Cal Poly rides its way to the Rose Parade

**Sara Hamilton**

The 2007 Cal Poly Rose Float, titled "Arctic Antics," will be viewed around the world via satellite TV on the morning of Jan. 1, 2007. The float will depict a group of penguins and polar bears ringing in the New Year with a luau, a scene that celebrates the Rose Parade theme of "In Our Good Nature.

"Students at Cal Poly and Pomona worked year-round to produce the float for the annual Tournament of Roses parade, held annually on New Year's Day in Pasadena. The Cal Poly float is the only parade entry completely designed, built, decorated and financed by students. A good portion of the work done on the float is performed by the Cal Poly Rose Float Club, which supports the Rose Float program by hosting fundraisers and assisting with the float's design and physical construction.

The club also provides many social opportunities to its members, such as movie nights, trips and game nights. "We could always use more help," said Andrew Brooks, the Rose Float Club's senior construction leader. "We really appreciate all our volunteers, but we could still always use more."

Brooks is a four-year Rose Float veteran, but he stresses that students of any experience level and major can help out by calling or visiting the Rose Float office in UU room 209.

Since San Luis Obispo and Pomona are 225 miles apart, both universities build portions of the float on their separate campuses. On Oct. 21, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo shipped the drive mechanism south to Pomona, where the float animation is now taking place.

see Float, page 2

**U.S. involved in Iraq war longer than in WWII**

**Tom Raum**

WASHINGTON — The war in Iraq has now lasted longer than the U.S. involvement in the war that President Bush's father fought in, World War II.

As of Sunday, the conflict in Iraq has raged for three years and just over eight months. Only the Vietnam War (eight years, five months), the Revolutionary War (six years, nine months), and the Civil War (four years, five months), and the Civil War (four years, nine months), has engaged America longer.

Fighting in Afghanistan, which may or may not be a full-fledged war depending on who is keeping track, has gone on for five years, one month. It continues as the ousted Taliban regimes and the central government is challenged.

Bush says he is undecided whether to start bringing U.S. troops home from Iraq or add to the 140,000 there now.

He is awaiting the conclusions of several top-to-bottom studies, including a military review by Gen. Peter Pace, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Expected soon, too, are recommendations from an outside blue-ribbon commission headed by former Secretary of State James Baker, a Republican close to the Bush family, and former Rep. Lee Hamilton, an Indiana Democrat who was one of the leaders of the Sept. 11 commission.

The Iraq war began on March 19, 2003, with the U.S. bombing of Baghdad. On May 1, 2003, Bush famously declared major combat operations over, the pronouncement that saw Iraq, page 2

**CSU budget calls for increases in faculty pay, not for student fees**

**Christina Caci**

At the last CSU Board of Trustees meeting, the requested budget for the 2007-08 school year was passed. The budget included the request for no student fee increases. However, the budget still needs to pass through many more processes.

"This is all based on state funding," said Paul Browning, media relations specialist for the CSU Chancellor's Office. "Less funding leads to an increase in fees."

The budget includes not only a request for a lack of increase in student fees, but also more money for salary increases and money for special programs in the California education system, Browning said.

"We want to make sure you are getting the best education possible, and so do you," he said. "If you increase faculty salaries, you get better instruction."

The current proposed budget must go through many steps, said Debbie Boothwell, the director of budget and analytic business services at Cal Poly.

"This is just a budget request to the state," she said. "The governor's comes out in the May revision and then the final budget is in July."

The budget must go along with the governor's compact agreement made to pass through many more processes.

For more info: Contact the ASI Craft Center at (805) 756-1287, or go to www.asi.calpoly.edu/asi/craft.
Float
continued from page 1
A dedicated group of San Luis Obispo students contributes to Cal Poly Pomona every weekend to work on the Rose Float. They leave at 6 a.m. on Saturdays and spend the day in the Pomona workshop.
"There are usually five to 10 people who make the trip down (to Pomona)," said James Gibb, the Rose Float Club's design leader. "It's a long drive, so we carpooled. It was worth it, though." Gibb added that on some nights, the crew winds up spending the night in Pomona.
In mid-December, the float will be moved from Pomona to Pasadena, where the final stages of construction come together. Materials processing and painting will take place at the Rose Float Lab in Pomona from Dec. 12 to 23 at 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Volunteers can sign up for two-hour shifts during that time.
The 2007 Cal Poly Rose Float Decorations Week will then be held Dec. 26 to 31. At this event, guests are invited to join the crew just days before the parade as flowers are applied to the float. The decorators will be asked to work anytime between 8 a.m. and 10 p.m. at the Brookside Tent in Pasadena. Anyone wanting to be a part of this longstanding tradition is asked to contact or visit the Rose Float office in the UU tower.

Budget
continued from page 1
The numbers should reflect soon for a 2.5 percent enrollment increase, which is an additional 11,000 students total in the CSU system, Brown said. "Right now, none of the numbers are specific to Cal Poly," Brown said. Some of the money is to go towards the Board of Trustees' "priorities," Browning said. These include programs for K-12 math, science and special education, he said.
The CSU system takes most of its students from California, so they are trying to use these programs to reach out to high school students, Brown said.
Currently, there are negotiations with the faculty association to increase all salaries by 25 percent, Brown said.

Though the costs of education seem to be high, Browning said they aren't that bad.
"If you compare the CSU to a university, we are one of the best deals in town," he said.
The changes in the current proposed budget will all depend on the climate and state revenues, Brown said.
"It really depends on if the state still has a deficit," she said.
Why do increases continue every year even if the budget doesn't call for more? Because iPods like new too.
"It's all about them," he said.

David Turten	Owner
Santa Maria, Arooya Grande & San Luis Obispo

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State

MOORPARK (AP) — A fire, driven by strong Santa Ana winds destroyed two homes Sunday and threatened hundreds of others as residents began to flee while flames raced through canyons and over hillsides. The blaze burned about 2,000 acres, or three square miles, and destroyed two homes and a storage building with farm equipment, said Capt. Ron Nelson of the Ventura County Sheriff's Department. Fire officials called for voluntary evacuations as hundreds of residents packed up valuables while dozens of trailers used to transport livestock were lined up on a road.

HAYWARD (AP) — A shot-out on Interstate 880 ended with one man dead and a police officer seriously wounded.

The gunfire erupted after Hayward officers pulled over a driver they believed had outstanding felony warrants for weapons violations, said Hayward Police Lt. Reid Lindholm.

The suspect started shooting as soon as he stepped out of the car. The officers returned fire. The suspect, who was alone in his car on the scene, and officer Carlos Martinez was shot in the stomach, Lindholm said.

BEVERLY HILLS (AP) — A sport utility vehicle carrying Laguna Beach police officer Carlos Martinez, 26, hit a tree, killing a 17-year-old boy in the SUV. The officer seriously wounded in the shooting was also injured.

Two 15-year-old girls inside the vehicle were also injured, one critically, during the late Saturday night accident, police said. Garrison, 26, had minor injuries.

The vehicle jumped a curb and hit a tree. Authorities were trying to determine who drove the SUV, which was registered to Garrison.

The boy was taken to Cedars-Sinai Medical Center where he died. His name was not released.

The conditions of the girls were not immediately released.

Briefs

National

WASHINGTON (AP) — While President Bush acknowledges the need for major changes in Iraq, he will not use this week's Iraq Study Group report as political cover for bringing troops home, his national security adviser said Sunday.

"We have not failed in Iraq," Stephen Hadley said as he made the talk show rounds. "We will fail in Iraq if we pull our troops before we're in a position to help the Iraqis succeed."

ST. LOUIS (AP) — The temperature barely rose into the 20s Sunday as hundreds of thousands waited for the restoration of electrical service that was knocked out by a devastating ice and snow storm.

Tawana Jean Cooper and her family spent Sunday at a Red Cross warming center in St. Louis, which they were able to reach on Saturday from their suburban home after roads were cleared of ice, downed power lines and broken tree limbs left by Thursday's storm.

NEW YORK (AP) — Richard Dreyfuss wants to show Americans how to be better citizens.

"The teaching of civics presently in the United States is dismal," Dreyfuss said, quoting the Oscar-winning actor said on ABC's "This Week." Dreyfuss is launching a campaign to develop a civics curriculum for the nation's schools.

When he was a child, Dreyfuss said, civics classes taught not only the checks and balances in government but also the reasons behind the creation of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

"It's time that we revive the notion that we can learn how to run the country and learn, you know, for Republicans and not for Democrats, but learn how to run the Constitution," he said.

International

SANTIAGO, Venezuela (AP) — President Hugo Chavez sought another six-year term Sunday in an election that weighed the popularity of his oil-funded handouts to the poor against fears of increasing authoritarian rule by one of the Bush administration's most outspoken opponents.

Chavez anticipated a crushing victory over tough-talking political veteran Manuel Rosales who has galvanized the opposition by promising to unset a man he accuses of边缘izing the country toward totalitarianism.

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Saddam Hussein's lawyers on Sunday formally appealed the death sentence against their client for the killing of 148 Shiites, a court spokesman said.

Five Iraqi judges sentenced Saddam and two other senior members of his regime to death by hanging on Nov. 5 for the killings in the town of Dujail, north of Baghdad, following a 1982 attempt there on the life of the ousted leader.

Under Iraqi law, death sentences are automatically upheld before a higher court within 10 days of their passage. But defense lawyers must file a formal appeal within 30 days, detailing the legal grounds for their action and presenting new evidence that could support their clients' claims of innocence. The lawyers could also make a plea for leniency.

Beth Foulk
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton met on Sunday with New York's Democratic governor-elect to solicit his support for her likely White House bid, the latest indication she is stepping up plans to join a growing field of potential contenders for 2008.

One rival, Indiana Sen. Evan Bayh, announced Sunday he was establishing an exploratory committee to raise money for a possible presidential run. He expects to decide over the Christmas holidays whether to seek his party's nomination.

A top aide to Clinton said he did not know when the former first lady would decide about pursuing the presidency or set up an exploratory committee. Clinton aides, however, have been beginning interview campaigns that are used to develop back-up if she opts to seek the nomination.

"She wants to sit down and talk next week, which we're going to do," said an aide who asked not to be named. "It could be about legislation. I have no idea what it's about, and until we sit down and talk that's all I'm going to say about it," said Schumer. He added, "I think she'd make a very good president but let's wait and see.

"Everyone's sort of jumping the gun," Wolfsen told The Associated Press that Clinton "is reaching out to her colleagues in the New York delegation and asking for their advice and counsel and their support if she decides to make a run."

Clinton easily won re-election last month to a second term in the

Clinton, Bayh step up exploratory efforts for White House

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see Clinton, page 5

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Red Cross fears 1,000 may have died in Philippine typhoon

A resident crosses a river as a house remains tilted by the riverbank Sunday Dec. 3, 2006 at Legazpi City, Albay province, south of Manila, Philippines.

Olive Teves
ASSOCIATED PRESS

OMAR AGA, Philippines — The Red Cross estimated Sunday that up to 1,000 people may have died in the typhoon that unleashed walls of black mud on entire villages in the Philippines. The country's president declared a state of national calamity.

Typhoon Durian struck the Philippines with winds reaching 165 mph and torrential rains on Thursday, causing ash and boulders from Mayon volcano on Luzon island to swamp villages around its base — a scene Philippine Sen. Richard Gordon described Sunday as a "war zone."

Hopes of finding any survivors beneath the volcanic mud, debris and boulders had virtually vanished. Bodies were buried in mass graves to prevent them from decomposing in the tropical heat.

Gordon, who heads the Philippine National Red Cross, estimated the death toll could reach 1,000 people. "There are many unidentified bodies. There could be a lot more hidden below. Whole families may have been wiped out," he told The Associated Press by telephone.

The Red Cross has thus far recorded at least 406 deaths, with 398 others missing, based on figures provided by mayors of devastated towns in Albay province, which was worst affected by the storm. The government placed the number of dead at 324, with 302 missing and 438 injured.

BULIT MARQUEZ ASSOCIATED PRESS

Houses along the Yawa River in Padang, about seven miles from Legazpi, were buried under 5 feet of mud, with only their rooftops protruding. Some bodies had been washed out to sea, then swept by currents to the shores of an adjacent town.

Glenn Lorica, 22, said his family's house in Albay's Daraga town was destroyed by a torrent of mud, uprooted trees, rocks and debris. Seven members of his family are missing; only he and his younger sister are known to have survived.

"I told myself that if I would die, so be it," Lorica said from a hospital bed.
Clinton continued from page 3

Senate Wolfson noted that Clinton has said she would begin actively considering a presidential bid after that election. "That process has begun," Wolfson said.

Thirteen months before the first votes are cast in the nomination process, the presidential jockeying has intensified in both parties.

Iowa Gov. Tom Vilsack announced his bid for the Democratic nod last week; Bayh is taking the initial steps; and others, such as the party's 2004 presidential committee, the presidential jockeying has begun," Wolfson said.

Bayh, 50, has charted a relatively centrist course in the Senate. He has appeared before huge crowds around the country, promoting his bid and Kansas Sen. Sam Brownback is expected to announce his candidacy soon about his intentions.

Clinton, for her part, has as much as $13 million left from her Senate campaign account, all of which can be transferred to a presidential campaign calendar. As of Sept. 30, she had about $10.5 million in his Senate campaign account, all of which can be transferred to a presidential campaign calendar. As of Sept. 30, she had about $10.5 million in her Senate campaign account, all of which can be transferred to a presidential campaign calendar.

Clinton told ABC his candidacy would appeal to a broad range of voters in states not traditionally friendly to Democrats.

"I think it's important for Democrats to be able to expand. I think our party has got to expand. I think we'll do very well. I've been a successful two-term governor with a lot of media interest. I think we'll do very well. I've been a successful two-term governor with a lot of media interest."

Obama, a clear challenger to Clinton's front-runner status, has appeared before huge crowds around the country, promoting his bid and national security experience.

"As the people get to know me, I think I can do it. I think I have done it in my state." he said. "Is this a little bit like David and Goliath? A little bit, but as I recall, David did OK."

Bayh, 50, has charted a relatively centrist course in the Senate. He has appearances scheduled this week in Iowa and New Hampshire, two states with early contests on the presidential campaign calendar. As of Sept. 30, he had about $10.5 million in his Senate campaign account, all of which can be transferred to a presidential campaign.

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John McCain of Arizona and former President Clinton.

Vilsack said. "As the people get to know me, I think I can do it. I think I have done it in my state."

PETALUMA, Calif (AP) — In this rich agricultural region of Northern California, ranchers have been nursing chickens too old to lay eggs into compost at a rate of a half-million hens a year.

But some chickens not properly euthanized have been seen crawling out of the compost piles, earning them the name "zombie chickens" — and hatching a debate over what else might be done with them and other "spent hens."

A food bank proposed making sausage to feed the poor. A reptile enthusiast suggested using them as food for large exotic pets like pythons and alligators. And an industry group said in the future they could be used as fuel for power plants.

But for now, according to egg farmers in Sonoma County, composting is the only affordable option. The last California rendering plant stopped taking the hens in May.

"If there was something that could be done, it would be done," said Petaluma egg farmer Arnie Reibli.

The egg-laying birds have only a pound of usable meat, compared to the 3-pound chickens typically raised for eating. Slaughtering the chickens, even to transport them unprocessed and frozen whole, would likely cost more than composting them, Reibli said.

Unfortunately, it's less expensive to go out and buy the birds than process them," said David Goodman, executive director of the Redwood Empire Food Bank in Santa Rosa, which had considered the sausage-making practice.

To kill the chickens, farmers suffocate them in sealed boxes filled with carbon dioxide, a practice that has drawn the ire of animal rights groups. Afterward, the hens are layered in mounds of sawdust.

A new European technology that turns dead cows into fuel to generate electricity could be the fate of spent hens someday, said Rich Matters, head of the Pacific Egg and Poultry Association.

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A taste of something good

There are many wineries in San Luis Obispo, and many opportunities to try them out. The problem? They're all very spread out. Perhaps the reason people don't venture out to taste wines more often is the perceived distance from quaint little San Luis Obispo proper.

Well, for those of you that cling closely to the downtown area, there is now a solution. Taste, the new innovative wine experience, is celebrating its first year open in its downtown location. The new state-of-the-art facility is one of two advanced wine tasting venues in California. With it's sleek, industrial, al-steel "tasting pods" assembled throughout the store, it offers a tate safari, if you will.

After purchasing a plastic tasting card with an embedded smart chip, you are welcomed with top-of-the-line crystal wine glasses sans the stem. You are then escorted to the wine "pod" of your choosing to discover 72 different wines from 15 local San Luis Obispo wineries. From there, there is a nominal fee for each wine, which is deducted from your tasting card. Just hold out your glass and the fun begins.

The machine is state-of-the-art because it measures exactly one ounce portions of wine and keeps track of individual wine bottle consumption and inventory. With this new Enomatic Machine, the wines sampled are able to last up to 20 days without spoiling. I was informed by Taste manager Blythe Foster that dealing with spoilage is never an issue because of Taste's popularity.

This nonprofit retail store is owned and operated by the Vintner Association of San Luis Obispo. The tastes differ in price but you can probably expect to pay approximately $2 per taste. You can purchase a tasting card for any denomination, and to celebrate the holidays, Taste is offering discounts on gift cards. While the experience might be a little pricey, it certainly is one of the best "wine-down" spots in SLO County.

The atmosphere is sleek and industrial, with high vaulted ceilings and windows just as tall. Once you enter, your ears begin to fill with a cacophony of jazz sets, which bounce off the walls and throughout the store. There walls feature black-and-white photos of local winemakers taken by a local artist. Their inventory of wine cases consists of a rotating carousel controlled by remote.

One specific perk that makes Taste quite attractive is its motto of "Just say no to corkage." Corkage, or the convenience to bring a wine of your choosing to a restaurant, can get expensive. You will pay anywhere from $5 to $25 for corkage at restaurants downtown. Just by showing your Taste receipts, restaurant such as Buena Tavola, Cafe Reina, Jaffa Cafe and Corner View will wave corkage.

Every Wednesday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Taste hosts a representative from a different local winery to sample complementary wine and appetizers. Most times, you will meet with the actual wine maker and get to ask questions about how they produced their wines. Apparently, for the entire week thereafter, you may purchase three of those samples for $5. This week, Taste features Kynsi Winery for their "Wine Down Wednesday."

So my suggestion to you, my wine minions, is to take advantage of this cutting-edge tasting facility and bring your friends along to have a fun afternoon browsing downtown. Why not make a wine selection list before hand (we call them flight lists in the biz) and have your friends take notes on different wineries' take on a given varietal, say Zinfandel. Or if you were so inclined, you could have your friend hand you a glass and do blind taste tests to train your wine acuteness. Hey, whatever is clever, just make sure you are having fun with wine.

Taste is located downtown at 1003 Osos St. and is online at www.taste-do.com.

Lauren Jeter is a 2005 wine and viticulture graduate and is currently pursuing a master's in business. She can be reached at laurenjeter@gmail.com.

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Who said college students are too big to tell Santa Clause what they want for Christmas? Santa Clause is stopping by Cal Poly twice this year on Dec. 5 and 7 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the University Union.

The Open House Planning Committee is having a fundraiser where students pay $2 for a Polaroid picture with Santa Clause. If you’re not feeling too jolly towards the man with a belly like a bowl full of jelly, grab that special someone for a picture under the mistletoe for the same price. All are welcome to take part in the holiday spirit and help support Open House activities.

For more holiday cheer, buy some hot chocolate, apple cider and popcorn for $1 starting at 10 a.m. The money raised goes towards shuttles to transport people to and from town, publicity, equipment, facility usage costs and many other activities.

“This is a chance for Cal Poly students to give back to the college and show possible students a great weekend,” said Jennifer Ridder, one of the campus and community relations directors.

Ridder said the committee has already sent out sponsorship letters to local businesses, but this fundraiser allows students to get involved.

Aerospace engineering junior Ashley Evans has spent three years working on the Open House Committee, and said fundraising is necessary as Open House becomes a larger event every year.

A grant given by Associated Students Inc. and sponsorships from local businesses is the main source of funding, but is not enough, said Evans.

Open House normally brings in between 40,000 to 50,000 people and offers prospective students and their parents a glance of what Cal Poly offers in education and entertainment.

Open House will be held April 19 to 21.
Guest's new film worth 'consideration'

David Humphreys

"For Your Consideration" really does a mediocre Ron Burgundy impression instead of creating a Corey Taft.

Fred Willard, who also acted in "Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy," plays talk show host Chuck Porter in "For Your Consideration."

"For Your Consideration" includes performances by Catherine O'Hara ("Home Alone"), Eugene Levy ("American Pie") and Harry Shearer ("This Is Spinal Tap").

What "This Is Spinal Tap" did for rock 'n roll, "For Your Consideration" does for Hollywood, but in its own unique way.

While seeming less direct than other mockumentaries, "Consideration" follows suit with other writer/director Guest's work by using satire and copious amounts of tongue-in-cheek humor to get his point across.

All comparisons aside, "Consideration" is really a masterpiece in its own right.

The basic story follows the making of a new movie called "Home for Purim" and follows the cast and crew associated with it. When rumors start on the Internet, some of the cast members get caught up in the pre-Oscar buzz and the rest of the story falls neatly into place after this.

Containing stellar performances by Catherine O'Hara ("Home Alone"), Eugene Levy ("American Pie") and Harry Shearer ("This Is Spinal Tap").

"Consideration" is really stolen by Fred Willard ("Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy") in talk show host Chuck Porter. His superbly timed, almost caustic wit clash-es with the seriousness of events, creating comedic value where there might not have been any.

Much of the actual humor in "Consideration" comes from its satire on current pop icons and culture. From Ryan Seacrest to Anna Nicole Smith, Ebert and Roeper and "Access Hollywood," nothing was spared from the ridicule of this production.

Some of the best satire came from the fictitious show "Hollywood Now," hosted by Chuck Porter (Willard) and Cindy Martin (Jane Lynch, "Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby").

Now, not all of "For Your Consideration" is golden. John Michael Higgins ("Wag the Dog") character Corey Taft is entirely too reminiscent of Will Ferrell in "Anchorman."

By using the same dry humor mixed with quick monologues littered with one-liners, as well as the same overall personas, Higgins really does a mediocre Ron Burgundy impression instead of creating a Corey Taft.

Another downfall is how noticeably "Consideration" drags toward its end. With many movies going far over two hours and still staying interesting, it is a wonder that why, with only an 86-minute runtime and all of Guest's expertise "Consideration" has any drag at all. Assuming that the movie was cut down, either more time should have been added or the scene placement should have been rethought.

With Guest's touch and an all-star cast, "For Your Consideration" really lights up the screen and the audience. Reviving the art form of mockumentary, Guest and his cast brought loads of laughs, shock and even a few groans from everyone in the theater.

Get ready to see one of the year's brightest, wittiest and downright funniest films.

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EDUCATIONAL/HEALTH CARE CAREERS WORKSHOP

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation is currently seeking educators and health care workers to work at the California Men's Colony in San Luis Obispo. Applications are being accepted for Senior Librarians in Education, and LVN's, Physicians and Surgeons, Clinical Dieticians and Lab Assistants in Health Care.

For those interested, please contact Tammy Neotti, Institution Personnel Officer, at the California Men's Colony, 1-805-547-7580. A hiring workshop for these positions will also be held, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., on December 9, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Holiday Inn Conference Center, San Luis Obispo.

If you are interested in attending the workshop, please call Nancy Martinez at 1-559-992-7100 ext. 5346 to RSVP for Senior Librarians. To RSVP for Health Care, call Aim ee Yuki at 1-916-341-7007.

Those interested may also visit the CDCR website: http://www.cdc.ca.gov/CareerOpportunities.asp

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**For Your Consideration**

- 1996 NASA's first Mars rover launched from Cape Canaveral.
- 1979 Liza Minnelli gets married, for the third time, to Marc Gero.
- 1978 Dianne Feinstein is named San Francisco's first female mayor.
Bush buys $500 million legacy

By Emily Rancer

I)

If you are the president of the United States, you can build your legacy one of two ways. You can do such a great job in office that the world remembers you warmly long after you're gone, or you can spend a lot of money and hire people to rewrite history in the hopes that you'll come off looking better. 

George W. Bush has chosen the latter path.

How else can you explain the recent news that the president and his associates hope to fundraise $50 million to build a presidential library in Dallas. That's right, $500 million for a library! A library for a president with an approval rating of 36 percent?

When the naming pump in your head subsides, try to recall that when Bill Clinton funded his presidential library, Republicans went nuts over the ridiculous cost. That ridiculous cost was $165 million, certainly price, but still nowhere near the $500 million for Bush's library. I can't help but repeat that absurd number.

Also, let's not forget that Clinton actually needed the extra space for his library, as it features over 75 million pages dedicated to preserving the written record of his presidency. I sincerely doubt Bush wants to preserve any papers from his presidency. Whether it's the faulty pre-war intelligence reports or those memos titled "Bin Laden Determined to Attack Inside the U.S." what will Bush fill his library with instead?

Bush's library will be a monument to himself and his policies. This plan to rewrite history probably won't work either. The reason is obvious according to Robert Elsberg of the Los Angeles Times: "If someone is so hugely unpopular that you need half a billion dollars to make him sound favorable, why would you think anybody would want to spend money to buy a hardcover about the fellow?"

Never mind, this fact won't stop the president and his fellow ideologues from trying. DeFrank says that Team Bush hopes to "get megadonations" of $10 million or $20 million from wealthy businesswomen, Arab nations and captains of industry.

It's funny how they aren't interested in getting support from the "people who actually write papers and books favorable to the president's policies."" The article starts out with a recap of the very vague circumstances of the accident and then moves on to why we need to have new safety installations around the tracks and why the cost should be pinned on Union Pacific Railroad Co. First let me state my own theory of how the accident happened since Ryan West, the official in charge, can't help but repeat the president's tattered image. Granted they need $500 million to do it. Fortunately, like many of the president's policies, this plan to rewrite history probably won't work either. The reason is obvious according to Robert Elsberg of the Los Angeles Times: "If someone is so hugely unpopular that you need half a billion dollars to make him sound favorable, why would you think anybody would want to spend money to buy a hardcover about the fellow?"

What's the big deal? After all, people are entitled to donate private funds to whomever they want to help, even if it is an enormous waste. The main problem is that these donations can be done confidentially, and if Republicans were worried what Bills Clinton might do with $165 million, just imagine what Bush will do with half a billion in giveaways.

The other problem is that symbolically, our president should set a better example. He shouldn't spend his time praising the money wasted on a self-absorbed and diogenes project. To see fair, looking back on the past six years of war and lies, I guess this library is actually as symbolic a testament to the Bush legacy as any monument could be.

Patrick Molnar is a business sophomore and Mustang Daily political columnist.

GETTING SOMETHING TO SAY?

Send a letter to the editor!

submit your thoughts, opinions, rants and raves in 250 words or less to mustangdailyopinions@gmail.com or through the improved www.mustangdaily.net

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Don't blame others for your recklessness

I am writing in response to the Nov. 30 article "How safe are the tracks we walk on?" I had finished reading this article, I was dumbfounded at all the propositions being made in wake of the recent accident involving Ryan West.

The article starts out with a recap of the very vague circumstances of the accident and then moves on to why we need to have new safety installations around the tracks and why the cost should be pinned on Union Pacific Railroad Co. First let me state my own theory of how the accident happened since Ryan West, the official in charge, can't help but repeat the president's tattered image. Granted they need $500 million to do it. Fortunately, like many of the president's policies, this plan to rewrite history probably won't work either. The reason is obvious according to Robert Elsberg of the Los Angeles Times: "If someone is so hugely unpopular that you need half a billion dollars to make him sound favorable, why would you think anybody would want to spend money to buy a hardcover about the fellow?"

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POLITICAL COLUMN

Bush buys $500 million legacy

By Emily Rancer

If you are the president of the United States, you can build your legacy one of two ways. You can do such a great job in office that the world remembers you warmly long after you're gone, or you can spend a lot of money and hire people to rewrite history in the hopes that you'll come off looking better.

George W. Bush has chosen the latter path.

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Volleyball

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that's absolutely a team function," he said. "No one in particular let us down." Atherstone agreed.

"We weren't our best in serve receive, which is something we pride ourselves on," she said. "Nothing was really flowing for us in the first game, Cal Poly could not recover from deficits of 10-3 and 18-10, although it did get within 23-25. After jumping to a 9-6 lead in the second game, the Mustangs allowed a 19-11 run. Cal Poly got within 26-25, but Cal rattled off four of the final five points. "We played an extremely tough schedule," Keller said. "When we face an opponent that pushes us, we're used to that. We can push back." The Mustangs got within 11-9 and 20-17 in the fourth game before the Golden Bears closed the game and the match on a 10-3 run.

"They're a quality team," Stevenson said. "Should they beat us again in the fourth set? No, not easy at all. Not with everything that's on the line and how well we've practiced and how much this means to us." Three of the four teams in Cal Poly's sub-regional were ranked in the top 16 of the AVCA/CSTV poll. "I think this was probably the toughest sub-regional with teams matched up this close," Keller said. "Probably every single one of those teams could have advanced. The two teams who lost (Friday) night could have advanced if they were in another sub-regional. I'm not going to question why things happen the way they do. I'm glad we're advancing.

As for the Mustangs, a historic season has come to a close. It included:

• Cal Poly's first Big West title ever and its first outright conference crown of any kind since 1984, when it was part of the now-defunct Pacific Coast Athletic Association.
• The "Mustangs' 23 wins are their most since going 31-8 in 1985.
• Cal Poly entered a national ranking for the first time since 1999.
• The Mustangs earned their first NCAA Tournament berth since 2002 and their first tournament win since 2000.
• Although it lost the match, Cal Poly won a game in the second round of the tourney for the first time since 1989 Northwest Regional.

The Mustangs had a school-record five players selected first-team all-conference.

Cal Poly had won 16 of its last 17 matches before Saturday, including three-game sweeps in 10 of its final 12 regular-season contests.

"I'm really proud of what we were able to accomplish," Stevenson said. "You have to build on your successes. We're not going anywhere but up. We got our feet wet, we won a round. Let's learn from this. Next time we'll be in this situation, we'll be better prepared."
Basketball
continued from page 12

1993 and the first time the Mustangs had limited an opponent to less than 63. The win over Idaho on Jan. 9, 2003.

"It's definitely a strength," Cal Poly head coach Faith Mininaugh said of her team's defense. "I feel like our defense is stronger than our offense right now. If we can strengthen our offense and make great decisions we're going to be a team that can vie for a championship in the Big West."

With four-year starting senior point guard Sparkle Anderson sidelined with a left knee injury, the Mustangs were looking to get the game started Saturday.

Senior Jessica Morgan Harrison and junior Nicole Varwooy, both post players, made their first starts of the season and brought the frontcourt presence against Bruin Fields, who started the first six games of the season, came off the bench.

The other three pieces of the starting five stayed the same — junior guard Kylee Hoots and true freshman forward Jessica Eggleston.

Hoots, however, saw more time at point guard than usual. She had nine minutes and five assists before shooting 4 for 6 from the field.

"She controlled the tempo for us," Mininaugh said of Hoots, who committed just two turnovers in 27 minutes of play.

Anderson suffered a left knee injury while driving to the hoop late in the first half against Loyola Marymount on Nov. 28. After Saturday's game, Anderson said she would not know the exact nature of the injury until either Tuesday or Wednesday.

"When it happens, if it feels like I might have torn my ACL or something like that, but we don't know yet," she said. "For sure we'll find out on Tuesday or Wednesday."

When asked whether she could return this season, Anderson said, "I want to, but I want to be smart about this. I don't want to come back in the season, but if it's the ACL, I won't be back this year." Anderson's per-game averages so far this season was 6.3 saves, 2.0 assists, 2.0 blocks and 2.0 rebounds. She was named Big West Conference Player of the Week on Nov. 20. Anderson came up with nine steals — two short of a school record — in a 77-75 overtime win at Portland on Nov. 26.

Anderson led the Big West in both assists per game (4.07) and assists-to-turnover ratio (1.57) last season. In addition to Hoots, others saw increased action running point as well. Freshmen Shannon Gholar, Ashley Stewart, Tanitra Wells and senior Andrea Kelker combined for four points, two assists, four rebounds and only two turnovers in 24 minutes.

When asked whether she could return this season, Anderson said, "I got to see a lot of extra shots this week and it was really working on stuff. They placed a good shot in the game. We were able to capitalize on that." Like Harrison, Mininaugh credited Varwooy with solid help-side defense in the post. The Mustangs limited the starting front line for San Francisco to a combined 12 points on 4-for-15 shooting.

"Nicole has had a great couple weeks of practice," Mininaugh said. "She's done an awesome job defensively with knowing where to be. We had super support off the bench as well."

The Don's (3-5), who have already lost to Colorado, Wyoming and Miami, shot just 25.5 percent from the field and turned the ball over 15 times. Cal Poly shot 44.8 percent from the floor, including a clip of 3-for-23 in the second half. The Mustangs were only 4-for-10 from the free throw line.

Senior Kaye Brennan and freshman Becky Tramontana scored eight and nine points, respectively. Eggleston had four points, eight rebounds, five assists and three steals. The Mustangs are the lone team in the Big West with a winning overall record.

Through Saturday, the conference's eight teams had combined for a record of 16-38.

In the Big West preseason polls, Cal Poly was picked to finish seventh in the conference. The Mustangs are the lone team in the Big West with a winning overall record.
Cal Poly routs visiting San Francisco 60-38 in a nonconference game Sunday. Waller had six kills and 15 digs. Mustangs' 3-1 loss to Cal in the second round of the NCAA Tournament on Saturday night in Mott Gym. Waller had six kills and 15 digs. Mustangs' 3-1 loss to Cal in the second round of the NCAA Tournament on Saturday night in Mott Gym. Waller had six kills and 15 digs. Mustangs' 3-1 loss to Cal in the second round of the NCAA Tournament on Saturday night in Mott Gym. Waller had six kills and 15 digs. Mustangs' 3-1 loss to Cal in the second round of the NCAA Tournament on Saturday night in Mott Gym. Waller had six kills and 15 digs.