War hits home for Poly student

By Stephen Harvey
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

First Lt. Executive Officer Donald Hong prepares to train for America’s newest war.

The wind rashes past an old white car as it makes its lonely journey down Highway 101. Eyes drooping as it near 4 a.m., Donald Hong continues his trip to Long Beach with all his gear piled in the back seat. ’It’s kind of weird, like déjà vu all over again,’ Hong said. ’It’s affecting me twice. The solution is for me not to go back to school,’ he said jokingly.

Hong, an industrial technology graduate student at Cal Poly and an officer in the Army Reserves, was called up to active duty on Wednesday. This is the second time Hong was ordered to report for duty; the first was during his freshman year at Cal Poly when he was called up from the ROTC to go to the Persian Gulf War in 1990.

Hong received the call at 11 a.m. Wednesday, telling him he had to be in Long Beach by 6 a.m. the next day. He spent all afternoon talking to friends and family. He also went to the Admissions Office to withdraw from Cal Poly.

For many people, college can be both a bewildering and exciting change. Not only is it an unfamiliar environment, but it is also filled with endless opportunities to meet new people and try new things.

For others, however, this change is one filled not with new and interesting friends, but with isolation.

Business administration senior Shovan Tribett is one such student. Coming from a diverse community in Los Angeles, it was Cal Poly’s academic reputation that initially drew her to San Luis Obispo. However, many students’ attitudes made her feel unwelcome.

’Originally, I wanted to get a perfect education,’ Tribett said. ’I didn’t know attitudes would be the way they were.’

It was not outward racism that initially drew her to Cal Poly. For Donna Davis, academic adviser and coordinator for the Connection for Academic Success, tales such as these ring true. A Cal Poly alumna and county resident for 18 years, Davis has been on both sides of the story, both as a student and a staff member trying to attract more diversity to Cal Poly.

’I think that because you don’t have a diverse population there isn’t much draw to students of color,’ Davis said.

Minorities underrepresented despite university efforts

By Whitney Kobrin
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Imagine attending a university in a location where some of life’s comforts are very difficult to find. While many Cal Poly students won’t ever have to go through uncomfortable situations, many minority students deal with these instances everyday.

Lydell Aaron, a black computer engineering junior, shares his experiences in San Luis Obispo. Minority students make up only 28 percent of enrollment for fall and summer this year.

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As part of the army reserves, Hong is the First Lt. Executive Officer for his battalion. The battalion he leads is part of the engineering corps, which deals with land mines and demolitions. Hong referred to a Time magazine article he had been using for his industrial technology course and explained that 30 percent of the world's land mines are in Afghanistan. They are left over from Afghanistan's conflicts with Russia and other countries. Hong said. It costs $2 to lay a cheap mine and $200 to $300 to remove it.

While Hong was getting ready to leave, he packed two tools he used for detecting mines. One was a 2-foot-long pole with a white plastic rod sticking out on the end. Hong explained that he sticks the rod into the ground and pokes around looking for mines. The second tool was a heavy-duty metal detector.

During the time that Hong has been involved with the military, he has worked in demolition as well as mine removal and deployment. In the 1989 Lena Pietra earthquake, he blew up a bridge with both demolition and policy cleanup and was awarded with an "Army Achievement Medal." Hong started his undergraduate program at Cal Poly in 1994 and, according to a 1999 Mountain Daily article, he studied industrial engineering for one quarter before being called to active duty in the 45th battalion.

ROTC was also a part of Hong's college career, when he graduated from Cal Poly in 1997 he was commissioned as an assistant commander of the 40th infantry division of the California National Guard in San Diego and was made a one-star general. This was Hong's first quarter back to school since 1997.

Students that are in ROTC don't have to worry about being deployed in the current conflict. Maj. Paul Buechner, assistant professor of military science, said that ROTC is just a course students take. They are students and first and soldiers second. ROTC doesn't have the ability to ship students out, Buechner said.

The only way students can be called up is if they are part of the Army Reserves or the National Guard and their unit is deployed, Buechner said.

No one told you the hardest part of being an engineer would be finding your first job. Of course, it is still possible to get the high-tech work you want by joining the U.S. Air Force. You can leverage your degree immediately and get hands-on experience with some of the most sophisticated technology on earth. To find out how to get your career off the ground, call 1-800-423-USAF or visit our Web site at airforce.com.
National Briefs

Quakes hit both coasts

LOS ANGELES — Small earth­
quakes hit Los Angeles and New York this weekend. No damage or injuries have been reported. The 5.7 mag­
nitude quake hit Los Angeles at 8:28 a.m. on Sunday. Afterwards, two more minor quakes followed and ranged from 2.7 to 2.8 in magnitude during the next few hours.

The New York earthquake hit at 1:50 a.m. on Sunday and was 2.6 in magnitude. It was felt throughout Manhattan, Long Island and New Jersey.

— Reuters

New Jersey woman contracts inhalation anthrax

WASHINGTON — Another postal worker has been diagnosed with inhalation anthrax, authorities said. The Center for Disease Control warned the worker is a New Jersey woman. At least five other New Jersey postal workers have confirmed or suspected anthrax. The anthrax-tainted letters sent to Washington and New York City were from New Jersey. Officials are trying to determine if the anthrax-tainted letters in the mail system. Thousands of postal workers are currently taking preventive antibiotics. No new anthrax cases have been found since Friday.

There have been a total of 13 confirmed anthrax cases since the beginning of the outbreak. Eight of which had been fatal. 10 others have died from inhalation of the disease. So far, three people have died from anthrax and no one has died from the skin form of the disease.

— Associated Press

Pentagon considers to Red Cross bombing

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon admitted Friday to the accidental bombing of the Red Cross warehouses in Kabul, Afghanistan, and the death of a young Afghan girl. The incident occurred in two stages, during which EPA-19 jets dropped two one-ton bombs on the warehouse.

— Associated Press

New law allows authorities to order irradiation of mail

WASHINGTON — President Bush signed legislation Friday that is intended to aid authorities in tracking and disrupting the actions of terrorists in the United States. Bush said that the bill will protect the constitutional rights of all Americans while fighting terrorism.

The law will allow government agencies to conduct searches, detain or deport suspects, eavesdrop on Internet communications and obtain electronic records more quickly. It also reduced the need for subpoenas, court orders and legal checks.

— Washington Post

International Briefs

Asia

BENGAL: A series of earth­
quakes hit four nations this weekend with China receiving the worst blow. A magnitude 8.8 earthquake hit Australia, Taiwan and the United States. The strongest quake had a magnitude of 6.0, killing 1,111 people and injuring 150. The World Trade Center served as the service's back-up. Participants prayed and sang the Star­Spangled Banner. Cardinal Edward Egan, leader of New York's Roman Catholic Archdiocese, deliv­ered the invocation.

— Reuters

Another earthquake, magnitude 4.7, hit southern Greece Friday. No damage or injuries were reported.

— Reuters

THAILAND: A weapons depot that exploded in northern Thailand killed an estimated 19 people last week. Live ammunition rained on nearby villages and fields. The expl­

nation was caused by a truck that over­
whelmed a R-82 bomb and died coming from a ground ordnance.

— Associated Press

Middle East

BAHAWALPUR, Pakistan — Six military personnel were killed and 15 were wounded when a truck exploded near a military base. The blast killed four soldiers and two were seriously injured.

— Reuters

Another earthquake, magnitude 4.7, hit southern Greece Friday. No damage or injuries were reported.

— Reuters

Thirteen of the victims were from the same family, seven were women and two were young children. Funerals are set for Monday.

— Reuters

Briefs compiled from various news services by Mustang Daily contributor Anne Guillott.
RAMADAN
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drink and smoking from dawn to dusk, and many spend hours praying at home or in mosques.

As with other Muslim holidays, the start of Ramadan depends on the first sighting of the lunar crescent and can vary by days in different parts of the world. It is expected to begin Nov. 17.

"There continue to be terrorist threats in this world, and the sooner we deal with this problem, the less likely it is that you're going to have additional terrorist attacks," Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said last week when asked about Musharraf's call for a bombing halt.

Secretary of State Colin Powell has said he would like to see a break-through in the military campaign by mid-November, when Ramadan and the brutal Afghan winter start, but also said the United States is prepared to fight during the holy period if necessary.

That view was echoed by one defense official.

PRODUCTS
continued from page 3

such as the at-home kits that supposedly detect anthrax bacteria in the air, on mail or in water, work.

In Congress, where pork barrel spending thrives even in tight budget years, spending for homeland defense continues to rise.

Secretary of State John Powell, who has pushed to include in the new budget homeland spending for home, period,

ment and emergency personnel in responding to chemical, biological, radiological and radioactive attacks. And Sen. Bill Nelson, D-Fla., is seeking $8.4 million to double funding for the University of South Florida's Center for Biological Defense.

Louisiana's two Democratic senators, John Breaux and Mary Landrieu, delivered a $4.2 million grant to Louisiana State University's Academy of Counter-Terrorist Education for training law enforce-

ing for home, period.

Sen. Richard Shelby, R-Ala., pushed to include in the new budget $1 million to expand a program at Auburn University that would train Labrador retrievers to sniff out biological threats.

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Earth Systems Science and Astronomy programs are offered for Science and Non-science majors at Columbia University.

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MINORITIES
continued from page 1

dents who might not go to college otherwise. Currently, the College of Liberal Arts is the only college with no such program.
"The good thing is that there are a lot of programs out there," Davis said.
To better help students feel connected, the Cal Poly Office of Campus and Community Services has also published a pamphlet with information about various club and activities geared toward black students as well as a directory of black faculty.
"This type of information is vital to some minority students, Davis said, but not vital to others.
"Not all minority students come from very diverse places," she said. "Many students here are comfortable in this type of environment.

The bigger picture

Nationwide, affirmative action policies have been coming under fire. In August, the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that the University of Georgia's Total Student Index system was unconstitutional. The system took into account race and socioeconomic backgrounds of students deemed ineligible for admission because of grades or standardized test scores and assigns extra points toward those students' admission.

At Cal Poly, the admissions process is in a similar process. Hellenbrand said. The first part of the process is a purely academic review, looking at a student's scholastic record and evaluating their grades based upon the college prep and honors or advanced placement classes taken. If a student fails to measure up after this review, the admissions board takes into account weighted factors such as socioeconomic background and location.
"The short of it is that since Proposition 209, the university doesn't recruit very many minorities," Hellenbrand said.

On a statewide level, Cal Poly is somewhat of an anomaly, having little in common demographically with the rest of the California State University system. According to Hellenbrand, Cal Poly's demographics more closely resemble University of California, Davis than any of its CSU brethren.
"Since Proposition 209 did away with affirmative action in higher education, Hellenbrand has seen a recurring trend in the application process. About two years ago, students stopped giving their ethnicity," he said, noting that this trend has led to an increased reliance on socioeconomic data.
However, despite a small minority population, students are still drawn to Cal Poly for the same reasons. Davis said.
"Students are drawn to the academic reputation," she said. "They are looking for degrees that are going to be marketable."

STUDENTS
continued from page 1

students formed nearly 54 percent and about 8 percent of the applications came from students who marked "other" or "no response," according to the Cal Poly Web site. The number of minority students decreased when it came down to enrollment. Minority students made up 48 percent of enrollment for fall and summer this year. White students made up more than 64 percent of enrollment, and about 7 percent of enrolled students fell into the "other" and "no response" categories, according to the same Web site.

Aaron said he is comfortable on campus, but he knows a lot of students who are not.
"A lot of students are accustomed to the city atmosphere and the diversity that comes with it," Aaron said.
"When they come to Cal Poly, they don't see a lot of that," Aaron said.

Aaron was born in South Central Los Angeles, but he moved to Laguna Niguel in his early childhood. In Laguna Niguel, blacks were the distinct minority, so he grew up playing with children, not paying attention to their ethnicity. This helped him in his college transition, he said, because it allowed him to have the normal college transition without dealing with being a minority student.

Though the numbers of minority students enrolled at Cal Poly are significant, Aaron said Cal Poly is still not diverse.
"Diverse means people from many backgrounds come to one place and share parts of those backgrounds, adding to society in a way that allows you to see cultural differences, and it doesn't stand out anymore," Aaron said.
"Cal Poly tries, but has not been successful yet, because different ethnic groups still stand out."

The best thing that Cal Poly can do to enrich diversity on campus is to focus less on specific time frames to make ethnic diversity important, and focus more on creating small programs geared toward cultural awareness that are more often and more ongoing, Aaron said.

Ari Giddi, an Israeli architecture sophomore, said that Cal Poly welcomes students because whenever works hard and wants to attend Cal Poly is welcome. Cal Poly is in a rural place, so many international students don't know about it, causing international students to be more difficult to find on campus, Giddi said.

The most obvious difference between his birthplace, Israel, his home in Los Angeles and his college home in San Luis Obispo is inside the supermarket, he said. In Israel, everything is kosher, in Los Angeles kosher food is easy to find, and here, it is much more difficult to find, Giddi said.
"Because food is so hard to find, I don't keep kosher very much anymore," he said.

Though his eating habits have changed since he came to college, Giddi makes an effort to stay in touch with his roots by speaking to friends in Hebrew and reading books in Hebrew that his mother sends him.
"If you are a minority at Cal Poly, it's helpful that you come for the academics, because that's where Cal Poly shines," Aaron said. "It still has a lot of work to do on diversity."
Free speech: a vital right for every American

Free speech. It is a concept so elegant in its simplicity yet so complex in its practice. For some, it represents the most indispensable right of all. For others, it's a thought for others. For it is merely a shield, an excuse to force objectionable ideas upon the masses. It is free speech that allows Ko Kian Kian to spread his message to anyone with a computer. It is free speech that allows Larry Flynt to publish a magazine that is so offensive to so many. But it was also free speech that allowed the Freedom Riders to take their historic trek 40 years ago. These are tried-and-true arguments from those on both sides of the free speech fence. Before Sept. 11, they were theoretical, the media faces a quandary previously unimaginable: the freedom we take for granted could possibly be revoked. This freedom we take for granted could possibly be revoked.

Case in point: the Osama bin Laden tapes. The media had them, but did not play them. It was not because they weren't newsworthy. It wasn't because they were irrelevant. It was because the government asked them not to. In a time so long ago, the thought that the media would pull something from the air because the government asked them not to play it was almost laughable.

However, this decision did not have First Amendment lawyers working overtime. In fact, it went virtually unnoticed in the general news cycle. The reason was quite simple: both the government and the media agreed to show only those clips on tape in its entirety would have been more hurtful than helpful.

Unfortunately, not all cases are as clear-cut as this one. For the most part, they do not involve quotes or footage that could directly cause further terror. These are the cases that blur the lines and test the system. But these are also the cases that are vital in maintaining the health of the democracy.

This argument is one many journalists make — their chosen profession is not only noble, but vital. As journalists, free speech is our livelihood. Therefore, it is a right that most journalists are not willing to forfeit without a strong fight.

Free speech is not an issue confined merely to journalists. As Americans, free speech represents one of our most fundamental rights. In the same way, it was free speech that allowed the media to pursue Gary Condit, and it is free speech that allows us to acknowledge this fact and do what we can to rectify it.

Throughout history, America has often been called "the great experiment." And, like an experiment, it takes the mistakes and wrong turns to arrive at its final result. 

In actuality, I consider myself to be quite scholarly when it comes to international relations, and I'd like to think that I impress the gravity of certain international events upon my classmates. But I fully understand why international students at American universities come to the conclusion that we Americans only regard matters of our state and not others.

I'll search for reasons, but take them all with a grain of salt. Perhaps it just doesn't fit with our dominant social paradigm in that we have fostered a sense of individualism far too great for our own good. This paradigm is more powerful than most think: the concept of individualism has been emblazoned on my brain since my early youth. It could be the American education system. Third-grade social studies, while invigorating in its own way, doesn't exactly begin to help a child gain a global perspective. Even in high school one isn't necessarily inundated with international affairs.

However, I feel that the American education system — while harboring some quirks and perhaps not so committed to the health of this country, Japan and Germany — is indeed exemplary. Apparently at least some of the emphasis on world history and foreign languages in their education systems and the accessibility of other cultures within their classroom doubly fuel an impetus to travel, leaving one to conclude that this serves as a better foundation when it comes to

Defending U.S. college students

(UPWIRE) CORAL GABLES, Fla. — It seems the right view of U.S. college students is unfavorable when it comes to our international savoir-faire.

Being a young man born and bred in the great state of New Jersey, I am very American and, consequently, retain in my cerebrum only microscopic amounts of international lore. I am blinded by world geography, apathetic toward overseas happenings, and as far as I'm concerned, couldn't care less if all information concerning any country other than the United States was beaped into a giant barbe cue pit.

Have I fulfilled your stereotypes? Think again.

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Sunday Opinion

Keep trick-or-treating a sacred college tradition

(A-WIRE) BOSTON — The days are getting shorter, the temperatures are already losing interest in all my classes. That can only mean it's October.

I love it. It means that I get to convince everyone that I'm a vegetarian with my favorite non-processed, non-cream-based diet. I do it with pride.

Commentary

Halloween. What can I say? I present and fear kick-ass, but Halloween kicks ass

That's why, despite all my friends, family and social instincts telling me not to, I plan on going trick-or-treating this year.

You remember trick-or-treating, don't you? The costumes. The candy. The thrill of getting chased by bigger kids with shiny cream cans. The thrill of being rich and famous and seeing those shiny cream cans off of you at a household by the time you are done. We can get an engine, but by the time they are done with it, the only hassle about candy is having to pay for it. It only was there to get
candy for free. Oh, why can't there be some way --

That's why it's called trick-or-treating. I think all you nonwannabes who scoff at not wanting to go trick-or-treating this year should pause for a moment and reflect on that concept. I'm for it.

This year when the only person who would go with me was my one lone friend. No, really, she was lone. She had broken her ankle getting me to the bus. But we still went trick-or-treating, with me walking arund her neighborhood in a wagon. I was dressed as an apple seller and she was the apple.

However, when I came to college, I found people's priorities had changed. No one seemed to want to go trick-or-treating. So I did something I will regret for the rest of my life. I skipped a year.

The world that night was divided into the free-candy and the tree-candy, and I learned a valuable lesson for the letter. The next year, however, I was able to rally a group of my friends to go. Even I was insured by the response we got as we made our way through our Brookline neighborhood.

Only one person said, "Aren't you a little old for this?" The lady at the first house we went to even said she hoped her children were still trick-or-treating when they were out age. It was a great time, until my friends started setting themselves on fire on people's lawns.

You see, trick-or-treating is too often confused in people's minds with vandalism. The popular opinion goes that once you reach a certain age, you graduate from getting candy to knocking on doors and taking out expensive cars to break the front windows. But if you were to set fire to a house, you're just as wrong.

This is the second time I have encouraged writers to avoid tactlessness. I'm beginning to question the intelligence level at Cal Poly. Am I the only one that sees the absurdity of these letters? I'm even more dismayed that these attacks on our tradition. I might have excepted that this would happen, but by the time the trust was out there, I was ready to refer to this as a hateful attack on an individual. Frankly, I'm disgusted that some students seem to have the mind set that a hating some scape is somehow appropriate for this community (just as a hateful attack is somehow fitting to the Cal Poly Community).

I'm more than dismayed that these attacks on our way of life is a trend that society. I'd much rather see rational debate instead of verbiage. Unfortunately, this isn't the first occurrence of this. Krystyna Kubran is a mechanical engineering student.

Tasteless letters plague the life section

Editor

I've recently noticed an appalling trend in letters that are dropping up in Mustard Daily. It seems as though many students on campus are assuming that it's very productive and acceptable for them to write a letter that directly assaults another individual. An excellent example of the word of the week is "A.J. Alpstad"'s "show of self-righteousness is bad representation of homosexuality." (Oct. 26)

In this letter Mr. Alpstad seems to have a quarrel with people who are doing something that a majority of the gay community (as a hardful attack of a federal building was somehow fitting to the Oklahoma City community).

I'm more than dismayed that this attack on onsen, but I might have expected that this would happen, but by the time I came to college, I found people's priorities had changed. No one seemed to want to go trick-or-treating. So I did something I will regret for the rest of my life. I skipped a year.

The world that night was divided into the tree-candy and the free-candy, and I learned a valuable lesson for the letter. The next year, however, I was able to rally a group of my friends to go. Even I was insured by the response we got as we made our way through our Brookline neighborhood.

One person said, "Aren't you a little old for this?" The lady at the first house we went to even said she hoped her children were still trick-or-treating when they were out age. It was a great time, until my friends started setting themselves on fire on people's lawns.

You see, trick-or-treating is too often confused in people's minds with vandalism. The popular opinion goes that once you reach a certain age, you graduate from getting candy to knocking on doors and taking out expensive cars to break the front windows. But if you were to set fire to a house, you're just as wrong.

This is the second time I have encouraged writers to avoid tactlessness. I'm beginning to question the intelligence level at Cal Poly. Am I the only one that sees the absurdity of these letters?

Brian Tauecht is a landscape architecture fresh-

After two years, still no one can refute these arguments

Editor

A.J. Alpstad's personal attack on me Oct. 26. "Well, it's obvious that he's rich from his clothing, but the title of his letter, "show of self-righteousness (of homosexuality)" would certainly not be up for consideration as a logical debate. As someone who's taken a critical thinking class would recognize, Andrew committed the logical fallacy of Ad Hominem -- he left that attacking me personally, somehow flawed his position.

Not once did he even attempt to make a claim in to why my beliefs of equality might be wrong. Andrew, you didn't have the facts to back your argument. The real ne-

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By Laura Vega
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

The Cal Poly volleyball team climbed to 14-6 overall and 8-5 in the Big West following a pair of weekend victories in Mont Gomry.

The Mustangs upset No. 25 Utah State Friday by scores of 26-30, 23-30, 30-25, 30-17 and 16-14. Cal Poly swept the University of Idaho Saturday night, 30-16, 30-26 and 30-20.

The Mustangs earned more than an upset against the Utah State Aggies. The five-game win before 568 fans also clinched victory No. 100 for head coach Steve Schlick.

But despite the milestone, Schlick's attention was on Cal Poly's achievements against the Aggies.

"It's a great win for us," Schlick said. "Utah State has had some wonderful wins.

The Aggies recently defeated No. 12 Pacific and No. 13 Brigham Young during a seven-game winning streak. The run also included a four-game victory over Cal Poly on Sept. 29.

The Aggies came out strong in the first game, leading by as many as nine points during the middle of the game. Cal Poly eventually tied the game at 25, but a kill by Aggie senior Michelle Matheson put Utah State up by one.

Aggie head coach Bert Fuller said two factors in the first game turned the match around.

"Cal Poly started playing harder and we started playing easier when we led 15," Fuller said. "It became a struggle from that point on."

But it was the Mustangs who struggled in game two. Utah State senior outside hitter Lisa Borern recorded six kills to help the Aggies take a 2-0 lead.

Schlick said the Mustangs made some defensive adjustments after game two that created both physical and mental challenges for Utah State.

"As we put pressure on them, they backed off a little bit," Schlick said. "Confidence level plays a huge role in these types of matches.".

Cal Poly sophomore outside hitter Molly Duncan rises up for a kill.

Neves also noted the adjustments in the Mustang defense.

"They played great," said Neves, who finished the match with 51 assists for the Aggies. "They started blocking the ball and we just didn't play as a team.

Cal Poly applied the defensive pressure and maintained its confidence for the rest of the match. Mustang sophomore hitter Molly Duncan, playing with a taped right elbow, recorded a block assist to capture game three. A kill by junior middle blocker Walker Lien tied the contest at 2-2. "It felt great because the whole team was behind me," Lien said of the game-clinching point. "We had great passes and the setting was incredible tonight.

Lien would also be called upon in game five — a back-and-forth battle that included nine ties. The Aggies served at 14-12 for match point, but Lien contributed 12 each. Cal Poly hit .254 for the match.

As a team, however, the Aggies hit .195 for the match. Duncan said Schlick did not mention the milestone to the players.

"But I'm glad for him," Duncan said. "That's awesome."

Schlick, who is in his sixth season at the helm, has a cumulative record of 103-63. Former head coach Mike Wilton finished with a 271-129 record in 11 years as head coach for the Aggies.

Lien guided the Mustangs Saturday against Idaho, collecting 15 kills and six blocks.

But it was the Mustangs who surprised the Aggies.

"We didn't do what we needed to do on our side," Matheson said. "We didn't do what we needed to do on the other side.

As for Schlick's effort in his 100th win as Cal Poly head coach, Duncan said Schlick did not mention the milestone to the players.

"But I'm glad for him," Duncan said. "That's awesome."

Cal Poly senior Kathryn Hinchman contributed 11 kills, while Kristen O'Halloran and Lien contributed 12 each. Cal Poly hit .254 for the match. Five Mustangs recorded double figures on offense. Kristen O'Halloran registered 16 digs. Diepersloot and Duncan chipped in with 14 and 13 digs, respectively.

Cal Poly called a season-high 23 blocks, compared to the Aggies eight.

Diepersloot said she was glad to see the team finish with a higher confidence level compared to the last meeting with the Aggies.

"We knew that we could win," Diepersloot said. "We knew how to play really hard this time and we were ready for these.

Boron led the Aggies with 20 kills and 18 digs. Matheson finished with 17 kills and seven digs.

As a team, however, the Aggies hit .121. The Aggies fell to 11-6 overall and 7-2 in the conference.

"We didn't have a lot of effort out there," Matheson said. "We didn't do what we needed to do on our side.

Cal Poly begins a three-match road swing against Idaho, collecting 15 kills and six blocks.

Duncan contributed 11 kills, while Diepersloot chipped in with 10. Diepersloot led Cal Poly's defense with nine digs.

Cal Poly will compete on Saturday, Nov. 10, in Tucson, Arizona, at the NCAA Division I West Regional.

"I'm pretty excited because we have the home court advantage," Dahlgren said. "I definitely have the biggest race of the season."

The women began their 5K race on the left side of the course instead of at the beginning. It didn't take long for Dahlgren to climb to the lead. She remained in the lead for the rest of the race. The Gauchos ranked No. 23 in the nation last week.

Cal Poly women take Big West; men place third

By Jenni Mintz
MUSTANG DAILY CONTRIBUTOR

The Cal Poly men's and women's cross country teams have triumphed once again.

The men hosted the Big West Conference Championships for the first time Saturday at the Fairbanks Memorial Course across from Cuesta College.

The women won their event, with five runners finishing in the top 15. The men finished third out of the nine teams that competed.

The men's course went around the back of Tower Hill, the steepest part of the race, and then took three loops around the switchback.

As the runners entered the back of Tower Hill, Cal Poly senior Jason Borey and sophomore Justin Nueroth led the entire field. Junior David Jackson caught up a few minutes later and moved into first.

However, by the last lap, two runners from Utah State and two from UC Santa Barbara, along with Jackson, were in the lead.

Jackson came in fourth place, with a time of 26:04. Eric Gauss from UC Santa Barbara came in first place with a time of 25:56. The UC Santa Barbara men's team came in first place overall, followed by Cal Poly. Cal Poly came in third place, breaking their three-year record at the conference championships.

Although disappointed, team members were still excited to have hosted the championship.

"It was great. You always feel more comfortable at your house. This is where we train," freshman Tom Phillips said. Phillips came in 27th place with a time of 27:17, eighth tenths of a second behind senior Paolo Cavalcabion.

Cal Poly sophomore Dan Avila finished nineteenth with a time of 26:38. Borey finished in eighteenth place in just 27 under 256.

Nueroth finished fourth.

Before the start of their race, the women felt good about their chances.

"I think we're ready," senior Jessica Dahlberg said. "We've had a good season of training.

"I'm pretty excited because we have the home course advantage," Dahlberg said. "This is definitely the biggest race of the season."

The women began their 5K race on the right side of the course and then ran on a path that was opposite from the men's. The gunning Tower Hill was completely completed in the course, instead of at the beginning. It didn't take long for Dahlberg to climb to the lead. She remained in the lead for the rest of the race. The Gauchos ranked 17-16 to lead the victorious Mustangs.

Cal Poly sophomore Kathryn Schlegel finished fourth with a time of 18:30, and freshman Amber Simmons finished a second later in fifth. Freshmen Rachel Lang and Katie Murphy placed eleventh and fifteenth, respectively, for the Mustangs.

The UC Irvine women finished third, followed by UC Santa Barbara.

Katie Appenrodt, a senior at UC Santa Barbara, came in first at 17:53.

Appenrodt was honored with Big West Conference Female Cross Country Athlete of the Year.

Mitch Richmond wears number 23 for the Lakers. What number(s) did he wear when he played with the Kings and Wizards? Answer: 23, 9

For both teams, Congratulations Marcus England

Scores

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Schedule

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Trivia

What number besides 23 has Michael Jordan worn in his career? Answer: 45

Submit answers to: dmin00@calpoly.edu

For both teams

Congratulations Marcus England