**Students: Claim your money**

By Mary Dalrymple  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The IRS has more than $2.5 billion it could return to 2 million taxpayers who did not file a 2000 return. The lesson for taxpayers who caried too little to require a return: You could be missing out on a big refund.

Those taxpayers, many of them students, retirees and part-time workers, have until April 15 to file a 2000 tax return or lose the refund forever.

"The clock is running if you want to get your refund," said IRS Commissioner Mark Everson. "Don't wait until it's too late.

About half the taxpayers that do a return could claim more than $529. In many cases, the individuals had taxes withheld from their wages or made tax payments as a self-employed taxpayer but had too little income to require filing a return.

Individuals with income less than $7,200 and married couples with income less than $12,950 did not have to file a return in 2000. The income threshold was slightly higher for those age 65 and older.

Dependents, such as students, had to file a return if they earned $4,450 or more, or had $300 or more in unearned income such as interest, dividends or capital gains.

Some may also be eligible for the earned income tax credit, which refunds a portion of payroll taxes to lower wage workers. In 2000, the credit was available to families with two children who earned less than $31,152 and families with one child who earned less than $27,417.

see REFUND, page 2

**Gas-guzzling to green**

Pol y supports earth-friendly means of transportation through electrically-charged carts and buses equipped with bike racks

By Anastasia Killham  
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

G a s-guzzling single passenger vehicles are becoming a thing of the past. Area residents have an increasing number of choices enabling them to commute economically, in comfort and style, without causing a significant negative environmental impact.

Access to environmentally sustainable transportation technology is growing, both on and off campus.

On campus there are programs like the Computer Access Services program coordinated by the University Police Department, which assists people in finding and using cost effective and environmentally friendly transportation. The program provides information about alternatives to single occupant personal vehicles.

By providing these alternatives, the program works to eliminate some of the campus' existing parking shortages while also preserving environmental resources, according to the program's Web site. Students, faculty and staff can find information about carpools, vans, bus services, bikes and shuttle services on the program's Web site.

**Virus detected in campus OpenMail system**

By Leah Mori  
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

A virus that spread through Cal Poly's OpenMail system caused students to receive an influx of e-mail from unknown sources over the weekend.

The virus was discovered Sunday at 10 a.m. when system employees noticed that the e-mail system was becoming bogged down, said George Westlund of Information Technology Services. Cal Poly employees were called in that afternoon to work on the problem.

Although ITS has yet to figure out which virus it is, employees are looking into it and should know by the end of the week if the virus is unknown, but it more than likely came from a location off campus, Westlund said.

"It's very difficult to trace viruses," said Mary Shafter of policy/program assurance for ITS.

About 16,000 students have been affected, according to OpenMail's system status Web page. If students have received messages from unknown sources, they should be very suspicious of it, Westlund said.

Opening an attachment could result in the user's own computer becoming infected with the virus if it is run and virus software isn't up to date. The computer will begin sending messages out to others, Westlund said.

In an effort to preserve the OpenMail system from crashing, e-mail messages were removed from the server to save disk space. If messages were sent Saturday or Sunday, it is suggested that they should be resent because they may have gotten lost as a result of the deleted e-mail, according to OpenMail's system status Web page.

OpenMail is running as usual, but things are slow because there is a backlog of mail. This problem should be alleviated by Tuesday morning. During times of backlog, it is easier to catch up at night, when people aren't sending or receiving messages, Westlund said.

The high number of e-mails stu
dents received over the weekend drained the server to the point that as of Sunday morning, e-mail was not able to be sent. The system status Web page states that messages were coming from bounce@poly.mail.cpanix.calpoly.edu and saoffice-mm.polymail.cpanix.calpoly.edu.

"If it wasn't something (students) were expecting from someone, they should be very suspicious of it," said Westlund.

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see OPENMAIL, page 2

**El Corral ranks No. 1 in CSU**

By Nicole Angeloni  
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Cal Poly's El Corral Bookstore is ranked No. 1 in the California State University system in two different areas of consideration.

In the large store group, the cluster of bookstores that El Corral is in, it ranks highest in the sales of insignia clothing and items, which includes everything from sweatshirts to shot glasses that have the Cal Poly logo printed on them. El Corral also took first in the category of textbook reservations, yielding the highest amount of reserved textbooks in their group of universities.

"Cal Poly has a great group of dedicated buyers who want a number of items with the Cal Poly name," El Corral Bookstore director Frank Cawley said. "Most of the students want to be associated with the university. Parents want the people around them to know that their son or daughter goes to Cal Poly."

San Diego State University ranked second in the category of sales of insignia clothing and items, with annual sales about half the amount of Cal Poly's.

I think it speaks a lot about our students that SDSU ranked second in line to us," Cawley said. "They have twice the amount of students that Cal Poly does and half the amount of sales. That's saying something."

In all of California, Cal Poly ranks third in sales of insignia clothing and items, falling behind the University of California, Los Angeles and Stanford University.

In national rankings, Cal Poly holds the No. 2 position for the number of textbook reservations, second in line to bookstore, second in line to bookstore, second in line to bookstore, third in sales of insignia clothing and items, falling behind the University of California, Los Angeles and Stanford University.

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**BOOKSTORE**

continued from page 1

to the University of Missouri.

"We don't get any sort of commemorative ribbon or plaque to acknowledge the fact that we are No. 1 in these categories," said Wyly. "It's more of an prestige. Most students agree that owning items with the Cal Poly insignia is a source of reputation and pride in the school and the time they spent in San Luis Obispo."

I wish that I had purchased more items with the Cal Poly name," recent computer science alumnus Aaron Jensen said. "Now that I'm no longer a student, I kind of regret not buying more stuff. I don't really have anything to represent the university where I earned my degree, and that's unfortunate."

The contest ranks categories each year on a basis of annual sales. The categories evaluated are: textbook categories, general books, student supplies and clothing. "Cal Poly always ranks highly in these categories," Wyly said. "I don't suspect that next year will be any different.""}

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**VEHICLES**

continued from page 1

Staples office supply store.

Brendy Mender, who works next door to Staples at Bed, Bath and Beyond, said she has seen patrons in the two spots regularly.

"There are usually cars there, probably about two to three times a week," she said. Mender said she used to see similar changes stations in Los Angeles, where she previously lived.

"Electric cars that need recharging are a thing of the past," said a Toyota assistant sales manager, Robert Feldman.

**REFUND**

continued from page 1

Single taxpayers who earned less than $10,380 may also qualify for the credit.

There is no penalty for filing a late return if you qualify for a refund, but the refund must be postmarked by April 15 to beat the deadline for claiming the payment.

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**NEWS**

"A vehicle that is self-regenerative is the wave of the future," he said.

Toyota and Honda both offer hybrid electric cars. Representatives from both of the local stores said demand for these vehicles is increasing.

Consumers can expect to see the cars in increasing numbers for the next 10 to 15 years since hybrid-powered cars can become more feasible, Feldman said.

"When gas prices rise, he said, there is often an increase in interest regarding hybrid cars. As it is, Toyota has had 15 to 20 new models in the past 20 years," he noted.

This car has "literally almost zero emissions," Feldman said.

Taxpayers seeking a 2000 refund must also have filed a tax return for 2000 and 2001, or else IRS holds any refund due until federal debts like student loans, the refund will be applied to those outstanding balances.

**OPENMAIL**

continued from page 1

vement next year will be any different.""

"It's an endemic problem. They haven't settled into a job. They likely just aren't there."

"If history is a guide, they won't be," he said. "It is an endemic problem. They don't own property. They don't have kids in school. All the things that trigger interest just aren't there."

Washoe County Voter Registrar Dan Burk said he has tried to set up a polling place on campus but couldn't find enough parking for those who don't live on campus to use.

This year, Burk said early voting stations will be set up at the student union before Election Day.
**News**

**National Roundup**

WASHINGTON — The Agriculture Department said Monday it is filing charges against a suspected case of mad cow disease even though officials have not found all the animals they sought after the nation's first case turned up in December.

"Our investigation is now complete," Ron DeHaven, the department's chief veterinarian, told reporters in a telephone conference call. "We feel very confident the remaining animals, the ones we have not been able to positively identify, represent little risk."

The closure leaves officials not knowing what happened to 11 head of cattle among 25 that authorities consider likely to have eaten the same feed. The mammoth, which was not identified, represents little risk.

**World Roundup**

BAGHDAD, Iraq — U.S. and Iraqi forces deactivated several rock­

ets Monday in a northern sector of Baghdad, where U.S. troops were trying to launch a campaign to retake the northern city, which was once the stronghold of insurgents.

The rockets were found on a road near Diwaniya University outside Baquba and were ready to be fired toward the city, a U.S. Army captain said on condition of anonymity. Baquba is 35 miles north of Baghdad and part of the so-called Sunni Triangle, the stronghold of insurgents from the former regime of Saddam Hussein.

The explosion outside of Sijjar near the northern city of Mosul that killed the two U.S. soldiers and injured six appeared to have been an accident and not a result of hostile fire, said Brig. Gen. Mark Kimmitt.

MOSCOW — Flags with black ribbons flew at half-staff over government buildings and TV stations canceled all entertainment pro­

grams Monday as Moscow mourned the victims of the deadliest attack on the city's subway.

A bomb ripped through a subway car packed with commuters during rush hour Friday morning. The explosion, which President Vladimir Putin blamed on Chechen rebels, killed 39 people and wounded more than 100. It also heightened fear in the Russian capital, where some 8.5 million people rely on the metro system daily.

Vladislav Ushakov, a deputy chief of the Federal Security Service, said Monday that investigators believe the explosion most likely was triggered by a suicide bomber, the Interfax news agency reported.

Some Russian media speculated that the death toll was higher if officially announced. Authorities said the death toll was 39. They based their calculations on the number of people typically crammed into subway cars during rush hour — from 150 to 200, they said — and comments from unidentified morgue workers.

**College Roundup**

STORRS, Conn. — In a time when people have learned to expect the unexpected, the University of Connecticut basketball team at the American Red Cross will be doing its part by holding the first blood drive of the semester this week in an attempt to raise this state's low blood supply level.

Sally Williams, an account manager for donor services of the Red Cross Connecticut region, said the blood drive will be held at the American Cultural Center.

Pence stressed the impor­

tance of this Red Cross drive because of the town's proximity to Connecticut.

Lynn Townsend, the communica­

tions manager for the American Red Cross Connecticut region, said the state has a serious blood supply.

There had and currently there are 624 units of red cells on the shelves in Farmington, which is far below what they should have.

**LOS ANGELES** — National news has become more readily available to students living on campus as the University of California, Los Angeles takes part in the pilot stage of the College Readership Program.

The program is in a four-week trial where national newspapers are delivered to each of the dining halls free of charge. After this period, students living on campus will vote on whether to continue with the paid program.

Should the paid program come to UCLA, all students living on campus will incur a yet-unde­

terminated fee. The fee depends on the papers selected and the rate of consumption during the trial peri­

od, said Jack Gibbons, associate director of the Office of Residential Life.
• Organizers of annual festival receive Washoe County’s planning approval

RENO, Nev. (AP) — The city council for Burning Man, a festival in the Black Rock Desert north of Reno, is starting to go industrial with Washoe County’s blessing.

After organizers of the annual event threatened to move one of their camps to the desert, the Washoe County Planning Commission approved a facility to fabricate wood and metal products used in the festival and to develop an automotive repair shop on 220 acres 10 miles north of the Labor Day event.

Organizers abandoned plans for a camp to temporarily house up to 120 volunteers that help set up the event annually. Instead, it seeks more smaller camps housing 40 to 60 people in the town of Gerlach.

Washoe County’s denial in May of permits needed for a camp and staging area for Burning Man was called a “complete blow by officers,” who said the county the following month.

They threatened to move the event that attracted 30,000 people to the Black Rock Desert last year to Pyramid Lake Paiute land or south to Emerald Lakes.

Organizers say the county’s actions are acceptable.

Opponents say they don’t see much point in continuing their fight.

“Overall, the solutions we’ve come up with make everybody happy, including us,” festival spokeswoman Marian Goodell said. “We don’t think we’re going to have any problems.”

Susie Jackson, who was one of the critics who successfully appealed previous plans for Burning Man staging area, said she remains opposed, but resigned.

“Expect to Burning Man on lots of levels,” Jackson said. “I’m not pleased, but we’ve basically fought this for so long we’re giving up. It’s pretty futile.”

Property owners Kevin and Julia Brittner said the concerns that prompted them to fight the staging area in their valley last year have been addressed.

Julia Brittner said Burning Man organizers have made major strides in cleaning up the land, where activities have occurred for years without county permits and that plans to move the camp to Gerlach represent another significant improvement.

“I think Burning Man has done a good-faith effort in addressing our needs,” Beitner said. “They have a right to use their property, and I think they’re taking the right path this time.”

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Wishing you a NICE day!

Have a nice day!
Barbershop sequel offers same characters, little change from the first

By Lauren Freeman

AMHERST, Mass. — Perhaps one of the most difficult kinds of movie reviews to write is for a sequel (or as of late the third part of a trilogy). One must simultaneously take into account the preceding film and decide whether the sequel fits the mold set by its predecessor, and yet the sequel in many ways should be able to stand on its own. "Barbershop 2: Back in Business," the sequel to "Barbershop" (2002), was overall a pretty good sequel and movie in general.

Sequels that harbor a different cast and crew than the first make it difficult to compare the acting, directing and sometimes writing to the first release. In the movie world of heightened reality, it is risky to ask the audience to extend their response to Calvin's lesson garnered from the preceding film, not a restructuring of the same plot. Calvin's integrity is put to the test upon in "Barbershop 2" is whether Calvin will not sell out. Thus, the writer of a sequel must remember where the characters left off, and, from that starting point, rebuild for them an entirely new character arc.

Another problem that resounds of acquiring some property on every month. He said he is in the pipeline, Weatherspexm met the work, I don't charge them any higher for people's customers and claiming to be the best stylist there. It seems like we've seen all these characters before in different locations and different situations. The "Barbershop" and "Barbershop 2" are indeed full of laughs. "Barbershop 2" in particular opens with a wonderful musical number and white photos of our favorite characters donning different hair styles over the forever-changing decades. The key here is these opening visuals gave way to a mundane plot, featuring somewhat unchanging characters. Although poignant sociological commentary (many blacks do indeed feel stuck in their situations), a movie is best when characters are forced to make change.
On the path to... 

**Enlightenment**

Before I left to study abroad in Thailand, my mom gave me some traveling advice. She suggested that I purchase a pair of culottes so I could have some comfy shorts to wear as well as a kind of nice skirt for nights out.

"It's the best of both worlds," she said. "You can look nice and be totally comfortable all at the same time."

After hearing her advice, I was completely horrified to think that she gave me half of my genes, but I also realized that I was about to embark on a journey that most people wouldn't really understand.

The culture in Thailand is an interesting balance of history, religion and American cultural icons. On every street corner, you will find a Mickey and a woman selling lotus flowers. KFC and McDonald's are just as prevalent as the Buddhist statues. As the men, or Buddhist monks, greet you with a wai and a smile, and ironically so does Ronnie at Mickey D's. I passed, however, on the Big Macs and opted for pad Thai from street vendors. It cost about a quarter, but the taste was worth at least 35 cents.

The people in Thailand were the best part. They were the nicest people I was constantly stopped by Thai people who were very excited that I was visiting their country. One local woman even joined one of our classes in Bangkok. Looking back, I guess she joined us not so much because she was friendly but because she was curious. She came into our drawing class and just started yelling at our class in Thai. I think it was about the end of the world, but since I don't speak Thai, I can't be certain. Later, I saw the woman shouting people away from the front doors of the school. She was funny.

I can't put into words what I experienced during my three months in Thailand, but I do know that everything about my experience was better than anything I imagined. I encourage everyone to travel to Thailand and do it in your own style — meaning, if you are the type of person who loves culottes more than life, then you should get a designer pair of culottes and find your path to enlightenment.

*Photo and text by Crystal Myers*  
*Art by Rob Schupbach*  
*Illustrated by Brooke Finan*  

If you are interested in publishing your adventures abroad, please contact Brooke Finan @ Mustang Daily, bfinan@calpoly.edu
Travelers are surrounded in a landscape of beautiful authentic Buddhist art. Such artifacts, above, can be viewed at any temple or wat in Thailand.

Away from the industrial and urban areas, the natural setting is lush and exotic. Go there and see for yourself.
HIV just as scary as it ever was

Winnie the Pooh had an acid trip once. He saw hells and woofles after eating some seriously bad honey. These hellswoofles and woofles screwed with his brain, he ended up tripping out, and sat screaming in front of the television. That's the moral of the story! Things that sound cute often aren't.

Modern day example: bug chasers and gift givers. Bug chasers and gift givers sound innocent enough to emerge from a fairy tale, but this is far from the truth. A bug chaser is the term given to individuals who are completely healthy, given one minor exception. Rug chasers emerge from a fairy tale, but this is far from the truth. A bug chaser is an enveloping American youth once again when it comes to unprotected sex, with, essentially a term a gifted giver. Bug chasers view the virus as something sexy, an exclusive club to which both they and the gift givers belong to. Together, they embody the apathy and innocence that is enveloping American youth once again when it comes to sexual practices.

Unprotected sex is on the rise again, particularly because people aren't as scared of HIV as they used to be. There's almost a sense that HIV is a sexual side effect you can live with, like herpes or blue balls. Take a pill once a day, and you're fine. With HIV, that's not the case because people aren't as scared of HIV as they used to be. It's an ending effect. It's an unwanted side effect. It's an affect.

Today, stars can get away with so much. Case in point: Janet Jackson's "accidental" breast that shot Super Bowl Sunday. The idea was planned after the final rehearsal but was definitely a shock for a number of viewers. Jackson received her share of publicity for this stunt, and every late night talk show had something to say about it. They were not negative, but it did put her in another spotlight, taking attention away from her brother her brother's court battles. Stars like Paris Hilton look to get fame any way they can, even through underground Internet self-exploding videos. Her reputation augmented from hotel heiress to porn star video queen. So why does today's media constantly show sexy scandal in people's faces? Simple — sex sells.

To some, sex scandals, shows and music videos must grab the attention of the audience. People are more than happy to watch a Madonna-on-Britney kiss and replays of breast exposure. Any out-of-the-ordinary experience of a big name will attract attention, so maybe this is why "accidents" like Janet's video like Britney's "Toxic" have come such a long way since the 1960s. With the changing times, fashion, media and behavioral standards will change, so more and more provocative publicity will be acceptable as time goes on.

Pop stars who were once perceived as young and innocent have begun in the industry have switched roles to please the public. With images changing by decade, it is foreseeable that the nature of media will hold an even lower decency standard, making the idea of "scandal" perpetually changing.

Opinion

The evolution of scandal

Society is bombarded with over-sexed celebrities, reality television and scandalous pop stars. The image of scandal has gone through a metamorphosis in the last 12 years. Its definition has reinvented contemporary meaning, and it is scary to think of what another decade may bring.

In the last few years, a boom of sexy stars, like Paris Hilton and Britney Spears, took over the mainstream media by wearing close-to-nothing outfits. Thirty years ago sex and being sexy weren't portrayed as such.

In the 1960s and 1970s, the idea of "scandal" was different than it is today. The 1960s gave culture a new image, and with sex, too. But sex wasn't openly sexual. Pop stars weren't openly sexual. The 1970s made way to a new generation of scandals with shows like "Three's Company," where a man lived with two women.

Crazy! To 1970s society, this was shock enough. Madonna branded the 1980s as a new wave of pop culture with sexy music videos and skimpy outfits, and she's still going strong. The 1980s gave us the metallic taste of shock. Pretty boy bands and sexualized teen idols defined the mainstream. Success in the entertainment industry relied on being provocative.

Today, stars can get away with so much. Case in point: Janet Jackson's "accidental" breast that shot Super Bowl Sunday. The idea was planned after the final rehearsal but was definitely a shock for a number of viewers. Jackson received her share of publicity for this stunt, and every late night talk show had something to say about it. They were not negative, but it did put her in another spotlight, taking attention away from her brother her brother's court battles. Stars like Paris Hilton look to get fame any way they can, even through underground Internet self-exploding videos. Her reputation augmented from hotel heiress to porn star video queen. So why does today's media constantly show sexy scandal in people's faces? Simple — sex sells.

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Candidates must woo Christian South

Armenia is a Christian nation, although some detest or disagree with this. The reality of religion in America are prevalent in a lot of areas, especially during presidential election years. Most politicians call on the name of God to gain support from the influential South. Jimmy Carter was elected to office on his moral principles alone. (He later fired George W. Bush to victory.

Most students are taught at a young age about the religious beginnings of America. What most students are not taught is that our institutions are inseparable from Christianity. For example, our law makers find their right to make laws from Hebrew traditions. Our present concepts of marriage, family and state are derived from the Judeo-Christian tradition.

The two political parties in the country appeal to very different groups concerning this. Conservative Christians often align closely with the Republican Party because of their insistence on traditional morals. This creates a large base of support for religious values and God, which are seen in the Union addresses and on the campaign trail. Democrats, on the other hand, tend to side with candidates who do not make religious values a large issue, such as Howard Dean, John Kerry and John Edwards.

For a long time, both parties aligned closely to Christian institutions. The Democratic Party was very conservative for most of the 20th century, until John F. Kennedy's death, when Lyndon B. Johnson took office. At that point, the Democratic Party rode the modern wave into secular humanism supported by scholars. The Republican Party was left dead in the water until Ronald Reagan gave it an FDR-type revival, appealing to a large segment of voters who were not being courted. Reagan gave the Bush administration a tough battle, although he was not an ardent Christian. Whoever gains the Democratic Party is likely to win the area. It appears that Dean realizes this with a recent church appearance with Jimmy Carter.

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Opinion

Bush's deception is costly

Bush's deception is costly

By Morgan Elam

Editor

Prop 55 will do little or nothing to accomplish these goals. California is in serious debt. There is more than $73 billion of approved debt already and Proposition 55 would add an extra $12.3 billion to the total. Proposition 55 would take 10 years to repay and end up costing California $24.7 billion. There is also no current tax cap, so that figure is just a "best case" estimate. The actual price could be much higher.

No one is trying to say that cleaner, safer classrooms aren't a good thing. We all want students to succeed, and no one is trying to argue that school's shouldn't invest in future generations. But what Proposition 55 will ultimately provide are clean, safe classrooms that aren't overcrowded or random with no teachers to teach them.

Proposition 55 also requires local school districts to use the funds it receives from this bill. Did your local school district have a huge budget? As we have recently seen, not even colleges and universities would have the means to do this and are relying on lecturers and professors and current entire sections of classes.

California needs to take a serious look at its educational system and how it is prioritizing its funds. Proposition 55 is a good in theory.

But there are so many other things that need to be fixed in California first. Please vote No on Proposition 55.

Fad Gaivani is a graphic communication senior.

Letters to the editor

Strikers still need support

Editor,

After reading Kendrick Carson's commentary ("Gore's strike: Is that still going on?" Feb. 5) I was immediately honesty by how murdered he was. Poor thing.

Listen, there have been several attempts on the part of the right's union to reconcile the labor dispute with a third party mediator (California government) to make an arbitrary decision. However, the companies, in a consensus move, have chosen to negotiate with a party that would never eventually fall. My father is an Alhambra's baker. Like many of us, we are losing our jobs because of the companies' decision to walk the picket line because the companies do not want to provide decent health care because of the union. Also, the workers would not have a voice. Until Americans realize that health care is a human right rather than a luxury, major labor disputes won't be resolved.

The picketers do not get some perverse pleasure from being outside on the picket line. They are not living it up and they do not have health care anymore, contrary to Carson's misleading information. They only earn $715 a week. Let's see if Andy Paley student pay rent or feed a family with $175. The strike is on because workers are dedicated to a cause to save not only their families but also yours. Everyone should recognize that this could be a trend in a few years... so support the workers.

Steve Ruiz is a history senior.

Prop 55 won't fix schools

Editor,

Proposition 55 is supposed to provide funding to reduce overcrowding and repair older schools. Arguments in favor of Proposition 55 are loud and clear. They promise to bring safer classrooms if we expect them to succeed. But many students are asked to look in class rooms that are crowded and overloaded.

All of these are true. But unfortunate-
**News**

**Judge seals witness, juror names**

**By Kim Curtis**

**AP**

Peterson's double-murder trial ordered Monday that the witness lists and names of potential jurors remain confidential, despite protest by the media.

Judge Alfred A. Delucchi, who said he hopes to begin jury selection in about two weeks, told attorneys at a pre-trial hearing that he's acting against the press' wish to have a responsibility here to see that Mr. Peterson gets a fair trial. Peterson, 36, who wore a light gray suit and smiled at family members as he entered the courtroom, said nothing during the 40-minute hearing.

Karl Olson, who represented the San Francisco Chronicle, Los Angeles Times and The Associated Press among other media outlets, argued that "justice works best when exposed to public scrutiny."

Both prosecutors and defense attorneys disagreed. "The media has taken great steps to place themselves in the middle of this case," prosecutor David Harris said.

**EXECUTION**

**Appeals court grants stay to killer**

**By David Kravets**

**Associated Press**

SAN FRANCISCO — A federal appeals court granted a stay that may keep California's execution on hold until March 14. Cooper's bid for clemency has won support from celebrities including Denzel Washington, Sean Penn and Arnold Schwarzenegger.

It was not immediately clear when the en banc panel would hear the latest challenge, which Cooper's attorney filed Sunday. Cooper, who was convicted in the 1981 slaying deaths of two children, has been on death row since 1986.

Cooper has gained support from actors who oppose the death penalty such as Washington, Sean Penn and Mike Farrell, and from the Rev. Jesse Jackson and Rubin "Hurricane" Carter. In addition, three of the seven who convicted Cooper called for a stay of execution so fair and full evidence can be tested.

**Providian seeks to improve image**

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Providian Financial Corp., a credit card lender with a history of alienating customers, is promising to turn over a new leaf and improve customer service, it announced Thursday.

The San Francisco-based company is unveiling its new logo and a new credit card that will reward customers for everything from spending money to paying their bills on time.

By itself, Providian's rewards card doesn't break new ground — major card issuers for years have been awarding points that customers can redeem for free airline tickets, meals and merchandise.

But Providian says it is breaking away from the rest of the pack by focusing on a different market — the masses of middle-income households lacking the elite pedigree that prompts lenders to roll out the red carpet for customers.

It's all part of a makeover designed to differentiate the Providian of today from the Providian of a few years ago, when the company paid more than $400 million to settle charges of wrongful fees and unaffordable credit that prompted the Better Business Bureau to criticize the company.

Under a new management team led by industry veteran Joseph Sanden, Providian has cleaned up its finances, producing profits totaling $134.7 million during the past two years.

"Providian is still cranking out the customer complaints, so this sounds like just another marketing gimmick on their part," Wallace said.

In 2003, Providian generated $610 million in customer complaints, according to one of Providian's longtime critics, Pat Wallace, president of the Better Business Bureau covering the San Francisco Bay area.

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**Sports Roundup ends poorly**

By Brian Koser

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Cal Poly softball closed out the third annual Mustang Roundup on Sunday with a 6-1 loss to the Sacramento State Hornets. The Hornets stung the Mustangs with a series of hits and runs in the top of the fourth inning. Sacramento's Amanda Moreland led the rally with a hard-hitting single down the third baseline with one out. Sacramento then took advantage of the Mustangs' errors. With two outs and a runner on first, chants from the Sacramento bench began to crescendo as Hornet Amy Hillel ripped a single to center. The next two batters reached base on a single and a fly ball to left to load the bases. A glimmer of hope for getting out of the inning unscathed became faded away after pitcher Emily Hvitley's wild pitch managed to strike out the next batter. The nasty pitch got away from new catcher Cheyler Stroud, allowing Hornet Sydney McKee to grab one more run. Moreland returned to the plate in the same inning to rip another pitch to center, tacking on two more runs for Sacramento.

With the score 6-0, the Hornets had runners on second and third when Cal Poly's Jennifer Graver came in and got them out with the force at first. Cal Poly appeared to get some steam back when Shannon Brooks crushed her first home run of the season, over the left-field wall. Brooks also did well defensively by turning an unassisted double play in the previous inning.

Unfortunately for the Mustangs, the score would stay at 6-1 for the rest of the game. Cal Poly was 3-2 in the tournament. Despite the win, Hornet head coach Kathy Strahan thought her team could have played better. "I was not satisfied with our overall playing," she said. "We were out of character and lost the first couple games of the tournament. I had a talk with the team, and we were able to turn things around." Sacramento's Nicole Demers, who is 1-1 as a pitcher this season, said the bus ride home would be nice after the win. "We got it together out there. It took a while, but we were able to capitalize on opportunities." Cal Poly's Eva Nelson was disappointed with the loss but was pleased with the way her team performed. "The pitchers and everyone have been working hard," she said. "I think we all did well this weekend, and I am just happy I could help," she said.

**Mustangs upset Toreros**

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

The No. 65 Cal Poly women’s tennis team upset No. 46 University of San Diego in a monumental 4-3 victory on Sunday afternoon. The victory is the first recorded win over a team that has won at least seven singles twice, right fielder Chalton Tierje also singled twice and walked in one run and catcher Cory Tallman, who entered the game with a .227 batting average, singled twice and drove in another Mustang run.

Second baseman Adam Leavitt added an RBI double while third baseman Matt Guilianti squeezed in the eighth inning to score Cal Poly’s final run. Head coach Larry Lee credited his relievers with the win. "LeClerc and Moser did a great job of pitching in the last two-thirds of the game," Lee added. "They were able to maintain the lead all the way and that was big for us because San Jose State had chances to get back into the game." San Jose State3’s Most Valuable Player, Anthony Contreras, right fielder Darrell Sales and catcher Mark Bassett each had two of the Spartans’ nine hits.

It’s easier to get a better look at those in (zone defense)," Dooley said. "We needed to be a little more confident going into the game." Head coach Faith Mimnaugh’s description of Dooley as a “davenous” player may be one reason teams rarely zone up against Cal Poly. "You cannot leave her for one second or she will light up in your eyes," Mimnaugh said.

Although Dooley credits UConn’s defense with making the shots easier, she fails to mention her own history of record-breaking play. She is the fourth all-time leading three-point scorer in California State basketball history, hitting 234 successful shots at Ventura High School, a .505 of which sank during her senior season alone. She was also a Los Angeles Times Player of the Year for Ventura County in 2002, a co-MVP of the Channel League and a three-time All-Channel League selection.

This season, Dooley leads the Mustangs in three-point percentage, making 42 percent of her three-point shots. Dooley played a variety of sports growing up, but said basketball was always the main sport. Now, it is almost therapeutic for her. "I can have a bad day at school or whatever and then go to practice ... and it all just goes away," she said. "It’s a good release of stress for me." The dynamic of the team also plays a big part in their success. "I’m really enjoying the team this year," she said.

Dooley does it well from downtown

By Hillary Schuler-Jones

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

At first glance, Jennifer Dooley is about as normal as they come. The sophomore guard from Ventura is soft-spoken and modest. But don’t mess with her three-pointer.

Dooley exploded into Cal Poly’s record books this season. She hit 10 of 15 treys against U.C. Riverside on Jan. 31 to break the single-game three-point mark of nine set in 1998 by Stephanie Ocker.

The performance gave her a game high 30 points.

Dooley said UConn’s decision to play zone defense against Cal Poly was the primary reason for her success that night. "It’s easier to get a better look at thres in (zone defense)," Dooley said. "I was just a little more confident going into the game." Head coach Faith Mimnaugh’s description of Dooley as a “davenous” player may be one reason teams rarely zone up against Cal Poly. "You cannot leave her for one second or she will light up in your eyes," Mimnaugh said.

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