

# 1916 SUMMER MUSTANG 2006

CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY

## WEEKEND WEATHER

Saturday  
74/54°

Sunday  
75/55°



## Poly rapidly turning into golf school

IN SPORTS, 8

## Performer brings unusual cartoon mix to Linnaea's

IN SPOTLIGHT, 4



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## Minimum wage to rise to \$8/hour

Samantha Young  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO — California's minimum wage will increase by \$1.25 an hour over the next two years under a deal struck Monday between Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and legislative leaders.

The agreement ends, at least temporarily, a stalemate between the governor and Democratic lawmakers and clears a political hurdle for Schwarzenegger as he seeks re-election. Both sides agreed a raise for the lowest-income workers was necessary but differed over whether it should be accompanied by automatic annual increases.

The governor has vetoed two previous attempts to raise California's minimum wage, which is far higher than the federal rate of \$5.15 an hour but lags behind the rates in several other states.

Schwarzenegger described the compromise as a "common sense" solution that would lead to a higher wage for working Californians without hurting the economy.

"I have always said that when the economy was ready, we should reward the efforts of California's hard-working families by raising our minimum wage," Schwarzenegger said in a statement. "This is another sign California is coming back stronger than ever."

Schwarzenegger had sought a \$1-an-hour raise over two years, but agreed during negotiations to boost the wage from \$6.75 to \$8 an hour after Democrats dropped their demand for annual increases to keep up with inflation.

"We asked ourselves the practical question that anyone of sound mind would ask: Would poor people prefer a \$1.25 raise, or a bill that has everything they want but it never materializes?" Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez, D-Los Angeles, told The Associated Press in a telephone interview Aug. 21.

If the agreement is approved by the Legislature and signed into law, the minimum wage would increase by 75 cents in January 2007 and 50 cents in January 2008.

The California Chamber of Commerce, which has opposed both the governor's and the Legislature's proposals to increase the minimum wage, credited Schwarzenegger for "standing firm" against tying the minimum wage to inflation.

"Raising the minimum wage is one thing, but locking in automatic

see Wages, page 2

## Carving up the coast

Jennifer Hall  
MUSTANG DAILY

Some students enjoy road trips or relaxing family vacations over their summer break. But Cal Poly student Matt Ishler has a different idea of summer traveling.

Ishler, a kinesiology junior, skateboarded from San Luis Obispo to his hometown of Santa Monica in three days, a 230-mile-long journey.

"It was a random impulse at the beginning of the summer, and then it just sat at the back of my mind and the impulse grew," Ishler said.

This is the story of his solo journey across the Central Coast and into Southern California atop a skateboard.

### Saturday, August 19

The 230-mile quest began at 7 a.m. when Ishler skated to Broad Street in San Luis Obispo and started his ride into Arroyo Grande where he continued on U.S. Highway 1.

The highway would take him the rest of the way to his final destination, the Santa Monica pier.

"It's going to take awhile, and I think it might be illegal," Ishler said. "But I've got a month before school starts and it's going to kick ass."

Ishler had originally planned to float down the Mississippi River with a friend for his summer stimulation, but when plans fell through, he switched gears.

"I've got to have some kind of adven-

see  
Skateboard,  
page 2

SAN LUIS OBISPO

GOLETA

VENTURA

SANTA MONICA



## Award given to professor for dairy research

Jandy Jones  
MUSTANG DAILY

For most of us, drinking a glass of milk is just that, sipping down milk. The in-depth thoughts about the milk and its contents never really cross the mind unless that mind belongs to professor Phil Tong.

Tong, director of the Dairy Products Technology Center, has been in the dairy industry for over 20 years, and some of his recent work has earned him an International Dairy Foods Association Research Award.

The purpose of the award is to acknowledge researchers in the dairy science field. Tong was the 13th person to win the award, and it was because of his research in dairy ingredients

processing, functionality and composition control.

"The greatest benefit to me is the recognition by my peers," Tong said.

Other perks of winning the award are Cal Poly being noticed for its strong dairy science programs and the attention will help with recruiting new students and faculty, he said.

It will also bring attention to technology and research in the dairy science field, Tong said.

"(The award) opens the eyes to people outside the (dairy) field," he said.

In order to be a candidate, a person has to be nominated and must give documentation of the last five years of work, he said. Candidates are then judged by a group of jurors that are

see Award, page 2

## SLOPD sets taxi zones downtown

Katie Hofstetter  
MUSTANG DAILY

In order to combat late-night double parking issues, the San Luis Obispo Police Department has designated taxi zones throughout the downtown area.

The new taxi zones are a way of ensuring the safety of both nighttime pedestrians and taxi drivers, according to police.

"What we've seen in past years are more and more people stopping in the middle of the street," police Lt. Chris Staley said. "We just wanted to make sure we have a place for taxis to park while they're picking people up."

The implementation of the taxi zones began on Aug. 9, and a grace period for violators will follow until Sept. 9. During the grace period, any non-taxi or non-delivery vehicle parked in the zone during the designated hours will be issued a warning. Following Sept. 9, the warning will be replaced with a \$40 ticket for prohibited parking.

The seven new taxi zones are in effect from 10 p.m. to 3 a.m., and are located in areas where double-parking has traditionally been a problem, Staley said.

Three were placed on Higuera Street: one in front of the Mission Mall, one in front of the Sports Forum, and one in front of Verizon. The four remaining taxi zones are dispersed throughout downtown, one is across from Blue on Osos Street, one is in the 1100 block of Garden Street, one is near Mission Grill on Chorro Street, and one is in the 1000 block of Nipomo Street.

The areas are marked by a white sign with black writing that reads "Taxi Zone Only, Nightly, 10 p.m. - 3 a.m."

Despite the implementation of the zones, Beach Cities Cab owner Jeff Goldenberg said not to expect an increased availability of taxis. Beach Cities Cab operates 46 cars in San Luis Obispo, and Goldenberg said during certain hours taxis are often maxed out.

"Nothing is going to change," he said. "If the need arises I'll have more cars on the road."

Although for the time being the number of taxis in San Luis Obispo will remain the same, Beach Cities Cab does offer a special service to transport Cal Poly students home. The service does not offer

see Zones, page 3



COURTESY PHOTO

Dairy science professor Phil Tong won an award for his research.

# California Assembly says 'No' to opening coast for drilling

Tyler Wise  
MUSTANG DAILY

The California Assembly sent a strong message to the Bush administration this month with the passing of a resolution that will prevent both Congress and the president from drilling for oil and gas off the coast of California.

Both the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives passed legislation recently that would open up the California Coastline to more oil and gas drilling.

However, on Aug. 10, the state Assembly passed resolution AJR 55 to ensure that Congress would not be

able to conduct offshore drilling and exploration. The resolution also requests that Congress continue the federal offshore oil and gas leasing moratorium, which has prohibited the expansion of offshore drilling for the past twenty-four years, and expresses the legislature's opposition to federal energy policies and legislation that might attempt to lift it, according to the California Political Desk.

"This is California's way of telling the Bush administration to keep their hands off our coast. California's beaches have been strained and marine life killed because of oil spills. Enough is enough," said Assembly

member Pedro Nava in a press release.

The resolution is designed to respect not only the federal oil and gas leasing moratorium but the California Coastal Sanctuary Act as well. Created in 1994, the Sanctuary Act prohibits future oil and gas leasing in state waters stretching from Oregon to the Mexican border.

According to the California Assembly, AJR 55 sends a clear message that California cherishes its coastline and does not want any federal attempt to weaken its role in what happens along it.

The resolution is currently under consideration by the state Senate for a final vote.

## Wages

*continued from page 1*

increases year-after-year, regardless of the condition of the economy or the health of a business, is another entirely," said Vince Sollitto, spokesman for the California Chamber of Commerce.

Sollitto said the chamber remained opposed to any wage increase.

Senate Republican leader Dick Ackerman said Republicans would not support the wage hike.

"We think any time you raise the minimum wage, it's going to be a drag on business," said Ackerman, R-Fullerton. "It's going to have a negative impact on hiring minorities and low-income workers because there will be less jobs."

George Patel, who employs eight workers at a Subway sandwich franchise three blocks from the state Capitol, said the boost in the minimum wage could force him to lay off some workers.

"As the owner, I'm not very happy about it," he said. "Right now, I could not afford an extra \$1.25; I would have to do layoffs. Over two years, maybe I could afford it. But I would be looking to increase productivity."

In 2004, Schwarzenegger vetoed a bill that would have increased the minimum wage by \$1 over two years. He also vetoed a bill last year increasing the minimum wage to \$1 and tying future increases to inflation.

Art Pulaski, chief executive officer of the California Labor Federation, described the latest deal as a modest increase and pledged to push for indexing next year.

"Clearly, the governor waited until three months before his election," Pulaski said. "He's using minimum wage as a political football."

Pulaski said mandatory, annual increases would remove the politics from the minimum wage debate and provide businesses and workers with predictability.

Six states — Alaska, Connecticut, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont and Washington — and the District of Columbia currently have minimum wages that are higher than California's. They range from \$7 an hour in the District of Columbia to \$7.63 in Washington State.

## Skateboard

*continued from page 1*

ture, so I decided to skateboard to L.A.," Ishler said.

In the beginning, there were going to be four friends accompanying Ishler on the ride. Some of them planned to skateboard, while others were going to scooter or bike.

But they ultimately all bailed and the ride became a solo mission, Ishler said.

"I think it's really cool that he ended up going by himself because it's such an independent achievement," said Nicole Balvanz, a biology sophomore and Ishler's friend.

Ishler purchased a new carbon fiber skateboard, a Rolls Rolls, that was made in Germany for his trip and averaged 10 to 15 mph on flat surfaces.

"It's super low to the ground and way quick," Ishler said. "I can get up to 30 mph on the downhills."

In addition to the skateboard, Ishler traveled with a 30-pound camping backpack that included a gallon of water, Clif bars, a sleeping bag, headlamp, clothes, trash bags, glass necklace pendants with thank you notes and a pirate flag.

"I made glass necklaces to barter," Ishler said. "I traded some people for rides and left them with the people I camped with."

A ride was necessary just outside of Lompoc because of rough roads. Ishler hitchhiked about 17 miles after walking for six miles.

"The first car that passed picked me up so I was totally stoked," Ishler said.

After skateboarding 80 miles in nine hours, Ishler stopped to camp at Gaviota State Beach.

He met up with some people who got kicked out of the park for being too rowdy and moved 10 miles south with them to a beach just north of Isla Vista in Santa Barbara where they slept for the night.

"I didn't really party too hard because I was exhausted," Ishler said.

### Sunday, August 20

"I got up (that) morning and started skating again," Ishler said.

He stopped in Santa Barbara for four hours after skating since 7 a.m.

"I needed to pick up a new pair of shoes because mine were sucking," Ishler said. "I threw my old pair over a telephone line."

Ishler then visited a sandwich shop for lunch and headed to a skateboard park where he sat and watched the

locals before heading to the beach where he talked to the local glass artist about his work.

At 2 p.m., Ishler hiked a hill 800 feet above sea level and proceeded to coast two to three miles downhill on U.S. Highway 1 into Camarillo.

He didn't stop until he reached Ventura at 8 p.m. after eight hours of skating.

For part of the trip, Ishler skated on U.S. Highway 101 to break up the monotony of U.S. Highway 1. When he arrived in Ventura, he skated through a local orchard and ate peaches and tomatoes for dinner.

"I was super depleted of minerals and dehydrated," Ishler said. "I drank four gallons of water."

After 67 miles of skating, Ishler stopped for the night under a bridge in Ventura.

"I was pretty scared," a 6-foot-4-inch, 225-pound Ishler said.

### Monday, August 21

The morning sun woke Ishler at 7 a.m. and he set out once again on his journey soon after.

He had reached Neptune's Net, a popular restaurant north of Malibu by 10:15 a.m. and figured why not go the rest of the 60 miles.

Ishler arrived at 3 p.m. in Santa Monica after three days of skating.

"I arrived whole in one piece," Ishler said. He never fell once during the trip.

His one regret: "I didn't wear any sunblock," Ishler said. "I have the biggest redneck suntan."

After arriving at the Santa Monica pier, Ishler skated around the beach for a while. The six and a half hours he had already skated was not enough to satisfy him.

The first thing he did when he arrived home was to take a shower and go to sleep.

"I had sweat caked onto my body," Ishler said. "I got home and felt so gross."

He had reached a top speed of 37 mph, hitchhiked past rough roads, slept under a bridge and conquered an 800-foot hill.

"It was quite the feat of human skateboarding," said Jonathan Obayashi, a graphic design senior and Ishler's friend. "Not only the self-determination and preservation but his equipment was insane."

Plans for the next skateboard challenge have already begun to form in Ishler's mind.

"Next summer I plan to skate across California from Squaw Valley to San Luis Obispo," Ishler said.

## Award

*continued from page 1*

previous award winners or members of the association, he said.

Tong was recognized for studies he did on dairy calcium, cream cheese, yogurt and dairy ingredient standardization.

His work with dairy calcium was developing a process to produce lower lactose milk protein while retaining more calcium. The process used was ultra-filtration technology that relies on semipermeable membranes with small pores, he said.

Other areas he has worked in are better understanding the factors that influence cream cheese texture and also the effect of whey protein on yogurt texture. Tong has also done work with ice cream and cheese.

"We have done a lot of work over the years with cheese," he said.

Tong's work is not exclusive to the United States but also spreads out to other countries. Countries

that he has a particular interest in are China, Mexico and Southeast Asia.

He is working with groups to help educate on potential food processing and improving existing ones, he said. The point is to make good nutritional products, Tong said.

Tong is mostly interested in China because dairy is not a particular staple of the Chinese diet but it is becoming more evolved, he said.

"They are just starting to develop tastes that are westernized," Tong said.

Dairy science does not mean just milk, cheese and ice cream, he said. It is also taking dairy ingredients and making foods that people would not normally think are made of milk products.

Items that contain milk products but really are not known for them are confections, baked goods and whey-solids, he said. Whey is important because it is used in body-building products, he said.

"Milk can get outside the traditional dairy cases," Tong said.

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