**MUSTANG DAILY**

CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY

TODAY'S WEATHER

High 69°  
Low 45°

The study of bar hopping  IN DIVERSIONS.

Thursday, January 12, 2006  www.mustangdaily.net

**Women in Engineering**

**Stand up and be heard**

Caitlin Donnell  MUSTANG DAILY

It is not unusual to be the only woman in many of the engineering classrooms at Cal Poly, or in the industry, a position many of these women have not faced until coming to Cal Poly to be an engineering student.

"I came to Cal Poly from an all-girls high school where I was encouraged to go into engineering because I have always been good at math and science," said Paula Egueta, industrial engineering junior and academic director of SWE. "It was fun at first to be the only girl in many of my classes. I had forgotten how funny guys were to be in class with and through it all, I feel that the guys respect me the same as someone else would, not specifically because I am a woman but because I am me."

She said the never felt segregated as a woman in a negative way. Being one of a few women in her classes has not made her uncomfortable, but has instead made her stand out and motivates her to do better in her classes.

"The amount of guys that are in all my classes is pretty shocking to me because growing up, I had only girl friends."

Being from an Indian background where you don't really talk to boys that much," Sneha Parmar, electrical engineering senior and corporate marketing director for SWE, said. "And now I find myself to be suddenly surrounded by guys."

Dacie Levaditi, civil engineering sophomore and philosophy director for SWE, explained that women have to gain respect from the men in male-dominated engineering classes.

"I am in a materials engineering class with all guys, so they have to respect me and understand me and see me as a person, and they do," she said. "I haven't faced any really difficult challenges yet. I have worked with groups of guys in many of my classes and they have been very open and they just see me as another person."

The study of bar hopping  IN DIVERSIONS.

**Cal Poly Arts**

Cal Poly Arts presented Eth-Noh-Tec, Asian Treasure Bag of Stories, in the Spanos Theatre Sunday as part of the Family Event Series. Eth-Noh-Tec is a young people's theatre that includes Asian mythologies, folktales and urban legends with Asian American sensibilities in lyrical and storytelling performances. Founded in 1992, the folktales and myths are influenced by Japanese, Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean and Indian culture.

**Students applaud budget proposal**

Caitlin Donnell  MUSTANG DAILY

The California State Student Association (CSSA) praised Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's budget proposal that he announced Tuesday would eliminate fee increases at California colleges and universities.

The proposed budget provides nearly $2.8 billion in state general fund revenue to the California State University (CSU) system. This represents a 7.3 percent increase over the current 2005-06 budget year appropri­ations, according to a press release from Clara Potes, Fellow in the office of the chancellor from the CSU sys­tem.

There is $54.4 million included in this amount, which is above the state's general fund commitment as part of the Higher Education Compact to eliminate fee increases for students.

Jennifer Reimer, chair of the CSSA and Associated Students President at CSU Fresno, approved the governor's decision for buying out the fees in the 2006-07 budget year.

"If this (budget) is approved by the legislature, fees will not increase for students and their families next year, saving undergraduates $204 and graduate students $312," Reimer said in a press release. "College is a drain for many low and middle-income families and by keeping fees low, the governor has made our dreams a reality."

Reimer added that the proposal is quite a turnaround from late October 2005 when the CSU Board of Trustees approved an 8 percent fee increase.

Joining seven Cal Poly students and many students from around California, Cal Poly ASI President Tyler Middstadt traveled to Long Beach to participate in a rally to oppose fee increases.

Anu Joshi, President of the University of California Student Association and Graduate Student at UC Berkeley, released a statement celebrat­ing the victory of restoring California's legacy of being able to offer affordable high­er education.

"We are ecstatic that the governor decid­ed to prioritize higher education in his state budget proposal and take the first step in restoring the classic legacy of accessi­bility to higher education in California," Joshi said in a press release.

Carolyn Fiana contributed to this report.

**THE NEXT STEPS**

In the Budget Review Process...

February - Budget review by Legislative Analyst's Office

March/April - Budget subcommittee meetings

May - Governor announces May revise to the January budget projections

June - Two-House Conference Committee

June 15 - Official deadline for legislative budget approval

Graphic Design by Louise Dolby

**MAY 2004**

Governor promises fee increases will not exceed 10 percent on an average over the next three years.

**JANUARY 2005**

The governor's budget requests an eight percent fee increase.

**FEE INCREASE BUDGET TIMELINE**

Governor's new budget proposes to eliminate fee increases for 2006-07.
The Society of Women Engineers is an organization that supports diversity in engineering, and is not restricted to female members. In fact, almost 40 percent of SWE is comprised of male members. Greg Hamel, an industrial engineering junior and the industrial engineering major chair for SWE, said he originally joined SWE because he was interested in working with as many engineering clubs on campus and felt that becoming involved with SWE would be a great opportunity for him. "I especially wanted to get involved because I have seen how limited the number of women are in engineering and it would definitely be a boring and not a very diverse working environment without women," he said. Hamel has said he has met women who have experienced problems with professors "shaking them off" and not taking them as seriously because they are women. Yet, he said for the most part he has not witnessed any discrimination or harassment in the classroom. "I think that women in class can sometimes feel kind of intimidated being with all guys and I really don't think that they should have to feel that way because they have just as much right to be there as everyone else," Hamel said. Justin LeBlanc, computer engineering senior and internal marketing director for SWE, added that men are always very welcome in SWE because he was interested in being a part of SWE, but proud of the leaders who are so few women, but you have to remember to speak up and make your voice heard." Wilbur said that that is a pretty unique opportunity to be a woman engineer and that when she looks around the room in the building where she works, she feels empowered. At Colorado State University, the large majority of the male engineering students have not taken as many courses in the arts as their female counterparts, he said. "I think some of the challenges that women face in the industry is the "old boys' networks and all the "higher-up" males in the companies," Sale said. "It is the men who have been working in the industry for a long time and haven't had the experience of working with women; it is these men that don't have the mindset that we, as women, can contribute just as much as men," Sale said. Times are changing and women are proving themselves as capable engineers and moving up in companies, she said. So, as time passes those barriers are going to be broken, but they do exist. Just one out of a contracting job, Finger was once sent out on a contracting job where she had to tell a group of male construction workers to re-do a job. She did not receive very well because she was an engineer, because she was young and because she was a woman. She remembers them calling out to her, "Just like a woman, never satisfied." She said it didn't bother her too much because she was the one in charge of their paycheck, and like Sale, turning an uncomfortable situation into a positive. Working with males on a professional level in the workplace doesn't always have to be a challenge. Jessica Wilbur, an aerospace engineering senior and vice president of college relations for SWE, has had an internship for the last three years where she is the only female engineer out of ten male engineers at an orbital sciences corporation. "All of the guys have really taken me under their wing, all of the technicians help her a lot and I don't think that they treat me any different than the men," she said. "If anything, they are excited to have a female engineer there to work with because there are so few women, but you have to remember to speak up and make your voice heard." Wilbur said that that is a pretty unique opportunity to be a woman engineer and that when she looks around the room in the building where she works, she feels empowered. Sale has also had many experiences outside of the classroom working in the field with professionals. She worked for a large construction company in San Francisco a couple of summers ago and worked on a project where the average age of the engineers was 57. She was one of three women out of a team of 60 engineers. "I was working with older men who were not used to working with women, and they always treated me more like their daughter rather than someone who was on their team," she said. "That only encourages me to make challenges situations like these into a positive and motivates me to prove myself as capable - something many women engineers are able to do to break down the strong barrier in this male-dominated engineering world."
WHO SAID THAT?

Getting ahead in a difficult profession requires avid faith in yourself. That is why some people with mediocre talent, but with great inner drive, go much further than people with vastly superior talent.
— Sophia Loren

The follies which a man regrets most, in his life, are those which he didn’t commit when he had the opportunity.
— Helen Rowland

Wordly

Insouciant: Calm and unbothered; carefree; indifferent

Wise

BREAKING NEWS
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Name: Brittany Clyde • Year: freshman
Hometown: Fair Oaks • Major: journalism

Favorites
Muppet: Miss Piggy
Food item: Yams
Book: “Lord of the Rings”
Movie: “The Shawshank Redemption”

If You Could...
— travel to any place at any time where would it be and why?
  Into the future.
— choose the world to be in one color what would it be?
  Yellow.
— erase one musical artist from history who would it be and why?
  Milli Vanilli

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State briefs

PETALUMA (AP) — Archaeologists are scrambling to save artifacts from a historic site where a Mariano Valley's ranch workers lived 175 years ago.

The site was one of several on the North Coast significantly damaged during the New Year's flooding. "We'll try to salvage it, we will take out as much as we can before it's too late," Skech Perkan, a senior archaeological for California State Parks, said on Monday.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Supervisors voted to spend $340,000 for computer software and other equipment to block access to pornographic Web sites at county libraries.

The Board of Supervisors voted in October to install limited filters on adult computers and more restrictive filters on children's computers to prevent library visitors from viewing sexually explicit sites.

MORENO VALLEY (AP) — Children under 18 now face a daytime curfew.

In an effort to reduce crime and keep kids in school, the City Council unanimously approved a new law Tuesday that bars juveniles from public places during school hours — 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Police officers can stop, question, issue citations and pick up truants.

Supreme Court clashes over fairness of California death sentence

Gina Holland

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court was split Wednesday in reinstating a California inmate's death sentence, a decision that could tip the scales on the key issue of the death penalty.

The court was divided on whether to overturn an appeals court ruling that declared Ronald Sanders' sentence unconstitutional.

The first capital punishment opinion since newly installed Chief Justice John Roberts and probably will be one of the last cases in which O'Connor is an influential vote.

Senators are considering President Bush's bill of succession of Samuel Alito to succeed O'Connor. Alito's views track those in the ruling against Sanders.

"Replacing O'Connor with Alito in this opinion would not have made a difference," said Kent Scheidegger, legal director of the Criminal Justice Legal Foundation, a pro-death penalty group that backed California in the case.

Sanders was put on death row in 1982 for killing a woman a year earlier during a drug-related robbery in Bakersfield, Calif. Janice Allen was bound with a vacuum cleaner electrical cord, bludgeoned and beaten to death.

Two of the four special circumstances used by prosecutors in their case against Sanders — that the crime was committed during a burglary and was cruel or heinous — were later found invalid.

California argued that Sanders would have been eligible for a death sentence even without those factors. The Supreme Court's five conservative members agreed.

"The erroneous factor could not have 'skewed' the sentence, and no constitutional violation occurred," Justice Antonin Scalia wrote in an opinion joined by Roberts, O'Connor, Anthony M. Kennedy and Clarence Thomas.

In a dissent, Justice John Paul Stevens and David H. Souter said "this decision is more likely to complicate than to clarify our capital sentencing jurisprudence."

Justices Stephen Breyer and Ruth Bader Ginsburg filed a separate dissent, complaining that the court's finding could "deprive a defendant of a fair and reliable sentencing proceeding."

Without O'Connor, the court would have been split 4-4, which would have left in place the lower court ruling in Sanders' favor.

Officials find tunnel at U.S.-Mexico border

SAN DIEGO — U.S. Border Patrol agents stumbled on a cross-border tunnel after it caved in and the asphalt roadway above it collapsed, officials said.

The 35-foot-long tunnel, which was found Monday, ended in a patch of vacant land on the U.S. side near the San Ysidro port of entry, said Lauren Mack, a spokeswoman for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the investigatory arm of the Department of Homeland Security.

The primitive tunnel was about 3 feet by 3 feet and appeared to have been used recently, she said.

The exit on the U.S. side was sealed with sandbags and metal strips, Mack said. Authorities did not know when it was built and whether it was used for smuggling drugs or people, she said.

The tunnel is across the border from an area that is either owned or leased by Mexican Cartels.

No arrests were made.

Also on Monday, authorities in Nogales, Ariz. discovered a 40-foot-long border tunnel. Two men were arrested as they hauled 300 pounds of marijuana from the tunnel, authorities said.
Bush says hearings on eavesdropping program will be "good for democracy"

Deb Riechmann
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — President Bush said Wednesday that congressional hearings to investigate his domestic eavesdropping program will be good for democracy as long as they don't give secrets away to the enemy.

Bush was initially opposed to having the program investigated in a public forum, but made it clear that he is resigned to open hearings that are scheduled to begin in coming weeks.

Bush's decision to authorize the National Security Agency to monitor — without warrants — people inside the United States has sparked a flurry of questions about the program's legal justification.

Bush defended the program during a campaign-style town hall meeting, saying he understands concerns about it but monitoring the phone calls of affiliates of the terrorist network al-Qaida is necessary to protect the United States.

For the second time in a month, Bush took questions from audience members during an appearance to win support for his war on terrorism.

In his opening remarks, he defended the global war on terrorism and the U.S. effort in Iraq. He said insurgents in Iraq were trying to drive the United States out through violence and bloodshed but he declared, "They're not going to shake my will."

While saying he wanted to bring American troops home, he said, "I don't want them to come home without achieving the victory."

In a question and answer session, Bush was asked about Iraq, education priorities, immigration, the economy, health care and other subjects. He said the war on terrorism would not end with an enemy surrender, as was the case in World War II. "I don't envision a signing ceremony on the USS Missouri," Bush said. "The peace won't be the kind of peace we're used to."

In the days after the program's existence was revealed, Bush cautioned against hearings, arguing that the appropriate members of Congress were being consulted privately and offering assurances that he was working within the law to authorize the eavesdropping.

"Any public hearings on programs will say to the enemy, 'Here's what they do — adjust,' " Bush said at a December news conference when asked about expected hearings on Capitol Hill.

The Senate Judiciary Committee has scheduled hearings on the issue for early February. The Senate Intelligence Committee also plans to hold hearings that will be closed to the public.

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Levy attacks female disunity in 'Pigs'

Katie Kuesth
The Post Standard

ATHENS, Ohio — A male chauvinist pig was a role given to men who believed they were superior to women. From the man who refers to his women as "tootsie" after slapping her on the behind, all the way down to the grade-school boys who won't let their female classmates play in a game of kickball — the term "male chauvinist pig" has been around for a while.

Thanks to author Ariel Levy, the term "female chauvinist pig" is introduced into popular culture. In her first book, "Female Chauvinist Pigs: Women and the Rise of Raunch Culture," Levy raised an interesting point: Women must unite in order to advance in today's culture. But how can they do that? Women who have come or prove that women still have a way to go. Levy interviews a variety of women, from college females who flash their breasts for "Girls Gone Wild" cameras, to those who live a life of drinkers making their way to the top in the business world, begging the question: Why is it that women are making sex objects of themselves and other women? Why is that to get ahead in this world, women feel as though they need to "be like a man?" Levy asks if the answers to these questions show how far women have come or prove that women still have a way to go. One chapter addresses modern-day lesbianism, where they refer to themselves as "bois." In the most strikingly sensible chapter, she points out the convoluted messages today's teenagers are being sent. They are exposed to Maxim's (scarcely clad) ideals of beauty, but are taught to say "no" to sex by their school administrations-funded abstinent-only sex-ed programs.

Levy, however, doesn't buy into the obstacles women still have to overcome. She conveys that it is unfair to blame men for the objectification of women, considering that those girls who have "gone wild" begged the camera crew to film them.

Her choice of vocabulary vividly embodies her message, which can be appreciated by the "girl-girls" or the female chauvinist pigs that want to "be like a man."
WHO tries to allay fears over bird flu outbreak in Turkey

Kaday Toktoogul

ANKARA, Turkey — International agencies warned against panic but cautioned Wednesday that Turkey's neighbors may be unable to keep out the bird flu that has infected at least 15 people across the country in the last week.

Nations bordering Turkey continued to step up preventive measures, disinfecting cars at border crossings, handing out leaflets and blocking people carrying birds. But health officials said the measures may prove insufficient.

"The virus may be spreading despite the control measures already taken," said Juan Lubrific, senior animal health officer at the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization.

Preliminary tests in the last week indicate that 13 people in Turkey have been infected with the deadly H5N1 strain — the largest number of cases in a single week since late 2003, when the virus began sweeping Asia. Three children have died, but only two of those cases were confirmed to have tested positive for bird flu.

Greece was sending 500 veterinarians, staff to border areas and spraying cars and trucks from Turkey with disinfectant. Bulgaria told its citizens to avoid contact with birds. Syria stepped up checks on entering Turks. Georgian television broadcast reporters at a joint news conference a village outside Istanbul, Turkey on Wednesday.

"The worst situation is a panic situation. There is no reason to panic," Dr. Marc Danton, WHO regional director for Europe, told reporters at a joint news conference with Turkey's health minister.

Greece also is gathering enough antiviral drugs to supply 3 percent of the country's 11 million people.

"Whatever is humanly possible is being done. The development of the disease in Turkey is not good. We must not panic and we must not relax," Greek Health Minister Nitsa Kalamatsis said after an emergency ministers' meeting on bird flu.

Danton said there were no signs that the deadly strain was being transmitted to people in Turkey, where all of the cases appeared to have involved people who touched or played with infected birds.

Health experts have been watching closely for indications that H5N1 is mutating into a potent form passed between people, which could cause a pandemic capable of killing millions.

Turkey's government, anxious to demonstrate to its citizens and the European Union that it was taking decisive action, ordered more than 300,000 fowl destroyed as a precaution. Authorities also distributed leaflets in eastern regions most affected by the outbreak, cautioning people not to touch fowl, while TV spots urged people to wash their hands after contact with poultry.

The measures did not keep an Italian consumer group from urging authorities to impose a ban on travel to Turkey.

"The people of the country need to perfectly understand that the danger is contact between sick or dead poultry and a human being, especially a child," Danton said.

EU spokesman Michael Mann praised Turkish efforts to control the disease spread there, saying "we are happy with the measures that have been taken so far by Turkey."

"We so far has confirmed only four of Turkey's 15 reported cases as H5N1, but it is confident that remaining samples would be positive."

"We don't need to confirm each and every case to confirm the outbreak," said Guenael Rodier, a senior WHO official for communicable diseases.

Rodier said experts were monitoring the progress of H5N1 confirmed in two boys aged 5 and 6 who are hospitalized in Ankara but have not displayed symptoms.

Rodier calling the cases the first documented at such an early stage, and indicated that authorities expect the boys to develop symptoms.

WHO said earlier Wednesday that two more people sickened by bird flu in China have died, bringing the total number of people killed by the disease in that country to five, and pushing the death toll worldwide to 78.

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Cell phones may cause cancer

Susan Thomas
THE ORACLE (SU SOUTH FLORIDA)

TAMPA, Fla. — It has been estimated that there are 1.2 billion cell phone users, according to Network World magazine. Whether these cell phone users are in danger of adverse health effects such as cancer is still a concern. Are these cell phone users in danger of getting cancer, brain tumors or other health problems as a result of cell phone radiation?

According to The Associated Press, companies such as Motorola, Nokia, Sprint and Cingular Wireless are facing charges that the radiation their cell phones emit is at a dangerous level and these companies had previous knowledge of the radiation danger.

"My parents didn't want me to use my (cell) phone too much because they were afraid it was going to be harmful," junior Quang Lee said. "But I have been filing in Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Arkansas, New York, Louisiana and Maryland. The cases eventually were taken to federal court in Baltimore but were dismissed by Judge Charlotte Blake. The Fourth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals then reinstated the five cases. Four of the cases have been sent to the state courts again, and the fifth will be tried at the federal level. On Oct. 31, the U.S. Supreme Court rejected an appeal from cell phone manufacturers, who were hoping to have the cases dismissed once again.

Cell phones are potentially linked to brain tumors, cancer, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, fatigue and headaches. Even though the phones emit only a low level of radiation, cell phones are still thought to be dangerous because of the proximity to the head during use. "Because hand-held cellular telephones are used close to the head, there is concern that the R.F. (radio frequency) energy produced by these devices may affect the brain," said the American Cancer Institute said on Cancer.gov.

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Rhode Island becomes latest state to legalize medicinal marijuana

Danielle Novy
DAILY TANDER (TEXAS TECH)

LUBBOCK, Texas — Winter may be far from over, but Rhode Island is already starting to see green, it recently became the 11th state to legalize medicinal marijuana.

The Ocean State's decision came about six months after the U.S. Supreme Court's June ruling that those who use the drug, even for medical purposes, still can be prosecuted under federal law.

Joining the ranks of California and Colorado, Rhode Island now allows marijuana to be both grown and used for medicinal purposes.

State law now allows patients being treated for illnesses such as AIDS and cancer to purchase up to 2.5 ounces or grow up to 12 plants of marijuana after registering with the state and gaining an identification card.

Paul Armentano, the senior policy analyst for the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, said Rhode Island's legalization of medicinal marijuana aligns with the wishes of the public.

"It is an indication that at least some states' politicians have caught up with the wills of voters," he said of the ruling.

Politics and the issue of health care should be separated, Armentano said.

"Politics shouldn't play a role in health care," he said. "Yet, in this case they do. Unfortunately, because it is marijuana, it's held up to a different standard (than most other varieties of medicine)."

Armentano said despite the federal ruling that prohibits medical marijuana across the nation, state laws similar to those adopted by Rhode Island generally have proved to have a deep impact.

Armentano said state laws provided adequate protection to the patients using hemp as a form of treatment.

"Less than one percent of the annual arrests for possession of marijuana are done federally," he said. "Instead, they are done locally."

Armentano said figures such as this provided support for the notion that the new state law would have an effect upon the Rhode Island citizens.

Despite the ruling, doctors are still not permitted to legally prescribe marijuana as a treatment under federal law. In 2002, one Oregon doctor had his license suspended after approving half of the state's medicinal marijuana applications. The suspension came about three years after medical marijuana was legalized in the state.

With the spotlight now secured on a new horizon of reform, Armentano said other states have been emerging into various stages of the marijuana debate.

"New Jersey, Michigan and New Mexico have bills pending," he said. As for Texas, Armentano said the Lone Star State would likely ponder the issue in coming years.

"Texas had a bill that was considered last year," he said. "It isn't had a lot of success in moving the issue. My assumption is that the bill will be reintroduced and be a subject of debate for the Texas Legislature," Armentano said he suspected 2007 might prove to be a pivotal year for Judge Prejean's bill.

Nikki Hannemann, a sophomore art history major from Hondo, said she does not believe Texas will follow in Rhode Island's footsteps any time soon.
COMMENTARY

No, you da ho

I hated uncomfortably in the passenger seat, and then toyed with the heat control knob for a minute, hoping one of those buttons would cause my mother's gaze to vanish instantly from my mind, instead of hanging over our heads in the silent car on an errand run over break. Moments earlier she had lowered the volume, cleared her throat and asked, "So, sweetheart...do you know about these par-

Swinger ones where people abandon every article of clothing upon entering some available means of birth control, young people today have created a quieter but seem-

ingly much kinkier sexual revolution than the free lovers of the sixties did.

Of course, the pointers that be intimately the ones who are completely clueless about sex today, like so many of our mothers believe that ignoring the fact that kids just want to get down is the best solution, hence the facile but eerily energized abstinence speakers we had to sit through in high school. But too often the speakers turned sex into the proverbial apple tree, and like sinful, hormone-driven Adams and Eves, I don't want any kind of sex.

In that era, spiking the punch was par for the course and the dirtiest conceivable act for unmarried teenage kids.

From the '60s to today, sexuality has steadily charged into the center stage of American culture. Good parents are still dissuading it and many religions still teach that you wait for marriage, yet kids are expressing their sexuality at increas-

ingly early ages.

This is not to convey the fact that we're seeing more teenage pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases. The younger generation, unlike their parents, are experimenting with sex at younger ages and are deciding for themselves that they are informed enough to experiment sexu-

ally. Put yourself in the shoes of a 14-year-old in the year 2006. Think about how you probably own a cell phone on which you can have private conversations with members of the opposite sex. If not, Nielsen/Netratings report that 75 percent of all homes in the U.S. have the Internet, so you probably can use email or IRC (Internet chat like MSN or AIM) to communicate. It was only a decade ago that I had to ask my parents for permission to use a phone when I wanted to play baseball with my buddies, and surely I would never dare to request a phone call with a girl. And these days, unless your Von Chip gets programmed or your parents pay a lot of attention to your TV habits at home and away, you have seen half a season of soft-core sex scenes on daytime TV, if you stay up past your bedtime, you will surely see tits on HBO.

I think sexuality is a very natural, healthy thing. I don't nec-

essarily agree with losing our virginity at 14 years old, but I do think it's important given that we can't curb the libido of our youth, we must abandon dated abstinence programs and encourage safe sex education. I was fortunate enough to have a lady in 5th grade come to the class and show me how to put on a condom, and for the sake of preventing unwanted pregnancies and STIs nationwide, every kid should, metaphorically, handle a banana penis.

For comments, questions, or to have Daniel come to your house and demonstrate the use of a condom on a banana for past children, write to dsgnata@calpoly.edu.

COMMENTARY

The tale of Jimmy Stewart and the banana pens

The first time I really sat down and thought about how sexually charged our generation has become was at a Cotillion Club dance in high school. Members of the Cotillion Club were appren
tices only (Junior Prom was the real deal) and I attended regularly and have occa-

sionally been that girl. Or the crazy swinger ones where people abandon every article of clothing upon entering some exotic maison and love it up with twenty or thirty strangers! Because those parties I haven't been to...yet.

It wasn't just any mother. A high school friend found herself mortified beyond words when her mother recently declared, "Did you know some married men like to put their penis in their wives bums? I read an article about it." Clearly a generat-

ional gap concerning sex has enraged. According to the National Study of Sexual Attitudes and Lifestyles conducted in 2000, the average age at which most young people lose their virginity is now 16 -- that's quite a difference from 1971 when it had been 18. It was because she had fallen in the school. In that era, spiked the punch was par for the course and the dirtiest conceivable act for unmarried teenage kids.

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WRITE A LETTER

Mustang Daily reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, profanity and length. Letters, columns 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 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 e-mail: MustangDaily@calpoly.edu

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

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NOTICE

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January 12, 2006

Volume LXIX, No. 6 2206

Mustang Daily

printed by University Graphics Systems

I really shouldn't take Nuprep before work.
**Resolutions**

Continued from page 12 with a few shooters a chance at greatness for one year.

While I applaud the Warriors’ effort to rebuild downtown Oakland one brick at a time, a playoff victory this season would do much to rejuvenate the city. With the Warriors record being 17-16, there is little talk now of an NBA championship. Does that mean the Warriors need to dismantle in a 1st round playoff series?

"Stay inside" - Marcus Vick

Before Monday night, Vick’s criminal record consisted of everything from being accused of rape, to marijuana possession to reckless driving. His football record included a year suspension in 2004 and deliberately slapping on Eli Dunner’s calf in the Toyota Gator Bowl game that year.

Less than a week after being kicked off the Virginia Tech football team and announcing his intentions to enter the draft, Vick then added “pointing a gun at teenagers in a McDonald’s parking lot” to his rap sheet on Monday night.

"Reitre - Brett Favre"

I’d love to use this space in my column to make excuses for Brett Favre, but I can’t. With 29 interceptions and his worst career passing rating (70.9) this year, it’s time to hang it up. It’s gotten to the point where 3 and 10 for the Packers is like a 1st and goal for their opponents (the defensive backs have a better shot at a TD than do the receivers). Don’t stay and tarnish your legacy - it is over.

Sad, he will be still be drafted by a team desperate enough for a QB, but Marcus should avoid all public contact until he’s drafted and signed. The only good thing I can see coming out of this is a reality TV show entitled, The Vick’s Brothers in Arms (pun intended). Just make sure he’s not sent to NFL Europe, as I’m sure pretty sure he’d be deemed too dangerous to travel abroad.

"Shave the mustache" - Gonzaga’s Adam Morrison

If you don’t know what I’m talking about, just look at any 13-year-old boy with a wavy mustache. Now imagine it instead on a college basketball superstar.

"Buddy’s Chocolate" - I Watchdog

I don’t think there’s any team as good as we were last year," Williams said. "I don’t think there’s anyone who came to camp with as much enthusiasm as we did last year this time. And while his Tigers crashed out of the field at the age of 79, who’s to say when he should stop? I want him to go out."

"Meet Bob Barker" - Me

Speaking of a human status - this is completely unrelated to this column - or so you think. While I’m sure everyone reading this had much better things to do this winter break than watch The Price is Right, I didn’t. As a result, I happened to catch one of our very rare Mustangs showdowns. The Mustang Maniacs were there in full force, proving once and for all that our unrelenting commitment to support Cal Poly students, regardless of whether or not the competition is technically "a sport." My question to all of you who were there is this: Is Bob Barker real? Does he go off of that old people smell? Does he only respond to a series of preprogrammed commands? Most importantly, did you ask him how it feels to punch Adam Sandler? If you can write in to answer these pressing questions, I will be forced to investigate for myself. Now there’s a resolution I can keep: "One dollar Bob!"

Buffalo Apple is a sophomore aerospace engineer and whole-heartedly supports the Hambrough’s request for a winning streak against Marcus Vick. He can be reached at hoplintonlife@yahoo.com with comments on this article or observations on sports in general.

**Basketball**

continued from page 12

looking for UOP and Fullerton to be on the bottom and then the jockeying begins," Williams said. "I don’t think there’s going to be a big difference between the number three and the number eight teams."

Early as it is, March Madness is on the horizon and the post-season picture becomes clearer every week. While and his Tigers crashed the NCAA Tournament as an at-large team last year, a rare multi-team appearance from the Big West, Pacific coach Bob Thomason said the winner of the conference tournament will likely be flying solo.

"I don’t think there’s any team as good as we were last year," Thomason said. "We had an unbelievable year but you have to have (a year like we did last year) to get two teams."

**CLASSIFIED**

**HELP WANTED**

SURF MOVIE PROMOTERS NEEDED

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O'how the mighty hath fallen. University of the Pacific and Cal State Fullerton were the consensus pre-season picks to top of the Big West, but early conference upsets have thrown the standings into upheaval.

Cal Poly (4-10, 2-2) and UC Riverside (2-12, 2-2) entered Big West play as the proverbial long shots to win the conference championship. But not so fast, both schools scored huge upsets in the opening week of Big West play.

First came Cal Poly's victory against the pre-season favorite, Fullerton (8-6, 2-2). The Mustangs kept it close at halftime, trailing 35-30 and found a familiar friend in many modern day upsets, the three-point shot. Cal Poly connected on 8 of 13 three-point shots and posted a 53-49 win in the second half to pull away from the Titans.

Next, UC Riverside followed up its upset trip to the Central Coast, beating UC Santa Barbara (6-8, 1-3) 81-78 for its first win of the season, by defeating highly touted Pacific (10-3, 1-1). Riverside's Rickey Porter was the story, scoring 40 points on 13 for 19 shooting, including seven-for-seven from three-point range.

That's right, the same Riverside that lost to Div. III Puget Sound 115-111 earlier this season.

Despite his team's non-conference struggles, Riverside coach David Spencer said in a Big West conference call Wednesday that every team must be considered a contender.

"It would appear to me that (the conference) is wide open," Spencer said. "The only team that has a chance to go undefeated at this point is Irvine." Irvine (6-8, 2-0) stands alone atop the Big West after narrowly edging over UC Santa Barbara 69-67 in its most recent contest. The Mustangs are tied for second in the Big West at 2-2 with Cal State Fullerton and UC Riverside. Early season upsets, including Cal Poly over Fullerton, have the Big West standings in disarray.

"It seems quite simple: The Big West is weak this season. Even if Pacific or Fullerton runs the table into March, neither has the non-conference wins necessary to receive an at-large bid to the NCAA Tournament.

"Coaches across the league were quick to point out the conference isn't as weak as it appears on paper. Cal Poly coach Kevin Bromley said scheduling is an issue for teams throughout the Big West. "You ask any coach in this conference and they can't get the mid to high major schools to come in and play them at home so you can't get your team's RPI up unless you go on the road," Bromley said during Wednesday's conference call. "I know Stanford's down, but is any other conference as weak as this?"

"Our conference gets beat up a lot in the non-conference because we have to go on the road," Bromley said. "Then we beat up on each other in the conference and they think we're not any good, but I disagree."

"When all is said and done, I see Basketball, page 11"