Trading to be a day trader

A Cal Poly graduate and roommate have delved into a trendy financial profession

By Nanette Pietroforte
Summer Mustang

They traded their 50-hour workweeks for days at the beach. They traded working for someone else to working for themselves. They traded their suits and ties for swim trunks to live the day-trader life.

Cal Poly environmental engineering graduate Carlys Zimmerman and best friend Tom Carter have taken part in a rapidly growing and increasingly controversial profession known as "day trading."

"Stocks are going up and down everyday," Zimmerman said. "We look for ones that are very volatile and are changing a lot. Once you see the patterns and start watching them everyday, you can kind of get familiar with the patterns as they go up and down."

Zimmerman and Carter buy and sell multiple stocks throughout the day from their home computers in hopes of making a large profit. "Basically all you need is an Internet access and an online broker," Carter said.

It's called day trading because Zimmerman and Carter are in and out within the day, Zimmerman said. This is the primary difference between day trading and traditional stock market investing.

The pair trade penny stocks as opposed to NASDAQ and the New York Stock Exchange. According to Carter, penny stocks range from 1 cent to $1 a share. This allows them to accumulate more shares at a lower price but also receive larger returns.

"We can put in a $1,000 in a stock that's 1 cent and all that stock has to do is go up to 2 cents and we've made another $1,000," Carter explained.

Carter and Zimmerman chose penny stocks for financial reasons. "You look at something like AOL stock that was at $70 last week and went up to $80," Zimmerman said. "You would need $7,000 to get 100 stocks. For how much money we have, we can get a lot more shares of the penny stock."

Zimmerman said their average income from day trading is $200 per day. Carter said their workday starts at 6 a.m. and ends at 1 p.m.

"It depends on how good of a day we're having. Sometimes we're just on for a couple hours, we make some small returns, and we're off to the beach," Carter said. "Other times we're here until 1 p.m."

The duo likes the self-employment aspect of day trading.

see DAY TRADERS, page 2

Fire on the mountain

Members of the California Department of Forestry fight Wednesday afternoon's fire which engulfed three to five acres of San Luis Mountain. The fire first started on private property and then spread to city and county property. See story, page 2.

Cal Poly is again best in the West

Summer Mustang

Cal Poly is the best in the west, according to U.S. News and World Report. The magazine's "America's Best Colleges" guide said Cal Poly is the best public, largely undergraduate university and gave Cal Poly high marks for academic reputation.

"This is the seventh year in a row where Cal Poly has been rated the best university in the west," said Rob Anderson, Cal Poly's communications officer.

The magazine ranks Cal Poly in a tie for 66th place in the combined list of public and private "regional" universities in the western states.

Cal Poly's reputation counts for 25 percent of the score used to rank an institution. The reputation of a university is based on a survey of presidents, provosts and admission directors of other universities. Cal Poly also was ranked the top public engineering university in the country.

The rankings of the nation's best colleges was published Aug. 30.
Cal Poly, a school traditionally known more for its course work that applies research, has recently been awarded a grant to do research that may change the face of electronics forever.

By Aaron Emerson  
Summer Mustang

Cal Poly electrical engineering assistant professor David Braun and chemistry and biochemistry assistant professor Kevin Kingburn received a $120,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to improve the look and performance of electronic devices. The two are working specifically to advance the technology of light-emitting diodes or LEDs.

"The creation of organic semiconductors vastly improves the energy efficiency of electronic devices while adding mechanical flexibility," Braun said.

Braun said the research of plastic polymers as LEDs, along with other organic materials, is exciting for Cal Poly.

"Students and faculty will get the opportunity to participate in an inter-disciplinary research project and apply it to different fields," Braun said.

Electrical engineering senior Rob Point has been working with Braun for the summer and agrees with the electrical engineering professor.

"This is a chance to delve into interesting and current research that will somehow have a huge impact," Point said.

"According to Point, he has the hands on experience of a project that may one day create new course work at Cal Poly.

"We are currently developing new course modules based on the research we are doing," Braun said.

"Students in physics, chemistry, biochemistry, electronics and materials and industrial and manufacturing engineering will be involved in the three-year project."

Braun believes the project will bring professors and students closer in a hands-on atmosphere. The process of creating an organic semiconductor requires precision work and an immaculate environment.

The process begins with the polymer. In a nitrogen-filled glove box, the polymer is sandwiched between a positive and a negative electrode. When a current goes through the polymer, it becomes illuminated. In its finished form, the polymer will become the back light for computer monitors, watches, televisions and alarm clocks.

Existing LEDs, which are made of non-organic semiconductors, are much smaller in size. This size difference will allow students to work on electronics with technology that was previously unavailable.

"Inorganic LEDs are so small in size that it is not feasible to work with them in a lab environment," Braun said. "Organic LEDs, while minute in height, have a large surface area, enabling students to work with them.

While the technology may change the world by the way electronic devices look and feel, it may also change the way some engineering classes are taught. Braun says the research is very exciting for engineering students.

"This research helps make the teaching process more real," he said. "Being able to show how something is made or works improves teaching effectiveness and can only help students." Point, who is working on his bachelor's and master's degree simultaneously, thinks the research is valuable to all involved.

"This research is of the highest level," he said. "It should open new perspectives to engineers that will help them in their careers."

The project, which is one of several around the world, also received nearly $32,000 from the Cal Poly Plan to use semiconducting polymers in several engineering and science classes.
Fee decrease for students, budget cuts for departments

With the lowest fee decrease since the 1992-1993 school year, many departments may feel the impact come fall quarter

By Nanette Pietroforte
Summer Mustang

When computer engineering junior Mike Davis stepped up to the cashier's window to pay his tuition, he was pleasantly surprised.

"I wonder what could have been done with the extra $25 times 17,000 students," Davis said.

"Maybe improve classrooms,"— Mike Davis computer engineering junior.

Gov. Gray Davis on "shattering," Mike Davis said. "Many students return for fall quarter, they will be making their sandwiches at the Sandwich Factory. We completely gutted the place from the floor up," Foundation project manager Roger Keep said. "Last I checked this was a college."

According to the Cal Poly Plan website, student fees support many areas at the university.

"One-fourth of the total registration fees that students pay goes to designated purposes such as University Union fees, recreation sports programs and basic health services. The balance goes to support the cost of instruction," the site said.

Keep said the new name complements the new decor.

"We designed the new look to give it a factory feeling, with exposed heating pipes and added metal and wood," Keep said.

"Two of the biggest construction projects on campus are the parking structure and sports complex. Deby Ryan, project information coordinator for facilities planning, said the parking structure was scheduled to take 12 months but will have been finished June 2000," Keep said.

Cal Poly prepares for the new millennium with a few face-lifts

By Nanette Pietroforte
Summer Mustang

"The important issue with the parking structure is with the pedestrian access bridge along Tahoe Road," Ryan said. "A stairway might not be done by the time classes start this fall."

"The sports complex is scheduled to be completed by summer 2000," Ryan added.

A project closer to completion is the Advanced Technology Lab near the engineering building. Students will have the opportunity to occupy the new facility starting sometime in the fall.

"We designed the new look to give it a factory feeling, with exposed heating pipes and added metal and wood," Keep said.

"We designed the new look to give it a factory feeling, with exposed heating pipes and added metal and wood," Keep said.

Another renovation allowing disabled access took place in the Administration building during the summer. To keep up to code with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the second floor restrooms in the building were renovated.

"The Campus Market became such a popular place before it was remodeled," said the manager.

"We designed the new look to give it a factory feeling, with exposed heating pipes and added metal and wood," Keep said.

Correction policy

Mustang Daily publishes corrections on its own and in its own voice as soon as we are told about a mistake by anyone — our staff, an uninvolved reader, or an aggrieved reader — and can confirm the voice as soon as we are told about a mistake by anyone — our staff, an uninvolved reader, or an aggrieved reader — and can confirm the correction information, this policy, however, should not be taken for a policy of accommodating readers who are simply unhappy about a story that has been published. For corrections or complaints, contact editor Joe Nislan at (805) 756-1796 or editor@mustangdaily.calpoly.edu.
People are too afraid of their statements

Recently a training officer of the Cambridge (Mass.) police department made a claim that cayenne pepper spray is less susceptible to those people who have consumed cayenne pepper from the time they are small children. The officer also said that those people who are less susceptible generally break into ethnic categories consisting of Cajuns, Mexican-Americans, Pakistanis, and Indian, as well as those who regularly handle peppers throughout the entire field-to-market process. Needless to say, several groups have responded to this claim, alleging that these statements are "discriminatory," as well as "propaganda." Possibly he made the statement because he knows some low agencies actually use pepper spray on their employees to get them accustomed to it. The Cambridge police commissioner responded that there was no scientific evidence to back this up and that the officer is not being reprimanded for these statements made to the local press.

First, is there any evidence to back up the claim that one can build up tolerance to the physiological effects of cayenne pepper? Not scientific — our experiences with the effects of chemicals on our body may have one conclusion this scenario is plausible. Do people build up tolerance to the physiological effects of chemical substances? Of course we do, i.e., alcohol, aspirin and prescription medications. Is it reasonable to assume this same cause and effect relationship could be applied to cayenne pepper being sprayed in the eye? It may be possible. It may also be possible our bodies may not actually build up tolerance to the effects of drugs, however we can certainly build up psychological barriers to things that affect us, i.e. pain, stress, illness. My point in all of this is that an officer used his everyday common logic and applied it to a situation that happens to contain race as a secondary factor. Was he wrong in drawing this conclusion? I do not think he is doing anything to hurt our society. I think he is just being naive.

Remember this issue is primarily about diet and consumption of peppers, which may be influenced by ethnic cuisine. This incident may pique the interest of police officers because it is the level of bad taste that do not think it is up to the level of racial stereotyping. The statement in and of itself may appear to be a stereotype, but remember there are connections that have been to prove exists between diets and physiology.

In this case, political correctness, fueled by power of public perception, has forced certain people to backtrack and all of a statement of opinion to be quashed before it has been evaluated. I realize the sensitivity of any subject once ethnic identity is brought up, but there is no reason to disallow this claim without merit.

I hope political correctness dies with the 1990's like other fail of past decades. Political correctness causes us to hold our tongues or at least causes us to cover in the spotlight. Perhaps political correctness has caused a pendulum to swing to the side of being too afraid of our views. I think it is time for the pendulum to swing back a little.

Scott A. Lemos

Scott A. Lemos is a political science senior.

COMMENTARY

Senior drivers should pull over

The old saying goes, "Practice makes perfect." So why can't old people drive if they've been doing it for so long? A few weeks ago, I was enjoying a relaxing round of golf at Morro Bay Golf Course with a couple friends and one older gentleman who joined our group of three. The older man, "Jim," was a friendly, coordinated and seemingly healthy man I guessed to be in his late 60's. Not only did Jim walk the entire 18 holes without breaking a sweat, he consistently drove the ball down the middle of the fairway. No matter what club Jim hit, his ball hardly derailed the fairway 150 yards each time. I admired that Jim was so consistent.

Ironically, after the round was over and we said our good-byes to Jim, he backed into a row of bushes narrowly missing a parked car, then proceeded to drive up and over a curb trying to leave the parking lot. All I could think was, "How does he drive his golf ball straighter than his car?"

I've experienced this sort of thing a thousand times. Why is it old people and driving just don't mix? Why don't they practice more? Why don't the elderly realize stopping on the on-ramp doesn't get them on the freeway? The fast lane is another problem area for the elderly. It seems as though they all have a Highway Patrol mentality with a hint of Italian in them. They cruise in the fast lane about 55 mph, don't let others cut-in, and stalk their others if you get close to them. Don't get me wrong, I'm part Italian. But don't shake your fist at me if you're the one in the wrong.

In the 1999 California Driver Handbook it clearly states, "If you are in the left (or fast) lane, move to the right when another driver is close behind you or wishes to drive faster. Statutes generally require motorists to give way to the right in favor of overtaking motorists so as to allow them free passage on the left." When ordinary citizens (especially older people) prevent passing, it leads to anger, road-rage, etc., but more importantly, it's not fair to endanger everyone surrounding the situation.

According to American Jurisprudence, Automobile Insurance: Automobiles and Highway Traffic, drivers under the age of 16 are not permitted to drive because they "...do not possess the requisite care and judgment to operate motor vehicles on the public highways without endangering the life and limb of others." And over-medicated 80-year-olds do? Like the government says, I've always considered driving a privilege. With a relatively easy set rules to follow, driving is a simple task. When I'm old enough, I might decide to take that privilege from myself.

One day I hope to be 80 years old, and maybe even over-medicated. Nevertheless, one thing is for sure. When I need to go somewhere, I'll take a bus, get a ride, or walk if I can. But I don't plan on risking the lives around me just to make my life 'easier.'

Aaron Culp is a journalism senior.

Letter policy

Columns, cartoons and letters reflect the views of their authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Summer Mustang.

Summer Mustang reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, profanities and length. Summer Mustang encourages comments on editorial policy and university affairs. Letters should be typewritten, double-spaced, signed with full name and class standing. Please limit length to 350 words. They can be mailed, faxed, delivered or e-mailed to opinion@mustangdaily.calpoly.edu

Express yourself. People will read it.

Scott A. Lemos  political science senior.
Students are out for cheap thrills, not $7 movies

He paid seven dollars! At the Madonna movie theatre? That's just wrong. He paid seven dollars! At the Madonna theatre expanded and the student discount di.scount is that Hollywixxl makes them pay through the nose to get the movie in the westwood movie theatres don't offer a bigger stu­dent discount is that Hollywixxl makes these huge d.ent di.scount is that Hollywixxl makes them frequent, they may even get a new audi­ence. There are those college kids out there who refuse to go to the movies because they cost too much and the few movies they really don't want to see never go to the Madonna. The students end up watching the films on video.

If the Madonna showed these films, they might get these hermits to come out of their shell and get their money to come out of their piggy banks.

For as the student discount being greater, I know there are problems with this too. The reason moviemakers don't offer a bigger stu­dent discount is that Hollywood makes them pay through the nose to get the movie in the first place. Hollywood makes these huge movies at huge costs to the studio. Hollywood makes the movies in the studio. The studio pays the cost onto the theatres. If the theatre offers a discount, they lose money.

So, this really only leaves us with one option. Let's ask Hollywood to give the discount. Do you think they'll listen?

Erin Green is a journalism senior.

---

The Mustang Daily needs cartoonists who are ready, willing and able to illustrate campus life and issues every week. The first issue comes out Sept. 23.

opinion@mustangdaily.calpoly.edu

---

Cal Poly is a pleader for the Madonna theatre — "Never do this again!"

I'm sure you can feel my tirade about to commence on how poor college students are, and we cannot afford $7 movies. Well, I'll save you the trouble, but I would be if we had a cheaper option to choose from.

In a town whose lifestyle is based a large part on the college community — Cal Poly and Cal Poly — it would be nice if somebody catered to us for once.

I know we have a student discount at the downtown theatre. Then, there are always maritimes. But maritimes and student discounts don't compare to the $3 price. You can pull $1 from your couch cushions.

At least the girl at the Madonna theatre assured me that this $7 incident will not be happening again any time soon. That still only leaves three or four, proba­bly bad movies, running at the $3 price at a time. That doesn't sound like catering to the college community.

What would be really great is if the Madonna theatre expanded and the student discount downtown was more than a $1 off. Yes, I know the problems with the idea of expanding. Expanding would cost a lot and that would probably make the movie cost go up.

But there are a few options. The Thomas Crown Affair and "Downtown Rock City," both of which were new releases, caus­es the discount onto the ticket buyers.

At least the girl at the Madonna theatre assured me that this $7 incident will not be happening again any time soon. That still only leaves three or four, proba­bly bad movies, running at the $3 price at a time. That doesn't sound like catering to the college community.

I'm sure you can feel my tirade about to commence on how poor college students are, and we cannot afford $7 movies. Well, I'll save you the trouble, but I would be if we had a cheaper option to choose from.

In a town whose lifestyle is based a large part on the college community — Cal Poly and Cal Poly — it would be nice if somebody catered to us for once.

I know we have a student discount at the downtown theatre. Then, there are always maritimes. But maritimes and student discounts don't compare to the $3 price. You can pull $1 from your couch cushions.

At least the girl at the Madonna theatre assured me that this $7 incident will not be happening again any time soon. That still only leaves three or four, proba­bly bad movies, running at the $3 price at a time. That doesn't sound like catering to the college community.

What would be really great is if the Madonna theatre expanded and the student discount downtown was more than a $1 off. Yes, I know the problems with the idea of expanding. Expanding would cost a lot and that would probably make the movie cost go up. But there are a few options. The Thomas Crown Affair and "Downtown Rock City," both of which were new releases, caus­es the discount onto the ticket buyers.

At least the girl at the Madonna theatre assured me that this $7 incident will not be happening again any time soon. That still only leaves three or four, proba­bly bad movies, running at the $3 price at a time. That doesn't sound like catering to the college community.

I'm sure you can feel my tirade about to commence on how poor college students are, and we cannot afford $7 movies. Well, I'll save you the trouble, but I would be if we had a cheaper option to choose from.

In a town whose lifestyle is based a large part on the college community — Cal Poly and Cal Poly — it would be nice if somebody catered to us for once.

I know we have a student discount at the downtown theatre. Then, there are always maritimes. But maritimes and student discounts don't compare to the $3 price. You can pull $1 from your couch cushions.

At least the girl at the Madonna theatre assured me that this $7 incident will not be happening again any time soon. That still only leaves three or four, proba­bly bad movies, running at the $3 price at a time. That doesn't sound like catering to the college community.

What would be really great is if the Madonna theatre expanded and the student discount downtown was more than a $1 off. Yes, I know the problems with the idea of expanding. Expanding would cost a lot and that would probably make the movie cost go up. But there are a few options. The Thomas Crown Affair and "Downtown Rock City," both of which were new releases, caus­es the discount onto the ticket buyers.

At least the girl at the Madonna theatre assured me that this $7 incident will not be happening again any time soon. That still only leaves three or four, proba­bly bad movies, running at the $3 price at a time. That doesn't sound like catering to the college community.

What would be really great is if the Madonna theatre expanded and the student discount downtown was more than a $1 off. Yes, I know the problems with the idea of expanding. Expanding would cost a lot and that would probably make the movie cost go up. But there are a few options. The Thomas Crown Affair and "Downtown Rock City," both of which were new releases, caus­es the discount onto the ticket buyers.

At least the girl at the Madonna theatre assured me that this $7 incident will not be happening again any time soon. That still only leaves three or four, proba­bly bad movies, running at the $3 price at a time. That doesn't sound like catering to the college community.

What would be really great is if the Madonna theatre expanded and the student discount downtown was more than a $1 off. Yes, I know the problems with the idea of expanding. Expanding would cost a lot and that would probably make the movie cost go up. But there are a few options. The Thomas Crown Affair and "Downtown Rock City," both of which were new releases, caus­es the discount onto the ticket buyers.

At least the girl at the Madonna theatre assured me that this $7 incident will not be happening again any time soon. That still only leaves three or four, proba­bly bad movies, running at the $3 price at a time. That doesn't sound like catering to the college community.

What would be really great is if the Madonna theatre expanded and the student discount downtown was more than a $1 off. Yes, I know the problems with the idea of expanding. Expanding would cost a lot and that would probably make the movie cost go up. But there are a few options. The Thomas Crown Affair and "Downtown Rock City," both of which were new releases, caus­es the discount onto the ticket buyers.

At least the girl at the Madonna theatre assured me that this $7 incident will not be happening again any time soon. That still only leaves three or four, proba­bly bad movies, running at the $3 price at a time. That doesn't sound like catering to the college community.

What would be really great is if the Madonna theatre expanded and the student discount downtown was more than a $1 off. Yes, I know the problems with the idea of expanding. Expanding would cost a lot and that would probably make the movie cost go up. But there are a few options. The Thomas Crown Affair and "Downtown Rock City," both of which were new releases, caus­es the discount onto the ticket buyers.

At least the girl at the Madonna theatre assured me that this $7 incident will not be happening again any time soon. That still only leaves three or four, proba­bly bad movies, running at the $3 price at a time. That doesn't sound like catering to the college community.
By Erin Crosby
Summer Mustang

Ventura proves that "movies" is anything but the right word.

In a very open and honest tone, Ventura lays it all on the line for the reader. He invites them to love him or hate him, but either way, the reader gets to know the real Jesse Ventura.

The book begins with Ventura introducing himself and plainly explaining his opinion of the American government and why he made the decision to run for governor of Minnesota. He then goes on to bluntly state his position on all of the issues, explain why he feels this way, and express how he feels the American people should change things.

Ventura then takes his readers on a step by step through his life in order to give them a better understanding of why he feels the way he does. As Ventura grows from the "South Side Ron" to the machine-like Navy Seal, to the wild and crazy Jesse "The Body" Ventura of the wrestling world, to the loud and obnoxious radio and movie star and finally to the Reform Party governor of Minnesota, he is able to convey he is a lot more than just the m o r o n personality/movie star.

As he says through his book, people like him because he is honest and he makes sense. Any doubts that may have existed about his ability to lead a state are whisked away as Ventura proves he is very intelligent and he has what it takes to be governor.

Ventura has the remarkable ability to express himself clearly in simple terms so even someone with no real knowledge of wrestling, radio, movies or politics can follow along and understand.

Through honesty, bluntness and simplicity Ventura shows that all of the hits to his head in wrestling had no effect on his brain. He is just as, if not more intelligent than most of the people running this country and he wants the American people to change things.

The chapters focus on different events that follow Ventura from Minnesota to the Mob. He then goes on to explain why he feels the way he feels and how he has what it takes to be governor of Minnesota.

New book tells students nothing they didn't already know

By Kimberly D. Kralick
Summer Mustang

"Chicken Soup for the College Soul" is as flat as a wet Old Popeye.

While the multiple authors of the book had good intentions, the end result is a disappointing point. That book intends to help young readers with questions they may have about college life, but in the end, lacks useful knowledge about college living.

It drags, except for three or four humorous graduation speeches.

The extent of the information provided goes to college kids work hard, have good hearts, and you should wear your shoes. Not much we didn't already know. While first-time freshmen may enjoy the book, if you have experienced the college way of life more than three months, it's a waste of money.

The chapters focus on different areas, including acceptance to college (we're already here), time management, lessons in and out of the classroom and graduation. While the stories themselves make quick reading (most only two or three pages), the overall effect of the book is boredom.

Some stories have only one application to college life, and for the average college student, this is more of a tag team effect than a one-on-one relationship. That is, "Make the best with what you've got, Caan's willingness to poke fun at himself after playing in the serious mob film "The Godfather" is enough to deserve a pat on the back. Triplehorn gives a solid performance as Caan's frustrated daughter, knowing when to pull out the comedic versus serious approaches.

Maybe it was the stuff the audience doesn't get to see that makes this comedy a flop. There may have been a tag team effect between director and "Kids in the Hall" veteran Kelly Makin and producer (coincidentally Grant's girlfriend) Elizabeth Hurley. Makin took the first half of the film and made sure audiences had plenty to laugh at, but when Makin leaves the director's chair to play an FBI agent, this is where hilarity probably came in and used the serious supermodel approach to another one of the half the film.

Either way, "Mickey Blue Eyes" starts out with promise but ends with disappointment. The earlier movie hit "Analyse This" successfully took viewers through a comical look at the mind of Mickey Blue Eyes" is filled with too many clichés and not enough comedic consistency to make it into the ranks of mob spoof hits.

Book Review

By Nanette Pietroforte
Summer Mustang

Anyone who has gone to a concert and enjoyed the opening act more than the main attraction will experience the true delight of attending after watching "Mickey Blue Eyes."

Hugh Grant plays Michael Felgate, a movie star who proposes to his girlfriend, Gina Virale (Jeanne Tripplehorn). She initially turns him down for his own good, fearing Michael will get caught up with her father, mob boss Frank Ventura (James Caan) and his villainous line of work.

In a noble gesture to win Gina's hand, Michael sets out to stay off the crooked path. It takes little effort on Michael's part to land the loveable Brit into its corrupt world. Grant's character inadvertently laundering money through his aunt and even spends the rest of the movie trying to win back his beloved trust.

The events that follow turn Grant from Michael to Mickey Blue Eyes, a notorious mobster from Kansas City. This is where audience members begin to take Mickey Blue Eyes' advice and "Get the hell outta here before it's too late."

Up until this point in the movie, the audience has plenty to laugh at — including Gina's silly supermodel approach to romance.

That is, "Make the best with what you've got," Caan's willingness to poke fun at himself after playing in the serious mob film "The Godfather" is enough to deserve a pat on the back. Triplehorn gives a solid performance as Caan's frustrated daughter, knowing when to pull out the comedic versus serious approaches.
**CAMP**

continued from page 8

didn't run fast enough the night before to get the cardiovascular treat of running 100-yard sprints. It doesn't sound too bad, but remember — they could be sleeping like their comrades. These guys were up so early and running so hard, Welsh said they made the military look bad.

0630 hours — By now the whole team is awake, or at least mobile. It's time to get some grub. The team treks about 500 yards uphill from their barracks to the mess hall. But this isn't the laissez-faire ambiance of the Lighthouse cafeteria — this is the military. The players are prohibited from wearing tank tops, sandals or hats.

0730 hours — Time to sneak in a little sleep before practice. Weather check overcast, only about 60 degrees.

0845 hours — "On your butts and in your linen!" shouts assistant coach Don Bailey, sounding like a drill sergeant. While the team is getting Califetines, Bailey's voice echoes through the Camp Roberts valley. The players' clapping picks up and so does the intensity. Weather check: the sun starts to come out, and it heats up to 67 degrees with a nice breeze.

1115 hours — Ryan Bianchi heads downhill to the weight room. The two-story quarters are roomy — each player has his own bed, desk, dresser and bookshelf. Not that there is much time to read a newspaper, the team should actually be nice to Orozco. "When Osbaldo (Orozco) falls asleep, we're the best facility by far," he probably wasn't referring to the "facilities." The latrines probably came with the barracks. The latrines probably came with the barracks.

1130 hours — The fast train (even No. 36 for those of you scoring at home) goes off and the first practice session is over. After some debriefing by Officer Welsh and his sergeants, the troops are free to retire to their barracks. Some guys get athletic tape removed from their hands and ankles while others opt for a bath — an ice bath. Head trainer Steve Yoneda and his staff dump ice in two tubs, which can hold about 10 players each. While the mercury is pushing 90 degrees, the bath is the coolest thing in camp.

1200 hours — High noon and the heat is on. Senior linebacker Vic Greco finally gets out of the ice bath. "The hardest thing to do at camp is maintain your weight," says Greco, who tipped the scales 250 pounds last year. "I'm going to lose weight before they head back to the barracks.

1215 hours — Greco arrives at the mess hall, only to see a line of 25 athletes with their hands and ankles while others opt for a bath — an ice bath. Head trainer Steve Yoneda and his staff dump ice in two tubs, which can hold about 10 players each. While the mercury is pushing 90 degrees, the bath is the coolest thing in camp.

1235 hours — After 20 minutes of waiting, the beef, mashed potatoes, spaghetti and fruits are slammed down on a paper tray that is the size of a binder paper. And the paper cups are only a little bigger than a double-shot glass. It must be the military rations.

1300 hours — Greco sits down and talks about the pros and cons of holding training camp at the military bases. "It used to be that we'd have all the new-comers by making them get up on a chair in the Lighthouse and sing a song," Greco says. "But here, we kind of have to show respect to the military. We're their guests."

1330 hours — Greco and freshman fullback Ryan Bianchi head downstairs to the weight room. The rectangular 20-by-120-foot room, which is attached to a huge gym, has about 30 different pieces of exercise equipment ranging from treadmills to bench presses to squat racks.

1600 hours — Greco prepares for practice No. 2. He heads downstairs to the training room, which is necessary to rehydrate the players' bodies. "Excellent practice this morning," White says. "I expect you to do your best and get your weight," says Greco, who tipped the scales 250 pounds last year. "I'm going to lose weight before they head back to the barracks.

1630 hours — Today's supper: pork, peas and a dinner roll. A small meal for big hungry men.

1730 hours — Practice No. 2. Same stuff, just a different time of day and a little cooler. Weather check: Down to 75 degrees with light wind.

2115 hours — Time once again to break down films. The linebackers, with one-inch thick playbooks in hand, listen to Coach White dissect broken plays, misunderstanding tactics and wrong reads.

After films, Greco runs in his laundry to Equipment Manager Dick McMath.
Poly football enlists at Camp Roberts

By Ryan Huff
Summer Mustang

A Summer Mustang exclusive
A day in the life of a Cal Poly football player at camp

Welcome to Camp Roberts, where the commanding officer is head coach Larry Welsh. The troops have huge numbers on their uniforms and the only guns they carry are the ones they build in the weight room.

The platoon decided to make the 55-mile trek to the California National Guard base north of San Diego due to the lack of green grass at home. When the university repaired the new parking structure in the former L-shaped field, it left the 88-member football team without enough practice space.

After wading through the other options of traveling to Camp San Luis, Cañada College or Atascadero High School, Welsh decided on Camp Roberts.

"This is the best facility by far," said Welsh, who has a 13-9 overall record in two years at Poly. "We almost have four full fields out here — plenty of grass space."

The only oasis of vegetation on the entire base is the practice field. The rest of the base is a desert with scorching temperatures.

The Mustangs take a亵eak at what Cal Poly football players experienced at Camp Roberts on Aug. 21:

0530 hours — (That's 5:30 a.m. for you non-military types.) Not a good day to be slow. The guys who don't get up while their teammates (below) experience the healing power of ice baths.

By Ryan Huff
Summer Mustang

Poly projected starting quarterback Andy Jepson (above) fires a pass while his teammates experience the healing power of ice baths.

College football season kicks off this weekend

Associated Press

Get ready for a classic weekend of college football.

Three of the nation's top four teams help kick off the season on Saturday, with top-ranked Florida State opening at home against Louisiana Tech, and No. 4 Arizona, winners of 16 of its last 17 games, hosts an offense that averaged 445 yards and 34.7 points last season. In addition to their top-notch quarterbacks, the Wildcats have Trung Canidate, the Pac-10's leading rusher last season with 1,220 yards.

Penn State, meanwhile, counters with what could be the best defense in the nation, led by linebackers LaVar Arrington and Brandon Short, and Giants' Brown and comedians David Macklin.

"All the talk about Penn State's defense is definitely true," said Connecticut. "They're frightening."

The opening weekend concludes on Sunday, when No. 9 Ohio State Plays No. 12 Miami in the Kickoff Classic at Giants Stadium. Both teams have new quarterbacks — Kenny Kelly for the Hurricanes and Austin Moore for the Buckeyes.

"We're focusing on football 24 hours a day. With the players, we get to know everything about them, from their beliefs to the way they act."

- Sophomore safety Kris Rendon

"The summer before we went 10-1 (in 1997), we all stayed together in the (Cal Poly) dorms. Last year we didn't. It makes a difference."

- Junior safety Mike Toussaint

"Summer sure goes by a lot faster when you are sitting on your butt at training."

- Freshman receiver Chris Canoles

"The only problem here is the scenery never changes."

- Junior linebacker Vic Greco

"Last year's camp wasn't a team. Everyone was out for themselves. It's much more of a team here."

- Senior linebacker Brian Villa

"The players are having a good time. I see them playing dominoes, cars, video games — they're bonding."

- Head coach Larry Welsh