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ASU Election Voting Locations Today and Thursday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

- Davenport
- Rec Center
- University Union
- Ag Building Bridge
- Robert E. Kennedy Library

League helps Poly practice democracy

By Sarah E. Thien
It was the 1984 presidential election — Reagan versus Mondale — and the American embassy in Beijing celebrated a balloon to celebrate the occasion. China was just opening up to the West, and the election process was new and exciting for the Chinese who were observing American democracy at work.

Valerie Steenson, secretary of the San Luis Obispo Chapter of the League of Women Voters, was in Beijing working as a Foreign Service Officer with the U.S. Information Agency.

"The Chinese people couldn't believe our (election) system was open," she said. "They were so enthusiastic about the way America worked."

That election in Beijing is Steenson's favorite election, and she has been through many. Steenson is a member of the League of Women Voters, an organization that started as an outgrowth of the women's suffrage movement and has grown into a national organization dedicated to the advancement of democracy.

Sara Home, president of the San Luis Obispo Chapter of the League of Women Voters, had to think for a moment to decide on her favorite election.

"One of the first elections," she said, "because that was the beginning of democracy in America."

The League of Women Voters has been helping Cal Poly elections run smoothly since 1986. In that year, there was controversy over how the votes were counted, and the league was asked to step in and ensure that the elections were fair. It has been

see LEAGUE, page 2

Student, police relations cause friction from time to time

By Cynthia Neff and Kristy Charles
It was 1:30 a.m. during Mardi Gras weekend. Joseph Webb, a Cal Poly College student, was walking down an alley toward SLO Brew when an unknown minivan pulled up and shined its headlights in his eyes. Within minutes, Webb found himself in the back of a police car and under arrest for being drunk in public.

Webb and a friend were returning to SLO Brew, where they had been playing chess and drinking a few beers earlier that night, when they were approached by civilian-dressed police officers from the San Luis Obispo Police Department. The officers accused the two of urinating in public and then separated them. Webb’s friend was given a ticket and released, but Webb was handcuffed and taken to the police department.

Along with many other parades, Webb was later transferred to the San Luis Obispo County Jail, therefore coming into contact with a handful of officers during the night. He said he was treated roughly and unfairly by several of these officers while in custody.

"During the course of the night, my belt loops and shirt were ripped off, an officer elbowed me in the eye and gave me a black eye, and my cuffs were put on so tightly that my hands were bruised, cut and turning blue," Webb said, showing pictures of his wrists, face and clothing.

He added that he was repeatedly called names and was denied a phone call until very early the next morning. He was also the only person brought in that night who had to pay bail, because an officer wrote that he was still too intoxicated to care for himself.

Complaints against SLOPD
A local lawyer who handles student cases such as Webb said that over the course of his career, he has handled around 50 cases involving students and the San Luis Obispo Police Department. Dan Funke-Bulu, who practices in San Luis Obispo, said that of these 50 cases, around 25 to 50 percent have had complaints against the department. The most common complaint is that officers are overzealous or too aggressive when dealing with students, he said.

"Do I get a sense sometimes that the relationship between Cal Poly students and SLOPD could be a little bit more harmonious and should be more harmonious?" Funke-Bulu said. "It's not a student problem and it's not a police problem. It's the relationship between the two."

However, San Luis Obispo Police Chief James M. Gardner said that while he thinks the department has a positive relationship with the student community, "The department tries to be willing to listen to the student voice, work with the issues involved, and at the same time prevent the crimes that we see," Gardner said. "So we do everything we can to work on a positive side. Enforcement is our last resort."

Gardner added that excessive force complaints against officers are rare, although officers have been disciplined for insufficient force. There have been 13 complaints filed against officers since 1999. Only one was for excessive force, and that officer was exonerated, Gardner said. Of the 13, one complaint was sustained because an officer violated internal policies. The other complaints were thrown out.

Students' word against officers
When Webb obtained the police report of his arrest, he said he was shocked. It stated that he was seen urinating in public, and later given a breathalyzer test, which he did not pass. It also said that he had sweaty eyes, slurred speech and was deemed unable to care for himself.

"I had three beers within the course of two hours. Obviously I was able to care for myself because I had just walked from SLO Brew to 7-11, where I bought a Red Bull, and back," Webb said. "I requested a breathalyzer test, but was denied it, and I wasn't given a balance test. A lot of the information given in the police report was false, but in a case like mine, because the police report states facts that never happened, it's my word against a police officer's. Who would you believe?"

Gardner said that there are cases where it comes down to the officer's word against that of the person being arrested, but students have the option to take further action in court. He added that when an officer arrests someone it is usually for his or her own safety.
LEAGUE
continued from page 1
helping with the elections ever since, and
even though other controversies often
arise, no one has complained about how
the votes are counted.
Home was in charge of counting the
votes for the fee increase. The boxes
were taped and locked to pre­
vent tampering. Everyone was very
patient, Home said. Carlos Dias, a poli­
tical science
senor and chair of the ASI election
committe, said he organizes the Cal Poly
elections with the help of the
League of Women Voters.
"They're great to work with," he
said. "They're very outgoing and love
to promote the 'go out and vote' atti­
dude."
Home said that league members
were drawn to the League of Women
Voters because there are so many in a
little town, said Eric Falor, a
non-partisan, as it does not sup­port or
endorse candidates. Rather, it seeks to
educate voters so that they can make
their own informed decision.
However, on some issues the League
does take a stance. The national
League of Women Voters is a challeng­ing
institution; it encourages citizens to be more involved in
the democratic process. According to the
League of Women Voters publica­tion
"A Voice For Citizens, A Force For Change," the league is democra­
tic-focused by working to ensure that
voting rights are protected and pro­
vided to all. This mission is accom­plished by more than 1.3 million
members nationwide, with 172 members in
San Luis Obispo County. The name
could be deceiving, as the League of
Women Voters became open to men in
1972. Home said that the league talked about changing its name when
many in a little town," he said. "We're not going to fight
then the wrong time," he said. "I shouldn't
have been arrested in the first place."
Experiences with police vary
for students
Student opinion regarding how
police treat college-age residences
varies.
"The police can take advantage of
students here because there are so
many in a little town," said Eric Falor, an
aeronautical engineering sopho­
more. "We're not going to fight
back."
However, Courtney Newell, a
kinesiology graduate student, said she
thinks police are doing the right
thing for the community because San
Luis Obispo is a college town.
"I don't think that (SLOPD) is
that bad," Newell said.
Despite the controversy surround­
ing the relationship between students
and police, most students are likely to
come into contact with an officer
during the course of their college
career.
Jerry Radding, a local attorney,
said that he has formed a theory about police and student interaction
based on the 20 years he has practiced
tow in San Luis Obispo.
"No one goes through Cal Poly
without getting something on their
record," Radding said.
He added that he mentions this
to students to make them feel better
about being arrested and that it is not
based on any statistical evidence.
Gardiner said that the police
department does not focus on stu­
dents, but enforces the law when it
comes across violence, especially
with alcohol.
"We're going to be where there's
alcohol and noise, or where we've
had to have a prob­
lem," Gardiner said. "Unfortunately.
The demographics show that those
people are mostly students."
Different system on campus
Students do not only come into
contact with the San Luis Obispo
Police Department. Every time they
are on campus, they are under the
jurisdiction of University Police.
However, due to the fact that Cal
Poly is a dry campus, the majority of
the problems involve skateboard and
bike violations.
From April 2000 to April 2001, there were 99 skateboarding cita­
tions, said Fred Mills, communica­tions and records coordinator for the
University Police Department. During the following year, there were
120 citations.
The number of bicycle citations
rose, however, from 28 in 2000 to
2001, to 88 the next year. The increase is due to several factors,
said Mills, one being that the number of bicycle citations issued include
violations of campus regulations, such as riding in prohibited areas, and vio­
lations of the California Vehicle
Code.
Another factor is that the depart­
ment receives complaints against
bicycle violators from students, staff
and faculty, said Sgt. Lori Hashim of the University Police, and must
respond to them.
"The department is more react­
tive than proactive," Mills said. "We're
influenced by surface problems. If
complaints increase on a weekend,
then we will follow up on that."
In recent years, stressed relation­ships
may have originated from increasing hostility on the part of the
person being arrested, especially with
minors and young adults.
According to the 2001 crime sta­
tistics, minors and young people with
whom officers were coming into con­
tact were unusually uncon­
trollable and abusive.
"On any individual year a different
flavor (of students) comes into town,"
Gardiner said. "Sometimes the flavor
seems to be more aggressive, but nor­
mally we have a 98 percent cooper­
ativeness."
The San Luis Obispo Police
Department makes a continuous
effort to improve their relationship
with the student community, by
cooperating with local programs. Some organizations that they work
with include the SCLC, Residents
for Quality Neighborhoods, the Inter­
fraternity Council and SNAP.
In Weh'eberg's capacity as acting
and bring his case to trial was more
expensive and complicated than he
expected. Weh'eberg donated his
money to the SLOPD and then tried to
afford the lawyer's fees, he pleaded
guilty and put his bail toward the
fine.
Birth control failure linked to weight

NEW YORK — Women of the same age but different weights may have different risks for rates with oral birth control pills, according to a report released Tuesday.

Women who weigh 150 pounds or more are 1.6 times more likely to experience failure of oral contraceptives than those who weigh less than 150 pounds, investigators found.

The dosage also played a role.

Women in the highest weight category who were receiving a very low dose were 4.5 times more likely to get pregnant, compared to women who were in the lower weight category and taking a similar dosage of the drug, the report indicates. No difference in the effectiveness of barrier birth control methods was found in women of different weights.

It is possible that the results are due to the fact that lighter weight women have a lower metabolic rate, leading to slower drug metabolism, the report concluded. The women in the heavier category may have insufficient serum progesterin or estrogen levels for good contraceptive efficacy.

The report is in the May issue of the Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Typically, about 3 percent of oral contraceptive users will become pregnant during a year of proper use.

The study included 618 women aged 18 to 39.

— Reuters

Chandry Levy
missing intern

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International Briefs

South America
PAULD, Brazil — Scientists were astonished when a healthy bull calf was born on a Brazilian ranch — the bovine had been cloned from a cow, so the team is expecting the call to be female as well.

The bull is not the first cloned calf, but it was hoped to be the first from adult cells rather than embryo cells. The team said the adult, or somatic, cell experiment was taken from a cow’s ear.

The project’s chief veterinarian said that it was probably the result of a laboratory error. He said somatic cells are sexually defined. Therefore, by the time the experiment had been done correctly, only a female could result from the cloning of cells from a female cow.

Another hypothesis for the error is that the cow carrying the clone could have been injected with a ball, even though the cow had been separated from the herd. If this is the correct hypothesis, then the young bull is not a clone at all.

DNA tests are due next week, and are expected to reveal how the bull came to be.

Another two cloned calves are due in the coming months.

— Reuters

Middle East
WEST BANK, Israel — The dreams of two Palestinian brothers to brew beer in their native land have fallen flat. Nadin and David Khoury lived in Boston, but moved back to their native West Bank village after construction delayed brewing the Taybeh microbrew.

But the Khourys’ hopes for stakehold and a successful business have been dashed in the last 19 months of fighting between the Israelis and the Palestinians.

The brothers have experienced an 80 percent drop in business since the fighting started. They used to churn out 1,200 bottles of beer each week. They are now selling orders for only 200 cases per week.

The Khourys planned to sell their beer to Britons in the West Bank for Boston in the 1970s in order to study business administration. They started the business after Nadin’s experiments with home brewing kits were well received by friends in Boston and the West Bank.

They are friends with James Koch, the inventor of the very successful Samuel Adams beer.

The brothers returned with their dream to a Christian village to the West Bank in 1995 and opened the Taybeh Brewing Co. Before Taybeh opened, Palestine has no beer industry. The beer was certified kosher and was opening up new markets in Israeli bars and shops. It was also sold in eight other countries.

In Arabic, Taybeh means “tasty.”

— Associated Press

Europe
LONDON — Doctors said Tuesday that dentists are more likely to suffer memory and kidney problems. They suspect that the increased risk could be due to long-term exposure to mercury tooth fillings.

The 180 dentists in the study had up to four times the normal level of mercury in their hair and nails, said researchers at the Glasgow Royal Infirmary in Scotland. The dentists also had more kidney disorders and memory lapses than the general public.

Mercury has been in use for dentistry for 130 years. Some professionals argue that the fillings can give off harmful vapors that can be dangerous for dentists and patients. Critics claim the mercury can poison the body and can even lead to neurological diseases such as Alzheimer’s.

Dental associations say mercury is safe when mixed with other metals and that there are no scientifically proven links between the disorders and the fillings.

— Reuters

Briefs compiled from various news services by Mustang Daily contributor Anne Guilford.
D's Dog is D-light for late-night snackers

By Amber Hodge

There's no better way to nosh on campus than to hit the classics: a bagel slathered with cream cheese or butter, or a toasty sandwich from Mustard Daily's. But why settle for just any bagel when you can have a D's Dog from Bagel Café? A non-red meat eater for four years, Gil Manzuri's creations are simple: bagels and meat. She calls her creation D's Dogs, which are available in both beef and turkey varieties with a choice of two seasonings.

By the end of the April 18 opening, all 40 of the bagel dogs were gone. Manzuri said that it was the only night they went out and had people sample them. "The more people tried them, the more people bought them," she said, "I think a lot of people like meat food at night." D's Dogs are sold Wednesday through Saturday nights, when Bagel Café is open until 2:30 a.m. 

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Fun Food Fact

What's the difference between white and brown sugar?

Granulated white sugar is essentially pure sucrose, whereas derived from tropical sugar cane, or temperate sugar beets. White sugars vary mostly in the size of their crystals. The degree of processing by the manufacturer may also account for different degrees of whiteness.

Brown sugars are of two basic types: sticky and free-flowing. Both are produced by adding a suitable type of syrup (these days it's usually molasses) to purifie or refined sugar. The color and texture of the final product are determined by the ratio of sugar to syrup in the mix, as well the original colors of the constituent ingredients.

One more noteworthy difference: a cup of brown sugar has slightly more calories than white, but it also contains 187 milligrams of calcium, 56 of phosphorous, 4.8 of iron, 752 of potassium and 97 of sodium, compared to only scant traces of those nutrients found in granulated sugar. Sweet!
Recipe of the Week

Easy Pizza Dough

Ingredients:
- 3 1/2 cups unbleached, all-purpose flour
- 2 packages dry active yeast
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon sugar
- 1 1/2 cups lukewarm water from the tap
- 1/2 teaspoon olive oil
- Cornmeal, to dust

In a mixing bowl fitted with a dough hook, place flour, yeast, salt and sugar. While mixer is running, gradually add water and knead on low speed until dough is firm and smooth, about 10 minutes.

Turn machine off. Pour oil down inside of bowl. Turn on low once more for 15 seconds to coat inside of bowl and all surfaces of dough with the oil. Cover with plastic wrap. Let dough rise in warm spot until doubled in bulk, about 2 hours.

Preheat oven to 500 degrees.

If using a pizza stone, place stone in oven on bottom rack, preheat oven one hour ahead. Punch dough down, cut in half. Place half of the dough on generously floured work surface. By hand, form dough loosely into a ball and stretch with plastic wrap. Let dough rise in warm spot until doubled in bulk, about 1 hour ahead. Punch dough down, cut in half. Place half of the dough on generously floured work surface. By hand, form dough loosely into a ball and stretch with plastic wrap. Let dough rise in warm spot until doubled in bulk, about 2 hours.

To prevent dough from sticking to counter, turn over the dough and sprinkle with flour. Also, flour the counter top and rolling pin as needed. Sprinkle pizza stone or cookie sheet generously with cornmeal. Transfer dough to pizza stone or cookie sheet. Add toppings.

Bake 10 to 12 minutes or until golden. Roll out remaining dough, top with desired toppings and bake in oven.

Eating Right

by David Drake

As a nation, we are getting fatter every year. Large, tasty portions are conveniently available day and night. Misinformation about weight loss leaves many overweight Americans stuck in a rut that just gets worse. Many of us are not able to lose weight and sustain a healthy weight because we often follow the guidance of media quacks trying to sell us something rather than the proven long-term "lifestyle" recommendations of qualified doctors.

In other words, rather than going to extremes in an attempt to lose weight, it is essential that we change the overall patterns of the way we eat and live, he said. Change should happen over time and involve modifications that are permanent. The whole concept of "dieting" is outdated because we revert back to old habits afterward, which puts the weight right back on. Today, we should seek to integrate healthy changes into our eating habits that will remain as we get older.

Allow more fruits, vegetables, whole grains and low fat dairy to gradually replace less healthful and fattening foods in the diet.

Eating slower can also make a big difference. It takes 15 minutes for the brain to register that the stomach is full. Chew your food well. Try to eat at the same time every day to avoid getting overweight, which can result in poor food choices. Eat smaller portions more often. Substitute healthy food choices into your meals over time so that the change can aid weight maintenance permanently. Carry apples, oranges and a bag of carrots in your backpack to school each day. Give "lifestyle modification time" each day and try to learn more about healthy weight loss from a respected and established dietician. You will be glad you did.

David Drake is a kinesiology senior.

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New ordinance may favor renters

Bravo City Council! You’ve finally passed an ordinance—the newest clean-up S.O.P. act aimed at the upkeep of rental places—be it last year’s ordinance that actually applies to and involves students. The scene is familiar: weed-tidden, cranberry houses with dead grass complementing the tires of aHonda Civic that’s nearly knocking over the front porch; a pair of vel­

From page 1...

cast shadows on the pavement taller than yourself, the landlord
out. When we don’t own the property, we’re not responsible for
fault for allowin,j her to borrow it.
accountable for the property’s upkeep and what the place Uniks
n pinti them up. These eyesores are definitely the norm for a col­
lege student’s residence. But we can’t expect much out of our
landlords, right? Think again.

We expect fairness, and it takes a city ordinance to do that, then let us sign our names by the X. After all, that’s what renters do when we sign our rights and potentially our health over to our landlords, isn’t it? We say think we’re getting the good end of the deal shelter and roommates for exchange for a monthly check. But when we can handy
your bike in the driveway, down your car, and when you get
lost in the jungle of weeds that is your back yard, original expec­
tations start looking a little meaner.

Rent is the key word here. Most of us rent houses or apart­ments, which is in huge contrast to ownership. Let me spell this out. We don’t own the property, we’re not responsible for it. This isn’t to say that we can trash any place we’re renting because common sense reveals the falsity of that conclusion. Besides, that’s why we’ve forced to pay those hideously priced security deposits, right? But the landlord should be held accountable for the property’s upkeep and what the place looks like when it’s left to us. If you loan a shirt to a friend and the ruins it with greasy stains, it must be muddling, but you’re at fault for lending it to the friend.

And the last thing on my mind when coming to college was a lawn mower, let alone a weed-whacker. Amidst the pangs of buying books, sweater climate, the sidewalk and Mustang Daily, investing in expensive machinery must have slipped my mind. So, if a landlord wanted to plant flowers and small trees in the first place, then he or she obviously wanted to spend the time to take care of it. When the weeds in your front yard are getting so high that they block out the sun, and the car shadows on the pavement, a landlord is a landlord. You have the task of definitely doing something wrong. The ordinance, after all, finds 12-inch weeds to be violating the law.

But, if landlords should be reprimanded for their shortcomings—then students should also do their part. And the ordinance isn’t asking a lot. We simply can’t bring indoor furniture out­side. If your favorite pastime is sitting on the porch, drinking beer or margaritas or barbecuing some beef, then run down to the mower supermarket or True Value and buy some inexpen­sive plastic chairs. Shuffling out this little bit of extra cash will surely save you the inconveniences of a hefty fine for violating the ordinance. Additionally, the sweat-stained, smelly recliners that seem to be the favorite spot for yelling at hot girls on the street are a little impractical for the warm spring and summer months. Yelling is the last thing you want to be doing in the heat and you’ve overred any risk of damaging the community beauty of San Luis Obispo.

This common imposition may curtail the attentions of many a student and landlord, but deal with it. If students obey the minor commandments stipulated in the ordinance, then we can easily stand our ground. And if not, maybe we should start thinking that the dings, chipping paint on our house really doesn’t look that bad.

After all, this ordinance isn’t trying to attack our dubbiness; it’s largely directed at the lack of concern for the renter many land­lords have. With the Student Liaison Community and City Council going to such lengths to collaborate a worthwhile ordi­nance, we owe it to them to be tough when getting showed around by a landlord. They won’t try to kick you out of your house. They won’t try to get you out of your house if you’ve invested enough to quote the law. If, by chance, they do try to give you the lights out, they will soon suffer much greater repercussions in fines and loss of respect than the renter ever will.

Carly Haselhuhn is a journalism sophomore and Mustang Daily staff writer.

Opinion

Letters to the editor

Have faith: Don’t write off the Angels

Editor,
The following is my response to Bag Shakist’s April 24 article, “Slow start has Angels looking over­turned.”

I am especially directed to young teams with new players to the organiza­tion. Fortunately, the baseball season is long. There are about 10,000 people how a team finishes a season, not how it starts. Technology, chemistry and improvement come with time.

To say that the Angels are overturned is hazardous. If anything, the Angels are understated. Nobody has given the Angels organization or their players any credit. Sports Illustrated only ranked them 18th out of all of the major league teams. Also, their players never get any credit. When Darin Erstad had 240 hits two years ago, nobody cared. But when Ichiro had 240 hits last year, a big deal was made of how he was the only second player in 40 years to have 240 hits in a season. The fact is, Erstad did it the year before.

Over the years it has been hard being an Angels fan, but the present team is completely different than the disappoint­ing teams from the past. I have faith in the Angels, and I believe that they will bounce back and have a great year. The organization has put together a team consist­ing of quality players and coaches. These players have high capabilities and big hearts for the game. By the end of the year this formula will win many games. To all of the nonbeliever: Watch and learn.

Toddiarlson is a construction management senior.

More people die in cars than in planes

Editor,

In response to Navid Niaaaan’s letter, I would like to point out that there have been several plane crashes where people have survived. Granted, when a plane crashes there is more of a chance you will die than if a car crashes—it is simply a mat­ter of velocity. However, Mr. Niaaan fails to point out that pilots are much better trained than most drivers, and while upward of 1,000 people a year may die in plane crashes, upwards of 10,000 people die in car crashes in the United States annually. The truth of things is, no matter what you choose to do, your life is con­

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**News**

**REC CENTER**
continued from page 1

The Rec Center received $48,000 from the University Union budget this year, which was spent on repairing and replacing equipment to improve safety and to accommodate more students. This is about twice the money that is given each year because of such an increased demand for new equipment.

"Last year was the year we replaced all the flooring upstairs," said Nancy Clark, Associated Students Inc. fitness program coordinator. "This year, our commitment was to give back to the students with new equipment."

So far, the Rec Center has purchased five elliptical trainers, three treadmills, two upright exercise bikes and new weight plates, Clark said.

To allow more students to exercise, an extra cardio workout area was set up on the first floor where the ping-pong tables used to be, she said. The cardio area has elliptical trainers, upright bikes and stair climbing and rowing machines. Later, the area will be furnished with fans and a television to improve exercising comfort.

The decision to have a cardio area sprang from a student survey in which 90 percent of 350 students polled at the Rec Center were in favor of the idea, said Katharyn McLearan, UU Advisory Board chairwoman and business junior.

Clark is in charge of ordering the equipment from the manufacturers based on how much money the UU gives the Rec Center and what equipment the students need.

"We have to do three bids on the equipment, and then we take the lowest bid," Clark said. "That means the (sales representatives) have to compete against each other in terms of what's the bottom line they can give us."

Money needed to finance the new equipment comes from UU registration fees that students pay every quarter, McLearan said.

The UU Advisory Board oversees the UU fee to determine how much money is to be distributed to the Rec Center, the UU and the Sports Complex, she said. The Rec Center is allocated money in a budget given by the advisory board.

"That is the area in which we get money out to continually repair and replace our current equipment in the Rec Center," McLearan said.

The Rec Center has been known to attract an abundance of students, which makes it difficult to find equipment that is not in use.

"I've been told (that the Rec Center) has to close down at certain periods and not let anybody else in, because we're at capacity in the weight room," McLearan said.

Some students choose to exercise at facilities off campus to avoid the congestion and long waits for machines at the Rec Center.

"I like it because it's convenient, and because I live on that side of town," Grooms said. "I never have to wait for a machine, (the facility) is clean, and it's all girls." McLearan said the Rec Center is not only concerned with the quantity of equipment it buys, but the quality as well.

"Our obligation is to make sure (the equipment) is safe and it's the best that we can possibly get," McLearan said.

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Women’s lacrosse in top shape for nationals

By Leslie Edwards

With a record of 11-1, no wonder the Cal Poly women’s lacrosse team is headed to nationals.

This coming weekend will determine which team will earn the league championship title. But no matter how it turns out, the Mustangs have earned a spot at nationals.

Last Saturday, the team defeated Claremont University, 15-1, in the Southern California tournament of the By the numbers

The Mustangs have a division record of 11-1, good for first in the WWLL South Division I.

UCCLA is the team’s nearest competitor, with a record of 9-3.

We’re pretty confident that we’re going to win every game they play. If they lose, their chance of coming home with the national title is gone.

We just want to repeat our national title defense this weekend at the divisional Final Four playoffs. In order to take the national title, we have to win every game they play. If they lose, their chance of coming home with the national title is gone.

Looking past the hype on overpaid and overrated coaches

Hells, sports fans. I’m back and I’ve got something on my mind. The other day I was doing my usual routine of finger exercises, flipping methodically between the NBA and Stanley Cup Playoffs, marinating my brain with more Commentary sports than it could handle. After a while, I started thinking about the perplexing situation of coaches in professional sports. Although there are certain coaches like Bill Belichick who can produce pure magic out of an undervailing team, most are just overpaid and overrated. Take George Karl for example, the poster boy for coaches with bloated egos across the nation. He makes $7 million a year, the largest salary of any coach in any sport ever, yet he’s never even won a championship.

Karl even coached in the defunct European leagues after being bounced out of the NBA twice, and still no dills. The Bucks did flourish temporarily under him, but that was before this season’s complete unraveling and failure to even make the playoffs. Milwaukee really got its money’s worth out of that deal.

More often than not it’s the players who bring the wins to an organization. This seems pretty obvious to most people, but there are others that put coaches on the highest pedestal. Are we supposed to commend Chuck Daly for bringing home the gold with the Dream Team? No way, my little sister could have guided that team just as well.

Players on the Cal Poly women’s lacrosse team battle for the ball during a match March 9. The Mustangs start their national title defense this weekend at the Divisional Final Four playoffs.

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The Grizzlies, a multimillion-dollar operation under Grizzlies owner Michael Heisley, appeared over when health concerns prompted his resignation and firing of coach Skip Strother.

The Memphis Grizzlies were just one of many teams that West had turned down over the 45 seasons he had been in the NBA. That’s why he should be seen more as a spectator than a manager. West apparently decided this season that he wanted to make it perfectly clear why he should be seen more as a spectator than a manager. The fielding is fairly level and coaches are more responsible for the team’s chemistry and success. Karl said it best in an interview: "It’s tricky coaching the pros — it’s more art than science." In the end, we should praise the coach who gets it done with an average group of players. They are the true heroes of the sports world and make for the greatest success stories around. Go underdogs.