A fresh perspective

History professor John Oriji is part of the Igbo people who mostly live in Southeast Nigeria

Melissa L. Dorcak

When history professor John Oriji was attending high school in Nigeria, he asked his principal what was the highest level of education. His principal told him it was a PhD.

"And from that time, I said that I must have a PhD," Oriji said.

Oriji came to the United States in 1972 to attend John Hopkins University in Baltimore. There he received his first master's degree. In 1977, he earned another master's and his PhD at Rutgers University in New Jersey.

Oriji then returned to Nigeria to teach and conduct research at the University of Nigeria. In Nigeria, he published two books and several articles dealing with the Igbo people and issues such as the slave trade, colonialism and global issues.

Oriji has enjoyed teaching and sharing his ideas with others since high school.

"It is a way of making a contribution to society," Oriji said.

Oriji is a part of the Igbo people, which mostly live in Southeast Nigeria. He said the Igbo are among the most highly educated and can find them in all different professions.

He met his wife, Rita, in Nigeria and she has followed him during his studies. He has a son, Ugo, and a daughter, Nnidi. Oriji is very proud of his daughter, who is a lawyer in New York.

After 10 years of research in Nigeria, Oriji moved to California to teach history at Cal Poly. He teaches African history, comparative modern world history, and modern political economy.

In the classroom, Oriji tells his students, "In my own field, I try to combine my experiences with the academic text because it offers another perspective besides what Oriji calls "the American perspective."

"He tries to focus his class material on subjects that are largely unknown to many students," history senior Kevin Strong said.

"I think (students) are curious to learn about my own perspectives, and most of the time I tell them what I think even if it promotes debate," Oriji said.

Oriji's ties with the Nigerian community also provide unique opportunities for his students.

The Bishop of Aba, Nigeria was visiting Los Angeles and Oriji invited him to meet his students. After the visit to the class, Oriji invited the bishop, their neighbors and about 20 students to his home for a reception, complete with Nigerian food made by his wife.

"Oriji is very welcoming and eager to introduce his culture to us," history senior Lucy Bedoschuetzer said. Bedoschuetzer has Oriji for pre-colonial African history this quarter.

In his spare time, Oriji enjoys traveling and listening to music. He listens to American classical and admitted that he also listens to his son's rap music. Oriji also enjoys West African music called High Life.

In 1998, Oriji became a U.S. citizen.

"I've been living most of my adult life here. My wife is here, so I just feel it would be a good idea to stay put." That does not mean he has forgotten Nigeria.

Oriji explained that in Nigeria, people have great concern for their extended families.

"There is a lot of hospitality," he said.

He tells his students, "In my own culture, every family needs to have a home in the village you're born, because it's a part of your room."
Vehicles

continued from page 1

the event, is a member of C-3 and is bringing the company’s SES generator to the event for display. “The SES generator is capable of generating heat and energy for a home and a fuel cell vehicle,” said Yu LeBlanc from Journey Communications.

The company will also showcase the Toyota Highlander FCV prototype. Jon Mangum, president and CEO of Stuart Energy, will be on hand to talk about alternative fueling and answer your questions. “Smart Energy believes that educational outreach is incredibly important to consumers,” LeBlanc said. “The bottom line is to get the message out that there are things people can do now.”

Tuition

continued from page 1

In the past five years ending in 2002, grant aid had grown more rapidly than loans, and that was really encouraging news,” said Sandy Baum, senior policy analyst with the College Board, who presented the findings at a news conference in Washington. “Now, we really can’t say that anymore.” For a student aid rate rose 19 percent above inflation last year. Funding for Pell Grants, the primary support for low-income students and a topic in the presidential campaign, rose 0 percent in 2003, compared with 7 percent in 1998. The study does not include credit card debt, which as many as one-quarter of college students may be relying on to finance their education. There has also been sharp growth in unsubsidized federal loans to students and parents. Baum said the average student loan debt, about $20,000, is reasonable for college graduates given their increased earning power. But she said poor students, who do not benefit as much from tax breaks that help wealthier students, could be vulnerable if the trend toward loans continues.

According to the California Energy Commission’s Web site, the average price for regular gas in California is $2.40, which is 37 cents higher than the national average. Prices in the San Luis Obispo area are upwards of $2.50.

“$2.40, which is 37 cents higher than the national average. Prices in the San Luis Obispo area are upwards of $2.50.

“A lot of the added expenses at gas stations are because we are getting to the point of exhausting fossil fuel supplies,” LeBlanc said.

Genet said San Luis Obispo currently doesn’t have many alternative fueling stations, but C-3 is trying to change that. “We are getting very close to being labeled as a clean city and once we have been designated a clean city, we become eligible for grant funding,” she said.

These grants can be used to build more alternative fuel stations.

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SALINAS — A man arrested for allegedly attacking a woman in a Hartnell College bathroom pleaded not guilty to assault and battery.

Richard Eugene Simmons, 37, pleaded not guilty to assault with intent to commit rape and battery with severe bodily injury in Friday's attack on the campus, where a wave of fear has students and teachers on edge. The victim, a member of the Hartnell College staff, suffered a broken nose and other injuries during the 2 p.m. Friday attack in a visual arts building restroom, investigators said.

OAKLAND — A sausage maker who fatally shot three meat inspectors at his factory was convicted Tuesday of three counts of first-degree murder.

Stuart Alexander, 43, was charged in the June 2000 deaths of the government inspectors at his Anton Linguisa Factory in San Leandro.

Alexander also was found guilty of one count of attempted murder. He is eligible for the death penalty. Jurors on Monday will begin hearing testimony to decide his sentence. The shootings were recorded by a surveillance camera that he turned on shortly after their arrival, and the case focused on whether his actions were deliberate or the result of a momentarily lapse.

—Associated Press

percent increase in their Social Security checks starting in January, meaning an additional $25 per month for the typical retiree. But almost half of that gain will be gobbled up by a record increase in Medicare premiums.

The cost of living adjustment, or COLA, announced Tuesday by the Social Security Administration will be the largest percentage gain since a 3.5 percent increase in 2001.

—Associated Press

BANGKOK, Thailand — Myanmar's prime minister was sacked Tuesday by his hardline army colleagues, clouding prospects for the freedom of opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi and for democracy in the military-led Southeast Asian nation.

Khin Nyunt was taken into custody late Monday and charged with corruption, according to officials in Thailand, who were the first to publicly break the news.

—Associated Press

UNDER FOUR?

79% of students never cause property damage due to drinking. The average CP student drinks less than 4 in a sitting.
Recent college grads long for the student life

Rustin Royal shows off his license plates and other items he has collected to accent his devotion to his alma mater, Saturday, at his Chicago apartment.

Martha Irvine/Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO — Call it college nostalgia, those pangs felt by any number of young working adults who, long for the days when they could roll out of bed and into class or hang with friends any night of the week.

Rustin Royal knows all about the feeling, particularly at this time of year, when campus life and football season are well under way. It's what brings him to a Chicago bar that caters to him and his fellow University of Texas alums — where they can sing "The Eyes of Texas" with unabashed enthusiasm and down a Shiner Bock, the beer they drank in college.

"It's a connection to your past — it's a student the rest of my life," Royal said. "It's Binghamton, an associate professor of human development and family studies at Binghamton University. "There's a lot to miss," he says. "You don't have so much freedom in the work world. So for a lot of people, it's a big shock — the expectations and accountability. All of those things are just a long way.

"I love coming to this bar and singing 'The Eyes,'" Royal said. "It's a connection to your past — it's a student the rest of my life." He has also decorated his apartment with triends any night of the week, member to young working adults who

Maria Pendolino knows what he means.

As she puts on her business suit and naps, sleeping in until noon and still lives in Minneapolis. He regularly takes the "scenic drive" through campus on his way to work and often organizes dinners and "breakfast club" reunions with former dorm mates who also live in town.

He has also decorated his apartment bathroom in Minnesota Gopher maroon and gold. It might sound like a bit much, but for him, hanging with other Texas Exes, as they are known, has "longingly" at the flannel pajama pants and hooded T-shirts she used to wear to class.

"I miss a lot of little things — naps, sleeping in until noon and the feeling that you are in the same place in your life as everyone else," says Pendolino, a 22-year-old who graduated from Binghamton University in New York and now works in the finance field.

"In college, I was a big fish in a little pond," she says. "Now I'm a fish in the ocean.""

Angela Yarbrough also has found frustrations with the new rules of post-college life. Sometimes, she says, she would like to raise her hand in the work world.

"You don't have to be the topic of the water cooler," said Yarbrough, a 21-year-old who graduated from St. Mary's University in San Antonio and still lives in Minneapolis. He regularly takes the "scenic drive" through campus on his way to work and often organizes dinners and "breakfast club" reunions with former dorm mates who also live in town.

He has also decorated his apartment bathroom in Minnesota Gopher maroon and gold. It might sound like a bit much, but for him, hanging with other Texas Exes, as they are known, has a special connection to his past — it's a student the rest of my life."
Wednesday, October 20, 2004

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MARKET PRINCIPLES NOW USED TO RANK COLLEGES

Justin Pope

Critic of college rankings say universities aren’t like their sports teams. You cannot settle who is best with head-to-head competition on the playing field.

But in a new paper, a group of economists and statisticians beg to differ.

They lay out a system that ranks colleges on how they perform in one kind of head-to-head competition they claim says a lot about a school, and can be measured: the battle for students who are admitted to several colleges and have to choose among them.

While the U.S. News & World Report rankings use statistics like admission percentage, SAT scores and student-faculty ratios, critics say those figures are not necessarily much use to prospective students and that colleges can manipulate them.

In their proposal, the economists sidestep the tricky question of what makes a good college. Instead, they assume top high school students know best, and they simply report their choices. Of the students admitted to, say, both Brown and Penn, how many choose each place? It is the same principle in the Zagat restaurant guides: Don’t try to grade the food, just reveal whether a lot of people like it or not.

The authors — Caroline Hoxby and Christopher Avery of Harvard, Andreas Majrig of the University of Pennsylvania and Mark Glickman of Boston University — have been working on their model for years. Their most detailed results yet were published recently by the National Bureau of Economic Research.

Here’s how it works: Imagine two students, one choosing between Stanford and Harvard, another among Stanford, Berkeley and Pomona. The statistical model views each one of those students as a “tournament” between the colleges involved, if Stanford “wins” either student, its ranking rises in relation to the schools it beat.

Colleges often compete against the same schools over and over, and may never compete against others. But with enough data, Stanford’s place in relation to all schools begins to emerge and the rankings take shape. The model, which resembles the one used to rank professional chess players, adjusts to balance out influencing factors such as a big financial aid offer from one school.

The authors offered a preliminary demonstration by tracking the college choices of 3,240 high-performing students from 396 high schools nationwide. They say that it works well for top schools but that more data is needed to improve their confidence in the rankings lower down.

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Smile and Nod improv group dons a kilt

Tawny Grace
MUSTANG DAILY

Smile and Nod, a student-run improvisational group on campus, recently returned from a three-week trip to Scotland where the team performed and learned from other improv groups from around the world.

"Improv is life," said Jeffrey Clinard, speech communication senior and Smile and Nod member. "People that can have conversations are improving."

Smile and Nod performers left for Edinburgh, Scotland in August to perform in the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. The festival contained more than 700 productions of theater and dance, said Sarah Claspell, theater and business senior and co-manager of Smile and Nod.

"We went with 20 people and lived together in a six-bedroom house," Claspell said. "We spent 24 hours a day together. We became close as a team. Trust became intensified."

The team performed "We Smell Like America" every day for two weeks straight. When the team was not performing, members watched the other performances.

"We saw a lot of different sketch comedy and a lot of short form," Claspell said. "We took stuff (back with us) from the different improv group styles."

To cover the cost of the trip, the team raised money through donations, from members' parents and from past shows' profits.

Smile and Nod first began about seven years ago when a group of students from an improv class on campus decided to begin performing rather than just practicing, said Claspell.

Now, Smile and Nod holds two shows every Saturday night. The 8 p.m. show is a short-form comedy, and the 10 p.m. show is a long-form comedy.

The short-form comedy performances consist of nine performers on stage. There are two competing teams of four, Team Smile and Team Nod, and one referee.

Short form is more like the television show "Whose Line is it Anyway?" where there are specific games and specific goals, Clinard said. The team asks the audience for multiple IDEAS and uses those suggestions to play a game until it switches to the next scene.

"It relies more on wit and puns, and it's a lot easier to do," Clinard said.

The long-form comedy shows consist of seven to nine performers on stage and no referee. At the beginning of each performance, the performers ask the audience for suggestions. From those suggestions, the entire show is created.

Clinard said being on the team gives him confidence in front of groups. It helps him think on his feet, and it makes it easier for him to write essays at the last minute.

"I definitely know that God has blessed me with the ability to be funny," Clinard said. "I can go make a group of people be happy on a regular basis."

Claspell has been on the team for four years. As co-manager, she is in charge of booking shows and facilitating meetings and rehearsals.

Not all team members are theater majors, Claspell said. Most students on the team are engineers, and there is a horticulture major and a speech communication major.

Nineteen students make up the team this year, and about 15 to 20 students try out each quarter.

see Improv, page 8
We want to know...

which local businesses are best for Cal Poly students' needs. Vote for your favorite business in each category and turn in the survey to the Mustang Daily for a chance to win gift certificates from your favorite restaurants and clothing stores.

Drop off location:
Mustang Daily office, Graphic Arts Building 26, Room 226
OR Vote Online: www.mustangdaily.net

Deadline:
November 15th, 5 pm
Remembering Elliott Smith

There wasn’t much to see that year at the Academy Awards. Nineteen ninety-eight was dominated by Kate Winslet’s breasts and Leonardo DiCaprio’s bangs, and “Titanic” was already sailing past the competitors. A disappointing ceremony? Yes, for the other movies nominated. No, for the history of pink-lit, adolescent girls waiting for a glimpse of DiCaprio. Yes, for anyone who (rightly) felt that one more “report of Colline Doino’s ‘My Heart Will Go On’ would cause the fire, comparatively blissful apocalypse.” And the last few words of (shortly after the C.M.Petitors. A disappointing ceremony? Yes, for the other movies comparatively blissful apocalypse.

After that, there was DiCaprio. Yes, for anyone who couldn’t bear to see DiCaprio’s bangs, and “Titanic” was already sailing past the competitors. A disappointing ceremony? Yes, for the other movies nominated. No, for the history of pink-lit, adolescent girls waiting for a glimpse of DiCaprio. Yes, for anyone who (rightly) felt that one more “report of Colline Doino’s ‘My Heart Will Go On’ would cause the fire, comparatively blissful apocalypse.”

Then Elliott Smith took the stage. A relative unknown in the circle and just broken through, he received a polite, polite applause that paled in comparison to his fellow Best Original Song nominees. Hunched slightly over his microphone, wearing a luminous white shirt that gleamed like a halo, he peeked through his dark hair and strummed through “Miss Misery” (from “Good Will Hunting”). He never took his eyes off some unwavering point in the distance; He just stared ahead under heavy lids, working through his haunting song as if the glittery strangers were gone, and he was all alone.

Smith lost that night, and he never regained the mainstream celebrity of those few crumbs. In underground circles, though, he was still heralded as an indie rock icon, a man who traveled the difficult segue from punk (with Heatmiser) to pop (side) and emerged glorious in his sadness and the beauty it contained. “Neatle in the Hat,” one of his most famous songs, brimmed with the misery of his heroin addiction. He formed his career by crying out without ever showing tears; his lyrics were thoughtful, flowing and never self-serving. His music was magnificent in its ease; chords nestled together into catchy tasteries that his breathy voice, so like his idol George Harrison’s, floated over. His music was logic without predictability; light, choral, hopeful, achingly sincere.

And he’s gone.

Elliott Smith died a year ago Thursday — Oct. 21, 2003, at age 34. The cause, a single stab wound to the chest, was initially deduced as suicide; Now, with inconclusive coroner reports, his death remains as miserable a mystery as his life had seemed to be on the up. He was completing his next album, From a Basement on the Hill, and had reportedly kicked the drug habits that plagued him. His sudden death was mourned as a great loss — and lamented by critics as a tragedy that seemed inevitable, a callous and horrifying response to human suffering.

Now that only his art remains, it can’t be listened to like it was before. The intimacy of his music and its shimmering light, choral, hopeful, achingly sincere.

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Local elections carry more weight

S

cidents, it's time to make the link between the most important
campaigns, politicians and the people they affect. With the
president's approval ratings in the gutter, San Luis Obispo
city is also seeing a drop in local candidates, who are
bothered by the fact that they are looked upon as the sole student
voice in this community.

If there is one thing that really gets
me up, it's the fact that students don't
vote. Sadly, I have seen some of my
colleagues vote only to be the only
voter present. However, I believe this
trend will continue as more candidates
run for office and see the importance of
each vote.

As a second point, I should say
that I am bothered by the fact that I am
looked upon as the sole student voice
in this community. I say this not to
be condescending but to get on your
radar that this election has some true
value.

In the last election for City Council, one candidate lost by 11 votes. I
dare you to come to my office and tell me that your vote doesn't count,
because a handful of students in one of the many hallways could have
decided that election. I dare you to complain to me when new ordinances
pass in the city and stricter rules are implemented because our
council members were elected by the permanent residents and not by us.

I care so much about this upcoming election that I'm going to bring
candidates to you in less than one week and I expect you to be there.
On Tuesday, ASI is hosting a Community Forum where you can ask
the candidates whether they believe the city should expand its
communal development into agricultural land or not. You can ask them
whether they believe we have a "party problem."You can ask them about
their qualifications for the job and their priorities for the city. I am not expecting
you to follow The Tribune on the latest gossip, but I am expecting you to be
in Chumash Auditorium at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday and find out for yourself
which candidate will best represent you.

Blade Bolton is the ASI President and thinks that homework and studying are
evertheless excuses to not be actively engaged in your community.

GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?
Send your letters to the editor to opinion@mustangdaily.net

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A letter from the beloved Bush administr Katrina
From The Bush administration
ister for information

From The Bush administration
ister for information

In this election, I know we all
be voting, so now the question is
who are you going to vote for? Sadly,
none of the candidates, save for
the candidates running for city office.
These candidates have real differences
and should be more friendly
than others. Do you know who
they are? Because I can guarantee
that you are not voting for anyone coming
to your neighborhood before or after the
election.

I agree with the students about
dois not allow choices in our
yard, the construction ot new
shopping centers and whether we will have triple fines in new
SafetV zones. Ignorance makes us
delusional. With such people in our
city council and mayor do not. They listen to us to make their
decisions. I think the best thing we can do is
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Man pleads guilty to grave robbing, corpse abuse

Jeff Barnard  
ASSOCIATE PRESS

MEDFORD, Ore. — Former insurance agent Jack Harelson pleaded guilty Tuesday to abusing the mummified corpses of two Indian children that police found in his garden, where he had hidden them after digging up their ancient graves in the Nevada desert in the 1980s.

Standing transfixed in green jail coveralls and plastic sandals, Harelson, 64, answered only, “Yes,” when asked by Jackson County Circuit Judge Lorenzo Mejia if he wanted to plead guilty to two counts of abuse of a corpse.

Prompted by his defense lawyer, Harelson acknowledged that he had treated the corpses in a manner not accepted by the norms of society. He made no mention of how the skulls came to be separated from the rest of the corpses, or where they have been in the years since his 1995 arrest on charges he robbed Indian graves of artifacts.

Harelson still faces trial on charges alleging he tried to pay an undercover police informant $10,000 in opals to kill the police detective and judge who sent him to jail in 1996, and two business partners who put investigators on his trail.

Jury selection was scheduled to begin Wednesday in Jackson County Circuit Court on the remaining charges of criminal conspiracy to commit aggravated murder, attempted murder, solicitation to commit murder and being a felon in possession of a firearm.

Jackson County Deputy District Attorney Timothy Barnack said he hoped to win a sentence of 10 to 20 years in prison if Harelson is convicted of the remaining charges.

By pleading guilty to abuse of a corpse, Harelson has avoided the inclusion in the rest of his trial of emotional testimony or evidence about the skulls of the two unremained children being separated from the rest of the remains.

Prosecutors, however, are expected to present tape-recorded conversations between Harelson and the undercover police informant he allegedly paid to kill four people.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

ASI STUDENT DIRECTORY

Each year, Associated Students, Inc., produces a Student Directory that is made available to all students, faculty and staff at Cal Poly.

The ASI Student Directory provides a listing of all students attending Cal Poly. This listing includes name, phone, e-mail address and major for each student on campus. Anyone who does not wish to have his/her personal information included in the directory should access

Mustang Info
www.mustanginfo.calpoly.edu

Go to “Your Student Information” Login
Look for “Personal Information” Go to “Student Directory Information Restrictions” Choose “PROTECTED” for your “Locator Information” status to prevent inclusion in the ASI Student Directory.

If you wish to restrict publication of your personal information, do so no later than November 12, 2004.

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EChairs have arrived at Tri-Counties Blood Bank's new San Luis Obispo blood center on 4119 Broad St in the Creekside Center. Our 11,000 square foot center offers our donors more space, more comfort, more parking, and E-Chairs! Call 543-4290 today to save a life!
It just keeps getting better: Football is No. 5

The Mustangs move up three spots in both polls and receive a first-place vote after extending their winning streak

Brian Lambdin

Cal Poly's run at national prominence has been nothing short of amazing. The Mustangs stamped out a 6-0 record and now, a top five national ranking.

The results that came out Monday moved Cal Poly all the way up to No. 5 in the ESPN/USA Today poll of Division I-AA teams. This, by far, is the highest Cal Poly has ever been ranked at such a high level.

The Mustangs are currently riding a seven-game winning streak counting last year's season final win. Also, the team has won 10 of its last 11 dating back to last season.

Cal Poly received one first-place vote and is one of only three undefeated teams in Division I-AA. The Mustangs climbed over Western Kentucky, New Hampshire and Wofford in order to get to the No. 5 spot.

And finally, the quarterback controversy has been solved. At least for the meantime.

After weeks of stating that he liked all three of his quarterbacks, coach Rich Ellerson has named Anthony Garnett his starter. As long as he performs well, he will keep the starting position, Ellerson said.

Garnett, a red shirt from last year, sat out much of the beginning of the year with a back injury. Garnett solidified his hold on the job once he recovered and got a chance to start the last two games.

The offense exploded under Garnett on Saturday, something it hadn't really done all year. "We have always fed off the defense," Garnett said. "It was nice to keep them off the field."

Garnett looked a lot better in his second start, something he attributed to the game pace and that he was able to make better decisions and better reads.

He also attributed his success to the team. "The offensive line is great, great receivers make great quarterbacks and without the running game the pass wouldn't be opened up," Garnett said.

The offensive line deserves credit for the yards the offense has produced. The group has given up just two sacks total this year. The line has also paved the way on the ground, helping the Mustangs average 211.5 yards per game.

"The offensive line is playing the best it has since I have been here," Ellerson said. He also commented positively on the blocking of his wide receivers.

With the recent offensive problems before Sunday, it might have seemed reasonable to say there was pressure on the offense to perform, but Garnett didn't feel any.

"Just as long as we kept the ball out of the other team's hands we were OK, and pressure-wise we didn't have a problem," Garnett said.

Another factor that has limited the offense this year is turnovers.

Ex-volleyball athlete and captain offer different takes on team struggles

Erica Drummond

The Cal Poly women's volleyball team is caught in an ugly rut. After losing Friday's game to Long Beach State, they fell to UC Irvine Saturday, their tenth straight loss of the season.

The Mustangs are now 0-9 in the Big West conference and 2-16 overall, caught in the midst of one of their worst losing streaks to date.

While many matches turn into just narrow losses, the team has come up surprisingly weak in certain categories such as low hitting averages, low blocks and a mountain of errors. "It's so frustrating," said Margaret Donoghue, history senior and team captain. "We had such high expectations for the season and there's no denying that it's hard coming into the locker room after losing three straight games again."

While the results have been disappointing, Donoghue's encouraged to work on what she feels are relatively minuscule problems for the team.

"It's really just small details that need help," she said.

"We had such high expectations for the season and there's no denying that it's hard coming into the locker room after losing three straight games again."

— MARGARET DONOGHUE

TEAM CAPTAIN

"Just a couple more digs each game, a couple more kills. It's totally within reason.""However, Vanessa Gilliam a business senior who decided to leave the team a month ago, said she feels it will not be that easy for her former teammates to turn this season around.

"You have to do something drastic to change the problem," Gilliam said. "I know they're capable of winning, but I don't think they know what to change."

Gilliam said she knows the team has tried various drastic changes. This season a no-drinking policy was implemented. The team members who are 21 or older agreed to follow the team's requests for the season and there's no denying that it's hard coming into the locker room after losing three straight games again."

A 24-hour 'dry-period' was enforced before any practice or game. If it became known that a player drank within this time, they would be suspend­ed from playing.

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TEAM CAPTAIN

"Just a couple more digs each game, a couple more kills. It's totally within reason."

"I feel like I should be trusted at a player to be responsible with my age," she said. "(With the drinking policy) it seemed like people with power weren't using it correctly — and that really doesn't make people want to follow them."

According to Gilliam, who was one of the team's top hitters, she and head coach Steve Schlick made a mutual decision last month for her to leave the team.

"Volleyball just wasn't fun for me anymore," Gilliam said. "I'm so happy now being a student again, being human."

Since the summer, the team has made volleyball its life, devoting long hours and tireless amounts of practice. "Sometimes we've put in eight-hour days," Donoghue said. "It's more than most teams."

Donoghue said that she thinks the team's hard work will soon pay off. "I look at my team and I know that each one wants to win more than anything," she said. "When we come back to practice after a tough weekend of losses, the fire is still in us and we don't throw up our hands. We come with the hopes that next weekend will be the weekend."

This Friday the Mustangs will play UC Riverside at 7 p.m. Donoghue said yesterday that the team has been busy preparing different tactics.

"UCR has a unique offense, so we're practicing a lot on how to prevent that," she said. "We have full intentions of winning."

A win Friday night would be the first win since mid-September.