First doctoral program introduced at Cal Poly

Seven adults enrolled in classes over the fall to take part in a new joint-degree program

Erica Drummond
MUSTANG DAILY

Cal Poly made history this quarter as students arrived on campus for the university's first joint doctoral program.

Seven adults, ranging from school principals to librarians, enrolled in classes this fall to take part in a new degree program in educational leadership.

The program works with University of California, Santa Barbara, where the students spent their first year of the program before beginning the second year at Cal Poly.

"We are creating a new graduate culture where students blend Cal Poly's mission of "learn-by-doing" with the strong research traditions of UCSB," said Jim Gentilec, co-director of the program and a faculty member in the College of Education at Cal Poly. "We believe this research-practice nexus will create new answers to educational problems that have plagued schools for decades."

Combining the talents of the two universities is appealing, said UCSB's Michael Gerber, co-director of the program.

"UCSB is classified as being a major research institution with a great reputation," Gerber said. "And Cal Poly has an excellent reputation in the field, one of the finest of that sort. Blending these two things will result in the betterment of the students."

Cal Poly is the second California State University school to offer a joint doctoral program with another UC campus. According to

see Doctorate, page 2

GrC department honored

Ji Jun
MUSTANG DAILY

After a trend-setting year for Cal Poly's graphic communications department, including an achievement in database imaging, the list of accolades and achievements is still growing.

Just recently, a program earned one of three Excellence in Education Award winners presented by the Electronic Document Systems Foundation.

The non-profit organization which has inroads in the document communications industry, hands out the awards annually to honor achievements and efforts related to printed media and graphics.

"We're not they won enough awards?" graphic communications sophomore Cynthia Chen said.

As a student in the department she already knows what kind of education she has received.

"The award recognizes that Cal Poly's graphic communications department is on the cutting edge of graphic communication education."

see Graphic, page 2

Santa Lucia hall battles best

Esmeralda Cisneros
MUSTANG DAILY

Santa Lucia hall emerged as the victor of the "Battle of the Halls" competition Nov. 19.

The competition was between Cal Poly's residence halls. For each of the activities, points are awarded, and totaled up at the end to decide the winner.

Some of the activities included Simon says, red light/green light, dodgeball, tug of war, basketball and soccer. The two halls with the most points won a free pizza party.

see Battle, page 2

Bush touts U.S. backed anti-drug efforts

Jennifer Loven
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CARTAGENA, Colombia — President Bush showcased American drug-fighting aid in Colombia and boosted a conservative Latin American leader with a stop Monday in the Andean nation where thousands of security forces deployed to safeguard his brief stay.

Bush's four-hour visit with Colombian President Alvaro Uribe in the seaside city of Cartagena was the final stop of a three-day Latin American trip.

Uribe planned to ask for continued U.S. aid to fight rebels and drug trafficking under Plan Colombia, which expires next year.

"It is very important that we are clear that we can't leave this task halfway completed," Uribe said on Colombian radio.

Briefing reporters on Air Force One before it landed in Cartagena, a senior administration official made no commitment that the Plan Colombia program would be renewed. The official left no doubt that Colombia would continue to get aid, perhaps even an increase, although it might be restructured.

The drug trade led to extradi­nary security measures for Bush's visit. As the president's motorcade made a high-speed dash through the city, about 15,000 Colombian security forces were deployed for protection.

With workers given the day off, small kiosks of mostly impas­sive crowds gathered to watch.

see Columbia, page 2

Columbian protesters burn an American flag beside a poster that translates as 'Bush out.'

see Columbia, page 2

Being Muslim in a post-9/11 world

Study shows Muslims are sticking together more

IN ARTS and CULTURE, page 7

Women's field hockey undefeated

Mustangs beat UCSB in championship game 4-0

IN SPORTS, page 10

WEATHER REPORT

SUNNY 64°

SUNNY 69°

Surf forecast

Height 2-3 ft
Direction WNW
Sunset 4:53 p.m.
Graphic
continued from page 1

Columbia
continued from page 1

The concentration, which "covers

the study of print and digital media,"
headed by Michael Blum, is not
going to stop and revel in the glory.

"As we developed the curriculum for
this concentration, we needed to keep
it flexible to handle new technol­
gies as they are introduced," Blum
said.

The ever-shifting canvas, which
well-received with few issues to work
out. "We were all wanting this to hap­
pen," Gerber said. "These are two
different institutions. The big ideas
were easy to agree upon but it was the
today's basis of the program that was
complicated." Gerber explained that differences in
financing policies, administration and
faculty involvement sparked the most
deliberation. After a year of negotia­
tions and the approval of several com­
nittees, the universities got the green
light to start the program.

"However, not everything came
glitch-free. One of the biggest obstacles
program directors faced was the dis­
tance between San Luis Obispo and
Santa Barbara.

"Anything we can do to make that
travel distance less of a burden, the
better," Gerber said. "Last year we had
video conferencing for some of the
courses, or we tried to schedule classes
so students had to only come one day a
week."

Gerber said that the program still has
a few kinks, but they are being worked
out. After establishing the program, the
main goal now is to focus on the stu­
dents.

"We don't think of this as just an
interesting new training program," Gerber said. "We want this to be some­
thing important in our relationship with
the local schools. We want local
schools to be interested in building tal­
cent for themselves."

Blum believes the credit goes to
other school departments.

"We offered a good foundation of
courses within the department and
also rely on other departments
including English and computer sci­
ence who add to the students' breadth in
the subject matters," he said.

A few of the students wore specific
colors to represent their hall.

Humza Chowdhry, architectural
engineering senior and returning
Cerro Vista hall basketball competitor,
came to show his abilities. Chowdhry
had one idea in mind—domination.

"This inspired me to come and take
the freshmen back to school," Chowdhry said.

Another returning student saw
the event in a more simple way: Anna
Hyltmans, landscape architecture
 sophomore and tug-of-war competitor,
saw the event as a good way to
better relationships with fellow students.

"This event is an endless basket
of curvy fries with an awesome sauce," Hyltmans said.
A county sheriff’s department watch commander said there were no reports of damage or injury.

SAN DIEGO — A lawsuit that could determine the outcome of the San Diego mayoral election is in the hands of a judge.

The lawsuit by the League of Women Voters of San Diego asks that all votes cast for a disputed write-in candidate be counted, including ballots on which voters failed to fill in the circle next to her name.

Mayor Dick Murphy declared victory after he finished with 2,205 more votes than Councilman Donna Frye, the San Diego County registrar of voters said Friday.

The lawsuit by the League of Women Voters contends that “thousands” of voters wrote Frye’s name but neglected to fill the optical-scan bubble. The registrar says state law prohibits such votes from being counted. But a judge could order the registrar to count write-in votes with no bubbles, which could tip the election in Frye’s favor.

BAKERSFIELD — The last free-flying California condor is back in the wild and recently fathered a chick.

The mature condor, known as Adult 9, or A9C, was captured for breeding 17 years ago and released in May 2002. Keepers of the 24-year-old bird track him from a transmitter on his wings. Since then he fathered a condor chick, born in April.

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STATE NEWS

YORBA LINDA — A small earthquake struck Orange County on Sunday, but there were no immediate reports of damage or injury, authorities said.

The magnitude-3.0 quake hit at 9:39 p.m. and was centered about two miles southeast of Yorba Linda and about five miles northeast of Orange, according to a preliminary report from the U.S. Geological Survey.

NATIONAL NEWS

HOUSTON — A private jet that was en route to Houston to pick up former President George H.W. Bush clipped a light pole and crashed Monday as it approached Hobby Airport in thick fog, killing all three people aboard.

The Gulfstream G-119A jet, coming into Houston, went down about 6:15 a.m. in an undeveloped area 1 1/2 miles south of the airport, officials said.

Bush was going to give a lecture for the Quayquay, Ecuador, Chamber of Commerce.

LAS VEGAS — With former Oakland Raiders player Cale Fort undoging psychiatric evaluation, a judge postponed arraignment Monday on charges that Ford shot at the home of entertainers Siegfried and Roy.

“His mental competence is an issue, we just don’t know the extent yet,” Assistant Clark County Public Defender Daren Richards said after Clark County Justice Court Judge James Biever reset Ford’s arraignment for Dec. 17.

Ford, 31, was not required to enter a plea to felony assault with a deadly weapon and other charges in the Sept. 21 shooting.

NEW YORK — The basketball players union is Monday is expected to appeal the suspensions of NBA players involved in a melee that broke out after Friday’s game between the Indiana Pacers and the Detroit Pistons. Overall, the NBA issued some of the harshest penalties in its history by banning nine players for more than 140 games.

The Pacers’ Ron Artest was suspended for the rest of the season, making it the strongest ever levied for a fight during a game.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran announced Monday it has suspended uranium enrichment, and the head of the United Nations nuclear watchdog agency said he believed all Iran’s enrichment activities have stopped, the central part of an agreement with Europe to end decades of hidden nuclear activities.

If the International Atomic Energy Agency rules that Iran is honoring its commitment to suspend enrichment, it will be a set-back to U.S. hopes of referring Iran to the U.N. Security Council.

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Gunmen on Monday assassinated a member of an influential Sunni clerics’ group that has called for a boycott of national elections, just a day after Iraqis announced the ballot- ing would be held Jan. 30 in spite of rising violence in Iraq.

Sheik Fadhi Mohamed Amin al-Faidhi, a member of the Association of Muslim Scholars, was shot by gunmen in northern Mosul.

KIEV, Ukraine — Thousands of demonstrators gathered downtown Kiev in freezing temperatures Monday night, denouncing Ukraine’s presidential runoff election as fraudulent and chanting the name of their reformist candidate who authorities said was trailing in the vote count.

Viktor Yushchenko stood beaming on a platform with campaign aides and flanked a “V” for victory sign — even though the Central Election Commission said earlier that with nearly all the votes counted, he was losing to Yushchenko-backed Prime Minister Viktor YAnnaukovych.

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E-mail us at: sleko@slbs.org

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IN OTHER NEWS

GLASGOW, Scotland — A British company said Sunday it was releasing a video game recreating the 1963 assassination of President Kennedy.

A spokesman for the president’s brother, Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., called the game “deplorable.”

The Glasgows-based firm Traffic said “JFK Reloaded” was an educational “dice-game” that would help dispise conspiracy theories about Kennedy’s death.

The game is set for release Monday, the 41st anniversary of the shooting in Dallas.

Traffic said the game challenged players to recreate the three shots fired at the president’s car by assassin Lee Harvey Oswald from the Texas School Book Depository.

Traffic’s managing director, Kirk Ewing, said the game — available as an Internet download for $9.99 — would “stimulate a younger generation of players to take an interest in this fascinating episode of American history.”

“We’ve created the game with the belief that Oswald was the only person that fired the shots on that day, although this recreation proves how immensely difficult his task was,” Ewing said.

In a statement, Traffic said it “determined to promote the title respectfully,” given the sensitivity of the subject.

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BRIEFS

Tuesday, November 23, 2004 3
Thanksgiving travel forecast to be back to pre-Sept. 11 level

Even with record-high gas prices, experts expect bumper travel this week to be the busiest since 2000

Brad Foss
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Consider these journeys: Dallas to San Diego, N.M.; Salt Lake City to Los Angeles, Fla., to Washington, D.C. — in a car. These are the kinds of road trips some Americans are gearing up for as Thanksgiving approaches.

Even with gasoline prices almost a third higher than a year ago, 38.6 million people, or 3 percent more than in 2003, are expected to hit the road for a turkey dinner before the week is up. Another 6.6 million are likely to travel by plane, train or bus, adding up to what will be the busiest Thanksgiving for the transportation sector since 2000, according to a telephone survey conducted for the American Automobile Association by the Travel Industry Association of America.

Thanksgiving is traditionally the peak travel period for the airline industry, but passenger traffic fell sharply after the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, accounting for the overall decline in holiday travel in 2001 and 2002. Auto traffic fell slightly in 2002 but, along with air traffic, has risen steadily since then.

Guillermo Font will drive his Lincoln LS 1,600 miles from Delray, Fla., near Daytona Beach, to the nation's capital and back, to spend the holiday with his daughter. "I like to drive," said Font, a 71-year-old architect, who likes to "soul around" with his GPS system while listening to Latin ballads and classical music on the road.

He figures on spending $300 round trip for gasoline (plus taxes), food and an overnight stay in Lamington, N.J.

Paula Sibley of Portland, Maine, said as long as there isn't a snowstorm, she looks forward to the annual three-hour pilgrimage north to her parents' home in Ellsworth. The 53-year-old Justice Department lawyer said she finds comfort in the ritual.

"There's usually very little traffic," said Sibley. "I take my mug of tea and a bottle of water. It's a very Zen thing going home for Thanksgiving." Fill up quickly and predilect screening lines are likely to be longer than usual, industry officials said. The steep drop-off in air travel that followed the 2001 terror attack has gradually been reversed and AAA says this will be the first year since then that total Thanksgiving traffic — estimated to be 37.2 million Americans — will exceed the level of 36.8 million set in 2000. The heaviest Thanksgiving traffic — 41.6 million Americans — occurred in 1995, according to AAA, the Orlando-based travel agency.

The Transportation Security Administration, which oversees passenger screening, has set up a Web site that gives estimated wait times for every airport, http://www.tsa.gov/index.html.

Spokesman Greg Martin said the nation's aviation system, which has seen a 52 percent spike in delays this year because of bad weather and rising demand, should operate more efficiently than it did a year ago. That's because some of the largest airlines, including American Airlines, UAL Corp.'s United Airlines and Delta Air Lines Inc. have "de-peaked" their schedules, or smoothed out the flow of traffic more evenly throughout the day, particularly in busy cities such as Chicago, Dallas and Atlanta.

That said, American, the nation's largest carrier, is advising travelers to get to the airport more than 90 minutes before flight time due to the unexpected long waits at security checkpoints and check-in. For those riding the train, Amtrak is warning that ridership the day before Thanksgiving will be 60 percent higher than a typical Wednesday and that passengers should expect trains to be crowded. It's not uncommon for Amtrak passengers on the busiest, unreserved trains between Boston and Washington to stand in the aisles.

The cost of diesel fuel is sharply higher — averaging nearly $2.10 per gallon in the Midwest, compared with $1.47 a year earlier.

For the tens of millions of people planning to drive, travel will be more expensive this year. Gasoline prices are up more than 30 percent from a year ago, at $1.97 per gallon nationwide. Gasoline prices are up more than 30 percent from a year ago at $1.97 per gallon nationwide, according to Energy Department statistics. Conversely, the cost of air travel remains cheap even as demand pick up and air carriers fill their seats.

Thanks to intense industry-wide competition stirred up by budget carriers such as Southwest Airlines Co. and JetBlue Airways Corp., leisure fares are 19 percent below year ago levels on average, according to Harrell Associates.
Cold War relic, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, gets facelift

PRAGUE, Czech Republic (AP) — Ronald Reagan used it to reach out to the Soviets during the Cold War. Lech Walesa, the leader of Poland's Solidarity movement, likened it to the sun lighting the Earth. Rock band R.E.M. immortalized it in a cynical hit song.

Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty is trying to woo new listeners in Russia with a controversial overhaul that former dissidents say may compromise its reputation and influence as a beacon of democracy.

"We're becoming just another bunch of blah-blah-blah on the air," Lev Roitman, a senior commentator for the private U.S.-funded station, said Thursday. "They must be idiots to do something like this at this critical time in Russia." Officials at RFE/RL's football field-size newsroom, housed in Prague's communist-era parliament building, an imposing edifice of black granite circled by heavy concrete barricades and machine gun-toting guards, say they simply want to modernize the programming and expand its reach.

The station's primary target is urban, employed, university-educated Russians aged 35 and up. Key changes include more call-in shows, a Web site overhaul to appeal to the 18-plus crowd and a shift from longer evening programs on human rights. "It's about our survival, not our mission," he said. "Listeners in Moscow tell us our programming sounds like a dissident radio. We're just revamping. We want to be a local radio with a global perspective."

The broadcaster, which gets $75 million a year from Congress, has moved key positions to Moscow and now broadcasts 70 percent of its material from the Russian capital. Critics say that pretends to disguise a radio funded by the U.S. Congress and based in the Czech Republic as a local Russian radio.

"If anything similar to the current plans of the RFE/RL management would have been suggested in Soviet times, there would have been no doubt as to the source of inspiration: the KGB," Elena Bonner, the widow of Nobel Peace Prize laureate Andrei Sakharov, wrote earlier this month in an open letter to Western media. "Can anyone think of a more Cold War-type operation than one that pretends to disguise a radio funded by the U.S. Congress and based in the Czech Republic as a local Russian radio?"

The station also airs broadcasts in Iran, Iraq and Afghanistan.
‘American Dream’ a reality for three graduating seniors

‘American Dream’ is the collective work of three senior projects. The play opens Dec. 2 in the Black Box Theater in the music building.

Douglas Dayton

Three theater seniors are realizing the “American Dream” as their senior projects reach completion with the opening of a play Dec. 2 on campus.

Director Evan Pohl, set designer Lindsey Kronmiller and costume designer Michelle Cannon joined forces to bring Edward Albee’s 1960s black comedy, “The American Dream,” to life.

“Working on this production was a great way to knock out three senior projects in one semester,” Kronmiller said.

In January, Pohl noticed a trend in American pop culture (from watching reality shows) like “Who Wants to Marry a Millionaire?” and “The Bachelor.” He noted Americans are looking for the perfect house, perfect spouse and a perfect life that includes an enormous amount of money.

Americans are searching for these ideals to create the “American Dream.”

As he began thinking about his senior project, Pohl re-read Albee’s play and noticed it strangely paralleled the phenomenon in today’s culture, even though it was written in 1963.

“The American Dream” is a farce of American reality, a black comedy, reflecting the society and culture of the nation.

“I chose this play to show people that the popular ideal of the ‘American Dream’ is picking up more steam and coming back in another way,” he said. “I wanted to bring it up again to make a comment on society and hopefully make an impact on the audience.”

Pohl is a theatre arts major with an emphasis in film. He has worked on more than 15 short films in the past three years and directed his first play last spring.

After he graduates in December, Pohl plans to move to Los Angeles to work for “Entertainment Tonight” before starting graduate school in the following fall. In the future, he hopes to direct major Hollywood films.

“Stage directing is not what I plan on doing after I graduate, but a senior project is supposed to be challenging,” Pohl said. “It’s been an extremely long process.”

After Pohl decided to direct a play for his senior project, his adviser recommended he collaborate with Kronmiller and Cannon, who were also looking for senior project ideas. They read the play and agreed to contribute their talents to the production.

“The first couple times I read the play I liked it, but you have to look deeper,” Kronmiller said. “It’s an absurd, dark, black comedy, but at the same time is truthful about American culture.”

Kronmiller went to an arts magnet high school in North Carolina where she helped with seven productions in one year. Her emphasis has been set design, but after college Kronmiller wants to apply her knowledge to event planning and design.

“I’m taking what I’ve learned in greater and am going to apply it to event planning and design,” she said. “If you have a passion for something at a certain level, you can always learn more. I feel like I’m having a different college experience since I get to learn about something I love, but the end result isn’t always a lot of money.

Unlike Kronmiller, Cannon plans to stay in theater after he graduates in June. She plans to continue acting, dancing and costing for theater productions and possibly attend graduate school. Cannon jumped at the idea of collaborating with Pohl and Kronmiller on the “American Dream” since it would be a great opportunity to have her costumes seen.

Since “The American Dream” is set in the 1950s, Cannon researched the decade to figure out what the characters would wear. She used cultural icons like Marilyn Monroe for inspiration in building two original costumes, and gathered the rest from thrift shopping to match the look of the show.

“The nice thing with theater is you can play with things a little bit,” Cannon said. “I’m looking forward to seeing the final show to make sure everything I had in mind actually works.”

“The American Dream” features a cast of five Caucasian actors that Pohl feels reflects the lack of diversity in society and more specifically Cal Poly. He expects this production will create dialogue and controversy since it addresses the question, “Are we getting what we really want, or just what we think we want?”

“The American Dream” runs Dec. 2, 3 and 4 at 8 p.m. in the H.H. Davidson Music Building 43, room 212, known as the “Black Box.” Ticket reservations can be made by calling 901-4361.

“They talk about a senior project being the capstone of the college experience, and that’s what it has been,” Kronmiller said. “It’s been a lot of work but there’s a point where you have to stop and say ‘this is what we’ve created.’”

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The Power of Blue®
Muslims’ challenges increase in post-9/11 world

Muslims throughout America, including San Luis Obispo, face prejudice which has led them to feel closer to one another

Erica Dumdum
OCTOBER 19

After Sept. 11, 2001, Americans feared for their lives, loved ones and the future of America, but one group in particular suffered the brunt of the attacks’ backlash: America’s Muslim community.

Talk of Islam and the ways of the Muslim faith were splashed all over the front pages of newspapers and magazines in the months following the attacks, usually linked to terrorism and the hijackers.

In these critical months, many feel the media created a mass misrepresentation of Islam, one that snowballed into bigotry and hatred in some Americans’ minds.

“The media display things in a way where people think the war on terror is a war on Islam. The media has such an influence they could have used it to display the truth,” said Farhan Dani, Vice President of Cal Poly’s Muslim Student Association and electrical engineering sophomore.

Nasirah Kalkolah, biology junior and former president of Cal Poly’s MSA agrees.

“Ninety percent of the information the media give about Islam is incorrect,” she said. “Everything you hear about Islam is in supposed relation to terror, but ‘Islam’ as a word means ‘peace.’” Islam says that if you kill one person unjustly, you kill all of humanity. If you look at that and what the media say, they’re completely opposite.”

MSA’s president and electrical engineering junior Hashir Boqai feels Muslims are being stereotyped as terrorists.

“Granted, a lot of the terrorists were Muslim,” he said. “But the problem is the media focuses on their religion, so people associate (the terrorism) with the whole religion.”

“The KKK are a group of Christians doing something bad,” Boqai said. “Now, I don’t know much about Christianity, but I could associate it with the bad things the KKK do, but I don’t.”

Many feel this misrepresentation of Islam allowed bigotry to spread, resulting in numerous hate crimes across the country. Mosques have been burned, people’s houses have been vandalized and Muslims have been brutally attacked.

The acts have grown less frequent since Sept. 11, but nonetheless, they are still there. Just last year someone broke the window of the mosque on Santa Rosa Street.

Kalkolah said her sister had a knife thrown at her while she was in a Laundromat but came out unhurt.

Despite attacks like these — or even perhaps because of attacks like these — studies have shown that the Muslim community has grown more united since the Sept. 11 attacks. In fact, there was an increase in the amount of people converting to Islam after Sept. 11, more so than ever before.

“More people because Muslims just because they were interested,” said Kalkolah.

The MSA holds several events to keep people interested in the religion and to try to give people a deeper understanding of it.

Earlier this month, MSA hosted their first “Fast-a-thon,” in honor of the month of Ramadan. They invited Cal Poly students to fast from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m., ending the day with a feast at Chumash Auditorium. For each person who signed up, Calbyme Laboratories donated $5 to the San Luis Food Bank to help feed the hungry. A total of $400 was raised.

“It’s humbling towards the end of the day [of fasting] when we realize how dependent we are on our provisions,” Boqai said during the fast.

He said the point of the fast is to experience what it’s like for other people without food and to discover humility and insight.

“The media display things in a way that was hidden by the founding family searching for a great treasure directed by Jon Turteltaub whose "Kangaroo Jack." Clearly, all the major movie was a role in "Gigli."

Brown’s "The Da Vinci Code" by Ian Howe, who also wants the treasure, is a Laundromat but came out unhurt.

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He said the point of the fast is to experience what it’s like for other people without food and to discover humility and insight.

"Today’s hunger was an ache in your side,” he told the Fast-a-thon participants. “Real hunger is an insecurity — not knowing where or when your next meal will be.”

The event sparked a large turnout from Muslims and non-Muslims alike.

“We got a pretty good response,” Dani said. “More than we expected.”

He said larger campuses have held the same event and get a little over 100 volunteers. Cal Poly had over 80 participate, which he said was “a good size for our campus.”

Nutrition freshman Hannah Espedal said she decided to fast because she likes getting involved in interesting things.

“It was really hard (to fast) because I couldn’t even drink water,” she said. “I mainly wanted to do it because I knew it was a charitable event for the homeless.”

Next quarter MSA will continue to host events to create a better understanding of the religion, such as "Islamic Awareness Week.”

Dani said a lot of events the club hosts are specifically for non-Muslims.

“The MSA is trying to clear up any misconceptions,” said Boqai.

It definitely a dividing barrier — people feel like Islam is a distant religion over there.”

ARTS & CULTURE
Tuesday, November 23, 2004 7

TOM HANADA
THE STANFORD DAILY

The pieces are in place. The credits of the people who created “National Treasure” are just amazing. It stars Nicholas Cage. It’s directed by Jon Turteltaub whose fame comes from “Cool Runnings.” The writers collectively turned out works such as “Taxi” and “Charlie’s Angels: Full Throttle.” The male supporting character’s (Justin Bartha) last major move was a role in “Gigli.” And the producer (Jerry Bruckheimer) also produced “Rangone Jack.” Clearly, all the elements have combined to create what will surely be great cinema.

Cage plays a historian from a family searching for a great treasure that hides in the founding fathers of the United States within historical monuments and artifacts. He is joined by Riley Poole (Bartha), the sarcastic comedic relief who (luckily for the audience) doesn’t have much history and forces Cage to explain the entire plot to him. Their search leads them to the Declaration of Independence where, while steal­ ing it, they run into the attractive curator of the National Archives. During the entire hunt, they are pursued by Sean Bean’s character, Ian Howe, who also wants the trea­ ture.

Bruckheimer has attempted to capitalize on the success of Dan Brown’s “The Da Vinci Code” by creating a story where historians find hidden clues among well­ known artifacts. The conceptual thievry is blatant enough to even include the Knights Templar as the ancient creators of the clues and puzzles. But while “The Da Vinci Code” shocks the reader by revealing actual annotated secrets (I immediately had to look at copies of “The Last Supper” after read­ ing), “National Treasure” just decides to make up its own myths surrounding national artifacts. Don’t expect any revelations from this movie.

But one thing book and movie have in common is bad writing. The characters are weak with little personality or depth, the plot is predictable and the whole movie lacks any believability.

Despite these major script flaws, Bruckheimer has once again created a stereotypical Hollywood movie that the audience can enjoy if they completely suspend their disbelief. The action line of the movie has a little bit of everything. It starts with an explosion that quickly leads into a heist. The best lasts for all of 20 minutes before being replaced by a car “chase” which gives way to treasure hunt­ ing. This transitions into a pursuit and some cops against robbers action. It finally reaches the Indiana Jones stage before ending with some poor character revela­ tion.

With so many different types of action movies slammed together, it’s no surprise sequence stands out. Yet, the action, in traditional Bruckheimer style, ties the movie together and makes the entire experience forgettable but enjoy­ able. So turn off your logical mind, stop caring about characters and walk in with low expectations. Enjoy a contrived, forgettable but exciting action movie.

Nicholas Cage can chalk up "National Treasure" as another uninspiring film along the lines of "Con Air." However, audiences didn’t agree. The film debuted at number one, grossing more than $35 million last weekend.

"National Treasure" is a national disaster.

NATIONAL TREASURE
12/4/04

MATT WECHTER
MISSION DAILY

Cal Poly Muslim Student Association president, Hasir Boqai, prays towards Mecca after sunset but before Iftar at a local mosque on Santa Rosa Street. Many Muslims have fallen victim to racial discrimination.

"Now, I don’t know religion, so people associate (the terror­ ism) with the whole religion.”

He is joined by Riley Poole (Bartha), the sarcastic comedic relief who (luckily for the audience) doesn’t have much history and forces Cage to explain the entire plot to him. Their search leads them to the Declaration of Independence where, while steal­ ing it, they run into the attractive curator of the National Archives. During the entire hunt, they are pursued by Sean Bean’s character, Ian Howe, who also wants the trea­ ture.

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Nervous mishaps happen to us all

Dear Kristin,

This is going to sound really stupid, but I am literally the clumsiest person alive when I get nervous. Most of the time I don’t care, but it’s starting to really affect me. Last week I was in the library and fell down the stairs right after I saw this guy I like. Another time I had to give a presentation, and I blanked for a good minute. It was awful. The list goes on and on. I know these aren’t panic attacks or anything, but what should I do?

Dearest Lauren,

So you’re the girl who fell down the stairs last week ... kidding, kidding. I’m sure no one remembers.

Well, this is what I think. You are stressing yourself too much over little things. What’s probably happening to you is that you become completely overwhelmed and you lose your bearings. Does everything get a little fuzzy? Or are you just having a panic attack? Does everything get a little blurry, and can they deep in the same bed, change their names and share incomes and shared belong­ings. Heck, they can sleep in the same bed, change their names and buy each other rings if they want. I don’t necessarily think this is “right,” but that doesn’t mean I would ever try to stop it from hap­pening.

However, calling this marriage would be an error. Where do we get the definition of marriage? It’s not from the U.S. government. It’s not from Webster’s dictionary. It is from one of the oldest pieces of literature ever: the book of Genesis. You do not have to be reli­gious to realize the original defin­i­tion of marriage is the union between a man and a woman. If you were to be a partner and be together “til death do you part,” that’s great. Go for it, but call it what it is.

If for the first week of every month I got upset and irritable for no reason at all, I would never call it PMS. It may be very similar, it may happen every single month, but if it were just “PMS” I cannot have PMS. I am a male. It cannot be similarly. A man just cannot be another man’s husband.

Travis Thompson
General engineering union

One’s morality is not based on one’s belief in God.

In response to Tony Casparro on Nov. 14, your appraisal of morality was spoken like a man of Christian. Though, at least in part, it was incorrect.

I never thought, that as an engi­neering student, I would ever get the chance to use much of any­ingthing I have learned in my culture of Japan class. Yet, here I am quoting the facts.

Japan, a country of about 125 million people, has two religions that are practiced by nearly the entire country, in conjunction. The two religions, Shinto and Buddhism, do not believe in God, nor a single god in the sense that we think of God. Still, Japan has, per capita, a fraction of the murder, armed robberies and theft compared to this Bryan Craseford, you want a fish with legs? How about a fish that walks? The Snakehead, an Asian fish that found its way to the states, is also known as the “walking fish.” It can consume a pondful of fish and limp on very strong pectoral fins to another pond. It can also breathe air and stay for days on land if it stays wet. How’s that for evolution?

Elizabeth Gillingham
Animal science senior

Scientific theory outweighs childish, weak arguments

David Thornhill, I know how you use the universality of cause and effect to conclude that there must be a god, and then make your god exempt from cause and effect. It’s cute. It’s also a really, really weak argument.

You remind me of a first grader defending his imaginary friend. You’re flapping your arms trying to justify your already set beliefs. No one’s the big bang? God? No cause for god! No problem! Oh hey! Well, you exist outside of time, so there? Makes for great banter if you’re 6. Kids’ childhood past that, though. Religion has a place, but don’t let it blind you to the world around you, and don’t let it cloud your judgment when it comes to solid, scientific theory.

Assaf Kremer
Comfort engineering junior

Displays aims to hurt every minority group on campus

As a political science pre-law student, I am all for First Amendment rights, even if those rights happen to lead to messages that are offensive.

However, I also believe in mov­ing forward. After seeing the dis­play on Decker Lawn, “Know Your Role,” I began feeling that people are now just hurt to every minority group at Cal Poly.

The message appears to state that women should only be moth­ers, housewives or strippers. This is obviously a message that moves women backwards.

I enjoy my friends as a woman and as an individual. I don’t appreciate someone telling me that I don’t have a place in col­lege, and that I am only worth derogatory ways to spread their message.

Lastly, the displays have already spread their message toward homosexuals and new females.

What is next? Minorities and Jews? How about a message that we will never see at this campus.

Brittany Rollins
Political science senior

 production manager Allison Jants
 production assistant Eric Bautisto
 advertising manager Carrie McCourtney
 assistant ad manager Stephanie Carter
 classified ad manager Christ Thompson
 national ad manager Andrea Bintick
 ad designers Jacob Zuckerman, Christina Gray, Tiffany Mine
 advertising representatives Daryl Wiser, Steve Deol, Liz Sotenos, McNamar, Taiga Young, Allison Finger, Matt Gonzalez, Dan Curdo,
 Lucy Bouwerwars facult" adviser George Ramos
 business manager Paul Binbeck
Deer hunter kills five, wounds three in dispute over hunting spot in Wisconsin

Police identified the shooter as Chai Vang, 36, a hunter from St. Paul, Minn., who is a member of the Twin Cities Hmong community. While authorities do not know why he allegedly opened fire, there have been previous clashes between Southeast Asian and white hunters in the region.

Locals have complained that the Hmong, refugees from Laos, do not understand the concept of private property and hunting wherever they see fit. In Minnesota, a firefight once broke out after Hmong hunters crossed onto private land, said Bob Her, director of the St. Paul-based Council on Asian Pacific Minnesotans.

The five killed and three wounded were part of a group of 14 or so who made their opening-weekend trip to Robert Croner's 400-acre hunting ranch in the Chippewa National Forest.

The visit was like any other until noon Sunday. When two or three hunters spotted a man in their hunting platform in a tree on Croner's land, they raced back to the rest of the party at a cabin near by and asked who had shot.

"The answer was nobody should be in the deer stand," Sheriff James Meier said.

One of the men approached the intruder and asked him to leave, as the remaining hunters ran off. The man in the tree also closed the cabin's door and headed for the woods.

"This is an incredible tragedy, one in which a great family tradition like a deer hunt has turned into such a great loss," said Jim Doyle, governor of Wisconsin.

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PETA campaign pitches fish as intelligent and sensitive

Have You Ever Looked at the Sky and Longed for the Freedom of Flight?

That Freedom is Available Now at PETA, LLC, San Luis Obispo's Largest and Most Complete Flight School and Aircraft Rental Facility. Make the Call Today to Take the First Step Toward the Sky.

STANFORD (AP) — A Stanford University senior was one of 32 American college students selected as Rhodes Scholars for 2005, the scholarship trust announced on Tuesday.

The scholars, chosen from 904 applicants endorsed by 341 colleges and universities, will attend Oxford University in England next October. The scholarships fund two or three years of study.

Sarah B. Schulman, 20, a human biology and education policy major from Austin, Texas, became interested in public health began in the fourth year, when she was horrified by an anti-smoking TV commercial that showed a blackened lung.

"It's just an amazing honor," she said of being selected as a Rhodes Scholar.

The Rhodes Scholarships were created in 1902 by the will of British philanthropist and businessman Cecil Rhodes. Winners are selected on the basis of high academic achievement, personal integrity, leadership potential and physical prowess.

Past Rhodes Scholars include former President Bill Clinton, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stephen G. Breyer, first lady Michelle Obama, and James William Fulbright, chairman of the Fulbright Scholarships.
Mission top 10: Accomplished

The Mustang cross country runners stuck together as they’ve done all season, and it worked again. Hoping for a top 10 finish, Cal Poly placed in top four runners within three seconds of one another as the team finished 10th in the nation at the NCAA Nationals in Terre Haute, Ind.

Colorado won the 10,000 meter race with two runners in the top five and five scoring members in the top-35. Cal Poly’s 10th place finish is the best in school history at the Division 1 level and is an improvement of three spots from last year’s 13th place finish.

Cal Poly entered the nationals ranked ninth in the nation. The Mustangs finished with 333 points with five Cal Poly scoring runners finishing within one minute of each other.

Junior Brandon Collins led the Mustangs for the second year in a row at the nationals. Collins led the team with a 58th place finish and a time of 32:28. Cal Poly’s 10th place finish is the best in Mustang history.

Andy Coughlin and Jeff Porto rounded out the scoring members for Cal Poly in 66th and 84th place. The two finished with times of 32:29 and 32:44, respectively. Ryan Moorcroft and Luke Llamas also competed for the Mustangs and finished with times of 33:22 and 34:09.

Wisconsin entered the race as the top-ranked team and finished second with 65th with a time of 32:28. Cal Poly’s 10th place finish is the best in Mustang history.

Navigating 10 Tuesdiy, November 23, 2004

SPOR T S

Women’s basketball storms back to win

What a way to open the season. Storming back from a 13-point deficit, Cal Poly women’s basketball made up the difference and more to defeat Navy 72-65 in its regular season opener in Mott Gym.

For the Mustangs, it was the bench play that had the biggest effect. Off the bench, sophomore guard Jessica Eggleson scored 11 points to complement Kay Patrick’s 10 points.

The win evened the series with the Midshipmen at 1-1. Two years ago, Navy posted a four-point victory in Maryland.

The game was largely one of scoring spurts. Cal Poly took an early 5-2 lead before Navy went on a 13-0 run and led by as many as 13 points in the first half. But the Mustangs nearly made up the deficit before halftime putting together a 12-0 run of their own.

The run was capped by a pair of five throws from Jennifer Doyley. The Mustangs trailed 23-22 at the time and Navy took a 33-30 lead into halftime.

Navy opened up a 42-34 lead early in the second half, but Cal Poly outscored the Midshipmen 23-4 over the next 8:1/2 minutes and built a 59-46 advantage with 8:37 to play in the game.

Cal Poly made 40.3 percent of its floor shots.

Cal Poly’s top five runners finished within one minute of each other and totaled 333 points for 10th place.

Undefeated field hockey wins championship over UCSB

When the whistle blew to signal the end of the game, the women of the Cal Poly field hockey team cheered and ran onto the field to celebrate. It was finally a champion.

Winning 4-0 over UC Santa Barbara, the team won the field hockey championship and finished the season undefeated for an overall record of 15-0-2.

Navy had a 13-0 run, but Cal Poly countered with its own 12-0-spurt. Undefeated field hockey wins championship over UCSB

In the first round and later defeated Santa Barbara in the championship to finish 15-0-2

Ji Jun

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"Hard work pays off in the end," coach Todd Robinson said. "They were excited and ready to play. They knew they would win it."

After dominating teams all season, Cal Poly found itself mostly on the defensive side of the ball against UCSB.

But the unrelenting offense made quick work of UCSB defense.

Over the course of the season, Cal Poly has scored a total of 43 goals with only two goals scored against them.

After the game, and a quick team meeting, the women gathered to take team pictures — a fitting end to a winning season based on team unity and friendship.

"We’re going to miss our team," said social science senior April Matthews. "We worked together. We feel great."

To prepare for the final two games, the team focused on its weaknesses and took some time off to rest its bodies.

"We’re focused on passing. We’ve been taking it easy. Even our coaches cooked dinner for us," biology senior Karin Milburn said.

The team’s preparation paid off against Chico in the first round. UC Santa Barbara in the championship. And in the second round, UC Santa Barbara in the championship. And in the second round, Chico beat UC Davis to battle Cal Poly for the California Championship.

"The Santa Barbara game we were pumped for," Milburn said. "There was no doubt."

Robinson described what the team would receive in place of a trophy.

see Field Hockey, page 11
Field Hockey
continued from page 10
"We get glory," Robinson said. The team also made a strong case for creating an official university team that can compete at the Division I level. "Next year, we're going to try to get organized and get a more definite league," assistant coach Nick Kreisheitz said. As for the seniors, some will continue playing the sport they love. Others like Milburn are satisfied with the experience they've had. "I don't know if I will keep playing. There's no team better than our team," Milburn said.

Notes
continued from page 10
and title ever from Colorado for both the men and women from Colorado. The top overall men's finisher was Simon Barua of Wisconsin with a time of 30:38. Wisconsin finished second as a team, with Arkansas in third. Butler in fourth and Brigham Young in fifth. Cal Poly's rival, Stanford, finished in sixth place while Notre Dame, who was ranked fifth going into the championships, finished 11th behind Cal Poly.

Football's rise is bittersweet
Cal Poly's football team jumped to 16th and 17th in the final polls of the 2004 Division I-AA football season. The Mustangs were ranked 18th last week, but since the team was denied a playoff bid the jump in the polls is bittersweet.

Do Turkey Day the right way.
Punk princess over pop diva.

You know your style. Find it at University House.

No matter what your style is, you'll find an apartment that's right for you at University House. We offer a wide variety of floorplans and amenities that fit every lifestyle. Hurry in today and get a free membership to Napster's online music community when you sign a lease. You'll also be entered in a drawing to win a 42" Plasma TV - so don't miss out!