Cleansing the palate: Cal Poly graduates invent wine-tasting phenomenon

SanTasti is the brainchild of Andrew Macaluso and Nicole Chamberlain, two wine and viticulture graduates who created the palate cleanser beverage after taking classes in sensory analysis at Cal Poly.

"After doing a sensory panel for our senior project, we looked at another criteria," Macaluso said. "Quality (was given) based on order it was tasted in. The results showed wines tasted second almost always scored better than the (wines) first."

The two decided they wanted to do something about this.

"Palate fatigue has always plagued the wine industry," Chamberlain said. "Right now, Pellegrino water and crackers are the only alternative offered. It came down to whether there was a market for it. So we decided to take a chance and see if it could work."

They started testing a few milliliters of SanTasti, the palate-cleansing sparkling beverage for wine-tasters invented by two Cal Poly graduates, has been gaining international attention.

Proposal to pad city park space — for now

Samantha MacConnell
MUSTANG DAILY

Before the start of the San Luis Obispo City Council meeting Tuesday evening, the room was filled with the low hum of community members in attendance as the possible council decision regarding the proposed parking lot behind the Senior Center location in Mitchell Park.

Newly-elected council members for the issue for the first time, Jan Marx voted to overturn the parking lot proposal in the campaign, and John Ashbaugh said he would seek better parking for the senior center while keeping the park safe.

The council tentatively approved smaller versions of the parking lot originally proposed by a vote of 3-2. Issue will come back to the council meeting on Jan. 6, 2009.

For the past 20 years, seniors have struggled to find adequate parking near the Senior Center located on the corner of Santa Rosa and Buchon streets.

Nearly 50 community members, ranging from park neighbors to environmentals to seniors, spoke in front of the council in both opposition and support of the issue.

"Our city's growing density places even more pressure upon our few open spaces," Rosemary Wibert, a senior San Luis Obispo resident. "A central square block historical park is a treasure few cities have. To pave one of these is backward thinking.

Emily McBride, along with 12-year-old brother Peter, who held signs in protest saying "Save Don't Pave," spoke against the parking lot proposal in the campaign.

"I know that this will not be a positive change," McBride said. "There are other alternatives to a parking lot like making half of the parking spaces around the park for seniors to use the center during the day. Many people, including kids, love this park."

Alternatives for the lot suggested by community members included utilizing public transportation, carpooling, walking, riding a bicycle, adding drop-off spaces for seniors, and the addition of diagonal parking. However, the council and a number of seniors viewed these alternatives as unrealistic because there are seniors who may not be able to walk certain distances or ride bicycles.

Supporters of the proposed parking lot claimed that the lack of parking prevents seniors from visiting the center and makes parking lot behind the Senior Center proposal win.

"The off-street parking is just as important for our aging community to get out for their safety, but also to support their ability to recreate, socialize and serve their community," Council member, originally proposed by a vote of 3-2.

Senior Center located on the corner of Santa Rosa and Buchon streets.

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College endowments and state pension funds lost billions of dollars into hedge funds and private-equity investments as a way to balance their stock holdings, and for a time they got supercharged returns.

Those days are over. From Harvard University to the state pension fund of California, officials are watching the value of their alternative investments shrink.

So far, the losses are mostly on paper, but analysts say they could eventually lead to reduced payouts to retirees, higher taxes so state governments can fulfill their promises, or less money available for colleges to give in financial aid.

"Everyone was in a desperate search to find returns," said Colin Brandon, head of the Center for Private Equity and Entrepreneurship at Dartmouth's Tuck School of Business. "Now they have to face the bitter secret that those investments aren't as great as we imagined just a few months ago," said a Dec. 2 letter from university leaders to deans.

In recent years, endowments and pensions heaped money into hedge funds — private investment funds that some of their holdings are worth less than what they were just months ago.

The weakness in those holdings has delivered another punch to colleges and pension funds, which are bracing for the worst.

Harvard University announced this week that its endowment tumbled since July by about $8 billion, or 22 percent, to about $29 billion, and said that "sobering figure" doesn't fully capture its losses because it doesn't reflect declines in its private-equity and real estate investments. It forecast total losses for its fiscal year ending in June 2009 could be as much as 30 percent.

The state of California, the public pension fund CalPERS, says its losses are in the billions of dollars, and it's too soon to know the depth of the damage.

"It's too soon to know the depth of the damage from these investments," said Labor and Justice Secretary Bill Labott. "Annual results won't be in until January for pensions and July for endowments.

But there are already indications that the value of these alternative investments is falling, including disclosures from some publicly traded private-equity firms that some of their holdings are worth less than they were just months ago.

In Washington, the National Association of State Treasurers says it may have to cut monthly payments to retirees by as much as 3.5 percent — the first reductions in 26-year history.

In Colorado, a mix of investments including private equity, lost 26 percent from January through October.

If that happens, Beland Meyer, a retired deputy school superintendent in Wausau, Wis., said he and his wife, a retired teacher, expect they could receive up to $1,000 less per month in state annuities.

"We won't go out to eat as much as we had in the past," he said. "I'm sure I won't be buying as many trips to Home Depot... We'll do a lot more thinking before we spend."

Wine
continued from page 1
their product with other members of the wine and viticulture sensory analysis classes they were apart of.

The results were positive enough that the two students entered the Cal Poly Innovation Quest contest.

"We won a lot to Innovation Quest," Chamberlain said. "We won first place in last year's contest. We entered thinking 'Let's meet some people and network and see what we can get out of it' and won first place. It gave us validation in thinking. "We're not crazy, we can pull this off."

With the prize money in their pockets, the duo began visiting local wineries and testing SanTasti. They toured 30 wineries in 30 days.

"We went by day," said Macaluso. "You slowly move forward and we ask..."

One of the local wineries carrying SanTasti is 15 Degrees C in Templeton. Owner Ali Rush Carascaden said that the beverage is so popular that they are nearly sold out and will soon order another shipment.

"As a wine connoisseur I love it," she said. "I think it's a great idea and it works very well."

Rush Carascaden added that wine drinkers aren't the only ones buying SanTasti.

"It's great for palate cleansing after a big meal or a cup of coffee in the morning and it's a light, refreshing beverage in addition," he said.

Less than three months after their initial production run, SanTasti has not only taken off on a local level; word of mouth has put them on an international stage.

"We're having a lot of distributors approaching us," Macaluso said. "We're even talking to people outside the country in London and in Tel-Aviv, Israel about exclusive distribution rights."

The first production run went so well that the duo has stopped actively taking orders for the beverage while preparations are made for a second production run.

SanTasti comes in three flavors: the original, which is similar to a sparkling water, cinnamint and peppermint.

Macaluso said that the retail price varies in places but is generally between $2.56 and $3 per bottle.

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"We'll Be Closed
Thursday, December 4, 2008
Endowments

continued from page 2

ing spaces.

The Robert Wood Johnson Founda-

tion, which has more than $10 billion

in assets intended to support health ca-

causes, boosted its alternative holdings

from 13 percent of its total investment in

2001 to 33 percent in 2007, according to

its financial reports. It has not disclosed

any recent information about perfor-

mance.

And last year, the nation's state and lo-

cal pension funds put $14.7 billion into

alternative investments, 18 percent more

than the year before, according to research

by the National Association of State Re-

tirement Administrators.

Educational endowments put about

$144 billion into alternative investments

from July 2006 through June 2007, about

8 percent more than the year before, ac-

cording to Commonfund, which advises

and manages money for universities and

nonprofits.

Critics say the party had to end.

Doug Kas, president of the Flori-

da investment firm Sebastian Partners

Management, says hedge and private-eq-

uity funds overpaid for many takeovers,

used too much debt to finance the deals,

and charged excessive fees. So when bad

times came and the non-private compa-

nies struggled, these investors will be the

first to lose if companies go bankrupt or

need restructuring.

"These funds relied on the kindness

of institutional investors who were in-

trigued by hysterical returns," said Kas,

who is known as a short-seller, or some-

one who makes bets on declines in the

market.

Already, managers of hedge and pri-

vate-equity funds are pressing investors to

pony up more cash to avoid having to se-

al funds at fire-sale prices.

At the same time, some pension fund

and endowments are looking to sell their

alternative holdings — and get out be-

tore they're hurt even more.

Private-equity funds account for about

$900 million of the University of Virgini-

a's endowment and other fund and or-

about one-fifth of the total hold-

ings. Those private-equity investment

dropped nearly 15 percent from July 6

September.

The company that manages the hold-

ings may sell some of the private-equity

investment "at attractive prices," accord-

ing to a recent letter from its CEO. Bu

anyone who wants to sell now faces a

weak market.

The state pension fund in New Jer-

e is actually buying — putting nearly $30

million into four hedge funds in Octo-

ber, at the height of the financial market

meltdown.

Among the investments was an extra

$144 million into a fund managed by

BlackRock Inc. after the investment firm

called for an emergency cash infusion

The addition brought New Jersey's stake

in the fund to $144 million.

State officials said it was still a good

investment, and they expect a return of

20 percent on the new contribution. In

one lawsuit filed, it amounted to throw-

ing good money after bad.

"Hedge funds are supposed to act as

insurance against market volatility," sai

New Jersey state Sen. Joseph Pennacchi

a Republican. "Now we have to insure the

insurance."

Endowments

continued from page 1

ask themselves how they define democracy," he said.

"The goal is to get people to think about how they

would define it for themselves."

Democracy 24 isn't about being a Democrat or a

Republican, but about the subject of democracy as

a whole, Alvarez said.

"We wanted to keep it as objective as possible.

We aren't focusing on political ideologies per say

but about how we view democracy," he said.

Gillotte got the idea for the 24 hour theme from the

Constitution Center in Philadelphia and a series of

documentaries. Most of the exhibits in Demo-

cracy 24 were done as group projects with a few ex-

ceptions.

"Each group chose an hour and country and had

two minutes through video and audio technology

to demonstrate their definition of democracy," Gil-

lette said. "We wanted them to be a little abstract

so people would have to think about the exhibits;

they are designed to be short but complex and have

depth to them."

Visitors to Democracy 24 will be greeted by a

videotron in the library room 202.

"If think people are going to be studying anyway,

and it is a great study break," Eckold said. "It en-

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All Cal Poly gift merchandise
Including: sweatshirts, tees, glassware, hats, scarves, beanies, license plate frames, jackets, ladies fashion and more!

All regular priced general books
Including: holiday books, cook books, fiction, travel, journals, childrens, gift books and more!

All Holiday gift merchandise
Including: figurines, ornaments, gift wrap, boxed cards, plates & mugs, stuffed animals, and toys!

All art, office, and student supplies

*Excludes: computer department, textbooks, photo department, special orders, magazines, rainbow sandals, food, health & beauty, graduation caps, gowns and tickets.
Elliot Spagat turned away from a fraternity party went looking for revenge after being Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez, son charged with murder

Assembly Speaker during ceremonies at the Capitol in Sacramento, Calif. Nunez's Luis Santos and the stabbing of three other men on Oct. 4.

15 year old son Esteban Nunez, right, are seen before Nunez is sworn-in as the new Assembly Speaker Thursday, December 4, 2008

Four Sacramento men, includ­ing the son of former California Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez, went looking for revenge after being turned away from a fraternity party the night a San Diego college student was stabbed to death, then tried to destroy evidence, according to an arrest warrant released Wednesday.

Esteban Nunez, 19, and the others returned to San Diego on Wednesday to face murder charges, a day after they were arrested in Sac­ramento.

They are charged with one count of murder, three counts of assault with a deadly weapon and a mund­meanor count of vas­dulation for the Oct. 4 death and face a maxi­mum sentence of life in prison if convicted of murder.

An arrest warrant filed in San Diego paints a picture of a group of friends who went out looking for trouble and then tried to cover up their ac­tions. Police said they had gone to San Di­ego to party.

After being turned away from a fraternity party near San Di­ego State University, Esteban Nunez and the others went to a friend's apartment, where they drank beer and rum.

The friend, Brian Perez, de­scribed people in her apartment be­ing rejected from the party some­one accused of holding him against his will for nearly a year.

Caren Ramirez was arrested Tuesday in Berkeley, a day after the boy walked into a gym and begged managers to hide him. He was cov­ered in soot, had a chain on his foot and was wearing only boxer briefs.

Police arrested a couple who lived near the gym in Tracy and booked them on suspicion of tor­ture, kidnapping and child abuse. Tracy is about 60 miles east of San Francisco.

Ramirez, 43, had been the teen's guardian after child-welfare officials took him from his abusive father three or four years ago, police said.

A 17-year-old boy climbed out a window in the home of his captors and walked into a nearby gym in search of help, police said.

Law enforcement officers also were trying to determine how the arson and one-time guardian of the teen knew the couple accused of holding him against his will for nearly a year.

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Ramirez, 43, had been the teen's guardian after child-welfare officials took him from his abusive father three or four years ago, police said. Ramirez herself was later arrested on suspicion of abuse. Authorities had said there were clear signs of abuse.

The boy said he had been held captive for nearly a year, said Eli Ellis, adding that he looked as if he were only 10 to 12 years old.

Police: Shackled Calif. boy jumped fence to escape...

Terry Collins and Marcus Wohlsen

Associated Press

After being held captive for nearly a year, an emancipated and shackled 17-year-old boy climbed out a window in the home of his captors and walked into a nearby gym in search of help, police said.

Authorities were still investigat­ing the boy's alleged imprisonment and abuse by a California couple, but details of his escape were becoming clearer Wednesday, police said.

Law enforcement officers also were trying to determine how the arson and one-time guardian of the teen knew the couple accused of holding him against his will for nearly a year.

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Police: Shackled Calif. boy jumped fence to escape...
Elephants create controversy

San Jose, Calif. (AP) — Los Angeles Concilman Tom LaBonge right, expresses his support for the Los Angeles Zoo elephant display to opposition activists, actresses from left Jorja Fox, Lily Tomlin and Mariana Tosa, as they await their turn to urge the Los Angeles City Council to shut down a $42 million elephant exhibit under construction at the Los Angeles Zoo in Los Angeles on Wednesday.

Adobe Systems Inc. released better-than-expected preliminary earnings for the fourth-quarter late Wednesday, but said it will cut 600 jobs, or 8 percent of its work force, because of slower revenue growth.

The company said it expects earnings of 45 cents to 46 cents per share, compared with 49 cents per share in the year-earlier period.

Excluding certain items, Adobe said it expects to earn 59 cents to 60 cents per share. Analysts, who typically exclude one-time charges or gains, projected 51 cents, according to Thomson Reuters.

King City, Calif. (AP) — A shooting in King City High School bleachers after a girls soccer game left at least one person wounded.

Greenfield police Chief Joe Grebneker says one person was shot in the stomach and head at about 7:30 p.m. Tuesday and there was apparently a second victim. King City police aren’t releasing any information.

The gunfire erupted as North Salinas and King City high school players were congratulating each other after the game, which North Salinas won 4-1.

North Salinas coach Luis Torrez says the gunfire came from the top of the stadium bleachers. He said none of his players were hurt.

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Briefs

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democrat Charlie Brown conceded defeat to Republican state Sen. Tom McClintock on Wednesday in their hard-fought race for California’s 4th Congressional District House seat.

Brown made the decision a day after counties turned in their final vote tallies to the secretary of state, showing McClintock with a lead of nearly 1,800 votes out of more than 370,000 counted.

Brown could have requested a recount, but McClintock’s lead looked insurmountable and the Democrat called his opponent Wednesday to formally bow out.

GARDEN CITY, N.J. (AP) — The family of a worker trampled to death in a “Black Friday” crush of bargain hunters at a Long Island Wal-Mart store filed a wrongful-death lawsuit on Wednesday, claiming state officials offering deep discounts “created an atmosphere of competition and anxiety” that led to “crowd chaos.”

The lawsuit claims that besides failing to provide adequate security for a pre-dawn crowd estimated at 2,000, Wal-Mart “engaged in specific marketing and advertising techniques to specifically attract a large crowd and create an environment of money and mayhem and was otherwise careless, reckless and negligent.

TORONTO (AP) — Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper says an opposition plan to topple his government is a threat to Can­ada’s democracy.

Harper vowed in a televised ad­dress to the nation Wednesday to use “every legal means” to stop the effort to replace his minority Con­servative administration with an opposition-led coalition.

Three parties have united in opposition to Harper’s handling of the economy, saying he has failed to present a plan for dealing with the global economic crisis.

A cabinet minister says that Harper will seek to suspend Par­liament until next month — giv­ing him time to develop a stimulus package.

MUMBAI, India (AP) — The only gunman captured during the terror attack on Mumbai says he was promised that his impover­ished family would get $1,250 if he died fighting for Islamist, security officials said Wednesday.

The captive, 21-year-old Ajmal Amir Kassab, from a poverty­stricken village in the Punjab region of Paki­stan, according to the two Indian officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to publicly discuss details gleaned during a week of interrogation.
Study flunks 49 states in college affordability

Justin Pope
GETzsche Press

An independent report on American higher education flunks all but one state when it comes to affordability — an embarrassing verdict that is unlikely to improve as the economy contracts.

The biennial study by the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education, which evaluates how well higher education is serving the public, concluded that it's far too affordable to 49 states, up from 42 years ago. Only California received a passing grade in the category, a C, thanks to its relatively inexpensive community colleges.

The report uses a range of measurements to give states grades, from A to F, on the performance of their public and private colleges. The affordability grade is based on how much of the average family's income it costs to go to college.

Almost everywhere, that figure is up, according to the survey. Only 21 percent of family's income in 2007-2008 was needed to pay for college. In Illinois, the average cost attending a public four-year college has jumped from 13 percent of family's income in 1999-2000 to 35 percent in 2007-2008 and in Pennsylvania, from 29 percent to 41 percent.

Low-income families have been hardest hit. Nationally, enrollment at a local public college cost families in the top fifth of income just 9 percent of their earnings while families from the bottom fifth pay up to 55 percent in 1999-2000. And that's after accounting for financial aid, which is increasingly being used to lure high-achieving students who boost a school's reputation, but who don't need help to go to college.

The problem seems likely to worsen as the economy does, said Patrick Callan, the center's president.

Historically during downturns, "states make disproportionate cuts in higher education and, in return for the colleges taking them gracefully, allow them to raise tuition," Callan said. "If we handle this recession like we've handled others, we will see that this gets worse.

Low-cost community colleges have been hardest hit. Nationally, enrollment at a local public college cost families in the top fifth of income just 9 percent of their earnings while families from the bottom fifth pay up to 55 percent in 1999-2000. And that's after accounting for financial aid, which is increasingly being used to lure high-achieving students who boost a school's reputation, but who don't need help to go to college.

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"No, because we are in class learning new material. If they're going to call it dead week, we should have no class at all."

-Ashley Estacio, biology sophomore

"No, because it's not dead: it's stressful."

-Jessica Pham, English sophomore

Compiled and Photographed by Alex Kack

Wire Editor: Cassandra J. Carlson

Achievement House is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing vocational and community living services to adults with disabilities since 1957.

Achievement House offers more than just a home; it's a place where adults with disabilities can live and work in the community with the support they need to achieve their goals. We provide a range of services, including residential support, vocational training, and recreational opportunities to help individuals with disabilities reach their full potential.

Our mission is to help individuals with disabilities lead fulfilling lives in the community. We believe that every individual has the right to live in a home that is comfortable, safe, and accessible. We also believe that everyone deserves the opportunity to work and contribute to society.

We have programs that help individuals with disabilities learn job skills, find employment, and maintain sustainable careers. We also offer a variety of recreational activities, such as sports, arts, and social events, to help individuals develop new interests and hobbies.

Achievement House is committed to providing high-quality services to individuals with disabilities and their families. We strive to create a supportive and inclusive environment where everyone is valued and respected.

Turning Disabilities into Possibilities

Wire Editor: Cassandra J. Carlson

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Turning Disabilities into Possibilities
The holidays are upon us and for many that means leaving San Luis Obispo to spend Christmas at home with family and friends. However, for those who are remaining in the area, San Luis Obispo offers a wide variety of activities and events for everyone to partake in this holiday season.

**Santa’s House**

In an effort to make downtown San Luis Obispo holiday friendly and inviting for holiday shoppers, Santa’s House gives people a chance to take photos with Santa Claus. Located in downtown’s Mission Plaza, Santa’s House is open every day until Christmas Eve.

**The 33rd Annual Holiday Parade**

Court Street presents Silver Bells, the annual holiday parade that begins Dec. 5 at 7 p.m. on Dec. 5. The annual holiday parade will bring the community together starting at the Palm and Chorro streets intersection and ending between Nipomo and Monterey Street.

**Cal Poly Choirs’ “A Christmas Celebration” at the PAC**

The Cal Poly Music Department presents Cal Poly Choirs’ “A Christmas Celebration” at the Christopher Cohan Performing Arts Center Saturday, Dec. 6 at 8 p.m. Composed by Cal Poly music professor Meri...
4. Holiday in the Plaza Art and Craft Fair
The City of San Luis Obispo Parks and Recreation Department will host the Holiday in the Plaza Art and Craft Fair Saturday, Dec. 6, beginning at 9 a.m. in downtown's Mission Plaza. More than 40 local craftpeople will be displaying their homemade items. Musical entertainment will be provided as customers shop for the holiday season.

5. Hearst Castle Holiday Feast
At a price of $1,000 per person, attending the Hearst Castle Holiday Feast would be the splurge of the century. On Dec. 6, a limousine will take you and your party to the castle to join 88 other guests. Guests will dine in the Refectory for an elegant, multi-course dinner, which will include fine wine of the central coast. Live holiday music will be provided and each guest will receive a one-of-a-kind gift inspired by the castle.

6. Classic Carousel in Mission Plaza

From Dec. 8 through the 28th, a magical carousel will delight San Luis Obispo natives and tourists alike in downtown's Mission Plaza. It usually opens at 10 a.m., but hours vary. Be sure to visit www.downtownslo.com for a complete carousel schedule.

7. Donate to those in need
The holidays are a time for giving and when those in need call for help, there is nothing better than donating to save their Christmas spirit. The Salvation Army is one of the many aid groups raising money for food, clothes and housing this holiday season. The San Luis Obispo station holds an annual Christmas dinner and raised approximately $44,000 last year.

8. Free Movie at Downtown Centre Cinemas
Get yourself in the Christmas spirit and come to a screening of Dr. Seuss' "How the Grinch Stole Christmas," free with one non-perishable food item or a $2 donation. The film begins at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 13 at Downtown Centre Theatre. All donations will go to the Food Bank Coalition of SLO County.

9. The Nutcracker and Sugar Plum Tea Party at the PAC
The Civic Ballet of San Luis Obispo presents "The Nutcracker" at the Performing Arts Center on Saturday, Dec. 13 and 14 with performances at 2 and 7 p.m. Sunday's performance will be at 6 p.m. A production for more than 30 years, it will dazzle all ages. Sugar Plum Tea Party, an exclusive tea party with the Sugar Plum Fairy and her friends, will show at the Performing Arts Center on Saturday, Dec. 13 at 1 p.m. Photo opportunities will be available. Seating is limited so ticket reservations are highly encouraged.

10. The 2nd Annual '60s Rock 'n' Roll New Year's Eve Dinner and Dance Party
Ring in the new year at the New Year's Eve Dinner and Dance Party, which includes a buffet dinner, dance contest, door prizes, party hats and favors and a midnight champagne toast. Music will be provided by Unfinished Business. The event will be held on Dec. 31 at St. Patrick's School Events Center in Arroyo Grande. Doors open at 6 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m. and dancing from 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. Tickets cost $60.
| Best Overall Restaurant          | Best Art Gallery            |
| Best Pizza                      | Best Cell Phone Service    |
| Best Hamburger                  | Best Place to Buy Electronics |
| Best Sushi                      | Best Flower Shop           |
| Best Chinese                    | Best place to have your parents stay (other than your couch) |
| Best Thai                       | Best Student Housing       |
| Best Mexican                    | Best Property Management Company |
| Best Italian                    | Best Place to Buy a Mattress |
| Best Dessert                    | Best Storage Facility      |
| Best Vegetarian Plate           | Best Manicure/Pedicure      |
| Best BBQ                        | Best Hair Salon            |
| Best Sandwich Place             | Best Barbershop            |
| Best Breakfast Place            | Best Tanning Salon         |
| Best Steakhouse                 | Best Gym                   |
| Best SLO County Restaurant      | Best Place to get a Facial |
| Best Late Night Meal            | Best Massage Therapy       |
| Best Restaurant to Bring your Date | Best Place to Pamper Yourself |
| Best Meal Deal                  | Best SLO Doctor             |
| Best Place to Eat On Campus     | Best SLO Dentist            |
| Best Ice Cream/Frozen Yogurt    | Best SLO Eye Doctor        |
| Best Coffee House               | Best Lawyer                |
| Best Place to be Spoiled by Your Parents | Best Veterinarian |
| Best Happy Hour/Drink Deal      | Best Pet Store              |
| Best Cocktail                   | Best Car Dealer            |
| Best Margarita                  | Best Place for Car Repairs |
| Best Beer Selection             | Best Surf Shop              |
| Best Local Wine                 | Best Bike Shop              |
| Best Downtown SLO Tasting Room  | Best Scooter/Motorized Bike Store |
| Best Edna Valley Winery         | Best Outdoor Activity Rental |
| Best Paso Winery                | Best Dance Studio           |
| Best SLO Bar                    | Best Sports Store           |
| Best Dance Spot                 | Best Swimwear               |
| Best Place to Karaoke           | Best Women’s Fashion       |
| Best Keg Deal                   | Best Men’s Fashion         |
| Best Party Supply Store/Craft Store | Best Boutique             |
| Best Grocery Store              | Best Thrift Store          |
| Best Organic Produce            | Best Place to Buy a Gift   |
| Best Book Store                 | Best Place to Shop on a Budget |
| Best Place to Buy Student Supplies | Best Bank               |
| Best Place to Rent a Movie      | Best Credit Union           |
| Best Movie Theater              | Best Place to Study        |
| Best Place to Buy Music         | Best Place to Worship      |

Vote for your favorite in each category. The results will be published in our Best For Cal Poly Edition in February.

Name: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________
Telephone: ____________________________
Email: ____________________________

FREE SHIRT

Turn in entire page anytime at our office, building 26 room 226 or at our booth during UU hour on 10/23, 11/13, 12/4.

EL CORRAL BOOKSTORE

www.elcorralbookstore.com
KCPR, has officially turned 40. And while there’s a bunch of nostalgic bullshit we could hash, perhaps the most important thing is the forgotten gems that KCPR holds that inspire a certain cool geektitude. Each week, we add 10 to 20 albums each week, we add 10 to 20 albums gems that holds that inspire a certain cool my first find: Page France's 2(M)5 release "Hello, Dear Wind.

"Hello, Dear Wind" is the band's second release. It was all wrong and always seemed to be a huge blunder, but in the station, locked up in some back cabinet. In the trouble's of the world and the people that treat them like dogs. Rather than promising a house and independent life, Nau dreams bigger saying: "But I hope it’s never ends." Nau speaks warmly and the production is intimate building on the nakedness and perfection as when everything here ends / But I hope it's like they say set everything right and the entry to heaven. It's the biggest deus ex machina: the return of Jesus to fly out as particles in the wind.

On "Jesus", Nau sings a song of happiness to another person, most likely a lover, that leads to images of religious happiness and perfection as new song and Jesus dances and drinks wine. In the band "The Cincinnatus Jones Basket Ride," the band get thrown into the "good" Christian Pop bin with Danielson and Sufjan Stevens, but that wasn't all wrong and always seemed to be a huge blunder, but in the station, locked up in some back cabinet. In the trouble's of the world and the people that treat them like dogs. Rather than promising a house and independent life, Nau dreams bigger saying: "But I hope it’s never ends." Nau speaks warmly and the production is intimate building on the nakedness and perfection as when everything here ends / But I hope it’s like they say set everything right and the entry to heaven. It's the biggest deus ex machina: the return of Jesus to fly out as particles in the wind.

The album works because it extends itself beyond sappy perfect dreams by replacing them with images of religious happiness and perfection as new song and Jesus dances and drinks wine. In the band "The Cincinnatus Jones Basket Ride," the band get thrown into the "good" Christian Pop bin with Danielson and Sufjan Stevens, but that wasn't all wrong and always seemed to be a huge blunder, but in the station, locked up in some back cabinet. In the trouble's of the world and the people that treat them like dogs. Rather than promising a house and independent life, Nau dreams bigger saying: "But I hope it’s never ends." Nau speaks warmly and the production is intimate building on the nakedness and perfection as when everything here ends / But I hope it’s like they say set everything right and the entry to heaven. It's the biggest deus ex machina: the return of Jesus to fly out as particles in the wind.

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Economic distress is opportune time to bridge political divide

by Stephanie England

What is politics? Is it about colors — blue, red, purple? Is it about giving money to the poor or giving money to the rich? Is it about abortion? Gay rights? Is it about making your voice heard every four years? Is it about the great political divide? Or debate?

Our generation has seen ideology dominate political thought. Politicians have become more concerned with proving the veracity of an agenda than with making the world a better place and expanding the horizons of average citizens, and our government has suffered. Americans’ perception of government is getting too expensive. I also believe some of California’s financial problems is pare the D M V to 2 percent of the vehicle’s value — the very legislation that led former Governor Gray Davis’ political demise. We should also revote the state and keep programs the same makes no sense, and neither does cutting programs and keeping the state the same.

Both of these options would generate minimal state revenue. Therefore, Republicans must be standing on the principle of their ideology. At least Democrats are willing to bend and cut expenses.

What is happening in our state legislature is representative of what we don’t need in America anymore — an ignorant adherence to a set of foolish ideals. It’s just reasonable roughhousing some programs for the sake of the state. We are not going to be hampered by ideology in trying to get this country back on track. We want to figure out what works. That doesn’t mean that we’re not going to have some disagreements, but what it does mean is that you can show me something you are doing that’s working... then you’re going to have a ready ear,” said.

Politics represents that is possible in society, but our historic has been dominated for far too long by rigid ideology. The only way California will pass the budget and America will climb out of this recession is by bridging the great political divide and trying out new ideas — irrelevant of political ideology, and these precarious times have provided the perfect laboratory for experimentation.

Stephanie England is an English junior and a Mustang Daily political columnist.
I read the papers and Web sites. I listen to the radio programs and watch the TV commentary. And I am disappointed and shocked at the state of complicity in this country. I have in recent years been desensitized to this stupidity, because it kept happening. I was hoping people would wake up and welcome reality, but apparently many of you need a bucket of cold water thrown in your face.

A line must be drawn, and I hope it starts with this column.

I write in response to a growing sentiment that many have that the government must solve all our problems, and we provide. These days we want the government to provide us with as free healthcare, free schooling and free homes. If we have a failing business, we want a government bailout. If we have a bad loan, we want loan forgiveness or restructuring. We want the “rich” to do everything for us. We have gotten to a point where we want the government to make all our decisions. What happened to personal responsibility? What happened to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness?

When did we become a people willing to give up our liberties and freedoms to our elected officials?

This was once a government of the people, by the people, for the people. Now it has turned into a system that takes from hardworking citizens and gives to lazy, greedy, dishonest takers. I am tired of people thinking that they have an inherent entitlement from the government to provide for them. In the moment of citizenship or crossing of our borders, America was founded as a land of opportunity, not a land of giving a land where, if you work hard, you will succeed.

On Tuesday, business women and men of industry wrote a letter to the Mustang Daily explaining their opposition to the plans of the government. They wrote, “At the base of liberalism are the views that we should focus on taking care of one another and our planet (i.e. national health care and sustainable practices), while the conservative base is focused on taking care of yourself (low taxes), your own aspirations of what a conservative is. For one thing, there is a difference between conservative and Republican. While conservatives are often Republicans, not all Republicans are conservative. Some conservatives are only socially or financially conservative. President Bush, for example, while socially conservative is only a fiscal moderate at best. Sure, he lowered taxes, but was a drunken sailor when it came to spending.”

Mr. Lawton, you say, “taking care of one another and our planet (i.e. national health care and sustainable practices), while the conservative base is focused on taking care of yourself (low taxes), your own aspirations of what a conservative is.”

I am so saddened to hear about Carson. He was a good friend of mine, and I can’t believe his life was ended so short because of a fraternity “outing.” Coming as a Poly alum, I never planned to join a fraternity. I was a ladies’ man, smart, athletic, and happy guy. He had so much going for him, and now his life is over. I truly hope this becomes an eye opener for everyone at Cal Poly.

I hope the University looks at this as a isolated incident and will not punish the entire Greek System.

—Anonymous

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Greek Member Alumnus

Response to “Poly freshman dead after party”

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This is a very sad situation for Cal Poly and the entire Greek System. Unfortunately, it is another blight to the reputation of fraternity.

Warning Pointing finger will not take away the pain this family is feeling. This is the same pain that has been felt upon Carson’s parents and brother as well as many of his friends and family. The warnings, recommendations, and remedies will be made but as the days and months and years go by, Carson’s family will still be wondering…wishing he was here. The world has lost a precious soul and we need to pray for some kind of relief for those who will miss him the most…his Mom…his Dad…his brother.

—Anonymous

Response to “Poly freshman dead after party”

It is truly horrid that this can still happen.

—Anonymous

Response to “Poly freshman dead after party”

I would be affected, here and home, friends, family, and co-workers. Pledging here, I was forced to drink and it wasn’t the greatest experience. I never really thought much about it.

Now I realize that if anyone’s judgment who watched me was flawed, I could be that kid. I would be sometimes. It’s a sad oxymoron. They force people to their limits and bring out qualities that otherwise would not be present. Yet they place all the blame to those who chose to be there.

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Re...
Novachkovs
continued from page 16

He chose Cal Poly because of its coaches and environment. The
beach, he says, was a big attraction, and he and teammates go surfing ev­
ery other day.

"I just love it down here," Filip says. "I like everything about the Cal
Poly wrestling teams. I like the coaches, the guys on the team — we have
a great program right now."

Cal Poly coaches recirculate that appreciation.

"He's an awesome athlete and an awesome wrestler," Mustang head
coach John Azevedo says. "He's one of the best I've ever seen as far as his
wrestling athleticism and mat awareness."

Henson couldn't agree more.

"He's a great athlete, he has un­
believable talent," he adds. "Coaches
love him because he not only excites
dead, but he generally wins and
he usually does something extraordinary
for make it happen."

Filip used to play soccer, too, but
a previous coach made him choose
one or the other, and he wasn't ready
to give up wrestling.

"What I like the most is that it's
the oldest sport ever, and when you
see him get on the mat, he can be
pretty mean on the mat," Henson says. "Especially against me, he gets
really aggressive. He definitely has a
different personality."

Last year, Filip beat Hofstra's Lou
Ruggiero, then the country's top­
ranked 133-pounder, 6-3 in Las Ve­
gas.

I told Filip from day one I think
he can do anything," Henson says. "I
think the sky's the limit for him."

Boris, who in high school was a
two-time national freestyle cham­
pion and a two-time Greco-Roman
national champion, followed Filip to
San Luis Obispo just a year later.

The two regularly practice against
each other, something everyone
seems to agree is beneficial to both.

"Ed says Boris is one of the best
workout partners for me," Filip says.

"We go to wrestle (in practice) once
a week, but now that he's redshirt­
ning, he's going to have more time. It's
really going to help me throughout
the whole year."

Boris agrees, adding that their
relationship as siblings only makes
them better.

"I like the coach­
ning tournaments, it motivates me,
and I'm pretty sure he feels the same
for himself," Filip says. "You don't rely on
anyone else; you go out and compete
for yourself."

Filip, known as the quieter of
the two, says he used to look up to
his brother.

"I have a switch," when he gets on the mat.
"He's nice off the mat, but he can be
pretty mean on the mat," Boris says. "Especially against me, he gets
really aggressive. He definitely has a
different personality."

Trailing 20-18 at halftime, the
Dons were able to get Cal Poly's
lead into single digits but never seri­
ously challenged.

Sophomore forward Wes Dippery
had a game-high 16 rebounds for
Cal Poly, which was outrebounded
34-33 in the game.

The Mustangs defense held San
Francisco to just 26.6 percent shooting
from the floor, a season low.

Cal Poly never trailed, as senior
guard Darin Clark hit two 3-pointers
in the opening two minutes and ju­
nior guard Lorenzo Keeler added
another to pull the Mustangs out to
an early advantage.

While Cal Poly (2-4) was hitting
34.8 percent of its 3-point attempts,
the Dons (5-3) had an abysmal night
behind the arc, shooting just 1-of­
20.

Clark finished with 14 points on
4-of-5 shooting from 3-point range.
Clark was joined in double figures
by Keeler's 13 points and by sopho­
more guard Shannon Lewis' 10.

The Mustangs also won the
narrow battle, committing just nine
turnovers to 17 for San Francisco.

Cal Poly returns to action at 7 p.m. Dec. 14 against Seattle in
Mott Gym.

For a complete recap, please see
the Mustang Daily's Web site at
mustangdaily.net.
For four years, the No. 11 Cal Poly football jersy has been a frightful sight for those facing it. It was worn by 6-foot-6, All-American receiver Rameses Barden, who set Cal Poly career records for catches (206), yards (4,203) and touchdowns (50).

But he didn’t stop rewriting records at just the school level. Barden, whose college career ended Saturday, recently broke Larry Fitzgerald’s all-time NCAA record for consecutive games with a touchdown catch (26) and tied Randy Moss’ all-time Football Championship Subdivision standard of single-season consecutive games with such a reception (11).

Now, instead of an ominous sight to defensive backs, his uniform will be immortalized as a reminder of his accomplishments. Barden’s No. 11 will be hung at Firestone Grill at 7 tonight, former Cal Poly star receiver Darrell Jones said Wednesday.

Monday, Barden finished fourth in the voting for the Walter Payton Award, which is given to the FCS best offensive player.

He’ll play in the East-West Shrine Game in Houston on Jan. 17 on ESPN2, in preparation for the NFL Draft scouting combine in Indianapolis from Feb. 18-24. Other Cal Poly alumni whose jerseys adorn the walls of the grill include Professional Football Hall of Famer John Madden, National Basketball Hall of Fame’s Sam Perkins, and former Major League Baseball All-Star Mike Krukow.

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Now, instead of an ominous sight to defensive backs, his uniform will be immortalized as a reminder of his accomplishments. Barden’s No. 11 will be hung at Firestone Grill at 7 tonight, former Cal Poly star receiver Darrell Jones said Wednesday.

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