Internet speeds up student loan process

By Chris Hoffman
Mustang Daily

A few minutes of reading, some button clicks, and the money is one step closer to being in your hands. Financial aid counseling has hit the Internet - and that means more convenience for students. First-time Stafford Loan borrowers are mandated by law to attend a counseling session before receiving their first check. But what once required 50-minute seminars can now be done in a few minutes on the World Wide Web.

The online system, found at http://www.bankamerica.com/student-aid/, has been available at Cal Poly since fall 1997. It allows students to read three pages of text about their rights and responsibilities as borrowers and then take a quiz to prove their understanding. The quiz consists of seven multiple-choice questions (for example, see LOANS, page 3)

If the shoe fits

SWOOSH: World Athletics salesman Joseph Ramirez opens a box of shoes for manufacturing senior Matt Brown to test out in the UU. A variety of vendors will set up displays in the plaza throughout the quarter.

Man to speak on atrocities in Iraq

Missionary worker flew in food and supplies to Iraqis despite facing US sanctions

By Jose Garcia
Mustang Daily

Guadalupe resident Dennis Apel has flown firsthand some of the harsh living conditions Iraqi citizens are facing as a result of the United Nation Security Council-imposed sanctions. He's bringing those tragic images to the Central Coast with his slide show presentation Friday at 7 p.m. in the San Luis Obispo County Library.

A seven-year trade embargo against Iraq continues to this day as a result of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in 1990.

Apel, who has already traveled to Iraq twice this year on humanitarian missions, will return from his second Middle East trip today. During Apel's first trip in May with 82 other Americans, $4 million worth of medical supplies were delivered to Iraq.

According to a story published in a local humanitarian-based magazine, HopeDance, approximately 320 children in Iraq are dying every day due to lack of medical supplies.

"On a human level, the sanctions are utterly immoral that in my view, any political discussion becomes irrelevant," said Apel in the July/August edition of HopeDance. "There cannot possibly be any political justification for the level of suffering we are inflicting on these people."

Nabel Daniel, mechanical engineering junior, is an Assyrian-Christian who was captured by Iraq's military and later released. Daniel, who is political editor of the liberal arts-based magazine HopeDance, said the situation in Iraq is so dire that people have to steal food to eat.

"I wish I knew (why); the legislature didn't explain," said Rick Ramirez, associate vice president for finance, said he doesn't know why the legislature first decided to lower the fee only for undergraduates.

"I wish we had a choice," he said.

According to Apel, since the decision to reduce the fee for undergraduates was finalized, lobbying began about reducing the fee for graduate students as well. He said that the legislature decided at the end of its '98 session to reduce this fee also.

Ramirez said that the bill lowering the fee for undergraduates also gave CSU trustees $19.4 million. This money, however, did not provide additional funds for instructional programs.

"It lowered the cost for students and their families to attend (schools), but one thing to consider is that the fee reductions for graduate students were not included in this bill," he said.

Graduate fees going down in '99

CSU trustees vote to lower tuition by 5 percent

By Britt Fekete
Mustang Daily

Graduate students at Cal Poly and other CSU schools will soon pay less for their education.

According to Ken Swisher, spokesperson for the CSU chancellor, students will see the decrease in tuition costs beginning Fall 1999.

All students at CSU schools, undergraduates and graduates, pay a systemwide state university fee. The California state legislature reduced this fee for undergraduates by five percent last year. The reduction took effect fall 1998.

Currently, undergraduates taking more than six units per quarter pay the $1,556 fee for the academic year (three quarters or two semesters, depending on the school). From the fall of 1994 until now, both undergraduates and graduate students taking more than six units per quarter paid $1,584 for the state university fee. However, while undergraduates began paying less this fall, graduates are still paying the same. This is the first time that the fee has been different for the two groups of students.

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see IRAQ, page 3
see FEES, page 3
Register to vote today

One vote counts. One of the most important one-vote decisions took place shortly after the American Revolution. It was one vote that made the difference in a bill that would have changed the official language of America from English to German.

California State Student Association (CSSA) is holding a massive voter registration drive on campuses across the state.

Iraq

continued from page 1

form in Baghdad, Iraq in 1981. Before the Iraq-Iran war broke out. To this day, he said, when he or his parents attempt to call relatives in Iraq they do not discuss political matters because Hussein's intelligence network is known for tapping phone lines.

Aqil works as one of the coordinators for the Grasshopper Catholic Workers outreach center which provides food and other support to low income farm workers. He was contacted by a nationally-based peace group. Voices of the Wilderness, to help with the missions in Iraq. Voices of the Wilderness is spearheading the controversial relief efforts.

Iraq has easily granted visas to U.S. relief workers but according to the Voices of the Wilderness web page, U.S. government officials have threatened the group with a million-dollar fine and up to 12 years in prison for their involvement in bringing medicine to hospitals in Iraq, a violation of the U.N./U.S.-imposed embargo on Iraq.

During Friday's presentation Apel will present slides from both of his overseas trips. One of the slides will show an Iraqi woman handing over her child to Apil.

"She told him (Apil) to take care of her sick baby," said Apil. "Her father is publisher and editor of Hope Dance."

"It was a real heart-wrencher."

Friday's slide show will be followed by a question and answer session aimed at changing the U.N. sanction policy.

News Briefs

The diploma you can wear.

Students, faculty and staff are cordially invited to celebrate with us during an Open House to be held for new Student Government Offices (UU 202) and Multicultural center (UU 217B) on October 1 & 2, 12 Noon to 2:00 p.m.

The scholarships department, which recently formed the financial aid department, offers financial aid to all students, from first-year undergraduate students, to first-year graduate students.

Stafford, Perkins, parent-plus and graduate loans. In addition to work study and grants, the department offers 47 different packages, according to Dan Kronenberg, assistant director of the financial aid department. The financial aid department has received approximately $30 million in loans to be processed for the 1999-2000 school year, Hanlon said.

Alternatives to borrowing include student assistance programs offered by the University Scholarship Office and USA Group. In addition to loans, the department offers scholarships to all students, from first-year undergraduate students, to first-year graduate students.

45 percent of participants say they wish they borrowed less credit cards, 59 percent reported hardship in repaying loans and 45 percent wish they had borrowed less. In the study said loans were extremely important to their continued education after high school. Eighty-six percent reported hardship in repaying loans and 45 percent wish they had borrowed less.

"I'm scared as hell because I don't even know if I'll have a job when I get out," said Michael Quiricone, a 6th-semester communications major.

The study cited several factors for reasons in borrowing, including tuition costs, less availability of grant aid, increased eligibility for federal loans beginning in 1992, and older, independent students who have little family financial help.

In addition, a recent survey conducted by The Education Resources Institute showed that of students with loans, 20 percent pay 11 percent more and 13 percent have paid for four or more.

Of the students with credit cards, 59 percent pay their balance in full. "According to Nellie Mae, undergraduate credit card balances average $2,250.

The unprecedented price of student borrowing is fueling serious concern about the ability of many students to manage their post-school debt burdens," said Patricia M. Scherschel of USA Group. In August, The Hartford Courant reported that U.S. students borrowed $3.4 billion in 1997, up from $1.7 billion in 1987.

"Over the past year, U.S. student loans increased approximately $467 million to preferred lenders, covering 98 percent of the money loaned to students," said Suzanne Hanlon, loan coordinator.

The average U.S. student borrowed $13,000 according to Hanlon. Loans can go as high as $17,250 for a year and $40,000 over four years, she said.

"I never look at the total balance on my loans, I'm afraid. I could still be paying off my college loans when I'm married," said Marlene Parra, a 7th-semester accounting major.

An additional study conducted by three national research institutes and presented at a national symposium in Washington, D.C., showed that the average student borrowing $25,000 or more without deferred payments could expect to owe $10,427 by graduation.

"Students who do not have deferred loans (loans which the interest is cov-

ed by the government) must pay interest every month while in school. "I'd rather have a large fog over my head than a little bug flying in my face," said Mary Smyth, a 5th-semester communications major.

Smyth owes $12,000 to UCGen as an out-of-state student, in addition to $6,000 she owes to Framingham State. The school she previously attended. Smyth did not qualify for deferred loans.

When Hanlon counsels students about deferred loans, she tells them about her brother, who did not qualify for deferred loans and borrowed $5,000. When he graduated, he owed $8,000 and will pay $25,000 in monthly payments and his interest accumulated.

The financial aid department offers four separate types of loans: Stafford, Perkins, parent-plus and aggregate loans. In addition to work study and grants, the department offers 47 different packages, according to Dan Kronenberg, assistant director of the financial aid department. The financial aid department has received approximately $30 million in loans to be processed for the 1999-2000 school year, Hanlon said.

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LOANS continued from page 1

"How long does it take for your loan to enter default status (when you will start being charged interest if you do not make a payment) which must all be answered correctly to proceed.

Students then enter their personal information, choose "Cal Poly San Luis Obispo" from an alphabetized list of schools, and the information is electronically sent to the Financial Aid Office. Students are also given a confirmation number as proof that they've completed the counseling.

The idea behind the http://www.calpoly.edu loan counseling, according to Cal Poly loan specialist Ron Hurd, is convenience. Previously, students who needed their check on the first day of classes would have to come to Cal Poly ahead of time to attend counseling. But now, "they can do their own counseling from literally anywhere in the world," Hurd said. "It just makes it available 24 hours a day.

Students appear to appreciate the convenience of online counseling also. "I thought it was easy," said computer science junior Jamie Collins. "And nice." Over 2,000 students have already used the WWW counselor in this academic year, compared to about 600 who have attended in-person workshops.

The one drawback, Hurd said, is that internet counseling lacks personal interaction. However, in-person workshops are still offered several times a quarter for those without access to or those who have completed the WWW session can ask person-to-person questions with the lending community. The in-person session is scheduled for this Thursday.

The online counseling is actually a free service from Bank of America. Not Cal Poly. However, Hurd points out that students can use the counseling without any other lender is.

"We happen to go through Bank of America," said Hurd, noting other lenders offer the service. "It's a race to the first to come out with this, and we were looking for something like this to offer to those who we agreed on with.

Although around 120 other schools use Bank of America's online counseling, including five other California State Universities, some features of the system are unique to Cal Poly. After students complete the counseling and the web session is sent to Cal Poly, a computer program automatically matches up that information with data already on file for the student, releasing the hold on the check and e-mailing back a confirmation number.

The automation is strictly Cal Poly," Hurd said. "We are state of the art.

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2 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1998

STORRS, Conn. (U/WIRE) — According to recent studies, more college graduates are in debt for student loans and credit cards than ever before. Students, faculty and staff are cordially invited to celebrate with us during an Open House to be held for new Student Government Offices (UU 202) and Multicultural center (UU 217B) on October 1 & 2, 12 Noon to 2:00 p.m.

Please stop by for a tour of our new offices and see how student dollars have been enhanced to use the McPhee University Union.
Students fall back on work, loans

World market, relaxed US restrictions, cause Asian students to reach for emergency aid

AUSTIN, Texas (U-WIRE) — The UT International Office has seen an increase in applications for work and financial aid this fall from students suffering from the Asian currency crisis following the removal of certain restrictions in June, UT officials said Monday.

The Immigration and Naturalization Service temporarily lifted work restrictions for certain F-1, or non-immigrant, student visa holders in June to help students facing financial hardship due to economic crisis in Asia.

INS work restrictions for F-1 student visa holders prohibit international students from working more than 20 hours per week during the school year, and international students are only allowed to work on campus, unless they apply through the INS to work off campus.

"These restrictions were lifted after economic turmoil in Asia this summer created unstable financial situations in several Asian nations, causing exchange rates in many of those countries to fall," said Candy Barbtor, an immigration advisor, said she has seen an increase in on-campus work applications during the summer and at the beginning of the fall semester.

"I've definitely seen an increase of students who want to work more than 20 hours a week," Barbtor said.

Seogiono Hadiwijaya, a junior who has an F-1 permit, said the Asian economic crisis has caused financial hardship for many students, including himself.

"It's really bad right now," Hadiwijaya said. "Right now my parents cannot send me money because the exchange rate is so high."

Hadiwijaya has been working at the Learning Skills Center as a math and economics tutor about 15 hours per week to help pay for school.

"He said he had to put in more hours in the spring if the option is still available," Barbtor said.

The special student relief program applies only to international students whose financial support come from Indonesia, Malasia, the Philippines, South Korea or Thailand.

"Students applying for the relief must also establish that they held F-1 student status prior to June 15 of this year, when the INS lifted the work restrictions. They must also show continued economic hardship," Barbtor said.

Hurricane Georges downgraded to tropical storm

Power out to 400,000 homes from Florida to Louisiana

PASCAGOULA, Miss. (AP) — The whirlwind that was Georges downgraded to tropical storm Tuesday, but its story was still a breath of fresh air for the university, Ramirez said.

Fees continued from page 1

money didn't provide any more funds for the university," Ramirez said.

He said that without the money that was given to the trustees, international students (at least on this campus), would have been cut.

Students disagree that undergraduates should be paying less than graduates.

Thomas Jungo, electrical engineering senior said that because the fee reduction affects him right now, the difference in price for undergraduates and graduates is unfair.

Wees, foreign students also agree. He says the current fee reduction shouldn't only apply to undergraduates.

"I don't think it's fair at all. If they're going to lower one fee, they should lower both at the same time," he said.

Wees said that the CSU system should look at other areas to cut to compensate for graduate students paying the same amount as undergraduates. He said however, that he didn't know which areas these should be.

Wees said his suggestion would be to have held off lowering the undergraduate fee until the 1999-2000 academic year so that both of the fees could be cut at the same time.

"Right now my parents cannot send me money because the exchange rate is so high."

— Seogiono Hadiwijaya

University of Texas student

Barbor said some advisors have received as many as one to three applications per day from students wishing to increase their work hours.

Another revision to the standard eliminates the requirement that international students be enrolled as full-time students.

However they must meet certain criteria to drop below a full course load, including meeting all student relief program requirements or being authorized for off campus employment.

Eligible students must also show that they are working more than 20 hours per week, Barbtor said.

"We've been blocking furniture all day," said Boyce, who was at his home Tuesday attempting save some of his possessions. "We've been blocking and breaking and we are the point where we can't block anymore. The water is coming too hard and fast."

The neighborhood, which sits near the Escatawpa River into a Moss Farm, Miss., community.

Paul Boyce, who lives near U.S. 90 in the flooded community, said his neighborhood was submerged in water.

"We've been blocking furniture all day," said Boyce, who was at his home Tuesday attempting save some of his possessions. "We've been blocking and breaking and we are the point where we can't block anymore. The water is coming too hard and fast."

"There are lots of people, who found her brick ranch house in Pensacola washed in sewage, seaweed and branches.

Downgraded to just a tropical depression, Georges and its downpours moved west, into Georgia and South Carolina. A flash flood watch was issued for south and central Georgia and parts of South Carolina through Wednesday morning. The hurricane wind that rippled through the coast with gusts as high as 174 mph had dropped to 15 mph.

President Clinton declared the entire storm-damaged swath of the southeast Mississippi community a disaster area and planned to visit soon.

The National Weather Service said 11 inches of rain fell in the Mobile, Ala., area as a result of recovery operations allowed. Power remained out to about 400,000 customers from Louisiana to Florida.

Crews continued to assess the damage. The Escatawpa River at Merrill rose from 4.4 feet on Monday to 20.8 feet on Tuesday and was expected to swell to 26.5 feet later in the day, more than the river's previous June 1994 high.

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The Big Creek Lake near the Mississippi-Alabama line overflowed late Tuesday, sending water down the Escatawpa River into a Moss Farm, Miss., community.

Paul Boyce, who lives near U.S.

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There’s too much special treatment

The handicapped, or at least the “so-called” handicapped have too many handi-capped actions. With Cal Poly as possibly the area’s largest perpetrator of overzealous handi-capped action, it’s a mystery to me why this campus still has “able” people, facilities and programs.

“Handicapped” people get the best parking spots, priority registration, note takers, sympathy when they’re late to class, privileges and self-respect around campus. Legitimately handicapped people, like those in wheel chairs and those who arrive to school on the short bus, should take full advantage of all services and programs this campus has to offer. Everyone else, however, like the frat boy who sprained his groin sliding into home plate while playing softball with his buddies at Guesa Park, should not be eligible for anything above and beyond the typical oversaid concerns they’re babied with from super dramatized frat girls.

Seriously folks, anyone and their brother can fake special privileges from Cal Poly. Allergic to the sun? Well then mister, it’s obvious to me you need to be able to park on Dexter lane. Having a hard time waking up early? This is a serious case of depression. A little priority registra­tion should clear it right up. Can’t stop staring at the horri­ble in your English lit class? You must have attention deficit disorder. We’ll bring in a note taker so you don’t have to concentrate. As an add­ed bonus, because of the severity of this recent educational phenomenon, you can score some drugs (I mean medication) that will be loads of fun Friday night. Of all the maladies going around, this weird A.D.D. epidemic, really it’s me. It’s a condition parents concocted to explain why little Johnny can’t sit still in class, nothing more.

If you can walk, crawl or limp to class you shouldn’t get special privileges. If you’re lazy, but not nigh­ enough to find yourself wrapped up in a straight jacket, you shouldn’t be eligible for education enhancing drugs or classroom buddies who take dictation for you.

I’m against people passing-off minor inconve­niences as life-challenging conditions that require favor­able inter­vention from this school. If anyone truly deserves a little help now and then it’s those members of the student body who work to put themselves through school, rather than those who are just milking the system.

Alan Dunton is a journalism senior.

Our voice

Editorials reflect the views of Mustang Daily. Editorial policy is determined by the editorial board, which includes all student editors of Mustang Daily. Columns, cartoons and letters reflect the views of their authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Mustang Daily.

Your voice

Mustang Daily encourages comments on editorial poli­cy and university affairs. Letters should be typewritten, double-spaced, signed and include a phone number. They can be mailed, faxed, delivered or e­mailed to mustangdaily@calpoly.edu.

Opinion

What’s the worst thing you’ve ever eaten?

“I don’t know about me, but the worst thing my dad’s ever eaten was baloney, pickled chicken feet, boiled in its shell.”

Richner Regio

graphic communication

“Crust of bread, it was soup. It was pretty gross.”

Karen Baldwin

landscape architecture

junior

“It had potatoes, ketchup, macaroni, eggs, syrup. I don’t remember everything it had in it. It’s one of those things you try to block out.”

Jason Fussel

civil engineering freshman

There are alternatives to driving

So we have a parking problem. All are agreed. Unfortunately, there are only a hold few who know the true answers to these dilem­mas. I am currently interested in de­vising these seemingly hidden secrets. I was reminded this morning what type of situation we have on our hands. I witnessed a car accident on California Blvd. that was primarily due to the fact that the line of cars entering campus, stretched back to Taft St. by Seven-Eleven. Wonder if those two drivers feel their accident was unnecessary and preventable? I believe it was. You want solutions for the “parking crunch” (pun intended), here’s one for you: walk to school. It’s a novel idea I know.

Call me a romantic. Yes, I know this method requires rising earlier and we all need our beauty sleep (besides we don’t all have five twenty minutes from school) but just think, it might even feel good to get your blood pumping. Okay, you don’t like walking; ride your bike. It’s safer and after today’s accident, perhaps safer. There’s a gazillion bikes around, pull yours out of the dust, in your old bean bag chair, take it to the Craft Center and clean it up. You might enjoy the exercise. Don’t have a bike? No prob­lem. Check the “for sale” board located in the UU, or swing by a local bike shop— there’s plenty of cheap bikes around. Okay you don’t have the interest in cycling—ride the bus! It runs all over the place. Call 541-Bus for information or go by the Escape Route to pick up a schedule. It’s free.

Do we really need a parking structure? Ride a scooter, skateboard, carpool, piggy-back ride, pogo-stick, the list goes on. Brian Forgie is a history senior whose shoes have many holes.

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Islam teaches equality
Cartoon depicts myths about Muslim women

I am deeply disappointed by the cartoon on page 4 of this Friday's issue of Mustang Daily, in which Ms. Julie Lungren has depicted that Islamic Laws are very strict and unjust for women. I am not surprised to see a misleading cartoon, because as a Muslim and president of Muslim Students' Association (MSA) I have to face and answer a lot of questions about many stereotypes about Islam. But I was shocked to see that someone from a prestigious Institution as Cal Poly could have such narrow thinking and make such a baseless claim, as Islam being harsh and unjust towards women, without any reason or any knowledge of the facts.

Let me clarify a few things about Islam. Islam, in no way looks at an insult to Islam. Islam is the fastest growing religion in the world, and if we combine all the different sects of Christian than Islam is the second largest religion in the world. Despite all the misperceptions of ill treatment of Islamic women, they are the largest gender group of Europeans and Americans who converted to Islam. The reason for that is very simple, Islam teaches equality and justice for everyone. Islam guarantees equal rights as men. But Islam opposes the "senseness" of the two genders. This issue is very simple and easy to understand.

stand, men and women are created equal, but they are not the same. Each individual enjoys equal rights with different duties and responsibilities. As for the women covering up their bodies, it is because Islam does not depict women as sex objects and does not allow anyone to judge her by her body appearance, but by her intelligence and wisdom. It is true that in some countries women do not have equal rights. But it has nothing to do with Islam. If anything is to be blamed for this injustice, it is the culture and lack of literacy among the people who believe in it. Islam is the first religion to give women the right to inherit, to spend all their own money, to do business and vote. We study European and American history we will find that women got this kind of freedom because of industrial revolutions or wars. And, it was not too long ago that women in general got the right to vote.

Now, after glipping over women's rights in Islam, I would like to say a little bit about the Islamic laws in general: Islamic laws are always in favor of innocent individuals. For some people it may seem inhumane to cut the hands of a thief, or behead a murderer. But I assure you, for the victims of these crimes, this is the only right thing to do. Before we make up our minds about Islamic laws as being cruel or just, we must ask ourselves these questions: how many innocent people get killed everyday; how many girls become rape victims every hour and how many people lose their hard earned income every minute! We all know the reason for this rising crime rate is: going by this standard, no male has ever not committed adultery. It's said about women looking at men, so I can't blame them for trying.

Hypocritical hysteria thrives
Even bible verses point out that we should leave Clinton alone

As I was driving home the other day, I happened to pass a pickup coated with bumper stickers. One supported Lungren, another Bodoreans, and a third proclaimed "Impulse Clinton Now!" Also I firmly believe that the Extreme Element who paid off Paula Jones for her nose job."

As a recovering Baptist, I couldn't seem to remember the exact Bible verse, but I think it had something to do with the track of the truth to pass judgment on our President. So it was when I arrived home and I removed my Bible from its place on the shelf and opened it up. After a brief dust-induced coughing fit, I began to search.

The first verse I came across was Matthew 5:28, where Jesus says "...let those who have never sinned cast the first stone." I'm also pretty sure that the Lord made a "Jesus fish" in the process of swallowing a "Darwin fish." This made me think about how the most vocal criticisms of Bill Clinton have always come from the so-called religious right.

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## Cal Poly Students

**Are the Brightest and the Most Savvy in the Country**

**Are You Really?**

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**Total Cost:** $198.98

**Total Savings:** 21%

*These 9 titles are from the largest classes at Cal Poly. Both price and buyback surveys conducted on 9/23/98*

**WHERE WILL YOU PURCHASE YOUR COURSEWARE NEXT QUARTER?**

**El Corral Bookstore**
Most youths have a designated driver

CHICAGO (AP) — A survey of teen drinking found good news and bad news — more than half of the youths ages 16 to 19 said they drank during the preceding month, but nearly two-thirds said they always appoint a designated driver.

Still, even the good news in Tuesday's study had a twist: 80 percent think it's fine to drink as long as there is a designated driver, and nearly half think that designated drivers can still drink.

"We're not impressed on kids the fact that getting drunk can be dangerous," said Dr. Richard Herman, a Cincinnati pediatrician and chairman of the substance abuse committee at the American Academy of Pediatrics, which released the study. The results mirror a much larger government-supported study of 51,002 high school students released in December.

The telephone survey, conducted between Aug. 24 and Sept. 3, has a margin of error of plus or minus 4 percentage points.

Both surveys found that teens generally drink to get drunk, with 73.3 percent of boys and 54.9 percent of girls drinking more than 5 and 6 or more drinks each outing. Fifty-one percent said they consume between two and five drinks at a sitting.

"They don't stand around like an idiot with their beer in their hand at a cocktail party. They take a six-pack," Herman said. "They are mind-altering drinkers."

Other experts agreed.

"Teens have the unfortunate misconception that if they designate a driver, they can still drink as much as they like," said Dr. Joseph R. Zangr, the academy's president.

Only 2 percent think designated drivers can drink five or more drinks. Ninety percent think one drink is acceptable for a designated driver, and 17 percent think two drinks is OK.

"Only about half agree that a designated driver should not have a drink. Usually they just mean, 'Somebody who drinks less than I do,'" Herman said.

The free-line hospital statement identified the injured man by name: Clint Hallman. Hospital personnel said Hallman is from New Zealand but lives in Forts, Australia.

"Clint Hallman ... had a very good weekend," the statement said.

Dr. Jean-Michel Dubernard, co-leader of the transplant team, was not immediately available for comment.

"It gives hope to all those who are victims of domestic or work accidents, anti-personnel mines, or have congenital deformations," Dubernard said.

The surgery was carried our in hopes of giving Hallman a right hand — his own was amputated in 1989 after an accident. An anonymous donor provided the replacement body part.

In the operation, arteries, veins, nerves, tendons, muscles and skin were attached after the two bones of the forearm were set.

Research uncovers some surprises

- Sixty-one percent said they'd consumed alcohol within the preceding month.
- Nearly a third mistakenly think a can of beer is less intoxicating than a shot of vodka.
- Boys and girls average about the same number of drinking days a month — 5.6 days and 5.2 days, respectively. Boys are more likely than girls to have had six or more drinks in the preceding month — 32 percent vs. 22 percent.
- The average age when drinking begins is 14.
- Sixty-four percent say they avoid drunken driving by always appointing a designated driver when drinking with friends.
- Eighty percent think it's OK to drink with friends as long as there is a designated driver.

Hand transplant looks good, doctors say

LYON, France (AP) — A 48-year-old man who lost his right hand and forearm is eating and drinking normally four days after the 13-hour surgery, the hospital reported Monday.

The grafted right hand, the hospital said, was "well colored" — an apparent sign of blood circulation.

"We've got to do better," McCaffrey told the American Methadone Treatment Association in New York.

Eventually, McCaffrey said, individuals will be able to distribute methadone outside of clinics, allowing doctors for the first time to dispense the synthetic heroin substitute for addicts.

McCaffrey's office set a goal of 60 percent of the population to be in methadone programs by 1998.

The policy for the first time mandates that states and local governments must endorse the changes to make methadone more readily available.

"This is a local decision for city councils, county government and state legislatures," he said. "McCaffrey's office set a goal of "adequate treatment management capacity for all of America's opiate drug addicts."

Eventually, McCaffrey said, individual doctors would be licensed to dispense methadone outside of clinics. The policy for the first time would also establish an accreditation process for methadone clinics and set standards for effective dosages, counseling and care.

U.S. drug czar wants methadone expansion

NEW YORK (AP) — The White House's drug policy chief Tuesday proposed making methadone more readily available to drug addicts by allowing doctors for the first time to dispense the synthetic heroin substitute in their offices.

Currently, methadone is available only at special clinics, making it difficult for some addicts to hold down jobs and receive their daily dose of the liquid narcotic. Some states bars methadone altogether.

Gen. Barry McCaffrey, the White House's drug policy director, said study after study has shown that methadone not only eliminates the craving of heroin addiction but also makes it possible for addicts to lead productive lives and stay out of trouble.

"It's the way we help you get your feet wet."
Paper reports on illness

Hundreds of people suffer from mysterious ailment, story claims

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Hundreds of people living near or working at federal nuclear weapons plants and research facilities in 11 states are suffering an array of unexplained illnesses. The Tennessean reported Tuesday.

The 410 people interviewed by the newspaper have ailments including tremors, memory loss, fatigue and a variety of breathing, muscular and reproductive problems. Their doctors cannot explain why they are sick.

No direct link has been established between the illnesses and the Department of Energy sites. The 410 people interviewed by the agency has not taken a comprehensive look outside Denver, Col.; Savannah River Site, Aiken, S.C.; Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory, Idaho Falls, Idaho, and Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, N.M. — employ about 61,000 people.

"It's not just two or three. It is something widespread. At least the wheels meetinjgs about health concerns at Department of Energy sites. The 410 people interviewed by the agency has not taken a comprehensive look outside Denver, Col.; Savannah River Site, Aiken, S.C.; Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory, Idaho Falls, Idaho, and Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, N.M. — employ about 61,000 people.

"People are not a scientific sampling' "Four-hundred people is a lot of people," said George W. Lucas, director of the environmental toxicology program at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. "It's not just two or three. It is something widespread. At least the wheels should be set in motion in which a team of physicians can go in and look at things more systematically."

DOE was not aware that people living and working at the sites had similar, unexplained health problems, said Peter N. Bush, the agency's acting assistant secretary for environment, safety and health.

The agency has sponsored public meetings about health concerns at several sites in the past few years, but Bush acknowledged the department has not taken a comprehensive look and has no plan to do so now.

He said it is up to the ill people to pursue their plight themselves.

"If we're not aware of it, we can't work on it," Bush said.

Impotence cream may become option to Viagra

WASHINGTON (AP) — Researchers are turning anti-impotence pills and injected medicines into rub-on creams and gels — part of an effort to make many drugs safer and easier to use by literally dissolving them through the skin.

Early testing shows the impotence cream Topiglan is a leading candidate in this effort to give patients targeted relief for many ailments, with fewer side effects.

"It's no brainer," said Dr. Kevin Cok, a 46-year-old family practitioner in Colorado Springs, Colo. "We have to do it. It's been my dream for years."

Topiglan needs more studies, Cok said, and is not for sale. It might be the turning point — for men who can't take the popular impotence pill Viagra — which sometimes causes dangerous side effects in men with heart disease, Goldstein said. Or, severely impotent men could use both treatments together.

Topiglan is made from a long-time impotence drug called alprostadil that works very well, but has a problem: It must either be injected into the penis or smearred on as a suppository, both painful.

A compound based in Lexington, Mass., MacroChem Corp., invented "Skin enhancer," a chemical that lets potent drugs work through the skin by opening a temporary window in skin's normally impermeable barrier. That means patients can get much higher drug doses delivered straight to the site of disease.

By adding its skin enhancer, MacroChem is now talking with 10 major drug manufacturers bidding for rights to sell Topiglan, said chief executive Alvin Karff.

Monica Lewinsky interview with Oprah falls through

NEW YORK (AP) — Daytime television queen Oprah Winfrey said Tuesday that negotiations to bring Monica Lewinsky on her syndicated show fell apart over money.

"It was told that I did have it and then the conversation moved in a direction that I did not want to go," Winfrey said. "We do not pay for interviews, no matter what the payment is called."

Lewinsky's spokeswoman, Judy Smith, said she wouldn't comment on the aborted interview talks.

In a competitive television world, landing the first in-depth talk with the woman President Clinton had an affair with would be the year's biggest coup. After talking with Lewinsky's representatives, Winfrey said she was led to believe she was the one.

An hour later, they called back and started talking about who owned the rights to sell a tape of the interview in international markets, Winfrey said in an interview with TV Guide. "My feeling was giving up the rights was just someone else paying the check," she told the magazine.

"It was really the turning point," she said. Winfrey made the announcement of the non-interview on her show Tuesday.

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— Oprah Winfrey talk-show host

The hard stories outlined in Kenneth Starr's report to Congress or Clinton's videotaped grand jury testimony did nothing to change her mind about the worthiness of the interview, Winfrey said.

She said she was interested in talking to Lewinsky because she could relate to her predicament.

"I think Monica's gotten a really bad rap," she said. "I've been 21 and I know what it's like to be 21. And an intern. In a situation where the president of the company acts like he likes you. So already my first question to Monica would be, 'How did this happen?'"
SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Cleanup forces rushed Tuesday to contain an oil spill that spread 10 miles down just miles from one of the largest breeding sites for marine life off San Francisco.

The Coast Guard dispatched four skimmer vessels to the site 10 miles off San Francisco.

The Farallon Islands, a collection of barren rocks that are home to thousands of birds and animals, are located about 17 miles further west.

"This is a concern to everybody," said Ed Husher, manager of the Gulf of the Farallons Marine Sanctuary.

The breeding season has just ended and birds are "rafting," or forming large flocks that stay together so they can eat and teach newborns how to feed themselves, he said.

"They are just sitting on the water," said Husher, who feared the spill might go to the birds or the birds to the spill.

The Coast Guard coordinated Tuesday's cleanup operations and searched for the source of the 2-mile wide slick. Skimmers were sucking up "pockets of oil" but couldn't yet tell how much was in the water, Coast Guard Lt. Richard Teubner said.

"We're going to go at it with everything we've got," said Teubner.

No one has taken responsibility for the spill, which was first reported by a vessel that moved through the area Monday.

Low visibility hampered helicopters trying to get an overview of the situation.

State and federal pollution investigators trying to track shipping activity, and samples from the spill are being sent to Federal Oil Pollution Clean-Up Fund laboratories for comparison with samples taken from ships in the area, Teubner said.

The Clean Bay II and other skimmer vessels to the site 10 miles off San Francisco.

Not since 1944 have U.S. Border Patrol agents fired shots at illegal immigrants crossing the border from Mexico into San Diego County.

"We haven't had immigrants dead and another wounded, people on both sides of the border are asking why there is an increase in violence," said Ed Husher, border agent commander.

Agents contend self-defense against frustrated migrants.

"Some agent wants to do is draw a weapon and use it," Husher said.

"We would rather make apprehension or chase someone back across border," said Bill Strassburger, spokesman for the Western Division director of the federal Immigration Naturalization Service, which oversees the U.S. Border Patrol.

"I'm very sorry to have that many shootings, but it's also unusual that we've had agents attacked that many times," he said.

In two of the cases, illegal immigrants allegedly threatened agents with five-rock sticks, which litter the rugged terrain where 10-foot high fences and concrete walls divide the border.

In the other confrontations, migrants reportedly tried to run over agents with cars.

"This does reinforce the whole frustration of those attempting to come across due to the success of Operation Gatekeeper and shutting down traditional routes," Strassburger said.

Operation Gatekeeper is a federal program initiated along the San Diego County border four years ago.

The idea was to restrict the flow of illegal immigration by increasing border patrols and pushing migration to more dangerous routes to the east.

Mexican Consulate Luis Herrera-Luaces, whose office is in San Diego, doesn't blame Operation Gatekeeper, he questions the Border Patrol's policies on when to draw weapons.

"After three years of not having any shootings, we have had four in four days," he said. "We are concerned over the apparent use of excessive force. The situation must be reviewed carefully so hopefully we can avoid more shootings."

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Four days, four shootings.

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THE chimney stack on the new train waiting room at San Francisco Union Station is a design that reflects American railroad architecture of the early 20th century. The space was created by reconfiguring the old ticketing area and adding new offices and a waiting area for passengers.

The building was designed by the firm of Arado & Cline and built in 1917 as the first station in San Francisco to have a central train concourse.

The new train waiting room, which was designed by HNTB Architects and Engineers, features a large vaulted ceiling with a skylight and exposed steel beams.

The room also includes a seating area with red leather couches and chairs, a coffee shop, and a bathroom with black and white tiles.

The station's exterior has been preserved, with new windows and a new roof added to the original structure.

The station was opened in 1917 and has been refurbished several times since then, most recently in 2000.

The new waiting room is part of a larger renovation project that includes the reconstruction of the ticketing area, the addition of a new concourse, and the creation of a new pedestrian entrance to the station.

The project was completed in 2018 at a cost of $65 million.

The station is now considered one of the most architecturally significant examples of the Beaux-Arts style in the United States.
Get 100 FREE minutes.
Then call anywhere in the U.S. for only 10¢ a minute.

Live off campus? Sign up for an AT&T One Rate® plan and your first 100 minutes are FREE.®
Whatever your calling needs are, AT&T has a One Rate plan that's right for you.

AT&T One Rate® Plus: 10¢ a minute — one low rate all the time on state-to-state calls you dial from home. Whoever. Whenever. Wherever you call in the U.S. And just a $4.95 monthly fee.

AT&T One Rate® Off Peak: 10¢ a minute on your state-to-state, direct dialed calls from home from 7pm -7am and all weekend long; 25¢ a minute all other times. And there's no monthly fee.®

Sign up with AT&T and get 100 minutes FREE.
Call 1 800 654-0471
and mention offer code 59917
or visit www.att.com/college/np.html

It's all within your reach.
Mo leads BoSox, beat Indians, 11-3

CLEVELAND (AP) — Mo Vaughn and the Red Sox stopped some painful postseason streaks. Vaughn homered and tied a record with seven RBIs as Boston ended a 13-game postseason skid beating Cleveland 11-3 Tuesday in their AL playoff opener.

Noram Garciparuta hit a three-run shot and Pedro Martinez pitched seven innings as Boston ended a slide that began on Oct. 25, 1996, when Mike Wilens' group's nominee first rolled through Buckner's legs at Shea Stadium.

That forced a World Series Game 7 which the Red Sox lost, and Boston (which hasn't won the World Series since 1918) was swept by Oakland in 1988 and '90, and then Cleveland in 1995. This year's Red Sox insist that the past is just that, and they're not cursed by Babe Ruth's ghost or any other demon. And with Boston's trio of stars doing most of the damage, the Indians and 45,815 at Jacobs Field may believe them.

Vaughn, fittingly a first baseman, ended his own streak of playoff failure in the first inning with a three-run homer off Jaret Wright, sending Cleveland on to its worst loss in 55 postseason games. Vaughn had gone 0-14 with four strikeouts in the 1995 Indians sweep.

After Garciparuta's three-run homer pushed the lead to 6-0 in the fifth, Vaughn connected for a two-run shot in the sixth off Doug Jones, becoming the first Boston player to hit two homers in a postseason game since Rico Petrocelli in the 1967 World Series.

Vaughn then delivered a two-run double in the eighth off Jim Poole to set a career-high for RBIs and tie Edgar Martinez's record for RBIs in a postseason game.

Kenny Lofton hit a two-run homer and Jim Thome had a solo shot for the Indians, who with Wright taking the mound were hoping to re-capture some of the magic that carried them to Game 7 of the World Series last year.

Wright, however, couldn't get out of the fifth inning. The 22-year-old right-hander, who went 3-0 in the postseason in 1997, was touched for six runs and seven hits in 4-2 innings. Cleveland will try to salvage a home split in Game 2 on Wednesday. Dwight Gooden, the loser the last time the Red Sox won a postseason game, will start for the Indians against knuckleballer Tim Wakefield. Game 3 in the best-of-five series is scheduled for Friday in Boston.

Losin a Game 1 is nothing new to the Indians, who have lost the opener in seven consecutive postseason series.

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such as traveling to away games. "It's important to see what is the best experience culturally," said O'Neill. "It enriches these guys lives to travel."

Although soccer is his main sport, Haynes has added another element to his college career by running track for the last two years. "Track helped a lot for the broken leg," said Haynes. "It got me stronger."

According to head track coach Terry Crawford, Haynes is a talented all-round athlete. "He has helped us as a long-jumper and occasionally 100-meter hurdler," said Crawford.

"As for what comes after graduation in Tuesday's Los Angeles Times. "I remember intercepting a pass in my freshman year in high school and returning it for a touchdown and then someone hitting me in the knee late. That was it for my football career."

"But who wouldn't want to own a football team and be working with someone like Michael Ovitz? Me, wanting to be an entrepreneur, I look at Ovitz and he's already had that dream career."
Brown sets record, beats Astros, 2-1

HOUSTON (AP) — The Big Unit finally met his match in the Astrodome.

In a brilliant performance that would be expected more from 6-foot-4 Randy Johnson, San Diego's Kevin Brown struck out 16 and allowed just two hits in eight innings Tuesday, leading the Padres to a 2-1 victory over the Houston Astros in the opener of the best-of-5 division series.

Brown's strikeouts were the most ever in a division series play and just one short of the Bob Gibson post-season record, 17, in the 1968 World Series.

Brown's previous high was 11, which he did three times in his final 11 regular-season starts.

Johnson had been untouchable at home going 5-0 (the first four wins were shutouts) since the Astros acquired him from the Seattle Mariners on July 31.

Trevor Hoffman, who tied the NL record this season with 53 saves, allowed the unearned run on two hits in the ninth.

Bill Spier led off with a double, and two outs later, Moises Alou hit an infield single that third baseman Ken Caminiti stopped, but threw well wide of first to allow the run to score.

San Diego's offense had struggled all September, but had nine hits in eight innings off the powerful left-hander to give Brown his first victory in five starts.