C'entnil Coast this summer, 7

By Karin Driessen

The woman whose body was found at Montaña de Oro State Park on Tuesday has been identified as Cal Poly student Kristina Hogan.

According to a press release from the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Department, a woman noticed the Sheriff's Department Tuesday evening that her roommate had not returned home as expected. Sheriff's Department in a press statement. More details should be available after the autopsy is complete. The body was found a quarter of a mile south of the main campground at Montaña de Oro on a hiking trail that leads to bluffs over the ocean about 300 yards west of Pecho Valley Road. She is believed to have been dead no more than four hours before she was found.

According to The Tribune on Wednesday, Lt. Steve Bolts said the body had cuts on the wrist and neck. He also said there was a "sharp, bloody cutting instrument" near the body, according to The Tribune. Hogan, 5 foot 2 inches with blond hair and blue eyes, was a business major, but friends say she had a passion for art.

"She loved art and maybe wanted to go to art school," said Valerie Laxson, a music sophomore and close friend. "She was so deep and had so many ideas -- different from other people. This just doesn't feel real." Interim Vice President for Student Affairs Robert Derweiler said Cal Poly is doing all it can to help.

"We had the campus counseling service offer her roommates assistance, and we did the same for the College of Business," he said.

By Matt Smart

online applications to the California State University system through the CSU Mentor online program increased by 70 percent this past filing period from 67,335 in 1999 to 114,900 this year for entrance next fall. Due to this sharp increase in online activity, the computer system used by the CSU, which is maintained by XAP, added two high-speed Internet lines to help increase the system's capacity. Due to the slowdown the system experienced, some universities extended their deadline from Nov. 30 to Dec. 5. On the final day of the extended application deadline, 17,845 applications were filed. Because of this slowdown, Cal Poly extended its deadline again to Dec. 7.

"I think we would have more Web applications if the servers would have not been slow," said Donna Amos of the Admissions office at Cal Poly. "XAP responded very quickly. We learned of the problem on the Monday following Thanksgiving and on Tuesday two new lines were installed. Typically 60 percent (of our applicants) apply after Thanksgiving."

The Cal Poly Admissions department prefers the Web application and is hoping that applicants continue to choose the Web in the years to come.

As of Dec. 7, Cal Poly had accepted 13,020 applications for undergraduate admission in fall 2001. Amos said this total was comprised of 5,012 paper applications, 160 disc applications and 17,048 Web applications -- nearly 80 percent of the total. Last year, 12,572 of the 23,020 undergraduate applications were filed through CSU Mentor. The disc application will probably be discontinued next year.

"The CSU Mentor is an online program that helps students get prepared for college," said Ken Swisher, media relations manager for the CSU Office of the Chancellor.

The online program covers all aspects of the college preparation application process. It allows students to find the university in the CSU system that is right for the individual student.

Information concerning each university in the CSU system is available on the Web site, www.csumentor.edu, in the categories of admissions, academics, costs and financial aid, student life, transfer students and international students. There are campus movies as well that highlight different aspects of university life. Applications are available for undergraduate and graduate programs.

The wide variety of information available online and the ease that the Web site affords the user is making the program a success.

"Popularity has grown geometri-

By M a t t  S m a r t

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

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News

Bush calls new candidate for post of labor secretary to be interviewed

WASHINGTON (AP) — President-elect Bush moved quickly on Wednesday in search of a new candidate for labor secretary after the abrupt withdrawal of his first choice. Bush's team also mounted a vigorous defense of another controversial nomination, that of former Sen. John Ashcroft for attorney general.

A day after Linda Chavez withdrew her name from consideration for the labor post, Bush summoned Eloise Anderson, former social services director in Wisconsin and California, to Washington to be interviewed.

Top Bush officials said Anderson is a leading candidate for the job, perhaps even the front-runner — though they said that is still hard to gauge with Bush.

Republicans also mentioned for the post include Susan L. Chas, former deputy transportation secretary and the wife of Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky.; Stephen Goldsmith, former Indianapolis mayor, and former Rep. Jim Talent, just defeated for Missouri governor.

Goldsmith, who is also under consideration to head up Bush's initiative to coordinate activities of religious programs that provide social services, also was in town for a meeting with the president-elect. Republican aides said.

A senior Bush aide said Wednesday night that the president-elect would announce his choice for U.S. trade representative Thursday, and that the likely nominee is Robert Zoellick, a former assistant secretary of state for economic affairs during the administration of Bush's father.

The Bush transition team, meanwhile, expressed annoyance that special interest groups opposed to Ashcroft had gained access to opposition research on him done by the late Gov. Mel Carnahan's Missouri Senate campaign. The material of boxes of news clippings, speeches and voting records — was gathered for use against Ashcroft in his unsuccessful Senate re-election campaign.

"I just think the whole notion of people finishing their campaigns and providing opposition research on people who have been named to (the Cabinet) is disappointing. It is not sending the signal of bipartisanship and that's disappointing," said Bush spokesman Ari Fleischer.

"I'm not in the vote counting business. But we're very confident that Senator Ashcroft will be confirmed," Fleischer said.

In the nation's capital for two days, Bush and his national security team received a top-secret Pentagon briefing on military challenges around the world. He also met with budget advisers and posed for the presidential portrait that will replace photos of President Clinton hanging in the nation's federal buildings and post offices.

Bush's team at the military briefing had even more Pentagon experience than those doing the presentation. Bush brought with him Secretary-designate Donald Rumsfeld and Vice President-elect Dick Cheney, both former defense secretaries. He also brought along Colin Powell, a former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff himself, and his national security adviser, Condoleezza Rice.

Meanwhile, Bush, reaching back yet again to the administration of his father, selected Margaret Tutwiler, who served in both the Reagan and elder Bush White Houses, as adviser and special consultant for communications.

Tutwiler, a close associate of former Secretary of State James A. Baker III, will serve as an unpaid consultant for 90 days to advise the new administration on communications planning and strategy, a transition announcement said.

Fleischer did not rule out an announcement by Bush before he returns to Texas on Thursday for a replacement for Chavez, or names for several other top posts yet to be filled, including that of U.N. ambassador, Undersecretary Rice.

On the labor post, Fleischer said, "in some sense, we are back to square one. But, in another sense, there are a lot of people that he knows, knows well and is looking at a number of people."

Bush aides said he may take his time making a decision, concerned that announcing a replacement for Chavez too soon would open him to criticism that he was rushing the review process that failed him in his case.

The Postal Service between $26 million and $232 million to place its collection boxes at post offices, depending on the number of boxes eventually installed.

The post office said this is a nonexclusive agreement that it will make available to any company that offers overnight package service nationally.

"Whenever the public and private sectors work together, the real beneficiary is the American public," added Frederick W. Smith, chairman of FedEx.

Under the deal, FedEx will haul Express Mail and Priority Mail — as well as some first-class mail — for the post office. It will provide guaranteed space at a cost of $6.1 billion over seven years.

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"The Postal Service delivers Main Street and FedEx provides an air fleet," Henderson proclaimed as he gave Smith a model of a neighborhood post office in exchange for a model FedEx airplane.

Henderson said the new contract will put all Express and Priority mail in FedEx planes, providing fast, dependable service. He said the post office will phase out its current lounges and close its hub in Indianapolis.

MENTOR
continued from page 1

News

USPS, FedEx make deal for better delivery

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Postal Service and longtime rival FedEx announced an agreement Wednesday that officials said will speed up the mail and expand FedEx's retail availability across the country.

"These agreements will leverage two great networks: the extensive reliability of FedEx planes and the coast-to-coast retail presence of the Postal Service," Postmaster General William J. Henderson said.

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Jewish leaders have recommended our consistent belief that every individual is created in the image of God and is deserving of equal treatment," the joint statement said. The Boy Scouts of America's exclusion of gays because of the group's core values is in "incompatible with our consistent belief that every individual - regardless of his or her sexual orientation - is created in the image of God and is deserving of equal treatment," the Joint Commission on Social Action said in a Jan. 5 letter to Reform movement congregations.

Congregations should also publicize their reason for cutting ties with the Boy Scouts to help educate the public, the commission said. The advisory was prompted by a Supreme Court ruling in June that upheld the group's exclusion of leaders and members. The Boy Scouts had argued that homosexuality contradicts the group's core values.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government approved use of a drug called Femara to fight advanced breast cancer, suggesting it as an alternative to today's top treatment.

The Food and Drug Administration's decision Wednesday may bolster a growing shift in how specialists treat late-stage breast cancer as a new class of drugs challenges the longtime standard therapy, tamoxifen.

Femara's not a wonder drug. There is not even any proof yet that it helps patients live any longer than tamoxifen.

But an international study of 907 post-menopausal women with advanced breast cancer found it provided patients a median of 16 more months before tumors worsened than did tamoxifen. Overall, the risk of disease worsening was 10 percent less among Femara patients than tamoxifen patients.

Experts call that meaningful time for such late-stage cancer, particularly because it lets women postpone consideration of more toxic chemotherapy.

So late Wednesday, the FDA approved Femara, known chemically as toremifene, as a first-line therapy for metastatic breast cancer, the kind that has spread through the body. "We thought it was impressive," said the FDA's chief, Dr. Robert Temple.

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corp. already sells Femara as a backup for when tamoxifen fails. The FDAs upgrade of the drug leaves it ready to challenge tamoxifen in hopes of becoming the most-used therapy for these very sick women.

Estrogen fuels the growth of about half of all breast cancers, especially those in older women. Tamoxifen, the top hormonal treatment for estrogen-fueled tumors, is given to almost all such U.S. patients after surgery to help prevent breast tumors from returning.

In addition, when breast cancer returns and spreads, tamoxifen is the top treatment to stall tumor growth and buy women some time. It prevents estrogen from linking up to a receptor on the surface of cancer cells.

Femara is among a new class of cancer drugs called aromatase inhibitors, which work differently - by blocking production of estrogen. Some scientists questioned the Femara study because most of the patients were from Russia and China, only 100 Americans were included. FDA officials visited Russia as well as checking the study's overall medical records and say they have no reason to believe results from other countries skewed the data.

"We thought it was a well-designed study," Temple said.

In the study, Femara and tamoxifen seemed to cause similar side effects, including hot flashes and pain in the bones, joints or back. Less common, tamoxifen increases women's risk of uterine cancer or blood clots; Temple said the study wasn't large enough to address if Femara has a similar risk.

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Expect trouble from Bush’s presidency

Chavez helped a fellow human
By Robín Nichols
MUSTANG DAILY ARTS AND FEATURES EDITOR

Even though it has just been a few days since school began, some people are already primed to let loose. The Rocky Horror Picture Show, taking place Saturday at Cal Poly Theater, offers the perfect opportunity.

Put on by the Zen Room Club and Big Purple Onion Productions, the show has become a tradition at Cal Poly, with a program being put on every quarter since fall 1999.

“When the club began, they were doing a monthly show in the University Union,” said Sam Chew, Zen Room Club president.

According to the Zen Room Web site, the club began in March 1999 as an ASI special event showing of the Rocky Horror Picture Show. The cast performed two shows in one night to a full house.

The Rocky Horror Picture Show originated in Europe as a play. It came to Hollywood and became a film that was the antithesis to the Studio 54 mentality of beauty and perfection, Chew said.

“It was intended as a B movie,” he said. “This was one of the movies that were at drive-ins. It’s entertaining, has gotten a huge response … the movie was made in such a way that it is easy to make it a parody.”

The Rocky Horror production at Cal Poly is like most that go on around the nation, save perhaps a few of the more risqué parts, as this is a school-related event. Actors act out the story onstage, as the movie plays behind them. The audience is encouraged to participate in all aspects of the performance.

“It’s not just something to go and watch, it’s something to participate in,” Chew said. “No show is ever the same. Different people come and put in their two cents.”

A Cal Poly Rocky Horror experience begins before the show even starts. There are activities to participate in with the audience, such as songs and shouts and the “virgin sacrifice.” But that is not as terrible as it sounds.

The first-timers, or virgins, that visit the show are not subject to any disrespect or maltreatment, as some might think. They are just urged to participate as much as possible, so that they will get the most out of their experience.

“Something I tell all the first-timers is that it’s an environment that you should be comfortable in,” Chew said. “But at the same time, we want you to have fun and play the games that we play. It’s kind of an initiation.”

He also emphasized that while the show is a good time for most, it isn’t something that everyone will enjoy.

“There are a good number of people that don’t like the way we go about it, but it’s an experience that everyone should try once,” he said.

Chew also hopes that someone attending the show will see that the rumors and stereotypes circulating about the show and its audience will be dispelled.

“For all the people who have heard about the show and refuse to go, I try to break them from that idea,” he said.

The reputation of outfits worn for Rocky Horror is that the more skin, the better. Chew said that although a creative attitude is encouraged, participants can’t show anything that can’t be shown on television. There is also the option of dressing as one of the characters from the movie, which also allows for a lot of personal expression, he said.

For those veterans of the show, there will be new actors and activities before the show. Chew said. The theme of this year’s performance is “Real Millennium — Sex Odyssey 2001.”

The Rocky Horror Picture Show will play Saturday at midnight, but people are encouraged to arrive around 11:30 p.m. Tickets are available for $7 at Funny Wrappers, Boo Boo Records, Games People Play and Twisted Orbit, or for $8 at the door. To get more information about Zen Room and its productions, visit http://zenroom.rhps.org.
Looking for more bite in your coffee? If so, look no further than 2Dogs' Coffee Company and Internet Cafe in Morro Bay.

2Dogs' provides customers with a relaxed environment in which they can study, surf the Web, listen to live music and, of course, get a cup of coffee.

Co-owner Billy Clayton said the house blend coffee and products make 2Dogs' coffee unique.

"All the products we use were decided upon because of taste," Clayton said. "Price was never a factor because we want the best-tasting blends."

The beans used for 2Dogs' house blend are roasted in small batches for quality taste, he said. Clayton also notes that for each lot and quantity, the milk is steamed and foamed individually. He said this gives these drinks a texture not found with other companies.

Along with the coffee, 2Dogs' regularly hosts a variety of musical talents.

"It's mostly acoustic just because it's a small house," Clayton said. "But we've opened to punk rock here before."

Every Sunday from 5 to 10 p.m. is Drum Circle. A group of people with drums and other instruments sit in the small, raised stage area and plays. Clayton said everyone is welcome to bring an instrument and enjoy.

There is an open mic night every Monday from 5 to 10 p.m. People usually play their acoustic instruments, but there have also been open jams and poetry, Clayton said.

Even without the sounds of live music, 2Dogs' attracts many students.

"It's a laid-back atmosphere and great place for students to study, especially with the Internet access," Clayton said.

2Dogs' Coffee Co. runs on pure fun

By Janelle Foskett
MUSTANG-DAILY STAFF WRITER

Mel Gibson plays Nick Marshall in the new film "What Women Want." His womanizing ways are changing when he gets electrocuted and gains the ability to hear women's thoughts.

"What Women Want," directed by Nancy Meyers, is a hilarious movie in which the main character, Nick Marshall (Mel Gibson), receives a jolt of electricity and develops the ability to hear women's thoughts. Some may call it a gift, others a nightmare.

"What Marshall, the son of a Las Vegas showgirl, is a big time Chicago ad executive, breaks from his usual pro­cess to find that he is clueless when it comes to targeting women in advertising. In search of inspiration, he resorts to using some feminine products, such as control top panty hose, hair wax and a Wonderbra.

Dancy Maggie (Helen Hunt), a new employee brought in to capture the female market-share, gets the pro­motion. Marshall had his eyes on Marshall, the typical stereotypical male, uses his "gift" to steal Maggie's ideas.

The casting for this romantic comedy couldn't be better. Although Mel Gibson may be best known for his films where he aims a gun or swings a sword, he radiates the role of Nick Marshall. His progression from jerk to gentleman was quite interesting. Helen Hunt, who has appeared in many movies over the years, was her usual, adorable self. However, she did not seem to fully step into her character. She was believable, but failed to come across as the top-notch executive in the advertising business.

This movie does a great job straying from the usual love story and provides some truly memorable scenes. For example, during a love scene Marshall holds his, "Is Primary Spears On Leno tonight?" Probably not the most erotic dialogue and intimate moment.

One of the two drawbacks in this movie is a suicidal file clerk who serves as a scene filler. The point of her character is to show that Marshall learned to be compassionate and empathetic. The second shortfall would be how the movie slows down scenes rather than flowing.

This isn't the typical "shoot 'em up" Gibson movie, but it's not a "chick flick," either. This film would be a great date movie for cuddling on the couch at home or seeing in the theater. And gentlemen, maybe you'll be like Marshall and learn just what women want.
Concert to benefit scholarship fund

By Erica Tower
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Bach, Chopin and other famous classical artists live in concert at the Cal Poly Theater. Or so it will seem when Cal Poly music professor and pianist William Terrence Spiller performs "Art of Dance," a recital of 18th, 19th and 20th century dance-inspired music, on Saturday at 8 p.m.

Spiller, a 10-year Cal Poly music professor, has played piano for 35 years. After his older sister decided that she needed lessons, then 4-year-old Spiller would wander over to the piano and attempt to play her lessons by ear. "After listening to that, my parents decided that I needed lessons," he said.

For Spiller, the benefit recital is an annual event that directly benefits the Cal Poly Music Department Scholarship Fund. Each year the concert raises about $1,200 for music students, according to Dean Rose, the administrative support coordinator for the music department.

However, Spiller said the concert does more than contribute to the scholarship fund. "It's an opportunity to realize that, artistically speaking, connections go way back," Spiller said. "It's hard for people to be able to make musical and extra-musical connections in their own lives with this music."

Though the concert consistently benefits the same fund, Spiller chooses a different musical focus for each recital. "It keeps it on my toes," he said. "It's a good challenge."

This year Spiller will perform dance-inspired pieces from four renowned artists, including J.S. Bach, Claude Debussy, Maurice Ravel and Frederic Chopin.

The first half of the program will feature Bach's "Furiant No. 1," a dance suite or collection of dances, Debussy's "Homage a Rameau," a style of Baroque dance, and Ravel's "Valse Nobles et Sentimentales," a collection of waltzes.

The second half will highlight three works from Chopin's "Mazurkas," a country-influenced, Polish dance, "Waltz," and "Polonaise," an aristocratic Polish dance.

"Overall, there will be about 70 minutes of pure music," Spiller said. Tickets to the "Art of Dance" benefit concert are $6 for students and senior citizens and $8 for the public. They can be purchased at the Performing Arts Ticket Office, and by phone at SLO-ARTS (756-2780). The event is sponsored by the Cal Poly College of Liberal Arts and the music department.

Fair is jumpin' for Destiny's Child

By Adrienna Benjamin
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

They represent the new breed of women in music: aggressive, sexy and talented.

Destiny's Child, winner of the 2000 Annual American Music Awards for Favorite Soul/R&B Band, Duo or Group, will be coming to the California Mid-State Fair in Paso Robles on July 27.

The three-woman band has experienced success with their sophomore album, "The Writing on the Wall," producing such hits as "Say My Name" and "Jumpin', Jumpin'." Already 5,000 tickets have been sold for the concert, and another 10,000 are available, said Jacky Hildebrand, marketing director for the fair.

"I hope that when they come in town they'll say my name, my name," said Dominick Aremadio, civil engineering senior.

Aremadio added that Destiny's Child is a great group of girls who are really hot, and he would definitely go see them in Paso Robles.

The trio actually started as a group of four young women in Houston. Under the guidance of Music World Management's Matthew Knowles, father of lead singer Beyonce Knowles, and album executive producers, Destiny's Child began to attract local Houston audiences. The four teenagers would open for many R&B and hip-hop acts, such as Immature, Dru Hill and Da EFX, according to Internet sources.

Touring with these famous groups brought the group recognition. Yet earlier this year, a scandal hit when original members LeToya Luckett and Latavia Roberson were replaced by Farrah Franklin and Michelle Williams, according to Internet sources. New member Franklin has parted ways with the group just five months after joining, whittling the trio to a trio. The year 2000 was a stressful year for Destiny's Child, but the group continues to ride a wave of multi-platinum success with its second album, which sold over 5 million records. According to The Billboard Hot 100, Destiny's Child celebrates its ninth week at No. 1 for the single "Independent Woman Part I." The group is also preparing to hit the road with Christina Aguilera.

"I think that because their parents are involved, they keep it real with what goes on their pursuit of becoming one of hip-hop's popular, yet classy, bands," said Viren Patel, an ornamental horticulture senior.

"They attract the audience by not how much skin they show, but by their voices," he said.

Hildebrand said that last year's acts of Britney Spears and Christina Aguilera were sold-out hits. She believes this year will also be a great success.

She added that because it's a 12-day set, planners explore acts that are available and attract a lot of people.

Hildebrand said that an entertainment director gets in touch with different agencies and books the bands to play at the Mid-State Fair.

"With our history of pop acts generating sell-out shows in 1999 and 2000, I wouldn't wait to secure a seat," Allison said in a press statement.

Tickets for the concert have been on sale since Dec. 13 and will be on sale at the California Mid-State Fair ticket office. Call (805) 238-5656 or go to www.midsoustatefair.com. The fair will run from July 25 through Aug. 5.

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FREE
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International gymnasts perform combination of medal-winning routines

By Evann Gastaldo

Students will have a chance to see a "groundbreaking" combination of theater and dance on Monday when "Aoto," comes to the Cal Poly Performing Arts Center.

"Aoto," which features gold medal-winning gymnasts from the Romanian Gymnastics Federation, is "more than a dance piece, but with heavy theatrical elements," said Ralph Hoskins, Cal Poly Arts director.

He described Daniel Ezralow, David Parsons and Moses Pendelton, the directors of the show, as "three of America's best choreographers."

Rather than a more typical dance production, Hoskins said "Aoto" uses sound effects, scenery, props and lighting to create stage pictures.

The show has a live score and set that Hoskins described as a giant jungle gym. He said the lighting will not only illuminate the dancers but will also provide meaning.

The combination of lights and costumes will make the show more attractive to the audience, Hoskins added.

"It will be a unique blending of dance," he said.

Hoskins described the performers as gymnasts rather than dancers.

"This show is done with untrained dancers, but trained athletes," he said.

"It's taking people with a unique set of athletic skills and letting them be the clay that some of our best choreographers can mold. It's an experiment," Hoskins said.

Hoskins said one of the goals of the Cal Poly Arts program is to do the "avant garde" as well as the classics. He called "Aoto," a dance-theater hybrid, an "avant garde" performance.

Directors Ezralow and Pendelton co-created Momix, a modern dance company, according to a press release from Columbia Artists Mgmt. Inc. Parsons has created over 50 works for the Parsons Dance Company. The three directors worked in collaboration with Luke Crescent and Steve Nicholas, who created "Stomp," another popular dance show, according to the press statement. Hoskins and "Aoto" has toured in Europe and is now starting a large U.S. tour. He added that Sun Lien Ong, is probably one of the first stops of the tour.

The show will be held Monday at 8 p.m. Tickets, which range from $26 to $39, can be bought at the Performing Arts Center's ticket office. Orders can be placed over the phone at 756-2752.

By Mike Bargav

Crouching Tiger greatness is hidden

(U-WIRE) MONTREAL - Crouching Dragon, Hidden Tiger, Hidden Dragon Crouching Tiger, Flying Dragon Roaring Tiger... whatever. Running through permutations ad nauseum is going to do very little to change the fact that the title made little sense before the movie and even less after it. Ang Lee, renowned for his past endeavors for a pompous politico-cinemarographic voice, has churned out this much bulkheaded "epic" that does not warrant its recent acclaim. Sadly enough, a spectacular musical score, featuring among others Yo-Yo Ma, a production budget digging into bottomless coffers and veteran actors doesn't manage to save the film.

The story begins with the decision of sword master Li Mu Bai (Chow Yun Fat) to place his proverbial Excalibur (Green Destiny), in the safe keeping of Yu Shu Lien (Michelle Yeoh) and quit the game for a quieter life. But just when he tries to get out, they pull him right back in. The Green Destiny is stolen by the kung fu warrior princess Jen (Zhang Ziyi) and her mentor, Bai's arch-rival, the Jade Fox, forcing Bai to reclaim it. Bai sees potential in Jen, and rights to pass on the Green Destiny to her. The crux of the plot is the intertwined love between Bai and Li, and between Jen and Lo (Ziyi Zhang, a Mongolian bandit). The tapestry of characters interwoven by a shared desire for a simpler and easier life precluded by the harshness of reality and chance lends the epic a dynamic quality, the same as at the root of the acclaim for Crouching Tiger.

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Mustang Daily ...

If you don't like it, make your own paper!
California needs more power plants to function

During winter break, I was in mid-order for a large pepporoni and olive pizza from Woodcock's when the line was moved and I went Commentary: dead. After coming the Woodcock's in the fall for hanging up on me, I tried calling back but there was no answer.

My emotions and I then resigned ourselves to some other, inferior pizza. Unfortunately, the pizza company remained and no pizza place picked up their phone.

I then called around and discovered that the pizza was not in Los Angeles due to the rolling blackouts California has been threatened with lately.

The rolling blackouts are a consequence of the energy crisis that has the potential to cripple California. According to Pacific Gas and Electric Company, the state's demand for electricity has gone up 35 percent since the energy crisis began, and California's power plants are currently shut down for maintenance.

This imbalance occurred because many people stopped using 25 years ago left the state without adequate generating abilities. For years, California imported 25 percent of its electric energy from neighboring states. When those states started growing faster than California and needed energy for themselves, it was too late for California to compensate for the loss.

In 1996, when the legislature enacted deregulation of utilities, California could not create a competitive electricity market. Deregulation forced entrenched utilities to sell their power plants to independent companies at below-construction costs. The cheap plants caused a lack of incentive for the owners to build new plants or even operate the ones they own.

An example of this poor service is that even though California's power plants are currently shut down for maintenance, this unbalanced situation may prevent us from getting the help we need.

Gray Davis. In his State of the State address Monday night, Davis asked that PG&E plan a major investigation into the Public Utilities Commission.

Another factor to consider is that the major California power suppliers in Southern California Edison are on the verge of bankruptcy because of the skyrocketing price of wholesale power.

PG&E said that soon it will no longer be able to power up for its customers.

Many Californians are saying, "Yeah right, PG&E bankrott, not when my PG&E Bill this month is almost $120. And PG&E said they might give me a refund. Again, yeah right.

It's true, though. I doubt they'll give us a refund, but the major utilities are estimated to be in a combined debt of $11 billion.

Doe, Davis went to Washington Tuesday to appeal for federal help. He asked that this state be given its wholesale power and money.

The government already denied the requests of wholesale power.

The enemy commission is unlikely to impose a regional cap on wholesale power prices. The problem is that a private corporation is in control of the energy in the state, on the edge of the law.

Money should be granted, though, to help the regulated utilities construct new power plants of their own so that more instant power will be available and the independent vendors will be forced to compete.

More power plants would be the best solution for this crisis which must be prevented, because low-income households cannot afford the rising prices of heat and light, and small power loss would cause California to stop functioning properly.

Cal Poly is doing in part by pledging to reduce lighting, lower the thermostat to 68 degrees and turn off unused computers. If 1 guess it takes a power shortage to get a university to turn off unused computers. Perhaps instead of the PG&E refund, we could get a tuition refund.

It could go toward that pizza I didn't get in midwinter.

Sarah Dubois is a journalism junior and Mustang Daily staff writer.

Letter to the editor

Give help, not money

Editor, Michael Dennis's observation at his town stop proved to be interesting. "Ignorance taints your perception of homeless, nearly," Jan. 9, I believe in helping the homeless, and I tell you why.

I have a brother that lives on the streets in Los Angeles. He lived on the street where he met his mother, and six months later, they gave birth to a baby girl.

She was taken away due to that fact that her mother had tested positive for marijuana. The baby was given back after they completed second-court ordered steps, like holding down a job, taking parenting classes and getting help for their addictions. My brother was given no chance to be a productive part of society.

My parents and grandparents bought him and his wife a mobile home. My mother made sure (so did my grandmother) that there was plenty of food on the table. Three months later, the baby was given back after they completed second-court ordered steps, like holding down a job, taking parenting classes and getting help for their addictions.

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Vick taking his show to NFL

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — Michael Vick came to Virginia Tech with little fanfare and big dreams. His two electrifying seasons in Blacksburg changed the Hokies forever.

Now Vick is ready to leave school two years early and enter the NFL draft — with a price tag estimated at $60 million if he's the first player selected.

Vick called a news conference for Thursday at the Newport News News & Daily press, and friends said it was to announce that he's turning pro.

Vick has not been available for comment since speculation grew that he has decided to leave, but the Hokies have been quiet, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said Vick told him it was entering the draft.

"He's going to be one of the greatest in the NFL. If I had any draft picks, I'd give them up for the next couple of years to get him," coach Mike Ditka, now a TV analyst, said.

Vick ran for three touchdowns in his first career start, the last including a 44-yard jaunt in the air, and wasn't stopped eight times last season. Vick also passed for 225 yards, completing 34 of 54 in his first career start, the most productive passer in Blacksburg history.

Virginia Tech lost 46-26 to Florida State, but Vick nearly won it himself. The Hokies also lost 26-28 early in the season. Virginia Tech would have been among the early favorites to contend for the national championship.

Rich has caused problems for everybody we've played this year," Beamer said. "But he's not happy with attention, which has declined each of the last four seasons. UCLA is 4-6-2 in the Pac-10.

Brown said Vick was upset about the coach's decision. "I'm glad it's my last year because I'm getting tired of all the controversy," he said. "If there was a coaching change and I was a freshman or sophomore, I wouldn't be coming back.

But the underdog Hokies have taken full advantage of the situation. Coach Tommy Reamon declined to comment on his quarterback's decision. Coach Frank Beamer and defensive coordinator Rick Vitt again made notable remarks, but struggled throwing the ball and his offensive coordinator, the great ones in the league, doesn't replace his quarterback's decision.

For Vick, who also has met with NFL scouts, the decision became more difficult than reading lines.

"It's time for me to leave Blacksburg," Reamon said.

"I pick overall and beyond having. After twice declining his intentions to return to the Hokies next season, the NFL draft's top two picks, Vick looked like he might be the No. 1 pick overall and beyond having.

Dietz, who has 27 touchdowns in his first two seasons, has a 6-7, 245-pound body that he prefers to stay thin. Vick lost 166 pounds when he returned to the Hokies for the 2001 season, and is a fit, 245-pound body that he prefers to stay thin.

Vick told him he is entering the draft.

"I' ve got to be one of the greatest in the NFL. If I had any draft picks, I'd give them up for the next couple of years to get him," coach Mike Ditka, now a TV analyst, said Thursday.

Vick was two straight games — he's happy with attendance, which has declined each of the last four seasons. UCLA is 7-4 and 2-0 in the Pac-10.

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Sports

Thursday, January 11, 2001 11

Back from vacation and full of sports rants

Sports fans, listen up. I've been gone for a while, but that doesn't mean the world stopped revolving. I was pondering whether or not to write a legitimate article with paragraphs and indenting and everything, but I think I'll just settle for some ranting and raving.

THE NATION OF DOMINA-TION: Are all my Raider-haters now? That's right, the silver and black back is where they should be. For all you non-believers out there, believe it. Come January 28, there's going to be some drunk Oakland fans celebrating their Super Bowl victory over the Giants.

SECOND BEST NBA TEAM IN L.A.: I can't seem to tell enough people about how my beloved Clippers are quickly becoming the talk of the town. The other day I asked some mundane question, and someone said, "Coach. I just can't buy into the jokes that are floating out there, believe it. I've got a funny feeling the world's the Clippers are really turning some heads."

Schneider's the one true thing that came out of Mustang Hall where Schneider announced his resignation, it was this: "The time for Schneider to move on was right, was the right time for Schneider to move on."

KEVIN BROMLEY:

"If there's one true thing that came out of Mustang Hall where Schneider announced his resignation, it was this: the time for Schneider to move on was right, was the right time for Schneider to move on."

David Henry

Junior forward

"We can take everything in stride and play well, or we can let everything go to the wind and go downhill. We will come together."

Sports

continued from page 12

four years. Mustangs had to take responsibility for his mistakes. Hopefully, he realized he finally had to take responsibility for his mistakes. And hopefully he finally realized he finally had to take responsibility for his mistakes.

Kevin is an excellent coach and he'll be very, very upbeat with the players," he said. "It's a very difficult situation, but he'll do an excellent job."

The players agree they can turn the season around.

"Adversity can bring a team together," Bjorklund said. "I'm sure the Big West sees us; lost five straight, their coach, they're down. But we have a new outlook. We have a new coach and we're like we're going to play against the best teams in the country."

Kevin Bromley, a player he truly cares about, was obviously his last and only option. And hopefully, he realized he finally had to take responsibility for his mistakes. And hopefully, he realized he finally had to take responsibility for his mistakes.

Kevin Bromley is a special to the Daily Mustang. And can be reached by email at jnolan@calpoly.edu.

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Schneider's not having any fun.

Bjorklund said, "He had told (the players) about the pressures put on him ... and when the losses hit, he and the team couldn't deal with it because of the pressure of the game and we were not playing to lose."

Schneider began his career at Cal Poly in 1995 with an anticipation of losing. He took over a team that finished 1-26 in its first year of Division I competition in 1994-95 and led the Mustangs to a 44-43 record in his first three years.

But with Cal Poly finally eligible to compete in postseason play, Cal Poly failed to live up to ambitious expectations. The team finished the 1997-98 campaign with a combined 2-15 mark and debate surfaced in the media and among fans over whether Schneider's tenure alone was the right call. Despite returning 11 players, McCutcheon retained Schneider, but Bjorklund reduced his contract to only one year, interim head coach even though it should have extended until 2003.

"During my tenure, the first three and a half years were almost a major career catastrophe," Schneider said. "Since that time, we have not been able to enjoy success on the basketball court that we had hoped for. We made huge steps early, but to get a team like that, it was not easy."

Schneider said he plans to spend more time with his family and will take some time off as a personal vacation. "If I do coach again, it would have to be at a very top level, as an assistant coach where you can compete for the national title or with a friend in the NBA," Schneider said.

As for his successor, Schneider admitted he leaves Bromley with a difficult situation, but is confident the interim coach will do well.

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SCHNEIDER QuITS

Associate head coach Kevin Bromley takes over for the rest of the season

By Joe Nolan
SPECIAL TO MUSTANG DAILY

Saying it was in the best interest for the men's basketball team, his family and himself, head coach Jeff Schneider abruptly announced his resignation Wednesday afternoon in Mustang Hall.

"It was something I had been thinking about, and I'm sure (Athletic Director John McCutchion) had been thinking about it also," Schneider said. "And it was the right time. The pressure was going to mount, and I'm very relieved with how things have turned out..."

Jeff Schneider
Former coach

McCutchion said associate head coach Kevin Bromley will take over as interim head coach, beginning immediately.

Bromley, who has been Schneider's assistant for his six-year duration as coach, inherits the responsibility of turning around a team in the midst of a five-game losing streak.

Schneider's resignation arose out of a discussion he had with McCutchion on Tuesday regarding the basketball program.

"We came to a mutual understanding that we had an option in front of us that we thought was the best of everybody's interest," McCutchion said.

Schneider will still get paid the remainder of his salary. His contract expires at the end of this season.

Schneider's resignation comes at an especially important time for Cal Poly, which has not made the NCAA tournament since 1990.

The Mustangs have turned to the first-year Division I team for the second time in Schneider's six-year tenure.

"It was this: the right time for Schneider to severe ties and say adieu," McCutchion said. "Understanding coach Schneider is a heavy task and an enterprise best suited for a 30-page research paper. But one thing has always been evident: he cares deeply about his image. He reads the papers and cares about how he's portrayed. He walks with a swagger like San Luis Obispo belongs to him. He's quick to point out his myraid accomplishments, including three newcomers of the year, turning the program around and an exemplary graduation rate for his players."

Caring about his image did not make him a bad coach. It just forced him to do and say anything to protect it.

The final straw came two games ago with the benching of Bjorklund and the comments that followed about needing more senior leadership:

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