Spring break plans
Find out what Poly students are doing with their vacation
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Women's Polo
Club sports team headed to national championships
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New Masters degree
Poly enters a revolutionary agreement with other CSUs
News, page 2

FBI questions students on Smart case

By Andy Castagnola
Mustang Daily

Investigators have picked up six new pieces to the Kristin Smart puzzle from Spring 1996 dorm residents. FBI agents began interviewing residents last month, and started a second round of questioning this week.

Two pieces of information came from Tuesday’s questioning, although Cal Poly Police investigator Mike Kennedy said he could not discuss the new material.

Kennedy initially e-mailed about 1,400 students who lived in Sierra Madre and red-brick dorms this spring. About 425 students responded to the e-mail and showed up for questions between Feb. 1 and Feb. 5.

“There was a tremendous response after the story appeared in the Mustang Daily,” Kennedy said.

“We were very happy with that amount,” he said. “We didn't know what to expect.”

To reach those who did not respond at first, investigators mailed letters to students' homes, stressing the importance of the interviews. Kennedy said investigators will begin knocking on students’ doors Friday and Saturday if no one responds this week.

Investigators also sent questionnaires last Wednesday to 2,350 faculty and staff employed in 1996. Kennedy said 900 of those people have responded.

see SMART, page 2

Rodeo, tractor pull move into new home for ‘99 Open House

By Lauren Nowenstein
Mustang Daily

Cal Poly’s Open House rodeo will move to a new location because of sports complex construction.

William MacNair, sports complex project manager for the facilities planning department, said rodeo sponsors are happy with the new site, which will take the place of three fields east of the dairy unit.

The rodeo site will be near the railroad tracks between Highland Drive and the main unit.

“It’s a large improvement over what they had before,” MacNair said, adding the old site used to flood when it rained.

Shelton said the College of Agriculture’s land use committee looked at five sites on campus owned by the university and that the current site was chosen because of its proximity to the campus core, the land is within an agricultural area and because the site was not prime crop-growing land.

According to Mark Shelton, associate dean of the College of Agriculture, rodeo sponsors will pay the dairy science department for the loss of feed from the site due to construction of the new rodeo arena.

Shelton said the estimated cost is about $5,000.

Shelton added that six of the rodeo sponsors and the College of Agriculture have spent $150,000 to build the new arena and may spend between $100,000 to $150,000 to complete construction of it. However, Shelton said the rodeo does not bring in enough funds to support the building of the new arena.

see RODEO, page 3

Clubs stand to benefit from ASI changes

Committee restructuring may ease funding requests for all 387 clubs

By Jayme Fulford
Mustang Daily

A restructuring of two Associated Students Inc. committees will benefit many Cal Poly students.

The ASI Finance and the University Union Facilities and Operation committees will be organized differently as a result of feedback from many clubs on campus.

The change was necessary in order to get clubs more involved with campus events and activities.

“‘This allows all 387 clubs to ask ASI for money and be dealt with in an efficient manner.”

— Amy Luker
ASI Board Chair

see CLUBS, page 2
Poly launches new graduate program in creative writing

By Julie O'Shea  Mustang Daily

Starting this summer, Cal Poly and four other California State University system schools will debut a Masters of Fine Arts in Creative Writing Consortium. The five-campus consortium will take turns hosting the graduate program each summer.

According to English lecturer Paula Huston, who is Cal Poly's Masters of Fine Arts Advisory Committee member, this flexible, part-time degree program was set up to cater to those students who work full time or who can't attend classes during the normal school year. By allowing students to only take classes during the summer, the MFA program was designed to be earned over a seven-year period, assuming students will not go to school for three consecutive summers, Huston said.

"The MFA should not be looked at as a job degree," Huston said. "It should be for people who are wanting to devote their lives to creative writing." The MFA in Creative Writing is considered a terminal degree, which means students will be receiving the highest degree available to them in their specific field of creative writing.

"The new MFA in Creative Writing is an excellent terminal degree program that responds to the needs of writers in the West," said Scott McNall, Provost for CSU Chico, lead campus of the consortium.

Summer classes are divided into two-three week sections, where students can choose up to two classes, with a maximum of four if they decide to take both three-week sections back to back. Classes are three hours a day, five days a week. In essence, students will be more likely to attend classes every day for six hours, Huston said.

During the regular school year, students in the program correspond with a faculty advisor via e-mail, allowing students to improve and study the quality of their portfolios, which, Huston said, is an integral part of the program.

The requirements for admission are an undergraduate degree in any field, a score of 300 or better on the Graduate Record Exam, and a portfolio, including at least one critical analysis.

Cal Poly will host the program in 2000. Contact Paula Huston at 756-2294 for an application.

SMART

continued from page 1

Until Friday, students can appeal for interviews at specified times in the University Union or Robert E. Kennedy Library.

"We're making it easier for students," Kennedy said about having two interview locations.

FBI agents are asking students if they noticed anything unusual the weekend Smart disappeared. Specifically, they want to know if students remember a May 24, 1996 party on Crandall Way, and whether they used a Santa Lucia dorm restroom that night.

Investigators are asking if students lost a pair of purple underwear that they say is crucial to the investigation, and whether they saw anything unusual in a dumpster.

"It's possible that someone has information that they didn't think was relevant," said Lt. Steve Boltz, investigators division commander at the County Sheriff's Department.

Some people who saw the thriller about a man-eating shark never went into the ocean again, said Kristen Harrington, a University of Michigan communications professor who co-wrote the study. "And 'Psycho.' "

"There are people who shower with the door open, even though they're quite sure there isn't a killer in the house," Harrington said.

Ninety percent said they were scared by a TV or movie from their childhood or adolescence, 26 percent said they still experience "residual anxiety."

Robert Levy, president of the Coalition for Quality Children's Media in Santa Fe, N.M., said her own 27-year-old son was frightened of taking a swim in the sea a few years ago and blames it on seeing "Jaws."
ROdeo continued from page 1

"It's not a money maker," Shelton said, adding that many outside contributions are still needed to help fund the construction of it.

Currently, a portable arena, feeder tanks, backlog chutes and a 100-horse stall are being built at the site.

Shelton said the new arena will be used for the new rodeo performances and the two spring rodeo performances. Shelton added that the site may also be used by the polo club and for horse shows.

The new location will accommodate the same number of people as the old one.

"The site is approximately the same size," McNair said.

The rodeo currently has permission to use the site for one year.

An environmental impact analysis, being done on the new site, will determine if it becomes the permanent location for the rodeo.

Shelton said that the new site is less environmentally sensitive than the old one because it is farther from the creek. In addition, since the new site is 20 feet lower than the old one, the rodeo will be less visible to neighborhood residents.

"It's a less intrusive site to have a rodeo," Shelton said.

The rodeo is an important part of Cal Poly's agricultural heritage.

"We're happy to continue the rodeo program," Shelton said.

Beverly Dodson, an agriculture science senior, is impressed that students here have the skill and courage to compete in the rodeo. She had seen professionals ride in the rodeo and didn't realize Cal Poly students could do similar things.

"You see it on TV all the time," Dodson said.

The rodeo is not the only Open House event being relocated. The tractor pull is also being moved because of sports complex construction in the old site.

According to Mark Zohns, a professor in the bioresources and agricultural engineering department, the tractor pull has taken place in the same location for about 20 years. Moving to the new site will be a big change for those running the event.

"Since the early '70s, we have had the tractor pull on the old (agronomical engineering) campus," Zohns said.

The tractor pull will be relocated to a site located between the crop science unit and the railroad tracks.

Ken Scott, a professor in the animal science department, said like the new rodeo site, the tractor pull site isn't permanent. Scott added that the tractor pull necessitates a flat area.

"They need to go somewhere where they can drive the ground and put it back," Scott said.

According to Zohns, tractor pull sponsors also have to pay for use of the new site.

"We're not getting it for free, but it's something (we) can live with," Zohns said.

The old tractor pull site used to contain a hill that spectators could sit on, but since the new site does not have one, students are building more bleachers to accommodate people attending the event.

The Bleachers at the new site will be able to seat approximately 2,000 people.

MOViNG EARTH: Participants in the Open House tractor pull will find themselves moving for the first time in about 20 years due to sports complex construction in the old site.

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The Bleachers at the new site will be able to seat approximately 2,000 people.

Florida drops case against retarded boy who took $2

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — A 15-year-old retarded boy grabbed $2 in lunch money out of the pocket of a classmate — and for that, he could have gotten life in prison.

For weeks, prosecutors defended their decision to treat Anthony Lester as an adult, even though the boy communicated on the level of a 5-year-old. He spent four weeks, including Christmas, in a jail for adults because his lawyer was unable to raise the $320 needed to get him out.

Then, last week, two days after "60 Minutes" arrived to do a story on the case, the charges were dropped.

The prosecutor offered no apologies for his zero-tolerance stance in the case of Anthony, who didn't tell his father and whose mother died in November.

"You do not cherry-pick the cases, you do not say you will convict him as an adult, you won't charge him as an adult," said Mike Edmondson, a spokesman for Palm Beach County State Attorney Barry Krischer.

The decision to drop the charges of strong-arm robbery, extortion and petty theft Thursday had nothing to do with "60 Minutes," Edmondson said.

The 14-year-old victim changed his story and his new version did not back up the seventy of the charges.

The child originally told police he felt threatened and in fear of physical harm when Anthony demanded his money during class Dec. 1 at a Flagler Beach middle school. Later, he said he did not feel he was in danger.
Thank you for all the memories my friends

This is my last column, kids. I've got to be moving on now. But before I do, I want to say thanks to the many people who have contributed to making me, me.

Looking back over the past four years (and change), I can honestly say that I have had one hell of a ride. Except for never getting the chance to reach inside the stomach of a cow, which is too bad because I believe it's a ton of fun, there isn't much I haven't done. Everything considered, working for Mustang Daily has placed the most pivotal role in shaping me into the person I am today. It's here where I learned to write, to stand my ground, to consider all options, to embrace stress and to never take crap from anyone. My warmest thanks to every single person I've had the opportunity to work with, and for. I know I can be difficult — thanks for the tolerance.

There's a man who works at the paper who is deserving of much gratitude. A.J. Schumann, business manager, advices, story-teller, friend and basically the "O'Brien Kronk" of life. Hey A.J., if you want money, you have to go to the bank!

To my journalism teachers, Nolan, Murray, Doughty, King, Gill and Mark, thank you for many interesting lectures, challenging courses and especially the zeal with which you teach.

I was lucky to have you as my guides through this crazy discipline. Also, a million thanks to Dan. Without you, nothing would ever get done.

Graduation is bitter-sweet. It's the start of a new life, which is exciting and fun, but it's also the end of the way things used to be. Perhaps the most difficult thing for me to leave behind are the many friendships I have made. While I don't doubt that we will remain friends, it's just not the same not having the ability to phone or catch a thick downtown Jill. We've been through a lot, and still remain friends, which obviously says something! Good luck with your last quarter — I'm sure you'll keep tabs on each other.

Mark, I think it's a rule that freshmen roommates must remain friends, so I'm not worried about you. And besides, I can still send those photos to your mom!

Cheri, you gave me my pipes, and I will always be in debt to you. Hey, morning products...what's your story?

Mr. Maitland. You are the wave, and I am the surfer. You are the wind in my sails. You are thecaffeine in my coke, the sides on my shoes. You are the cheese on my pizza. You're made to make my time here much more interesting. Sorry about the R.I.P. but nothing but love for ya.

Kim, words don't do justice for what I must say to you. You've always been there, ready to dispense the cold, hard truth. I really wished I paid more attention. Your work ethic is worthy of its own award. Your friendship is invaluable. I can't think of anyone I respect more.

Most of all, I would like to use this last bit of newspaper to express my highest thanks to my parents, Pat and Paul (aka, Mom and Pop). Some of you may find it impossible to read my columns once a week — imagine having to listen to my nonsense every day! Thank you for college, it has been real cool. As far as I am concerned, you two are the best parents on the planet.

Now I am finished. Or am I just beginning? You haven't heard the last of me. Take care, everyone.

Alan Dunton is a journalism senior who is graduating.
Letters to the Editor

Editor:

Mustang Daily

March 15 - 20, 1999

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NCAA to pay $54.5 million in settlement

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Undergraduate college coaches after suits filed by the NCAA are finally getting a big bonus: $54.5 million. The governing body of college sports agreed Tuesday to pay the amount to about 2,000 Division I assistant coaches who have already capped it at $123,000 for an academic year.

The woefully restricted-conference rule lasted three years (1992-95) before a judge struck it down. The coaches and the NCAA had been fighting over settlement ever since.

“This association-wide lawsuit is over,” Charles Wethington, NCAA executive committee chairman, said in announcing an end to years of expensive litigation.

The settlement comes a day after another NCAA setback. A federal judge in Philadelphia throw out the organization’s minimum test-score requirement for freshmen student-athletes, saying it was unfair to blacks.

The schools financial aid could be cut by as much as $22 million as the NCAA will make over the next three years through cost-cutting measures, executive director Cedric Dempsey said. But the schools would still be responsible for the balance of the settlement.

Dempsey would not speculate on a school-by-school distribution of the damages. He said a subcommittee that is already studying the question has heard “two extremes” — one to divide the total equally among all Division I schools, the other tied to distribution of revenue based on school size.

“It is not likely the subcommittee’s allocation plan will embrace either of these solutions,” said Dempsey, adding that the NCAA wants to decide before the organization’s next fiscal year begins in September.

The settlement now awaits a judge’s approval, which will clear the way for the coaches to submit claims. They won’t split the money evenly, however. Instead, the amount they receive will be based on what they made under the cap and what their schools otherwise would have paid, said Dennis Gross, a Kansas City-based lawyer for the coaches.

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PHOENIX (AP) — It must be tough on pitching prospect Mark Mulder. All eyes are on him, all the time, looking for the slightest flaw.

To his credit, Mulder is holding up.

The 6-foot-6 left-hander, who was perfect in his first minor league outing with the Oakland Athletics this spring, got rocked by the San Diego Padres in his second outing in Tuesday.

Far from being frustrated about earning the loss, Mulder admitted he might have learned something.

“Definitely, because my first outing was good and this one wasn’t quite as good, so definitely it’s going to make me a little more anxious for my next one,” he said. “Yeah, this probably was good.”

Mulder was the A’s top pick in last June’s draft. He went second overall behind Bartolo Colon, an infielder out of the University of Miami selected by the Philadelphia Phillies.

A native of South Holland, Ill., Mulder came to the A’s from Michigan State, where he was named the team MVP in both 1997 and 1998. As a junior last year, he set a school record with 113 strikeouts. After signing a one-year contract with the A’s in October, Mulder pitched in the Arizona Fall League, going 5-1 with a 3.88 ERA in four starts.

He struck out 14 batters in a total of 16 innings.

Mulder has no chance of earning a spot in the A’s starting rotation. He’s scheduled for the minor leagues no matter what his performance is in spring training. But he could still make an impression that might earn him a call-up in the spring season.

On Friday, Mulder pitched two innings against the Anaheim Angels and retired each of the six batters he faced.

On Tuesday, Mulder said he was comfortable and he certainly looked it. The lucky lefty’s easy delivery was absent of the nervous jerking sometimes time as he prepares to make an impression.
POLO
continued from page 8
were on our own horses and we had no games under our belt, which helped us a lot," coach Pat Summitt said.
Women's polo coach Tristan Weltner said, "I think it is awesome that they are going to nationals. They have really worked hard and it's nice to see some organization."
Senior Megan Towle, — first player voted to the first team last season and Smull with tour. Because of their performance, they were named to the Western All-Star Team. This is the second time Towle has been selected.
At nationals, the Mustangs will compete against the winners of the Eastern, Southeastern and Central divisions on March 29, in Busby, Texas.
According to Small, polo is a lot different on the East Coast. The teams Cal Poly will play will have a lot of games and play in heated arenas. The Mustangs get a small amount of money from Rec sports, since it is a club sport, but are not fully funded like other teams.
Towle said her team should do fairly well against Colorado State in the Central division, but recognizes the strengths of the Eastern division, which have not been decided yet.
"We are just excited to play teams of that caliber," Small said.

You can say it three times:
Holdsclaw's an All-American
Associated Press
Champaign—Holdscaw has been a standout since she arrived at Tennessee. Now she stands alone.
Holdscaw was a unanimous selection to The Associated Press women's All-America basketball Tuesday, becoming the first player voted to the first team three times. She was chosen for the third team as a freshman and sophomore.
They have really worked hard and helped us out a lot," Towle said.
Holdscaw, so versatile at 6-foot-2 that she can play any position, has averaged 20.9 points and eight rebounds in four years. She has improved in other ways and still the player the Lady Vols turn to when things get tight.

Holdsclaw and Pierre's Stephanie White-McCarty were voted to the first team on 42 ballots from a national media panel. They were joined on that unit by Tennessee's Tamika Catchings, Alabama's Dominique Cotton and Colorado State's Becky Hassman.
The only other time one school had two first-team picks was 1996, when Connecticut's Kara Wolters and Jennifer Rizzotti made the top five. The AP began picking an All-America team for women in 1995.
Catchings was named to the second, or third team on 40 ballots. Canty appeared on 59 and Hammon on 57. Holdscaw, so versatile at 6-foot-2 that she can play any position, has averaged 20.9 points and eight rebounds in leading Tennessee to a 26-2 record. Her scoring is down a little this season, but she has improved in other ways and still the player the Lady Vols turn to when things get tight.
Rodman's leadership and intelligence have paid off

I have to admit it, but I want Dennis Rodman on my team.

While I'm at it, I might as well bring in Kent Rivers because it seems he has worked for the Lakers...

Since they replaced Del Harris and signed Dennis Rodman, the Lakers have been a different team (one that wins). Rodman has provided a well-needed shot in the arm to the under-achieving Lakers.

Before Rodman, the only thing you could count on with the Lakers was their inability to make the exterior vehicle work (the boards). You could count on them being on national TV every weekend, but that's different columns.

Rodman has broken this trend up top to bottom. I had initial doubts as to his effectiveness, but they were quickly thrown out as he has averaged 17 rebounds in his first ten games.

However, that's what he was brought in to do. The dimension Rodman brings that wasn't expected is all-out hustle and solid play from baseline to baseline.

He brings his own brand of shoutouts to Los Angeles. Instead of the Lakers' trademark high-fiving dunks and one more three fast breaks, Rodman boxes out on face-throws and losses long outlet passes that lead to those dunks. That Eastern conference mentality Dennis brings gives the Lakers a more multi-dimensional team.

What impresses me most about Dennis is that he is a student of the game. No one spends as much time in the film room as Rodman (whom he's not cross-dressing in Las Vegas). He gets his rebounds because he watches the shooters during warm-ups and sees where their shots come off the rim.

He also still has that ability to get in an opponent's head — just ask Karl Malone. In last Sunday's win over the three-time defending NBA champion, Malone allowed the Lakers to spread the floor better. Granted, Malone scored 34 points, but with Rodman, they were able to concentrate on shutting down other scorers.

Kent Rivers, the Lakers' new head coach, is the recruiting pitch of Rodman's styling of the game. Rodman can be seen on the sideline giving Rivers advice, which is something completely outside of the ordinary.

I know it as a coach, I would have a hard time listening to Rivers. By listening to the warm, Rambis is admitting he doesn't know it all but is willing to learn — which is a great asset to have in a coach.

The NBA needs more players like Rodman because too many stars are simply playing to pick themselves up.

Matt Sterling, who is still waiting to hear back from Dennis about a wrestling match, can be reached at msterle@poly.edu.

Polo team will head to Nationals

By Alexis Garbeff

Mustang Daily

Polos have come close to winning, losing in double overtime to Vancouver on Feb. 16. They actually led at halftime on the road last week against Hawaii.

"If these games were 12 minutes as opposed to 48, we'd be at least 8-7," said head coach Brooke Garton, third position.

NCAA will fight judge's ruling in eligibility case

The NCAA will fight a ruling that knocked down test-score requirements for freshman athletes as unfair to blacks, saying the judge's decision could create chaos at his college members.

In the latest test in one of the most embarrassing controversies in college sports, the NCAA on Wednesday will seek to block the ruling while it prepares an appeal. The NCAA's general counsel, Thomas E. Rice, expects a response on a request for a stay from the Third District Court of Appeals.

Under the current NCAA's Division I school standards, which are still in effect, are no minimum test score to eliminate freshmen from being eligible for athletics. The NCAA has been investigating how the practice harmed black students' chances of being declared academically eligible.

The policy, known as Proposition 16, required the athletes to have a minimum score of 822 on the Scholastic Assessment Test regardless of their high school grades. The ruling did not rule out some use of the tests, which many educators say are racially and culturally discriminatory.

"I'm encouraged by the court's acknowledgment that the initial eligibility standards were a legitimate educational goal," said Charles Washington, president at Kentucky and the NCAA's executive committee.

"In addition, the judge has not pre­ cluded the use of the SAT or NCT as a part of an initial eligibility rule. The challenge for the NCAA remains as it has always been, to develop standards that meet that goal."

Also Tuesday during a hectic day for the NCAA, it announced a settlement on another divisive issue. It agreed to pay $54.5 million to about 2,200 Division I coaches who had sued over the non-sports earnings rule, which had capped their salaries at $16,000 for a calendar year.

A judge had struck down the rule as a violation of antitrust law in 1995 and both sides had been fighting over a settlement ever since.

Without Proposition 16, the NCAA's Division I school would have won in determining which freshmen would be academically eligible to play. Some administrators and officials worried that could create chaos.

"It means that there is no standard for whether a student can play the first year," said Ken Colby, general counsel for the NCAA.

Byline: By Alexis Garbeff

Mustang Daily

STAMPEDE: The Mustangs Morgan Towle (right) and Shannen Shott (middle) chase down the ball. The Mustangs won the regionals and will represent the Western division in nationals in Texas.

Courtesy Photo/Mustang Daily