Cal Grants get boost from Davis
By Carolyn Ficara
OCT 10 2000
The Cal Grant program will no longer be turning away eligible students because of lack of funds. Gov. Gray Davis signed into legislation on Sept. 11 Senate Bill (SB) 1644, a historic student aid bill totaling $2.2 billion for university students, as well as graduating high school students and community college students. Part of the funds will go to the Cal Grants, and is available to students of both private and public universities. The rest will fund a Merit Scholarship program.
Beginning in 2001, SB 1644 will give students financial aid based on financial need. The new program will be known as Cal Grant A and will be the first program to specifically address financial need. "All students will meet specific financial need," said John Anderson, director of Financial Aid at Cal Poly. "This is an unprecedented move in the state."
Cal Grants will be divided into two components. Cal Grant A, which requires a minimum of 3.0 GPA, and Cal Grant B for students with a 2.0 GPA. Available to private institutions is around 2,200 students who receive Cal Grants at Cal Poly. Colleges in areas of lower incomes and private institutions will be more impacted, Anderson said. Cal Poly students generally come from income brackets that are too high to receive Cal Grants. Anderson suggested that the increased programs could lead to an additional 150 Cal Poly students receiving Cal Grants next year.
Because of lack of funding, many students have been denied Cal Grants in the past. According to a press release written by Cal Poly's President Donald P. van Deventer, the total cost of SB 1644 is $2.2 billion. Anderson said, "Now it is expected to be around $2.2 billion."
The increase in size is due to more students receiving grants, not to higher amounts given to individual students. According to Anderson, Cal Poly students can receive up to $1,425 for a three-quarter school year, which is for tuition and fees not including student fees or expenses. Students with higher financial need can receive a Cal Grant B, which includes a small expenses stipend. Students attending a private school can receive up to $3,500 for tuition in Cal Grant funds. The amount is higher because private colleges do not receive state subsidies as
see GRANTS, page 2

Editor's Note:
This article is the first in a Friday series on issues related to student debt and finances.
By Jana Larsen
MUSTANG DAILY CONTRIBUTOR
Getting started
Tuition and fees at public colleges have increased on average by more than 110 percent over the past 10 years, according to a study by the College Board. While inflation-adjusted tuition has more than doubled, median family income has risen only 22 percent since 1980. Due to the high cost of education, many students have to rely on financial aid to meet tuition costs. Two-thirds of all student financial aid comes from federal programs administered by the U.S. Department of Education: Scholarships, grants, federal work-study and federal educational loan programs are the most common ways to help students pay for their tuition. Scholarships and fellowships have risen more rapidly than most other types of college expenditures in recent years. At public universities nationwide, these expenditures per full-time student rose 84 percent over the past 10 years.
Because of the accessibility of the Internet, many different options for scholarships, fellowships, loans and grants are available to students. For example, on the Cal Poly financial aid Web page, students can find URLs to search sites for scholarships. "We try to list only those we feel provide accurate information at no cost to the student," said John Anderson, director of the Student Financial Aid Department. "There are many scholarship search programs out on the Internet for which a fee is charged."
"We have strong reservations about sites that require a fee, as often the same information is available free elsewhere," Anderson said. "Nationally there have been some major scam operations involving scholarship search for a fee."
FASTWEB Electronic Scholarship Search is the largest free scholarship search. After registering and filling out several forms, FASTWEB will return a list of matching award programs. Registering allows students to receive information on any new award programs that match the stated criteria.

Cal Grants get boost from Davis
Hiking Galore:
Clean living
Friday, September 22, 2000
Starting Strong:

From Davis
By Carolyn Ficara

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the state's community colleges, California State Universities, Universities of California and qualifying private four-year universities. "These programs have almost reached a point of entitlement," said John Anderson, director of Financial Aid at Cal Poly. "This is an unprecedented move in the state."
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Student loans: helpful aids or dangerous traps
By Katherine Hays and Jolie Waltz
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITERS
Faculty members from all campuses of the California State University system joined State Assembly speaker Robert Hertzberg in Long Beach Tuesday as he asked the CSU Board of Trustees to account for changes in gender and other bias in the controversial merit pay system.
Hertzberg read a letter to the board expressing his concern about the equity issues surrounding merit pay, said Steve Menesfelder, president of the California Faculty Association.
"He called on both parties to come to resolution," Menesfelder said. The goal of the CFA at Tuesday and Wednesday's board meetings was to present CSU administration with the range of issues from the vote, Menesfelder said. Among the issues addressed were equity as well as what the CFA considers the many problems with the implementation of merit pay, she said.
The Current Situation
Last month negotiations between the California Faculty Association and the California State University administration once again ended after a neutral mediator declared the negotiations unsuccessful.
see CFA, page 4

Account analyst and nutrition junior Melissa Anderson, right, helps nutrition junior Erin Wilson get her financial aid check at the Student Accounts office in the Administration Building. To apply for any of the financial aid programs at Cal Poly and for most scholarships, students need to file the Free Application for Federal Student
see LOANS, page 2
News

Planning department honored

By Jayson Rowley
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

The Cal Poly city and regional planning department received two awards from the California Academic Bowl at the annual California Planning Association meeting in Los Angeles. The awards were for the department's academic excellence, and another for the outstanding leadership shown by the department.

Institutional Planning Linda Dalton, William Semihieda, chair of city and regional planning, accepted the award on behalf of the department at the recent conference in Long Beach.

"The academic excellence award was given to us on the basis of undergraduate and graduate student work," Semihieda said. "The department is honored.

Semihieda credits the success of the department with the hard work of the students.

According to Semihieda, Cal Poly won the academic excellence award over universities from throughout California, including University of California, Berkeley and University of Southern California, Los Angeles.

Three projects were recognized by the American Planning Association. The first was an attempt to provide sustainable housing for the homeless. The second was the development of community guidelines and a draft plan for Atascadero. The third was the exploration of growth management on the Central Valley.

In addition to the academic award, Linda Dalton won the Distinguished Leadership Award for a professional and as a leader in planning organizations, Dalton said.

Graduates of the Cal Poly city and regional planning department hold top positions throughout California, according to Semihieda. The planning directors of San Francisco and San Jose are both graduates of Cal Poly.

The California Chapter of the American Planning Association, which is sponsored by the local Department of Planning, is the Practice of Local Government Planning Department, which is responsible for determining where changes are needed and extensively in planning departments.

"I was astounded because I didn't know last spring that I was nominated," Dalton said. "I am truly honored. I am very proud to share this award with Cal Poly."

Dalton said she wasinvited to compete in city planning and has done extensive research in planning. Before moving to San Luis Obispo, her title was director of the City Planning Commission in Seattle.

"Throughout my career, I've really enjoyed contributing to planning as a profession and as a leader in planning organizations," Dalton said.

Loans

Grants, like scholarships, are a source of financial aid that doesn't have to be repaid. Federal Pell Grants are awarded only to undergraduate students who have not received a bachelor's or professional degree.

There are several other loans throughout the California State University system and through the California State Grant program. Most of the grants have March 2 deadlines. However, Pell Grants can be applied for after the deadline.

The best way to find out the deadlines and requirements of the grants is to search the Internet or talk to Cal Poly financial aid officers.

"Pell Grants, Stafford Loans, quite often supplementary loans, and some state university grants are still available after the March 2 deadline," said John Waller, Cal Poly senior financial aid counselor.

Another choice of student aid is the Federal Work-Study program. It provides jobs for students who need financial aid and encourages serving the community. Students are paid at least the current federal minimum wage, but could be paid higher depending on the type of work.

The student work-study program on campus should be related to the students' course of study. The work performed should also be in the public interest. Students can work a maximum of no more than 20 hours per week while school is in session, and the amount earned cannot exceed 30 percent of the cost of an equivalent full-time course.

The U.S. Armed Forces also offers financial aid opportunities. All branches of the military offer courses and training to veterans and their families.

The Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) program, which is a federal merit-based scholarship program that will pay for tuition, fees and books and provides a monthly allowance. Also, veterans, their spouses and dependents are eligible to participate in the military's educational benefits. Contact the local Department of Veterans Affairs to find out more.

Loans

The type of financial aid that requires the student to repay is a loan. The entrance counseling work begins six months prior to receiving any money is the student loan. The entrance counseling work begins six months prior to receiving any money is the student loan. The entrance counseling work begins six months prior to receiving any money is the student loan.

The Federal Stafford Subsidized Loan program makes loans to students through lending institutions such as banks and credit unions. The interest rate for this loan is readjusted annually and the interest cap is 9 percent. Payments on this loan begin six months after graduation or after the student ceases to be enrolled at the school. The student loan is made with government funds with a share contributed by the school.

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Unlike the Subsidized Stafford Loan, the federal government does not pay interest for the students while they attend school. Students may choose to make interest payments while in school or have them deferred until leaving school. Regular loan payments begin six months after students cease to be enrolled at the school.

Parents may apply for the Federal PLUS (Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students) to pay college expenses for dependent students who are unable to repay the loan. This loan is made with government funds with a share contributed by the school.

There are several other loans available for students. For more information about what is available is to contact the financial aid department at Cal Poly. E-mail financialaid@pomona.edu or call (805) 756-2927.

For more information on the grants, contact 1-800-4-FED-AID. The best investment in looking for student aid is the time spent on the Internet; the information is up-to-date and extremely detailed.

Central California

By Jayson Rowley
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

The Cal Poly city and regional planning department received two awards from the California Academic Bowl at the annual California Planning Association meeting in Los Angeles. The awards were for the department's academic excellence, and another for the outstanding leadership shown by the department.

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Creative ways to get off the couch and into the great outdoors with just a little extra effort and imagination

By Carolyn Ficara
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Visits from mountain peaks, sparkling blue waters, dark cool caves and cold granite cliffs are all of the sensed experiences awaiting those who join a Poly Escapes trip.

Choose from the varied selection of trips and enjoy a rejuvenating escape of fun and companionship for an evening, day, weekend or even a full week. The costs of the trips are very affordable for most student budgets, while some are even free. Simply step in the door of Poly Escapes in the University Union, say hi to the smiling volunteer and choose your adventure.

"We have for the students. It's really an awesome opportunity," said senior recreation administration major Will Hoad, who is also a leader, advisor and volunteer for Poly Escapes.

Having students serve as group guides and instructors and encouraging ride sharing helps keep costs at a minimum. An example is $7 for a four-hour evening kayaking trip to Shell Beach, which includes the kayak and transportation.

"The Shell Beach trip is really great. It has it all - calm waters, rugged waters. It's really for all levels, including a barbecue in the evening," Hoad said.

Shell Beach is a small community just 15 minutes south on Highway 101, sharing the area with Pismo Beach. Buy an ice cream and take a walk on the long wide beach or fish off the pier (a license is not required for fishing off public piers, but one is necessary for surf fishing).

"A popular trip is caving," Hoad said.

Three caving trips to Pismo are planned this quarter, for Sept. 27 and Oct. 5 and 6. The cost is only $6, including a barbecue in the evening.

The Pismo caves are one of three cave tales in the state. A cave tale is created by deep ravines or canyons collapsing on themselves. They are long tunnel-like caves and require crawling to explore. Pismo is just 45 minutes from San Luis Obispo. Take the Santa Margarita exit on northbound 101.

After trekking through the eeriness of the underworld, check out the old west saloon nearby. The Pismo Saloon is an outlet for those wanting to see something other than the beaten path. A band of thieves met their demise near the saloon and their long ago lingering is immortalized in the photographs on the saloon walls.

If dreaming of some solitude and exercise, kayaks can be rented at Poly Escapes for the weekend for $20. Morro Bay is a fabulous place to go kayaking. Scenery includes harbor seals and otters swimming in the beautiful water.

"They are filling up fast," said senior landscape architecture Laurel Dunning, a student volunteer and.rating guide. "The free trips I think are already full, but there will be more."

Sign ups are open until the trip is full. There are also pre-trip meetings for the longer trips, such as those to the American River or Mount Shasta. Next trips are planned throughout the quarter.

"Poly Escapes is just a fun place to hang out," Dunning said. "A lot of students come in to read the magazines and talk to friends."

Students are encouraged to participate in any of the trips Poly Escapes offers throughout the school year.

"These trips are a great way to meet friends. I went to Moving Mountain for a week before classes began, and it was the best trip I've ever been on," materials engineering freshman Erin Graves said.

Club meetings are held Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in room 220 of the University Union.

"Our meetings are really like a little party - we have a slide show, eat cookies, hang out and have a lot of fun," Dunning said.

Patrons visit the Pozo Saloon, above, a popular alternative to the regular "tourist" destination. In Poly Escapes on campus, Amanda Prevel shows Davis Best various mountain biking trails around campus. There are numerous opportunities for students to get involved in outdoor activities, if() the person is motivated and interested. Beaches, dunes, mountains and hiking trails all offer ways to get exercise, have fun and meet all kinds of new people. Visit the Poly Escapes office in the University Union for more ideas.
Merced crime attract unwanted attention

Full text:

MERCED (AP) — A pitchfork-wielding man killed two children to death in a farmhouse. A teenager was accused of stabbing his mother's head off with a knife.

In less than a month Merced County has earned a reputation as the crime capital of California.

"It's just not something that we do," said one official. "And we do not agree with (CFA) figures.

"Merced is not a bad place to live. We've had some bad luck."

Henry Strength assistant sheriff

"The University of California plans to build a campus here. "Merced is not a bad place to live," Strength said. "We've had some bad luck."

Strength traces the country's notorious crimes to a bizarre kidnapping nearly two decades ago that put the country on the strong kind of map and remains in its consciousness.

A pitchfork-wielding man named Steven Stayner became a local hero when he escaped from a child molester who kidnapped him seven years earlier. Stayner rescued a 5-year-old boy who had also been abducted. His tale took a tragic turn in 1982 when he was gunned down in a Merced County motorcycle accident in 1989.

That story would not seem relevent if Stayner's brother had not been arrested accused of being the serial killer who snatched Yale last year, killing four women.

Stayner's name is an enduring stain on the county that hill itself as "The Gateway to Yosemite."

While he was working as a motel handyman outside the county at the time of the killings, Stayner—like Bruce and Lins—was raised in Merced County.

Two weeks ago, the 39-year-old pleaded guilty in federal court to murdering a naturalist in the park and, under the plea, will be sentenced to life in prison.

He still faces a state trial for the killings of three Yosemite京ighters and could get the death penalty in that case.

When Bruce went on his pitchfork rampage, investigators thought he had an easy explanation: drugs.

"He was a black sheep of the family, well known for his drug methamphetamine trade.

Bruce is a regular occurrence on primitive labs manufacturing the mind-altering upper known to trigger paranoia, psychosis and violence.

negotiations stalled.

The mediator was appointed by the Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) after talks went into a state of impasse in early July because the two parties could not come to a compromise.

A middle ground now appears to be fading further and further away as the negotiations move to "fact finding," the last step before the CSU administrators may begin to impose work conditions on the faculty.

The two parties are under discussion, according to the CFA, are administrative accountability and the Faculty Merit Increase Program.

Accountability

Each year a certain amount of money is allocated in the state budget for faculty increases. The CFA claims that some of that funding has not reached its intended recipiency.

First, since the 1991-92 school year, the CSU has been funded to increase faculty salaries by 27.9 percent. According to the CFA, the actual amount these salaries were increased was only 23 percent.

That difference would amount for more than $24 million missing for the 1999-2000 school year alone, the CFA said.

There are other two areas where funds are not properly allocated above the CFA claims. The areas are in the Service Step Increases program and in the conversion of full-time positions to part-time positions.

Since 1992-93, almost 1,600 positions were converted from full time to part time. The CFA estimates that this conversion would have resulted in a savings of more than $25 million.

CFA What the CFA is requesting from the ASU is a current faculty merit pay system that CSU faculty is workflows. All faculty members are increased each year, deemed a "cost of living increase." The second portion of the increase, they claim, is that women received 8 percent less in the current FMF program, it is likely that CFA members will take action back on campus in mid-September," said Foroshar.

At the center of the controversy is a study conducted by the National Education Association that found that women received 8 percent less in merit awards on average than males for the 1998-99 school year.

On some CSU campuses, the difference rose to more than 20 percent.

The CFA believes that this data establishes a basis for placing the CSU on merit pay on merit pay until a neutral party can independently review the findings.

A letter from the CSU's office of public affairs gave results from a report by an independent organization that indicated that there was "no systematic gender discrimination against women in the awarding of faculty merit pay."

In 1998-99, the report said, women received a percentage increase of 2.67 percent compared to men's 2.44 percent.

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in a hurry to get your books and
supplies? You'll find everything
you need at your local college store.
New and used books, software, music,
and more—with hassle-free return
policies and flexible ways to pay.
So if you're on the run, shop where
it's easy to get what you need.

On the Way.

Your College Store: On Your Side.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Television with graphic bloodshed or gratuitous violence could be banned from daytime viewing under a measure that passed the Senate Commerce Committee Wednesday.

The bill, which limits such programming when children are likely to be watching, comes a week after federal regulators tried and failed to crack down on the entertainment industry of marketing violent, adult-rated products to young people.

Despite the industry's protests, violence is made accessible to children because it makes money, said Sen. Ernest Hollings, D-S.C., one of the sponsors of the bill. He has been pushing for a "safe harbor" of children's TV viewing rules for years.

"The industry, as in the past, continues to profiteer and profiteer under the auspices of violence pay," they know it and we know it," Hollings said.

Under the bill approved Wednesday, "violent" television shows could only be shown when children do not make up a significant portion of the audience or when the shows bear ratings that would allow parents to electronically block them.

Safe harbor hours normally run between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m., although the bill gives the Federal Communications Commission power to set the exact hours. The agency also would determine the definition of "violent programming."

The restrictions would only kick in, however, if an FCC study finds the viewing system — which enables parents to block out programs rated for violence, sex and crude language — is not effective in protecting children from explicit TV content.

The FCC requires by law in all new TV sets 13 inches and larger, works with encoded ratings displayed on shows to flag violent or sexual material. Broadcast and cable networks voluntarily choose to rate their programs.

Hollings, the ranking Democrat on the committee, doesn't think the system works and noted that Canada and other countries have done so with the idea of blocking violent programming during hours when children are likely to be watching.

"It's a tried and true approach," he said.

A Federal Trade Commission report last week decried the "pervasive and aggressive marketing of violent material to children." The FCC already has planned October hearings to examine the amount of sex and violence on television networks.

Despite the scrutiny on violence in the media, some lawmakers still expressed concern that such a measure would run afoul of the First Amendment.

"I just don't think we should start down the road of regulating content," said Sen. Sam Brownback, R-Kan., who along with Sen. Max Cleland, D-Ga., voted against the bill. Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., chairman of the committee, only voted "present" on the bill.

Hollings said programming could still make whatever they want, they just couldn't show it whenever they want.

Brownback wanted to change Hollings' bill to allow the entertainment industry — including record companies, Internet content providers, movie studios, video game makers as well as television programmers — to develop a set of voluntary programming guidelines, but it was defeated on a procedural motion.

"Self-regulation by the entertainment industry is especially important considering the First Amendment protections that prohibit government regulation of content in most instances," FTC Chairman Robert Pittsley said at a later hearing in the Senate Judiciary Committee.

The Supreme Court in May struck down a "safe harbor" law forcing many cable operators to restrict showing sexually oriented material to between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. However, the ruling only applies to cable systems, not the broadcast medium, Justice Anthony M. Kennedy noted in the decision.

NASA hacker to serve 75 days

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A 20-year-old Mission Viejo man who allegedly hacked into computers operated by NASA and such universities as Harvard, Stanford and Cornell, was arrested Thursday by federal authorities. Jason Allen Dickman, who authorities say used the online names Dirk Lord and Shadow Knight, hacked into "hundreds, maybe thousands" of computers around the country, said U.S. Attorney Alphonso Maruyama.

Dickman, who had been jailed in Orange County since Aug. 20 on unrelated state charges, was transferred to federal custody on Thursday.

He was charged with intentional unauthorized access of government computers, knowingly transmitting a program code and command that intentionally damages a computer and possessing unauthorized access devices, in this case, a hand-held $50 unauthorized credit-card numbers. He was also charged with using some of those credit-card numbers in making $6,000 worth of clothes, computer hardware and membership payment.

If convicted of all charges he could be sentenced to as much as 26 years in prison and fined $250,000. He was ordered held without bail pending a Sept. 29 preliminary hearing. An Oct. 2 arraignment was also scheduled.

"Computer hacking poses one of the most significant threats to this nation's technological infrastructure," Maruyama said. "We are prepared to do battle with hackers in cyberspace."

Among the computer systems Dickman allegedly hacked into were those used by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena.

According to a federal affidavit, he used JPL computers to intercept electronic communications on JPL systems, launch attacks on other computer systems and run Internet chat software.

Using the software, authorities said, he went into Internet chat rooms and boasted about using the pilfered credit-card numbers to make illegal purchases.

According to the affidavit, Dickman admitted to investigators that he also hacked into computers at Stanford, Harvard, Cornell, California State University at Fullerton and the University of California campuses in Los Angeles and San Diego.

Authorities say a Stanford system he broke into is used by NASA to control U.S. satellites. They said that, in all, Dickman had access to about two dozen government systems and that he stuffed more than $17,000 damage to them.

He eventually pleaded guilty to that charge and was sentenced to 75 days in jail.
Today's issue: Technology in the classroom

Cell phones can save lives - let them ring

Cell phones disrupt class - shut them off

College students are busy. Classes, jobs, homework and group projects make it hard to spend any time at home. Important phone calls can be missed, and in the case of an emergency, how does someone get a hold of roaming college students?

In a speech communication class I took last quarter, a woman actually left class to answer a call on her cell phone. The professor was good natured enough to simply smile at her, despite the fact that she completely interrupted the class.

Later, while I was sitting in my statistics class the other day, there was a woman in the middle of a speaker's presentation, and the speaker politely asked the audience to check their cell phones and turn off the ringers. He didn't confiscate the phone that rang.

This is how a professor should handle a cell phone interruption. We are adults. We carry cell phones for work purposes and emergencies, as well as recreational use. Professors can and should expect us to act responsibly and courteously. That means turning off our cell phone ringers so that they don't interrupt a class.

I don't have to turn off the ringer on my cell phone in the first place. However, the professor continued to lecture, seemingly unbothered by the shrill interruption. Had either of these scenes occurred in a high school classroom, the cell phone would have been confiscated. Professors have the same option to confiscate cell phones that interrupt their classes, but then they would be treating us like children, rather than adults.

I worked for a public relations firm this past summer and went to a publicity seminar where speakers taught representatives from non-profit organizations how to do public relations. It was definitely a classroom setting, but in the business world, public relations folks are busy people. They carry cell phones because someone always needs to get a hold of them. However, no one was asked to turn their cell phones off at the beginning of the seminar, they were just expected to do so out of common courtesy.

Cell phone users have their reasons. Some people work late, while others want to keep in touch with friends and family. Although students use cell phones strictly for business, while other people use them for personal reasons. All are acceptable reasons.

I don't have to turn my cell phone off at the beginning of the seminar, they were just expected to do so out of common courtesy. One cell phone did ring in the middle of a speaker's presentation, and the speaker politely asked the audience to check their cell phones and turn off the ringers. He didn't confiscate the phone that rang.

The obvious convenient need for cell phones is apparent in Selby's story. But there are still the anti-cell phone out there who are rigidly against cell phone use on campus. Are one or two rings of a phone during class really going to impair your learning abilities? I doubt it.

"Cell phone users have their reasons. Some people work late, while others want to keep in touch with friends and family. Some people use cell phones strictly for business... All are acceptable reasons."

"Professors and university employees should not... have to deal with rude and inappropriate behavior."

But college students are adults. We are constantly going to school, work and running errands. Some of us need to be able to take care of over-the-phone duties while getting other things done. Killing two birds with one stone, if you will.

With every new step technology takes, new critics are created. Why should anyone upon something as useful and handy as cell phones? Would the students who felt disrupted when Selby's cell phone rang be more understanding if they knew the severity of her grandmother's situation? Probably.

So the next time you are sitting in class and someone's cell phone rings, don't just shoot a dirty look in their direction. It could be a life or death situation.

At one time or another, everyone will wish they had a cell phone handy.

Jayson Rowley is a journalism senior and a Mustang Daily staff writer.

In today's technological age, those of us who don't carry cell phones are a rarity. It's going to become more and more important for people to exercise cell phone etiquette. Professors and university employees should not have to deal with rude and inappropriate behavior.

The solution - turn off your cell phone in class.

Kara Knutson is a journalism junior and a Mustang Daily staff writer.
World Youth Day unites millions in Rome

What do you get when two million religious nuts cram into a city-state about the size of downtown SLO? We’re talking about something bigger than Billy Graham or Benny Hinn Crusade. Something bigger than a Promise Keepers movement. I’m talking about World Youth Day 2000. I had the opportunity this summer to attend this glorious event and would like to reflect a bit on this momentous affair.

Every two years, the pope calls the Roman Catholic youth to a major city in the world for a five-day festival of worship, prayer and service. The meeting is dubbed “World Youth Day” and has been a success at every gathering.

This past World Youth Day was extra special for Pope John Paul II. The year 2000 is a Jubilee Year, something very dear to the Roman Catholic Church. It is a celebration that started in the 14th century and now occurs every 25 years.

Thus, with World Youth Day falling in the same year as the Jubilee, the occasion would be remembered forever. It was only appropriate for Rome, the glorious city that Sts. Peter and Paul Christianized, to be the host of the action.

Instead of telling the story of my experience at WYD 2000, I’d like to share what thoughts flood my mind when thinking about my time in Rome with “the Boss.”

First and foremost, two million Christians flying, driving, sailing and walking into Rome is a feat that has never been seen before. The love for Jesus, his church and one another brought these pilgrims together. Two million believers from over 150 different nations! This can only remind me of the size and diversity of the Body of Christ.

The Roman Catholic Church is the only organized group that can boast of such harmonious diversity.

The church has one billion followers making it the largest faith in the world. No other religion, government or social institution is as well represented by the world population as the church is. It is the fastest growing faith in Africa and Asia and draws the majority of its members from Latin America, western Europe and the Pacific Islands.

If we take into account the various Protestant denominations and Eastern Orthodoxy, we see over one-third of the world’s population being Christian. At the same time, I am reminded of my commitment to respect every religion and faith. People of all religions MUST be given respect and they possess every ounce of human dignity. There is truth in every form of faith in the world. To deny this is to dwell in ignorance.

Pope Paul, at the age of 82, could not have been happier to receive the youth. He presided over a seven-hour reception on our first night in the Vatican. While listening to this man that evening and trying to understand the weight that he carries on his shoulders and day out, I was left with the utmost devotion to him.

Pope Paul is one of the greatest popes ever to grace the Chair of St. Peter. He is the epitome of the Christian saint. Pope Paul is and has been the safeguard for Christian orthodoxy providing Christ’s Church with the fullness of Jesus’ Truth.

I see St. Peter in Pope Paul, and know in my heart that he is filling the office of Peter as Christ desires. Pope Paul is the rock just as Peter was in Matthew 16:18-19, and the great shepherd that Peter was in John 21:15-17. The pope is the visible sign of unity for the Christian body just as God had promised he always would be (Isaiah 22:20-24; Matt 16:18-19; Luke 22:31-32).

The love for Jesus, his church and the Roman Catholic Church is strong everywhere. It is a sense of family that unites people who have never met before. It is the feeling of being part of something bigger than oneself.

It’s a win-win situation.

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Letters to the editor

Last meals requests show lack of taste

Editor, / Mustang Daily/.

I was browsing the Web one day and came across a link to Texas inmates’ final meal requests. In case you are curious, you can see it at www.tdcj.state.tx.us/stats/ finalmenus.htm. My guess is that the original post was intended as a prank, but the replies are truly disturbing. I am told that the list of requests includes: BLT sandwiches, hamburgers, milks, chicken, hamburger, pizza and fried chicken. Those were the main items requested, and I also found one request for enchiladas and burritos. I keep going: cheeseburger, fried chicken, fried chicken, fried chicken and chicken patties.

Is it me, or is there a pattern here? I do see a list for something, anything different from this, please. The only interesting meal request I have seen is: “Love silk tea and orange juice.”

Still search. Is no one creative? Does no one wish for the finer qualities of life? Even one of the items on the last sounds like standard Texas/American fare. The more I read down the list, the more I am disturbed, yet I can’t figure out why.

Think about it. You have only one day left to live. What is your last meal going to be? This is going to be the last thing you have ever ordered, the last pleasure you can have. I ask you, what are you going to ask for? Something you have never had? Something else?

Not me. I’d be thinking salmon farlale, clams bordelaise, prime rib, braised vegetables, French onion soup, paella, mushroom vegetable, Caesar salad or garlic rolls.

No longer. For me, I give two. I give you a Stewart’s lime soda, a bottle of June’s pop, Cha tea, a Shirley Temple or Orange juice. For Pete’s sake, even POO.

Desert? How about tiramisu, gelato, strawberry, muffins, or Cold Stone ice cream?

Heck, it’s on the government - let’s try taffy and buffalo beef. Bring me rare vegetables. I want Wolfgang Puck and Julia Child.

And yet these prisoners are ordering cheeseburgers. Is it some last request? I’m Tex-Mex and all American fried chicken the final by the prisoners. Proud to eat an American staple on their way out? Hardly. It is my guess that none of these men on that list have ever heard - ever dreamed - of some of the things I listed. No, the best thing these men can come with is a hamburger and a Coke.

So what’s my point? Eat some sushi, and I can promise you won’t be facing the death penalty. Maybe. It just seems like you are what you eat. None of these people ever lived a life where they knew anything other than the pleasure of a burger. No one lovingly cooked them. I imagine that stilled their heart.

I’m not so bourgeois as to say, “Well, happiness comes from places with high price tags,” but not a single person thought outside the box. I wonder what else these people were lacking in their lives besides a colorful palate that made them end up on death row?

Kristin McNamara is an animal science junior.

Mustang Daily needs talented columnists and cartoonists to write and draw regular features for the opinion page. Call us at 756-1796 or e-mail opinion@mustangdaily. cabpy.edu for information.

Human interest stories enhance Olympics

Forget Survivor and Big Brother. America’s television sets are tuned to a new reality show called the Olympics for 16 days (Nov. 17-Dec. 2) - the 27th Olympic Games for athletes, the 26th for humans. For 16 days, the Olympics will capture the world’s attention. There will be the usual tears and blood, sweat and tears cliché every day.

Yet, there have been complaints about the coverage of these Olympic events. Some viewers feel that they are being forced to watch human-interest stories about the many competitors. Some complain that there are too many introductions, commercials and commentaries taking the place of actual event coverage. Yet, finding the story behind these many different countries and cultures is an integral part of the Olympics. These athletes are not merely pawns being played by each country to see which country has the best athletes. They are individual people, struggling and working to be the best in the world at what they do. They live the blood, sweat and tears cliché everyday.

Russian gymnast Alzef Nemov just won the gold medal for the men’s all-around competition a few days ago, and there was a lengthy human-interest piece on the sacrifices he made to be at the games this year. He had to miss the birth of his first child while competing in Australia. “I now have a son,” Nemov told NBC News. “That was a major motivation.”

These kinds of stories are intended to warm the hearts of viewers and pique their interest in the games even more, not cause them to complain or change the channel. These stories provide a chance for viewers to step out of their ethnocentric worlds and identify with the people of other countries.

The Olympics are about so much more than swimming and soccer or gymnastics and basketball. The Olympics give the world a chance to concentrate on something positive rather than the horrors of war, hunger and poverty that usually consume the news. Viewers should enjoy these moments of goodwill while they last and try to learn something along the way.

Keri Christofelos is a journalism student and Mustang Daily staff writer.

IMPROVED SERVICES

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SPORTS
Friday, September 22, 2000

49ers vs. Cowboys: A battle of teams falling from power

BYRON, Texas (AP) — How the mighty have fallen.

The memories stirred up when Dallas and San Francisco play are of six NFC championship games, including Dwight Clark's leaping catch in January 1982 that sent the 49ers to their first Super Bowl. Five of those games preceded Super Bowl titles for the two teams, three for the Cowboys and two for San Francisco.

The Cowboys and 49ers—who play Sunday for the first time in three years—have played in a combined 15 Super Bowls. San Francisco has won NFL-record 16 division titles, just one more than Dallas' 15.

In the reality of a new decade, however, the 49ers (0-3) are far removed from their championship glory in the age of free agency and the salary cap.

Dallas (1-2) could be headed down the same road. The Cowboys have an aging roster and millions of dollars tied up in salaries for guys not even around — about $11.2 million of this year's $62.3 million salary cap is going to 64 retired, injured or otherwise absent players.

"I came into the league with a team that was worst in the NFL, and it's part of rebuilding something," Dallas quarterback Troy Aikman said.

"It's going to be a long time before you see the likes of the teams that we had in the '90s, or the Niners in the '80s or the Steelers in the '70s. It's just a different time."

Aikman, who missed the last two games because of his ninth concussion, sustained in the Sept. 3 season opener, returns as the Dallas starter Sunday, when the Cowboys and 49ers play six years after the last of their great postseason battles.

Dallas was 1-15 in 1989, Aikman's rookie season and a year when San Francisco won its second straight Super Bowl during a stretch of nine straight postseason appearances.

By 1992, the Cowboys were playing in the first of three straight NFC title games against the 49ers. The winner each time went on to win the Super Bowl, Dallas after the 1992 and 1993 seasons, and San Francisco in 1994 in its last Super Bowl.

The Cowboys won another Super Bowl in 1995, but are 1-3 in the postseason since, including losses in the NFC wild-card game each of the past two seasons.

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FOOTBALL

continued from page 12

The Bobcats match the Mustangs record of 0-2 this year. In two games at Montana State this year, the Bobcats lost 23-14 to Humboldt State. The team also fell to Weber State 26-7. The Bobcats completed just nine first downs and rushed for only 103 yards.

"We match up pretty well. They're similar to us, to a young team and struggling a bit also," Welsh said.

Looking not to repeat the performance at the Grizzly game, Welsh says the team needs to improve its defense by slowing down some of the players and picking up a couple more picks. To improve the offense, the team needs to catch more balls and not drop as many.

Welsh says that his team is doing a good job picking up together and is looking forward to this game being a turning point for the season.

IRVINE, Calif. (AP) - Debra Margulies knows who won the Olympic gold medal in women's gymnastics at the Sydney Games - "Not the American," she says.

French Louisianarican can recite the story of Eric Mousisambam, the swimmer from Equatorial Guinea who became an unlikely hero when it looked like he might drown during the 100-meter freestyle race.

But neither of these Southern California women saw NBC's television coverage of the events. Rather, they got their information from radio, local TV news and the Internet.

"Every time I turn it on, it's an interview or some story about somebody. They don't show the events," Margulies said. "Besides, I already know who won when it comes on.

Why do I want to watch it for four hours?"

Around the country, many people have tuned out NBC's Olympic coverage, putting the network on pace to get the inside scoop on...

What Games? Many Americans tuning out television coverage

Summer Olympics Medal Count (as of 5 p.m. Thursday)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Gold</th>
<th>Silver</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
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<td>10</td>
<td>30</td>
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<td>Australia</td>
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<td>Germany</td>
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<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>13</td>
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</table>

Summer Games in general.

Sitting in Atlanta's Centennial Olympic Park - home of the 1996 Summer Games - Angela Walker said she hadn't had time to watch.

"I thought I'd heard that they just started," she said. "But I've been too busy with work and volunteering at my church. I don't even know when they are on."

In San Francisco, Steve Jones said there was less of a buildup to this than the previous Olympics.

"Last time, there were these moments that set the tone," he said.

16-18-hour time difference," he said.

In San Francisco, Steve Jones said there was less of a buildup to this than the previous Olympics.

"Last time, there were these moments that set the tone," he said.

Even in Washington, home of American pride, there seems to be less interest, partly because the results are readily available, said Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz. "Atlanta was so much more in real time," he said.

But that doesn't seem to matter to the residents of Salt Lake City, home of the 2002 Winter Games, where television ratings have been going up steadily. "I'm an Olympic fanatic. I've been watching it religiously. We've been staying up until 2 or 3 in the morning," said Bob Harrison. "Even my 80-year-old stays up with us. He's fanatical about the sailing boats."

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VOLLEYBALL

continued from page 12

as well as make it to the second or third round of the tournament. The Mustangs are well in pre-season tournaments, ending with a record of 6-3.

"We're bearing, the teams were supposed to beat and beating other teams on top of that," Lowry said. The Mustangs belong to the Big West conference, one of the best in the country, Schlick said.

"We already played against Loyola Marymount University, University of Hawaii and Oregon State University, as well," Lowry said the team takes a lot of pride in the program.

"We're a young team with a lot of height," Lowry said. "We have a lot of heart and passion to stop some winning streaks."

LANG MCHARDY/MUSTANG DAILY

Sophomore wide receiver Kassim Osgood is one of the keys to the Mustangs' offense.

Irwin Sports

Friday, September 22, 2000 11

"We're a young team with a lot of brightness," Lowry said. "We have a lot of heart and passion to stop some winning streaks."

"We're a young team with a lot of height," Lowry said. "We have a lot of heart and passion to stop some winning streaks."
Football looks for first win vs. Montana State

By Megan Shearn
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Coming off a 53-1 loss on the road to the No. 10 ranked Montana Grizzlies, Cal Poly's football team hopes to use their aggression this weekend to defeat the state's other team, the Montana State Bobcats.

"I hope they take that frustration out on Montana State and get the ball rolling," freshman tailback Ray Thompson said.

Thompson rushed for 58 yards of the 195 yards mustered by the Mustang offense. It's no secret that the Mustangs have been struggling with road games. The Mustangs are 0-2 after a loss to Sacramento State to begin the season.

Since defeating Montana State in November 1997, the Mustangs have lost 13 of their last 14 road games. The last win on the road came last season at San Jose State.

The Mustangs have done well against the Bobcats in the past, winning both at home and on the road against them.

The all-time series is tied at 4-4 between Cal Poly and Montana State, but Cal Poly has won the last two including a 40-37 win last year on Mustang Field. It's no secret that the Mustangs have been struggling with road games.

"We have the will to win. I think it's going to come down to who wants it more," Thompson said.

Thompson redshirted for the Mustangs in 1999 and rushed for 25 yards and two touchdowns in a shortened game during the season. The freshman has 112 yards rushing on 31 carries in two games while junior quarterback Seth Burford has completed 19 of 41 passes for 230 yards without an interception.

Burford was injured and left the California Lutheran game in the second half with a cut on his chin. Burford transferred from Idaho State and sat out in 1999. He was named FCSAA Independent "Newcomer to Watch" by Street and Smith's 2000 preview issue. He passed for 1,641 yards in two seasons for Idaho State.

"Burford is a model for the rest of the team. When he gets bumped around he still says 'let's go, let's get it done,'" head coach Larry Walsh said.

Walsh says that it is forecasted to snow this weekend in Montana.

"Last time we played it was 15 (degrees) below," he said.

See FOOTBALL, page 11 Junior linebacker Ron Cooper already has eight tackles for the Mustangs through two games.

Volleyball faces Big West powers Long Beach, Pacific

By Victoria Walsh
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Cal Poly's women's volleyball team has two early season tests as they face Long Beach State and Pacific as they work towards returning to the NCAA tournament.

With nine returnees and four new transfers, head coach Steve Schlick is confident the team's skill level is comparable to or better than last season's team.

"We compete well against the tough teams and we have a good balance between everyone," Schlick said.

New to the team are Kristen Sege, a 5-foot-8-inch defensive specialist from Cal State Northridge; Ginger Bailey, a 6-foot-3-inch middle blocker from Cuesta College; Anya Douglas, a 6-foot-1-inch middle blocker from Delta Cerritos College; and Gwen Hubbard, a 5-foot-6-inch defensive specialist and freshman from Mendlo Park.

The Mustangs are running off a strong season last year with a record of 20-9, having beaten UCSB and performed well against University of the Pacific and Cal State Long Beach, both Final Four teams in last year's NCAA tournament.

"We compete well against the tough teams and we have a good balance between everyone," Schlick said.

Cal Poly plays against UOP on Friday and Cal State Long Beach on Saturday in the preview issue, lie passed for 1,641 yards in two seasons for Idaho State.

\"We want to go off last year's season to help push us through this season," Lowry said. "Another goal is to beat Santa Barbara again, beat Long Beach and Pacific,\" see VOLLEYBALL, page 11

Scores

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<td>Marquette 3</td>
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Briefs

Shirt giveaway at Saturday's volleyball game

Cal Poly Athletics will be giving out 7 shirts to the first 250 fans at Saturday's volleyball game against #5 Long Beach State.

The shirts will feature the new marks that were unveiled at the end of August.

This is the first of many giveaways throughout the year to promote Cal Poly's new logos.

Schedule

FRIDAY

• Women's volleyball vs. Pacific
  • at Mott Gym
  • at 7 p.m.

• Men's soccer vs. UNLV
  • at UNLV
  • at 7 p.m.

SATURDAY

• Football vs. Montana State
  • at Montana State
  • at 12:35 p.m.

• Women's volleyball vs. Long Beach State
  • at Mott Gym
  • at 7 p.m.

Lang McHardy/MUSTANG DAILY

Volleyball players prepare to make it to the NCAA tournament.

Lang McHardy/MUSTAND DAILY

Please submit sports forum letters to: sports@mustanddaily.calpoly.edu

Please include your name. Letters received via e-mail will be printed in the next issue of the paper, space permitting.