billion transportation plan designed to curb gridlock on freeways and improve airports and train stations that serve more than 17 million people in six counties.

The Southern California Association of Governments approved the plan called "Destination 2030," which is designed to help the region accommodate rapid growth while trying to make the most of limited funding.

"If we don't start making serious investments in our infrastructure now, the Southern California we leave to our children will suffer," said Temecula Councilman and SCAG First Vice President Ron Roberts.

The report will be forwarded to several federal agencies, including the Federal Transit Administration and the Federal Highway Administration, for approval. It would then be certified and reviewed by SCAG every three years, said the board's Executive Director Mark Piazza.

The plan provides a blueprint for the region's transportation needs for the next 25 years. Projects in Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura counties must be included in the report to be eligible for state and federal funding.

Some of the investments and recommendations listed in the report are:

- Connecting car pool lanes to fill gaps in its network.
- Improving regional airports.
- Increasing the capacity of Metropolitan Airport System.
- Investing in a $29 billion high-speed rail system that uses magnet-levitation technology and would connect Southern California's largest cities.

Planning officials admit that improving transportation while California is mired in a fiscal deficit is expected to be phased out. But the report suggests the funding shortfall could be alleviated by extending some county sales taxes that are expected to be phased out.

DEAR TROOPS

Student organizes letter-writing campaign

ORANGE (AP) — Between studying for geometry and playing softball, high school student Sharae Fleming has somehow found time to organize a campaign to collect 1 million letters of appreciation for military troops at home and abroad.

With the help of her classmates at Orange Lutheran High School, Fleming began her push Wednesday to gather the letters from around the nation by the end of May — which is National Military Appreciation Month. The campaign is called "A Million Thanks."

"I believe we need to support our troops 100 percent, even if we don't agree having them over here, they're our, our, ours, ours, " she said. "We need to show them that we care for them and will support them no matter what."

Pretty impressive for a 15-year-old freshman. Even more amazing is that she helped in a similar venture before.

Her father, Michael, started his own mission three years ago, sending Valentines to enlisted men and women across the world. Since that time, he has distributed more than 1.5 million Valentines to U.S. troops — a goal that wasn't lost on his daughter.

"It was really rewarding for me to brighten someone's life and show them, " she said. "So when I asked my dad what could I do, he thought this might be a good idea."

Over the next two months, letters are expected to pour in from all over the nation to the private Christian school. The mail will get sorted by students, who will receive credit toward the school's mandatory service requirement, and then get shipped to various military bases. Soldiers will then transport the letters to various points.

"For a 15-year-old to do this is just wonderful," said Alice Wax, founder of the National Military Appreciation Month. "It's resonating across the nation, and she has already gathered so much support.

"So far, about 200 letters have been received in the past several days, and a junior high school in New York and an elementary school in Colorado have signed on to participate. From there, they've already gathered so much support."

"A million sounds like a lot, but once you see them piling up, the number isn't so great, " she said. "She said she wants to frame the millionth letter and hopes to present it to President Bush."

On Wednesday, three Marines who served in Iraq attended a school rally and gave their heartfelt thanks to students who are participating in the campaign.

"Just the fact that people take their time to send you a letter means a lot," said Cpl. Frank Guerra, who returned from Iraq in July and is stationed at Camp Pendleton. "It's just blowing away that they are doing this. I'll give my support in any way I can."
State Briefs

PASADENA — NASA's Spirit rover uncovered more evidence of past water activity on Mars, although not in the large amounts its twin rover Opportunity has found halfway around the planet, mission scientists said Thursday.

Spirit found limited amounts of water altered a volcanic rock nicknamed Mazatzal, crouching through tiny fissures that crisscross the boulder and cementing together the multiple layers that mask its surface.

The findings were made during a weeklong analysis of the rock in the Gusev Crater region where Spirit landed Jan. 3.

Since then, Spirit has been overshadowed by Opportunity, as it found signs of liquid water that could have once boiled on the surface of the planet, but none appeared life-threatening.

Funding for the Spirit mission will be continued through the fiscal year ending June 2005 and then an assembly meeting is planned for a potential extension.

Aid to area hospitals, while the rest were treated at the civilian review board.

WASHINGTON — Republicans conceded Thursday they would not resolve their dispute over limiting future tax cuts until after Congress' spring recess, abandoning hopes of finalizing a $2.4 trillion budget this week.

"We're on ice," said House Budget Committee Chairman Jim Nussle, R-Iowa, Lawmakers return to work in late April.

A leading potential compromise would restrict tax cuts for the nation's wealthiest people and exempt some expected to be enacted this year, said several participants speaking on condition of anonymity. It also seemed likely that constraints would last for less than the five years the Senate has approved. Details of both issues remained unresolved.

Should a bargain along those lines be struck, it would mark a retreat by the White House and by GOP leaders who run the House and Senate. They have insisted against constraining tax reductions, which are the leading element of President Bush's strategy for strengthening the economy.

— Associated Press

RICHMOND — The city council violated the state's Brown Act by taking action in private on items not allowed by the open meetings law, the city's largest union is alleging.

In addition, critics say the council has been secretive about its closed-session meeting agenda, and has not posted required notice of the sessions. A lawsuit was not resolved through mediation on March 23 and Tuesday, slated as meetings with legal counsel for labor negotiations, in which the council first directed staff to cut $28.4 million from the city budget by June 2005 and then approved laying off up to 38 percent of the city work force.

— Associated Press

National Briefs

SAN FRANCISCO — A federal appeals court is standing by its October ruling that Internet providers should be allowed to sell their service over the cable television system.

The Federal Communications Commission asked the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to revisit the decision, but in Tuesday's order, the court declined to do so late Wednesday. The commission is nulling an appeal to the Supreme Court.

"If upheld, the circuit's decision would likely subject cable operators to the same rules that the phone companies must adhere to — such as allowing access to competitive Internet providers," said David L. Segal, a lawyer for a coalition of Internet companies.

MIAMI — Three Miami police officers were convicted Thursday for their part in a scheme in which guns were planted near the bodies of two fleeing robbers shot to death by police.

Sgt. JosQuirote faces up to five years for conspiracy for planting one of the guns. Lt. Israel Gonzalez and Officer Jorge Garcia were convicted of covering up the scheme and face up to 10 years in prison for conspiracy, perjury and obstructing justice.

The case was the latest trial to come out of Miami's biggest police scandal in a generation. Eleven officers in all were tried in the scandal; two others struck plea bargains. The scandal also ushered in a new police chief and resulted in new shooting policies and a civilian review board.

— Associated Press

WORLD BRIEFS

FALLUJAH, Iraq — A U.S. general vowed an "overwhelming" response to the murder and mutilation of four American contractors this week by a U.S. military contract worker, a Sajid al-Moaher told reporters.

Iraqi police took no action.

But the United States is already planning to take on the Iraqis if they try to enter Fallujah, where schools and shops remained open after a day of insurgents ambushed the contract workers, a U.S. official said.

Thecasedevolved from a suicide bomber who died of his wounds on a bridge spanning the Euphrates River.

Near Fallujah on Thursday, insurgents set off a bomb beside a U.S. military convoy, wounding three troops.

— Associated Press

LONDON — Although suicide rates around the world are about three times higher for men than women, evidence is mounting that in developing countries in Asia, suicide is far more common among young women than men.

In a study this week in The Lancet medical journal, researchers give the first picture of suicide among young people in India. In a region near Vellore in southern India, more than twice as many young women aged 10 to 19 committed suicide as men in the same age group.

The study found the average suicide rate for women in that age group was 148 per 100,000, compared with 58 suicides per 100,000 men.

Globally, the suicide rate for men is about 24 per 100,000, and about 6.9 per 100,000 for women.

ANKARA, Turkey — A sweep against a militant Turkish group caught more than 50 suspects in three European countries Thursday in what experts said could be the fruit of increased security cooperation before the Athens Olympics.

The suspects were picked up in Turkey, Italy and Belgium after security forces there and the Netherlands launched raids against houses used by the Revolutionary People's Liberation Party-Front, or DHKP-C, a Marxist group that calls for the overthrow of the Turkish government.

— Associated Press

World Briefs

CHICAGO — It's just a little bit of wording on a condom packet — so small that Justin Kleinman hadn't even noticed it until he squinted to read it recently.

"This is completely pointless," the 24-year-old Chicagoan said of the line: "Men and women are about three times higher for men than women."

"Men have a lot more to worry about because it may be found on their partner's SUVs and mobs strung up two of their charred corpses beside a U.S. military patrol, wounding three troops.

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— Associated Press

Bobby Knight, the legendary former Indiana University men's basketball coach, is mulling an appeal to the Supreme Court.

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— Associated Press
Pledge to keep church and state separate

Commentary

About 60 million school-age children recite the Pledge of Allegiance every day. This is an alarming fact. It can be inferred that many of these elementary and middle school children have little or no concept of the meaning in the oath they are taking day after day, year after year. Pledging allegiance to anything should not be taken lightly.

Beyond the simple irony that children are encouraged to pledge their allegiance to the flag of the "land of the free," there is another major problem with the pledge: the words "under God." The original Pledge of Allegiance, as written by social- istor Francis Bellamy in 1892, included no references to God or religion.

The Knights of Columbus, a Catholic organization, spearheaded a campaign in the early 1950s to add one national religious reference to the pledge. In 1954, after President Dwight D. Eisenhower heard a sermon in a church on the subject of the addition of "under God" was approved by the president and Congress. The addition of the religious reference was intended to separate the United States from the "Godless Communists." However, there is no doubt that the God being referred to in the Pledge is indeed the traditional Judeo-Christian God. The trouble is, no one believes in this God or any God for that matter.

In the half century that has passed since the Pledge of Allegiance became a prayer, the issue has remained relatively quiet. That is until February 2003 when the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in favor of Californians atheist Michael Newdow. He argued that reciting the Pledge in his young daughter's classroom is indeed unconstitutional.

Last week separation of church and state again came to the forefront as the United States Supreme Court heard arguments in the Elk Grove Unified School District v. Michael A. Newdow case, the school district appeal of the decision reached by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

Newdow is correct in his argument that the religious reference in the Pledge of Allegiance is an unconstitutional promotion of religion that has no place in his daughter's, or any other classroom.

Religion does not mix well with government, especially in education, where young minds are developing and being molded by their surroundings.

Although in 1943 the Supreme Court decided that students can't be required to recite the Pledge of Allegiance, it is probable that many students who would rather not recite the pledge will still do so to avoid the disdaim of their peers.

The comfort of even one student should be enough to stop the teaching of Allegiance in schools, at least as it is currently worded. A recent Associated Press survey revealed that nearly nine out of 10 people surveyed believed the Pledge of Allegiance should remain in its current state. But the Constitution is based on equal rights for all, whether in the majority or the minority. Just as the citizens of the United States would not tolerate a pledge that excludes all individuals, "one nation under no God" they should also reject, under the principle of equal rights, "one nation under God."
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Ah, spring is in the air and along with it comes a feeling of twitterpation. Young college students begin noticing the object of their affection through eyes glazed with spring fever. This fever, a common affliction among college students, often induces an embarrassing reaction in which the afflicted asks their one true love out on a date and gets rejected horribly. So what's a young lover to do?

There are many ways to ask someone on a date and many ways a person would like to be asked. Not all are the same. Have an understanding of the person you like, know if they're into jokes or creative dates. Then, work any one of the following ways to ask someone out around your personality.

1. Be yourself.
   Being yourself seems to be an important requirement, and that's a good thing.

2. Be funny.
   "All he's got to do is say 'Breakfast tomorrow? Should I nudge you or call you?'' said English senior Amber De Gelia. Although it's a cheesy pick-up line, it's all in the delivery. "He can't be too serious about it," De Gelia said. "He's got to be kind of goofy and funny about it."

3. Smile like it's going out of style.
   If you want to win over some people, the smile is the way to go. Smiles make people look better because they appear to be enjoying life. No one wants to go on a date with someone who looks unhappy. "The smile is the most important thing," biochemistry sophomore Jeff Koecke said. "If a girl comes up with a huge smile, she's in for sure."

4. Creativity is key.
   Everyone who's ever considered asking someone out has probably thought about the "dinner date" or the "movie date." What that might tell a person you're asking out is you're both unoriginal and unoriginal, or you don't care enough about them to think of something original.
   "I'd rather have someone ask me to go snake hunting or play on the swings at the beach rather than some traditional date," said political science junior Angie Eckhardt. "Creativity shows personality and that's what matters. Well, unless he knows the Macarena, that's totally hot."

5. Speak confidently.
   Despite what people might think, staring at the ground and talking in a shaky voice won't earn pity points. Confidence, however, goes a long way toward impressing the person you're trying to ask out.
   "If he has the balls to just come out and ask me, I'll say yes," said social science junior Krissy Meckel-Parker. "Don't beat around the bush, just cut to the chase."

Mechanical engineering sophomore Mike Pando agrees. "As long as they ask me with confidence, it doesn't matter what they say," he said.

So remember young Mustangs in love, the Top 5 ways to ask someone out are also the best medicine for your dating failures. Be confident in who you are, take a light-hearted approach using the humor that works for you. If you're not sure about your ability to speak confidently, remember the main things you want to say and practice them in a mirror until you can say them with ease.

And be creative. Come up with something that really shows off your personality. Good luck you crazy dating go-getter.
Therapist offers insight on getting in touch

Randi Block
Mustang Staff

You can learn how to touch more than your lover's heart.

Cal Poly students can now take advantage of a new opportunity to enhance their sexual self-esteem. Arroyo Grande resident Stephanie Wadell is extending her expertise in the field to include younger generations.

Her sessions focus on teaching people how to touch their significant others in various pleasing ways. These include presence, attention, comfort, friendship and fun, among others. Also, she teaches people social and romance skills, as well as instruction on how to get out of a relationship rut.

"I want to get into positive functioning of communication like touch, different kinds of touch, and for people to say what it is they like and to make agreements upfront," Wadell said. "Instead of people coming together and hoping it all works out, saying a few scripts and then having it all fall apart. People usually feel very burned by that and they have a big hole in their heart."

While these sessions focus on what could be perceived as sexual topics, they do not focus on intercourse at all. Everything she discusses deals only with improving communication skills in a romantic sense. She said she thinks this fits into the conservative nature of San Luis Obispo because mastering these techniques would delay a couple's rush toward having intercourse.

Wadell has been working in the field since 1987, after receiving her master's degree in counseling psychology from the University of San Francisco. Along with the sessions she is offering Cal Poly students, she also teaches sexual disciplines that she learned from her Cherokee lineage. These include Tantras, Tao and Chuluaqui-quodoushka, which all integrate the body, mind and feelings to increase spiritual awareness.

Wadell thinks the integration of hands-on sexual education is very important to impress upon people at a young age. "This is the one thing that people do that they have to learn without watching someone do it," she said. "Everything you learn from dressing yourself to walking to driving a car, you learned because someone showed you. Within the bedroom and within touch, no one shows you."

Another reason she wants to impart this education on Cal Poly students is the negative views she believes many people have about sex. It is what she refers to as the "grab and grope" for men and "pretend and surrender" for women.

"The way that men are raised is that men usually have to figure out the right move to make at the right time in order to get the woman from the couch to the bedroom," Wadell said. "And for women it usually involves if he said 'I love you,' and then (they) can pretend (they're) in love and she will surrender that part of herself."

Wadell hopes to increase people's abilities to communicate what they want so they can avoid situations like these, as well as giving people more options so they don't have to depend on intercourse as the only option.

She prefers to see couples so she can work with them on improving intimacy, but welcomes singles to come as well. Her student rate is $75 an hour, and she says she usually works with people for about six sessions. She can be reached at 473-2545 to answer questions or to make appointments.
Establishing roots in SLO

Rachel Musquiz

There is something about San Luis Obispo that makes people want to stay. The character and individuality of this town is like a magnet. It’s nice enough to keep both San Luis Obispo High School and Cal Poly alumni in the area even after graduation.

"It’s big but not too big. It’s small but not too small," said agribusiness junior Kristin Wurster, who graduated from San Luis Obispo High School. In Fall 2003, about 20 percent of the student body were residents from the Central Coast (San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Monterey counties) according to the Cal Poly Web site. Each year, about 30 graduates from SLOHS attend Cal Poly and about 85 to 100 attend Cuesta College, said SLOHS counselor Greg Bettecourt.

One reason people chose to stay is the atmosphere and location. The town is located near the mountains and the ocean with stereotypical California weather. All year it never gets too hot or too cold.

"It’s in the midst of everything. It’s a nice place to live," biology and SLOHS graduate Rick Griswold said. "You don’t have to worry about the problems of big cities."

San Luis Obispo changes after making the transition from high school to college.

"The way it was in high school, it was boring," Griswold said. "It became fun to live in this town once I went to Poly."

Griswold did not plan on going to Cal Poly until the golf team offered him a scholarship. "I definitely didn’t want to go to Poly when I was in high school," he said.

It is also common for Cal Poly alumni to live in the area after earning a degree.

Both Wurster’s parents went to Cal Poly and encouraged her to attend.

"I’m glad I stayed, I appreciate (San Luis Obispo) more," she said.

Significant others, fear of being away from friends and family and money turn SLOHS graduates into Cal Poly students. Yet, some students later regret not taking the chance to attend a school farther away.

"I don’t think I got the same amount of growth in my college experience. I always had the security blanket of friends and family," business junior Lacey Harris said. "I love the town, but I regret staying. I feel like everyone already knew me."

While it may seem like Cal Poly students have taken over San Luis Obispo, local residents do not make much interaction with the college students.

"I thought of Cal Poly as another town almost. I didn’t think of it as part of San Luis Obispo," horticulture junior Clare Hill said. "I never even came to this area."

Cal Poly is in a world of its own, separated from the majority of the community with the exception of sparsely placed residents.

One challenge with so many SLOHS students moving to Poly is to create a college atmosphere while living just miles away from high school friends. The dorm experience offers a chance for locals to branch out and meet students at Poly.

"It wasn’t hard to meet new people but I didn’t want to go since I still had all my friends from high school," Hill said.

The reason behind the choice to attend Cal Poly after graduating from SLOHS varies from student to student.

"Some students want to get away and see another part of the world," Bettecourt said. "Some students stay here because they realize what a nice place it is, and lots of students come back after leaving."

After students get a taste of life in San Luis Obispo, many of them can not imagine it any other way.

"It’s been a positive experience staying here, but you can benefit from going away, trying something new and remaining back," Hill said. "Poly would have been better if I wasn’t from around here."

Another local agreed with Hill’s opinion.

"It’s a good place to raise a family," Griswold said. "As nice as it is though, I want to venture out."

Hurray for Friday!
L S D E R N A L H O U S I N G

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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

15 A L C O H O L I C A L C O H O L I C A L C O H O L I C A L C O H O L I C

The New York Times

Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

ACROSS

1 Item on an auto
shop checklist (5,12)
11 Court grp.
12 Moonless (5)
15 Runyon
16 Hair rival (5)
17 Tenderfoot
18 TAINT
19 'Lost...?'
20 FORGE
21 Soft drink brand (6)
22 Lawdown
23 Big on
25 1976 Oscar
26 'Fela' Holt
28 Time set
29 Maybe, after a
31 Negative principle (7)
32 Library
33 College
34 student's filing
35 Print shop
36 Name that works
37 Thirty-nine
38 Band...: Benjamin, capital of Brunei (9)
39 Determined
40 Gardening job
41 Special
42 Connections
43 Stressor
44 1987 Felix
45 Store
46 Specialist
47 Bill Haley and
48 Novelist
49 Ounce
50 Trash
51 Minute opening
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Bush signs bill: It is a crime to harm a fetus

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush invoked the case of pregnant murder victim Laci Peterson on Thursday as he signed legislation expanding legal rights of the unborn.

"The suffering of two victims cannot equal only one offense," Bush said.

Bush was joined on an East Room stage by Peterson's mother, Shannon Rocha, and her stepfather, Ron Granski. Peterson was eight months pregnant when she disappeared in December 2002 in the highly publicized case. Supporters of the bill have cited her and the son who was to have been named Connor.

"This little soul never saw light, but he is loved and he is remembered," the president said. "All who knew Laci Peterson have mourned." Bush gave the bill, an important one to many in his conservative base, the first elaborate signing ceremony of the year. The law makes it a crime to harm a fetus during an assault on a pregnant woman.

"As of today, the law of our nation will acknowledge the plain fact that crimes of violence against a pregnant woman often have two victims," Bush said. "Therefore, in those cases, there are two offenses to be punished."

The bill passed by a 245-163 vote in the House and by a 61-38 margin in the Senate. People on both sides of the fetal rights and abortion issue have said the new law will have far-reaching consequences.

Abortion opponents welcome it as a step toward more sweeping protections for the unborn, while abortion-rights proponents say the measure represents the first recognition in federal law of an embryo or fetus as a separate person.


Bush has said he doesn't believe the country is ready to completely ban abortions; he opposes them except in cases of rape or incest or when pregnancy endangers a woman's life. That position has become a standard line in most of his speeches.

Bush has taken several actions that have pleased anti-abortion advocates.

As one of the first acts of his presidency, he reinstated the 'Mexico City policy' that bars U.S. money from international groups that support abortion, even with their own money, through direct services, counseling or lobbying activities.

Lincoln, Neb. (AP) — The doctor who got the U.S. Supreme Court to strike down Nebraska's ban on a controversial abortion procedure testified Thursday that a similar federal law is so vague it would outlaw nearly all abortions after the first trimester.

"There are at least 21 different procedures that it covers," Dr. LeRoy Carhart said during a challenge of the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act, signed last year by President Bush. "There are terms in this act that I do not understand ... and that have many definitions."

The new law has not been enforced because judges in Lincoln, New York and San Francisco agreed to hear evidence in three simultaneous non-jury trials on whether the ban violates the Constitution.

The ban would be the first substantial limitation on abortion since the Supreme Court legalized it 31 years ago in the landmark case Roe v. Wade.

The measure bars a procedure doctors call "intact dilation and extraction," or D&E. Opponents call it partial-birth abortion.

During the procedure, generally performed in the second trimester, a fetus is partially removed from the womb and its skull is punctured.

The Bush administration has argued that the procedure is "inhumane and gruesome" and causes the fetus to suffer pain.

The new law prohibits doctors from committing an "overt act" to kill a partially delivered fetus. But Carhart said that could be interpreted as covering more common procedures, including "dilation and evacuation."

D&E is the most common method of second-trimester abortion. An estimated 140,000 D&Es take place in the United States annually, compared with an estimated 2,200 to 5,000 D&M procedures.

A total of 1.3 million abortions are performed in the United States each year. Almost 90 percent occur in the first trimester.

"This act covers every D&E that I did," Carhart said. "Everything that I do to cause an abortion is an overt act."

Carhart said at least once a month, an entire fetus is expelled from the mother during a D&E. He is performing "The fetuses are alive at the time of delivery," he said. There is a heartbeat "very frequently."

Carhart earlier brought a challenge that eventually led the Supreme Court in 2000 to overturn Nebraska's ban on D&E abortions.

The high court said the Nebraska law and others like it were an "undue burden" on women's rights.

U.S. District Judge Richard Kopf, who is presiding over the trial in Lincoln, also presided over Carhart's challenge to the Nebraska ban.

Under the federal law, doctors can get up to two years in prison.

The issue is expected to reach the U.S. Supreme Court.

WASHINGTON (AP) — As an engineer in the U.S. Air Force, there's no telling what you'll work on.

(Seriously, we can't tell you.)

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PADRES
continued from page 12

momentum of last year’s 83-79 fin-
ish will help.

"But as I said to our players in our in-
itial meeting, $1.95 plus our roster will get you a double expres-
sion at Starbucks. This is a good hall-
club, but we’ve got to stay healthy,
No. "I do think there is such a thing as momentum," Baird said. "But I also think that can change quickly, too. The stakes are higher with big-
ger expectations."

Same thing in San Diego, where fans are going to want to see a winner. Towers’ goal is to improve by 25 games.

"If you win 89, you’ve got a chance," he said.

That’s quite a jump. But the Padres keep reminding themselves that the last two World Series win-
ers came out of the middle of the payroll pack, after qualifying for the postseason as wild-cards-

"Anaheim won two years ago, the Florida Marlins won last year," noted left-hander Sterling Hitchcock, who rejoins the Padres after spending the last two seasons with the Yankees and St. Louis Cardinals.

"The economics of it really don’t matter," Hitchcock said.

"What matters is that you have tal-
talent in the clubhouse, guys that believe in one another, guys that have played together. There’s a chemistry there, and I don’t see any reason why we can’t com-
"pete.

Towers began rebuilding in August when he traded for Brian Giles. He added All-Star catcher Ramon Hernandez and reserve outfielder Terrence Long in a trade with Oakland, signed the 40-year-old Wells to lead the rotat-

ion and Jay Payton to play the spa-
cious right field at Petco Park. He even added a luxury — Jeff Crooks as a $6.6 million utility infielder.

"The last five years have been very difficult," Towers said.

"Moving into Petco with addition-
al revenues, we’ve increased our payroll significantly from last year. This club should be very competi-
tive this year. If this club comes in last place once again, or not in the top three, I would say that we failed."

Slugger Phil Nevin, acquired the spring after the Padres were swept by the Yankees in the 1998 World Series, has no doubt the Padres can contend.

"I think realistically, for the first time, we can leave camp and say that to ourselves and not be kid-
ding," he said.

The last five years, Nevin said, have been frustrating. "I don’t think you can ever get used to los-
ing."

Since the last out of the ’98 Series, the Padres are 92 games under .500 (359-451). They fin-
ished last in the NL West three times and in fourth place twice.

But even optimism has its limits.

"Everything will have to go just right, like 1998," Towers said. "We need to keep our core players on the field to do that."

So far, they haven’t even been able to do that in spring training. Nevin strained his left shoulder on March 7 and hopes to be back opening day. Payton strained a hamstring. Reliever Rod Beck, who filled in nicely last year while Trevor Hoffman rehabbed double shoulder surgery, left the team due to personal problems and no one knows when he’ll be back. Rey Odoner has been out since appearing he was losing the battle for the start-
ing shortstop job to rookie Khalil Greene.

And everyone’s wondering how long Wells’ surgically repaired back will hold up. But Boomer has lost about 30 pounds since being forced out of Game 5 of the World Series with back spasms while with the Padres.

"There’s a chemistry there, and I don’t see any reason why we can’t compete."

-STERLING HITCHCOCK
Padres pitcher

In July and Hoffman in September, when the Padres were already buried in last place.

Injuries remain the X factor in San Diego.

"Maybe more so with us than say the New York Yankees or Red Sox," Nevin said. "They have a guy go down, they can go spend another $40 million and get another guy. That’s just how they operate. We can’t do that."

And the Padres need to prove themselves.

"The San Diego Padres, for right now, don’t have the respect from people that we are going to have to contend with," Hoffman said.

"Until you prove otherwise, that’s the way it is."

COMPUTERS GET BUGS, TOO

- Get regular anti-virus software updates from your software company.
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Get the bugs before they get you!

MURPHY: continued from page 12

coaches were such an inspiration."

The feeling is mutual; teammate Athier Dore, also a junior, calls the former team captain "the sunshine of the team."

Coach Mark Conover notes the improvement Murphy has made on and off the field.

"I’ve been really proud of the transformation she’s made to really go after higher goals in athletics, school, and all areas of her life," Conover said. "She’s led by example, been a peer who makes other people happy, and brought about real matura-
"tion.

Murphy, an aspiring teacher from Dublin, will compete in the steeple-
chase at this weekend’s Cal-Nevada Invitational at Cal Poly.

SLOPD
continued from page 2

side, while the women will look out for the San Diego State Athe-
tes, Corkery said.

The meet will give the team to view some of the competi-
tion it will see later in the sea-
son, redshirt freshman Jackie Salamon said.

The meet will get underway at 3:30 p.m. Friday with the men’s hammer, the only event set for the day.

Saturday’s competition begins at 8:45 a.m. with the women’s hammer.

Friday, April 2, 2004 11
San Diego: NL West's shocker?

Bernie Wilson
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hey, remember the San Diego Padres? There was a time when they were pretty good, winning two National League West titles in three seasons and even reaching the World Series. They had big-time ballplayers: Tony Gwynn, Ken Caminiti, Greg Vaughn, Steve Finley and Kevin Brown.

Then they simply disappeared. Repeatedly invoking the excuse that they were a small-market team, they sent good players packing and hacked millions of dollars from their payroll while waiting through numerous legal delays for their downtown ballpark to be built.

The result was pretty ugly — five straight losing seasons, none worse than 1996 when they finished at the bottom of the NL with a 64-98 record. They had big-spender, the New York Yankees and Boston Red Sox.

The Kansas City Royals, coming off a 21-game turnaround, are in a similar situation in the wide-open American League Central. The Toronto Blue Jays and Baltimore Orioles would like to think they've improved, but they share the AL East with baseball's big spenders, the New York Yankees and Boston Red Sox.

Royals general manager Allard Baird brought in several new players, including two-time MVP Juan Gonzalez. He thinks the Padres, page 11

San Diego native David Wells in the sand-colored road getup? The Padres are confident they'll contend in the NL West, where they were the most active team in the offseason. As they worked out in $458 million Petco Park prior to spring training, they mentioned how nice it will be to play in October.

That would be some surprise, wouldn't it? "I think our division has a lot of balance," said Kevin Towers, the general manager who made 12 major acquisitions in the offseason. "If there ever was a year to go from last to first, it would be this year. But we have to make major strides."

San Diego: NL West's shocker?

W Tennis (5) vs. Idaho (2)
W Golf (3rd place) vs. Fidelity National
W Golf @ Grand Canyon Invitational
M Tennis (1) vs. St. John's (4)
M Tennis (3) vs. Sacramento State
Matt Baca - win singles, doubles match

Track & Field vs. Cal-Nevada meet
W Tennis vs. UC Davis
M Tennis vs. Pacific
M Lacrosse vs. Cal
Softball @ Pacific
Track, page 11

Track hosts meet

Nadea Mina
MUSTANG DAILY

This weekend Cal Poly will host the annual Cal-Nevada meet, which features schools from throughout both states.

The meet developed to allow teams from all levels, ranging from the NAIA to NCAA Division I, to participate in a big meet. Eighteen to 20 schools are expected to compete, including Cal Poly Pomona, Cal State Northridge, UCLA, Cal, UC Irvine and San Diego State.

“Since there are so many teams competing, points are going to be dispersed over a wide range," assistant track coach Pete Corkery said. "Cal Poly should do very well because more of our athletes can compete."

Big West Conference rival Cal State Northridge will be Cal Poly's biggest competition on the men's see Track, page 11