Fake IDs get minors into more than just bars

By Anne Guilford
SUMMER MUSTANG STAFF WRITER

It took no more than 10 minutes for Monica’s fake driver’s license to be completed and ready to bypass the scrutiny of San Luis Obispo bouncers. Monica (not her real name) is a Cal Poly student who preferred to remain anonymous as she explained what prompted her to get a fake ID.

Monica said she simply wanted to have fun with her friends, most of whom are 21 years old or already have fake IDs. So far, she is pleased with the quality of her forged ID but there are limitations as to where she can use it.

“There are some bars in town that can’t go to because they scan the cards or recognize the work of the guy I bought my ID from,” she said. “I know someone in the Bay Area who has an encoder that will match the information on the magnetic strip with the information printed on the card.”

Not many places scan cards though, and few people seem able to tell the difference, she added. Despite the changes states are making to their identification cards such as holograms, barcodes and magnetic strips, they are still becoming easier to duplicate due to the advances in technology that are available to consumers. Almost anyone can make a California driver’s license with a template for a graphics program purchased off the Internet (with prices starting at $29.99), a digital camera, a decent printer, and other supplies that can be purchased at an office supply store. Some Web sites, for a higher fee, will custom make the IDs and mail them to the patron.

“They (ID cards) are becoming very sophisticated,” said San Luis Obispo Police Lt. Ron Brown. “I ran across one about the beginning of the summer, he (the suspect) had purchased it from some Cal Poly students.”

Fake IDs are discovered in a variety of ways. Some are spotted during traffic stops if the suspect accidently pulls out the wrong card or keeps the fake one with the real one in their wallet. Others are found during sting operations by police officers in plain clothes who stand with doormen at nightclubs and bars. Some businesses confiscate the cards themselves and turn them in to the police department.

Brown said that one weekend The Graduate turned in about 40 fake IDs that they had confiscated from patrons. The San Luis Obispo Police Department’s Special Operations unit does sting operations at The Graduate and at other business in town. All confiscated IDs are eventually destroyed.

“Usually the bars are pretty good at checking,” Brown said.

“They have a little machine that scans them.”

Bouncers usually comply with the laws because “they have a lot to lose,” Brown said. Doormen can lose their jobs for letting minors and those with fake IDs in. The Alcoholic Beverage Control department can suspend a business’ liquor license for a couple of weeks.

According to the California Vehicle Code, anyone using a fake driver’s license; lending the license to someone else, duplicating it, or creating anything that resembles a license, is guilty of a misdemeanor and will be fined a minimum of $500. But the Federal Government has a different set of rules. Anyone forging identification is guilty of a felony, and the penalties depend on the degree of the offense.

One such case is that of Jeremy Martinez of Torrance, who is in trouble with the Federal Trade Commission. The FTC has filed a complaint to the U.S. District Court that alleges that Martinez sold high-quality computer templates for driver’s licenses for California, Georgia, Florida, Maine, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Utah, Wisconsin, and New York over the Internet. The FTC is assisted by the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Fraudulent Identification. The Florida program has closed 33 similar Web sites. But some sites can’t be shut down because they are offering the fake IDs and the products for the production of fake IDs, but cannot be punished or shut down because they are out of the FTC’s jurisdiction.

SLO police aim to curb under-age drinking

By Cory Dugan
SUMMER MUSTANG STAFF WRITER

The punishment for under-age drinking has gone from a slap on the wrist to a serious misdemeanor, in only a matter of years.

Now the fines are severe, alcohol and drug awareness classes are required and the driver’s license is confiscated for a year.

With the punishments for a minor in possession (MIP) both costly financially and emotionally, why would any under-age person drink? One student said they thought the rules weren’t always as strict.

“I got an MIP four years ago, when I was a freshman and the only punishment I received was AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) classes for a week — not even a fine,” Cal Poly senior Katy Edelman said.

Edelman also said she feels bad for those who get MIPs now. If the rules were as strict four years ago, she might have thought twice about under-age drinking, or at least been more discreet about it.

Sgt. Bruce Lahargoue, of San Luis Obispo Police Department, said the department is doing its best to show students the seriousness of under-age drinking.

“When new students come to Cal Poly in the fall, we will be participating in WOW (Work of Welcome) to show students the police force has an interest in the well-being of the student body,” Lahargoue said.

Along with WOW week, officers also participate in local, radio and TV programs to educate listeners on what the San Luis Obispo Police Department is doing.

Lahargoue said he knows this is a college town, however he is also aware that like any college town there will be under-age drinking occurring every weekend.

“It’s not my goal, or the San Luis Obispo Police Department’s goal, to try and catch every under-age drinker in the town,” Lahargoue said. “I realize this would be impossible.”

Lahargoue said the main goal is to have an active role in discouraging minors from drinking. He said he hopes minors will take a more responsible role when it comes to drinking.

“I have just seen too many stomachs pumped and IV’s attached to young kids not to feel strongly about under-age drinking,” Lahargoue said.

The San Luis Obispo Police Department said citations such as MIP’s are given out every weekend to minors drinking. According to the police, the consequences for these citations are the loss of the driver’s license for a year, alcohol and drug awareness classes and fines up to $500.

As harsh as this punishment may seem, the San Luis Obispo Police Department feels it is the only way minors will learn not to drink.

“It’s better we catch minors and punish them, than letting them injure themselves or someone else,” Lahargoue said. “The punishment is set to charge. Web sites from the United Arab Emirates and Canada are offering the fake IDs and the products for the production of fake IDs, but cannot be punished or shut down because they are out of the FTC’s jurisdiction.

In the year 2000, the San Luis Obispo Police Service Statistics and Highlights reported 819 alcohol-related citations given in San Luis Obispo (not including driving under the influence). 245 of these citations were given to minors or under-age drinking. Lahargoue said they are doing their best to keep the minors of San Luis Obispo educated on the importance of safety and responsibility when it comes to drinking,” Lahargoue said.
Illegal ferrets still find a home underground in California

By Kat DeBakker
SUMMER MUSTANG STAFF WRITER

In the state of California, it is illegal to be in possession of a ferret. While ferret possession is not yet a large problem in San Luis Obispo, it remains a highly controversial issue.

According to a report written by Deeley Whittam, Ph.D. and Thomas Moore, research assistant, from the Department of Wildlife, Fish and Conservation Biology at UC Davis, ferrets have been illegal in California since 1933.

Under current Fish and Game Commission regulations, ferrets are classified as "detrimental mammals" because they have not been recognized as domesticated. Therefore, they pose a threat to "native wildlife, agriculture, or to public health and safety."

Whitman and Moore's report contained the following excerpts from books and articles:

Ferrets vary considerably in temperament, ranging from non-aggressive pet animals to more unpredictable animals which are maintained for rabbling... Like weasels, ferrets and polecats will kill more than they can eat it they get loose in a chicken coop..." said Darlene Slack, Cal Poly communications office director.

"We no longer employed at the university," said Darlene Slack, Cal Poly communications office director.

San Luis Obispo County will have a new administration building on a site chosen two years ago by the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors.

The building, which was designed by the architectural firm of Ecker & Nance, will occupy a site that was previously used as a parking lot.

The project is expected to cost $10 million and will be completed by late 2002.
Cal Poly Salsa Club dances ways to top

By April Pack
SUMMER MUSTANG STAFF WRITER

Watching a dance lesson from the Cal Poly Salsa Club was a like watching a movement lesson. At first, it really becomes obvious that for some attending the class, the dancing is a serious passion. For others it was awkward, probably taking everything they had to come to the lesson. Looking around, everyone had a smile on their face, either out of nervousness of just because they were having a great time.

The Cal Poly Salsa Club is quite unlike other clubs on campus. With the bright colors and lively music, it is hard to ignore. The Salsa Club offers lessons to the public for a small fee. Last summer, Berkman, Rodriguez and a group of their friends began teaching classes at Cal Poly. Even without advertising, the turnout was huge. At one time, 75 people showed up for lessons and the class had to be moved outside. With this much backing, the Salsa Club became official in September of last year.

Since that time, for one thing, the club has skyrocketed in growth. Not only does the club offer lessons every Tuesday night, it also plays host to house parties, workshops and celebrity instructors from Los Angeles and other areas who come to teach. The Salsa Club will also participate in Week of Welcome, offering classes to freshmen and other incoming students. In the past, the club has been invited by dorms to teach lessons in the residence halls. It has made arrangements to meet in dorm rooms as well, and we encourage it. "Then you will be exposed to our type of music. You may not like it, but you will be exposed to it," Berkman said. The club hopes to branch out more into the community. The club is working on having a street dance every Thursday at Farmer's Market where it would offer free lessons to the public. Berkman said that in October, a spot would be opening up that the club could take.

The Cal Poly Salsa Club offers lessons every Tuesday from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Cal Poly, building S, room 225. Salsa is more romantic, and you get more of a personal bond with another person that you can't experience from other ballroom dancing.

Jeff Berkman
dance instructor

From left to right, Shawn Lopez, Chris Dennis, Joe Loering and Ryan Lopez form the band Torsion. The group recently performed at the Mid-State Fair.

Torsion may look like a boy band, but they play like a rock band. The hard-rock/alternative-sounding Torsion was formed in San Luis Obispo in 1999 when roommates Joe Loering, Chris Dennis and Shawn Lopez decided to expand their artistic abilities by playing music together. The three began by playing in Dennis's bedroom, which acted as a jam-session studio at night. After numerous noise violations, the three decided that they should find a place that would permit them to hold practice sessions. Once an alternative location was found, the band realized they needed a drummer who would blend with the rest of their sound.

After numerous auditions, Torsion decided on Carlos Damian, a Cal Poly student who coincidentally heard the group practicing one day and was instantly drawn to the drum set that sat in the corner of the room.

"As soon as Carlos began to play, we knew he was going to be our drummer," Lopez said. "We were all really impressed." Torsion became complete with a vocalist, Dennis on lead guitar, Lopez on bass guitar and Damian on the drums. The group began to play at various college parties throughout the area free of charge. The numbers simply wanted to be heard and were simply acting on the passion they had come across thus far.

When Torsion returned to San Luis Obispo they played at the Mid-State Fair alongside big names such as Destiny's Child, Ted Nugent, and a host of other stars. "I thought we played well at Mid-State Fair," Coeising said. "There weren't many bands there that played our style of music, so hopefully we stuck out among the rest of the performers." Torsion said it believes in order to "make it" in the music business, it must continue to work on new material and perform at larger venues. In order to play these venues, it will first have to get their name out in larger cities.

An agent from Warner Brothers Studios has contacted the band, and it has made arrangements to perform in Los Angeles after a show at a popular bar called "The Martini Lounge," Coeising said. He said it hopes that this will be the first step toward a recording contract. If so, this may lead to other perks such as a music video and radio exposure.

For more information on Torsion, please visit www.torsionmusic.com. For tickets purchasing, call Shawn Lopez at (805) 544-2233.
"Pie" sequel is only half-baked

By Erica Tower

Summer Mustang Daily Arts and Features Editor

This may seem blatantly obvious, but here it goes the problem with a sequel like "American Pie 2" is that it's about the same characters, and the elements of shock and discovery are gone. That said, this sexually charged sequel did have its humorous moments, but overall, its recipe charmed sequel did have its humor.

When Jim learns that Nadia (Shannon Elizabeth) — the Internet girl and his one female obsession — is heading back from Europe to visit him for the summer, in desperation, he enlists his first sexual partner Michelle (Alyson Hannigan) to give him lessons in the art of love-making. This situation does produce some very comedic moments, such as when Jim goes to band camp to pursue Michelle. Because band camp doesn't allow visitors, he is forced to pose as the lovable, special-ed musician "Peter" and play the trombone in front of large audience. This is the sequel's comedic highpoint, simply because the context was original.

On the other hand, the movie's longest comedic sequence, which is intended to be its most hilarious, is not exactly at its best. It involves Jim, Finch (Ed Helms) and Stifler (Seann William Scott) trapped inside the house they are renting (customarily, the women who they assume are lesbians. The women agree to put on a sexual show only if the guys do the same thing to each other that they want to see the women do — kind of a "your turn, our turn" scenario. Some of this works, some of it doesn't, and it draws on much too long.

Though the girls from the original gang are largely ignored in "American Pie 2" so that the plot solely focuses on the boys, one nice thing about the sequel is that in several scenes the girls are portrayed as equal opportunity sexual predators, and not just objectified as sex objects. Skirtishly paced and carbon copied from the original, "American Pie 2" isn't so much bad as it's afraid to exist on its own terms. It does get brownie points for being a strong antidote to blockbuster teen flicks such as "She's All That," "Drive Me Crazy" and "Save the Last Dance," but gets little respect for playing it safe and following the original "American Pie" to a tee.

Sex, violence give HBO loyal viewers

By April Pack

Summer Mustang Staff Writer

Every Sunday, for the last year, I have lived by the same routine. It reminds me of that Carpe Jr. motto: "Don't bother me..." But in my case, it wasn't because of craving to watch television, more specifically HBO specials such as "The Sopranos" and "Sex and the City." It was with a touch of sadness that I said goodbye to this ritual and to the end of the season for "Sex and the City" last Sunday. I felt disappointed when at the end of the show, a sexy, hot-looking, clad Sarah Jessica Parker (who plays the main character Carrie Bradshaw) was shown tanning herself and saying, "It's hot, we'll be back when it's colder." Then the announcement came that the show would not be returning until January.

While most people have their little rituals, mine has been to watch "Sex and the City" every Sunday at 9 p.m., which replaced last season's ritual of The Sopranos at 10 p.m. Getting addicted to TV shows is not something new, just ask any stay-at-home mom who has a favorite daytime soap opera. My attraction to "Sex and the City" is different from most, however. For many people, television is a way to escape their normal lives. However, the lifestyles of the four main characters, Carrie, Miranda (Cynthia Nixon), Charlotte (Kristin Davis) and Samantha (Kim Cattrall) show a realistic portrayal of a life that any woman would covet, including myself to be financially independent, to have a group of great girl friends, and to not be tied down to one man. If these four girls don't emulate girl power, I don't know what does.

On the contrary, I watch "The Sopranos" for very opposite reasons. It shows a lifestyle that I know nothing about and would never want to be involved with, the Italian mafia. I watch it for its fantastic aspect. I had always heard about groups of people like them but had never been able to get a peek into their way of life. "The Sopranos" provides this.

However, both of these shows do have something similar in common. They fill that void that network television creates. For example, every time I blink, there is a new reality-based TV show, which couldn't be further from reality even if the producers tried. Even the new sitcoms that try to give a realistic portrayal of the average American family like "Grounded for Life" leave something to be desired and come off as hokey.

However, on the flip side, I have heard complaints about HBO viewing, with some saying "Sex and the City" is too graphic and "The Sopranos" too violent. This is the creators' right. HBO shows all of the things that can't be shown on regular television — that's why people pay the extra dollar to get the channel. And let me tell you, it's well worth it.

As the HBO slogan says, "It's not TV, it's HBO!"

And just when I was beginning to wonder what I was going to do with my time during the off season of "The Sopranos" and "Sex and the City," HBO started airing a new series called "Six Feet Under." It is a series about a dysfunctional Los Angeles family running a funeral home, created by Alan Ball, the writer of "American Beauty.

The future looks bright for HBO and its shows, especially since in July of this year they received 94 Emmy nominations, more than any other broadcast or cable TV network. But some see this as the beginning of the end, especially for "Six and the City." In the last couple of episodes, Miranda found out she was pregnant and finally came to the decision that she was going to have the baby. In an article in the Chicago Sun-Times titled "A child shall lead them — to ruin," Phil Rosenthal wrote that babies are death on TV shows. He gave the example that when Little Ricky was born on "I Love Lucy," its ratings dropped more than 11 percent.

In another article in the Philadelphia Daily News, Ellen Gray wrote, "Can 'Sex' survive the consequences of sex? To my overwhelming surprise, I can't wait to find out!"

And neither can I.
Under-age drinking: Fight for your right to party

When presidential daughter Jenna Bush was caught last May trying to use a fake ID to get into a Texas bar, my heart went out to her. Of course, like everyone else who lived here, she should have known better. But still, it seemed unfair to me that she should have to take the heat from the media — and probably worse from her dad, Jeb Bush — for doing something that just about every college student has tried at one time or another. At least, I knew I did — and probably more than most. My own experience with fake IDs began when I was about the same age as Jenna Bush when her troubles started.

It was the summer after my freshman year of college, and along with four friends, I was working as a nanny in New Canaan, Conn. We must have spent our days there chasing toddlers and stain-treating Kool-Aid spills, but at night we would put on our party clothes and head out to the bar strip in the working-class town a few miles away. Our tickets into those less-than-reputable establishments were the fake Alabama state driver's licenses we had proudly purchased in a New York City shop our second week there.

With our photographs laminated onto cards complete with driver's regulations printed on the back and holograms on the front, they looked as good as the real thing — at least as long as you didn't look at the uneven edges. But despite a few minor imperfections — and the fact that we were four girls from Denver with about as much of a Southern accent as Hugh Grant — my first fake ID still managed to pass inspection several months before it was taken away from me in a bar in Eugene.

Not one to give up easily, for the next year and a half, I used just about any kind of ID I could get my hands on — IDs of friends, even an expired license someone found on a bathroom floor. I'd use one until they got me kicked out, but another one always came along. They never looked like me, but it didn't seem to matter. Most of the time the lookers were kind, and if they weren't, well, the humiliation of having an ID snatched out of my hands never bothered me for long.

Name, address, birth date... until it was taken away from me in a bar in Eugene.

This way they would go to the gym to lift weights and bodybuild, but their muscle mass is developed. This still happens thanks to the fact the majority of Cal Poly students appear to be underweight when it comes to nutrition and exercise. No walking in the bike lane, no biking in the walk lane, no skateboarding in the bike lane, no receiving change without being subject to some ordinary media scrutiny. No walking in the bike lane, no biking in the walk lane, no skateboarding in the bike lane.

The other justification I could find for this rule is that suntan oil contaminates the water and damages sand filters in the pool. Evidently Cal Poly values its sand filters over the lives of its students, because, according to the Skin Cancer Foundation, during the past 10 years the number of cases of melanomas has increased more rapidly than that of any other cancer.

Over 51,000 new cases are reported to the American Cancer Society each year, and it is probable that there are thousands more not reported. Poorer and uneducated are at greater risk.

Another strange Rec Center law is the following: No tank tops in the gym. I have heard a couple of justifications for this rule, the first being the obvious hygiene faux pas of sweating onto the equipment as drip sweat on the equipment as sight of large, exposed muscles makes for an intimidating workout atmosphere. While I can certainly relate to a flabby instructor being eclipsed in the weight room by extremely threatening-looking, muscular bodybuilders, I would think that it would serve as motivation.

The fact of the matter is, people go to the gym to lift weights and work out. When weights are lifted, muscle mass is developed. This muscle can be seen rippling under the confines of a sheer shirt as well.

Possibly the most ridiculous rule, and for me the most infuriating, was the Foundation food dictatorship. This means, of course, that there is no Coca-Cola on campus. With Cal Poly being an institute of higher learning, one would think that students are encouraged to make their own choices and decisions about everything, right down to which drink for lunch. Foundation awarded Pepsi exclusive rights for sell­ ing soft drinks on campus through secret negotiations and no campus input. Pepsi should be ashamed of itself for capitalizing on an educational institution.

According to a previous Mustang Daily article, Foundation awarded Pepsi, Co. exclusive rights for sell­ ing soft drinks on campus through secret negotiations and no campus community input in September 1997. It's enough to make me want to set up a bootleg Coke vending operation. If, of course, I don't die of skin cancer first.

Kat DeBaker is a journalism senior and Summer Mustang staff writer.

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For news story ideas, contact Leticia Becerra: lbecerra@mustangnews.com OR call 768-2318. For the latest news, check out www.sunsetpub.com or check out Summer Mustang's Facebook Page.

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Sports

FALL PREVIEW

CHANGING the face of VOLLEYBALL

Fresh faces, new foes, rule modifications, latest schedule don't seem to bother Mustangs

By Jason Brennan
SUMMER MUSTANG STAFF WRITER

The NCAA rules committee made some modifications in the off-season that will change the way volleyball is seen the coming 2001 season.

The few rules that were altered will benefit those teams that have the ability to keep the ball in play and produce few unforced errors.

"The (new) scoring system can help a team capitalize on a team's unforced errors," senior Kristen Sigel said. "This gives the better passing teams an advantage. I think we should do well with the new rule.

The new major rule change involves a different scoring system.

This season, either team — no matter whose serve it is — can score a point.

This is a change from the old rule when a team could only score when it was their serve.

Now, the first team to score 30 points — as opposed to 15 — will win the game.

The first team to win three of five games wins the overall match, with the final game ending at 15 points if the leading team is winning by two or more points.

"I don't think it will change the game that much," head coach Steve Schlick said. "Everything counts in rally serving, you still have to serve well to win.

Another major rule change is that if a serve can hit the net and still be playable by the other team. Last year, this would have been considered a net service result in a loss of serve and no chance at receiving a point.

Along with the new rule changes, the Big West Conference will welcome two new teams this year. Both Cal State Northridge and UC Riverside have been added to the upcoming conference schedule.

The pair of additions will factor into Cal Poly's chances at receiving a third straight NCAA tournament bid.

"I think that the new Northridge and Riverside games have to be must-wins for our team if we want to get back to the tournament this year," junior Worthy Lien said.

Cal Poly (17-12, 9-7 Big West, 9th in Region)

2000 Final Ranking: Not ranked.

2000 Post-Season Finish: NCAA 2nd Round


Returning Starters/Letterwinners: 4/9

Top Returners: Worthy Lien (Jr., MB, 6-2, All-Big West), Carly O'Halloran (Jr., S, 6-0, All-Big West), Molly Duncan (So., OH, 5-11, All-Big West Freshman Team).

Top Newcomers: Natalie Melcher (Fr., S/OH, 6-1), Jessica Dietersloot (Fr., OH, 6-1), Margaret Donghogne (Fr., MB, 6-3).

Top Players Lost: Melanie Hathaway (OH, All-Big West, AVCA All-Region).

The Cal Poly volleyball team was one of five Big West Conference schools to receive votes in the AVCA preseason poll Monday. Long Beach State (eighth) garnered the top spot for Big West schools fol­lowed by Pacific (11th) and UC Santa Barbara (13th). The Mustangs and Utah State also received votes in the American Volleyball Coaches Association Poll.

Cal Poly achieved to the second round of the NCAA's last season. The Mustangs will open the season at the St. Mary's Invitational on Aug. 31 against host St. Mary's College.

Division I Rule Changes

Following a similar change at both the international and club levels in recent years, the collegiate game now will employ rally scoring throughout the entire best-of-five match.

That means a team scores on every point, regardless of which team served. Previously, the fifth game was scored that way but the rest of the match used sideout scoring, in which only the serving team could win points.

Now, in the first four games, the first team to 30 with at least a two-point margin wins. In the fifth game, it's to 15.

The National Association for Girls and Women in Sports, the official rules-making body for women's collegiate volleyball, announced the changes July 11.

Some colleges coaches were hoping to also make a switch to another element of international volleyball: the use of the libero — a type of defensive specialist who can replace any player on the back row but isn't allowed to attack, block or receive serve.

That change won't be made, but it could happen as early as next season.

Still, the move this year to rally scoring at least creates more uniformity at the various levels of the sport. High school volleyball retains sideout scoring, though.

Student-athletes must abide by code of conduct

By Cory Dugan
SUMMER MUSTANG STAFF WRITER

Student-athletes aren't always the model patrons of the community that everyone thinks they are. Like everyone else, Cal Poly coaches say all athletes make mistakes.

But unlike everyone else, athletes must face the consequences of the law and of their coaches and teammates for the wrong they have done. Whether it is as minor as missing practice, or getting into trouble off the field, there are consequences to be faced.

From a coach's standpoint, kicking a player off a team is a painful and grueling task.

"It ant experience," said one of the players.

Cowell said one of his players had been on and off academic probation, and he told the wrestler if he didn't shape up he was off the team. The player continued to fail and Cowell was left with no choice but to dismiss him.

"You're done here," he told the grappler.

Fortunately for both parties, the athlete turned himself around and worked his way back on the team. Cowell said it was a good learning experience for the team.

Individual Ground Rules

So what is it — aside from poor grades — that will get a player kicked off a team?

When are the rules bent so far that coaches have nowhere else to turn and are forced to dismiss a player due to misconduct?

More often than not, it depends on the individual coach and situation.

According to the athletic department, each coach has his or her code of conduct. This code states what is and is not acceptable behavior for the sport. This includes how the student-athlete acts on and off campus. All Cal Poly coaches agree with the fact that students represent their team on and off the field and in the community.

Aside from the rules and regulations of each coach, a general code of conduct for all Cal Poly student-athletes and athletes around the country is enforced as well.

CMPLAc's Ground Rules

This is called the Criminal Misconduct/Failing Legal Actions/Inappropriate Conduct and is what all Cal Poly athletes go by when dealing with a legal problem involving an athlete.

This so-called "code" taken by the athletes of Cal Poly was recently adopted on May 5, 2000. It states that being on any collegiate team at any university is considered a voluntary opportunity taken by the students. With this privilege athletes are required by the rules stated to uphold certain standards that reflect both the team and the university.

Failure to abide by the rules and regulations stated in the code will result in dismissal from the team, loss of any scholarship and the possibility of expulsion.

From a player's standpoint, how might one keep all the rules of the code and the rules of individual coaches in line? For Cal Poly Mustangs, committing both saves a lot of sweat and pain. Cal Poly base­ball player Blake Cross said being kicked off an athletic team is one of the most embarrassing and disappointing moments in any athlete's life, so understanding the rules is a must.

"I have been close to being kicked off a team before and never felt so disgusted with myself in my whole life," Cross recalled.

"It was tough on Cross, because for him, baseball isn't too bad of a way of life."

"It would be as if someone announced one of my arms, if I had been kicked off, "he said. "Those were the worst two weeks of my life."