**New counselor helps drug, alcohol abusers**

By Whitney Kellogg  
**MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER**

Cal Poly's new drug and alcohol specialist is making help closer to home— or at least closer to classes—for students struggling with substance abuse problems.  

Mary Peracca holds an unprecedented position as the on-campus expert in chemical abuse and dependency. She works daily in the Health Center.  

"I'm the one that can work with them on modifying their behavior," Peracca said. "I can help them on a personal basis."  

The university created Peracca's position in response to a 1999 Core Survey at Cal Poly, said Martin Bragg, director of Health and Counseling Services.  

"I saw a need for someone to work with the students," Peracca said. "(The position) was well suited to me and me to it."  

Cal Poly's binge-drinking rates were rising, according to the survey, and heavy drinking pointed to elevated risks of academic, community and health problems.  

"According to the survey, there are about 800 to 1,000 students here who drink heavily almost every single day," Bragg said. "They are at risk of limiting their personal and academic achievement at Poly, and have a much higher risk of much greater alcohol problems that will affect their lives and families."  

Peracca is a Cal Poly graduate and has a master's in clinical psychology from Antioch University in Santa Barbara. She is also a marriage and family therapist. For 10 years she worked in D.U.I. Prevention at San Luis Obispo County Drug and Alcohol Services.  

While holding that position, Cal Poly contracted her to show resident hall staff and peer health educators how to recognize high-risk behavior and help students. Last year, Peracca worked in private practice, where she counseled community members and students referred by Judicial Affairs.  

Peracca provides treatment in one-on-one therapy for students who see her voluntarily and for those referred by Judicial Affairs. Referred students see Peracca for a minimum of three sessions, but those who see her voluntarily can decide how much time they want to spend with her.  

"I'm here for any students who want to take a look at their alcohol and drug use and make some changes," Peracca said.  

Last year, at least one-third of the cases in Judicial Affairs were directly related to drugs and alcohol, said Ardith Tregenza, director of Judicial Affairs.  

"She is another level of support and referral for students," Tregenza said. "They used to have to go off campus and maybe to a place where they weren't comfortable."  

Peracca is also a community liaison and a link to outside resources. In addition, she trains faculty and staff to identify and intervene if students have dependency or abuse issues. Peracca hopes to eventually help all students who see her voluntarily.  

*see PERACCA, page 2*

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**SLO growth**

From left to right, Alex Knigge, Ione High School freshman, Matt Reed, a McKinleyville High School Junior, and David Alves, also a McKinleyville Junior, help plant 50 oak tree seedlings near Cal Poly's ARQDA building (the aero hangar) Sunday as part of the State Grange Easter Youth Conference.
Plane crew remains in captivity

BEIJING (AP) — A crippled American spy plane that landed at one of their airfields was a gift from the sky for China’s generals.

"It's clear how much information they've extracted from the U.S. Navy EP-3. But the crisis over its collision with a Chinese fighter has given them a new way to press Washington for an end to spy flights and to pry more money out of their own civilian leaders."

"This is a God-given chance for the Chinese military to claim greater relevance in Chinese politics," said Yu Moishen, a China expert at the U.S. Naval Academy. "It’s like a crocking tiger."

The intense secrecy shrouding Chinese politics has made it hard to know precisely what's going on during the crisis. But analysts suggest that the already influential People’s Liberation Army, PLA, may be partly responsible for the confinement of the U.S. crew.

The 21 men and three women began their second week in captivity Sunday, with no indication when they might be released.

The crew is being held on Hainan island on the South China Sea, where they made an emergency landing after the collision April 1. U.S. officials say the crew managed to destroy at least some of the plane's expensive equipment, although it isn't clear how much.

"The principal organization in charge of this whole affair has been the PLA, at least in the early stages," said Bates Gill, director of the Center for Northeast Asian Policy Studies at the Brookings Institution in Washington.

"Signals from Beijing have been confusing."

For two days after the collision, there was almost complete official silence, widely interpreted as a sign that Chinese leaders couldn't agree on what to do.

Then President Jiang Zemin demanded an apology. U.S. officials responded with statements of regret, which China said were a step in the right direction. U.S. officials then reported that negotiations were making headway.

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What's the status of the Daily's Web site?

Since September, I have been telling people that the Web site is on its way. I am quite happy to finally be able to say that it is up and being updated.

Check out mustangdaily.calpoly.edu to read Mustang Daily. Not only do we put out five days a week, but now we are doing it in cyberspace.

In the upcoming weeks, you will see the site expanding with more features and contents, so watch as our site grows.

Please feel free to e-mail me with any questions or suggestions about the site.

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

Monday April 9
SAVE FERRIS CONCERT TICKETS. Mustang Ticket Office.
5:30-7:30 PM GUITAR LESSONS, Music Department, Davidson Music Building, room 126.
7-9 PM WRITING PROFICIENCY EXAM WORKSHOP. University Writing Lab. Building 10, room 138.

Tuesday April 10
7:30 PM "TELEVISION UNDER FIRE" MEDIA FORUM. Cal Poly Theatre.
7-9 PM WRITING PROFICIENCY EXAM WORKSHOP. University Writing Lab. Building 10, room 138.

Wednesday April 11
6:30 PM HIGHER GROUNDS COFFEE HOUSE, ASI Events. Club 221, University Union.
7 PM MEXICO STUDIES PROGRAM INFORMATIONAL MEETING. Extended Education. Building 10, room 115.
7 PM "SENSUAL SCIENCE" PUBLIC TALK, Women's Studies Program. Cohen Center's Philips Hall.

Thursday April 12
11 AM "Dos Semanas de Orgullo," Multicultural Center. UU Plaza.

Friday April 13
LAST DAY TO DROP A CLASS
The Bible and homosexuality: What is true?

There have obviously been some misunderstandings over what the Bible teaches about homosexuality. As a heterosexually inclined person, I have never been too interested in this matter, but after reading some ridiculously condemning letters to the editor by some fellow Christians, I feel the need to deliver a few thoughts.

I am well aware of all the passages of the Bible that address this issue (Leviticus 18:22, 20:13; 1 Timothy 1:8-11; Romans 1:26-27, 1:1 Corinthians 6:9-10). Unfortunately for the Christians who feel they teach that homosexuality is wrong in any way, these verses tell us nothing as far as sexual orientation is concerned. Jeremiah 3:14 says Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed due to sins of sodomy, lying and unrighteousness (words more like a former president). Ezekel 16:39-42 says the sins of triple gluton, complacency, and a refusal to share with the poor were the abominations of these cities (sounds like the American way of life). Wisdom 19:13, 1 Luke 10:30 and Matthew 22:39 say that homosexuals are an abomination.

Alas, the references in Leviticus, 1 Timothy, Romans, and 1 Corinthians speak of ACTIVE and PRACTISING homosexuality outside the sacrament of Christian marriage, which is reserved for only man and woman (Matthew 19:3-12). The notion of homosexuality and homosexuality were unknown in biblical times. The writers of Scripture took for granted that everyone was born with a natural attraction to the opposite sex. Thus, the Bible condemns same-sex genital activity in the highest degree. Homosexuality as an orientation or attraction was still not being defined and debated.

Therefore, if we look only to the Bible for the final say on human sexuality, we are doomed, then all we can get is a condemnation of homosexual orientation.Orientation is never discussed nor can it be said to be a sin. Science is almost at this point of defining what is a generic term for a work of Dr. Michael Bailey of Northwestern University, Dr. Richard Pillard of Boston University of Medicine and the National Institute of Health). In fact, homosexuality is genetic, then it cannot be sinful because sin is a deliberate decision to go against God's will.

Finally, for those Christians who are still not convinced, allow me to draw your attention to your own faith. As Peter Lacome (C.O. O)) said in "Listening Hearts" that hatred is in every case wrong. The Bible makes this very clear. Hatred is frequently expressed in prejudice and the exclusion of certain groups of people. It is a grave sin to single out someone out of hate due to who they are, whether that is in terms of race, nationality, religion or sexual orientation. This goes for acts of violence, silence and indifference. Going back to 1 Cor 6:10-11, St. Paul says "Some idolaters (those who have sex outside of marriage) nor idolaters (includes those who place great value on money, clothes, etc.) nor adulterers nor hoy prostitutes nor practicing homosexuals nor thieves nor thieves nor the greedy (worried about your future finances) nor drunkards (out of college student) nor liars (especially those who condemn individuals) nor robbers who will inherit the kingdom of God." Notice Paul does not single out homosexual or an extraordinary "abomination." Instead, he lists several sins that the reader, probably most of us, can say we identify with. We are all sinners and cannot escape it. If we ever single out a particular person or group as being "especially sinful," then we ourselves are in danger of offending our Lord.

Mike Deem is a philosophy senior.

Alone at sea, a man braved the tumultuous tossing and turning of waves, all the while fighting off vicious sharks with a handmade spear. Nothing with him but the hope of reaching shore, he faced the unthinkable as his boat tipped over, plunging him into the cold Pacific Ocean, left to sink or swim.

No, this isn't the trailer to "Cast Away," nor is it a nightmare, but a reality for this man who went through this experience. Shekhdar is just one of many who strive to break records of human feats. It seems that humans also struggle with a natural attraction to the opposite sex.

In their quest to be the best, they forget about the conventional laws of gravity, time and space. They continually fight death with each attempt, pushing them even further to try and risk more and more dangerous stunts.

Shekhdar probably knew he might encounter sharks while at sea, yet he still went alone with only a knife tied to the end of stick to protect him. Now that he successfully conquered his desire to be the first to row across the Pacific Ocean, what's next? Will he try to row unsailed around the world, across every ocean? What if something were to happen to him? Who would know if he drowned, starved, or worse, was attacked again by sharks but couldn't fend them off?

Regardless of the threat of extreme physical harm, I'm sure it won't be long until he or someone else decides to top this feat. This is ridiculous.

Today society is inundated with stories similar to that of Shekhdar's. On television, newspapers air specials about these kinds of feats. People just love to see or hear about someone like themselves, the average person, breaking a record. Every year, the Guinness Book of World Records comes out with a new edition, each one with newer and weirder records. Just about anybody today can think of some sort of stunt that isn't already listed in the book and carry it out.

Forget about the world's largest hamburger or growing the longest fingernails in history. People are obsessed with being the best at something, such as swallowing the most number of raw eggs in a minute, if even it means endangering their lives to get their name printed in the holy grail of world records. The desire to conquer the uncomfortable is intrinsic to the human spirit. People will never stop trying to top each other because humans are by nature competitive and competitive beings. It is the nash of pure adrenaline that continues to push people to keep their own records—the riskier, the better.

Jennifer Hansen is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily staff writer.

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Milosevic is ousted; U.S. tactics doggy

The arrest of Former Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic April 12 calls for an examination of consequences for beyond the criminal charges itself. Commentaries and actions against a man accused of engineering the worst atrocities in Europe since World War II.

While focus is currently on where Milosevic should be tried, consideration must be given to other implications for future U.S. foreign policy.

Women's rights leaders have called the arrest of Milosevic the end of a terrorist era in Europe. Leaders welcomed the arrest as a courageous move by the Yugoslav government and a first step to international justice. But there is still a long way to go before we see true justice and stability in the Balkans.

In a Los Angeles Times article, President George W. Bush said "we can and must never forget the chilling images of terrified women and children, tortured inside of mass graves unearthed by U.N. investigators. But in the process of granting U.S. economic aid to the Yugoslav government in exchange for capturing Milosevic, we have forgotten about the consequences of our actions on the citizens of Yugoslavia. The United States released $50 million in economic aid to Yugoslavia one day after Milosevic's arrest by Serbian authorities at his home in Belgrade. Milosevic vowed not to be taken alive, but surrendered after negotiations with government officials. He pleaded not guilty to charges of abuse of power and terrorism. The arrest came on a weekend deadline set by the U.S. Congress for Yugoslavia to cooperate with the International Criminal Tribunal or risk losing the funds.

The U.N. war crimes court in the Hague in the Netherlands has indicted Milosevic for war crimes allegedly committed against ethnic Albanians during the 1999 war in Kosovo. Milosevic's militant nationalism agenda for "Greater Serbia" led to the Balkan war that cost the lives of over a quarter-million people and displaced hundreds of thousands more in Croatia, Bosnia and Kosovo.

Milosevic, of course, should be held responsible for the atrocities committed during his 13year rule. There is no doubt about that.

What concerns me is how the decision to extend U.S. aid to Yugoslavia will affect future U.S. leaders cannot guarantee that President Vojislav Kostunica's administration will actually get the funds to the people who need them the most. Furthermore economic assistance from the United States will only encourage Yugoslavia's dependency on foreign aid. To many countries now are dependent on the United States, unable to support their own citizens and economies. Ultimately, the Yugoslavs will suffer a result of the decision. The United States purchased the cooperation of the Yugoslav government that resulted in Milosevic's arrest. I applaud the courage of the Serbian authorities in capturing the man who caused so much devastation in the Balkans. I am saddened by all the government's tactics. Actions by Yugoslavian officials should not be influenced by manipulative methods. There must be greater consideration for the effect of our actions on the people of the nations we claim to help.

The consequences of U.S. foreign policy in Yugoslavia will not conclude with Milosevic's standing trial. While Milosevic's arrest marks the end of political career, it does not mark the end of an unstable era in the Balkans.

Laura Vega is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily staff writer.

Fans deserve choices

Each year when springtime comes around, baseball season is just around the corner. The crack of the bat and roar of the crowd is music to the ears of any baseball fan. This spring I decided to subscribe to the Major League Baseball Extra Innings Package on DIRECTV, which offers digital satellite service via an 18-inch mini-dish. I love the idea of being able to follow my beloved Oakland Athletics throughout their quest for another American League Western division championship. DIRECTV's Web site claims that MLB Extra Innings allows you to watch the games you would have missed. MLB Extra Innings makes every team your home team and is the supreme experience for the hardball fan.

Well, to bad, behold, Wednesday afternoon I was ready to take in some Major League Baseball, since there were 12 games in the program. Every channel I flipped to got the message "this program is not available in your area." DIRECTV is this year's idea of the supreme experience for the baseball fan? It's a subscriber's pay for experience, then they should be able to see the games they want to see on any day of the week.

I was none too pleased about the whole situation, so I decided to call DIRECTV. The voice on the other end of the line stated, "DIRECTV doesn't mandate game blackouts, but simply follows the restrictions set forth by the various sports leagues through their rights holders, such as ESPN and TNT. Maybe not, but they are good at taking your money."

As it turns out, good of ESPN has exclusive national broadcast rights for all Major League Baseball games that begin on or after 2 p.m. Pacific time. These games cannot be distributed via satellite. What this means is that the only games available on Wednesday nights are on ESPN and the local Fox Affiliate that serves your area.

As a consumer in this country, it is assumed that you should have the freedom of choice.

Why should a large corporation like ESPN be able to dictate what we can or cannot see? Instead of being able to choose which team you want to watch, ESPN was basically able to take that choice away from the American public.

For $45.95 a month, you are basically paying for some game you really don't care about or would you prefer to be able to exercise your right to choose? I thought this was America, people! Thanks to ESPN, MLB Extra Innings subscribers across the country were not able to witness baseball history in the making, when Hideki Okajima of the Boston Red Sox pitched a no-hitter vs. the Baltimore Orioles.

Raul Vasquez is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily staff writer.
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**BASEBALL**
continued from page 8

"We played as a team," Choate said. "No one gave up and they were really big wins for us." In spite of frigid conditions, the Mustangs' bats were red hot Saturday night. Cal Poly scored five runs in the sixth inning and came out swinging at the Mustangs in relief in Saturday's win. Choate was the save was Choate's second consecutive game with two saves. He left the game in the sixth inning with four runs to win his fourth game of the year for the Mustangs.

In the opener of the series on Friday night, Cal Poly lost 4-3. Northridge jumped out early with three runs in the second inning, but the Mustangs battled back to tie the score at three in the seventh inning. The Mustangs scored the go-ahead run in the eighth off a ground out, giving relief pitcher Quinn McGinnis (2-3) the loss.

First baseman Austin Shoyer hit his third home run of the season in the third inning, a solo shot off left field. Gast also provided offense for the Mustangs, driving in both runs in the seventh inning.

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Mustangs sweep series from UC Santa Barbara

By Ryan Ballard

Mustang Daily Staff Writer

The rain ceased, the clouds parted and the sun shone down on the Cal Poly softball team this weekend.

After being swept by UC Santa Barbara last year, the Mustangs returned to the field this year, beating the Gauchos 4-0 on Saturday night and 5-4 and 9-0 on Sunday's doubleheaders. Both games were previously scheduled for Friday night and Saturday afternoon, but were postponed due to Friday's rain.

The wins were a big confidence booster for a team that has struggled this season while facing some of the top teams in the country.

"Coming off of the eight-game losing streak we were on, we needed to come back hard with the bats," said freshman shortstop Roni Spurr. "The whole team came out swinging strong."

Teamwork was the key to the Mustangs' sweep of the Gauchos.

"Everyone contributed at different times," said head coach Lisa Boyer. "They were three really good team victories for us."

"The toning cold wind could not keep the Mustang faithful from showing up to cheer their team on, Saturday night."

The Mustangs get out of the box quickly, scoring two runs in the first inning. Junior left fielder Nicole Danby and junior third baseman Jackie Wayland got on base before scoring when sophomore first baseman Holly Ballard drove them in with a double.

In the top of the third, Spurr made a strong throw from deep in the hole to prevent a run from scoring.

"The Mustangs struck again in the bottoms of the sixth, scoring two runs. Spurr and senior designated player Melissa Haley reached base before being driven in by sophomore catcher Carrie Shaver's triple."

Junior pitcher Tori Blankenbecler had a strong outing, pitching a complete game and giving up zero runs on two hits. Blankenbecler's ERA dipped even lower than the temperature as she recorded her 6th shutout of the season.

The wind ended up being a double-edged sword. The combination of the sun that was out Saturday afternoon and the wind helped dry out a soggy field caused by a deluge of rain on Friday, but made every pop-up and flyball an adventure for the fielders.

The Cal Poly bats awoke from their three-inning slumber in the bottom of the fourth inning of the first game of Sunday's doubleheader.

Comeback gives baseball victory over Northridge

By Ryan Ballard

Mustang Daily Staff Writer

Two out of three ain't bad.

Strong pitching and clutch offense helped the Cal Poly baseball team win two out of three games against Cal State Northridge this weekend.

The Mustangs lost a heart-breaker on Friday night, 4-3, but came back with a 14-7 win on Saturday night, followed by a 6-4 win on Sunday.

Head coach Rich Price was pleased with his team's performance.

"I feel like this was a breakthrough series for us," Price said. "I was really proud of the way we competed. I thought we rose to the occasion and some guys clutched up for us big time."

Sunday's game started off shaky for the Mustangs. Senior pitcher Jared Blasdel struggled early in the game, giving up a run in each of the first two innings and two in the sixth. Cal Poly scored in the first and fifth innings, trailing Northridge 4-2 at the seventh inning stretch.

Freshman left fielder Andrew Toussaint led off the eighth inning with a single, starting a Cal Poly rally. Three batters later, senior second baseman Kevin Tillman singled up the middle, driving in a run and keeping the two-out rally alive.

Freshman right fielder Chailen Tierje followed with an RBI single. Then freshman third baseman Kyle Wilson doubled, driving in two runs to end the scoring. The Mustangs scored four runs in the inning to take a 6-4 lead.

Senior relief pitcher Nathan Choute came in for the ninth inning and shut the door on Northridge.

"I had to make some adjustments from my first two at bats; he fed me some fastballs and I didn't swing at them so, I guess I'm out of the count," Toussaint said. "I knew I had to make an adjust-

Tiger roars to victory at Masters

AUGUSTA, Ga. — Slam or not, Tiger Woods was simply grand.

With a heart-stopper at Augusta National, the four-time major champion turned the greatest feat in modern golf Sunday by winning The Masters, giving him a clean sweep of the four professional majors in a span of 294 days.

He punctuated it with an 18-foot birdie, raising both arms in triumph as a breathing gallery roared its approval.

Woods did his best to cover his tears for told today as he left the green and walked into the arms of his father, who rammed him to be a champion from the time he was in a high chair.

Woods closed it out 68, steady down the home stretch for a back-nine record of Augusta National as David Duval and Phil Mickelson failed to harness the magic that has carried Woods to five of the last six majors.

Locked in a thrilling battle with his two chief rivals, Woods hit a daring approach from 149 yards into the parade-11th hole. The ball grazed the green but fell on the 18th green, giving Woods a birdie that he never let go of.

Duval, believing this might be his year after three close calls, made it through Amen Corner without a mistake but took bogeys on par-3 16th, firing his tee shot over the green and missing an 8-foot par putt.

He had two chances to catch Woods, but looked on in shock as a 4-foot birdie put on the par-3 16th hole on the final hole failed to fall.

Mickelson, poised to claim his first major, also missed an 8-foot putt on the 18th hole. He also failed to cash in on birdie putts on the final two holes.

His lead remained at one stroke when he missed a 3-foot birdie putt on the 17th, but he traded spectacular golf for solid play with history on the line and delivered.

**2000 Masters Results**

**Augusta, Ga.**

- Tiger Woods -16
- David Duval -14
- Phil Mickelson -13
- Tom Kite -10
- Mark O'Meara -10
- Jim Furyk -9
- Bernard Langer -9
- Ian Woosnam -9
- Ernie Els -9
- Miguel Angel Jimenez -8
- Steve Stricker -8
- Brandt Snedeker -8
- Angel Cabrera -8
- Chris DiMarco -8

Freshman left fielder Andrew Toussaint dives back to the base in Sunday's game at Baggett Stadium. He led off the eighth inning with a single to start the Mustangs' four-run rally.

**Baseball vs. UC Riverside (doubleheader)**

**at Riverside** at 7 p.m. / 3 p.m.

**Softball vs. UC Riverside**

**at Riverside**

**at Baggett Stadium**

**MEN'S TENNIS**

**at Riverside**

**at Baggett Stadium**

**SOFTBALL**

**at Riverside**

**at Baggett Stadium**

**MEN'S TENNIS**

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