The Money Game

Summer Mustang
July 12 - July 18, 2001
Student money finances third of athletic's budget

By Anne Guilford
SUMMER MUSTANG STAFF WRITER

The Cal Poly Athletic Department received $6 million this year to cover the expenses of running its NCAA teams. More than a third of the money came from student fees while the rest came from state allocations, private donations, ticket sales, the NCAA, the Foundation and fund-raisers.

Since a large percentage of the money comes from a mandatory fee administered to every student enrolled, without which the program would not survive, a source of curiosity would be where the money goes, who decides how much each program gets, and whether it is an appropriate amount?

The process

The athletic department's business administration staff creates the overall budget.

"It's a complex budget to put together," Athletic Director John McCutcheon said. Students are directly involved in this part of the decision-making process but their ideas are considered. "We get input from students primarily from exit interviews," McCutcheon said.

The athletic department also has an "open door policy" for students who want to make suggestions on changes that could be made.

The athletic department then submits the budget to the Athletics Governing Board.

"Their role is to basically provide oversight," McCutcheon said. "They review our budgets each year." The board is made up of three faculty members and three students who are appointed by Associated Students Inc. every year.

Academic Provost Paul Zinge is the chairman of the board and votes in case of a tie.

"We meet monthly during the academic year," McCutcheon said.

The distribution

How much each team is given is based on a number of factors. One of these factors is how much money the teams compete against in the Big West Conference and each sports participation in the Big West Conference, which means the Cal Poly teams are in "competitive alignment," McCutcheon said.

"Sports that are traditionally supported by the school, such as football and basketball, have more consideration given to them, as do sports with larger team sizes. Another factor is the actual expense of running the sport. Teams that require more expensive equipment or more coaches will be given more financial support.

For example, football has a larger budget than any other intercollegiate sport at Cal Poly, but it is at about the school average for cost-per-participant, McCutcheon said.

The football program was given $358,336 for operating expenses and $368,587 for salaries this year. Football also has the largest squad size of 87 participants.

This is nearly double the next largest teams (men's outdoor track and field and women's)

see MONEY, page 7

Athletes given second shot at Poly admission

By April Pack
SUMMER MUSTANG STAFF WRITER

In the process of applying for colleges, a rejection letter would certainly be received with a sense of disappointment. It can be a shock to some, a surprise to others, but for most, that letter is the final word and a sign to look elsewhere for a collegiate destination.

At Cal Poly, though, recruited athletes are granted second chances for admission.

If a recruited athlete is not accepted through a regular application process at Cal Poly, then he or she may then be re-evaluated through the "athletic process."

The athletic process begins with a signed recommendation from the coach for an athlete's academic profile to be re-evaluated, said Walter Harris, associate director of admissions' recruitment. After the coach signs his approval, all of the student's paperwork, including transcripts and documentation, is reviewed again by the athletic director, a faculty representative, and then, finally, by the director of admissions, who makes the final decision on the acceptance of the athlete.

In the process, that student's grades and paperwork stand alone and are not compared to the other applications. A recruited athlete can only go through the process if he or she has first met the California State University minimum requirements.

"We wouldn't have an athletic department without special admissions," said Dina Oakland, academic adviser for the athletic department.

But, the luxury doesn't stop there. Harris said student athletes also get a longer application deadline than the rest. While most students need to get their application in by July 12-July 18, 2001, students need to get their application in by November, athletes have until July 1. Harris explained this is because the NCAA guidelines do not allow coaches to begin recruiting athletes until closer to July.

Although everyone has to meet the CSL grade requirement, the average GPA of Cal Poly athletes indicated that they are provided leniency in this area also.

Harris said that in fall 2000, student-athletes accepted to Cal Poly had an average GPA of 3.62 and average SAT score of 1,165. Student-athletes accepted the same year had an average GPA of 3.2 and test scores of 1,212.

"This GPA is still slightly under the rest, but it is still competitive," Harris said.

Oakland said schools such as Fresno and Sonoma State have an advantage over Cal Poly for athletic recruitment because they let in lower GPAs.

Even if the standard is lower for athletes here at Cal Poly, it is still high in comparison to other state schools.

Oakland said that Cal Poly also tries to maintain its standard by the "Golden Four" rule. This was established by the Cal Poly admissions for transfer students. The rule states that before transferring, a student must have completed math, critical thinking, speech and English, with a C or better.

"This kills us," Oakland said. "She explained that not many students get good advice while they are at junior college and so many have not finished the basic requirements for transferring."

The rule also states that a student cannot take one of the "Golden Four" in the summer before they transfer. Oakland said this causes problems for recruitment because athletes will want the summer to take one of these classes. She explained that a lot of coaches have complained to admissions, saying that the rule is not fair.

Oakland explained that Cal Poly's high standard is often a hindrance, but "it keeps Cal Poly from being too easy," she said. "It's a good standard, but we have to be lenient in this area."

Oakland said that Cal Poly's high grades in that area, the average of 2.9 for entry, is still high in comparison to other state schools.

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Balancing soccer and school is an art to be mastered, athlete says

By Cory Dugan
SUMMER MUSTANG STAFF WRITER

Student-athletes come in and out of Cal Poly a dime a dozen, but nobody ever really attempts to find out what is behind the glory. What makes these athletes tick? What drives them to become the person they are and what are they taking from Cal Poly that will enhance their life? The types of questions are often pondered by Cal Poly students. As engineering student Steven Garcia typically said, "I usually just read the sports section to figure out who won and lost, it would be nice though, to see what lies behind these athletes."

Cal Poly student-athlete Josh Pasek has been waiting to answer these questions. Pasek, who plays soccer for Cal Poly, said he wants to be known for more than just his great athleticism. To him, being a successful student and working hard to graduate has much more bearing than any soccer career could ever have.

"I know the importance of my education, and I also know what I need to do in order to keep my priorities in line for me to succeed in college," he said.

Pasek said he has made a commitment not only to the soccer team, but also to his education. The redshirt freshman and business sophomore from Sacramento has made a commitment to balance his sport with his education, and he will be cutting edge and something new to the College of Business Administration.

His attitude of determination will be cutting edge and something new to the College of Business Administration.

"I had to catch up," said Pasek, "so I had to work on my grades."

Soccer player Josh Pasek is a good example of a student-athlete choosing this summer quarter to exceed the 36-unit yearly minimum.

"I had to catch up," said Pasek, a redshirt freshman.

Pasek was in danger of being ineligible because of his bad grades from last semester. But he had the smarts to utilize the summer quarter to make up for lost ground.

This summer, Pasek is taking public relations and business management.

"It’s nice to know someone is there just to make sure you’re on track and not dragging your feet," said Dina, "Dina helps to keep us on our toes."

"Having to worry about both classes and athletics is a very difficult task which I have yet to accomplish," he said.

By Cory Dugan
SUMMER MUSTANG STAFF WRITER

Poly use summer quarter to improve grades

Student-athletes, who tried desperately to finish all their required units by the end of the spring, can’t easily do that with the convenience of the summer quarter at their disposal, to be used as catch up for lost units in the fall, winter, and spring.

"Most athletes at Cal Poly said the required 36 units in one year are not as simple as they seem to most non-athletes. Academic advisor Dina Oakland, suggested all student-athletes take no more than 11 units during their season of play. This helps the athletes to manage their time and better succeed in school."

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Polo dey joins U.S. government

Cal Poly will soon conduct a national search to select a new permanent dean for the College of Agriculture, pending current Dean Joseph Jen’s expected confirmation as U.S. undersecretary of agriculture for research, education and economics. David Wehner, an associate dean of the department, will act as interim dean through June 30, 2002, or until a new dean is picked. Wehner has served as associate dean since 1997, responsible primarily for the operation of the undergraduate program, including curriculum development, student programs, advising and outreach. He has also worked with several Cal Poly departments on staffing, faculty hires and special projects. Wehner has led the Multicultural Agriculture Program Center.

"We’re fortunate to have an individual with Wehner’s administrative and agricultral background available to lead the college at this time," Provost Paul Draper said. "He’s proven himself capable of providing the leadership necessary to keep the College of Agriculture moving ahead."

There is no word when the national search for a permanent dean will begin.

Women’s center offers new services

After officially dissolving its corporate status last summer, the newly formed Women’s Community Center (WCC) in San Luis Obispo — formerly titled Women’s Resource Center (WRC) — will celebrate its first full year of operations this month with the addition of several new resources and services available to women in San Luis Obispo County, including legal advice. With the assistance of the San Luis Obispo Bar Association Family Law Section, the WCC will now provide one-on-one legal advice for women getting divorces who do not have an attorney. Clinic sessions will be held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at 1009 Morro St. Ste. 201 in San Luis Obispo.

Initially formed in 1975, the WCC aims to provide a place for women to gain resources that can help them find employment, childcare and housing resources. It also presents seminars for women in the community and maintains a staffed telephone and website lines for women who have diverse concerns. For more information about the WCC, please call 544-9113.

CSUs lead the way in student diversity

Fourteen California State University (CSU) campuses, including Cal Poly, led the pack for minor minorities' bachelor's degrees in the 1999-2000 academic year.

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Cuesta students bring reality-based TV to SLO

By April Pack
SUMMER MUSTANG STAFF WRITER

It's ... "Big Brother." It's ... "Survivor." No ... it's "Rush."

"Rush" is the newest reality-based show to hit television. And guess what? It's a local program, directed by Cuesta student Bo Wich.

It began as casual conversation in a broadcast communications class at Cuesta College. Four students—Wich, Shaun Scott, Mike Silva and Erin Tomasselli—came together and said, "Let's do more."

"More" meant taking the knowledge they had learned in the class and pushing it a step further. Wich, the show's producer and director, had access to video equipment and knew an executive producer from a previous job who was willing to front money for a TV show. That was all it took — five weeks of meetings and only $4,200 to work with, the students created a reality-based TV show, but with a twist.

The group took everything they liked from existing reality TV shows to create "Rush." Wich said that they wanted a large number of contestants, and they liked the elimination factor because "this is what creates drama, and that's why people watch."

The next step was getting the contestants. This was done in April by setting up video cameras for open auditions at Farmers Market in downtown San Luis Obispo. From a pool of 100, nine Cal Poly and Cuesta students (five men and four women) were chosen to compete.

Wich and his crew decided that they were going to make "Rush" different from ordinary reality-based TV shows. Instead of having the contestants vote one another off, they decided to create mental and physical challenges called "Determination Rounds" where there was a clear-cut winner every time. The winner then became the "Determinationist," the contestant who had the power to vote another challenger off. This continued until there was only one contestant left. The last remaining player won a three-day cruise to Ensenada, Mexico.

The first episode aired on July 8 with two competitions. The first was a one-question quiz, and whoever answered correctly first, became the "Determinationist." The winner was Jonathan, a fine arts major at Cuesta, who then voted off Ryan, a Cal Poly business major. The remaining eight contestants then sailed off on a fishing charter to Avila for a contest to catch the longest fish.

Anna, a recent graduate of Cal Poly, was the winner in the second competition. And, without surprise, the show ended with Anna saying, "My decision is..." without finishing the sentence.

Anna said she was surprised that she got on the show because her interview didn't go well. To make up for this afterward, she went up to Tomasselli, the show's creator, and asked if she wanted to see her Cher impersonation. Anna said she thought this was what got her on the show because Tomasselli and everyone around her laughed hysterically when she did the act.

Cambra, a Cal Poly kinesiology major and a contestant, said that there wasn't "drama" between any of the opponents. Cambra said she thought the creators of the show were disappointed at this since "these types of shows are cast for drama." In contrast, she said that they were all cheering each other on through the entire taping. And all of the contestants established the "Golden Rule," which was the person who kicked you off had to buy you a beer when the show was over.

"Rush" was filmed locally in various spots such as Cuesta College, Morro Bay and Lopez Lake. Contestants were driven by van to several outlets and embarked on various contests that were sponsored by local businesses.

The competition began at 5 a.m. on Friday, April 27 and lasted until 10 p.m. on Sunday, April 29. Wich said that they filmed practically 24 hours a day, with everyone getting only eight hours of sleep the entire weekend.

Wich said that there are no concrete plans for the future of "Rush." He explained that it was shot as a pilot series to see if the concept would work. And, he said he is pretty confident that it did.

"Our competition is $1 million reality shows, so we had to do a good job..."

Bo Wich
producer and director

TAKING PRECAUTIONS outside your home may keep thieves from trying to get inside. Discourage burglars by following these tips:

DON'T GIVE BURGLARS AN OUTSIDE CHANCE

• Thieves shun bright lights. Consider exterior lights with motion detectors.
• Prune shrubs so they don't block windows and doors. Cut tree limbs that might be used to climb through an upstairs window.
• When traveling, create an illusion that you're home by having timers switch on and off certain lights. Lights on all day signal an empty house. Don't allow mail or newspapers to pile up.
By Kat DeBakker
SUMMER MUSTANG STAFF WRITER

I would consider myself to be fairly tolerant when it comes to movies. I can usually dissect a film down to at least one or two redeeming factors — beautiful scenery or a poignant message, perhaps. However, "Scary Movie 2" was such a disaster that I am almost at a loss for words in attempting to describe how and when it went wrong.

Directed by Keenan Ivory Wayans and written by a group of seven, "Scary Movie 2" stars his brothers Shawn ["Malcolm in the Middle"] and Marlon as well as Anna Faris, Regina Hall, Tim Curry, Chris Elliott, Kathleen Robertson and Tori Spelling. A plot sequence for this movie is virtually nonexistent, replaced instead by nearly 80 minutes of cheap pop-culture references and unimaginative rip-offs....

"A plot sequence for this movie is virtually nonexistent, replaced instead by nearly 80 minutes of cheap pop-culture references and unimaginative rip-offs...." 

It does not take much to predict the onslaught of poorly done handicapped jokes. There is a very brief moment of humor when the disfigured house caretaker (Elliott) attempts to serve the students dinner, but this is the first and last scene in the movie that could be considered even vaguely humorous.

The rest of the movie drags on with plenty of ghost chasing, sex, jokes and toilet humor. However, the jokes in this movie were too stupid even for me, even bordering on offensive. Marlon Wayans' character uses his member to lasso a psychopathic clown, Spelling's character has sex with a ghost, and Chris Masterson's character ("Malcolm in the Middle") convinces Fans to satisfy him before his supposed moment of death — his climax sending her flying backward with an explosion of bodily fluids.

The writers of this movie couldn't even bring themselves to add in a love story. It seems as if every movie, no matter how abominable, at least has some form of a love story to satisfy the girlfriends of the guys who choose these movies in the first place. Masterson approaches Fans near the beginning of the movie but is rebuffed. He then spends the rest of the movie treating her as a "friend," which consists of punching her in the stomach and throwing footballs at her head.

The only thing scarier than the fact that this movie was released is the fact that people are actually going to see it.

Top, (from left to right), Kathleen Robertson, Chris Elliott, Marlon Wayans and Regina Hall star in Scary Movie 2. Bottom, James Woods and Natasha Lyonne act out a parody of a scene from "The Exorcist."
Poly athletics feeling black and blue

Here's the thing about sports. For every athlete who wins, there are many more who don't.

For every celebration, there is much more disappointment.

At Cal Poly this past year, the Mustangs, more often than not, found themselves on the losing end of the previous two seasons.

And instead of a year filled with championship memories, many Mustangs are left with black and blue recollections of agonizing defeats.

What might-have-beens have become burned memories — a bad break, a costly mental mistake, a costly call, or a costly mental mistake, a costly call, or a missed signal. It all adds up to heartbreak, and it's a trend most Mustang sports fans can't seem to shake.

This year, only three team sports — volleyball, women's soccer and baseball — finished the season with winning records.

Individual sports, on the other hand, such as cross country, tennis and wrestling enjoyed the most success despite receiving less funding than the university's three major sports (football, basketball, baseball), which were combined $4.5 million.

While most of the women's teams also prospered, the men's programs typically found themselves belly up by the end of the season.

Only the wrestling squad handily eclipsed the .500 mark this year.

Baseball edged the .500 mark by taking two from UCSC in the final series of the season, while the men's tennis team barely broke even with an 11-11 record.

The football team has been consistent, but three straight 3-8 seasons wasn't exactly what Athletic Director John McCarthy was looking for in Mustang Stadium. And things haven't been much better in the own Mont Gym, where the men's basketball team hasn't recorded a winning season since 1996.

So why the losing trend in those particular programs?

Some point the finger at the athletes.

Some point it at the coaches and others at the crop of athletes Cal Poly has to choose from.

Funds, facilities and even academic standards could hinder a winning tradition.

Let's face it, Cal Poly isn't the easiest school to get accepted to on the West Coast.

And once you get here, it's anything but a cakewalk, especially when your No. 1 priority is getting your team in the win column for the first time this century.

All of this in the school's mission statement doesn't say one word about athleticism:

"As a predominately undergraduate, comprehensive, polytechnic university serving California, the mission of Cal Poly is to discover, integrate, articulate, and apply knowledge. It does so by emphasizing teaching, engaging in research, participating in the various communities, local, state, national, and international, with which it pursues common interests, and where appropriate, providing students with the unique experience of direct involvement with the challenges of their disciplines in the United States and abroad."

Sure, athletics contribute to the college "experience," but if an athlete has skills and they can make the grades, they're going to Stanford, not San Luis Obispo.

Then there's funding.

Cal Poly doesn't receive as much funding as Stanford does, but that doesn't mean the Mustangs can't compete in its own conference.

Least-funded programs like cross country, women's soccer and volleyball all won conference championships last year.

Yet, Cal Poly still finished seventh in the race for the Big West Conference Commissioner's Cup — presented to the institution with the best overall results in the conference's 18 sponsored sports.

So how can Cal Poly overcome the agency of defeat?

That's what the Mustangs aim to figure out this upcoming school year, and turn those black-and-blue memories back into green and gold again.

Unsigned editorials are the voice of the Summer Mustang staff.

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Money corrupts the true essence of athletics

America loves sports, Newspapers devote entire sections to them. Some TV stations cover nothing but sports, and there are innumerable fan clubs devoted to the men who play them.

Unfortunately, money has become an overwhelming and corruptive force in many sports, particularly college athletics. The only thing America seems to love more than sports is money, and these two loves are often intertwined. Money-related motives such as bets, the push to earn extra money, or the desire to make a million-dollar contract when the shoulder for a college student.

"It's unjust that athletes should be given scholarships based on physical prowess while those who have worked to amass an array of extracurricular activities and good grades often get nothing."

Another big problem associated with college sports is betting. The National College Athletic Association Web site has devoted a large section condemning the activity, reporting that it "cheapens the integrity of college sports."

An article on the site reported that the FBI estimated that $2.5 billion was illegally gambled on the 1995 NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Championship, second only to the Superbowl.

A study done by the University of Cincinnati, as reported in the article of 648 Division I men's basketball and football players, indicated that 35.5 percent had gambled money on other college sporting events, 3.7 percent had gambled money on a game in which they had played and 8.5 percent received money from a gambler.

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Cal Poly coaches experience rough times

By Jason Brennan

News

July 12 - July 18, 2001

Cal Poly coaches experience rough times

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Cal Poly considers not using the SAT exam

LONG BEACH (AP) —

One of California State University's most well-known campus programs is considering a plan that would ask incoming freshmen to take an achievement test rather than the SAT exam.

Under the proposal, California Polytechnic State University at San Luis Obispo — the most selective of the CSU's 23 campuses — would ask applicants to take the ACT achievement test rather than the SAT.

"We basically think, we don't know, that it may be a better tool for both students and the university," said Jim Maraviglia, the university's executive director of admissions and recruitment.

The proposal has been submitted to the campus president for approval, and a formal decision is expected later this month.

CSU — the nation's largest public university system — guarantees admission to the top one-third of the state's high school graduates. Although standardized testing is not required for students with a 3.0 grade point average, many campuses require such test scores be submitted because of overcrowding.

Under a statewide policy, all CSU campuses allow students to submit ACT or SAT scores. Nearly 93 percent of applicants submit SAT scores. The ACT tests a student's reasoning and basic aptitude; the ACT tests a student's achievement in English, reading, math and science.

While a handful of small, private colleges have dropped the SAT test in favor of ACT testing, Cal Poly is the first public campus in the state to say it would prefer the test over the SAT.

Cal Poly received more than 14,400 applications last year to fill 3,600 freshman slots, said CSU spokeswoman Colleen Bentley.

"It gives schools the freedom to take their curriculum," she said.

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Poly Bries

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Poly Bries

Cal Poly considers not using the SAT exam
Behind the scenes with Barry Bonds

He sat on the black recliner in shorts and a T-shirt with a small bandage wrapped around his injured wrist. The arms that had dispatched 39 home runs were folded in his lap. Burgundy lights, but that didn't make them any less impressive.

After incurring his wrist the night before, Barry Bonds' presence would not be felt in the San Francisco Giants lineup that day. But that was on the minds of two of his teammates, who began serenading him in an off-key melody that would barely pass as song.

Livingston and Eric Davis were making up the words as they went along, and because of that, Bonds' broad smile and netjative clubhouse attitude, but that attitude was nowhere to be seen.

Bonds' eyes scanned the small room, looking from teammate to teammate, laughing at the continuing song. Hernandez moved toward him and began rubbing his wrist, either for good luck or to heal it. But before anyone else could touch his wrist, Bonds stopped cold.

No more platitude. No more smile.

The song continued briefly before his teammates realized why he stopped. A group of six newspaper writers, myself included, were stared at briefly before Bonds got up and moved to another part of the room, out of view.

Bonds is arguably the most difficult player to interview in Major League Baseball, and the episode above is precisely why. As an interviewer, I strive to understand the person like few others do, to find a part of the person that people can relate to.

But Bonds won't let that happen, because he has defined personas that he sticks within. When he is on the baseball diamond, he is Barry the MVP, the San Francisco Giant, the player fans came to Pacific Bell Park to see. He is Barrv the MVP, the San Francisco Giant, the player fans came to Pacific Bell Park to see most. He has a diamond, he is Barrv the MVP, the San Francisco Giant, the player fans came to Pacific Bell Park to see most.

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