Vandalism prompts further investigation by Judicial Affairs

By Kirsten Orsini-Meinhard
MUSTANG DAILY MANAGING EDITOR

Vandalism to the Rose Float office in the University Union has prompted an investigation by Judicial Affairs.

Although there was no permanent damage done to the committee's office, Rick Johnson, interim executive director of Associated Students Inc., said furniture had been moved around and taken apart.

Johnson could not give a specific date when the incident occurred, but he guessed it was sometime during the first week of school, possibly on Sept. 21 or 22.

He said students arrived at the Rose Float office in the morning to find the office moved around. ASI responded by locking the Rose Float office following the incident. New locks were put on the doors, Johnson said.

Cynthia Brown, senior Rose Float coordinator, described the incident as "a few violations" against University policy. She wouldn't, however, describe the violations.

"What one person sees as vandalism, another sees as a prank," Johnson said. He was unable to comment on possible suspects of the crime and whether or not the perpetrator was a staff member.

Johnson attributes the vandalism to "growing pains" within the Rose Float committee, which made the transformation from a club to a program comparable to Rec Sports. They receive money from ASI and the University to build their yearly float.

Along with the change came two new staff members who were hired approximately 3 months ago — Brown, and Gary Weisenberger, who was hired as the technical adviser. Previously, Dana Gertz, ASI events coordinator, was the committee's adviser.

The recent change in advisers has led to communication problems between students returning from summer vacation and new Rose Float staff, Johnson said.

"Not everyone was on the same page," Johnson said. The committee is experiencing some "internal issues" and is currently "refining access policy," he said.

The vandalism is now in the hands of Judicial Affairs officials, who were unavailable for comment Monday. Both Johnson and Brown were unable to speak at length about the incident because of the pending investigation.

Horse theft still unresolved

Students, parents and coaches gather at the Cal Poly Rodeo grounds Wednesday morning after being notified that their horses were missing. In total four horses, valued at $60,000, are thought to have been stolen. The investigation continues with no solid leads.

"I was interviewing lots of people with suggestions regarding safety and concern issues," Eds. said. "We had some good requests and wonderful suggestions. A big theft occurred and now we are making team efforts not to have it happen again."

University Police Investigator Mike Kennedy sounded optimistic about the leads, also.

"New information is coming in from all over the Western United States," he said.
Five sentenced for Las Vegas gambling theft

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Five people have been sentenced for participating in a slot machine cheating ring that targeted Nevada casinos.

Authorities said the five were part of a group that stole $500,000 to $5 million during a nine-month period in 1999.

In September 1999, a federal grand jury in Las Vegas indicted Bao Ming Lin, 34, and He Biao Liu, 33, on a conspiracy charge.

Authorities said all four are Las Vegas residents who illegally immigrated from China.

A preceding indictment, returned in December, added Zu Qiang Lin, 34, as a defendant.

Prosecutors claimed the defendants obtained $1 tokens from Nevada casinos and then used them to cheat.

"The machine would register a credit for each shaved $1 token," the indictment alleged. "However, when the slot machine paid out, the shaved $1 tokens were not counted, allowing the defendants, and others, to obtain legitimate tokens, along with lưuished shaved $1 tokens from the slot machine."

All five defendants pleaded guilty to engaging in an illegal gambling business, a felony.

U.S. District Judge Roger Hunt sentenced them in July to 18 months in prison and ordered them to pay about $470,000 in restitution.

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton lashed back Monday at GOP critics who have accused his administration of "an education recession." Clinton said the county has made strides in education during his two terms, and could make even more progress if Congress would approve his plans for school construction, teacher hiring and performance standards.

His remarks came during a White House ceremony to announce the number of students defaulting on college loans is at a record low.

"There are lots and lots of challenges still out there, and what I believe we should be doing is to emphasize further changes in the direction we have been moving," Clinton said.

In unveiling his new focus on education, "Fair Shot, Bush, the Republican presidential nominee, said standardized test scores of American students are barely competitive with students in other industrialized nations.

For example, he said, 68 percent of fourth graders in the poorest schools have difficulty reading a simple children's book. "America is in the midst of an education recession," Bush declared.

Clinton disputed that Monday, saying math and reading scores are on the rise, with "some of the greatest gains in a row of the most disadvantaged schools." He said the number of black and Hispanic students in advanced placement courses are up 500 percent and 400 percent respectively, and college entrance exam scores are up two, "even as more students from more disadvantaged backgrounds take the test."

"That is not an education recession, that is an education revival," Clinton said. "On the other hand, no serious person believes American education is where it ought to be."

White House spokesman Jake Siewert said the president was simply stating facts, not picking a fight with Bush.

"We've seen some success in turning around schools, and it's just the kind of hype and rhetoric you hear on the campaign trail," Siewert said. "It doesn't serve the American people."

He accused Republican congressional leaders of deliberately thrusting his plan to take up nationally the reforms that have been proven effective locally in bringing failing schools up to par.

"That is not an education recession," Bush said. "That is the real lives of these students, more affordable loans; better financial assistance available to students; more affordable loans; better student loans began to implement congressional mandates.

Goodling also said the largest decrease was the 4.6 percent drop from fiscal 1990 to fiscal 1991, during the Bush administration.
Internet choices confuse many students

By Jordan Roberts Mustang Daily Staff Writer

Deciding what type of modem to use to connect to the Internet can be very confusing. It helps to break it down into three categories: dial-up modems, cable modems and digital subscriber lines (DSL).

Dial-up modems are the most common and the cheapest, however, the fastest speed they can go is 56K.

While traditional dial-up modems provide online access through the public telephone network, cable modems provide users with access through a cable television network. A cable television system typically has 60 or more channels, most of which are used for cable TV programming services, like CNN or ESPN. As it turns out, "It makes downloading MP3s so much different, the quality is incredible," Franco said. "Once a cable modem is installed Monday, a splitter is placed on the side of the customer's home, which separates the line serving the cable modem from those servicing television.

DSL essentially turns a regular telephone line into a "broader band." The broader the bandwidth, the more ability there is to carry larger quantities of a signal, and do it faster. This technology uses copper pair, wiring that exists in almost every home and office. Special hardware attached to both the user and switch ends of the line allows data transmission over the wires at much greater speeds than the standard phone wiring.

DSL provides a constant Internet connection. This means there is no need to dial into an Internet service provider each time to get online.

However, there are several disadvantages to DSL. First of all, it is the most expensive of all three options. Also, in order to get DSL service, one must be within 17,500 feet of a carrier's central office. After that distance, the quality of the signal deteriorates. For this reason, DSL is primarily only offered in large cities.

Which modem will be the best price for Call Poly students? It depends on each individual's needs, current equipment and what services San Luis Obispo has to offer. For students who occasionally use the Internet and e-mail, a regular dial-up service with their old technician's phone service would probably be best. For "gamer" or heavy Internet users that rely on downloaded speed, cable modems are probably the best choice.

DSL is very expensive, and most rural areas does not have access to DSL. According to Charter Communications, DSL connection in San Luis Obispo, but it comes at high price. The installation fees range from $310 to $310, plus stamp charges ranging from $223 to $275 and monthly fees anywhere from $495 to $495. For more information, check out www.arrival.com.

Charter Communications, the local cable company, provides a cable modem service called "Charter Pipeline." According to the company's Web site, downloading things with service is a lot faster than regular phone. For example, downloading the "Star Wars: Episode One" trailer takes approximately an hour with a 56K modem and only three and a half minutes with their Pipeline service.

With an existing cable TV subscription, the cable modem service would cost $49.95 per month, or $35 per month as part of a one-year contract. Without current cable service, the price is $59 per month or $45 per month with a one-year contract. Franco said to beware of other costs involved, such as buying the actual modem.

"I chose to rent the modem, and I didn't want a one-year contract since I am graduating soon, so it really cost me about $60 per month," Franco said. "I would recommend cable modems to anyone who is willing to sign a one-year contract since that is much a better deal."

For more information, check out www.chartercomm.com.

Online traffic schools almost a joy to attend

So there I was, cruising down Highway 101 at the reasonable speed of 90 mph when all of a sudden I saw the blue lights ahead. I realized the actual blue and red lights. Muttering to myself, I pulled over to the side. I looked back in my rearview mirror as the police officer stepped out of the car. With a grin on his face he said, "Sir, I took a deep breath and rolled down my window.

"Son," he said, "do you realize how fast you were going?"

"Yes, of course officer, I was doing 90. Do you have a problem?"

"Don't you son me. Look, I know what the game is. Either you give me a ticket for exercising my right to speed on this freeway, to express myself, or I expect to, get places on time, or either back into that miserable excuse of a car of yours?" His chest swelled as the words came out. It was a buck of shock came toward me. I he sauntered over to write my ticket. I he said, "Sorry, Sir. The car was mine. Five minutes later I was inside my car, a speeding ticket on my dashboard. Moral of the story: be nice to police officers."

I don't know about most of you, but being the lay college student I mean I simply don't have eight hours on a Saturday to go to some courtroom just to get a ticket off my record. No sit, I have better things to do with my time like procrastinating.

"Oh no, whatever could I do?" (Cheesy helpless voice)

"Have you ever taken an Online traffic school are here!" (Cheesy moody voice)

We, the fortunate residents of sunny California, have this wonderful option. There are quite a few sites approved by most courts in California where you could take care of your ticket. One such site, www.comedy-trafficschools.com, tries to make the dry, boring process a little bit more fun. Unfortunately, they are new and still pending approval from most courts. Another good one is www.ticketerasers.com, which has quite a few real court costs. Both are just $19.95, way cheaper than those real-world courses. One site I'd recommend avoiding is www.onlinetraf­fic­school.com, simply because it charges about twice as much for no obvious additional benefits. May a plague befall them for trying to rip off poor, innocent consumers.

But most advantage that these schools offer, aside from being cheap, is that you can break up the course to do it in your face. Take it over ten days! Sure! Want to take in an hour? No problem! One of my friends just completed it in two weeks. May a plague befall about four hours in two settings. So what are you waiting for? Get speeded up and get your tickets rolling in so you can take part! Don't sit back and let others take advantage of this awesome opportunity. Enroll today!
Job hunting, interviews are hellish at best

Not everyone has to have a job to support themselves through college. Some of us are fortunate enough to get enough money from loans, financial aid or our parents so that we don't have to work in order to make ends meet. However, a large number of us depend on part-time labor to help us pay the rent and buy groceries.

Even though a part-time job may be a necessity, there are only a few of us who actually have good jobs. I, for one, have never had a good job. I've done it all and worked almost everywhere in the city limits. I've filled and cleaned and cooked. I've directed moviegoers to their seats and also stacked grocery store shelves at two different stores. The worst is when the interviewer asks directly, "Why should you hire me?" They sit smugly in their Herman Miller desk chairs watching me struggle through time consuming, half-hearted dissertations about "teamwork" and "how we're working our way through school." I like to say, "I had scheduling conflicts." I find that potential bosses are much more pleased with this answer than the truth about working three different jobs.

I also like to make up a nifty-looking resume to turn in with my applications. I find that if I print all of my past failures out on cream colored parchment paper, potential bosses begin to woo me. They say to themselves, "Wow, he can type out all of his exact same information he just wrote out on my application onto this cream colored sheet of parchment paper. He's definitely qualified to type and spelling are not a problem." Unfortunately, after I woo the lower management with my nifty resume, I usually have to interview with them. I square the job interview as one step above prostitution. There is no worse feeling than having to sell yourself and any personal talents you have acquired in order to make a little money on the weekends and evenings.

Besides, the questions are usually pretty lame. The worst is when the interviewer asks directly, "Why should we hire you?" They sit smugly in their Herman Miller desk chairs watching me struggle through time consuming, half-hearted dissertations about "teamwork" and being "responsible." The whole process is very cruel.

As much as I am opposed to the whole process, I find myself engaged in it all too frequently. Maybe you are like me and have suffered through the tiresome process dozens of times as well. If so, I suggest that we unite. We may never be able to change the process together, but if there are enough of us, we could at least operate a semi-successful crime ring. That would be the ultimate solution to the job-hunting problem.

Chris Weber is an architecture junior who is filling out job applications in a van down by the river.

Opinion

Lieberman's faith not an issue

When Al Gore chose Sen. Joe Lieberman to be his vice presidential candidate, the media interpreted the choice as Gore trying to distance himself from Clinton's sex scandal. But, Lieberman being Jewish quickly became the hot topic.

I wondered why Lieberman's faith was the cause of so much hoopla. Lieberman is the first Jew to be on the presidential ticket, but so what? I thought people had gotten over the shock of religious affiliations during Kennedy's campaign. Kennedy was Catholic. My first reaction to all the commotion was that religious prejudice is still an issue in this country.

I can't foresee Americans electing a person who faithfully practices custom meditation as a religion, and it will be many a blue moon before a professed atheist is elected. Yet, there is something stronger and more disturbing going on with how and why a U.S. president is voted into office.

Perhaps some years ago a few couldn't have been elected, but that isn't the case anymore. Besides, I'm sure Gore's campaign people ran polls about the effects of Lieberman being Jewish. What seems to have prevailed is Lieberman's character, not the fact that he is Jewish. This issue is hardly mentioned anymore by the media. A lot is said, though, about how much he is respected. A National Public Radio show last Monday, said Lieberman had an 80 percent approval rating as the senator of Connecticut. That's impressive.

It's good that voters are concerned about the character and virtue of their politicians. But I can't forget that Clinton was re-elected even after the sexual details of his personal life were made known. Is this a case of America's forgiving nature? I do think that is a cultural trait, but is something else coming into play here?

A favorite photo opportunity of opinion and campaign artists is one of presidents and their families coming out of the doors of one of the big Protestant churches in Washington, D.C. But ask many of the main line Protestant churches in this country how many Americans now attend church. Not surprisingly, attendance has decreased markedly over the years. Isn't this just the old saying we've all heard while growing up, "Do as I say, not as I do!" But, I think it's even worse than that. We're willing to settle for an illusion.

If you don't agree, take some time to read about how a president is elected. In a recent Christian Science Monitor article, the headline read, "TV image: It's everything in a presidential election." The article quotes Jim Lehrer narrating a PBS documentary on presidential debates. Lehrer says that viewers can tell if the candidate is an "empty suit," but concedes that a handsome man who presents an image of confidence has a leg up with the television voting audience. My question is how many people in America aren't television voters?

Any story can be told on television. Television is about images and the better the actor, the more we believe the story. Let's admit it, being handsome is one of the deciding factors in our national elections. I can't remember the last overweight or unattractive president. I do remember Eisenhower, but Americans were celebrating their heroes of WWll and television's blue glow was just beginning to shine in America's living rooms. There is some speculation that the reason Clinton was re-elected is because his last puppy look appeals to women. Don't most of us ladies love the little lost puppy and want to bring it home?

What alarms me most is that Americans choose a presidential team based on illusions created by television. It's one thing for me to be hooked into buying a pair of denim jeans believing they will make me sexy and desirable. (Provided I'm a size six and have five feet ten inches tall.) It looks like it doesn't matter that Lieberman is Jewish or a man of edible and wholesome character. I disagree with Lehrer about how people can see through facades built by the image-makers of this country. If they could, then why do people pay $30 for a $10 pair of working man's blue jeans, or think 10 cents a minute is cheap for talking on the phone, when that is more than the hourly minimum wage?

Carolyn Facino is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily staff writer.
Opinion

Tuesday October 3, 2000

Mustang Daily

Letters to the editor

Look at transportation woes from new perspective

Editor,

I am a fifth-year student at Cal Poly who recently moved close to campus after spending a year abroad in Paris. I can honestly say we're not dealing with the same type of traffic issues here. In Paris, I was exposed to the true meaning of public transportation. Buses run every five minutes and they are dependable. I was amazed at realize that living a 25-minute walking distance from Cal Poly and having 9 a.m. classes, it is to my advantage to take my car to school and park relatively close rather than take a bus that is sure to arrive late, or too full to accommodate the 20 or 30 people waiting at my stop. If they want to provide alternative means of transportation, they should provide good service, and should take into consideration the peak hours when there will be more riders. The 8 a.m. buses are impossible to take if you get on at one of the last stops. It seems like instead of promoting bus use, they are trying to discourage it by creating the paid bus passes. Maybe in doing this they hope that less people will actually want to ride the bus. But, that just turns back to our car.

I know if I had to pay for a bus, I would never take the bus, especially if it meant being late to all classes. And after class, the problem should not lie just on whether we can get the funding to keep the buses running, but rather on how we can make it better. We are simply matching it over and it will eventually have graveer problems to deal with, because of transportation problems and lack of parking spaces. Our mentality needs to change.

What about allowing refinements on campus? We need to look at things differently. Grand Avenue doesn't have a core walk and is horribly lit at night. There are many issues that should be addressed if we want to promote alternative forms of transportation.

The transportation system has created a temporary solution, but by creating more parking spaces we will be pro-

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World Bank with restrictions on loans that some see as all for profit motive. In some cases, this type of change always comes from the bottom. The eight-hour workday, Civil rights for women and blacks. The ending of imperialist carnage in Vietnam. In Egypt, we see an increase in military spending. The end of the Cold War, Civil rights for women and blacks. The...
Napster burden placed on recording industry

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Three federal appeals judges put the onus on Napster Inc. to stop allowing its users to swap copyrighted music, with queries trying to find out how exactly Napster's service should or could be monitored to weed out the onslaught of copyrighted music among its 32 million users.

Judge Robert Becker told Paul Friedman, a lawyer representing the Recording Industry Association of America, that asking Napster to keep tabs on all the music traded by all its users might be too tall a task to handle.

"How are they supposed to have knowledge of what comes off of some kid's computer in Hackensack, N.J. to a user in Guam," Becker asked.

Friedman said the answer lied in Napster's ability to take a list of copyrighted song titles and redact its service not to transmit those MP3 files.

The hearing was part of the continuing legal battle between Napster and the RIAA, which alleges that Napster contributes to copyright infringement by allowing millions of users to search for music with its MusicShare directory and then download directly from each others computers known as peer-to-peer file-sharing.

The appeals panel, through its questioning, suggested that U.S. District Court Judge Marilyn Hall Patel's injunction shutting down Napster prohibited legal uses of the music-sharing software, such as the trading of non-copertighted music.

Patel's injunction against Napster in July said the small Redwood City-based company was encouraging "wholesale infringement" of music copyright rights.

But before Napster's computer servers were to be downed, the appeals court stayed the injunction, keeping the company's service alive.

Napster also claimed the promotion of artists who permit their songs to be shared would be hurt by removing the injunction, adding that the 1994 Supreme Court decision allowing Sony to continue manufacturing VCRs which can duplicate copyrighted materials also covers Napster's service.

But Friedman argued that Napster was specifically created to aid users engaging in copyright infringement. Friedman said the music industry is not "yet ready to stop Napster from allowing its users to swap pirated music.

"Napster really wasn't designed to be the gatekeeper of the whole system," Friedman said, arguing that the illegal trade of MP3 files could only happen with the aid of Napster's service.

"No one can get that music without Napster," Friedman said.

Friedman, representing the recording industry Monday, grilled But Frackman with questions about why was specifically created to aid users to find out how trafficking in copyrighted music.

"Napster burden placed on recording industry"

which he monitored service should or could be reinstated and the song- Frackman said the music industry's not supposed to have

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must be in the neighborhood of a half a billion dollars.

Another company, MP3.com, allows users to listen to, but not download, copyrighted songs on its computers. It has settled lawsuits brought by four record labels and in September lost a copyright-infringement case brought by Universal Music Group. That case is likely to reach the Supreme Court.

Even if the recording industry succeeds in shutting down Napster, it still faces the enormous challenge of trying to halt the online swapping of pirated digital music without shutting down the central server. Experts say shutting down such services would be next to impossible because of the Internet's very nature.

Cedarburg, Wis. (AP) — A bank robbery suspect was killed in an armed confrontation with police Friday in connection with the armed robbery of a Midland Bank at Allenton. His name was not released because no charges had been filed as of Monday, prosecutors said.

He was taken to St. Joseph's Community Hospital in West Bend for treatment for injuries sustained during the confrontation with police. He died there.

The 24-year-old man was arrested Friday in connection with the armed robbery of the Mid Bank at Allenton. His name was not released because no charges had been filed as of Monday, prosecutors said. He was then carjacked a Cadillac a few blocks from the hospital and drove into adjacent Ozaukee County, where police chased him through Cedarburg.

After striking another vehicle and a railroad crossing signal, authorities said, the naked man jumped out of the car on the lawn of a nursing home, fired a shot that struck the home, then ran through the building and out a back entrance.

As he dashed through a field behind the nursing home, police fired a shot that struck him in the buttocks and arrested him. He was taken to a local hospital.

"Without a doubt, this is the whole system," Friedman said, arguing that the illegal trade of MP3 files could only happen with the aid of Napster's service.

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SPORTS

continued from page 8

Mustang Daily can be," he said. "I think we will be ready," Fens said. "This will be a good character test." Gartner is concerned about the change in the lineup. "I think the team can compensate, but of course we will never be the same," he said.

Last year Cal Poly beat Portland 2-1 in double overtime. Portland has won their last two games and is coached by Clive Charles, who has just returned from the Olympics where he coached the men's soccer team. Portland's major weapon is sophomore Conner Casey, who played under Charles in the Olympics. Cal Poly's next home game is on Oct. 13 versus San Diego State at 7 p.m.

PLAYOFFS

continued from page 8

ent than many clubs that have had success for a while now," Giants general manager Brian Sabean said. "To keep good players or attract good players, you obviously have to be willing to spend or spend wisely. I think it's a testimony to decision-making as well a player development and scouting." Last year, the eight postseason teams were all among the top 10 spenders. In 1998, the playoff teams came from among the top 12. "One of the questions that comes to mind is were the larger-income clubs able to weather the strike better, which is what you expected," players' union head Donald Fehr said. "What you had was the industry coming back, and it takes time to rebuild teams." Big-money busts this year included Los Angeles (third at $94.2 million), Boston (fourth at $99.9 million), Arizona (sixth at $80.8 million) and Cleveland (seventh at $78.7 million). "It is an aberration," commissioner Bud Selig said. "Jerry Reinsdorf and the White Sox, the Oakland people, you obviously have to be willing to tolerate test players. In 1998, the playoff teams came from among the top 12. "One of the questions that comes to mind is were the larger-income clubs able to weather the strike better, which is what you expected," players' union head Donald Fehr said. "What you had was the industry coming back, and it takes time to rebuild teams." Big-money busts this year included Los Angeles (third at $94.2 million), Boston (fourth at $99.9 million), Arizona (sixth at $80.8 million) and Cleveland (seventh at $78.7 million). "It is an aberration," commissioner Bud Selig said. "Jerry Reinsdorf and the White Sox, the Oakland people, you said to me. "See us next year."

How are we going to perpetuate this? We don't have a chance."
The nine biggest spenders all had winning records. The five teams with lower payrolls than the As — Pittsburgh ($31.9 million), Minnesota ($30.1 million), Florida ($25.9 million), Kansas City ($24.5 million) and Minnesota ($15.9 million) — all had losing records, going a combined 61-148.
The top five spenders combined to go 44-562.

"The Mets are in the playoffs, the Yankees are in the playoffs, Atlanta is in the playoffs, and on and on," said Selig, who argues the game's economic system needs changes. For the first time in modern baseball, no team won more than 60 percent of its games and no team lost 60 percent or more. The 198 difference between the best winning percentage (San Francisco at .599) and the lowest (the Chicago Cubs and Philadelphia at .451) was the smallest in major league history, according to the Elias Sports Bureau, baseball's statistician.
The previous mark was .201 in 1998.

The previous mark was .201 in 1998.

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Wells Fargo
Goalkeeper lost for season

Brenton Junge breaks leg for second consecutive season

By Matt Smart
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Senior goalkeeper Brenton Junge broke his left leg during practice in El Paso over the weekend.

"Even if they don’t end up seeing any game time, they help the team out a great deal in practice, which is very important," said Coach Matt Smart.

Junge started for Mustangs in 1998-99 and is currently the leading scorer in the NCAA Division I history.

Michael Schneider is the new goalkeeper at Cal Poly, but only if he passes the medical test. Schneider has accepted at Cal Poly.

"He was the same leg, same spot, it is safer to assume that it didn’t heal as good as it should have," head coach Wolfgang Gartner said.

Junge’s injury comes almost one year to the date from last year’s injury which also ended his season.

"The loss of Junge has been evident effect against Denver, Gartner said.

Ross Ketchum, a Cal Poly freshman, played the entire game and allowed eight goals and made three saves.

The Mustangs were unable to score against the Pioneers, but tied off five shots on goal. Denver had eleven shots and scored on eight assistant coach Glenn Fens had little to say about Sunday’s loss.

"We were tired physically and mentally, we didn’t show up," he said.

Gartner is more concerned about the loss of senior captain Kurt Merlit, who played the entire season and tied for the most matches started in an NFL match this season.

The Mustangs lost 1-4, and have given up 20 goals during this season, which is the worst in Cal Poly history.

"Mike had a great high school career, he is definitely going to be able to help us this year, either in games or practice," Schneider said.

"We’ve only seen him in drills-type situations so far, but he should be able to be our first choice," Gartner said.

"I like the style of play and the coaches,“ Titchenal said, “but I mostly decided on Cal Poly based on academics.”

Titchenal is not the first walk-on to succeed as walk-ons. Ross Ketchum who played professionally in Israel.

"I was tired physically and mentally, we didn’t show up," he said.

Gartner is more concerned about the loss of junior goalkeeper Brenton Junge who had 35 saves and two shutouts this season before Friday’s injury. The Mustangs were 3-5-1 this season when Junge started as goalkeeper.

Walk-ons face a unique challenge

By Jon Hughes
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

The path to basketball stardom is not always clear cut. Not all players are handed athletic scholarships and immediately placed on the roster. Some players have to walk-on.

"It is a unique challenge," said Assistant coach Glenn Fens.

Mike Titchenal, a Cal Poly freshman, is such a player. After a stellar prep career at Cardinal Newman High School in Santa Rosa, Titchenal had several options in goal for a collegiate basketball career. He had been recruited by UC San Diego, UC Davis, and Cal Poly.

After much deliberation, he decided on Cal Poly, despite the fact they were unable to offer him a scholarship. To Titchenal, it seemed like the right choice.

"I like the style of play and the coaches," Titchenal said. "But I mostly decided on Cal Poly based on academics.""}

Mustang head basketball coach Jeff Schneider is glad he settled on Cal Poly.

"Mike had a great high school career and he is definitely going to be able to help us this year, either in games or practice," Schneider said.

"We’ve only seen him in drills-type situations so far, but he should be able to be our first choice," Gartner said.

"Mike will eventually contribute as a college player, but this year our perimeter play should already be great," he said. "It will be the best we’ve ever had."

Titchenel is not the first walk-on to succeed as walk-ons. Ross Ketchum, a Cal Poly freshman, has accepted at Cal Poly. Two recent players have achieved success as walk-ons. Ross Ketchum started for the Mustangs in 1998-99 and David Sensor is currently playing professionally in Israel.

"We’ve had many walk-ons at Cal Poly," Schneider said. "Even if they don’t end up seeing any game time, they help the team out a great deal in practice, which is very important."