State students acquire less debt than average

The average debt for a Cal Poly graduating senior is $13,355; the national average is $16,400.

Kristen Oto

Students graduating from California State Universities acquire less debt than students graduating from other public four-year colleges.

A new study presented to the CSU Board of Trustees on Wednesday morning showed that the average debt for CSU graduates is $13,355 for the 2003-04 school year, financial aid director Lois Kelly said.

CSU students also receive more grants than loans in financial aid. A grant is money that students do not have to pay back, whereas a loan is money that students must pay back, as long as the student meets certain terms agreed on. A loan is money given in CSU State University Grants and Cal Grants also increases proportionally. This effectively lowers the average cumulative debt for college students is $16,400.

The CSU system is conscious of the national findings. Nationally, more students take out loans and receive fewer grants. This is possible because CSU schools have managed to keep student fees below the national average.

The CSU system is conscious of student fees increase, and each time student fees rise, the amount of money given in CSU State University Grants and Cal Grants also increases proportionally. This effectiveness lowers the change. In addition, Cal Poly also offers a wide variety of financial aid.

Students can apply for various grants, loans, scholarships, and work study programs. The CSU system also offers support online with CSUMentor.edu. The Web site contains the CSU school application, as well as academic planning assistance. Students can go to www.CSUMentor.edu to access a loan calculator.

The calculator helps to determine students’ monthly loan payments based on their estimated income after graduation.

After graduation, most CSU students are able to successfully manage their debts. The report stated that information regarding loans, debt management and loan repayment options is available to students through lenders, CSU counselors see Debt, page 2

BY THE NUMBERS

$16,400

The national average cumulative debt for college students is $16,400.

$13,355

The average amount of debt for a graduating Cal Poly student is $13,355.

$13,368

The average amount of debt for a CSU student is $13,368.

46 percent

Among CSU students, 46 percent take out loans.

Adventures in pottery

Beginning ceramics classes teach basic pottery techniques including wheel throwing, use of tools, trimming and glazing

Tiffany Dias

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING freshman Adam Wegner is currently working on a set of plates and a ceramic drum in the Craft Center and has taken beginning ceramics.

“I’m hoping to sell my stuff at next year’s craft fair,” he said.

Wegner also offers advice for students interested in pottery who may be intimidated by the Craft Center.

“Take a class,” Wegner said. “Beginning classes teach you how to use this stuff. You won’t get good if you only come in once a week, you have to practice.”

Beginning ceramics classes teach students basic pottery techniques including wheel throwing, use of tools, trimming and glazing.

Chris Thiele teaches beginning ceramics at the Craft Center and has worked with clay for more than 8 years.

Chris Thiele teaches beginning ceramics at the Craft Center and has worked with clay for more than 8 years.

Sen. John Warner, R-Va., (left) with Sen. Mike DeWine, R-Ohio, show a signed document of agreement between seven Democrats and seven Republicans.

WASHINGTON — The Senate Tuesday toed its line to 6 years of delaying a deal that blocked the nomination of Priscilla Owen to a federal judgeship, the first fruit of a bipartisan agreement to break the log jam over President Bush’s judicial choices.

The vote on the motion to close debate was 61-18 with 11 opponents of the Texas Supreme Court justice filling the role of the 41 needed to continue their filibuster. A vote to confirm Owen is likely to come Wednesday morning. Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Arlen Specter, R-Pa., said.

Owen, nominated to a seat on the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, has been blocked four times by Democratic filibusters in the four years since Bush first nominated her early in his first term.

This time she benefited from agreement reached by seven Republican and seven Democratic senators, reached Monday, that opened the way for yes-or-no votes on some of Bush’s stalled nominations while protecting the future right of Democrats to use the filibuster to block nominees they feel are out of the mainstream.

“It is time to close our debate,” said Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., who led the ill-starred effort to deny Democrats the use of the filibuster for judicial nominations.

The agreement was greeted with a sigh of relief by senators fearing a damaging clash over filibuster rights, but was greeted cautiously by the head of the Democratic Party and questioned by a potential Republican presidential contender.
"It's kind of challenging, it takes a lot of practice," business senior Jessica Lew said.

The beauty of working with clay is if the potter makes a mistake, "it's just clay, we can just demolished it back together and start over," Thiele said.

For a beginner, throwing their first piece in the Craft Center may seem intimidating, but choosing the clay to use can be befuddling. For a first-timer, the Center recommends using Hawaiian Red and Long Beach Blend clay.

While these types of clay sound more like flavored coffee, Hawaiian Red and Long Beach Blend are more elastic and can be easier to throw; both qualities allow a novice potter to focus on forming their artwork.

Technicians at the Craft Center load and bake students' clay creations, called greenware, into the kilns, which are hot and potentially dangerous for a novice to use.

Students keep their pottery and have the opportunity to improve their skills outside of class; they also have the opportunity to present their art in the Craft Center on commission.

The cost to use the Craft Center's facility is $40 per quarter or $2 per day, not including the cost of clay. The fee covers the use of the electric pottery wheels, wedging tables, a number of various glazes and stains, smocks, and one "relic" kick wheel.

Debt

continued from page 1

and guarantee agencies. The standard CSU repayment plan for a loan amounting to $13,306 lasts 10 years and requires a monthly payment of $164.38.

Students must earn an annual income of $24,627 in order to meet the repayment plan requirements. According to census data, this amount falls well below the national average. The census report shows a median income of $37,440 for an individual between the ages of 24-34 with a bachelor's degree.

According to the 2003-04 graduate student report, Cal Poly students also earn more after graduating than the national average.
An 86-year-old woman has been sent to jail, said Officer Mandy Giannini, a Charlotte-Mecklenburg police spokeswoman. She also complained that someone at the shop called her a "crazy old coot," Giannini said.

Densmore wanted them arrested. Instead, police came to arrest her, and she resisted, Giannini said. It's unusual for someone to face charges for nonemergency calls, Giannini said. But on Sunday, Densmore kept calling 911, even after she was told to stop, Giannini said.

When an officer arrived at her apartment, the 5-foot-tall, 98-pound woman scratched him, kicked him and bit his hand, Giannini said. Densmore was also charged with resisting a public officer and two counts of misusing the 911 system, according to jail records. It was the second time she'd been charged with misusing the emergency system, court records show.

In March 2004, police said she called 911 about 50 times after she was asked to stop, a police report says. She then threatened to hit the officer with a chair when he came to arrest her, the report states.

CHEYENNE, Wyo. — A young cat is safe and sound after somehow traveling from here to Denver, a journey of nearly 1,000 miles.

"Boby, a black and white 10-month-old, was still wearing his collar and rabies tag when he showed up at an apartment building earlier this month. His owners, Dexter and Marianne Coletti, got a call two days after he disappeared so they got in their van and picked him up, Marianne Coletti thinks a traveler put the cat in a car or on a train.

LOS ANGELES — A 140-pound bear wandered into a suburban neighborhood and took a dip in a swimming pool before being tranquilized and returned to the wild. The female bear ambled into the San Fernando Valley's Porter Ranch area shortly after 6 p.m. Sunday, bumping into doors and windows before taking a few splashes in a backyard pool, fire spokesman Brian Humphrey said.

Homeowner Maryam Salahael pulled her children out of the pool when the bear showed up, and called 911.

"My dog began barking very loud — I went to see what's going on. I see a bear in my backyard," Salahael told KTTV-TV.

Authorities cordoned off the area as wildlife officials tranquilized the bear, said Cindy Wood of the California Department of Fish and Game. The animal was then released into the Santa Susana Mountains.

"She probably just made a wrong turn and ended up in a neighborhood," Wood said. — Associated Press

**NEED CASH? WE PAY MORE!**

**TEXTBOOK BUYBACK June 2-13th**

**4 Locations!**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Front of El Corral</th>
<th>Drive Through Location on Campus</th>
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<td>June 2-3 9:00am - 3:00pm</td>
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**Dexter Lawn**

| June 6-10 8:30am - 4:30pm |

**Campus Market**

| June 6-10 8:00am - 4:00pm |

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Deposit your buyback cash into Campus Express & receive an extra 10% off

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Say it ain't so

Where will you end up in hell? It's the ultimate insomnia-friendly question. Will you push boulders up a hill, complaining about the monotony but developing killer quads? Or stoop for water that disappears, wondering why you didn't take the time to become a ravenous alcoholic? According to some real glass-half-empty types, the afterlife is a journey straight down — so which of our sins will construct our ironic eternal punishments?

Well, no one cares. The real question is, where will Weezer end up?

It depends on who you ask — and the perennially awkward rockers have amassed a diverse following. Ask the newer fans, like the ones who got hooked on 2001's self-titled comeback album (nicknamed the Green Album for its lime scheme), and they will probably refuse the idea of their favorite alternaheroes going anywhere fiery. But the old fans, the comparatively indie grandpas who rocked to 1994's equally monochromatic Blue Album, would relegiate the Weez to the ninth circle. Those kids have got their undies permanently in a wad.

And let me tell you, it's itchy.

Beyond Weezer's catchy pop-rock songs and the soothingly consistent insanity of frontman Rivers Cuomo, the most amazing thing about Weezer is this: They are the only band in the world whose fans absolutely loathe them. Since their fifth album, "Make Believe," was released this month, the four thirtysomethings have stared dully from the pages of every major entertainment magazine, and received some of the highest sales of their 10+ years together. Yet, they are absolutely resented in musical circles. Publicly liking "Make Believe," at this point, is about two steps up from spending the weekend at Neverland Ranch; it's suspicious and uneasily juvenile, and it's entirely possible that Jay Leno will mock you someday.

So why the backlash — why are Weezer's most loyal fans, the ones who've danced for a decade, suddenly clawing down their gilded idol? The most-touted answer is: Weezer has changed their sound. And that's partially true, because the "Green Album" and 2005's "Maladroit" marked a permanent

Based on a survey collected by Cal Poly Reality of 152 randomly selected Cal Poly students with an error margin of +/- 5%.
The group's raw, emo-pa*essed album was far off from "Make Believe." Which isn't to say that's awful, though most "Make Believes" tracks are horing in song. "We Are All On Drugs" is pretty fetching because it sounds like Cuomo may actually be trying (meaning he screams a little). Otherwise, it's like an inverted "Real World" — the band has stopped being real, and started being polite. And we judge Weezer more harshly for these crimes than anyone else because it seemed they were going in another, more personal direction — and then they backedpedaled. That's strange because aging rock bands usually do the opposite. "Make Believe" was published as the next Pinkerton because the promotions machines knew that's what fans wanted — not the minumum collection of entirely forgettable, lockchuster betrayals that were demolish'd. What's more, the FR. years seem to work overtime to craft Cuomo's image as a reclusive, Brian Wilson-esque freak. It prompts the real question: How can someone obsessed with music be satisfied with the unmarkable tunes and lame lyrics of late? Is he finally happy? Not if you believe the press, or even just his increasingly wild-eyed stare. So why has he concentrated his life's work on becoming just commercial­ly appealing if the resulting music is kinda lame? Isn't genius supposed to produce something... genius? The answer should be yes, but Weezer says no. It seems that this grey path is the one they've accept­ed, and the band accepts behind its worst music junior, KCPR DJ and Mademoiselle Butterfly. Catch her on-air daily charm because they keep being as truthful as he'd been before. His truth just happened to hurt — but everybody has times.

Instead, Cuomo elected to sell out in every conceivable way, and his mercurial grip made Weezer the only band in America resented for being normal. The group lost their underground charm because they became entirely self-aware of what they were marketing: they became thesweetest post-modernist for miles. As they've stated in inter­views, their later songs aren't as personal, and anyone can hear that. Which isn't to say that's awful, though most "Make Believes" tracks are horing in song. "We Are All On Drugs" is pretty fetching because it sounds like Cuomo may actually be trying (meaning he screams a little). Otherwise, it's like an inverted "Real World" — the band has stopped being real, and started being polite. And we judge Weezer more harshly for these crimes than anyone else because it seemed they were going in another, more personal direction — and then they backedpedaled. That's strange because aging rock bands usually do the opposite. "Make Believe" was published as the next Pinkerton because the promotions machines knew that's what fans wanted — not the minumum collection of entirely forget­table, lockchuster betrayals that were demolish'd. What's more, the FR. years seem to work overtime to craft Cuomo's image as a reclusive, Brian Wilson-esque freak. It prompts the real question: How can someone obsessed with music be satisfied with the unmarkable tunes and lame lyrics of late? Is he finally happy? Not if you believe the press, or even just his increasingly wild-eyed stare. So why has he concentrated his life's work on becoming just commercial­ly appealing if the resulting music is kinda lame? Isn't genius supposed to produce something... genius? The answer should be yes, but Weezer says no. It seems that this grey path is the one they've accept­ed, and the band accepts behind its worst music junior, KCPR DJ and Mademoiselle Butterfly. Catch her on-air daily charm because they keep being as truthful as he'd been before. His truth just happened to hurt — but everybody has times.
Dialogue only way to reconcile

Concerning the Middle East, especially the Arab-Israeli conflict, receives criticism by extremists on both sides. Some believe "Palestinians" necessarily mean the person is Jewish. The State of Israel. They see the creation of "Arabs." For the sake of this article, I'll use these terms interchangeably because recognizing Palestinians, exercise great humanity. In their language, Israel is Israel's creation as illegal who refuse to curb terrorist activity. No matter how much criticism the Israeli's percent of Israelis support the removal of Jewish settlements from these 1.3 million Arabs have Israeli citizenship Jerusalem, the holiest place in the world for Jews. Now, just imagine trying to start to take place.

For example, this summer the International Pride Festival anything-a\'awkward interaction. Thirteen, thirty. I realize that he wasn't talking to me, but to the gorgeous girl standing right behind me. My friend Cory Harris, a journalist, recently found himself in a similar situation and took it pretty hard. "When that happens to me I just put my head down and I feel shame," he said. "You open your soul up to the person and say 'Hi! It's me!' and then no, total rejection. It's me!' and then no, total rejection. Tiffany said. "So you pick up your phone and pretend to look for America's obsession with the Hollywood Body! If either, she is looking at nothing in particular. Yo Ma plays the Cellos. Speaking of positive and negative views of the gym, or simply a comical interpretation of a number. You can even put the phone up to your car because you've got something to fill up the time." Thank's good cell phone for that.

Getting people is one of the few times I'm thankful I'm a girl. Girls either smile and wave or hug. That's W e're so polite that mess things up Groups. The high-five, the fist pound, the mainly half-hug and hundreds of other variations. I've seen a few of these greetings go horribly awry because one guy was going for the high-five and the other was thinking merely half-hug. And then there are the obvious goofs. Like when you're talking about someone to a third party and it turns out they're is the person's common roommate, girlfriend, whatever. I don't think I could have walked away from that conversation fast enough.

So if you know what I'm talking about and have experienced a socially-awkward interaction, feel free to join me, I'll be the one standing under a rock in embarrassment.

Call Poly gym: "a little promise and a lot of Hotties"

In Elizabeth Engleman's "Fix for the Ranc Center" article on Wednesday, I was relatively confused on what she meant to get across: perhaps a battle between positive and negative views of the gym, or simply a comical interpretation of America's obsession with the Hollywood Body! If either, she is looking at nothing in particular. Yo Ma plays the Cellos. Speaking of positive and negative views of the gym, or simply a comical interpretation of a number. You can even put the phone up to your car because you've got something to fill up the time." Thank's good cell phone for that.

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Letters to the Editor

Send us your love, hate and more. Mustang Daily reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, profanities and length. Letters, commentaries and cartoons do not represent the views of the Mustang Daily. Please limit text to 250 words. Letters should include the writer's full name, phone number, major and class standing. Letters must come from a Cal Poly e-mail account. Do not send letters as an attachment. Please send the text in the body of the e-mail.

By-mail:
Letters to the Editor
Building 26, Room 226
Cal Poly, SLO CA 93407

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

from LEF T field

police spokesperson

everyday social disasters

We've all been there, and we'll all find ourselves there again, in a socially-awkward interaction. Thirteen, 14, 17 years of school can't prepare us for those incredible uncomfortable situations we find ourselves in every day. Here are a few scenarios:

Scenario 1:
Passey: "Hey Megan?" Megan's internal monologue: I should know you. Who are you? You? Megan: "Hey ... you!
Passey: "Hey, how's it going? You're not ignoring me... are you?"
Megan: "Hi! I'm doing really well! I just finished the worst midterm blah blah.

About this time I realize that he was talking to me, but to the gorgeous girl standing right behind me. It's surprising to me, as someone extremely proud to identify himself as a liberal, to see other liberals take such a strong anti-Israeli stance. There's a liberal, to see other liberals take such a strong anti-Israeli stance. There's...
I don’t mean to say that you should drop everything and go running right now, but I do hope to get a game, you get in it and it is just fun. When you are playing the game, you forget about the future?

Q. — What about softball?

A. — I started playing when I was eight years old. I was supposed to go to Little League, which was really great for the team. I did not get on the team, so I started playing softball to avoid Little League, which was really great for the team.

Q. — How did you start playing softball?

A. — Our new coach, Jenny Rich Firman said. “Statistically, we have faced this season? We had to overcome that challenge that you and your team has faced this season? We had to overcome that challenge that you and your team has faced this season?”

Q. — What do you enjoy most about softball?

A. — I love winning of course, but I just love playing the game. I like to hit more than playing the field. When you are playing the game, you get in it and it is just fun. I just really love the game of softball.

Q. — What are your plans for the future?

A. — I want to teach high school English and I hope to get a coaching job. I think I am doing well at this college, but I definitely want to coach.
**THE ATHLETE’S TURN**

**This week’s spotlight on**

Softball player

Shannon Brooks

Caitlin Donnell

MUSTANG DAILY

Having missed the NCAA play-offs to a team they beat twice during the regular season, the Mustangs now embark on the off-season. But the loss did not put a damper on the season, said junior Shannon Brooks who spoke to the Mustang Daily about the team’s success and her experiences this season.

**Q. — How was this season?**

A. — This has been an amazing season and quite a turn around from last year. It was much better than expected and as the season went on, we knew we ended well. We had a new coach this year and her style was different from the past. It brought new knowledge to the team because she is a really good coach. We worked so hard this year and all of the girls really bonded a lot this year off the field, which makes us a lot closer on the field as well. That closeness gives us the confidence to do well and to go far.

**Q. — The team was not picked for the playoffs, how did that feel?**

A. — It was very frustrating that we were not picked because we did so well this season. The teams were chosen on the basis of the strength of schedule. We were supposed to play some of the bigger and better teams but many of those games were rained out and those games would have really helped us out a lot. But there was nothing we could have done about it. We deserve to go but we need to remember that we had one of our best seasons. So, we are not ending the season on a completely bad note because we did do well.

**Q. — What was one of your favorite moments of the season?**

A. — Erin Myers had an amazing season. One of my favorite moments was when she hit her first home run, which was also the game winner so that was really fun to see. Also, the Northridge series was great because it was the first time that our senior players were able to beat them in four years. It felt great to finally be able to do that this year.

**Q. — Overall, would you say that this season was a success?**

A. — It was definitely successful, we made huge strides from last year and we have nothing to be disappointed in because we definitely did well.

**Q. — What do you love about your teammates?**

A. — I love that this year was a really close-knit team, we all really appreciate each other and we enjoy our time together. The bonds we formed off the field were great and it really helped us succeed on the field.

**MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT**

Cal Poly's Sharon Day cleared 6-03.50 at the Adidas Track Classic in Carson on Sunday, setting a new personal best and tying the Cal Poly school record.

Day placed second in the event while tying Erin Aldrich with the same height. Aldrich won the event with fewer misses.

The 6-03.50 is the Day's old personal record of 6-03.25, set last summer at the World Junior Games in Rome. This season's previous best was 6-02.75 set twice, last time at the Big West Conference Championships when she was named Female Field Athlete of the Year.

Day tied teammate Kaylene Wagner in the Cal Poly record book for height. Wagner cleared the height last season.

Wagner finished tied for fourth in the event held at the Home Depot Center when she cleared 6-10.50. Day and Wagner will join 16 other Mustangs at the NCAA West Regional in Eugene, Ore. next Friday and Saturday (May 27-28).

The track and field field at Cal Poly will host the West Regionals starting June 8 and running through June 11.

Sharon Day will enter the NCAA West Regionals having just set her personal best in the high jump on Sunday. She also tied a school record.