When Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger unveiled his $99.1 billion budget plan Friday, California State Universities found themselves left at the altar.

Schwarzenegger proposed cutting $240 million, or 9 percent, from the CSU system for the 2004-05 fiscal year.

“Due to known budget cuts, we deliberately planned to reduce enrollment by 20,000 students,” Dalton said. “This makes our admissions process particularly challenging for prestigious UCs, and we’re looking at a pretty picture.”

As for this year in financial aid, “There will be an increase in fees, we’re not looking at a pretty picture,” said Julia Waller, senior financial aid counselor.

Schwarzenegger called for a more stable fee policy for higher education, a step the CSU Board of Trustees has recommended for years.

“We welcome the concept of a long-term fee policy and recognize that the cost of higher education is a part of the larger state and the students,” Kelley said.

While a stable fee policy has garnered the support of CSU officials, they warn that steep fee increases at the graduate level might discourage aspiring teachers from enrolling in programs that lead to teaching credentials.

“The will in turn hurt the state’s school districts,” said Linda Dalton, executive vice provost and chief planning officer. “This is to ensure that students have access to the classes they need, as well as to maintain our level of instructional quality.”

Continuing reduction in state funding, a trend started in summer 2003, is expected to continue through the next academic year, Dalton said.

Enrollment planning for 2004-05 is in early stages, but Dalton said enrollment reductions will be proportionate to further budget reductions, estimating 453 less students to be admitted for Fall Quarter.

This makes our admissions process particularly challenging because we continue to receive large numbers of applications from qualified students, Dalton said.

“We would like to keep the number of new students as stable as possible,” he said.

Dalton said reducing the number of first-time freshmen and transfer students will be necessary given the continuing reductions in state funding.

Winter Quarter enrollment for the approximately $70 million, 62 percent was in loans, she said.

Financial aid is determined by assessing the student’s expected family contribution and subtracting that from total expenses. For those students without need, Spady still recommends filling out the FAFSA because they are also loans to help with rising costs of tuition and living.

The most important information to include on the FAFSA is parents’ tax returns, student’s income returns, student’s income records and the correct Social Security number, Spady said.

“Please don’t wait to fill out the FAFSA, you can provide the estimated income and come back and correct it later,” said Julia Waller, senior financial aid counselor.

She added that both parents and students who get the PIN number online can sign electronically.

“Without a PIN, some people forget to print the signature page and their application doesn’t get processed,” Waller said.

As for this year in financial aid, “We do not know yet what financial aid the students will receive,” Spady said.

“Financial aid coordinator.”

In his budget released Friday, Schwarzenegger is proposing raising undergraduate student fees 10 percent and graduate fees by 40 percent at the University of California and California State University systems. He also reduces the amount of financial aid available to middle-income students.

Administration officials say the cuts are necessary given California’s multibillion-dollar deficit. They point out that higher education is only a bargain in California — undergraduate fees for prestigious UCs would average about $6,000 a year, even with the decrease in state funding.

Student numbers are down

Cal Poly student population is down by 330 students due to continued reductions in state funding. Winter Quarter enrollment is 17,540, down from 17,643 last year. Enrollment dropped because Cal Poly admitted 50 percent less students.

Due to known budget cuts, we deliberately planned to reduce our head count to this level,” said Linda Dalton, executive vice provost and chief planning officer. “This is to ensure that students have access to the classes they need, as well as to maintain our level of instructional quality.”

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Dalton said reducing the number of first-time freshmen and transfer students will be necessary given the continuing reductions in state funding.

But we don’t think it would be responsible to admit more students and then not be able to provide the classes that employers and students demand.

Dalton said this reduction trend will delay elements of Cal Poly’s master plan.
AID continued from page 1

Spady said:

For students in their fifth year and beyond, some grants may not be available based on the number of units accumulated, Waller said.

"Some students have more units than allowable for financial aid," she said. "But they can try to appeal if they have additional course work to finish."

The FAFSA must be submitted each year, but when renewing, stu-
dents can access their application from the previous year and change the necessary information, Spady said.

In order to keep full-time financial aid, the student must be enrolled full-time in classes, which means a mini-
mum of 12 units. Waller said.

"The key thing is to complete the appropriate number of units for full time or receive part time financial aid," she said.

Students can also apply for schol-

aries at www.mcs.calpoly.edu. More

information about financial aid can

be found at www.cos.calpoly.edu/

financial.

EDUCATION continued from page 1

Tides

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Call Kim Today For All of Your Housing Needs!

oc woman's condition improves after attack

Misson Viejo (AP) — The medical condition of a 10-year-old Orange County mountain lion that was attacked by a mountain lion while cycling in a wilderness area has continued to improve, officials said. Anne Hjelle was upgraded to fair condi-
tion and continues to recover at Mission Hospital Regional Medical Center in Mission Viejo, according to a statement Sunday morning by a hospital spokesman.

"Her recovery is truly miracu-

lous," Hjelle's husband, James, said in a recorded message.

Hjelle, a former Marine who

works as a fitness instructor, was rescued Thursday from the moun-
tain lion's jaws by her cycling com-

panion, Debbie Nicholls. The

mountain lion clamped its jaw around Hjelle's head and dragged her off, but Nicholls threw her bike at the animal and grabbed onto her friend's leg until the big cat released its grip.

Authorities believe the moun-
tain lion earlier attacked and killed

cyclist Mark Reynolds, 35, whose body was found partially buried near his dead bicycle. He appar-
ently had been killed earlier in the day.

A 12-year-old, 160-pound male mountain lion later was shot and killed by Orange County sheriff's deputies after going to the site where Reynolds body was found. The lions taken in Whiting Ranch Wilderness Park have led authorities to believe the cougar is responsible for both attacks.

Tissue found in the mountain lion's stomach included parts of a human and liver consistent with that of a human, but results from DNA tests were needed to confirm a death, said Steve Edlinger, an assis-
tant chief for the California Department of Fish and Game.

On Sunday, a decent cougar that killed a dog in a suburban neighborhood of Salt Lake City was euthanized after wildlife officials determined the big cat could no longer care for itself in the wild.
This Week In ASI Events

**Higher Grounds Entertainment Series**

- **Featuring Athena**
  - Wednesday, January 14
  - 6 - 8 p.m. in Backstage Plaza - FREE
  - Blessed by God with the talent to write, produce and perform with the power and beauty in her voice, Athena reached at a very young age that music, specifically Gospel and Christian music, was a position she was inspired to pursue and share with the world.

**U Hour**

- **Featuring Grounded**
  - Thursday, January 15
  - 11 a.m. - noon in the Plaza - FREE
  - Grounded is a hard hitting, upbeat, and evolved punk band whose music is infused with the energy and intensity of a youthful spirit. It was the political messages of bands like Pennywise and Anti-Flag that inspired Grounded to be a part of history rather than just watching it happen.

**Concert**

- **Featuring Acoustic Evening with Matt Sharp**
  - Thursday, January 15
  - 8 p.m. in Chumash Auditorium - Students $3, General Adm. $5
  - Ex-Weezer member and "The Rentals" singer brings his acoustic band to the Central Coast. Matt brings projection screens and tells reflective stories throughout the set. Get your tickets at the door.

**U Gallery**

- **Featuring Everyday God**
  - Opening Reception on Saturday, January 15
  - 7 - 9 p.m. in the UU Epicenter - FREE
  - A pictorial exploration of how God works in our everyday lives; a photography exhibit by Kristian O'Brien. Opening reception will include live music, refreshments and an opportunity to meet the artist. Exhibit on display through January 23.

**New Winter Show Schedule to be posted soon!**

Wednesday: Special guest appearance by Matt Sharp (Weezer, The Rentals) - time TBA

Listen Monday - Thursday for ticket giveaways to his Thursday ASI concert (15 pairs total)

**Featured Show**

- Off Broadway
  - Airs: Thursdays 6-7 pm
  - Hosts: Lindsay and Brett
  - Description: Everyone's favorite musicals, from the oldies to the new

- Keep it to the left: 575-5277
Dropping the ball on New Year's resolutions

After one quick stroll around the Cal Poly Rec Center, it is obvious the new year has come. Just look at that sweaty, sweaty crowd. People are everywhere, working the stair master like it's their bitch. And that up-tempo base ball player, prancing so hard that others around him back up in fear that he will lose control of his bowels. The lines for machines, the humid, sticky feeling in the air and the overwhelming scent of body odor is too much to handle.

The Rec Center scene is the result of the always tricky, yet much maligned New Year's resolution. Every year the short-lived faithfuls line up to achieve yet another unobtainable goal. But, give it three weeks, just because everyone else does it? We are keeping these promises to ourselves this year:

Taking the easy way out.

70s pomps for Christmas.

Steve Hill and Chrissy Roth are journalism seniors and Mustang Daily writers. They are not taking the bus. Buses accommodate Poly schedule (jan. 8).

And on top of it all, they raised the fares!

Business is the process of making or providing products or services for profit. It involves identifying needs and wants, and creating and delivering goods or services that meet those needs and wants. Business activities include buying and selling goods and services, investing, and managing. Business decisions affect the economy, society, and the environment. Business performance is measured by financial metrics such as revenue, profitability, and market share. Business ethics and sustainability are important considerations in the decision-making process.

Business ethics are the principles and values that guide business decisions. Business ethics emphasize honesty, integrity, fairness, and responsibility. Business ethics are important because they help ensure that businesses operate in a socially responsible manner. Business ethics are also important because they help businesses build trust and reputation.

Sustainability is the ability of a system to maintain or improve its capacity to deliver goods and services. Sustainability is important because it ensures that resources are used in a way that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

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Buses accommodate Poly schedule (jan. 8). This year, I resolve to

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The "Star Wars" trilogy (that is, episodes 4-6) is finally has some competition. Like "Star Wars," "The Lord of the Rings" is a story about good against evil and the struggle to overcome the darkness of the world.

In fact, the last "Star Wars" episode, "The Return of the Jedi," is very similar to the "The Return of the King." These two are by far the most intense and exciting to watch because they complete the stories.

Although, "The Fellowship of the Ring" and "The Two Towers" both received As from most critics, "The Return of the King" easily deserves an A+. It takes everything that made the first two great and makes them better.

The scenery, the creatures, the fighting, the drama and the suspense are all bigger and better. It's even longer, clocking in at a whopping 210 minutes.

Yes, the long and tiring journey of Frodo (Elijah Wood) and Sam (Sean Astin) is finally concluded in "The Return of the King." As the two struggle to their destination of Mount Doom to destroy the sinister ring with their guide Gollum (Andy Serkis), the other six in the fellowship are preparing for the epic battle that will decide the fate of Middle-Earth.

While Gandalf (Ian McKellen), Legolas (Orlando Bloom), Gimli (John Rhys-Davies), Pippin (Billy Boyd) and Merry (Dominic Monaghan) rally behind Aragorn (Viggo Mortensen), the remaining Ring, all the evils of Middle-Earth gather under Sauron's power at Mordor.

Oh, and don't forget about Arwen (Liv Tyler). She did another great job. In fact, all the characters acted their roles flawlessly until the credits start to roll. Some might say that it takes too long for the credits to appear and that the length is the film's downfall. Sure, it is a long time to sit in a theater, but in a brilliant movie, the length can only make it better. Plus, if you think about it, you are only paying about $2 an hour, so you will definitely get your money's worth.

After three viewings of the movie, I understood why the end dragged on for so long. At each of the five places I thought the movie would end, it didn't. Since there were still questions to be answered, I was glad the ending took a long time to reach.

The only other question I asked myself was, "Why did they show that bed scene with Frodo and his hobbit buddies for so long?"

So what next? The trilogy has ended and there will be no more "Lord of the Rings" films. This is sad.

Yet with completion, the trilogy can be watched over and over again. Plus, there are still hopes for a making of "The Hobbit.

The final query regarding the trilogy is: If they showed all three movies back to back in the theater, would you sit for 12 hours to watch them?

The answer should be easy.
LOUIS ANGELES (AP) — Tim Burton’s “Big Fish” took in $14.5 million to squeak past “The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King” as No. 1 weekend movie, according to studio estimates Sunday.

“The Return of the King,” the top film the previous three weekends, came in at $14.1 million, pushing its domestic total to $312.2 million.

The grosses on the top two movies were close enough that the rankings could flip-flop when final weekend figures are released Monday. Final figures are often end up slightly lower than estimates made on Sunday, when studios are making projections on how big an audience their films will draw on the last day of the weekend.

“This is very rare to have a photo finish for the No. 1 spot,” said Paul Dergarabedian, president of box-office tracker Exhibitor Relations. “I think what we’ll probably find Monday is that perhaps the actual numbers will come in a little bit less but the order of the films will remain the same.”

Other studios were tracking Sny’s “Big Fish” and New Line’s “Return of the King” at slightly lower weekend grosses. Some had “Big Fish” in first place and some had “Return of the King” at No. 1.

Rory Block, Sony head of distribution, said the studio’s $14.5 million figure for “Big Fish” was a reasonable estimate.

This was the first weekend in wide release for “Big Fish,” which stars Albert Finney and Ewan McGregor in the fanciful adventures of a teller of tall tales. The film had opened in late December in a handful of theaters for Academy Awards consideration.

Expanding to 2,406 theaters, “Big Fish” averaged $6,027 a cinema, compared to $7,999 in 1,312 theaters for “Return of the King.”

The weekend’s only new wide release were two poorly reviewed movies, the Eddie Griffin comedy “My Baby’s Daddy,” which ranked No. 6 with $7.8 million, and Mandy Moore’s romance “Chasing Liberty,” which was No. 7 with $6 million.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at North American theaters, according to Exhibitor Relations Co. Inc. Final figures will be released Monday.

1. “Big Fish,” $14.5 million.
5. “Chasing Liberty,” $7.6 million.

LOS ANGELES — Tim Burton’s “Big Fish” took in $14.5 million at the box office, pushing its domestic total to $312.2 million.

“The Return of the King,” the top film the previous three weekends, came in at $14.1 million, up 5 percent from the same weekend last year.

Distributor Sony rolled “Big Fish” out slowly to build audience word of mouth for a complex film that was not an easy audience seller for Hollywood’s marketing machine.

“It was a tough movie to represent, marketing-wise in terms of letting people know what the story was,” said Paul Frank. “It felt like going slower with the picture would give audiences a chance to kind of discover the story for themselves.”

“The Return of the King” is about to pass the total $314.8 million domestic gross of the fantasy trilogy’s first installment, “The Fellowship of the Ring.” The final film also is expected to top the $341.7 million haul of the middle chapter, “The Two Towers.”

The serial-killer drama “Monster,” which has earned Academy Award buzz for star Charolette Cheton, did well expanding from a handful of theaters to wider release. The film based on the life of executed murder Brian Wmms took in $855,160 in 82 theaters for a strong $10,591 average.

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1. “Big Fish,” $14.5 million.
5. “Chasing Liberty,” $7.6 million.

People in the News

‘Idol’ runner-up donates $20,000 to UNC

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — “American Idol” star Clay Aiken returned to his alma mater to present a $20,000 donation to the school and perform during halftime at a men’s basketball game.

The game between the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and East Carolina on Saturday was the first sellout of the season.

Aiken, wearing jeans and a green No. 49 Charlotte basketball jersey with Aiken on the back, performed “The Way” and “Invisible” at halftime of Charlotte’s 81-65 win over blast East Carolina on Saturday was the first sellout of the season.

Aiken, who was runner-up in the popular “American Idol” television show last year, graduated from Charlotte in December. His first album, “Myth of a Man,” debuted No. 1 and went double-platinum.

Songwriter arrested for weapon, drug possession

RONKONKOMA, N.Y. — Country music songwriter Hugh Preston was arrested after a loaded gun was found in his carry-on luggage at Long Island MacArthur Airport, police said.

Vern Erno

Description: 82 years old, 5-07, 135, gray hair.

Last seen wearing a green fleece jacket, olive green pants, tan shoes

a green beret-style hat with brim.

Last seen Sunday afternoon

12/28/03 at Luguna Village Shopping Center

Please Notify SLO Police

781-7317

$5,000 Reward

for information leading to him being found
Aguayo sunk 27 of 48 from the field and were led by center Mike Ahmad, forward Spencer Nelson and point guard Mark Brown who finished with 16, 15 and 14 points respectively and combined on 18 of 25 shooting.

Palmer ended up leading the men's team by finishing first in four events. "I swam well considering how tired I was," Palmer said.

Many of Palmer's teammates were also victorious in their events. Nick Boorman placed first in two races. Adam Wotongza placed first in the 200 freestyle. The men's team also placed first in the 200 medley relay.

Mary Thomas was the leader of the women's team, winning three events.

In the diving events, McKenna Long placed first in the 1 meter and 3 meter dives.
By Graham Womack

Not OK: Wrestling loses two

• Halsey knocks off two of the nation’s best, but rest of team struggles over weekend

By Graham Womack

Oh no, not again.

That statement could possibly be uttered because the Cal Poly men's basketball team fell for the 12th time in 13 tries to the Utah State Aggies on Saturday night in Mott Gym.

One could possibly utter another ad

narratory night of three-point shooting for the Mustangs, who made just seven of 23 from beyond the arc.

Factor in Cal Poly only visiting the free throw line once and Utah State shooting 56 percent from the floor, and the six points separating the two teams made the 69-63 final score both misleading and agonizingly close.

Still, Mustang coach Kevin Bromley praised his squad afterward.

"We played pretty damn good," Bromley said.

In its first rematch since falling to the Aggies 57-54 in the Big West Tournament finale last March in Anaheim, Cal Poly came out strong before the sell-out, raucous home crowd. Cal Poly led 14 of the first half, going into the break only down 32-11.

The Mustangs spent the second half playing catch-up to Utah State, never leading after initially charging ahead 34-32 on a Kamery Green three point

er. The Mustangs tied it at 34 with 5:34 left and down by two with less than two minutes to play, but ultimately couldn’t sustain the Big West leading Aggies (11-3).

Bromley pointed to poor three-point shooting and little defensive presence, besides a virtual absence from the charity stripe, as the primary sources of the Mustangs' woes.

"The same thing happened last year in the tournament," Bromley said. "There were a couple of times we needed to knock some threes down and we didn’t." Utah State personnel extolled smiles afterward.

"I think that was one of our best defenses ever played tonight because of our zone," said Aggie guard Cardell Butler, who also had a team-high 11 rebounds.

Butler said the Aggies went in wanting the Mustangs to hoist up several shots beyond-the-arc.

"We knew that Cal Poly can’t shoot threes that good," Butler said.

see BASKETBALL, page 7

Not OK: Wrestling loses two

The Utah State Aggies beat Idaho on Thursday, but played like they were blindfolded Saturday against Utah State.

By Amy Kocot

unknown by source

The Mustangs ended their Big West Conference two-game losing streak Thursday with a win against the Idaho Vandals in Mott Gym Thursday.

A recent injury to senior forward Shane Shilling proved to be no setback for the team. Shilling had 18 points and six assists, second-best on the team behind forward Varrie Dennis, who was the leading scorer for the game with 30 points.

Guard Kamery Green, the Big West Player of the Week, managed to stay out of foul trouble and sunk three three-pointers, contributing 17 points to the Mustang win.

The high energy and enthusiasm of the game were a surprising turn-around after the Mustangs started conference play with road losses at UC Irvine and Long Beach.

Forward John Manley said the liveliness was thanks to head coach Kevin Bromley’s encouraging return to the bench after missing the Long Beach State game because of the death of his father.

"I think coach Bromley deserves all the credit for our win tonight," Manley said. "He said ‘how about us’ and we fired up to work hard. The intensity in the game was thanks to coach keeping us motivated at practice."

First-time starter sophomore guard Fernanda Sampson, filling in for the injured Eric Jackson, had the crowd on their feet for the majority of the game. After the first two losses in conference, Sampson said he wanted to prove the character of Cal Poly’s team.

"Starting for the first time, I wanted to get everyone involved in the game," Sampson said. "I think we now have a lot of confidence for the next game."

At half time it was anyone's game with the Mustangs leading 34-33.

Bromley said he is pleased with the performance and perseverance of the players, despite injuries, losses and foul trouble.

"I'm very proud of those young men," Bromley said. "Our emphasis was to own the paint, and I think we did just that."

see WRESTLING, page 7

Matadors sink swim team

By Thomas Atkins

When the water in Mott Pool finally calmed, Cal Poly's men's and women's swim teams found themselves in the deep end after the Colorado State and Utah State men's and women's swim teams found themselves in the deep end after the Cal Poly-Matadors beat the Mustangs in a dual meet, Friday.

After nearly three hours of swimming and diving during the first home meet of the season, the men's team final score was 144-136 while the women's final score was 126-74.

"Northridge had a very sedated night," said coach Rich Firman. "Yet overall we swam very well and had a number of seasonal and personal best times.

The Mustangs had several swimmers absent due to health and academic reasons.

see SWIMMING, page 7

The Utah State Aggies shot 64 percent from the floor in Saturday’s game against Cal Poly to outscore Mustangs by five in the second half. They “only” shot 50 percent in the first half.

The Mustangs lost to Utah State by five in the second half. They “only” shot 50 percent in the first half.

see SWIMMING, page 7

By the numbers

64