Holocaust survivor relates her family’s experiences

By Raul Vasquez
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

A Holocaust survivor shared her emotional story at the 14th Annual Community Holocaust Remembrance in Chumash Auditorium Sunday.

Hedy Epstein was the principal speaker at this year’s event, with the theme “Remembering Is Not Enough.”

It was co-sponsored by the county’s Jewish Houses of Worship and other Jewish organizations, the Polish/Slavic Cultural Club, the Community of John XXIII, the SLO Ministerial Association, the Committee to Honor Those Who Made a Difference and Hilfiger of Cal Poly.

The event started in 1988 by honoring a different child each year. The theme “Remembering Is Not Enough” has been the theme the past eight years.

Epstein recounted her experiences growing up in Nazi Germany during the 1930s to an audience of more than 200. She told the audience that when Adolf Hitler first came to power on Jan. 30, 1933, she didn’t think that it had anything to do with her. But shortly thereafter, she realized that it did.

On Nov. 10, 1938, the night of the “broken glass,” 14-year-old Epstein’s world collapsed. Her family’s home was vandalized by the Nazis and she was expelled from school for being a “dirty Jew.” Her father, uncle and other men in her village were sent to a concentration camp in Dachau.

Epstein recalled being so traumatized by the events of that time that she wouldn’t allow her mother or aunt out of her sight.

In May 1939, after Epstein’s father returned from Dachau, her family’s efforts to have Germany resumed. Instead of having the whole family leave, they decided to have at least one person leave Germany. On May 18, 1939, Epstein was one of more than 10,000 children, ranging in age from six months to 17 years old, sent to England during a nine-month period between December 1938 and September 1939.

In October 1940, Epstein’s parents were deported to a concentration camp in Camp de Gurs, France. Men and women were separated by barbed wire and were only allowed to spend one hour together. Epstein and her family were able to correspond with one another, although they were only

see EPSTEIN, page 2

Candidates advocate representation

By Janelle Foskett
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

What does the Associated Students Inc. president do anyway? This is one of the many questions the ASI presidential candidates addressed at last night’s candidate forum.

In response to the question, the three candidates voiced their opinions on what they see as the president’s primary role in the university.

Corey Reihl, a business senior, said the president should be the voice of the student body. He said he wants to use his enthusiasm to advocate for all students and communicate with the community.

The president, Reihl said, needs to appoint a proactive and enthusiastic executive staff to work together to address the issues of the students.

Angie Hacker, a psychology junior, noted ASI’s site and impact on the students.

“ASI is a $10 million corporation advocating for 17,000 students—it’s a big job,” she said.

Hacker said the role of the president is to address the issues of the students.

see FORUM, page 2

ASI unveils new voting technology

By Janelle Foskett
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Instead of trekking around campus looking for a college-specific polling site, students voting in this year’s Associated Students Inc. election have a new system that should make the process easier and faster.

The Everywhere Vote System, also called eVoting, provides students with five different locations on campus where they can vote: the Rec Center, University Union, Fisher Science courtyard, agriculture building bridge and Dexter Lawns.

The Everywhere Vote System will use eVerification, a new technology that allows students to be identified quickly with one swipe of their Cal Poly ID card, said Liberty Lewis, elections committee chair and vice chair of the Board of Directors.

There will still be a paper ballot, Lewis said, but the new system makes identifying students faster than in previous years. With the swipe of an ID card, the system will track which students voted, but not for whom they voted.

“There’s a faster and easier for voters, which is key,” Lewis said. “Our goal is to always get more students to vote,” she said. “We want the leaders to be elected by the students.”

see VOTING, page 2

Edible art

Rirkrit Tiravanija, right, cooks and serves a festive Thai dish as Evan Chambers, agriculture business student, left, and professor Michael Miller watch. This was part of a "hybrid" art performance Monday.
Discussion continued from page 1

ident is not to be just a figurehead of the school, but rather the most knowledgeable person on campus about student issues. She also said the president needs to be accessible to the students through an open door policy.

Brent Vann, a political science junior, said the president is primarily an advocate for the students, but is someone who can also go out to other schools to talk about the advancements Cal Poly has made.

"We need someone (as president) to take the fight outside our campus for the students," he said.

Liberty Lewis, ASI elections communications chair and vice president of the Board of Directors, directed the forum. At one point during her list of questions, she asked the candidates what issues they would address first if elected president.

Vann said his first agenda item would be to invite both Reihl and Hacker to be a part of his executive cabinet. Reihl said working on the transition between the two governments would be his first issue. Hacker regarded if she wins or loses, she wants to get back to the issues and get people to register to vote.

At the beginning of the forum, the candidates were allowed five minutes to address the main issues of their campaigns.

Reihl said increasing communications between ASI, the students, faculty and community is a large concern of his. He said he would like to see the Mustang Daily run a "presidential column," in which the president can have a voice to the students.

Following in ASI President Sam Abome's footsteps, Reihl said he wants to make sure buses in San Luis Obispo will continue to be free for students.

Hacker said she wants to ensure quality advocate for all students and have an open door policy to the president. She said she wants to create a State of the Student Forum, in which a representative from various clubs and organizations on campus come together at one event to address student issues.

She also wants to get more funding for ASI facilities, an urgent service for people who need rides.

"I am not here to leave a legacy," she said. "I am here to change things." Vann said his primary goal is to motivate students to get more involved in ASI. This way, students will be more respected in the community, he said.

"The community doesn't take us seriously right now," Vann said. "When Reihl and Hacker are done, the community no longer respects us." Vann said he wants to see the library extend its hours so students can use the computer lab open at all hours for students' convenience.

All three candidates agreed on a few specific issues. One such issue is the need to have ASI represented in the San Luis Obispo City Council, which Reihl and Hacker are a part of.

Mandatory class service fees, which all three candidates agreed on as a way to have more sway in the community.

ASI elections are Wednesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at five polling sites. Lewis said, "I am here to change things."

In 1956, Epstein received a letter from a French organization regarding the fate of her parents. She finally learned that her parents had been sent to the concentration camp in Auschwitz.

"I knew a handful of people survived, and I continued to hope to be reunited with my parents sometime in the future," she said.

In September 1982, she visited Auschwitz; she finally accepted the fact that her "parents and other family members did not survive that time." Epstein left the group with three challenges. Hated is a very ugly emotion, she said, and it's detrimental to the group or the person you hate. She asked why people hate and answered that people have not out of fear or ignorance.

"Get to know people who are different than you are," she said. "There is a whole lot to learn from people that have a different culture, language and dress differently."

She added that people should think about the choices they make and the effect those choices have on others.

ed by the majority of the students.

Ten computers, pulling from a centralized database, will be used to verify student identification and track information and trends in the election. Lewis said. Two computers will be at each of the five polling sites.

Lewis said it is crucial for students to bring their Cal Poly ID card when they head to the polls because they cannot vote without it.

ASI and the university's Information Technology Services department worked together to develop the voting system. Lewis said ASI received a lot of corporation from ITS, which has donated its services to the project. Lewis said credit for the project should go to ITS, ASI president Sam Abome and former ASI president Matt Harms, ASI's vice president of technology.

The original idea for the new voting system came from Matt Harris' English-218 class project, which he later presented to the Board of Directors. Lewis said. Abome decided to take the project on and for this year's elections, and ITS began developing the identification system.

"Last year's Board of Directors was looking to drive up voter turnout," Abome said. According to an ASI press release, less than 10 percent of the student body voted in ASI elections.

For previous elections, students had to find specific polling location associated with their college. For example, a psychology major would have to find the polling site for the College of Liberal Arts. Last year all voting took place on Dexter Lawn, but voting was still sectioned off by college, Abome said.

With this year's new system, ASI hopes more students will vote since there will be more respected in the community, he said.

With Cal Poly being a technologi-
The mechanical engineering department's senior project lab received funding this quarter to purchase new lab equipment.

The senior project lab, located next to the Sports Complex, houses machinery and fabrication equipment available for student use for school-related projects. The mechanical engineering department recently allocated well over $10,000 for new purchases, said Scott Harshman, senior project lab student technician.

This purchase is one of the largest acquisitions in the history of the senior project lab, said Harshman.

Among the new equipment is a Clausing Metosa lathe, a Miller Brand TIG Welder, a hydraulic tubing bender, a paint booth and other upgraded tools, said George Leone, senior project lab shop technician. The new equipment will allow more students to use the shop, Leone said.

"We want to make constant upgrades so students can use the shop," he said. "We have a high client load and sometimes it is necessary to turn people away because the shop is full." 

Leone said the lab is in high demand, so the new equipment will allow more students to use the facilities.

"The department has budgeted the materials," Leone said. "Some of the materials have been in consideration for a while, we were just waiting for funding."

The new paint booth will allow students to use approved paints and do dusting and sanding jobs, Leone said. The new booth puts the senior project lab in a position to help cut air pollution and let students make even more creative things, Leone said.

"It is an important step to allow us to do a lot of stuff we couldn't do before," he said.

With the new equipment, seniors will have more project options, Leone said. "The new stuff will make it possible to do my project on campus without consulting outside help," said Adam Brinkman, mechanical engineering senior.

"The new stuff will make it possible to do my project on campus without consulting outside help," said Adam Brinkman, mechanical engineering senior. "The new lathe will increase productivity by at least 30 to 40 percent."

Lack of efficiency in replacing broken equipment is a problem at the lab, Brinkman said. The new equipment will provide more options for students, he said.

"With the new equipment, seniors can now build a new formula car because we didn't have the proper tools to bend the frame," Brinkman said. "That definitely set us back in the competition. Now we'll have the right tools."

Some of the equipment at the lab is outdated and the new equipment will help to update the lab, said Jeff Grimm, senior project lab student technician.

"Our new equipment is going to increase the quantity and quality of projects that students are able to produce in the shop," Grimm said. "It's really going to help us."

The new equipment has been purchased and is on order, Leone said. The paint booth will be usable by summer quarter, he said.

"We encourage people to come up here and use the lab for school-related projects," Leone said. "Not many schools have facilities like this. We're a resource."

The department is considering building a new lab facility to accommodate more equipment and students, Leone said.

**Speech is difficult to decipher for software**

By Corbin Sullivan

**THE DAILY CARDINAL**

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COURTESY PHOTO

The Clausing Metosa lathe is one of the pieces of equipment the engineering department is planning to buy with funding for new purchases.

Speech is difficult to decipher for software. **CORRECT PHOTO**

By Corbin Sullivan

C&D Aerospace will be on the Cal Poly campus Thursday May 3, 2001 (Springboard Job Fair).

Since 1972, C&D Aerospace has been serving major airline manufacturers around the world by providing exceptional interior components and systems for almost every commercial aircraft. What was founded has since become the world's largest supplier of interior components to the airframe manufacturers. C&D continues to grow and now encompasses a multitude of worldwide divisions and affiliates. C&D is a company with global capabilities, yet has the distinct temperament of a privately owned and very personable organization. An organization where names, faces and relationships still matter most and where they will remain paramount as we continue to grow. We have several E/P direct positions.

To inquire about employment opportunities, please call (805) 756-1143 or stop by the Mustang Daily in building 26, suite 226.

**Speech is difficult to decipher for software**

By Corbin Sullivan

**THE DAILY CARDINAL**

(COURTESY PHOTO)

The future Tull speaks of is voice-recognition technology. Voice XML. While many of the deaf and hearing impaired use it, few people with voice disorders can accomplish. Spasmodic dysphonia, which is weak and breathy speech, and dysarthria, which is slurred speech, are examples of disorders that result in words. Programs that use it rely on clear, precise enunciation and proper vowel pronunciation. The accepted industry standard for vocal recognition is called Voice XML, and as of now it is far from complete. Voice XML is like a Rosetta stone for computers that can recognize spoken words. Without this, people with voice disorders can accomplish.

Renetta Tall, an assistant professor in the department of communicative disorders at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, is doing continuing research on what voice-recognition software does not recognize.

"This is one of those cases where the future is now, but we're not ready for it quite yet," Tall said.

"The future is now. We just aren't ready for it," Tall said.

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"The future is now. We just aren't ready for it," Tall said.
Philosophies on freeways, radio, mall parking lots

Long car rides provide plenty of time for reflection, and since I spent more waking hours in a car than out of one this past weekend, I’ve had time to ponder life’s great mysteries. This isn’t necessarily a good thing, since my trains of thought don’t tend to fit in a linear fashion.

Los Angeles traffic has a way of screwing with people’s minds. They either go crazy or become philosophical. I’m not quite sure which one I’ve become. So it goes.

Diary of a small-town girl in a big city:

It’s 1:30 p.m. Saturday. A small parking lot in Orange County. I’ve been driving around for 15 minutes looking for a parking space. It’s like trying to find a spot in the Cal Poly library lot. It cracks me up when I’m in the reserve room doing homework and see people driving around the library lot for 25 minutes or more just to find a space. I haven’t yet figured out what prompts people to do this — it’s faster just to park out in the boonies and walk. Maybe that’s what I should do. So it goes.

At 5:00 p.m. Sunday, a freeway somewhere. I hate Los Angeles traffic. There’s nothing to do but sit and wait while they listen to traffic reports and contemplate the freeway billboards, which range from the man to the witty to the just plain confusing. I think the one that entrains me the most is the International Paper one with the little boy and the quote about “thinking outside the box.” That phrase was OK for a while, but now it’s a bit too far for a spot. I haven’t yet figured out what prompts people to do this — it’s faster just to park out in the boonies and walk. Maybe that’s what I should do. So it goes.

Kari Savala

Kari Savala is a student in the education credential program.

"Sweet tooth" gene may explain obesity

Last week, researchers announced that they have identified a gene present in mice and people that acts as a sweet taste "receptor" in taste buds. The discovery of the gene could explain why some people have more pronounced cravings for sweet foods. A CNN.com article quotes Dr. Robert Margolske of the Mount Sinai School of Medicine as saying that the gene may play some role in promoting obesity due to increased sugar consumption.

This is not the first time scientists have claimed that genetics may play a role in obesity. Over the past few years, three genes — BDNF, leptin, and NPY — have been linked to obesity and increased appetite. Naturally this piques the curiosity of health professionals and researchers, but they are more cautious. Silly me, I always thought branding was what happened to livestock to establish ownership. Now it’s happening to wines and cheeses and products from Target. I would probably not have even known about this concept if it weren’t for a lecture on this topic from my ever business-savvy and buzzword-conscious sister. So it goes.

10:00 p.m. Sunday. 101 north approaching Cuesta Grade. I’ve just passed my last landmark before I get home. For me, this is a notable landmark because it’s a thing I find ironic — something money should have bought, but didn’t. Martin and Weirich wines should have been a better copywriter. Their wine billboard adjectives “premium chardonnay.” I relented last quarter, but now I’m glad I didn’t. This is a breach of apostrophe etiquette, I think me every time I see it. So it goes.

Kari Savala is a student in the education credential program.

Opinion

Sweet tooth' gene may explain obesity

... and so he lived happily ever after

For there would be no more diets and tasteless fat-free meals...

Society has accepted that children of alcoholics are more likely to become alcoholics themselves...

Letter policy

Columns, cartoons and letters reflect the views of their authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Mustang Daily. Mustang Daily reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, profanities and length. Please limit length to 350 words.

Mustang Daily encourages comments on editorial policy and university affairs. Letters should be typed in standard format with major and class standing. Preference is given to e-mailed letters. They can be mailed, faxed, delivered or e-mailed to MustangDaily@calpoly.edu. Do not send letters as an attachment. Please send the text in the body of the e-mail.

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Out of prevention leads to less convicts Editor,

Reading Michelle Hartfield's commentary on Friday ("Rex Krebs will never do anything good for society," April 27), I was surprised she recommended the "look into their eyes test as a sentencing guideline for convicted criminals. I thought that was just something people said to get out of jury duty. I'm convinced of Krebs' guilt, and I believe criminals have to be punished in order to deter crime. But using draconian punishments is a symptom of the "whack-a-mole" approach to social control. We should instead focus on education and make our justice system more humane as well as computers.

As a society should spend more effort trying to make sure each child grows up healthy and functional so we don't have to spend so much on the criminal justice system (more money to SCHOOLS and less on PRISONS).

We ought to keep Krebs around to remind us of our collective failure, not just put another skeleton in another closet.

No man is an island — not even a serial killer.

Dean Wilber is an electrical engineering senior.

Defacing posters will not be tolerated Editor,

As the department responsible for coordinating the Associated Students Inc. election, we are very disappointed in the defacing of campus posters. This is clearly a violation of the election code and rules. It is also indirect contradic­tion to the spirit of cooperation expressed by all presidential candidate­s.

As an article in Mustang Daily indicates ("Campaign signs found distorted," April 26), the Judicial Affairs office will take action against any violations. We urge all students, no matter who they sup­port, to respect each other's camp­aigns.

Ken Barclay is director of Student Life and Leadership and Pat Harris is coordinator for Leadership Education and adviser to the Associated Students Inc. elections.

CSU focuses most on teaching students Editor,

As the California State University begins its contract negotiations with the California Faculty Association, we look forward to constructive conversations about the many issues that affect California State University faculty and students and the high quality of education at the CSU.

The CSU recognizes how dedicated our faculty are to students. As a teaching institution, there is a focus on research so that CSU faculty can spend more time teaching students. CSU's appreciation for faculty is demonstrated by the fact that their annual average salary of $72,000 is 20 percent higher than the national average. Over the past four years, the CSU faculty salary increases total 23.5 percent compared to the national average of 14.9 percent. Just last year, the CSU increase was six percent, compared to the national average of 3.5 percent, and the CSU is asking for another six per­cent increase this year. This may be a factor in why only about 1 percent of tenure track faculty choose to leave the CSU for another position annually.

The CSU has made instruction a priority, and spend­less on administration compared to other comparable national univer­sities. The latest data from the U.S. Department of Education is from the 1995/96 year and shows that universities, on average, spend 32 percent of their budget on instructors' compensation, compared to 41 percent at the CSU in the current year. Likewise, the cost of instruction, academic support, student services and maintenance of facilities account for 75 percent of the CSU expen­ditures, compared to the national average of 51 percent.

Considering the CSU's signifi­cantly increasing enrollment, it is fortunate that the CSU budget has increased by $843 million over the past three years. Much of that has been spent on hiring new tenure-track faculty. You may hear union activists claim that only one tenure track position has been added in the last five years. However, the fact is that the more than 2,300 tenure track faculty hired over the past five years has helped maintain our low 18 to 1 student faculty ratio, which keeps CSU class sizes small.

One of the issues you will hear about is the negotiations continue is the Faculty Early Retirement Program (FERP), through which the CSU faculty can choose to ease into retirement. There are about 1,000 faculty in the program system­wide, and, in many cases, these faculty teach half as much and actually earn more than before they retired. It is a very popular faculty benefit. Ten percent of CSU tenured faculty are in this program, and, over the past several years, about a quarter of retiring faculty have entered the program. However, it also prevents the CSU from hiring full-time tenure track replace­ments and causes the CSU to hire one or two part-time faculty replacements to ensure that students have access to the courses they need and the small class size they expect.

Many such issues in the bargain­ing are complex and can be misun­terpreted. However, be assured the CSU realizes that there is no more important factor in the quality of our students' education than the quality of the faculty. That is why we are so proud of the high quality of our faculty and will continue to work very hard to support their dedication to students.

Charles B. Reed is chancellor of the California State University system.
Conover said. "He runs well when it
from a seventh trade physical educa­
enabled Blackwell to remain in close
other athletes mentally. Conover, who has
he also assists in coachin­
stant track am­
't i x h o n i n g  s t u d e n t

"Locals appreciate my hometown hero status." Stephanie Brown
Cal Poly field athlete

"I have a mind set of pure confi­
Brown said.
The industrial engineering junior
holds the school record for spot put at
5 feet, 8 inches. She is second on the
for discus at 122 pounds, 2 inches. In
1999, she was Big West champion in
events.

oshipends this weekend. Brown placed
third and fourth respectively in spot
and discus.
The industrial engineering junior
said she was looking forward to her
season with the women's basketball team her fresh­
man year. After a knee injury, she
had to miss her entire freshman year and
came back this year to compete only in track and field. She now has dedi­
cated herself fully to track and field.

"He has figured out how to race,"
Corkery, assistant track and field coach for
"he is a good pathetic to one ot the best in the
nation," Cal Poly cross-country is
ranked No. 23 in the nation. "His
“pathetic to one ot the best in the
nation." Cal Poly cross-country is
ranked No. 23 in the nation. Since
he grew up in the
Town allows Blackwell the opportuni­
tic of running in high school, where
he is a strong athlete. Conover has
taken the cross-country team, which
Blackwell said he is at a close
in track and field and played on the basketball team in high school.

After a basketball-related injury to his ankle,
he red-shirted his junior year because he didn't feel strong.

Cal Poly track and field overall
has been strong this season, with
over 20 athletes making it to
the national championships.

"He is working to hone his skills technically,"
Corkery said. Brown said he was coming off the knee injury.

"He has figured out how to race,"
Brown said. "I think he would like to win a
NCAA championship before going to Olympic trials someday.

Remaining close to her
Cal Poly roots has let Brown keep in
touch with friends and family with
her sport. She is still working on becoming a "student
of the sport."

After graduating from Cal Poly,
Brown said she plans on pursuing her
dream of competing in the Olympics. She said she would like to win a
NCAA championship before going to Olympic trials someday.

Naber's season with the

spring season. Naber said he enjoys the event because he
tried to take some time off from
school. Eventually, he wanted to go to
campus. But when he was offered a scholarship to
compete in high jump on the Cal Poly track and field team,
ev­erything fell into place, he said.

"I really like the area, he said. After graduating in June, Naber
said he wants to take some time off from school.
Eventually, he would like to get a credential to teach kine­
siology. He said his experience on
the Cal Poly track and field team overall has been positive. He noted that one advantage to being a
local on the team was that he knew the territory
he knew what to expect.

Sports

TRACK

continued from page 8

Blackwell said one of the best
aspects of running for Cal Poly is
working with Mark Conover, assis­
tant track and field coach for
Blackwell said Conover has
taken the cross-country team, which
he also assists in coaching, from
"pathetic to one ot the best in the
nation." Cal Poly cross-country is
ranked No. 23 in the nation.
Blackwell said he enjoys
Conover not only as a coach but also as an
outstanding athlete. Conover, who has
worked with Blackwell since he was a
freshman, said he enjoys an edge over
other athletes mentally.

"He has figured out how to race,"
Conover said. "He runs well when it

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Rookies help Mustangs’ playoff run

By Ryan Ballard

Sports STAFF WRITER

The Cal Poly baseball team has found an unusual fuel for its fire on the way to a 28-17 record this season — freshmen.

Throughout the season, a handful of freshmen have made a significant impact, including Kyle Wilson, Quinn McGinnis, Billy Saul, Andrew Toussaint, Chadon Tietje and Sam Herbert.

Head coach Ritch Price is very pleased with his freshmen class.

“We knew we had a really good freshmen recruiting class,” Price said. “We think it’s the best class we’ve recruited since we’ve been Division I.”

Wilson has had the most playing time among the freshmen and has been the most productive, often batting in the cleanup spot and playing third base. He has steadily improved this season.

“Every at bat I feel more comfortable,” he said. “I feel like I can do more out there every game.”

Wilson is batting .302 this year and is tied for third on the team with two home runs. He has also driven in 22 runs in the 34 games he has played.

After starting 25 games, Wilson no longer qualifies as a typical freshman.

“I feel more a part of the team, that I’m expected to do more because I’ve been in the games,” he said. “It makes it a lot of fun. It’s better because the expectations are higher, which makes me want to work hard. I love the competition. I like the pressure and I like going out there and playing every day.”

Another frequent freshman starter is outfielder Andrew Toussaint, who has started 19 games for the Mustangs. Toussaint has been steady at the plate, with a .305 batting average and a .425 on-base percentage.

Outfielder Billy Saul has been getting more playing time recently and understands the importance of being prepared when called upon.

“It’s been mostly mental,” he said. “Whether I’m playing or not I have to be mentally prepared because I might come in late in the game or I might start, I just have to be ready.”

Saul is best at getting on base and is fast at the plate with a .305 batting average and a .425 on-base percentage.

McGinnis has come out of the bullpen 11 times and started twice, recording two wins and two saves.

Being a relief pitcher is usually a high anxiety job, so being a freshman reliever potentially could intensify the pressure. McGinnis doesn’t let it bother him, though.

“I don’t even have time to think about it and get nervous,” he said. “Sometimes later I look back and think it could have been hard to do.”

The leadership from the upperclassmen has helped McGinnis and the other freshmen adjust to the transition of going from high school to Division I college baseball.

“Every at bat I feel more a part of the team,” he said. “I learn about what they’re going through, how to work through injuries and deal with different situations.”

Chadon Tietje has played in 27 games this season, starting nine. Tietje has been solid in the outfield and at the plate. He has an on-base percentage at .425.

In limited action, Sam Herbert has been a solid contributor to the Mustangs, batting .295 and scoring 16 runs. He has five RBIs and hasn’t been caught stealing in four attempts.

The Cal Poly baseball team found an unusual fuel for its fire on the way to a 28-17 record this season — freshmen. A handful of freshmen have made a significant impact, including Kyle Wilson, Quinn McGinnis, Billy Saul, Andrew Toussaint, Chadon Tietje and Sam Herbert.

Head coach Ritch Price is very pleased with his freshmen class.

“We knew we had a really good freshmen recruiting class,” Price said. “We think it’s the best class we’ve recruited since we’ve been Division I.”

Wilson has had the most playing time among the freshmen and has been the most productive, often batting in the cleanup spot and playing third base. He has steadily improved this season.

“Every at bat I feel more comfortable,” he said. “I feel like I can do more out there every game.”

Wilson is batting .302 this year and is tied for third on the team with two home runs. He has also driven in 22 runs in the 34 games he has played.

After starting 25 games, Wilson no longer qualifies as a typical freshman.

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