Report shows Cal Poly grads have no trouble finding jobs

By Andy Castagnola Daily Staff Writer

More than three-fourths of Cal Poly 1996-97 graduates joined the full-time working world within a year of their commencement ceremonies, according to a recent report from Career Services.

Fifty-nine percent of these graduates responded to the surveys. Career Services and academic departments mailed out: Sheryl Burrell, co-coordinator for the report, said the response rate was excellent.

Burrell said departments use this report as a measuring stick for their programs’ success. The Admissions Office uses the report to show entering students the job market in their fields.

However, the report warns not to make long-range conclusions from the information alone. Since response rate varied among majors, the statistics should not be generalized for all graduates, Burrell said.

One significant figure from the report indicates 61 percent of full-time workers landed jobs before graduation, an increase of 15 percent from last year.

“The employment market is excellent,” Burrell said.

Also, working graduates saw their average salaries jump to $33,600 per year, up 7.5 percent from the previous year.

At the top of the salary range for bachelor’s graduates are computer engineers, who take in roughly $46,000 in their first year of work. Electronic and electrical engineering master’s graduates earn the highest overall salary — $56,400 per year.

“I know it was a very profitable major,” said computer engineering senior Kevin Goodwin.

“It’s a reward for working so hard in school.”

However, Goodwin said he would rather choose a job that fits his lifestyle than one with the highest paycheck.

Fellow computer engineering senior Todd Palmer said he’s more interested in playing with technology than money, although

ASI to establish minority outreach, pay for bus rides

By Calvin Liu Daily Staff Writer

The ASI Board of Directors approved a bill to establish a minority outreach and retention center to address decreasing diversity in Cal Poly’s enrollment numbers.

The bill was among several passed at the year’s final board meeting Wednesday. Cal Poly President Warren Baker attended the meeting to support the bill.

“I think that it is extremely important to assure that we can continue to have a diverse student body at Cal Poly, and continue to make progress,” Baker said. “We need to work together to reach our common objective, our common goal. That is to assure that we have a diverse student body, which is an important educational value.

“When we think of the educational value of diversity, we put it in the same category as being able to think critically, being able to manipulate and to analyze data and information, and to have a historical perspective,” Baker continued.

Baker said the resolution will “provide us with a unique tool to reinforce the ASI mission.”

See ASI page 5

Props to seal fate of political contributions, bilingual ed

By Jaime Zaffettto Daily Staff Writer

Editor’s note: Today Mustang Daily takes a look at propositions dealing with political contributions and bilingual education.

Proposition 226

Under current law, labor unions can make political contributions by taking money from their members’ dues. In many cases the members are not asked permission.

Corporations may also take money from their operating budgets or money collected from employee payroll deductions and use it for political contributions.

The California Voter Foundation web page explains that Proposition 226 would make labor unions and employers get written permission before using any person’s money for a contribution. Prop 226 also makes it illegal for foreign citizens and corporations to make any contribution to candidates. But Jose Marino, press secretary for “No on 226” said the proposition is not as fair as it sounds.

See PROPS page 3

Riding for life

By Kelly Victoria Vukar Daily Staff Writer

Cal Poly student Rich Ellis is doing something selfless this weekend; he will begin riding his bike for the fifth, week-long California AIDS Ride.

“I want to build awareness in the community about AIDS and HIV and bring AIDS back to the media,” said Ellis, liberal studies and sociology senior.

“The ride will raise money for people with HIV and AIDS. It will help them pay for medical and other expenses. Medical bills can total more than $20,000 in a year for one person,” Ellis said.

The ride will begin in San Francisco May 31 and will

Poly student to raise awareness, money through AIDS Ride

In the Spotlight

Rich Ellis

arrive 560 miles and seven days later in Century City. The 2,500 participants will ride 70 to 98 miles per day starting Sunday.

The bikers will ride for about eight hours each day and will camp along the way.

The bikers each had to raise $2,500 to participate. Ellis raised this registration fee by holding a professional drag show in January at the San Luis Obispo Center Point Theater.

“I think I was inspired to participate because I am a college student and I have had an easy life, with no real hardships,” Ellis said. “I think we all can get comfortable in our lives and we don’t realize that there are those who may have had some unfortunate things happen to them.”

Ellis said he feels education about HIV and AIDS is a crucial part of this ride.

“Many people do not realize that this disease affects everybody, from all walks of life,” Ellis said. “I know both hetero

See PAGE 8
Bill to prevent abuse passes Senate

Senator Jack O’Connell announced Thursday that the Senate overwhelmingly passed the bill which requires counseling as a condition of probation for all people convicted of animal abuse.

“IT’s unfortunate that the recent tragedy in Springfield, Oregon highlighted yet another case where early intervention and counseling were needed,” O’Connell said. “The young man who committed those heinous crimes was known by many in the community to have tormented and killed cats before his violence escalated. He has demonstrated exactly why I believe this bill is necessary — counseling today could help prevent tragedy tomorrow.”

Republicans to dine in Avila tonight

Hear ye, hear ye GOP followers, you are hereby invited to attend a dinner assembly tonight at the Gardens of Avila restaurant located within Sycamore Mineral Springs Resort. Andrea Seastrand, Tom Bordanaro and others are slated to speak. Dinner costs $80 and is being hosted by Cal Poly College Republicans. For more information, call 685-4737.

Spring show and sale will benefit Hospice of SLO County

All are welcome to share in an artistic experience today and tomorrow at a spring show and sale. Several California artists have coordinated to bring this event to the Central Coast.

Designers women Berta Bray and Ben Lowess, from the Bay Area, will display their artistic wearables and handbags. Judi Bradley of JPK Whimsical Dolls, also from the Bay Area, will show her exclusively hand-crafted dolls. Betty Wilkowski of Paso Robles will display her beautifully executed notecards. Hostess Gerie Cutter of MyJujutude Whimsical Flots, also from the Bay Area, will show her exclusively hand-crafted dolls. Betty Wilkowski of Paso Robles will display her beautifully executed notecards. Hostess Gerie Cutter of MyJujutude Whimsical Flots, also from the Bay Area, will show her hand-crafted dolls. Betty Wilkowski of Paso Robles will display her hand-crafted dolls.

The purpose of this policy change is to give new students an opportunity to choose rush dates to prevent the maximum date before spring quarter. The District Attorney’s office has 28 attorneys and 14 investigators who help the district attorney carry out those duties.

The two candidates take different approaches to defining the district attorney’s role.

O’Farrell said he would be much more visible around the courtroom, and said he feels Shea is too “hands off,” adding she spends enough time trying cases.

“She hadn’t been in the courtroom all of his time. He just recently tried a case after he announced his candidacy. I wonder why,” O’Farrell said.

Shea responded, saying he was deeply involved in his district attorney job from late March 1997, but didn’t get to trial until Feb. 1996.

Shea opposed his candidacy that same month.

The case in question involved a gang affiliate who was convicted of murder and sentenced to 25 years to life.

Before that, Shea hadn’t tried a case since 1987 — spending 10 years to do for the county. Shea said his appointment as chief deputy district attorney in 1985 took up all of his time.

“I had tried a case, but did not in 1997, but I utilized the court and saw the cases at the same time and still be effective,” Shea said.

Shea responded, saying he was deeply involved in that case since late March 1997, but didn’t get to trial until Feb. 1996.

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Ten years later, Shea found the time.

The reason he had been wanting to try cases, but every chance I had, the case closed down, or it would have taken too long,” Shea said. “In late 1997, we decided to go forward as a matter of public policy, and the case needed help.”

Shea defined the role of district attorney as more of a supervisory position.

“I would be in charge of the other attorneys and investigators in the office, and ensure they were doing their jobs,” Shea said. “I would also initiate changes within the system to help make it more efficient and more effective.”

O’Farrell, 53, of Atascadero, ran for the position in 1994, but lost to incumbent Barry LaBarbera. LaBarbera gave up the district attorney seat when he was elected to municipal court judge earlier this year.

O’Farrell said he wanted to see criminals go to jail and stay there, and doesn’t think the district attorney’s office is doing a good job.

“Shea hadn’t been in the courtroom at all of his time. He just recently tried a case after he announced his candidacy. I wonder why,” O’Farrell said.

Shea, 49, of San Luis Obispo, is running for the first time. He said he wants to continue doing the work that the office has been doing after LaBarbera leaves.

“Drunk driving arrests are down and so is the overall crime rate. I can show you the numbers. We have specialized prosecution teams who are doing a good job, and I want to keep that up,” Shea said.

The specialized prosecution teams are divided into categories such as sexual assaults, gang violence, drug abuse and juvenile crimes.

The candidates’ personalities are as varied as their opinions. LaBarbera supports it.

O’Farrell said: “I’m just easygoing and low-key. I have a dry and sarcastic sense of humor and I speak my mind.”

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O’Farrell added: “I’m just easygoing and low-key. I have a dry and sarcastic sense of humor and I speak my mind.”

Both of the candidates went to work as prosecutors in the San Luis Obispo County District Attorney’s office in 1977. Shea became chief deputy in 1985, and O’Farrell went into private practice in 1986.

Shea said he feels it would be difficult for O’Farrell to be an effective prosecutor since he has spent the last 17 years as a defense attorney.

“Shea is a prosecutor for a career, not something you jump into,” Shea said. “The people in the office have an average of 16 years of prosecut­ ing experience, and O’Farrell was only a prosecutor for four or five years. So he would be in charge of people who have been working at it two or three times longer than he has. That’s not effective.”

O’Farrell said he feels he would do a great job as a prosecutor, regardless of his years spent as a defense attorney.

“Now, I’m helping to raise my grandchildren here. There is too much drug activity and drug abuse.”

O’Farrell added: “I don’t spend enough time trying cases — I can show you the numbers. We have specialized prosecution teams who are doing a good job, and I want to keep that up,” Shea said.

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Zero Population Growth to recognize this Sunday as Non-mother's Day

By Jaime Zafellote
Daily Staff Writer

Many people may think that this Sunday is going to be like almost every other Sunday of the year. The only difference is that this Sunday has a name: Non-mother's Day.

Denneen said the creation of this day has nothing to do with chastising those who choose to have children, but brings attention to the population problems that the world is having.

In California, it is estimated that one out of four public school students in California does not know English well enough to keep up at school. Current law requires schools to help these students learn English while simultaneously learning other subjects.

Proposition 227 proposes a one-year immersion program. Once the children have learned English well enough, they will be put into regular English classes.

The initiative allows for a tutor or ESL (English as a second language) or another year of immersion of the first year did not work well enough," Braesich said. "In no way do we want children to be in a sink-or-swim situation."

"We are human beings," Denneen said. "People can tell us that abstinence is the best things, but we are built to have sex. Humans have done too well at reproducing."
Homeless till tonight

Today I locked myself out of my apartment. In fact, I’m still locked out. Since my car keys were also attached to my front door key, I am also deprived of all Volvo privileges. My watch was my front door key, so for the past four hours I’ve had no idea what time it is (it could be 8:30, I’m not really that sure...). My first thought has been to panic. No—I must be cool, calm, and in control. People do things like this all the time. (Heck, I do things like this all the time!) After all, I’m a college student. I have the necessary problem-solving skills to figure this out.

I began to evaluate my situation. Luckily, I happened to be wearing clothes during the incident, so that wasn’t a problem. My roommate won’t be home until late tonight. How to pass the time? Had I been downtown, searching for things to get a telephone or something. All my texts are in the library, but I have no watch. As I sat on Marsh Street, watching the traffic filled with people who have cars and homes and spare keys, I reflected on how preoccupied we are with getting things done instead of helping others. Three friends of mine waved to me as they passed by in their nice cars. “Nevertheless,” I thought, “it’s good to get out of the house every once in a while.” Then it started to rain.

I eventually sought the shelter of campus, believe it or not. As there are no televisions or couches in sight, I’ve been running errands. I’m still hungry, but my attention is focused on calculating my parking tickets. What can I tell you? Homelessness has been the greatest motivation for me all quarter. Instead of teeter-tottering between the CO and TV remote all afternoon as any of us would under normal circumstances, I went out. I even turned in some job applications.

I suggest it for everyone. Think of it this way: Would you really fall asleep and generally lounge around on the pavement all afternoon? Of course not! It’s too uncomfortable! Especially in the rain on Marsh Street. You’ll be more productive. You’ll be more resourceful.

And in conclusion, as I scratch these final words onto this large piece of tree bark with my fingernail, I advocate abandoning this so-called “Dead” Week. Indeed, the idea of “Dead Week” is actually very much alive and well and living in 99.9 percent of the material that constitutes my quarter. But when you have literally thousands of facts to memorize and a whole new dictionary of jargon to learn, that week can come in mighty handy.

Gil Sery is a journalism senior who is thinking about walking around in a sandwich board next week that will protest the demise of “Dead” Week.

By Gil Sery

O

new again we are at the end of the ninth week of a quarter and you know what that means: Dead Week is just around the corner.

If ever there was a bigger misnomer in Cal Poly history, I have yet to learn about it. This so-called “Dead” Week is actually very much alive and well and living in 99.9 percent of the classes held at Cal Poly during this week.

Only one of my instructors, Randall Murray, has informed his class of his plans to make Dead Week truly a week of review, which, I believe was the intent of the original concept. Maybe it’s because the material in that class is so damn voluminous, or because each piece of new information builds on the preceding one, in a manner not unlike the math classes I hated so much as a high schooler, or maybe it’s just because Murray has been around the block a few times and knows how tired of studying students can be this late in the quarter. But, in the words of the Taco Bell Chihuahua: Bless you, Professor Murray.

If more instructors actually planned their lesson plans so they could finish their curriculum by Dead Week, what a world of difference it would make. I just spent some time in the U.U. today interviewing students for an article I am writing on stress management. Many of them said they haven’t even had time to think about finals, let alone study for them, since they’ve been so busy with their end-of-the-quarter projects.

It’s great to have my one and only term paper of the quarter due just before the Memorial Day Weekend break. I’ve had my paper graded and returned to me before many students in other classes have even written theirs! Sure, it gives me a little less time to do it, but at least then it doesn’t clash with my time demands for studying for finals.

All I’m asking for is for one week — heck, I’ll even take half a week — in which to revise the subject matter we’ve been taught over the past nine weeks.

If the final isn’t comprehensive, then I don’t mind the instructor still teaching new material during “Dead” Week. But when you have literally thousands of facts to memorize and a whole new dictionary of jargon to learn, that week can come in mighty handy.

There’s only one week left to write that letter. Don’t miss your chance!

Letter Policy

Mustang Daily welcomes and encourages contributions from readers. Letters should be submitted complete with name, major or department, class standing and telephone number. We reserve the right to edit grammar, spelling errors and length without changing the meaning of what is written. Letters sent via e-mail will be given preference and can be sent to: letters@polymail.calpoly.edu. Fax your contribution to 786-6784 or drop letters by Building 26, Suite 226.

There’s only one week left to write that letter. Don’t miss your chance!
Pakistan detonates five nuclear devices

By Kathy Gunase Associated Press

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Pakistan matched India’s five nuclear tests blasts of its own Thursday, then declared a state of emergency given unspecified threats of "external aggression." Both acts raised fears of a nuclear arms race — or worse — with neighboring and rival India.

News of the underground explosions set off street celebrations nationwide, with jubilant Pakistanis shooting guns in the air and burlly bearded men dancing in the streets. President Clinton, who urged restraint after the threat by the external aggressor, called an emergency meeting.

"Today, we have settled the score with India," Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif declared, announcing the tests in a national broadcast speech. "We have matched India with five tests of our own."

But Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee maintained Thursday’s tests "vindicated" India’s decision to test nuclear devices to counteract Pakistan’s secret weapons program. He suggested that India may reconsider its self-imposed ban on further nuclear tests.

Pakistan did not offer any information about the type or strength of the devices Pakistan exploded near the border with Iran and Afghanistan, but said they released no radioactive into the atmosphere. The U.S. Geological Survey in Golden, Colo., said the strongest test had a preliminary magnitude of 4.9 — compared to India’s strongest blast, which registered 5.4.

Clinton tried, but failed, in a telephone call just before midnight to persuade Sharif not to carry out the tests. "Two wrongs don’t make a right," he said Thursday after the tests.

"It is now more urgent than it was yesterday that both Pakistan and India renounce further tests, sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and take decisive steps to reduce tensions in South Asia and reverse the dangerous arms race," Clinton said.

The United States had no choice but to impose sanctions against Pakistan, which include trying to block lending from international financial agencies. Clinton said as well as declaring a state of emergency, Pakistan’s president announced a law to impose severe restrictions on foreign currency bank accounts. These accounts have been frozen to prevent a panic flight of capital.

Pakistan had been under enormous domestic pressure to explode a nuclear device since the Indian tests.

"Today the flames of the nuclear fire are all over," Sharif said. "I am thankful to God that we have jumped into these flames with courage."

Sharif said Pakistan had been tremendously patient with India, and could have set off the underground tests 20 years ago if it had chosen to do so.

At a news conference Thursday, Sharif pledged Pakistan would safeguard the nuclear technology used to develop its nuclear weapons program.

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opportunity to create a partnership that probably does not exist anywhere else in California."

Bill sponsor Chris Makalintal agreed that creating an outreach partnership between ASI, the university and students is a progressive action.

"We are breaking ground. This is very precedent setting that we are starting an outreach program," said Makalintal, College of Engineering board member. "We are asking that we set up a reserve account and operation account. This is a new venture for ASI."

The bill allocates $100,042 for creating and maintaining the United Students for Diversity program for the first three years. The bill emphasizes that the center will be student-run, but it also encourages the university to contribute resources to the program. ASI hopes to find space in the U.U. to build the center.

Baker gave his assurance that the university would help fund the program once it has a clear direction.

"I think that it’s clear to say that the university would be able to pick up a program after three years as it’s operating at the level that you’re speaking about here," Baker said. "But beyond that, I think that we certainly are going to have to redirect additional resources to a comprehensive program that in a way will help us focus on the 30 (already existing) outreach programs on campus today."

Engineering senior Victor Glover, who first proposed the outreach center five weeks ago, expressed his gratitude toward board members and students who supported the idea.

"This isn’t the end, this is the beginning of something very big," Glover said. "Everybody deserves a round of applause. This was not Victor Glover’s, this was all these people who were down for this. I’m just the one with the biggest mouth."

Several other bills were also approved by the board Wednesday night.

The board decided to subsidize the housing deficit between Cal Poly and SLO Transit so students will not have to pay bus fares next year. ASI will allocate up to $49,600 to cover students’ SLO Transit costs next year.

The bill also recommends that a referendum be presented to students at the end of the year to see if ASI should fund the remaining two years of the contract.

The board also passed a bill eliminating the distinction between coded and bylawed clubs. Currently, bylawed clubs — the more than 300 “special interest” clubs such as the Black Student Union and Music Club — cannot request money from ASI for activities and events. There are about 30 coded clubs, such as the Senior Cabinet. Beginning July 1999, all clubs will be eligible to request co-sponsorship of events.

The new ASI Board of Directors will convene in the fall, but an interim board will handle ASI business during the summer.
Phil Hartman and wife shot to death

By Jennifer Bevles
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Comic actor Phil Hartman of "Saturday Night Live" and "Newsmag" was shot to death at his home, apparently by his wife, who then killed herself. Thursday while police were investigating.

Police could offer no motive for why they described as a possible murder-suicide inside the $1.4 mil- lion home, where Hartman was the comedian known for his anchor- man's voice, his comically smug, manner and his impressions of President Clinton and Ed McMahon.

Phil had gone to the home after getting an early morning 911 call about a shooting. They were removing Hartman's two children — a 9-year-old boy and a 6-year-old girl — for their safety when they heard a shot in the master bed- room, police said.

There, they recovered the bod- ies of Hartman, 49, and his wife, Bryna Hartman. 40. The actor had been dead for "a while," said police spokesman Lt. Anthony Alfa.

"We are investigating this as a possible murder-suicide," he said. "We know for sure that the female individual is (Phil's) wife."

A neighbor, Susan Kaplow, said that she had no sense of trouble in the house and that Mrs. Hartman was happy on Wednesday. She "left me a really happy message yester- day," Ms. Kaplow said. "Everything was fine. I leave each other silly messages all the time."

Hollywood expressed shock and sadness, saying Hartman's special- ty in playing annoying, acerbic, morally challenged characters ran counter to his real-life personality as an upbeat, devoted family man. "He was one of those guys who was a dream to work with. I don't know anybody who didn't like him," said Joe Dante, who was directing Hartman in the movie "Small Soldiers." He said Hartman would often ask the camera staff to keep his aexact- sile so he could work in trips to the zoo with his children.

Comic actor Steve Guttenberg, who knew Hartman for 20 years, since their days together with the Groundlings comedy troupe, said the manner of his friend's death was "totally out of character for the kind of guy he is."

"It shows when you see people you don't know the complications behind their lives," Guttenberg said.

"Phil was a really funny and very happy person," said fellow "Saturday Night" alum Steve Martin. "This is a terrible thing."

Born Philip Edward Hartman in Ontario, Canada, Hartman was one in a line of Canadian-born comedians to find success in the United States, including the late John Candy and "SNL" veteran Dan Aykroyd.

Unlike them, Hartman grew up in America, first in Connecticut, then in California. He attended Westchester High School on Los Angeles' West Side. He was the class clown, already doing imperson- ations of John Wayne, Jack Benny and Lyndon Johnson.

After high school, he studied art and wound up in graphic design. 

Drawn to standup comedy, Hartman in 1975 joined the movie "Saturday Night Live" cast that included Jon Lovitz, Dennis Miller and Dana Carvey. In his seven seasons, he made appearances of up to 70 famous people, including Ronald Reagan, Bob Newhart, Swaggart, Phil Donahue and Frank Sinatra.

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SOCCER from page 8
which could open up the field for other players to step up for.
"I think (Onguera) realizes that," she said. "She's going to prob­
ably get a lot of assists this year, but she's still going to score.
"Gina's sister, Sandy Onguera, is a top prospect for the Mustangs.
"Sandy's played in the midfield and she's a playmaker," Kassis said.
"Her brother, coach said, that she's going to make any forward look better.
"Many prospects include Kara Gendzik, a midfielder transfer stu­
dent from DeAnza college in San Jose. She was DeAnza's leading
scorer last year and was named to
the Junior College All-American

THE CENTRAL COAST the boss. They play their first game when school is back in session Oct. 2 against Utah State.

this year brought the team to a
new level.
"We have been able to get our
times down in the 40.0 (seconds)
range. With the team we have now, with everybody being young, we have the best potential team this school has ever had," Crawford said.

Cal Poly's school record for the
400-meter relay is 39.97 seconds, and this year's team posted a
40.86-second time for the Big West conference win.

Crawford, competing for his
second year on the Cal Poly team, has greatly improved. He took
first in both the men's 100- and
200-meter events with times of
10.32 and 20.83, respectively.

Crawford said his favorite is
the 100-meter race.
"This is my favorite event, it's almost man-to-man," he explained.

"Nobody else is really a part of it. I feel this is the best quality
track team," according to Craver.

Another new Mustang is
Hamza Allafi, a mid­fielder/forward from La Habra, who is a "quick player with great skills and vision," according to Craver.

"He has the ability to put her team mates into great position and she is also a scorer.

The Mustangs also signed Britt Eriksen, a goalkeeper from Fresno to their roster.
"Alex said that she's a raw natu­
ral athlete with a lot of talent," Kassis said.

The Mustangs play their first home game Sept. 1 at Mustang Stadium against defending NCAA runner-up Santa Clara. They play their first game when school is back in session Oct. 2 against Utah State.

Crawford said she thinks
Gonzo has a good chance of
being selected for the finals, but
she hasn't heard official word
yet. She said there are about 10
members of the men's and
women's track teams who are on
the provisional list for the finals.

She explained that competitors on the provisional list do not have records that gain them automatic acceptance. But their records are good enough, however, that spots may be available for them based on how many athletes enter a parti­cular event or have to drop out because of injury or other reasons.

Crawford said his only disap­
pointment in the finals was not improving his NCAA qualifying times.
"I am on the last leg of the cut­
off point. It depends on how many people submit names and how
many they take. It is very nerve
racking. I am still in a training mode," Crawford said.

In the meantime, Crawford keeps running and anxiously waiting.

SOCCER from page 8

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Cal Poly's school record for the
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Crawford, competing for his
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10.32 and 20.83, respectively.

Crawford said his favorite is
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"This is my favorite event, it's almost man-to-man," he explained.

"Nobody else is really a part of it. I feel this is the best quality
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she hasn't heard official word
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She explained that competitors on the provisional list do not have records that gain them automatic acceptance. But their records are good enough, however, that spots may be available for them based on how many athletes enter a parti­cular event or have to drop out because of injury or other reasons.

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Running to the nationals

Cal Poly men's track team is younger and faster than ever

By Leslie Stevens
Daily Safe Writer

The men's 400-meter relay team raced to a first-place finish for Cal Poly in last weekend's Big West Conference Track and Field finals. Cal Poly was led by the conference's fastest sprinter, Kaaron Convright. Taking first place was a big accomplishment for the second-ranked relay team, and the team managed to do it minus a shoe. Freshman team member Shawn Ross said the shoe loss was caused by a late batter handoff. "I got out late and Kalen (Thompson) stopped on the back of my shoe. When I started running, my shoe just flew off," Ross said. "I had to run the race with one shoe. Afterward my foot was in pain." Despite the pain, Ross said he felt good about finishing the race. "I was glad I was able to keep us in it enough so Kaaron could keep in the battle to put us in first," Ross said. Thompson added that after the problems with the shaky handoff and the missing shoe, Convright took the baton for the last leg, fourth place, and managed to pull the team into first. Track coach Terry Crawford said the team felt very thankful for the win. That was obviously our goal going into the finals. Fortunately for Kaaron, he had a great anchor leg. We owe our relay team win to Kaaron Convright. Kaaron Convright took first at the Big West Championships in the 100 and 200 meters. He also took first as part of the 400 meter relay team.

Soccer

Mustangs practice to take back title

By Mark Hurt
Daily Safe Writer

Coming off a 15-6 record last year, the Cal Poly women's soccer team hopes to make a big splash in the Big West Conference this year. The team lost 3-2 in quadruple overtime in the Big West Championship last year to U.C. Irvine. Although it graduated eight seniors last year, assistant coach Kolleen Kassis said this year's team is pretty strong. "The chemistry of the team members got to know each other better this spring when they played in a seven-on-seven tournament in Berkeley," Kassis said. "Everyone needed to adjust to their new roles." The team also played well in games against Santa Barbara and Bakersfield. "They were knocking the ball around and it was one-two-touch passes," she said. "They played defensively very sound, people were getting back on defense. We just looked really good." Kassis said many teams might be counting the Mustangs out this year because of the high number of graduating seniors, but after playing together, the team pulled it off. "At the beginning of spring, I would say people were a little unsure," she said. "But by the end of spring people were pretty confident." Kassis said head coach Alex Creuer doesn't believe this is a rebuilding year. "You look at the eight seniors that we graduated; and people think that its going to be a rebuilding year," she said. "But there's actually a lot of people in league on that bench that could have played more. He said it's more like a rebuilding year." Kassis said that one of the team's strong points is defense. "I think the defense is gaining confidence in each other," she said. "I think that defensive group is going to be real strong and we'll be able to play out of the back and hit long balls. They can adjust their style of play to help us win." Some of Cal Poly's returning players have a chance to step up and show their talents. Denise Trivino, a junior forward who played her freshman year but red-shirted last year due to injury, said, "I think she's a very smart, intelligent player, and she has a lot of skill." Kassis said, "I think she could be someone who could benefit from the seniors graduating." Shanna Stieck, a senior center midfielder, also has a chance to do well. "She has great touch on the ball; she sees the field real well so she can switch the field of play," Kassis said. "Shes going to be a real leader." Another player, Gina Oogueru, finished tied for fourth in league scoring last season with 12 points (3 goals, six assists) and had six game-winning goals. She could also seize the opportunity to excel. Kassis said that Gina is going to be a marked player this year.

SOCCER page 7

Caught in the act

Stealing

By Joe Neil
Daily Safe Writer

It's the best game you're not watching, but you've got one last chance to catch it. It's college baseball, and this weekend is the College World Series in Omaha. Whiz basketball and football have enjoyed incredible success at the collegiate level, college baseball has lagged behind, in terms of exposure that is. So now is college baseball's chance to take center stage, and I'd like to do my part to turn as many people as possible on to this great show.

"Florida''s Stadler will bring his rightfielder to pinch to the final batter in the ninth."

First, the College World Series is the culmination of an exhausting season for players, coaches and fans alike. The right to call themselves, National Champs. They have been talented and lucky enough to make it this far and are playing strictly for the love of the game (no multi-million dollar pay checks, yet). "Mississippi State's third baseman has just laid down a beautiful bunt to put the tying run on base, and the missing shoe. Conwright felt good about finishing the race. "I was glad I was able to keep us in it enough so Kaaron could keep in the battle to put us in first," Ross said. Thompson added that after the problems with the shaky handoff and the missing shoe, Convright took the baton for the last leg, fourth place, and managed to pull the team into first. Track coach Terry Crawford said the team felt very thankful for the win. That was obviously our goal going into the finals. Fortunately for Kaaron, he had a great anchor leg. We owe our relay team win to Kaaron Convright. Kaaron Convright took first at the Big West Championships in the 100 and 200 meters. He also took first as part of the 400 meter relay team.

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