Cal Poly team has radical approach to land spacecraft

As an alternative to the methods currently used by NASA, the team plans to use bungee cords to safely land spacecraft

Crystal Phend
MUSTANG DAILY

The Mars landing of the Spirit and Opportunity rover missions used downwarded rocket blasts, parachutes and balloons structures around the crafts to allow the spacecraft to land safely,

Physics professor Sidd Benzaia said the design is simple compared to some of those currently used.

"You don't have to have these complex systems to land a spacecraft," he said.

WOW seeks fresh faces

Crystal Phend
MUSTANG DAILY

WOW hunters prowled campus Saturday and Tuesday filming a video to capture 600 leaders for its fall Week of Welcome freshmen orientation events.

The short film is the style of Animal Planet's "Cryotile Hunter," said Jason Mockford, graphic communication senior and member of the WOW board.

"I hope that students will participate because it's a good way to make new friends, and see the campus," said Adam Lopez, senior and member of the WOW team.

The Mars landing of the Spirit and Opportunity rover missions used downwarded rocket blasts, parachutes and balloons structures around the crafts to allow the spacecraft to land safely.

Physics professor Sidd Benzaia said the design is simple compared to some of those currently used.

"You don't have to have these complex systems to land a spacecraft," he said.

SPRING BREAK!

Can't afford a trip to Jamaica? Go on vacation California style

IN ARTS&CULTURE, 9

Thursday, March 10, 2005

in Division I

in Sports, 16

Cal Poly's athletic director is one of 19 women in

Cal Poly's continuing education will offer "The Sport and Science of Fly Fishing" spring quarter.

Fly fishing with a presidential mentor

Neil Taylor taught Dwight D. Eisenhower, Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan the art of fly fishing

Allison Terry
MUSTANG DAILY

Cal Poly students have the opportunity to learn the sport of fly fishing from a man who taught casting techniques to three former presidents.

Central Coast naturalist Neil Taylor will teach the course "The Sport and Science of Fly Fishing" spring quarter through Cal Poly's Continuing Education.

The class is designed to teach people how to be more productive on the stream, Taylor said.

He will teach casting skills as well as habitat and habits of fish, insects and their imitators; lines, leaders and knots; how to fish a dry fly, wet fly and nymph; tackle selection and care and fighting, landing and releasing fish.

"Students will learn how to enjoy and develop a sport that will last the rest of their lives," he said.

Teaching fly fishing is Taylor's way to give back to the sport that gave him so much.

"Fly fishing is an extremely important thing to share because the sport has been so good to me," he said.

Taylor taught three presidents how to cast a fly-fishing rod. He won a national casting title, which earned him recognition as a fisherman and the attention of former President Dwight D. Eisenhower, Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan.

They were in office, each former president is a fly fisherman,

"We have the largest orientation program in the nation," said Jason Mockford, graphic communication senior and member of the WOW board.

"There's no question that students will participate because it's a good way to make new friends, and see the campus," said Adam Lopez, senior and member of the WOW team.

"With a rocket attached to the spacecraft by a bungee cord. The rocket would be timed to launch upward when the craft reaches a specified altitude.

WOW team trainers from left to right: Lisa Abersch, Jimmy Chew and Nicole Goliti.

IT'S THE LARGEST ORIENTATION PROGRAM IN THE NATION"

SPRING QUARTER

Spring will bring electronic progress reports

Next quarter, for the first time, Cal Poly students will receive e-mails that contain the same information as graduation evaluations

Crystal Phend
MUSTANG DAILY

While computer engineering senior Adam Rofer has had to make his own spreadsheets to track completed classes on his way to graduation, his sophomore roommate has been receiving them by e-mail each quarter.

Next quarter for the first time, students in every college at Cal Poly will be able to receive electronic Poly Progress reports, although few actually will because of software limitations.

The records and evaluations office now sends almost 4,700 reports to mostly freshmen and sophomores, but that falls far short of the approximately 17,000 students at Cal Poly.

Students with complicated transcripts, like Rofer, may have to be content with a single traditional graduation evaluation.

"I've found that I pretty much have to go to the engineering advising see Reports, page 2
Fishing

continued from page 1

developed Taylor to teach them the techniques of casting. "I was scared to death of the first instance," said "But this time 15 minutes of meeting President Eisenhow.1, I felt like I knew him much more," Taylor told Eisenhower on three fishing trips in Colorado.

"I steered him like and called him Neal," he said. Originally Taylor to fish with him in Wyoming National Park, and Reagan invited Taylor to his Colorado home.

"I said that flying fishing is more than just catching fish, it can be an art or even a science. Observations is key to fishing, looking close at the surrounding environment and where to find fish.

"Women make great fly fishers because they are great finesse," he said. "They don't try to overpower the technique." Taylor said he is excited to teach this course at Cal Poly because he enjoys sharing his enthusiasm for a sport that he loves.

"It's a sport that you will want to share with other people," Taylor said. "It's a wonderful sport if you take the time and give it time to develop. That's what this class is all about." Fly fishing is a sport that can never be completely perfected, Taylor said.

"It is a continual process at every stream," he said. "And it's one you will never learn all of because you have to be curious to see what's around the bend of the next stream." Every fishing spot is a challenge and unique surrounding, Taylor said. He has no particular favorite place to go fishing, but a few of his favorites include Yellowstone, Owens River Valley in central California and the Platte River in Colorado.

"All these places present a different view," he said. Prior to teaching the class, Taylor will travel to New Zealand to go fly fishing.

"Fishing in New Zealand is like stepping back into the United States during the 1950s, similar to parts of fishing trips in Colorado.

"Last week, Benzahra contacted NASA to get funding for further development of the idea. He said Lawrence Lenske at NASA Ames Research Center "was very excited" about the bungee project.

"One reason might be that the system can work even on a planet without an atmosphere. Mars, for example, has little gas trapped on the surface. A parachute used for landing, therefore, has to be much larger than on Earth. The rocket-bungee system uses the same kind of propulsion employed in space, which does not rely on the presence of atmosphere. However, much work still needs to be done before the Rocket Bungee Booster makes it onto a spacecraft, team member and electronic engineering freshman Mark Pacubas said. "Right now we're building the triggering circuit for timing," Pacubas said.

In the last six months, Benzahra began working with eight students to develop the concept. Each Saturday they test small rockets with sandbags that represented the spacecraft. Last week, Benzahra contacted NASA to get funding for further development of the idea. He said Lawrence Lenske at NASA Ames Research Center "was very excited" about the bungee project.

"One reason might be that the system can work even on a planet without an atmosphere. Mars, for example, has little gas trapped on the surface. A parachute used for landing, therefore, has to be much larger than on Earth. The rocket-bungee system uses the same kind of propulsion employed in space, which does not rely on the presence of atmosphere. However, much work still needs to be done before the Rocket Bungee Booster makes it onto a spacecraft, team member and electronic engineering freshman Mark Pacubas said. "Right now we're building the triggering circuit for timing," Pacubas said.
IN OTHER NEWS

BENTONVILLE, Ark. — Prosecutors hoping for a witness in a murder case in a roll-over were barking up the wrong tree.

They sent out a batch of subpoenas for anyone who had contact with Albert K. Smith while he was jailed awaiting his murder trial. One of those subpoenas went out to 5-year-old Murphy Smith — Smith's dog, it turned out.

The defendant had written his dog a letter from his cell, and that is how the shih tzu's name got on the witness list.

Prosecutors realized the mistake on Tuesday after the defendant's brother brought Murphy to answer the subpoena and a guard would not let them into the courthouse because no dogs were allowed. Prosecutor Robin Green said she apologized to the brother for any inconvenience, and added: "The dog was friendly enough and probably would have been a very cooperative witness."

SINGAPORE — Singapore's zoo is celebrating the birth of a red giant flying squirrel, believed to be the first born in captivity in Asia. Last year, the baby's mother and other members of the mysterious species were saved from being eaten in a restaurant in China.

Flying squirrels, a species belonging to the rodent family, are a culinary delicacy in some parts of Asia.

— Associated Press

IN INTERNATIONAL NEWS

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Iraqi authorities found 41 decomposed bodies — some bullet-riddled, others beheaded — at sites near the Syrian border, and said Wednesday that insurgents thought their families who may have been killed because they included women and children could be used to kill termites.

At least four people, including one of his supporters, were killed in an attempt to blow up a hotel used by Western contractors. At least four people, including the attackers and a guard, were killed.

BEIRUT, Lebanon — Lebanese allies of Syria moved Wednesday to reinstate the prime minister, who recently was forced out by anti-Damascus protests.

Beirut, a suicide bomber driving a garbage truck loaded with explosives and at least one other gunman shot their way into a parking lot in an attempt to blow up a hotel used by Western contractors. At least four people, including the attackers and a guard, were killed.

BELFAST, Northern Ireland — In its bleakest criticism yet of the Irish Republican Army, the Bush administration told the IRA it should disband following the defeat of its offer to shoot four men — including two recently expelled members — responsible for killing a Catholic civilian. Wednesday's call from the U.S. envoy to Northern Ireland, Mitchell Kees, came a week ahead of St. Patrick's Day when, for the first time in a decade, leaders of the IRA's Sinn Fein party won't be guests of the White House.

— Associated Press

STATE NEWS

SAN DIEGO — Homicide detectives were investigating the death of a woman found screaming for help from inside a building that was being fumigated with toxic gas used to kill termites.

Linda Williams, 37, died Monday at a San Diego hospital where she was taken after being pulled from the building, the San Diego County Medical Examiner's Office said Wednesday.

The death was being investigated as a possible murder because a woman heard screaming for help from inside a building that was being fumigated with toxic gas used to kill termites.

— Associated Press

NATIONAL NEWS

WASHINGTON — The Senate marched Wednesday toward passage of landmark legislation that would make it harder to erase medical bills, credit card charges and other debts by declaring bankruptcy.

The Senate voted 95-3 Wednesday toward passage of landmark legislation that would make it harder to erase medical bills, credit card charges and other debts by declaring bankruptcy.

The bill's impact and restrictions on practices of the credit industry that were included in the legislation are 'misleading' because they are generally poor.

— Associated Press

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Study: Race gap persists at state colleges

Overcrowded schools and misconceptions about costs are among the greatest barriers to college for minorities

Melissa B. Taddei
THE CALIFORNIA AGE

1995 — California has the sixth-largest world economy, yet it is ranked 48th in the nation on per-pupil spending. While some students have flourished despite education shortfalls, the achievement gap between races and ethnicities remains wide open at the college level.

According to a study conducted by Deborah Reed of the Public Policy Institute of California, at every step of the process — eligibility, admission, enrollment and graduation — Latino and black students fare worse than Caucasian and Asian students in the University of California system.

While Latinos make up one-third of the state's high-school graduates, they comprise only 12 percent of UC graduates. Blacks represent 7 percent of high-school graduates and only 3 percent of UC graduates.

Fall 2004 data for University of California at Davis showed that of 23,171 undergraduates, there are 576 blacks and 2,417 Latinos enrolled, representing 2 and 10 percent of the student body, respectively.

Reed concluded from her research that educational equity initiatives are not enough to close the gap when black and Latino students face familial, socioeconomic and educational disadvantages.

Several family factors increase the likelihood of college attendance and success, including having a mother who has completed high school, having a mother who speaks English, and having a family income above the poverty line, according to the study.

"Among children in most racial and ethnic groups in California, over 90 percent have a mother who speaks English," Reed said. "But the share is substantially lower among Hispanic groups."

Many blacks and Latino students begin with additional family disadvantages. According to UCD assistant professor of sociology Eric Grodsky, African-American students are more likely to come from single-parent, poorer families. Grodsky said the perception of college costs also affects whether students and parents plan for college. He said black parents tend to make larger errors in their estimates of college costs, and the difference between races and ethnicities in these arenas if we don't address the problems that exist early on," Rojas said.

"Many are working extra jobs to keep the family afloat," he said. "They are absent parents but they have to sacrifice something. It is about survival."

In her study, Reed also cited the likelihood of attending low-achieving, overcrowded schools as a factor in college attainment. She said more than half of Latino students and 43 percent of black students attend schools that do poorly on state achievement tests, compared with 11 percent of Caucasian students.

To some extent, Reed's study is a confirmation of facts already known, as university representatives from across the state have expressed concern about the state of underrepresented students.

In early March, a meeting was held by the Chicano-Latino Interssegmental Convocation Organization to bring educators and students together from all over California. In a CLICO press release, Gonzalo Rojas, campus administrator at San Diego State University, said it is necessary to create an organization that focuses solely on the issues affecting the Latino student population of California.

"The five growth industries in California require a postsecondary education, and Latinos therefore will be left out of the ability to compete in these arenas if we don't address the problems that exist early on," Rojas said.

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Redlands woman convicted of murdering her 18-year-old friend

SAN BERNARDINO (AP) — A woman who claimed the killing of her friend was a botched practical joke was found guilty Wednesday of first-degree murder.

Kristie Noordman, 21, of Redlands, faces 45 years to life in prison when she is sentenced on May 13. The Superior Court jury deadlock-locked on a special circumstance allegation that the murder was commit- 
ted while lying in wait. Noordman was one of two people charged with the September 2003 death of Kelly Bulwinkle, who was shot in September 2003. The trial, a mistrial was declared in the case of Damien Guerrero, 20, of Highland after a separate jury dead-locked 11-1 in favor of conviction.

Bulwinkle, a student at Crafton Hills College, was killed after weeks of disputes between the three and Guerrero’s girlfriend. Guerrero had been romantically linked to Bulwinkle for a short time that summer.

About 2 1/2 weeks after she dis- appeared, Bulwinkle’s decomposed body was found in a shallow grave in San Timoteo Canyon. She had been shot twice in the back of the head.

At trial, a prosecutor told jurors that the defendant had dug the grave a day before the killing and that Noordman methodically planned to kill the teenager by establishing alibis in advance and steering detectives to other potential suspects.

Guerrero testified that the plot was only to scare Bulwinkle, but his
gun accidentally fired and Noordman then picked up the dropped gun. She fired another shot to end Bulwinkle’s suffering.

The two then went out to eat din- ner and saw a movie, the prosecutor said.

Prosecutors said they will retry Guerrero on murder charges.

"Mr. Guerrero by no means should consider this a victory," Deputy District Attorney Jon Ferguson said.

Outside the courtroom, some jurors hugged the victim’s mother and apologized for being unable to gain a conviction.

"No matter what the verdict is, nobody is going to win out of this," Diana Bulwinkle said. "It’s not going to bring my daughter back. This is a nightmare I’ll never wake up from.

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Arizona student nabbed for piracy

Authorities found more than $50 million in music and movies on 17-year-old’s computer
Beth Defalco
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PHOENIX — An Arizona university student is believed to be the first person in the country to be convicted of a crime under state laws on possession of counterfeit marks, or computer programs.

University student Dhaliwal was sentenced last month to a three-month deferred jail term. Dhaliwal was sentenced last month to a three-month deferred jail term.

The judge in the case also ordered him to take a copyright class at the University of Arizona, which he attends, and to avoid file-sharing computer programs.

"Generally copyright is exclusively a federal matter," said Jason Schultz, an attorney with the Electronic Frontier Foundation, a technology civil liberties group. "Up until this point, you just haven't seen states involved at all."

Federal investigators referred the case to the Maricopa County Attorney's Office for prosecution because Dhaliwal was a minor when he committed the crime, said Krystal Garza, a spokeswoman for the office.

"His age was a big factor," she said. "If it went into federal court, it's a minimum of three months in jail up there."

Although Dhaliwal wasn't charged until he was 18, he was 17 when he committed the crime. Prosecutors charged him as an adult but kept it in state court to allow for a deferred sentence. Garza also said Dhaliwal had no prior criminal record.

The charge is a low-level felony but may be dropped to a misdemeanor once he completes probation, she said.

A call to Dhaliwal's attorney, James Martin, was not returned.

A man who identified himself as Dhaliwal's father, but refused to give his name, returned a message left Monday at Dhaliwal's parents' home. He said his son had made a mistake, and was trying to put the case behind him. The man declined to comment further.

Brad Buckles, executive vice president for anti-piracy at the Recording Industry Association of America, said estimates say Internet piracy has cost the industry up to $300 million a year in CD sales alone. The FBI found more than $50 million in music and movies on Dhaliwal's computer.

"Generally copyright is exclusively a federal matter. Up until this point, you just haven't seen states involved at all."

— JASON SCHULTZ, attorney

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The typical college spring break is usually filled with crystal clear warm water, bronzed bodies, discoteques and white, sandy beaches. Unfortunately, that description often costs hundreds of dollars and doesn't fit into the average student's budget. Because no one wants to sit at home all break, we're here to offer some alternatives that won't break the bank. We've got three trips that will fill your spring break with natural beauty, beaches and adventure.

Spring break is about getting away from it all. Big Sur is the perfect, local location to soak up a little rest and relaxation while enjoying the natural beauty of California. Camping is a huge draw for both residents and tourists alike. "So many people bring all this unnecessary equipment to campsites. All you really need is a sleeping bag to sleep under the stars," said forestry sophomore Cyrus Bell, who was born and raised in Big Sur.

The area boasts several incredible parks, such as Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park and Andrew Molera State Park. Campgrounds can also serve as hiking or biking trails. Redwood forests can be found at Plaskett Creek Campground and Fernwood Campground. Both sites offer amazing views of nearby mountains.

"We go there to surf, definitely. It is hard to find most of the really good spots, but there are a lot of decent locations," said food science junior Candice Mar. Regardless of the time of year, most beaches are cool in temperature. Packing warm clothes to fend off the wind chill is a must, as well as hiking boots or tennis shoes for easy navigation.

Bordered by jagged cliffs on one side, Pfeiffer Beach might be Big Sur's most popular beach. With its gorgeous sunsets, and long stretches of sand, Pfeiffer is the perfect spot to relax.

---

If you are looking for an island getaway for spring break but can't go as far as Hawaii or the Caribbean, Catalina Island makes for a quick and fun island vacation minus the expensive flights and lavish resorts. Catalina is located just 22 miles off the coast of Southern California and is famous for the variety of activities that the island has to offer its visitors including swimming, scuba diving, snorkeling, kayaking, fishing, horseback riding, hiking, parasailing, grill, as well as just hanging out in the quaint town of Avalon spending the day shopping, enjoying the restaurants and relaxing at the beach.

The island is known for its preserved natural beauty. The coastline is dotted with secluded coves and beaches while the interior has stunning peaks and valleys with a variety of wildlife.

For the hikers and adventure seekers out there, take to the interior of the island. Here you will find trails, mountain biking trails and camping grounds.

Round trip boat rides to the island start at $33.

---

San Luis Obispo gets plenty of sunny summer weather, even in winter. Huntington Lake offers a refreshingly different kind of winter, the kind that delivers 10 feet of snow to your front door and keeps fresh powder on the slopes.

The rough-hewn town nestles in among the Sierra pines overlooking the lake from which it gets its name. At about 60 miles east of Fresno, it is a haven for Central Valley daytrippers on their way to nearby Sierra Summit's slopes.

Though Sierra Summit does not rank among the top ski resorts in the state, it offers some distinct advantages for college students trying to cram in as much entertainment as possible into their brief reprieve on a limited budget.

At only $45 a day for a lift ticket (compared to Tahoe's Heavenly at $65 and Kirkwood at $62) Sierra Summit is a steal. Renting a board, boots and bindings add $36, skis can go even cheaper at $24 a day for equipment rental. Students with ID get a $10 discount and the Sierra Summit Inn offers a Stay and Play deal for midweek lodging as low as $60 a night with complimentary lift ticket.

Try the trails in the adjacent woods the next morning or go to one of the five nearby Snow-Parks for sledding and inner tube racing.

From Cal Poly, Huntington Lake is about 5 hours away. Go north on 101 then east on 46 and north on 41 to 168 east through the mountains.

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Celebrity obsessions

Derrick J. Lang

NEW YORK — They're out there.

Catherine Zeta-Jones, Sheryl Crow and Mel Gibson recently faced them in court. Anna Kournikova took a nude swim to find her. Andrea Evans feared hers for a decade.

They're celebrity stalkers, perpetrators of an emotional crime that's often — but not always — the result of mental illness.

Despite a recent rash of cases, experts say the act of celebrity stalking isn't increasing, but stars are more willing to go to police when confronted. And, of course, the media is more likely to cover celebrity stalking.

Evans feared hers for a decade.

When her stalker showed up several times at her Manhattan set. Evans quit "One Life to Live" and dropped out of public view. She wouldn't be seen on a soap again until 1999.

Following the murder of "My Sister Sam" actress Rebecca Schaeffer in 1989 and incidents like Evans', the government, Hollywood and the world began to recognize celebrity stalking around 1990.

As many as several deaths have been linked to "CSI" material crimes like burglary and murder leaping copious amounts of physical evidence, but stalking is harder to prove. Witness the low-tech Crow fan who was acquitted last November after allegedly pursuing her for 15 months, claiming he communicated with her telepathically and even visiting her sister and father.

"Stalking is such a nebulous thing, much more of a challenge," said John Dunn, a former Los Angeles Police Department detective.

"It is very difficult to investigate." Dunn said.

“With the Paltrow case, he saw her...and formed a bond. The onset was very rapid."

"Most of the time what you've got is an individual who is knotty or socially incompe­tent," said Mace Benson, a psychi­atrist at the University of California Los Angeles who's worked on many stalking cases.

When mental health is an issue, disorders such as schizophrenia or some form of dementia and an emotional real-life trigger are usually to blame. These elements combined make it easier for an individual to break down that invisible fourth wall.

"Usually, there's been some kind of major loss in the life of the individual either one event or a series of events," said psychologist J. Reid Meloy.

"They then create a private, bizarre reality that is very defined." Meloy has researched stalking research since 1989, was the editor of the first science journal on the subject and has consulted on high profile cases in Los Angeles and Paltrow's. "Somehow, they connect at a very deep emotional level," said Meloy. "With the Paltrow case, he saw her in the movie "Shakespeare in Love" and formed a bond. The onset was very rapid."

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Quality education is a right, not a tax

As Arnold Schwarzenegger might be a heavy weight champion, an education troubleshooter is leading California’s economy into the future. "Education is a human right, not a privilege,” said Hector Flores, an organizer for Action in Defense of Education at the student budget summit at CSU Channel Islands on Saturday.

But to Schwarzenegger, public higher education is just another expense. As part of his 2005 "Year of Reform," an attempt to balance the budget without raising taxes, the governor proposed a $2 billion cut from statewide education. As a result, CSU students are being asked to pay more for their education.

"This is how we move forward," Schwarzenegger told the Los Angeles Times last year after he proposed his first student fee increase. "We have to charge them a little bit, but does it happen rather than having anger and protests afterwards?"

Nevertheless, many students, raising fees for a historically accessible and affordable service is a tax. And they say that the "governator" is taxing those who can least afford it.

In retrospect, it’s amazing to see the student position on campus. Students will wander around campus wearing campaign T-shirts and eating campaign hot dogs. Free staff always gets students involved. But not everything will be free in spring. Students will have the opportunity to vote on a fee referendum for new campus facilities. These will be modeled after survey results compiled by ASI. We will choose to invest in the future or live in the present!

And through all this, it’s inevitable that we’ll hear more about left-wing views, right-wing views, religion and Top 10 — all from Morgan Elam, Patrick Goulding, Casey Constock and Jeff Corner. Yet, before we know it, the year will come to an end. Graduation will be upon us and we’ll have to say goodbye. But for now, we’ll just say, "Good luck on finals" and "Happy spring break" as we get ready for our final ride.

"Happy spring break" as we get ready for our final ride.

Morgan, Casey, right-wing, left-wing comparisons

As a right-wing conservative Republican I feel that my duty is to give Morgan the unbiased and nonpartisan view that he invoked.

Casey’s assertion that Morgan must be kissing up to someone at the Daily is unfounded. To my knowledge print every meaningful thing people write in just look at how many of my articles they’ve printed. As to why Casey thinks that he is the one that can have an opinion on politics, because he’s studying it, in school, that too is unfounded. Political science majors and gradates aren’t the only ones who get to vote so other people must be entitled to their opinion too.

Lastly, and most importantly, it’s that under Mr. Elam’s regime I won’t be allowed to procrastinate. But I rank an 11 on Pat Goulding’s Conservative Permissible Gene Scale. Thus Morgan’s sometimes reasonable arguments are all unfounded.

Morgan, Casey, right-wing, left-wing comparisons

As to why Casey thinks that he is the one that can have an opinion on politics, because he’s studying it, in school, that too is unfounded. Political science majors and graduates aren’t the only ones who get to vote so other people must be entitled to their opinion too. But Casey, on the other hand, should have to wear a blue dress and bring Morgan coffee. I think that would be funny.

And since this is the editorial section, I am right. There can be no arguing with me. Good luck on finals, everyone.

Jeff Corner
Book review

Ashlee Simpson, Devin Kingdon rock my world

I just wanted to say thank you so much to Devin Kingdon for his hilarious article on Ashlee Simpson. I have never laughed out loud in class when I was reading it! Thank you for adding a little humor to the Mustang Daily.

Tara Glickman

Letters to the Editor

The Mustang Daily staff takes pride in publishing a daily newspaper for the Cal Poly campus and the neighboring community. We appreciate your readership and are thankful for your careful reading. Please send your corrections, suggestions to editor@mustangdaily.net.

LETTER POLICY

Mustang Daily reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, profanities and length. Letters, comments and cartoons do not represent the views of the Mustang Daily. Please limit length to 250 words. Letters should include the writer’s full name, phone number, major and class standing. Letters must include a Mustang Daily e-mail account. Do not send letters as an attachment. Please send the text in the body of the e-mail.

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11:00AM - 3:00PM
Inside the Cal Poly Rec Center Fitness Room
DON’T MISS IT!

Wheel of
Fortune

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Golden
continued from page 16
Here's my take.
The men can blame star guard Kameron Gray's ineligibility and forward John Maley's injury for this 5-22 record. With the women, they fell short of that final seed simply due to a fluke.

Paterson's illness. When Paterson played this season, the Mustangs were effective, forging their best-ever start ever. After Paterson was sidelined, though, Cal Poly floundered. Saturday, the women floundered one final time.

Flukes happen often, whether it's the accidents of children or the affiliations of star players. At least there won't be the chance for any more flukes in Mont Gym until next year.

Graham Howarth is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily assistant sports editor. E-mail him at ghoward@calpoly.edu

Cone
continued from page 16
Next are so many facilities there are too many coaches more on the academic efforts of their athletes.

There are so many facilities they'd like to upgrade. She hopes to increase the number of seats in Baggett Stadium to 3,000, go forward with pool renovations and make some cosmetic renovations around the hallways and offices of Mont Gym.

Then there's the seemingly ever-present issue of completing the renovations for Mustang Stadium, which could still be several years away.

It's made for huge amounts of work for Cone. The initial part of her job, when she worked every day for nearly two weeks to hire a new women's volleyball coach in the wake of Steve Schick's resignation, has settled down to a comfortable 60 to 80 hours per week.

"They're fun hours, but there's a lot of them," Cone said.

It makes personal relationships hard, though Rogers exchanged e-mails with Cone after their convention, but gradually lost touch, saying now she'd enjoy spending time with her if the two were situated closer to one another geographically. Distance aside, though, Rogers said she meant to call Cone when she was promoted.

"I wish Alison the best of luck and I think she's going to do great."

Sports

Thursday, March 10, 2005 15

Dove bikes to and from Campus from Santa Margarita each day... and occasionally rides the bus. "I bike because it is a healthy way to commute... Driving is inconvenient. There is the parking, walking from the lots and the cost."

- David Arndt, Cal Poly Staff

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Dove Bikes...
Leading lady: Cone embarks on tenure

Graham Womack

SUNSTRIKE

Alison Cone could be either part of the majority or minority. It all depends on if she's looked at simply as a woman or an athletic director.

Cone became one of a distinct minority, one of just 19 female athletic directors, including Sandy liarhour at Cal Berkeley and Deborah A. Yow at Maryland, alongside more than 300 male directors at the NCAA Division I level. She's no feminist, like many of her colleagues — even her fellow female ones.

Dawn Rogers is thankful she "never had to be a bra-burning feminist," she said, not in nine months as the athletic director at Xavier, nor in four years prior to working under the male AD before her. Other females, latter-day pioneers, paved the way. And frankly, some of the radical feminists of Rogers' youth made her uncomfortable.

"I have always felt it was better for me — to lead by example," Rogers said. "I always felt in college athletics that the loud squeaking voice got drowned out."

Cheryl Levick has never had to play the gender card either to advance professionally. As the athletic director at Saint Louis, her passion has been combining education and athletics in her department, not quoting "The Vagina Monologues." She considers gender irrelevant in her job.

"Whether you're a man or a woman in this role, you're here to help male and female athletes become leaders of tomorrow," Levick said.

Levick's and Roger's acquaintance Cone has similar views. The 51-year-old grew up in a family of athletes, playing tennis, first in her hometown of Charleston, W.Va., then at Washington State. She even looked up to tennis great Billie Jean King, who gained immortality in 1973 by beating Bobby Riggs in an on-court "Battle of the Sexes." Cone ultimately beat out 29 other applicants to become AD.

"I'm delighted that Alison is going to lead Cal Poly's athletics program," Cal Poly President Warren Baker said when Cone's hiring became official Jan. 31. "She has tremendous experience and her first-rate leadership skills will help us move our athletics programs forward in the 21st century."

WORKING TOGETHER

"I'm delighted that Alison is going to lead Cal Poly's athletics program." — Warren Baker

Cone has never had to look over her shoulder, Yow said, and Rogers added that Cone appeared extremely confident and comfortable in her role when the two worked together during a four-day NCAA conference earlier.

"It'll be a challenge, a good one," Cone said.

More than anything, her goals are numerous. She wants to stabilize funding for programs, involve Mustang athletics in the Cal Poly and San Luis Obispo communities, and make athletic programs non-political, Cone said at last. It's in the politics of athletics where Cone, a member of several committees, has stepped out.

Indeed, she was promoted not after some anti-discriminatory lawsuit, but following well over 20 years of service through the ranks of athletic administration, going from Green River Community College to Cal State Dominguez Hills to Cal State Fullerton to Washington State before finally coming to Cal Poly.

Initially, after arriving in 1994, she served as senior associate athletic director, filled in as interim athletic director in 2000, then spent another year in an interim capacity after former athletic director John McCutcheon left in February 2004 for the same job at University of Massachusetts. Cone ultimately beat out 29 other applicants to become AD.

"I'm delighted that Alison is going to lead Cal Poly's athletics program," Cal Poly President Warren Baker said when Cone's hiring became official Jan. 31. "She has tremendous experience and her first-rate leadership skills will help us move our athletics programs forward in the 21st century."

Furthermore, Cone has stepped out. If that's not feasible, or indeed illegal, simply allow the dance team to perform twice as long.

"I was immediately struck by how personal she was," Rogers said. "She made you feel comfortable immediately."

"I'm sure that I will be happy... It'll be a challenge, a good one," Cone said.

More than anything, she's optimistic as she embarks on the final job she hopes to have, saying it meets all of her career objectives.

"It's praise echoed by people like Mustang cross-country coach Mark Conover and praise that resonates deeper considering that Cone appears quiet, almost guarded to outsiders. It could be little known that she's a Van Halen fan (she went to two concerts last summer) or that she shares her Grover Beach home with four cats and two dogs.

For some reason, standout performances that people can get for free, perhaps with some sugarcoating. For some reason, standout performances that people can get for free, perhaps with some sugarcoating. For some reason, standout performances that people can get for free, perhaps with some sugarcoating.