Thefts in dorms leave police clueless

By Kirsten Orsini-Meinhard
MUSTANG DAILY MANAGING EDITOR

Some students returned from the Thanksgiving holiday to an unpleasant surprise this weekend: Nine Mountain dorm rooms were burglarized and University Police estimate that $1,400 worth of goods were stolen.

No suspects have been found, said University Police Officer Don Hubbard, although it was most likely more than one thief.

The burglaries took place sometime between 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 24 and 1:30 a.m. on Nov. 24, in the Shasta, Whitney and Palomar dorms, Hubbard said.

"One student called in and then we started looking around and found more broken into," Hubbard explained.

Hubbard said the perpetrators broke into dorm rooms through open windows and were able to access the dorm rooms through doors that were left open.

"The majority of them were from rooms that were left open," Hubbard said.

It would have been fairly easy for the burglars to pull open the old crank-style windows and break the locking mechanism, he said. In many of the dorm rooms, the windows were left open two to three inches when the students left for the four-day weekend, Hubbard said.

A variety of items was stolen from each room. Hubbard said small amounts of cash, televisions, video games and CDs were taken as well as personal items such as pocketknives and belt buckles. He said the most seemingly random item taken was a fish tank with fish. Even the fish food was stolen.

University Police called all students at their homes to inform them of the incident. Josh Burton, a math and philosophy senior, lives in Whitney dorm room 1. He received a call from University Police at his home in Sacramento informing him that his room had been broken into.

Burton was baffled by what was taken from his room: the thieves apparently left valuable items such as video games, music and a computer system that had not been taken from any other dorm rooms.

"What they don't really understand is, those are really intelligent criminals," he said. Burton was hired at Mervyn's in the juniors and Ready-to-Wear Petites department, and says the shortage of help means employees need to work long hours for him. Burton is short on employees currently, and the shortage justifies the long hours for him.

"I'm asking my associates to work because the shortage is getting worse and forces people to work. I don't know what another week and a half hours would have meant. But, we need the help," Charles Burton, the head of the break room, said.

"We all want to finish the job, but who wins?" Burton said.

In his struggle against George W. Bush, Gore made it clear he would do whatever it took to win Florida in its drawn-out election. By Megan Shearn

HELP WANTED NEEDED
Local retailers cope with lack of seasonal holiday help

"We are doing the best we can," Nanes said. "If I'm not here to conduct interviews, team leaders are doing them." 

Material engineering sophomore Don Crow was hired at Mervyn's in October for seasonal help. He works in receiving and says the shortage of employees means longer lines for him.

"It's hard to get time off during the holidays because there aren't enough people to cover the shifts," Crow said.

"I think it (shortage in seasonal help) has a lot to do with the new minimum wage. It's really hurting our business," he said. "It's hurting our business in a lot of areas because we haven't had work. We are doing the best we can." 

Nanes attributes this employee shortage to the booming economy. "The economy is doing so well, and it's getting harder because new businesses are coming into town," he said. "People can choose where they want to work."

Some of the new businesses are in the neighborhood around Mervyn's, namely The Promenade. Nanes gives the competition with The Promenade as another reason to the hardship in finding employees.

Lack of help means employees need to take over in all aspects of the department store.

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Holiday shopping season takes off

By Jennifer Hansen
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Turkey Day has come and gone, marking the start of a busy holiday shopping season, and local businesses felt the rush of shoppers searching for after-Thanksgiving sales Friday.

The world's largest retailer, Wal-Mart Stores Inc., reported on CNN.com that Friday sales reached $1.1 billion, slightly higher than last year's $1 billion. Mary Lou Morphi, assistant manager of Wal-Mart in Paso Robles, said the store was busy all weekend, especially on Friday. The store opened earlier than normal at 6 a.m., and parking lot and customers sprouting in to take advantage of a special "First" sale. The sale offered special items, such as computers, at extremely low prices between the hours of 6 and 11 a.m.

Morphi said customers bought televisions, scooters, home-wear items and cosmetic gift sets, all of which were on sale past weekend. She said she thought this weekend's sales were just as busy as years past.

The official launch of the holiday shopping season may have begun this past Friday, but last-minute shoppers and bargain hunters are expected to continue through the week. Christmas Day, according to an article on CNN.com, seems shoppers may spend less money than normal this year.

According to a Gallup poll on CNN, the average amount a household will spend on holiday gifts this year is $797, down from last year's average of $857. Consumers may be more cautious about spending on nonsentials, such as scooters and robotic dogs.

"Christmas will be decent, but not spectacular," said Kurt Barnard, publisher of Barnard's Retail Trend Report, in an ABC-NEWS.com article. "You won't see the binge buying you saw last year."

Two popular gifts this year are the scooter and a Techno "robot puppy." A spokeswoman for Uncle Tom's Toys in San Luis Obispo said that most people already have the scooter, it was a hot item this summer. She said that electronic toys such as the robotic dog are always more popular at Christmas time; however, customers are simply buying classic toys such as Legos and board games.

Cherie Larkin, assistant manager for Cost Plus World Market in The Promenade shopping center, said the store was busy this weekend. Customers were doing a lot of "bunker buying," she said. Shoppers are putting together gourmet gift baskets with foods, wine, candles and other sample size items, the store often, Larkin said.

"According to an article on ABC-NEWS.com, retail analysts expect 3 to 4 percent sales increase at stores this season, compared to last year's 7 percent increase.

"Christmas will be decent, but not spectacular," said Kurt Barnard, publisher of Barnard's Retail Trend Report, in the ABCNEWS.com article. "You won't see the binge buying you saw last year."

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DORM continued from page 1

added that his roommate has not returned home yet and there could be more items missing that he is unaware of.

"All the major stuff is here, but there may be small stuff gone," Barton said.

The University Police took a CD case and other items from Barton's room to be used as evidence. In their search for the perpetrators, the police finger-printed items in each of the burglarized rooms.

"We took finger print evidence," Hubbell said. "It was lucky, that might pay off." The police department currently has no suspects, and Hubbell said they can't determine if the thieves were students at Cal Poly or even members of the community. The University Police also contacted suspicious-looking people who were on campus over the weekend.

"This was a crime of opportunity - it's obvious to anyone that the campus is vacated," Hubbell said. There is no security in the dorms over holiday weekends, he explained. Students just lock up and leave.

Hubbell can't remember a burglary of this magnitude occurring in the dorms, and he said Cal Poly has a history of safe dorm rooms.

As University Police search for the perpetrators of the burglaries, Hubbell urged students to lock doors and windows when they leave their room and even when they are home. He said students can help by contacting University Police if they have any information regarding the thefts, regardless of how far fetched their information may be. The number is 756-2281.

"We're all in this thing together," Hubbell said.
Mustang Daily

Monday, November 27, 2000

**News**

**Lebanese attacks countered**

KFAR CHOUHA, Lebanon (AP) — Israel — still engaged in violence with the Palestinians — faced fresh security problems Sunday in Lebanon, where it rammed missiles and machine gun fire in retaliation for a Hezbollah bombing that killed one soldier.

The assault was Israel's first cross-border retaliatory attack since pulling its troops from southern Lebanon in May to end Israel's 18-year occupation of a border enclave there. The Israeli army continued striking back with gunfire after the roadside bombing in Chebaa Farms near the Lebanese border. One civilian was slightly injured on the Lebanese side.

Lebanese President Emile Lahoud, in comments on state-run television, called the Israeli raids a "grave prece­dence that may entail serious repercus­sions for which Israel is alone respon­sible."

The violence at Chebaa Farms — an uninhabited strip of land in the western foothills of Mount Hermon where the borders of Lebanon, Syria and Israel meet — occurred against the backdrop of continued Israeli-Palestinian clashes.

On Sunday, Israeli soldiers killed four armed Palestinians as they trav­eled from a Palestinian-controlled area of the West Bank into an Israeli-controlled part, a military official said.

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**New study shows ecstasy use on the rise; marijuana use drops among teenagers**

NEW YORK (AP) — Teen-age marijuana use has dropped for a third straight year, but a jump in the use of the "club drug" ecstasy raised new concerns for parents, according to the Partnership for a Drug-Free America's annual report.

The survey found that more teens were turning to club drugs like ecstasy, 4,4-methedioxymethamphetamine, which is also known as MDMA or Ecstasy, for their party experience. The survey also found that more teens were using marijuana, but at a lower rate than the increase in ecstasy use.

"These numbers are significant because they address attitude changes since the partnership, along with the White House's Office of National Drug Control Policy, start­ed a national anti-drug ad campaign in 1998," said Barry McCaffrey, director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy. "This study confirms the trends we've seen over the last three years — a steady decline in the number of teen using drugs," said Barry McCaffrey, director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy. "This is very good news."

**Lettuce**

**Why isn't there much franchise food on our campus?**

For those of us that have visited other college campuses, it is easy to wonder why we have such a deficit in the chain food area. I spoke with Al Cushman, associate director of campus dining, looking for the answer behind this disparity.

Historically, he said, there have been efforts to bring franchised food outlets to campus. When The Avenue was remodeled in 1994, Cushman said, both Chick-fil-A and Long John Silvers — where Pasta Pasta now stands — were offered at that venue.

"Sales of Long John Silvers was not to our liking," said Cushman explaining why the captain jumped ship at The Avenue.

Before all that, though, Tapango's Denter location was planned; however, it was slated to be Taco Bell Express instead.

Cushman said Taco Bell backed out of that licensing deal because of pressures from the off-campus Taco Bell.

"The larger factor is space consideration," Cushman told me. He said that most chains want 900 to 1,100 square feet of dedicated space in order to come on campus college. Right now, the Avenue can only offer about 120 square feet. He said that many fast food restaurants are seeing universities as their "new bottom" and are working to decrease their space needs.

Cushman said Campus Dining is consistently in contact with chains to see if their restaurants can fit in the space available on campus. These include Steak Escape, Panda Express, Wendy's and Burger King.

He said that some of these not only have a problem with the space limitations, but won't enter The Avenue while yielding the chicken market to Chick-fil-A. Cushman said that the Chick-fil-A agreement specifies that no competing chicken items would be sold. So, if Wendy's were to enter the food court, it would have to do so without in Spicy Chicken Sandwiches, something Wendy's is not prepared to do.

Future building, however, will be planned with larger spaces for fast food chains, Cushman said the Northwest Complex, part of the Master Plan, will have enough space for franchises.

In the less distant future, however, are a few exciting new licensed food additions. Julian's will be remodeled this upcoming summer. In this update, Cushman said Mrs. Fields' Cookies is being considered. Additionally being explored is the inclusion of Cinabon in Campus Market.

Except for these small-scale retail outlets, franchise foods will continue to hit a dead end at The Avenue until more Campus Dining locations are built or national brands are less demanding.

Have a question about campus? Ask Adam. E-mail him at ajamani@calpoly.edu.

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**WANTED**

Top quality, high caliber team members for all positions to become a part of an organization that's sole purpose is to treat our guests to a legendary experience in Sierra Mountain dining.

**Info Line 543-8300**

**Apply Saturday, December 2nd from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

**Embassy Suites (333 Madonna Road)**

Daily interviewing will begin Tuesday December 5th at Tahoe Joe's Famous Steakhouse, 485 Madonna Road at the Promenade/SLO (next to Gottschalks)

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**POLY WEEK**

**Monday, November 27, 2000**

**NOTHING LISTED**

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**Tuesday, November 28**

8 AM - 6 PM: COLLEGE CLOSE OUT SALE. Alpha Phi Omega, UU Plaza

11 AM - 3 PM: SILENT AUCTION. T.A.G.A. UU Plaza

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**Wednesday, November 29**


6-8 PM: PANEL DISCUSSION. Student Community Services. Cal Poly Theater.

7-9 PM: OPEN HOUSE. Alpha Chi. Alpha Chi House.

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**Thursday, November 30**

NOTHING LISTED

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**POLY WEEK**

**Sunday, December 3**

**NOTHING LISTED**

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**Events**

- PolyWeek runs each Monday in Mustang Daily. To submit an event for consideration, e-mail information to aus@mustangdaily.calpoly.edu by the Friday prior. Please note Mustang Daily reserves the right to omit submitted events for any reason. Club meetings and similar general events will not be listed.

- Mustang Daily regrets any inaccura­cies in listings, but is not held responsible for them.
Many groups offended by team mascots

You know, the last two weeks of bickering in regards to politically incorrect sports teams have been eye opening for me. After reading some of the enlightening letters to Mustang Daily, I feel the pain of the victim and realize that I, too, am deeply wounded and offended by the American system.

First, I look at the graduate school I desire most to attend after I leave politically aware Cal Poly. The University of Notre Dame does sit in my Irish heart and me in the face by naming its team the Fighting Irish. This is a horrible injustice to the Irish. Do they think all Irish are drunkin' boxes? Not me. I don't drink or fight. Also, what about the Boston Celtics? Can I just imagine my Gaelic forefathers praying to their harp-manned mascot. Were my great-grandparents leprechauns? I think not!

Let me continue myانغ serialization of Catholicism by sports. I realize this point was brought up two weeks ago, but I've noticed the best way was to get people to join the progressive cause is to dull the arguments over and over again. Teams like the San Diego Padres spit on Jesuit Sam and his Franciscan companions when they Christen: California. Look at Stanford Cardinal. Which cardinal are they portraying? Perhaps John Henry Cardinal Newman? Oh me, I can just hear the barking of the Catholic Newman Center now. The New Orleans Saints? Are we coupling Mardi Gras with Christian virtue?

Not me. I disagree. Do we actually think the Saints are God's team? The Vatican has yet to approve this one (I heard the Italian proverb, but the Saints are horrible. Maybe we could appeal to the Jim Henson interests for The Sacraments Kings show disrespect toward our European roots. I demand that all who have ties to a once or current monarchical country stand up against such atrocity - but then again, I am a hardcore Kings fan. Amazing how that works. But I'm sure my friend Jeremy laments over the way his Scandinavian heritage is degraded by the Minnesota Vikings and the Oakland Raiders - oh, wait, his favorite was the Raiders.

What about the San Diego Charges? Do people who use credit cards possess any less dignity than others? What if those who change everything to their credit cards fall into debt? Are they supposed to accept a team that's named the Bolts?

The other day I was sitting in a chair at Superstars and was almost brought to tears feeling sympathy for my stylist. She and all stylists and barbers must rise every morning and try to hold their heads high knowing that a team called the Los Angeles Clippers undermines their profession. Perhaps we shouldn't stay with the names of sports teams. Let us protest against other institutions that make a mockery of culture. Maybe we can attack the hierarchies and societies for claiming to be Greek. There really is nothing Greek about them aside from their rather indulgent and primitive transactions to symphonies. I wonder how the people of Greece feel about this. Also, to remain consistently PC, let's get Campus Crusade for Christ. After all, the last to the faith in Solidarity, and who has new slaughtered. Call me crazy, but Islam might not be thrilhe "WIT" signs anywhere. In fact, we can go after every organization that is not Christian or Jewish in our country since we cannot accept any title or name into an insult to culture - or maybe we can just get a clue and quit complaining.

Michael Deem is a philosophy junior.

Special to the Daily

No job, no money and absolutely nowhere to go, and you thought you had it bad? There are an estimated 3,000 homeless people in San Luis Obispo county with only about 60 beds available in homeless shelters.

"There are enough homeless to be sleeping in creeks, cars and moving from coach to couch," said George Morian, executive director of the San Luis Obispo Housing Authority. "There is obviously a homeless housing need out there."

Why isn't anything being done about this need? The community is purposely blinding themselves from the homeless issue. A new shelter is being planned again this year in Paso Robles, but for the past two years, it has inevitably fallen through the cracks, according to Shawn Ison, Economic Opportunity Commission (EOC) shelter supervisor.

There are currently only two shelters in San Luis Obispo County. Due to the lack of housing, many homeless are forced to camp out in the surrounding areas of the community. The police are currently and even investigating the masses that are forced into this alternative. The truth is, they have nowhere else to go.

What the county does have to offer in response to this is an overflow facility, transitional housing and a day center, along with a few other small programs. The overflow facility houses 20 people (mostly women and children) rotating from church to church, said Erin Partridge, director of Student Community Services at Cal Poly.

"A transitional housing program is in effect, yet it too cannot support the overwhelming need," Partridge said. This program provides apartments and houses bought by the county to shelter homeless. The program also provides vocational assistance, yet there are spaces for only 28 people.

"That doesn't even begin to fill the void," Morian said.

In addition to these two programs, San Luis Obispo County has a day center built specifically for the homeless. The center provides activities and support for the homeless during the day, yet there is no transportation offered from the EOC shelter to the day center.

"It's too far to walk," Partridge said. While the center has ample funding, without proper allocation the transportation problem still exists. Although these programs are beneficial, the misuse of funds is robbing the shelters and programs of their full potential.

Michelle Cammings, a staff member at the EOC shelter, said shelters do not receive enough donations to make it through the year without ending up in the hole. The shelter realizes it needs to find someone to represent it in order to increase its funding but is unable to locate a qualified person willing to work for the diminutive salary it can offer.

The existing staff is already overworked and underpaid. In order for the shelter to persist, it relies almost entirely on volunteers, which leads to another problem. The selfish community needs to help homeless people improve their condition. Morian said that the community feels that building a facility (or even having a facility in their area) will attract more homeless, making it extremely undesirable. This unsupportive attitude generally leads to a deficiency in awareness about homelessness.

It's not a pressing issue now, as suggested by Morian. It's more of a social issue. It doesn't have the same political appeal as before, so there are very few powerful people to advocate for any changes in the county which leaves homeless and the need for shelters in the same place where it began - at the end of the county's list of priorities.

Darci Brown is a social science senior and Michelle Langston is a math junior. They are writing as part of an ongoing series on societal issues.

Letter policy

Columns, cartoons and letters reflect the writers and authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Mustang Daily.

Mustang Daily reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, profanity and length. Please limit length to 350 words.

Mustang Daily encourages comments on editorial policy and university affairs. Letters should be typewritten and signed with major and class standing. Preference is given to e-mailed letters. They can be mailed, faxed, delivered or e-mailed to mustangdaily@hotmail.com

You should know by now not to look for logic in anything I say.

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Robin Nichols arts & features editor
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Janwyn Toy, Sheri Sakamoto
Jenny Ferrar
Shannon Brunelle
Don't blame movies for our moral decay

Throughout the tomadic fury that was once research for a project, I across a jewel of an article claiming that Hollywood was in part responsible for the decline in religion across the world. I would have dismissed it, had the article not been one of the films I consider to be prominent examples of what cinema should be.

The first example cited by this skewed report was the latest Commentaries scathing piece of the plot by revealing that the killer committed his horrible acts because of a broken heart. Hence, the author blames Hollywood for directly relating religion to the imaginative-slaughter of an actor — obviously the intent of the writer, producer and director.

The tirade continues to attack films that convey the once shining white moral fiber of America, claiming that Keaton's creation has led many to abandon their families and smoke pot in their garages. The author calls it a "filthy, shameless Beauty" who distracts the dysfunctional family and promotes promiscuous sex and deviancy.

The list went on and on, citing scenes from films such as "Stigmata" and "Dogma," insinuating that cinema defies the image of the Catholic Church and defiles any self-sacrifice in the name of freedom of religion.

But the author failed to realize that the entertainment business makes its money from giving people what they want. Hollywood doesn't force people to follow the norms and stigmas exaggerated in their films, because the people supplied the work for this fine.

Maybe some thought Kevin Smith playfully examined the hypocrisy of the Catholic Church, whereas others relished seeing the little guy win for a change in "American Beauty." Maybe some even attempted to watch an unseasonal plot unfold around a serial killer. Obviously every notion the voters who voted for Measure M should consider to he prominent throughout the country will take heed of your vote by paying very close attention to future planning and zoning decisions especially the land use planning of that Santa Rosa and Mill Streets in San Luis Obispo from 7 to 9 p.m.

We have maintained the phone number for the SOAR Committee (soarsanluisobispo.org) and the voters who voted for Measure M will call or email us with questions and comments. Thank you again to all the wonderful volunteers and contributors. Happy holidays, and see you on Dec. 7.

The SOAR Campaign Committee: Wendy Brown, Randy Knight, Susan Mullen, Tom Murray, Tina Salter and Ian Scott.

Hannukah, other holidays overlooked

It was one of the unfortunate students to have to take his required Jewish Studies course this Thanksgiving vacation. Nothing monetarily valuable was stolen from me, but several items of personal significance were taken: a wallet from my grandfather, a gift from a friend for being his groomsman, a watch from my mother, a belt my parents bought in Mexico. The officer who came to my room to record the stolen items was very helpful, and asked me questions about the appearance and worth of what was missing.

I always sit gazing out at the snowy morning, thinking about the millions of people sitting around their Christmas trees, opening gifts, smiling at Santa and thanking one another for the new TV set or pair of skis they just acquired. Well, yeah, I do that too, the gift-exchanging thing I mean.

But, I must fast all day, eight hours a day, and instead of thinking about the millions of people celebrating our eight sacred nights of Hannukah, the five in my family gathered around the menorah, sung our beautiful prayers, and remembered the sacred story behind its celebration.

Mom would tell the story, "When all the Jewish temples were being destroyed by evil terrorists long ago, all the oil had been stolen in the destruction except for a very small amount of oil that burned for eight nights, in turn, giving light to the eight nights of Hannukah."

We exchanged the few gifts we could afford to buy or make one for this year's Hannukah. The five in my family gathered around the menorah, sang our beautiful prayers, and remembered the sacred story behind its celebration.

To tell you the truth, I feel the over-celebration of Christmas has caused it to lose its significant meaning. And maybe those of us, who can celebrate our holiday more discreetly, can feel the power of it in our hearts.

Now, I'm definitely not saying Christmas is bad. When I first start to see the Christmas decorations in stores and homes, I get a warm fuzzy feeling inside. And my family has tried to enjoy Christmas, even though it isn't our holiday. One year my dad hung up stockings on the fireplace, but my mom cried because she felt we were disregarding our holiday. And we have gone into the colorful light displays at Domino's Farms in Ann Arbor this year too.

But we've always left feeling eerie, as if we are going through the motions of something we don't belong to. Maybe we are being ethnocentric. Maybe we are just feeling gemeinschaft. Or maybe the history of our Jewish culture and religion frees and breathes inside of us, making it difficult to appreciate this once sacred trial our culture, that which wasn't accepting of us. And it is especially during this time of year, when the lack of attention and acknowledgment that Jews everywhere have in our faces with a neon sign, or Christmas holiday that is. I guess every year I go through the motions of our catherine Christian meal out and through the watching and Christmas break.

But, what really got me this year wasn't the political correctness of the campus only recognizes the majority with its decorative light displays on campus buildings. Yes, "Happy Holidays" and "Peace on Earth" signs do exist, but it was looking more like family than work and it doesn't feel special to get a package in the mail, to know my parents were thinking about me. Thankfully, I don't base my life or happiness on what I own. I was not devastated or saddened by the theft, but I am troubled for the thieves.

It doesn't bother me that those who took one thing may be reading this commentary. What bothers me is that they're reading this, and probably don't even care. But it affects me, and I guess I'll never understand.

Ryan Miller is the Mustang Daily opinion editor.

No price tag for stolen items

It was easy enough to describe what a strong personal sensation of regret it was to lose to know what had been stolen. How can I put a price tag on the pocket knife my grandfather offered into my Christmas stocking one year? Had he belonged to my grandfather. He found it in an abandoned cabin one day while hunting. Since he died, it's one of the only things I have by which to remember him. What monetary value can I put on the leather sheath and buckle with a decoration inside? My parents bought it while on a trip to Mexico and sent it to me a couple weeks ago as a present. The loss is too big financial blow, and it would be far easier to get a new one, but it is not the same. It is special to get a package in the mail, to know my parents were thinking about me. Additionally, I don't lose or care about on happiness in what I own. I was not devastated or saddened by the theft, but I am troubled for the thieves.

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Now, I'm definitely not saying Christmas is bad. When I first start to see the Christmas decorations in stores and homes, I get a warm fuzzy feeling inside. And my family has tried to enjoy Christmas, even though it isn't our holiday. One year my dad hung up stockings on the fireplace, but my mom cried because she felt we were disregarding our holiday. And we have gone into the colorful light displays at Domino's Farms in Ann Arbor this year too.

But we've always left feeling eerie, as if we are going through the motions of something we don't belong to. Maybe we are being ethnocentric. Maybe we are just feeling gemeinschaft. Or maybe the history of our Jewish culture and religion frees and breathes inside of us, making it difficult to appreciate this once sacred trial our culture, that which wasn't accepting of us. And it is especially during this time of year, when the lack of attention and acknowledgment that Jews everywhere have in our faces with a neon sign, or Christmas holiday that is. I guess every year I go through the motions of our catherine Christian meal out and through the watching and Christmas break.

But, what really got me this year wasn't the political correctness of the campus only recognizes the majority with its decorative light displays on campus buildings. Yes, "Happy Holidays" and "Peace on Earth" signs do exist, but it was looking more like family than work and it doesn't feel special to get a package in the mail, to know my parents were thinking about me. Thankfully, I don't base my life or happiness on what I own. I was not devastated or saddened by the theft, but I am troubled for the thieves.

It doesn't bother me that those who took one thing may be reading this commentary. What bothers me is that they're reading this, and probably don't even care. But it affects me, and I guess I'll never understand.
HELP
continued from page 1

The retail stores that opened at The Promenade, Stanley said, have plenty of employees for seasonal help.

"We had tons of people applying and still have lots of applications," she said. The same scenario goes for Bed Bath and Beyond, another new store in the Promenade.

"We're not short at all," said Lisa Terry, assistant store manager. "But we're always hiring."

Big 5 Sporting Goods is another store on the wrong side of The Promenade. The store is also short on seasonal help, but Kathy Hallisey, assistant store manager, said they hope to be up to full staff by next week.

"We're currently at 85 percent of our level, but we need to be at 100 percent," she said. Hallisey has seen the seasonal employment shortage the last two years.

"The economy is good and kids don't need to search for jobs," she said. Hallisey also said that due to the fact that San Luis Obispo is a college town, it's hard for retailers to schedule college students because they tend to be gone when the store needs them.

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Greek News

Congratulations Alpha Chi Omega new initiates! We are all so excited to welcome you into our sisterhood.

Alpha Phi

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Employment

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Basketball continued from page 8

second half, shooting under 30 per cent after hitting 42 percent in the first half. Senior guard Michelle St. Clair was held to seven points in the second half, after posting 21 in the first.

"In the second half we made more of an effort to make sure we knew where she was," said Cal Poly center Heather Joner, who scored a career-high, 15 points and had four rebounds. "We were more focused on making up our defense because we knew our shots would fall." Ocmio remained hot down the stretch for the Mustangs, finishing with 17 points, six assists and six rebounds. Sotosky finished with eight points and six assists, while center Caroline Rowsell had 10 points.

Junior point guard Olivia Jenkins led the Mustangs with seven rebounds. St. Clair led all scorers with 26 points.

Ocmio had another solid night off the bench Wednesday as the Mustangs defeated Gonzaga 63-51 in Mott Gym.

"It's nice," said Ocmio, who tallied 16 points. "This is the best start since I've been here. We just came with it tonight.

Call Poly didn't trail in the game until the second half when the Bulldogs went out of the locker room with a 13-2 run and took a three-point lead.

Put Cal Poly's bench answered with a 11-2 run of their own. "We had a stalemate there where we couldn't hit a shot and they started burning ours," Mimmack said. "Then we had some key substitutions and took the momentum back."

Sotosky hit three of four from downtown, while Ocmio was a perfect nine of nine from the free-throw line. Journey added seven points and three rebounds off the bench for the Mustangs.

Rowsow and Jenkins added six points apiece as both teams turned in miserable nights from the floor. Cal Poly hit 37 percent from the field, while the Bulldogs shot 35 percent.

"We made some pretty good decisions on the court," Mimmack said. "The ball just didn't fall for us tonight."

After hitting five of 10 from the three-point line in the first half, Gonzaga (11-1) cooled off from beyond the arc and wound up shooting 31 percent in the game.

Erin Bergman hit four of five three-pointers and led the Bulldogs - losers of 11 of its last 12 games - with 19 points. The Mustangs travel to UC Riverside on Tuesday.
Mustangs' record remains perfect with weekend win

Women's basketball comes from behind to beat Sacramento State on Saturday

By Brian Milne
须马NAG DALLY RROOF WRITER

The Cal Poly women's basketball team is off to its best start in 10 years.

The Mustangs have jumped to a 3-0 record this season, their best start since 1990-91 when they won their first three games out of the box on route to a 14-13 season.

"It feels great to be 3-0 right now, so of course we're happy," said senior guard Stephanie Oorio. "It's just the beginning though, there's more to come."

On Saturday, Cal Poly erased an early deficit and compiled Sacramento State 41-30 in the second half, finishing with a 75-68 victory at Mott Gym.

"They came out a little fast, took the first game out," said Cal Poly head coach Jeni Moses. "Now we get our feet on the ground."

For the Mustangs, they won their first three games out of the box on route to a 14-13 season.

"It feels great to be 3-0 right now, so of course we're happy," said senior guard Stephanie Oorio. "It's just the beginning though, there's more to come."

The Mustangs then took seven minutes to get a point on the scoreboard, but they ripped the deficit with a 13-0 run to take the lead midway through the first half. The Mustangs won 75-68.

"They came out a little fast, took the first game out," said Cal Poly head coach Jeni Moses. "Now we get our feet on the ground."

For the Mustangs, they won their first three games out of the box on route to a 14-13 season.

"It feels great to be 3-0 right now, so of course we're happy," said senior guard Stephanie Oorio. "It's just the beginning though, there's more to come.

Men's hoops defeated by Islanders

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

The men's basketball team fell for the opening half and was never able to recover as they fell to Texas A&M Corpus Christi 66-72 Sunday afternoon.

Islander forward Michael Hicks torched the Mustangs for 48 points and 14 rebounds, while center Damien Kodokhi knocked him up with 13 points and four rebounds.

Cal Poly, led by center Chris Byrnes' 20 points, shot only 38.6 from the field in the first half, falling behind 43-29 at the break. Forward Jamal Scott fouled out halfway through the second half and finished with five points.

The poor shooting for the Mustangs continued at the free-throw line, as the team only made 11 of 27 free-throws.

Scores

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Briefs

Chargers start one-game winning streak

SAN DIEGO — The Chargers were spotted a dirty dozen losses, thanks to John Carney's strong right leg. Carney kicked a 52-yard field goal with 2:14 left to give San Diego a 17-16 victory over the Kansas City Chiefs on Sunday, stopping their season-opening losing streak at 11.

The Chargers tried to give this one away by committing five turnovers, including two interceptions by Ryan Leaf.

Sports Trivia

Yesterday's Answer:

The Chicago Bulls retired jersey number four in honor of Jerry Sloan.

Congrats Steve Corino!

Today's Question:

Where did Isiah Thomas play college basketball?

Please submit sports trivia answers to sports@mustangdaily.calpoly.edu. Please include your name. The first correct answer received via e-mail will be printed in the next issue of the paper.