Cal State LB student gets posthumous degree, award

LOCAL BEACH (AP) — Not even terminal cancer could deter Osbaldo Hurtado from seeking his lifelong dream — a bachelor's degree. The 30-year-old pursued his goal until he died in March — two months before he would walk across the stage at commencement and accept his degree.

Hurtado had already earned two associate degrees at Cerritos College and was to begin his first semester at Cal State University, Long Beach when doctors discovered a football-sized tumor in December 2003. The cancer spread despite surgery and chemotherapy.

Though his family urged him to rest, Hurtado was determined to continue his studies to become a probation officer, said his twin, Ricardo. He would arrive three hours before classes at the university to find the closest parking space. The count­less nodules in his lungs made breathing a chore.

“Face it, your wallet is running scared,” Ricardo said. “And I said, ‘You know you are going to drop out soon or later in chemistry lab, graduation presents for your little brother.”

They provide recommendations to President Warren Baker and the ASI president regarding operations of the student body or other fee-funded facilities: the University Union, Rec Center, Sports Complex, programs and additional services which have an accumulated budget of more than $4 million. Wats ran against engineering student Brett Schleicher and physics student Darren Fraser for the year­long position. Each candidate delivered a speech and answered questions from the nine voting board members along with more than 10 other students and staff members.

“l think that all the candidates were extremely quali­fied for the position,” said business senior and current chair of the UUAB Kaitlin Ayers. It was not an easy decision for anybody.”

A candidate needed 50 percent of the majority vote in order to win, just like the ASI presidential elec­tions, which brought a run-off between Wats and Schleicher. Both candidates have served as members of the ASI Board of Directors, but Fraser was the only candidate that served on the UUAB this past year.

“To tell you the truth I was shocked when Kafilin called my name,” Watson said. “It all happened really fast and I really didn’t know how to react.”

Newly elected ASI President

While some faculty members, alumni and students will lose their dial-up Internet service this sum­mer, Cal Poly and Information Technology Services are hoping to make the transition to new, off-cam­pus service as painless as possible.

Cal Poly and ITS have decided to decommission the campus modem pool on July 12. The dial-up service, used dominantly by faculty, emeriti or retired faculty, and alumni, allowed users access to the Cal Poly network from a remote location.

While the decision was made par­tially in response to budget cuts, security issues and a decreased demand for dial-up service it aered as well.

“The change is positioned with the perspective of the Cal Poly community,” said User Support Services Director Craig Shultz, “about making better alternatives available.”

The dial-up service cost ITS nearly $90 per user each year and was created to provide students and faculty with cost-effective Internet service at a time when it was not widely available. Now, with the advancement of high-speed Internet technology, such as cable, DSL or wireless connections, and the main­stream availability of commercial Internet service providers, the ser­vice seems unnecessary.

Shultz said ITS tried to include as many people in the decision-making process as possible.

“We’ve really tried to engage the community in this process,” Shultz said.

Human-powered vehicle places first in competition

Ashley Wolf  Mustang Daily

Cal Poly’s human-powered vehi­cle, the Velox Solium, Latin for “fast tub,” raced past competitors during the West Coast HPV Challenge on April 25 in Corvallis, Ore., winning first place overall.

The American Society of Mechanical Engineers has spon­sored the HPV competition for more than 28 years. The organiza­tion’s hope is to find a design that could be incorporated into every­day society — from commuting to work to running errands.

Cal Poly has competed in the HPV challenge since the competi­tion’s inception. Last year, the team came in third place, but this year the 14 Cal Poly students won first over­all in two separate categories.

INTERNET SERVICE CHANGE PLANNED

Almee Anderson  Mustang Daily

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The second part of the competition is an individual sprint race with both male and female riders. This event is worth 30 percent of the overall scoring and Cal Poly placed first in both gender races. The run up is 400 meters, but the 100-meter trap is where the races are recorded for their time. The sprint rider for the male race was Ron Layman, a mechanical engineering senior, who got up to the speed of 43.8 mph. The female winner was Thia Rinthoensen, a mechanical engineering senior, who won with a speed of 35.3 miles per hour.

"Racing in a human-powered vehicle is a little more terrifying than riding a regular bicycle because it's a lot more claustrophobic, except you know you are safe if you fall," Layman said. "This club combines two or my biggest passions, cycling and mechanical engineering, so being a part of this for three years has been a great experience for me."

The final portion of the competition is an endurance race worth the last 30 percent of the total score. For this portion there are four riders who switch during the 60-km race. Cal Poly won first place more than two laps ahead of the second place team.

"I've been a member of HPV for five years and every year we've gotten better," said Ryan Fowler, aerospace engineering senior. "Ever since Professor Davol has been the faculty adviser there has been a huge improvement and lot of it was due to him working with the team."

In an article after the championship last year, Davol said that he thought they were going to win first place this year.

"I called it," Davol said. "After the competition I told the team that now that we've won first place overall it's time for a dynasty. We need to work on dominating this competition."

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SAN FRANCISCO — California Supreme Court justices listened skeptically Tuesday to arguments that San Francisco's mayor had the right to defy state law when he issued marriage licenses to 4,000 gay couples earlier this year.

During two hours of arguments, some of the seven justices questioned how much room elected officials have to interpret the law on their own, and suggested that approving Mayor Gavin Newsom's actions would foment legal anarchy.

"Wouldn't that be setting a problematic precedent?" asked Justice Joyce Kennard. "Presumably, other local officials would be free to say, 'I don't like that particular law, be it a ban on guns' or another issue.

SACRAMENTO — A key part of Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's strategy to keep California's military bases from closing next year passed the state Senate Tuesday, as it approved a plan to make cities and counties near military bases notify commanders of local growth plans.

The bill passed 24-10 despite opposition from homebuilders, shopping center owners and elected officials in several Southern California counties. It now moves to the Assembly.

The notion of letting military leaders comment on nearby growth proposals mirrors efforts by other fast-growing states, including Florida, Texas, Washington and Arizona, to control growth near military bases and below aerial training routes. Officials say the moves are designed to show the Pentagon they're serious about keeping bases.

The bill would affect at least six doctors who are both practicing medicine, under a bill approved Tuesday in the state Assembly.

O'Malley's announcement completed a process that we would experience a continual decline in some areas of our archdiocese, closing parish after parish, school after school, during outreach program after outreach program," he said.

The archdiocese, the nation's fourth-largest with more than 2 million Catholics, now has 357 parishes.

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JIMANI, Dominican Republic — Sobbing villagers tore through heaps of mud with their bare hands Tuesday, searching for loved ones as the death toll from flooding in the Dominican Republic and Haiti rose to at least 363. Trucks dumped scores of corpses into a mass grave.

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There were 83 confirmed deaths on the Haitian side, but the toll in both countries was steadily rising.

ROISSY, France — New cracking sounds forced the evacuation Monday of the futuristic terminal at Paris' Charles de Gaulle airport a day after a roof collapse killed four travelers.

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Cracking and puffs of dust preceded Sunday's collapse and officials expressed concern that other parts of the 11-month-old terminal might crumble.

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SAN FRANCISCO — Terry Nichols' attorney cited problems with prosecutors' scientific evidence Tuesday in closing arguments and told jurors that others helped Timothy McVeigh bomb the Oklahoma City federal building.

Defense attorney Barbara Bergman said McVeigh was aided by others who set up Nichols to take the blame for the deaths of 168 people killed in the April 19, 1995, blast at the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building.

Nichols, 49, already is serving a federal life sentence for involuntary manslaughter and conspiracy in the deaths of eight federal law enforcement officials in the bombing. In this state court trial, he is accused of 161 counts of first­degree murder for the deaths of the other victims plus a fetus whose mother was killed in the blast.

WASHINGTON — U.S. officials have obtained new intelligence deemed highly credible indicating al­Qaida or other terrorists are in the United States and preparing to launch a major attack this summer.

The AP on condition of anonymity Tuesday.

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Senate OKs bills target teen driving, parenting skills

Steve Lawrence  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO — Teenagers could be barred from using cell phones while driving, required to take parenting classes to graduate from high school and subjected to random drug testing if they play on school teams under a series of bills approved Tuesday by the state Senate.

Senators also sent the Assembly a measure that would allow judges to reduce the sentences of some teens who were given adult prison terms.

"We don't have a lot of driving experience under their belt," she said. "The most important thing we do in our lives is provide care for our children," said the author, Sen. John Vasconcellos, D-Santa Clara. "Currently, there's no particular preparation for it.

The drug bill, by Sen. Jackie Spies, D-Daly City, would require schools to conduct limited, random testing of student athletes to try to prevent them from taking steroids and dietary supplements.

But the requirement could conflict with a bill approved last week by the Senate that would bar random drug testing of students.

Viora's bill would also bar coach, teachers and other school officials from selling, distributing or promoting performance-enhancing dietary supplements and bar schools from accepting sponsorships from a manufacturer of those products.

It was sent to the Assembly by a 23-10 vote.

The parenting bill would require students, starting in the 2009-10 school year, to receive instruction in parenting skills before graduating from high school.

It was approved 23-10 and sent to the Assembly.

"The bill, sent to the Assembly by a 24-11 vote, would authorize fines of up to $35 or eight to 16 hours of community service for a first offense. Subsequent violations could bring fines of up to $50 or 16 to 24 hours of community service.

Emergency calls to police, fire fighters or another emergency service agency wouldn't be covered by the measure.

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NEWS

SACRAMENTO (AP) — Employers must be notified if their Internet activities are being monitored by supervisors, new bill says.

Employees must be notified if their Internet activities are being monitored by supervisors, new bill says.

SACRAMENTO (AP) — Employers would have to tell their employees if they monitor their e-mails and Internet activities under a bill approved Tuesday by the state Senate.

Sen. Debra Bowen, D-Marina del Rey, said her legislation would give employees the same privacy protections they have when they make phone calls on the telephone at work.

"Your boss can't listen in when you call to make a doctor's appointment if he doesn't tell you your call may be monitored, so why shouldn't the same rules apply when you send an e-mail to your doctor to set up the same appointment?" Bowen said.

"This doesn't prevent a company from monitoring its employees or from firing people who misuse company equipment. It just says if you monitor your employees you've got to tell them it's company policy."

A 23-11 vote sent the bill to the Assembly.

Similar legislation by Bowen was vetoed in 1999, 2000 and 2001.

Bill amended to delay bond vote until 2006

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Abdul Hussein Al-Obeidi

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NAJAF, Iraq — Iraq's most sacred shrine was slightly damaged for a second time in less than a week as a suicide car bomb exploded Tuesday between American forces and militiamen loyal to a radical cleric. The U.S. military blamed Shiite militiamen for shells that hit the holy site.

In Baghdad, a suicide attacker detonated a car bomb that killed at least five Iraqis, including a 10-year-old boy, U.S. military officials said. Police said they believed the bomb may have targeted the nearby Australian Embassy and detonated prematurely. Australia has some 850 military personnel in Iraq.

The attack was the second in two weeks. All shrine has been hit in the past two weeks of fighting. On May 14, a gentlemen-gun struck the golden dome, leaving four small holes and each side blaming the other.

All fighting in Najaf ceased Tuesday, enough to loyal to radical cler­ic Muqtada al-Sadr gathered at the shrine to look at the damage. In the outer gate of the shrine, leaving into the courtyard, it appeared to have been hit by a pros­ecution. Debris was scattered on the ground.

A veiling the gate was ripped apart, and parts of the wall were damaged. Bits of mortar and parts of a projectile were scattered on the courtyard floor.

Another projectile landed outside the shrine, about 10 yards from the outer wall. Three militiamen were wounded in that attack, and three fighters were killed in fighting in the city, al-Sadr's office said. Supporters of al-Sadr accused the Americans of firing mortars at the shrine.

Brig. Gen. Mark Kimmitt, deputy chief of operations, denied that U.S. forces shelled the shrine. He said the Americans were uncertain whether the damage was caused by exchanges of fire between rival Shiite groups or whether al-Sadr's fighters targeted the compound "to try to provide outrage so they could blame it on the coalition forces."

The Kuwaiti representative of Iraq's most powerful Shiite cleric, Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Husseini al-Sistani, accused the U.S. of deliberately attacking the shrine "to agitate the world opinion against the coalition."

"Tell him that, as a mother, I am in great pain," said a U.S. military official. "I believe the reason for sending him the first time was justified. But the second time, I don't know how many mothers have suffered."

Molina Bautista, 37, was from Rialto, the Defense Department said. He had served in the Marines for 13 years, and trained others as a drill sergeant at Camp Pendleton, where he was based. He was an infantry unit leader for the 1st Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 1st Marine Division, 1 Marine Expeditionary Force. Born in Chihuahua, Mexico, Molina Bautista wanted from childhood to become a Marine, said his sister, Connie Molina, 41, of Highland. "He believed in what he was doing," she said. "He was so proud. He's a hero."

Molina Bautista is survived by his wife, Dina, and three boys. An interment was planned at Riverside National Cemetery.

U.S. forces fight cleric's supporters

Interior Department suspends contracts for interrogators amid probe

Matt Kelley

WASHINGTON — The Interior Department has blocked the Army from hiring civilian interrogators in Iraq while it investigates whether a past contract was awarded properly, a department spokesman said Tuesday.

At least one civilian interrogator working under that contract has been accused of taking part in abusing prisoners naked and handcuffing them to the wall.

The Army suspended contracts for information technology services, said Jody Brown, a CACI spokeswoman. Last week it has launched a criminal investigation of a private contractor in Iraq at the Pentagon's request.

Under a blanket purchase agreement, a company agrees to provide a set number of goods or services to federal agencies under set guidelines. Agencies may then choose from a list of companies providing services or goods they need and buy them with a "delivery order."

CACI, which last year bought Premier Technology Group, the holder of the blanket agreement and employer of contract officer in Iraq, said it can continue serving at least until the contract runs out in August.

The Army said it would not lift any sanctions until it has concluded its investigation.

"The contracting officer was convinced, according to his own guidelines, that this could be provided under the delivery order," Interior spokesman Frank Quimby said.

"Tell him that, as a mother, I am in great pain," the sister of a Marine killed in Iraq said. "I believe the reason for sending him the first time was justified. But the second time, I don’t know how many mothers have suffered."
Local band Longview looks for life without limits, plays UU Hour Thursday

Christina Joslin mustin daily

Stop and think about the big picture for a second. Don’t worry about college drama or family troubles, just ponder about existence in general. Imagine life without limits or restraints.

This is the mindset that Longview wants their audience to be in when they listen to their music on Thursday during UU Hour. This is also the reason for the band’s name.

At 6 p.m., Longview will rock out on the UU Plaza stage. Audiences should expect to hear a very talented drum solo, guitar solo and a Slightly Stoopid/Sublime/Bob Marley medley, the band members said.

The band’s first big performance was opening for the Expendables last year, Arntzen said. "I think we sound good and appeal to audiences because of our different backgrounds with music," Arntzen said. "Dan and Nick are more acoustic rock/blues, Chris is more into the face-melting guitar solos and I just like to be funky."

Curcio, from Sacramento, grew up to more serious topics like racism and politics. "I think our sound has taken the time to grow together, to help him compose his own original material.

"Longview is all about new material and new ideas," Arntzen said. "We are constantly improvising and coming up with new sounds on the spot."

"I think our sound really has to grow on people since our music is based on such a broad perspective," Bilich said. "But if you set the vibe, then the song’s alive."

"We don’t play our music to please a genre, we play to please our emotions," Bilich said. "We made our sound around the truth, rather than what’s popular. I think anyone listening will get a pretty good vibe, musically."

"I think we sound good and appeal to audiences because of our different backgrounds with music," Arntzen said. "Dan and Nick are more acoustic rock/blues, Chris is more into the face-melting guitar solos and I just like to be funky."

Curcio and Arntzen met in the Sierra Madre residence hall last year, where they collaborated to write the musical notes and lyrics for the CD.

"The words came out naturally when I could really feel the music that Chris was playing," English sophomore Curcio said. "I believe that everything just came together once we started mixing together the beat and the rhythm."

With lyrics written by Curcio, the entire demo CD focuses on a variety of topics. The words range from love to partying to social justice issues.

"I don’t like to write about any one topic," Curcio said. "I believe that singing about love is just as important as singing about the bigger matters in life. I’m from a Catholic high school, so my religious background has opened me up to more serious topics like racism and politics."

The songs seem unassuming at first, but have a way of unfolding themselves into incredible stories, mechanical engineering freshman Vucinich said.

Over the past six months, the band has taken the time to grow together and get a real sense of the image that they want to portray with their craft.

"I think our sound really has to grow on people since our music is based on such a broad perspective," Bilich said. "But if you set the vibe, then the song’s alive."

"We look for the high that you get from music," Vucinich said. "And we just keep it going from there."

This summer, Longview is planning on recording a full-length demo CD in Ventura and hopes to start performing more shows during fall quarter.
The Day After Tomorrow:
More fact than fiction at play?

Crystal Phend
MUSTANG DAILY

It’s not often that Hollywood influences NASA policy. But then again, it’s not every day that New York gets flash frozen in a tidal wave. While many scientists scoff at “The Day After Tomorrow’s” portrayal of drastic climate change brought on by global warming, others view the attention as manna from heaven.

“I think it is a fun movie, but there isn’t much science to learn from it,” assistant geology professor Antonio Garcia said. “The consequences of our actions are going to be so dramatic and glamorous; they will be much more painful and ugly.”

In the film by director Roland Emmerich (“Independence Day”) human-induced global warming melts the polar ice caps almost immediately, resulting in massive waves, colossal tornadoes that ravage Los Angeles and virtually all other populated natural disasters. As if that weren’t enough, three days later an ice age hits. Dennis Quaid stars as a paleoclimatologist, a researcher of past climates, who must rescue his son (Jake Gyllenhaal) from New York ice age hits.

“Polls show that a surprisingly high percentage of American adults have not even heard of the greenhouse effect,” Preston said. “The most rapid documented rate was at least 45 millimeters a year, possibly up to 100 centimeters a year,” he said. “It doesn’t sound bad, but it would put Florida under water.”

At that rate, drowning is a tedious affair and mass migrations can take a leisurely pace. Despite the inaccuracies, many have welcomed the attention to global climate change.

“The whole movie is inaccurate,” geography professor William Preston said. He said, as he teaches in his climate and humanity class, although the climate has changed very rapidly in the past in interglacial periods, very rapid in geologic time could mean 10 years or far longer. Sea level rise is among the fastest changes, Garcia said. It is still highly unlikely that even sea level could fluctuate as the rate seen in “The Day After Tomorrow,” he said.

“If all the world’s ice caps were to melt, it would be hard to imagine that public awareness could do anything but increase.”

While some professors do not think that the catastrophic climate changes that occur in “The Day After Tomorrow” are realistic, they do agree the film calls attention to the need for respecting the environment.

Memorial Day weekend is just around the corner, which means many students want to hop in their cars for a road trip. But with gas prices soaring close $3 per gallon, alternatives to celebrating the weekend must be found.

According to AAA, Central Coast gas prices are highest in the state, with the average cost at about $2.40 per gallon. At $2.40, a trip to ride “The Viper at Six Flags Magic Mountain in Valencia would cost about $25 in an Acura Integra just to get there and back. A round trip to the MGM Grand in Las Vegas would cost $86 compared to a $169 airfare. A jaunt to Alcatraz in San Francisco rings up to about $40.

And that’s only if you’re lucky enough to drive a small car.

A great alternative to driving anywhere is hitching a ride with someone else. If you can find someone willing to drop you off at your destination while splitting money for gas, the spot to check is the board in the University Union. It is there to connect people who are traveling in the same direction. It is a great tool to hook up with someone for a ride, and you might make a new friend.

If you can’t hitchhike to Los Angeles or San Francisco, there are many local spots a few minutes away from San Luis Obispo. One tank of gas can get you to many different events in or near San Luis Obispo County. Many students revisit Wildflower—minus the 5 a.m. wakeup call for volunteers—for a wild weekend of house and boats on Lake Nacimiento. If spring break all over again is a bit immature for you, a group of 14 friends can rent a bus for three hours for an average of $16 per person and go wine tasting in Paso Robles. This way, you can avoid all DJs and forget all about the prices at the pump.

For those with significant others, places such as The Cliff Resort at 2777 Shell Beach Road in Shell Beach and The Sycamore Mineral Springs Resort at 1215 Avila Beach Drive are giving incentives to tourists because gas prices are soaring. Both businesses are giving discounts to those who bring their receipts from gas stations. If a hotel suite is too expensive, drive to Cambria for the day and visit Hearst Castle—tickets are $18 per person. If you can’t hitch a ride and are stuck in San Luis Obispo, there are many events going on to celebrate the extended weekend. Memorial Day weekend always consists of fireworks and pool parties, so why not throw yours out? Provide side dishes and have your friends bring the meat (drinks are optional). More sun equals less clothing, and if you have a pool or your apartment complex has one invite some other poor friends who couldn’t hitch a ride out of town.
In theaters

‘Super Size Me’ explores America’s expanding waistline

Rachel Musquiz
MARKETING DAILY

America is fat. In fact, 37 percent of American children and adolescents are overweight, and two out of every three adults are overweight or obese. In a time where lawsuits are as American as burgers and fries, obese individuals have started to sue fast-food restaurants for serving them unhealthy food.

These lawsuits sparked an interest in documentarian Morgan Spurlock to uncover who is really to blame for America’s weight problem.

The documentary “Super Size Me” has created a buzz since it showed at the 2004 Sundance Festival, where it won an award for Best Director. The film focuses on the waist-expanding anxieties that fast food has caused. “Super Size Me” is stuffed full of facts about America’s health relating to the fast-food industry, specifically McDonald’s. For example, one in four Americans eat fast-food every day. Second only to smoking, obesity is one of the top preventable deaths.

Spurlock’s experiment was not an arbitrary fast-food binge; there were rules to his journey. For 30 days, Spurlock ate three meals a day at McDonald’s. He had no options and could only eat what was available over the counter, including water. He also had to try everything on the menu at least once. To top it off, every time he was asked to “Super Size” his meal, he had to do so.

Besides the impact of fast food, Spurlock also explores health issues regarding declining health education, distasteful school lunch programs and the extremes that people go through in order to lose weight and regain their health.

During serious moments in the documentary, the reality of the deterioration of Spurlock’s well-being sets in. Despite the pleas of physicians, nutritionists, family and friends to end the experiment, Spurlock continues for the full 30 days. He experiences heart problems, serious headaches and loss of energy along with dangerous weight gain, changes in his vital health statistics and the early signs of liver failure.

While common sense would dictate that it would be a bad idea to live on fast food, it is a regular part of many people’s diets. Until McDonald’s recently cut the “Super Size” option, customers could add half a pound of fries and half a gallon of soda to any meal for less than a buck. The “reality show” aspect of the film draws an audience that is curious to know what would happen if someone ate only fast food. Americans know that fast food is bad for them, however it is a different message when they can see these facts materialized with Spurlock’s visits to the doctors and nutritionists. In just one month, Spurlock goes from being in superior health to gaining almost 24 pounds and experiencing life-threatening changes in his body.

The results of Spurlock’s experiment are nauseating but in no way surprising. Watching him gorge down Big Macs day after day is similar to an accident happening in slow motion. Everyone watching knows what is happening, and they continue to watch as their worst fears come true. This documentary is food for thought, in an unappetizing way.

In this raw film, Spurlock does offer some comic relief. The audience has no choice but to laugh at the ridiculousness of the situation America has put itself in. One off-the-wall McDonald’s customer Spurlock interviews has a running total of how many Big Macs he has eaten in his lifetime. His number is lying somewhere near 20,000.

Not only does Spurlock poke fun at the industry and the country’s obsession with it, but he offers solutions to the obesity problem in America. One of his main proposals is to educate parents and children about nutrition. He also suggests that the fast-food industry stops targeting young children through advertising gimmicks. In a surprisingly candid moment, Spurlock says once he has children, he will punch them in the face when he drives by McDonald’s so they don’t get too excited.

Locally, the economic aspect of the chain has the strongest appeal. "The typical殒ing college students who would rather eat out than cook," McDonald’s on Foothill Boulevard restaurant manager Hugo Mendoza said. "We have nutrition facts everywhere now; tray liners, pamphlets and sometimes on bags. Some people don’t care. They get their food, eat and leave."

The convenience and inexpensive meals are too appealing for at least one-fourth of the American population every day.

“I eat McDonald’s at least twice a month because of the dollar menu,” manager therapist Brian Quigley said. People should never eat at McDonald’s and they know that, he said.

In 2001, journalist Eric Schlosser wrote “Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of the All-American Meal.” The book shattered the image of fast food by revealing unsettling truths about the fast-food industry, including food preparation, advertisement schemes and exploitation of thousands of Americans. While “Super Size Me” has no relation to the book, it delivers the second of a one-two punch that may change America’s view on the fast-food industry forever.

McDonald’s is the subject of the documentary “Super Size Me,” which follows a man’s 30-day fast-food binge.

CRYSTAL MYERS MARKETING DAILY
Capitallsm Wal-Mart work in America

Commentary

My brother wants to emblazon that on all the merchandise with the line “Capitalist bastards get results.” However, the proliferation of The Guardian’s slogan is a testament that Cal Poly has already driven the message home.

My joggy capitalist soul grips green every time I see his face plastered across a T-shirt. It’s the ultimate desecration; the legend of a communist leader who was used to sell over-priced clothing to angst-filled kids.

There is no longer serious debate over capitalism’s virtues. It has clearly provided the framework for the greatest period of economic growth in history. In February, the Wall Street Journal reported a momentous change in policy in communist China.

To quote Deputy Finance Minister Lou Jiwei, “It’s a lot like Reaganesomics. We feel that only through simplifying things and lowering barriers to trade and investment can we become more efficient. At the same time, we also want to give full play to companies.”

Even my calloused conservative heart was elated by this glorious news. A tr air trickled down my cheek as I whispered, “It... it’s so beautiful.” Communion has once again been restored; we are all united under the same genius. “What a comforting sight, the world so unified, it is no wonder that it is so beautiful.”

Only the most foolhardily fein will attack capitalism itself, rather, the common sop is to excoriate capitalism success stories. For instance, last Friday The Barometer published an editorial from the University of Michigan paper bashing Wal-Mart.

The final paragraph sums up the case against this corporate giant: “Overall, while Wal-Mart is the pinnacle of capitalism success, it brings little benefit to those around it. The act of plundering in already massive corporations simply threatens the quality of life in areas they operate in.”

From Web pages such as Wal-martucks.com to Time magazine headlines such as, “Wal-Mart Sells Socialism!” the commonmouth discount retailer is unparalleled in its ability to attract liberal vilification.

Volatile famously wrote, “Ni Dieu n’existe pas, faudrait l’inventer,” but for the left it is, “Wal-Mart n’existe pas, faudrait l’inventer.” Were there no Wal-Mart, then Tango or Mr. Bongo would be the windmill at which the left tits.

The reason Wal-Mart is so reviled is that it has the business savvy and fortune needed to top the Fortune 500. And, although formerly reviled for its liberal tendencies, it is now a paramount of free trade and globalization. Thus, it’s the perfect target for liberal bogeys who see that, and it’s not like they can just change the channel.

So no one is saying, “Hey, you’re not a person” by repainting the “P” into the aforementioned sexual act. I’m sure there would be some public outcry about this. No one wants to see that, and it’s not like they can just change the channel.

So no one is saying, “Hey, you’re not a person” by repainting the “P” They are simply saying, “Hey, if you’re gonna fart, scratch your self and belch that’s your business, don’t do it, that’s their choice. But if you undo the aforementioned sexual act, I’m afraid there would be some public outcry about this. No one wants to see that, and it’s not like they can just change the channel.

Charles Welsch is a computer science senior.

Keep homosexuality out of public view

There needs to be a distinction made between dislike of someone because of what they do and dis-like of what someone does. First of all, we are all entitled to make our own judgments on the basis of what we want to be; that’s the beauty of free will. But you also must accept that many people may not appreciate those decisions and probably don’t really want to know about them. They are saying, “Hey, you’re not a person” by repainting the “P” and for those who support them, we are not going away, we will not be silenced.

Jayme Hembrecht is an English senior.

Anderson is a music lover who can mix

I would like to applaud Stacy Anderson for her CD mix article “Following the rules makes the perfect mix perfect” May 20. Stacy, you rock! It’s nice to know there are other music lovers out there who understand the importance of the art of mixing. So few people follow the rules, which is sad and often hard on the cars. A good mix takes time, thought and a little love. Thanks for spreading the word.

We are all one degree away from you on the Eagles thing.

Will Brown is a mechanical engineering senior.

Pick up your trash during UU Hour

I have noticed that many students at Cal Poly enjoy the mass congregation that we call UU Hour. Everyone loves to sit and chat, watch the bands that play and check out the occasional exhibits and booths. However, when the clock strikes noon, everyone scatters. Whether they have classes to go to, food to eat or just plain go home, everyone seems to have give away the common thing in common: They leave their trash behind. It is really a shame that this trash is left behind. It is really a shame to show that students are not clean or sanitary. It is a question is this a pose that I have posed, along with my fellow classmate in COMD 322.

Persuasion.

Myself, and two other classmates have come up with a plan to keep the University Clean. We ask that students stay extra five minutes after the clock strikes noon and pick up after themselves. We will place trash bags on the floor and other students who see that, and it’s not like they can just change the channel.

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Jayme Hembrecht is an English senior.

Letters to the Editor

Rainbow ‘P’ a sign of self-love, respect

A few days ago I was contacted by a friend who told me about an 18-year-old woman who was just outed by her brother to her family. She thinks she is the only lesbian in town and has no one to turn to. My friend asked me to call her, offer my support, tell her she’s not alone. Tell her I am, a happy, healthy, smart and completely normal “out” lesbian. And many more of me are in our community, living openly and proudly. Yet can I tell her that I tell her we live proudly and that we live loudly? I think we live loudly. We live loudly every time I try to identify my identity. I am pushed down and painted over.

Each year, the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Trans-gendered community of Cal Poly celebrates the “P” rainbow as a metaphor. The “P” is us, and we are painting our faces rainbow, showing everyone that we have self-love and respect, showing others who feel scared and alone that they are not alone and don’t have to be scared.

But the “P” being painted over is sending a different message. It is say-ing to those people there is a reason to be scared. There is bigotry, anger, prejudice and ignorance out there. It also tells me I have to fight to show who I am and that I am not wrong to show who I am. I am for being polite. It’s not a sign that I am wrong, that I am not a person. It’s not a sign that I am not a person. It’s not a sign of my lack of respect for those people who are not going away, we will not be silenced.

Jayme Hembrecht is an English senior.

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Wednesday, May 26, 2004 9
**Commentary**

We live during a time where a reported 50 percent of heterosexual marriages end in divorce. A time where pop celebrities — a la Britney Spears — get hitched in Las Vegas for mere kicks, and television shows like Fox', "Who Wants to Marry a Millionaire" encourage impulse marriages. Marriage is no longer the sacred union it once was. Does anyone remember those little lines like, "for better or for worse" or "till death do us part"? Considering America's recent track record, why should people willing to uphold the marriage vows be denied that opportunity? Why are so many opposed to marriages between couples that have been together for a number of years and have proven that their relationship can stand the test of time? It's because the couples are homosexual.

Recently, Massachusetts joined the Netherlands, Belgium and Canada as three more populous countries as the only locals in the world where gays and lesbians can legally join in a same-sex marriage. However, even Massachusetts was not without critics. Twelve of the state's 1,200 justices of the peace opted to resign rather than perform ceremonies joining gay couples in marriage. On a national level, President George W. Bush has even gone so far as to endorse a federal constitutional amendment that would ban same-sex marriage. In 2006, voters in Massachusetts are expected to vote on a proposed amendment to their state constitution, similar to the one Bush is endorsing on a federal level. The issue may go to a national vote shorty thereafter. Though many feel it is unethical to put another group's civil rights up to a public vote, there seems to be no other way around the issue. Even if Sen. John Kerry is elected in the upcoming presidential election, he has stated he will not support or introduce civil union legislation, similar to the one Bush is endorsing on a federal level. The issue may go to a national vote shortly thereafter.

So either way, it appears the fate of same-sex marriages will be left to the American people. But if Bush gets re-elected, we will have a small window of opportunity to change the amendment and pass gay marriage. So long as the issue is put to a vote, we should support gay marriage, because it's the right thing to do. The issue shouldn't be put before the American people if there is any chance at all that they will not support gay marriage. The goal should be to change the amendment, not just put gay marriage on the ballot so it fails.

The media has recently adopted a more homosexual-friendly attitude, popularizing such shows as "Will and Grace" and "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy" — shows that a few years ago would never have aired. And according to a recent MTV poll, the majority of 17 to 24-year-olds who supported registered gay marriage, with 40 percent saying they strongly supported it. While attitudes regarding same-sex marriages may be shifting to the "pro" side, we will still take years for the law to catch up. While the media has been in favor of adding a clause to his proposed amendment that leaves the issue of whether or not to recognize other unions between homosexual couples up to individual state legislatures, this will make his proposed amendment more acceptable to all.
**Sports**

Wednesday, May 26, 2004

**Collins** continued from page 12

joined the Giants in 1999 and rehabilitated his life and career. The next season, he led them to the NFC championship before losing to Baltimore in the Super Bowl. His most produc­tive year came in 2002 when he threw for 4,073 yards. He is a durable quarterback who started 67 straight games before spraining his ankle last season, when the Giants' harshest offensive line was the main factor in their 4-12 finish. He threw for 3,110 yards with 13 touch­downs and 16 interceptions in 2003.

Collins said it was difficult to find another starting job but had no regrets so late in the offseas­on. The opportu­nity to play for the Raiders and the knowledge that Gannon is on the backside of his career made this the most appealing spot.

"Looking at other teams, a lot of them were backup roles at this one is," he said.

**Wheelmen**

Continued from page 12

biking standouts. In the downhill events, Curtis Bearce consistently did well. Corina Bigham, Nicole Tunnell and Katherine Weidemann were the women's standout.

Although no woman raced in last weekend's national championship road race, Weidemann and her teammate Tha Ruhestow were Cal Poly's top ranked female road racers.

In addition to attending numerous events, the Wheelmen also host races in the area. During this year's mountain biking season, the team hosted the Parkfield moun­tain bike race and the WCCC Mountain Bike Conference Championships race at Lopez Lake. More recently, the team hosted the WCCC Road Bike Championships, where the men's team finished in fourth place.

As a club sport, the Wheelmen welcome all skill and interest levels. Expert racers and beginners alike are able to enjoy the club and the sport it represents. This year the club had 87 members.

Wheelmen members are not limited to cyclists. The club puts on regular training and recreational group rides that cater to different skill levels. Last year they hosted a century, or 100-mile bike ride from Big Sur to San Luis Obispo.

Every quarter, the Wheelmen volunteer their time to fix students' bicycles to get them back out on the road riding safely. This year, the Wheelmen volunteered during the recent "Bike Week 2004," an event held to help raise money for the California Conservation Corps.

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RAIDERS FOOTBALL

Raiders offer Collins a better opportunity

Josh Dubow

ALAMEDA — Kerry Collins believed he had a better long-term outlook backing up a 38-year-old quarterback coming off an injury than a hotshot rookie who was the top pick in the draft.

So Collins signed with the Oakland Raiders to play behind Matt McGloin rather than sticking with the New York Giants to help smooth the way for Eli Manning's entry into the NFL.

"Obviously I've played a lot in this league and started a lot of games," Collins said Tuesday. "But when I came here, they made it clear what the situation would be. I understood that Rich would be the man, and I will be the guy that's there if something happens to Rich. That will be my approach.

The addition of a big-armed, high-draft quarterback who led a team to the Super Bowl just more than three years ago gives the Raiders insurance should McGloin go down with another injury. He hurt his shoulder on Oct. 20 and had season-ending surgery to repair a torn labrum.

Backup Marques Tuiasosopo also got hurt, contributing to Oakland's depth chart.

"Understanding that Rich would be the starter and I will be... there if something happens to Rich," -KERRY COLLINS

Raiders quarterback

"Competition makes you better. Rich is our starting quarterback. When you have someone there who has played and won it's a motivational deal and it helps you play better," said Collins, a nine-year veteran, who was released by the Giants on April 28, four days after they acquired Manning, the No. 1 pick in the draft. He said he was "angry" by the move but quickly moved on.

Collins has a stronger arm than McGloin and his ability to throw the deep ball should fit in well with Turner's new offense and owner Al Davis' model for a quarterback.

The 6-foot-5, 248-pound Collins was the first draft pick ever of the Carolina Panthers in 1995 and quarterbacked the team to NFC championship game in their second season.

But alcohol problems ended his career in Carolina two years later, and after a brief stop in New Orleans, he signed with the Raiders.

"It's good uphill cardio the whole time," said Doug Cascaden, lead park ranger for the City of San Luis Obispo. The popularity of the trail is not to be underestimated.

"On average there are at least five cars at the trail head, and a lot of individuals can be cited for violating closure orders, bobcats, mountain lions and rattlesnakes. Postings are up put at the trailhead in such cases, but it is still a good idea to stay alert and keep children close when hiking,

The trailhead parking lot, right off the Marsh Street 101 South on-ramp, testifies to the path's popularity.

"On average there are five cars at all times," said Doug Cascaden, lead park ranger for the City of San Luis Obispo. "Mornings and from 4 p.m. on there are usually 10 to 30 cars."

The W heelmen

The Wheelmen, Cal Poly's cycling club, finished a strong season last weekend as two Mustang racers competed in the road cycling national championships in Madison, Wis.

Ken Hannon finished 10th in the hilly 60-mile road race, just three seconds behind the winner. Teammate Ozzy Olmos finished the race less than 40 seconds later in 65th place. Both athletes also raced in the shorter criterium race; Hannon once again finishing in the lead pack, this time in 12th place followed by Olmos in 27th.

"Road season was promising, but we were really hurt by the loss of women on our team this year," team president Glen McBryer said. "Our men's team consistently placed high, but it was not enough to qualify us as a team for nationals."

He said even though the team did not qualify, the number of individual team members at nationals were an indication of the team's strength.

"Our conference gets four individual invitations for racers whose teams do not qualify," McBryer said. "Of four, we qualified three men. That is a testament to how strong our elite men were this year."

In general, the season was an overwhelming success. The team started off on the right foot by winning the West Coast Collegiate Cycling Conference Mountain Bike title for the sixth year in a row and placing seventh as a team at the national mountain bike competition, McBryer said.

The West Coast Collegiate Cycling Conference includes more than 20 schools from throughout California and Nevada. The WCCC is regarded as one of the most difficult conferences in the country. The cycling season is broken into two sections, mountain biking in the fall and road cycling in the spring.