No vote to extend fines proves suitable

The Cal Poly students that attended the meeting argued that extending triple fines would increase animosity.

Natasha Toto

After nearly two hours of debate, Thursday's City Council meeting concluded with a three to one vote against extending triple fines for lawbreakers until March.

Despite San Luis Obispo Chief of Police Deborah Linden's proposal to continue the fines, city council members decided it would not be in the city's best interest.

Linden said she is satisfied with the council's decision.

"I think what the council just did was a big step in the right direction," Linden said. "It is a great opportunity for students to prove themselves, but it could be risky for them."

When all was said and done for the weekend of Poly Gras, the move by some to thwart police efforts to end Mardi Gras resulted in what appeared to be a non-party after all.

San Luis Obispo Police Department spokesperson Rob Brys said his department reported 13 arrests both Friday and Saturday night, for a total of 26. The San Luis Obispo sheriff's Department reported one arrest over the weekend.

"It is a fairly high number of arrests compared to a standard weekend, but the effect was not a huge one," Brys said. "I think we may be able to credit it ASI's work on this."

Cal Poly students filled the room Thursday to ask the council to do its part, pleading that extending triple fines would only add fuel to the fire for disgruntled students.

Tylor Middleslot, Associated Students Inc. vice president, commended the city for its proactive approach to Mardi Gras, but asked them to trust that Poly Gras is not a threat.

"You cannot legislate your way to peace," Middleslot said. "It is a great opportunity for students to prove themselves, but it could be risky for them."
Oblivion  

continued from page 1

Vot e  

continued from page 1

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LOCATION: DOWNTOWN CENTER CINEMA
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT: UNIVERSITY UNION EPICENTER

Theater is overbooked to ensure capacity.
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This screening will be recorded for unauthorized recording. By attending this screening, you agree to comply with all applicable laws and regulations regarding unauthorized recording. If you choose to record this screening for personal use, you may only record one viewing device into the theater and you consent to Alla recording be used only for personal entertainment and not to be disseminated to others. Any attempt to use a recording device, you consent to your0 coordinates removed from the film's data and labeling of your content and the content, unauthorized recording will be expected to cease. 

ARRIVE EARLY! SEATING IS FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE!
Relationships 101: Students give relationship classes the college try

On college campuses across the nation, students discuss breaking up, making up and study secrets of happily married couples.

Martha Irvine
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MUNCIE, Ind. — Scott Hall wants to spark a discussion, so he asks his students something bound to provoke a reaction: Do women want more out of marriage than men?

It’s just the sort of conversation starter that’s heard more often in college classrooms these days. Affairs of the heart — love, relationships and marriage — have gone from being an obsession outside class to a chance to speak his or her mind without interruption.

And if students are considering long-term, committed relationships, they’re asked to consider questions such as, “As whose job is it to be a good car, discipline a child or cook dinner?”

Leslie Parrot, a professor at Seattle Pacific University, said surveys at her university and others regularly show that relationships are a priority for students.

“Students are often more focused on relationship quality than their careers,” said Parrot, a marriage and family therapist who teaches relationships courses with her husband, Les Parrott.

Lecture topics include “Falling in Love Without Losing Your Mind” and “How to Break Up Without Feeling a Bitch.” The latter class includes discussion on how to end a relationship cleanly and taking time after a breakup to avoid a rebound relationship.

Parrott says that session regularly draws students who aren’t even enrolled in the class.

“Breaking up is a real rite of passage for people their age — they’re just dying and they have no real guidance,” said Parrott, who co-authored a textbook on relationships with her husband.

Parrott says that some academics question whether classes like these belong in a college setting. But others — from economists to theologians — say there’s no reason love should be ignored.

“The longer I live, the more I realize that the hardest thing is just relationships,” said Robert Brancatelli, an assistant professor of religious studies at Santa Clara University in California’s Silicon Valley. “It’s hard enough to figure out yourself, let alone another person.”

His course, “The Theology of Marriage,” challenges students to go beyond notions of romantic fantasy to ultimately view love as “a nurture self, capable of offering oneself to another person freely.”

And in doing so, you become more of your true self,” says Brancatelli, who requires students to spend time with married couples to see what a life of commitment is really all about.

“I tell them to try to get invited over for dinner,” Brancatelli says, “to see what the couples are like after a couple glasses of wine.”

Interfraternity Council

Rush Begins with the Fraternity Kickoff BBQ on February 15, from 6-8pm in the UU Plaza.

For More Information:
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THIS WEEK
IN ASI EVENTS

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Featuring “THE INCREDIBLES”
Tuesday, February 15
8:15 p.m. in Chumash Auditorium - FREE

Bring your pillow, blanket or beach towel and get cozy for the screening of this animated hit film. Seating is limited. Free popcorn

UU HOUR

Featuring FUSED
Thursday, February 17
11 a.m. - noon in the UU Plaza - FREE

Fused, a favorite local band, features a hip-hop encore and improved jazz sounds along with a live rhythm section.

ADVANCE FILM SCREENING

Featuring “CONSTANTINE” starring Keanu Reeves
Thursday, February 17
8 p.m. at Downtown Centre Cinema - FREE with ticket

Pick up tickets in the UU Center. Seating is first come, first served.

TICKETS ON SALE NOW

PAPA ROACH live in concert
Friday, February 25 at 9 p.m., doors open at 7 p.m.

Papa Roach will perform with special guests Five Finger Death Punch and Skindred.

Tickets are $15 general admission or $20 for Cal Poly students, plus handling fee.

SOCIAL DISTORTION live in concert
Thursday, March 17 at 8 p.m., doors open at 7 p.m.

Social Distortion will perform with special guests Backyard Babies and The Street Dogs.

Tickets are $25 Cal Poly students, $29 general admission, plus handling fee.

Both shows will be in the Cal Poly Rec Center. Tickets are on sale at all Valhalla outlets including valhalla.com and the Mustang Ticket Office.
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ARTS & CULTURE
Monday, February 14, 2005

REFRESHING THE DWINDLING SOUL SCENE

Just in case it isn’t evident enough already, I’m a rock ‘n’ roll girl. The occasional soul or hip hop artist has caught my ear, but none really lasted. Recently, I stumbled upon John Legend, who released a solo album, “Get Lifted.”

My musical prejudices are more prominent than I wish they are, so initially when I saw the last name, “Legend,” heard the names of some songs (“She Don’t Need to Know”) and read multiple articles that detailed his expectations of becoming famous since he was 6, I was a little put off.

But sometimes ego pays off. The album is not only different from other things out there, but guest appearances by Kanye West, Snoop Dogg and Miri Ben-Ari reinforce the power that the album has to stand against today’s other popular artists. Anyone who appreciates how music is crafted will love this album.

The album opens with a soft, jazzy piano kick and as Legend begins to sing, it is obvious that this is no ordinary album. The beginning “Prelude” segues into the title track, “Get Lifted.”

The title of the song brings so many connotations to mind, but is a silky, sensuous song nevertheless—or perhaps as a result. The groove is the first thing I noticed, but there is also an exceptional depth in the instrumentation from the very first note, emphasizing bass and percussion and supplementing these with flawless harmonies.

Some artists tend to over-produce or over-layer their music to compensate for the lack of something else: vocal ability, for example. But the beauty of Legend is that his voice is the driving force of the album, and it is not overshadowed, even as the accompaniment is wound into a rich tapestry.

My least favorite song on the album is “Alright.” A typical grudge and unspectacular lyrics make it a wakka song, but a deep, mellow in the background still makes me wonder just how he makes such innovative musical decisions.

The highlight of the album for me is “Ordinary People.” Legend kept the song sparse, and rightfully so, by using just a piano and his remarkable voice. The lyrics are extraordinary and evoke the mood of the music itself.

Of course John Legend didn’t come out of nowhere. He has been working behind-the-scenes on albums by artists such as Alicia Keys, Janet Jackson, Talib Kweli, Jay-Z, Britney Spears and the Black Eyed Peas. He also played piano on Lauryn Hill’s amazing “The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill.”

Legend said to BET in December 2004, “You can expect this album to be soulful. It’s real music that you can relate to and feel. It’s like gospel mixed with hip hop and classic soul.” It’s quite a statement, yes. But there’s no need to be skeptical here—this guy knows what he’s doing.

Emily Logan is a journalism and music junior and a Mustang Daily columnist.

ARTS & CULTURE
Monday, February 14, 2005

BREAKING DOUBLE-STANDARDS

Today at 11 a.m. on Dexter Lawn, the GLBU and Raise the Respect-Student Community Services will sponsor the Fourth Annual Same-Sex Hand Holding Day. The event will include a hand-held march through campus, ending in the UU where intersex poet Theo Hillman will perform. The day is held to demonstrate the double standard of public displays of affection between gay couples in comparison to their straight counterparts.

Emily Logan is a journalism and music junior and a Mustang Daily columnist.

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Welcome
Unborn turtles safer than fetuses

I recently came across a newspaper article that completely shocked me. It described two men who were caught stealing 113 Loggerhead sea turtle eggs from J. D. MacArthur State Park north of Palm Beach. They had gathered the eggs at night and were retrieving the bag when investigators caught and arrested the duo.

Since the Loggerhead sea turtle is listed on the Threatened Species list, just below the endangered species level, the two men could be subject to heavy fines and jail time. For this species, the punishment could mean 60 days in jail, a $500 fine and $100 fine per egg actually dug up to tell you the truth. I had the same initial reaction most of you probably did—serve them right. They should be punished to the full extent of the law. But something a little deeper struck me. I realized that the items in question were turtle eggs. The thieves stole eggs that were, by definition, unborn turtles. Then it occurred to me that U.S. law is written in a way that protects unborn animals more than it protects unborn humans.

The courts have ruled time and time again that a woman has the right to abort a pregnancy up until the baby is safe rather than fecund. This barbaric practice allows a baby halfway out of the womb to be the victim of an abortion. The reason I bring this up is to simply point out that this baby is still considered to be "not human" and without rights until it has been born completely. Why then do we consider an egg to have the same rights as an actual turtle even before it has left the egg? The reason for this discrepancy is hypocrisy. If politicians decide they can make any religious or ethical judgments on abortion, just a logical argument for giving unborn humans the same protection. Our courts refuse to outlaw abortion because there is no want for it as a last means of birth control, but we fight vigorously to punish killers of other species.

I realize these sea turtles are a threatened species, but think of it this way: if this was about whether we should pump in or save the little girl or the turtle in her terrarium? The fact is most of us put a higher priority on human life when faced with that type of decision. We think of all the good that the child can accomplish compared to the turtle and the choice is obvious I'll save the child every time. I just cannot believe our environmental activists can get unborn turtles and poor, but it's quite another to people into retracting their idea to people into rethinking their idea to not party on the weekend in the next weekend, you won't send the question that's your opinion is the only right answer. Jeff Corser Architecture student

Students resent being told what to do by authorities.

To the end of all this Mardi Gras hoopla teaches us anything, it's that people do not like being told what to do. Now, for a long time I was indifferent to both sides of the whole argument, and I think a lot of other people were too. However, now that the city has taken the angry parent approach and tried to tell us to our rooms by all but declaring an entire holiday to be illegal. It has alienated a lot of people, including me, who otherwise would not have really cared. The reason is simple: people do not like being told what to do. When you threaten them with what is basically a weekend in a police state, they will be resentful. And when you try to strengthen people into rethinking their idea to not party on the weekend in the next weekend, you won't send the question that's your opinion is the only right answer. Jeff Corser Architecture student

City should invest as much of an effort for safe partying

I was going to write a letter last week exposing the lack of integrity of our beloved San Luis Obispo Police Department. I am glad I waited until Mardi Gras weekend was over. I went downtown last weekend and just do it peacefully the week that kept money out of the things like a beer bottle ban are not to gather on the streets, harass those who exercise appropriate opposition and all the other little things like a beer bottle ban are going to make this city look stupid, and it's residents and students will be more informed about the first ten amendments. Maybe the city should invest as much of an effort in creating a good party atmosphere as it has in fascists. We are American citizens with freedom, not compliant sheep.

Nicholas Kasnoff Architecture junior

MUSTANG DAILY

LETTER

Send your letters to the editor to opinion@mustangdaily.net

LETTER POLICY

Letters should include the writer's full name, phone number, major and class standing. Letters must come from a Cal Poly e-mail account. Do not send letters as an attachment. Please send the text in the body of the e-mail.

By e-mail: opinion@mustangdaily.net

By mail: Letters to the Editor Building 26, Rooms 226 Cal Poly, SLO, CA 93407

GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?

Send your letters to the editor to opinion@mustangdaily.net

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

People should not assume their opinion is the only one. I'd like to thank Mr. Allen for making my not so obvious point. After reading the Mustang Daily for four years, I've noticed some people have a great propensity for throwing up the Gerber opinions they've been spoon-fed with actually digesting them. I thought to myself, "Wouldn't it be great if people started making rational arguments in the paper instead of making the gross assumption that they're right and shouting their 'truth' at the top of their lungs?"

Also it would appear that I won't see this happen before I graduate. It's one thing to say that there is a growing division between rich and poor, but it's quite another to substantiate it in your letter. One way is informative and personal. The other is the same old regurgitation everyone has come to expect from the letters to the editor. Why should basic health care be free or next to free for all? I want for people to stop assuming in their letters that their opinion is the only logical one. If someone doesn't agree with you, then that person is obviously possessive of a third grade intellect and can't handle the advertisement of a person such as their self.

Oh and here's a tip Mr. Allen: If you are going to agree with the people who are obviously possessive of a third grade intellect and can't handle the advertisement of a person such as their self.

Jeff Corser Architecture student

"It's not yet... he's gradually plump."
Camp is currently hiring counselors with Mustang Jobs. For more information, call (530) 274-9577.

CMRG is currently conducting a clinical research trial for vaginal yeast infection. If you're female, age 12 or older, and are currently experiencing the symptoms of a yeast infection, you may qualify to participate. Please call 805-549-7570 for more information on this research study. If eligible, you will be reimbursed for your time and travel.

Developmentally disabled student currently enrolled at Cuesta College needs a part time job coach, preferably an upper level or graduate student with experience in helping handicapped students succeed in new jobs. Hours approximately 3-00-5:00pm 4 days a week. Pay $10 an hour. Please respond by email to donpinkel@yahoo.com or phone at 805-544-5271 for more details.

The Central Coast LAN Party 24 hrs., February 13th & 20th PC and XBOX tournaments, dinner provided. 42" plasma screen featuring 51.1 surround sound. Check it out at www.centralcoastlanparty.com

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STAYING IN SLO this summer and looking for a job on campus? Conference Services is hiring 11-15 staff for spring, summer, and possibly fall. Seeking hard-working, responsible, and positive individuals who enjoy working in a fun, fast-paced team setting. Cashier and customer service experience preferred. Optional summer housing at a highly reduced rate. Flexible hours, PT/FT available. 7-08:00-26:00. Great internship opportunity! Send your application to the above positions open. Apps and job descriptions in bldg. 116 rm. 211. M-F, 8:45-3:00 or on Mustang jobs online. Due 3/3/05. (805) 756-7600

Watson’s Grizzly Lodge Summer Camp is currently hiring counselors for the summer of 2005. Located near Lake Tahoe. Looking for responsible, enthusiastic individuals who enjoy working with children. Competitive salary. Great new viewpoint. On campus interviews held Thursday, March 10th. Sign up for an interview time with Mustang Jobs. For more information, call (530) 274-9577.

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The slide hits six for women's basketball

The Mustang defense kept the game close until a 16-1 Gauchos run.

And the men lose too

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

Mike Titchenal's career-high 20 points were not enough as Cal Poly dropped an 85-65 decision to UC Davis in a non-conference men's basketball game Saturday night at The Pavilion.

Titchenal made 10 of 18 floor shots and also had a team-high six rebounds, but the Mustangs suffered their third straight loss and have dropped 11 of their last 12 games, their record at 4-17.

Freshman forward Andrew Haskins added 12 points for the Mustangs, who trailed by 16 points at halftime, 42-26, and could get no closer than four points in the second half.

Titchenal's basket with 13 minutes to go cut Davis' lead to 51-47, but the Aggies went on a 9-0 run and never looked back.

Cal Poly lost despite hitting 52 percent of its floor shots and outrebounding UC Davis 32-27. The Mustangs turned the ball over 20 times, seven more than the Aggies. UC Davis (10-14) had four double-digit scorers, led by Fawaz Abdelsamad with 19 points. Ryan Moore and Thomas Jaullerat each added 15 points while Rommel Marenez scored 14 points.

Cal Poly made just two of nine three-pointers in the loss.

UC Davis made 13 of 27 three-pointers and 16 of 19 free throws, sinking 91.1 percent of its floor shots.

Though the Mustangs dominated the points in the paint with a 38-14 advantage, UC Davis had a 37-14 advantage in bench points.

This one was over quick as the Gauchos became the first half point leader, 48-38, and never looked back.

The Mustangs took over in points in the paint but could not convert from the outside hitting just two of nine three-pointers in the loss.

ODDS AND ENDS

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

Behind the doubles tandem of Samantha Waller and Nicole Shabazz, the women's tennis team took the doubles point and rolled through the singles play en route to its second straight Big West Conference victory.

The Mustangs defeated Cal State Northridge 5-2 on the Mustang courts after winning four of six singles matches.

The Mustangs improved to 3-3 overall and 2-0 in the Big West. Samantha Waller and Nicole Shabazz teamed for an 8-3 win at No. 1 doubles while Noelle Lee and Chetly Thompson combined on an 8-5 victory at No. 2 doubles.

Singles winners were Thompson, Lee, Shabazz and Sheila Lewis.

DOUBLE RIPS BY MATADORs, SINGLES FOLLOWS SUIT IN WIN

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

Samantha Waller teamed up with Nicole Shabazz to beat their doubles competition and lead the Mustangs to a win at Cal State Northridge.