City says ‘The Party is Still Over’

Caitlin Donnell
MUSTANG DAILY

“The Party is Still Over” according to the city of San Luis Obispo, along with Cal Poly and Cuesta College, all of which have created an extensive plan to create a safe Mardi Gras 2006 weekend.

The plan was announced at a press conference held Wednesday on the steps of City Hall in San Luis Obispo.模式ed after last year’s successful and uneventful weekend, San Luis Obispo Police Chief Deborah Linden said she hopes to maintain complete safety to present out-of-control partying such as violent riots, hundreds of arrests and damage to property and injuries to officers that ensued in 2004’s Mardi Gras celebration.

“Our community has become a national destination for young people looking for Mardi Gras wildness,” Linden said. “The situation became increasingly dangerous and unhealthy for the community, Mardi Gras needs to be over in this community.”

Mardi Gras 2005 proved to be a success with a 58 percent reduction in arrests, only one report of an injury that was to a police officer, quiet emergency rooms, safe neighborhoods and no complaints filed against any of the 400 officers who worked the operation in 2004, Linden said.

Linden also spoke at last night’s ASI Board of Directors meeting, where she thanked the students for doing their part to maintain order last year. The task force spent over $350,000 in combined costs, this year the budget stands at $300,000, Linden said.

This year, over 350 officers will be in full patrol on foot, bicycle, motorcycle, mounted on horseback, in cars and even on all-terrain vehicles, Linden said.

Linden explained that the events that lead to the riots and violence in 2004 brewed for over a decade, and because of that it will take more than one successful year, like that of 2005, to end.

The goal of the press conference was to announce and outline the city’s plans for the Mardi Gras weekend, to thank the community for its support and cooperation with the local government’s efforts last year, and to ask for everyone’s help again for 2006, Linden said.

Linden was joined by a variety of prominent figures in the community who are involved in “The Party is Still Over” campaign such as San Luis Obispo Mayor Dave Romero, City Council Member Paul Brown, City Administrative Officer Ken Hampian, Cal Poly Vice President for Student Affairs Cornel Morton, Cal Poly Dean of Students Jean DeCosta, ASI President Taylor Middletown in addition to representatives from Cuesta College and police officers.

The Mardi Gras operation period will run from Thursday, Feb. 23 through Fat Tuesday, which is Tuesday, Feb. 28. The team of officers see Party, page 2

Residents confused over abrupt cable changes

Jennifer Hall
MUSTANG DAILY

Cal Poly students living on campus recently returned from the holiday break only to discover that something was out of place.

When they turned their television dials and flipped through the channels, looking for their favorite show, they discovered that the 60 channels they used to get had been cut to just 32 with many of their favorites now missing.

“The first thing I noticed was that MTV was Channel 21 instead of Channel 64," said Ali Noyer, a graphic design sophomore and Cerro Vista resident.

The channel change took place over the 2005 holiday break after five years of debate between Housing and Business Services and Charter Communications over the television services provided to students that live on campus.

The number of cable channels provided was reduced and three HBO channels were added to the line-up. The unexpected change has left students confused and upset.

“I didn’t appreciate the fact that they didn’t approach us before they made the decision for us," said Marya Mikati, an architectural engineering sophomore and Cerro Vista resident.

Discussions for the change began back in 2000 when the contract with Charter came up for renewal and Cal Poly renegotiated see TV, page 2
Accident
continued from page 1
charges.
Hit-and-run suspects are booked on felony charges when the accident results in injury.
Wei Wang was taken to Sierra Vista Hospital and treated for injuries to her neck, back and should-
ders but was released from the emergency room later that day.
There were 16 felony charges of hit-and-run accidents in the city of San Luis Obispo for 2004. The majority of hit-and-run accidents in San Luis Obispo are misdemeanor convictions.
Hit-and-run accidents occur almost on a daily basis," said Sgt. John Blu hoje with the San Luis Obispo Police Department. "A very high percentage (of these accidents) are minor."
McGuire was later released from the San Luis Obispo County Jail.
He awaits decision from the District Attorney's office to decide if he will be tried for a misdemeanor charge or a felony.

TV
continued from page 1
another three years of similar service in exchange for ownership of the cable line on campus at the end of those three years. This ownership would allow them more control over television services.
In spring 2005, Housing and Business Services met with Interhall Council (IHC), a group comprised of all the residence hall presidents, to discuss the changes. The council proposed adding HBO in lieu of the a variety of DVR tuners throughout the entire city.
In addition, the nudity ordinance will be in effect in which public nudity and flashing will be illegal for the Mardi Gras weekend, Linden said.
As part of the campaign, police officers will be distributing pamphlets door-to-door in San Luis Obispo and will be sending state-wide press releases to discourage students from UC, CSU and community college campuses from coming to San Luis Obispo to party during the Mardi Gras weekend and to let them know that "they are not welcome here," Linden said.
"Our goal for our officers that weekend is to have proactive interaction with members of the public but they will be strictly enforcing our safety orders," Linden said. Cornel Morton, Cal Poly's vice president for student affairs, reminded the police department's message to ensure a safe Mardi Gras weekend.
Morton explained that the students at Cal Poly, in his view, are responsible students that do not want to be arrested, injured or placed before the university's business. "We, as student development professionals in student affairs, reinforce responsible behavior by acknowledging the students' good work but by also challenging them to represent themselves in responsible ways," he said. "I also want to convey the university's commitment to working with the city of San Luis Obispo and all of its residents to make Mardi Gras a safe event that people can feel good about." Middlesdston echoed the remarks made by Linden and Morton for a safe Mardi Gras event for the entire community, including Cal Poly students. He explained that this year's plan is a replication of what was developed last year, which was a part of an executive vice president of ASI.
"Hopefully the students and the community can all agree that this is something that we need to do so we can step up to the plate and do our part," he said.
In reaction to the large number of officers that will be infiltrating San Luis Obispo this year, about 30 less than last year, Middlesdston said even though that many officers may not be needed, it is a necessary precaution so that the city is better safe than sorry.
"I hope that as we stand here today a few weeks from now we can gather and celebrate a successful, injury-free, incident-free Mardi Gras," Morton said.

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Thursday, January 26, 2006
9:30 am to 2:30 pm
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Upcoming Drama Series
All Types, All Looks
No Experience Necessary
$25-$100 Per Hour
805-294-0331 for information.
Leave name, email and phone #.
Respond by January 26th.

Party
continued from page 1
will be illegal for the Mardi Gras period, which means certain violations will be tripled.
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su|do|ku
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WHO SAID THAT?

There are painters who transform the sun to a yellow spot, but there are others who with the help of their art and their intelligence, transform a yellow spot into the sun.
— Pablo Picasso

I daresay one profits more by the mistakes one makes off one’s own bat than by doing the right thing on somebody’s else advice.
— W. Somerset Maugham (1874 - 1965)

Wordly
Wise

Flippant: Showing inappropriate levity; pert.

BREAKING NEWS
UPDATED AT THE SPEED OF COLLEGE LIFE
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Name: Andrew Humaydan • Year: junior
Hometown: Danville • Major: architecture

Favorites
Song: “Final Cowboy” by Europe
Musical artist: Johnny Cash in his later years.
Passions: Baseball; I like balls.
Day: Chew hair Wednesdays

If You Could ...
— travel anywhere, where would you go and why?
I’ve always wanted to try the Black Plague, so, medieval Florence.
— meet anybody, who would you meet and why?
Vic Mackie, only because Michael Chiklis is a bitch.
— have any super power, what would it be and why?
To shoot spaghetti out of my fingers, so I can say to people, “You’re very rude, have some spaghetti.”

Other
Shout out: “To all the boys at 1230 at 1237 and for keepin’ it real 21-248.”
State briefs

ATASCADERO — The medical marijuana dispensary that closed two weeks ago is closing down while the city decides how to manage such stores.

The City Council voted 4-1 late Tuesday to ask staff to craft a law governing the operation of such businesses. The law will come back to the city's Planning Commission for review as early as next month.

The commission believes it could move against such a law, making the dispensaries illegal, or the law could be passed so they could operate in a limited capacity.

Central Coast Compassionate Caregivers opened the pot dispensary on El Camino Real for medical marijuana patients.

SANTA BARBARA — A gang member was sentenced to death for the ambush killing of a man stabbed 48 times.

Joshua Miracle, 26, should suffer the penalty of death by lethal injection at San Quentin as a time to be fixed by the court in a warrant of execution," Superior Court Judge Brian Hill ruled Tuesday.

Miracle was silent during the sentencing hearing, which included an impassioned plea from victim Elia Silva's mother.

STOCKTON — The City of Stockton agree to pay as much as $1 million to settle a lawsuit with a man who suffered a broken pelvis after a tree fell on him in a city park.

The City Council voted 5-0 on Tuesday to pay Harold Jerome Miller Jr. $800,000 as part of the settlement reached last Thursday.

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Researchers find racial differences in smoking-related risks

Alicia Chang

LOS ANGELES — Even when they smoke the same amount, blacks are more likely than whites and other races to develop lung cancer, suggesting genes may help explain the racial differences long seen in the disease, researchers say.

The largest study ever done on the subject found that whites who smoked up to a pack a day have half the risk of lung cancer of blacks and native Hawaiians who smoke the same amount. Hispanic and Asian smokers were also found to be less likely than blacks to develop the disease. However, the racial differences disappeared among heavy smokers.

Doctors have long known that blacks are substantially more likely than whites to develop lung cancer and more likely to die from it. But the reasons for the disparity are unclear.

Some say the difference is a matter of genetics, while others contend smoking habits may play a role. For example, researchers say blacks tend to puff more deeply than whites, which may expose them to more carcinogens. Smoking rates are also slightly higher among blacks, but whites tend to smoke more cigarettes a day.

In the latest study — published in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine — researchers compared the lung cancer risk among ethnic groups who smoke the same amount.

The study did not address the possible reasons for the racial disparity, lead researcher Christopher Haiman, an assistant professor of preventive medicine at the University of Southern California, said, the findings suggest genes may be one of the factors that explain the phenomenon.

The study involved more than 180,000 people, more than half of cost California's nonpartisan Legislative Analyst estimates the state would lose $1.7 billion over five years in direct federal support and $14 billion in new costs to the state.

Much of the lost funding would come from federal cuts to student loan programs. The changes would increase borrower costs and reduce profits for lenders that participate in the federally sponsored college loan programs.

California also faces penalties of $185 million in 2009 and $260 million in 2010 if the state can't encourage more welfare recipients back to work.

Although the state has made some strides in moving welfare recipients into jobs, the proposed federal law would reduce even further the number of people California needs to get off welfare, wiping out its caseload improvements since 1996.

California's welfare population has been steady in recent years and many officials do not believe the state could easily meet the new work mandate, possibly forcing it to pay penalties.

H.D. Palmer, spokesman for Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's Department of Finance, said Congress is unlikely to ever impose the penalties because currently only five states appear likely to meet the new welfare-to-work rules. He said the administration is working with the California Congressional delegation to amend the rules either before the measure is approved or as part of a revision that would be taken up in the coming months.

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Bush's choice to head mine safety agency is former coal operator, opposed by union

Kimberly Heard

WASHINGTON — The former coal operator chosen by President Bush to oversee mine safety received a medal from Pennsylvania's governor for his work when nine trapped miners were rescued in 2002. But Richard Stickler is likely to be questioned closely about that same work next week at his Senate confirmation hearing.

The United Mine Workers union has criticized the safety record of the state agency he ran that doubled the national average in six of eight years, and one of the mines he managed was blamed for miners at Quecreek trapped until they were rescued 77 hours later. No criminal charges were filed, and the grand jury did not fault any individuals.

In 1997, the United Mine Workers opposed Stickler's nomination to run the state agency, which he went on to lead from 1997 to 2003. The agency has a current budget of $5.7 million compared to the federal Mine Safety and Health Administration's $277 million operating budget for 2006.

Citing federal records, the union wrote in a letter to Ridge before Stickler's Pennsylvania appointment that an evaluation by the union showed there were incident rates in mines he ran that doubled the national average in six of eight years, and one of the mines he managed for five years had two fatal accidents during that time.

"We believe it needs to be somebody who has not spent their entire career figuring out how to get production ahead of safety and trying to figure out how to circumvent safety laws so they can increase the production," said Phil Smith, a UMWA spokesman.

One of the main criticisms of the federal agency in recent years — particularly during the Bush administration — is that it is run by those with close ties to mining, and that it is lax in enforcing fines and opening up documents.

California Rep. George Miller, the top Democrat on the committee that oversees the Labor Department, said lawmakers should look at Stickler's nomination with "a new level of diligence," especially when it comes to assessing his views on "enforcement of the law and compliance of the law."

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National briefs

NEW YORK (AP) - Astronomers say they've found what may be the smallest and most distant planet known to be orbiting a star outside our own solar system.

This work suggests that such small rocky or icy planets may be more common in the cosmos than Jupiter-sized gas giant planets, researchers said. The discovery also indicates the power of a relatively new method of finding such "exoplanets."

- - -

BLAINE, Wash. (AP) - A high-speed chase ended in gunfire and a major U.S.-Canadian border crossing was closed for hours after one of two men sought in a California homicide was shot and wounded.

An unspecified number of Canadian border agents, who are unarmed, left their posts because they were concerned for their safety, but managers took over and maintained security, said Paul Sliney, a spokeswoman for the Canadian Border Services Agency.

Sliney said a fire收支, of Muslim, and Job Attonio Barbas, 22, of Mexico, were arrested after failing to stop at border, said Richmond, Calif., police Lt. Mark Gagan. He confirmed that Hussain was shot and wounded.

WASHINGTON (AP) - Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld spoke a day after the court dramatically stepped in, saying it was "an extraordinary day." He was referring to the Supreme Court that lower courts were blocked by a brown curtain.

"In addition, it's hard to harden. It's not a particularly fort, and that's been in barracks or garrison." Rumsfeld spoke a day after The Associated Press reported that an unreleased study conducted for the Pentagon said the Army is being overextended, thanks to the two wars.

Bush: United States must be able to know ahead of time about any plan by al-Qaida to attack

Nedra Pickler

FORTE MEADE, Md. — President Bush said Wednesday that the United States must be able to know ahead of time about any plan by al-Qaida to attack American soil.

"We must learn the intentions of the enemy before they strike," Bush said. "That's what they do here. They work to protect us." Bush's stop here at the heavily-secured site of the super-secret spy agency in suburban Maryland had two purposes. He was aiming to boost the morale of the people carrying out the work of a 4-year-old domestic spying program in which the government monitors the international communications of people inside the United States whom it believes to have connections to the terrorist network al-Qaida. The president is also leading a wide-ranging campaign by his administration to defend the program, under fire from Democrats and Republicans alike who argue that it may be illegal.

Senate hearings on whether Bush has, as he claims, the authority to allow the program begin in less than two weeks.

"We've seen that part of the terrorist strategy is to place operatives inside of our country. They blend in with the civilian population. They get their orders from overseas and then they emerge to strike from within," he told reporters after speaking behind closed doors to NSA employees and going on a tour of the agency.

"We must be able to quickly detect when someone linked to al-Qaida is communicating with someone inside of America," he said.

Supreme Court agrees to hear death row inmate's appeal

Gina Holland

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court agreed Wednesday to hear a Florida death row inmate's appeal which challenges that state's lethal injection method, just hours after the court dramatically stepped in to stop the man's execution.

Clarence Hill, 48, had been strapped to a gurney with IV lines strapped to a gurney with IV lines coming up in the final days before the scheduled execution.

Hill's lawyer had told the Supreme Court that there is a risk that Hill will not be fully anesthetized at the time of his death and that courts should look at his latest claims.

The 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta had said that Hill's case would be argued on April 26. A Florida Department of Corrections spokeswoman said Hill would be moved off of death watch, a cell block adjacent to the execution chamber, and back to death row.

"What a fantastic day. What a fantastic day," said D. Todd Doss, Hill's attorney. "What a relief."

Hill argues that the three chemicals used in Florida executions — sodium pentothal, pancuronium bromide and potassium chloride — cause pain, making his execution cruel and unusual punishment. The justices' eventual ruling, however, will be limited to procedural questions about how courts should deal with similar last-minute appeals.

He is on death row for the Oct. 19, 1982, slaying of Pensacola police Officer Stephen Taylor, 26, and the wounding of his partner, Larry Baity, when they responded to a silent alarm of a bank robbery.

Hill's case allows the court to revisit a 2004 ruling in an Alabama death case, in which justices said that allowing inmates to appeal methods of execution challenges the "cruel and unusual punishment. The justices agreed that although Nelson had used his traditional appeals he should not have been barred from pursuing the issue that came up in the final days before the scheduled execution.

Lobbyist and criminal defense attorney David Archey told reporters, after speaking at a hearing on Wednesday that the court was not going to "open the floodgates to all manner of method-of-execution challenges."

"We've seen that part of the terrorist strategy is to place operatives inside of our country. They blend in with the civilian population. They get their orders from overseas and then they emerge to strike from within," he told reporters after speaking behind closed doors to NSA employees and going on a tour of the agency.

"We must be able to quickly detect when someone linked to al-Qaida is communicating with someone inside of America," he said.

Democratic and other critics maintain that Bush already had that authority under the Patriot Act, approved by Congress in 1998, and that he could have proceeded with intelligence eavesdropping deemed "emergency" as long as he notified a FISA court within 72 hours to seek approval after the fact.

Mission Grill

MONDAY

Brunch from 10 AM to 3 PM

TUESDAY

Wine Tasting Night

WEDNESDAY

2 for 1 Monday Special

THURSDAY

Happiest Hour Tuesday from 3 PM to 7 PM

SUNDAY

Brunch from 9 AM to 3 PM

 Bloody Mary's and Bottomless Mimosas

Specials

Thursday, January 26, 2006

President Bush gestures during a visit to the National Security Agency in Fort Meade, Md. He is traveling to the heavily-secured site of the super-secret spy agency to speak with closed doors meeting with employees.

Specials
Frank Sterzuli

The sunny green ore with cohorts Donkey, Pigs in Boots and the rest of the gang will all make a return to the big screen for "Shrek 3." One of the most memorable series ever made by DreamWorks will aim for a third success — but we’ll leave all you fairy tale fans wanting more in the arrival in 2007. As for the most anticipated movies of 2006, several sequels top the chart.

"I'm extremely eager to see 'X3' and Pirates of the Caribbean should be a solid sequel but Jack Sparrow shouldn't act so drunk this time around," said Terrace Grade, a mechanical engineering freshman. Perhaps the top book-turned-movie of the year will be "The Da Vinci Code."

"It was a good book and hopefully the movie is just as good," said Danielle Sartari, a business sophomore. In the realm of comic books-turned-movies, "X3" will undoubtedly top the charts.

Joe Sargent

MUSTANG DAILY

Jesse, skateboarding celebrities and Lil' Jon are all part of the new string of shows on the small screen, as television trims out in new batch of shows.

The old stand-bys, such as "American Idol," "The OC" and "Lost" have all returned, and some fan favorites such as " Arrested Development," and "Alias" have been cancelled. But new shows are in the works, hoping to take off as the new year progresses.

"The Book of Daniel," which premiered Jan. 6 on NBC and shows on Fridays, is already stirring the emotions of the critics and the religious right.

Central around Rev. Daniel Webster, the show looks at his life as he tries to deal with leading his flock, the loss of one of his children, a homosexual son and every now and then, speaking with a vision of Jesus who is a recurring character on the show.

But before the first episode had even aired, the American Family Association, a Christian organization, deemed the show anti-Christian and asked people to call their NBC affiliate, requesting that they not air the show.

"With cancer, intelligent, overwrought, overburdened, wildly entertaining and superbly cast which are just a few of the things that the people who decided to protest the show before it even aired have failed to mention," Robby Winters of USA Today said of the show.

Along with "Daniel," other new shows "Supernatural," which premieres Tuesday, Jan. 17, and "The 4400," which premieres Thursday, Jan. 19, are promising to keep viewers tuned in.

I'm so stoked to hear Chappelle is coming back.

—Travis Collins

see Movie, page 9

Ryan Chaertrand

MUSTANG DAILY

The Chinese may call 2006 the Year of the Dog, but when it comes to video games, this is the year of the new generation of consoles. Microsoft's decision to release their next-generation console, the Xbox 360, early in 2005 could prove to be a great mistake when Sony and Nintendo step up to the plate this year. However, the great battle between the three superpowers in the game industry will not take place until midyear.

Fortunately, the upcoming game for the current generation console, PC, Xbox 360 and GameCube will keep gamers occupied before the three console clash of the century.

"Metal Gear Solid 4: Guns of the Patriots" (PS3) — Whenever a "Metal Gear Solid" game is announced, the world simply freezes. Little is known about the game, aside from the apparent gay hair of the main character Solid Snake, but fans refuse to stop salivating over the long delayed game. PS3 is sure to bring an entirely new experience to this ever-popular series.

"Final Fantasy XII" (PS2) — The upcoming installment in the tremendously popular "Final Fantasy" (FF) franchise is one of the longest awaited titles in the series. With the overreaching anticipation from fans of the series, "FFXII" and its entirely revamped real-time battle system could be one of the last best sellers for the PS2.

"Kingdom Hearts 2" (PS2) and "FEXII," two widely popular role-playing games for the PS2 scheduled for early 2006, could keep many gamers distracted from the Xbox 360 which is Sony preparing to use in their next-generation console, the P3.

"Kingdom Hearts 2" is a role-playing game that brings Disney characters and the spirit of classic role-playing games (RPG) into one highly memorable experience for gamers of all ages. Cane, Jack Sparrow and Jack Skellington are among the characters the developers of "FEXII" have dreamed up for the game.
## Companies attending

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### Details

**Chumash Auditorium**

**Thursday, Jan. 26th**

8:45am-2:30pm

**Questions? E-mail CPAGSHOWCASE@YAHOO.COM**

**Remember to include your resumes!**
Television

the spring for a third season. Episodes will air but it is not a complete season due to the fact that Dave Chappelle left during the middle of production. What will air is what he completed before leaving. "I am so stoked to hear Chappelle is coming back," said Travis Cxillms, an agriculture business senior. "That show kills me."

ABC premiered a new legal drama earlier this month "Injustice," a story of people who have been wrongly convicted of a crime, and the people who work for the National Justice Project who are trying to help them out.

In the world of reality, CBS is premiering "What If." later this season. O eated by Allison and Ridley Scott ("Alien" and "Blade Runner"), the same production team behind "Big

"What If..." later this season. O eated by Allison and Ridley Scott ("Alien" and "Blade Runner") and revolves around a modern day cult.

Movies

continued from page 7

Boesworth in it along with cast mates Brandon Routh, James Marsden and Frank Langella.

2. "Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest" (June 6) — The Black Pearl belongs to Capt. Jack Sparrow once more, but a blood debt promises Sparrow into another adventurous quest — this time to save his own life.

Of course, the sequel wouldn't be a hit without stars Johnny Depp, Orlando Bloom and Keira Knightley.

1. "X3" (May 26) — The rivalry between Magneto and Xavier heats up as battle lines are drawn after a treatment for mutants is discovered. Not much is out about the movie just yet, but it looks to be the most anticipated movie of 2006. Stars include Hugh Jackman, Halle Berry, Ian McKellen, Fanoe Jamieson, Anna Paquin and Kelsey Grammer.

Music

continued from page 7

Music continued from page 7

Pitchfork, which has many (many) things in the pipeline as of 2006. According to the band's Web site, in classic Sonic style, there is a handful of releases, solo projects and side projects due out before 2007. So for you rockers, 2006 will be a year of promising works from artists old and new.
**Editorial**

**EDITORIAL/ STAFF**

editor in chief | Dan Watson
managing editor | Kristen Otto

**STAFF**


**CORRECTIONS**

Please limit length to 2.50 words.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

Letters should include the writers full name, phone number, major, and class standing. Letters, essays, and columns do not represent the views of the Mustang Daily.

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**Write a Letter**

Mustang Daily reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, punctuation, and length. Letters, commentaries, 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@gmail.com

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

**Corrections**

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 correction suggestions to mustangdaily@gmail.com

**Notice**

The Mustang Daily is a designated public forum. Student editors have full authority to make all content decisions without censorship or advance approval.

**January 26, 2006**

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Mustang Daily

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"If I look like a small child, that's because I am." -- Twain

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**Sex Column**

**Give a Little, Get a Little**

Daniel Explains it All

By Daniel Gingras

In mathematics, the reciprocal of a fraction is its inverse, but in sex-names, a handjob cancels out a finger-bang. For those who aren't familiar, there are four tiers to the "base system" that are commonly used by men in describing how much action we get when shaking up. If you got to first base, you did everything or anything up to making out, but probably didn'tLEVEL 1. LEVEL 2. LEVEL 3. LEVEL 4.

For questions, comments, or to invite Daniel to a game of baseball, write to daniel@calpoly.edu

**COLUMNIST LINEUP...**

- **Monday** - Guest commentary: "Is your chance to contribute to the Op-Ed section!"
  - "By Your name here by Jack L
  - "Tuesday - The Soapbox Diaries" by Tyler Middlestadt
  - "Wednesday - Poly Point-blank" by Mike Matke and Doug Brantuze
  - "Thursday - Sex columns" by Daniel Gingras and January Edrion

- **Friday - Two Classy Gents**
  - "They're on takes on President Baker, Scientology, love-making and Chuck Liddell: What will our human rhythm take on next?" by Mike Matke and Doug Brantuze

**ONLINE EXCLUSIVE LINEUP...**

- **Monday**
  - "The Bottom Line on the Screen" an online column exclusive to Mustang Daily Online

- **Tuesday**
  - "The Word on the Screen" an online column exclusive to Mustang Daily Online

- **Wednesday**
  - "Let's Talk about sex,..."
  - "Some people know what they're doing, others just figure it out.

- **Thursday**
  - "Be Our Guest! The Mustang Daily® invites you to contribute to the Op-Ed section every Monday!"
  - "Submit us an article, limited to 500 words, by e-mail to mustangdaily@gmail.com."
  - "Guest Editorial Commentaries" by Jack L

---

**What does the other sex have to say?**

"The most important thing to remember is that our genders are not the same, but we all share the same body. Whether you are a boy or a girl, you have the same reproductive system, and it is important to understand how it works."

- **Monday**
  - "By Julianne Peyer"}

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"It's like 'The Life of Cal Poly.'"
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Some knowledge for Mr. Eller

Brian Eller, I hope your column on global warming was just an extreme right-wing shock attack to stir up some commotion (Rush Limbaugh style), because if you actually believe in what you wrote, that's scary. How selfish can you be to say that global warming is a non-existent problem today?

Now, I'm assuming that for you to make such a bold and ignorant statement, you must not know about the world's current conditions and the exponential rate at which they have gotten that way, so let me give some knowledge to use. The Maldives, a nation of 320,000 people that inhabit it, 1,150 islands in the Indian Ocean, has 80 percent of its land area lying less than 39 inches (around 3 feet) above sea level. If you think this is a problem to worry about, then I suggest you worry about the number of new markets and jobs it would create.

Sustainable societies are possible, it will require some education on the matter.

Rob Fitzroy

If Iraq is worth the money, global warming certainly is too

I have just re-reading Brian Eller's article on global warming and still can't figure out how he relates this environmental problem to the Holocaust. Apparently, people concerned with protecting the natural resources are just as uncaring as those people who are concerned with protecting the inner-workings of Jews and people of the Jewish faith.

The problem may not be as bad as some activists make it, but that does not mean that we should ignore it completely. The United States backed out of the Kyoto Protocol in 2001, long before it would take effect in 2008. So why are we arguing a dead issue?

If you are concerned about misappropriated funds how about a more genuine way to protect the environment like the 85% of money spent in Iraq in the 2005 fiscal year. That is more than we spent combating terrorism, developing a cure for AIDS, feeding starving children, providing clean drinking water and controlling malaria combined. "A democratic and stable Iraq that could lead to the eventual democratization of the Middle East" looks to be as far off as us dying from global warming. Shelve us on that will people?

Bryan Neff

Physicist: I'll give you the facts on global warming

"Global warming skeptics" have stated that the Kyoto Protocol is unattainable. His unsupported claims and faulty logic gave me a headache. He used the old fallback excuse that "there is not enough known about global warming, therefore we should sit on our hands and do nothing." He claims that "we are uncertain if global warming is caused by human activity, but I will give you the facts and let you decide for yourselves.

CO2 is a gas responsible for causing global warming. In the 160,000 years before the Industrial Revolution, the level of CO2 oscillated slowly between 200 and 300 parts per million. In the last 200 years since the Industrial Revolution the level has increased from 280 ppm to 370 ppm. This is a 35% increase from D. Botoring, and E. Keller, environmental science.

(Notice how I cited a source unlike Mr. Eller who cited only the dubious claim of a $92 trillion deal for the Kyoto Protocol.)

My favorite part of the article, however, was Mr. Eller's comparison between global warming and racism. I find that most people don't make sense of the racism analogy anymore. Mr. Eller's analogy about these two was so strong that why didn't Eller write it? Global warming is not a race issue, but an environmental issue to increase our survival in similar fashions.

Recently someone made an interesting analogy between Mr. Eller's theories and a particular practice of the government today. George Washington and Thomas Jefferson. This practice was slavery; it ended in the death, displacement and torture of millions of and ultimately caused the Civil War. Is it not time we did the same thing for the future of the world?

Industrial engineering senior

Fraternity Spring Rush is here

Now that we have settled into our routine of having fun every other weekend, I want to remind the student body of a big upcoming event. On Wednesday, Feb. 1, the Interfraternity Council at CalPoly begins in Spring Rush Week. This is an opportunity for people to research all fraternities and get a feel for what they are really about. I invite everyone who is interested in the Greek life to come to the FREE all-greek kick-off bar-be- cue on Thursday, Feb. 2 at 11 a.m. in the UK.

I have decided that you should make sure you got a frater to join you and have fun. I will see you at Rush. If you disapprove of the greek system and all that it stands for, come on anyway. Ask tough questions. You may be surprised that most of the students are not held true if you are you unsure about the greek system, come out to rush. You can form your own opinion. Even if you decide eventually that greek life is not for you, at least you took the chance.

The greek organizations are involved in a variety of events within Cal Poly and the city of San Luis Obispo. We are currently collaborat­ ing with the SLO Police Department to prevent a repeat of Mandi Gra 2004. After all the help that fraternities and sororities provided last year in controlling Mandi Gra, the police department once again is planning to have greek leaders within our community.

Many greek members are also planning to participate in spearhead­ ing the creation of the 1 in 4-pro­ grams in conjunction with the Cal Poly Women's Center. This is a male-student led group that provides sexual abuse counseling and awareness programs to Cal Poly students. This greek involvement will benefit the community and also hopefully encourage other non-greek males to participate as well. Rush week is an opportunity to get involved with diverse and many more programs. Greek life at Cal Poly is filled with opportunities to develop great friendships as well as your leadership skills. I hope that you take advantage of these opportunities and step to the kick off bar-be-cue.

Nicholas B. Levine

Architecture senior

Where did all the nice guys go? In hiding

I have noticed a change in tone of your column and the description of your friends, I think the nice guys are actively avoiding you. I know, I know, we should think of our eyes and we come running — all is forgiven, no matter how many times you have "preyed" on us in the past.

But nice guys — more or less by definition — are immune to such tricks. Look, aren't enough — you may turn our heads, but you won't turn our hearts. We are waiting for someone with more depth, someone who is worth all the effort — and trust me, a nice guy will go to the ends of the earth to make you happy.

Instead, you spend your time with guys who have no qualms about "bad manners." Are you honestly going to tell me that you can't make the call within the first few dates? And if you choose to stay with him, why are you surprised that they don't value you as a person?

Contrary to what you think, they too, are "paying the weakest." A real woman — confident and assured wouldn't waste her time with a jackass. So, ladies, end the damn cycle. Find the nice guys — not by whit­ ning that fraternities provide but by actively seeking us out. Prove that you are worth the time and energy we will give you.

Jonathan Clanton

Computer engineering senior

The library is no place to study. Change it back

So we've finally found the secret to finding out the current changes made to the library. I admit, it wasn't the third week that I finally migrated towards the bomb shelter we call our library. I was immediately shocked by the size of the stack of the reserve rooms. And to be honest, I hate it. Who can study on tables that tower into the sky, are too small for more than one person and I can't look like they belong outside. Besides, there's no table space; it's just too cramped and makes me feel awkward. I want the old tables back and until then, I will not study. That is right and re-instating my grades in an effort to make some quality changes (or changes back) so students can study in the library once again.

Kristin Feltcar

Nutrition junior

Bush is not a tyrant

Jack L. Ingram III makes a classic liberal mistake in his January 24th article "Bush tyrant, president or ido." Even though he refers to Bush as the Commander in Chief, he fails to remember that we are at war. This is not a policing matter; America is a war with a corrupt ideology of hate and terror.

Name-calling and half-truths will not convince anybody that the presi­ dent is a tyrant like Castro, Kim Jong II or Saddam. Domestic spying is a way of referring to inter­ ceping international calls to terror­ ists, and even John McCain admits that his attorney bill has obvious exceptions in times of war.

Mr. Ingram should also remember that Congress authorized the use of force against "nations, organizations, or persons responsible for 9/11." It also jointly supported a resolution against Iraq to defend national secu­ rity and enforce UN resolutions. The Constitution and the United States Congress give the president expanded powers at times of war and President Bush understands that we are at war. This is nothing else to think about Jack. Everybody in American history has overstepped their power a few times in times of war. Abraham Lincoln even suspended habeas corpus during the Civil War when he jailed around 13,000 peace protesters who advocated calling a truce with the Confederacy. The Constitution for allow slavery.

That is far more tyrannical than anything that Bush has ever done, yet he is revered by many as the best American president ever.

Matt Bushman

Civil engineering senior
Brian Chen
THE CALIFORNIA DAILY DAVIS — A member of the University of California-Davis Academic Senate has circulated a petition calling for a vote of "No Confidence" against Chancellor Larry Vanderhoef, which, according to the petitioner's author, could result in his forced or voluntary resignation. The petition requires 50 signatures before a resolution will be presented to the 2,500-member Academic Senate, the campus governing body of tenured faculty members. If the resolution is approved by a majority vote from the Senate, it will express the faculty's condemnation of the chancellor's recent actions regarding the settlement agreement with former Vice Chancellor Celeste Kose. In December 2005, The San Francisco Chronicle conducted an investigation that revealed a settlement that appeared to be a cover-up of a discrimination suit filed by Rose. When Rose was forced to resign last summer, the university assigned her a new title with unspecified duties paying an annual salary of $265,000 — a $250,000 raise from her previous payment.

As senator to the chancellor, the settlement guarantees Rose the benefits of a senior manager, including pension, health care and severance pay. UC-Davis also promised to provide Rose letters of recommendation and a $50,000 transition fund to help her find a new job at the conclusion of the two-year agreement.

Rose had threatened to file a lawsuit using UC-Davis for racial and gender discrimination, according to her lawyer. Many perceive the settlement to be a course of action to avoid embarrassment to the university.

Medical biology professor Jerold This, a member of the Senate who authored the resolution and circulated the petition, said he discovered the chancellor's decision to settle the case outside of court.

UC-Davis also fell under public scrutiny for allegedly violating university policy by not seeking approval from the UC Board of Regents for the settlement.

Then she believes the proper course of action would have been to settle the case in court. Since the chancellor and other executives receive high salaries, they should be expected to "transact any personal inconveniences" and "take fak when they are supposed to," he added.

"I think (the settlement has) brought a good deal of suspicion on the university that it doesn't deserve," This said. "When anybody settles an issue like this out of court with no public hearing of the facts, there's always a segment of who's going to be suspicious that they did this because they couldn't defend their record. I think that leads the institutions with a bad image. To me that's one of the things that the officers have to defend the institutions' message, its image and the faculty's reputation."

The resolution criticizes Vanderhoef's decision and lambasts him personally for his role in bringing embarrassment to the campus. If the resolution were to pass, the chancellor could either volunteer to resign or the University of California president must call for his resignation. Then speculated.

He added that he does not see the chancellor of having been discriminatorily when asking Rose to resign. He said from what he has observed, the chancellor had a good record in regard to maintaining a diverse workforce. However, Then noted that the chancellor had no reason to settle the case outside of court if his record was clean.

Academic Senate Chair Daniel Simmons declined to disclose his position on the resolution but he said he feels the campus should focus on improving its transparency rather than take action against the chancellor.

"I don't think that a vote of no confidence serves any purpose at all," he said. "I know there are a lot of faculty who are unhappy with some of the compensation practices, but those issues transcend the Davis campus. Having the faculty getting in a fight with the chancellor doesn't move us forward."

Vanderhoef was unavailable for comment before press time but Assistant Chancellor for Communications Maril Stratton said the petition's circulation saddens her.

"In the more than 20 years I've worked with Chancellor Vanderhoef, I've known him to be an individual of the highest integrity," she said. "His record clearly demonstrates that." Stratton said the chancellor made a decision "with this university's best interests at heart" regarding Rose's case.

"If cases such as this, the university must consider the financial and political costs of litigation, disruption of staff and operations in the affected unit, and the chilling effect of public claims of racism and gender discrimination on student, faculty and staff recruitment and retention," she said. "In this circumstance, resolution was thought to be the best course and in the university's long-term best interest."

Then said he expects to collect enough signatures by the end of this week. If he succeeds, the Senate will vote by mail.

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Hamas makes strong showing in Palestinian elections, exit polls show

Ravi Neusman
ASSOCIATED PRESS

RAMALLAH, West Bank — Hamas made a stronger-than-expected showing in the Palestinians’ first parliamentary election in a decade Wednesday, and the ruling Fatah Party may have to include the Islamic militants in a coalition government, according to exit polls.

The impressive results for Hamas, competing in its first election ever, reflected popular discontent with Fatah, the secular party that has led the Palestinian Authority since its creation 12 years ago and has been accused of widespread corruption and mismanagement.

The election was the Palestinians’ first truly competitive vote, and officials hoped it would help cement democracy in the post-Yasser Arafat era. But it also gave unprecedented clout to Hamas, which calls for Israel’s destruction and is listed as a terror group by the United States and European Union.

An exit poll by Bir Zeit University in Ramallah showed Fatah winning 63 seats in the 132-member parliament with 46.4 percent of the vote, and Hamas taking 56 seats with 39.5 percent. Smaller parties received 11 seats, according to the poll of 8,000 voters in 232 polling stations. The poll had a one-seat margin of error.

A second survey showed Fatah beating Hamas 42 percent to 35 percent.

Before the election, pollsters said it was too close to call. Hamas made a stronger showing than the 30 percent that many pollsters expected.

The polls indicated Fatah may need to include some Hamas members in its ruling coalition because some of the independents were aligned with the militants. Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas could face problems with Israel and the United States if he includes Hamas members in his Cabinet.

President Bush told The Wall Street Journal in an interview Wednesday that the United States will not deal with Hamas until it renounces its position calling for the destruction of Israel.

"And so you’re getting a sense of how I’m going to deal with Hamas if they end up in positions of responsibility. And the answer is: Not until you renounce your desire to destroy Israel will we deal with you.”

In Gaza City, Fatah loyalists fired rifles out of car windows, sounded their horns and waved the yellow flag of their movement as they drove around the streets after getting word of the exit polls.

“Even though this is not the official result, we have to celebrate,” said 22-year-old Omar Abdel Al Kaouf, waving an assault rifle from his car window. “The winner is the Palestinian people.”

Hundreds of thousands of Palestinians flooded polling stations throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip for a vote that would determine how Palestinians wanted to be governed and whether they would pursue negotiations or confrontation with Israel.

Long lines formed at polling stations, and 77.7 percent of 1.3 million eligible voters cast ballots. Under a compromise with Israel, some Arabs in east Jerusalem were allowed to cast absentee ballots at post offices in the disputed city, and voting was extended there by two hours because postal workers were slow.

PRELIMINARY results were expected late Wednesday or early Thursday. Complete results were expected by late Thursday. Routine power cuts in the Gaza Strip town of Khan Younis forced election workers to count ballots by candlelight.

“Whoever is the winner, it’s a great victory for the Palestinians in general because partnership starts from this minute,” said Samer Lulu, 29, a merchant who voted in Gaza City.

Hamas’ success has alarmed Israel and the West, but Abbas has argued that hating the group, which has been behind dozens of deadly attacks on Israel, into politics would tame it and increase the chances for peace. The election will usher in a new parliament and Cabinet, but Abbas, who was elected president last year, will remain head of the Palestinian Authority regardless of the results.

“We are coming into a new phase. In this phase, we are calling for the international community to help us return to the negotiating table with the Israelis, conclude the peace process and implement it,” Abbas said after the voting ended.

Palestinians were given the day off to vote, and the election was held in a celebratory atmosphere that was rare in the recent years of fighting with Israel. Some activists covered their cars with red carnations, as if for a wedding, and others blasted campaign songs from car stereos and storefront speakers.

Supporters of the ruling Fatah movement shout slogans on Salahadin street outside a main polling station near the ancient wall that surrounds Jerusalem’s Old City, in Arab east Jerusalem on Wednesday.

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Supporters of the ruling Fatah movement shout slogans on Salahadin street outside a main polling station near the ancient wall that surrounds Jerusalem’s Old City, in Arab east Jerusalem on Wednesday.
International briefs

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope Benedict XVI said in his first encyclical Wednesday that the Roman Catholic Church has a duty through its charitable work to influence political leaders to ease suffering and promote justice. The document, "God is Love," also warns against sex without unconditional love, which he said risked turning men and women into merchandise.

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Armed men wearing military fatigues seized two German engineers from a car in northern Iraq on Tuesday in the latest brazen kidnapping to push a foreign government into another desperate race to free its nationals.

Efforts continued to rescue Tirroll, the American freelance reporter kidnapped Jan. 7 in Baghdad. Ciarroll's appearance last week on a silent videotape aired on Arab TV marked the only sign of her since her abduction.

More than 250 foreigners have been kidnapped in Iraq since the 2003 U.S.-led invasion that toppled Saddam Hussein, and at least 39 have been killed.

River and confronted Texas law officers with guns drawn earlier this week were drug smugglers, not soldiers.

MEXICO CITY — Mexico insisted Wednesday that the men in military-style uniforms who crossed the Rio Grande River and confronted Texas law officers with guns drawn earlier this week were drug smugglers, not soldiers.

Mexican presidential spokesman Ruben Aguilar said the FBI supported that view.

A U.S. law enforcement official confirmed Aguilar's account, saying the FBI and other agencies found no evidence that the men in uniform were Mexican soldiers. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because the matter is politically sensitive in both countries.

"These were not Mexican army soldiers, as the U.S. government itself acknowledges," Aguilar said at a news conference. "It is known that these are drug traffickers using military uniforms and they were not even regulation military uniforms."

Aguilar said both countries were investigating the incident.

The incident has raised tensions between the United States and Mexico, which were already bickering over security problems along their 2,000-mile-long border. The United States has proposed extending a wall along the border, something Mexico bitterly opposes.

Texas law enforcement officials confronted armed traffickers near the Rio Grande on Monday as what looked like a Mexican military patrol assisted the marijuana smugglers as they escaped back into Mexico.

No shots were fired during Monday's confrontation with at least 10 heavily armed men, U.S. authorities said Tuesday. The traffickers escaped back into Mexico with much of the marijuana, though they abandoned more than a half-ton of marijuana as they fled and set fire to one of their vehicles.

The confrontation 50 miles east of El Paso started when state police tried to stop three sport utility vehicles on Interstate 10. The vehicles made a quick U-turn and headed south toward the border, a few miles away.

When the SUVs reached the Rio Grande, which marks the border, police saw the occupants of a green, Mexican Army-style Humvee waiting for the convoy, said Rick Glancey of the Texas Border Sheriff's Coalition.

A Mexican government official said the country has long required its soldiers to avoid an area one mile from the U.S. border unless they are authorized.

Troop movements in the alert zone are controlled so they do not happen without good reason, the official said on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media.

He said he did not know exactly when the policy had been implemented, but it was before the Monday incident.

The U.S. Embassy and Mexico's army press office have not commented on the incident.

Mexico: Uniformed men in border incident were drug traffickers, not soldiers

Mark Stevenson

MEXICO CITY — Mexico insisted Wednesday that the men in military-style uniforms who crossed the Rio Grande on Monday as what looked like a Mexican military patrol assisted the marijuana smugglers as they escaped back into Mexico. They then tangled the SUV, Glancey said.

A Mexican government official said the country has long required its soldiers to avoid an area one mile from the U.S. border unless they are authorized.

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The U.S. Embassy and Mexico's army press office have not commented on the incident.
Balk
continued from page 16
Kwame Brown, PF (starting)
A former No. 1 pick in the NBA
draft by the Washington Wizards! Since
then, well, we won't talk about
his career. He averages 7.5 points per
game. This would be the
part where a lesser columnist would
take an easy cheap shot at Michael
Jordan and his abilities as a
evaluative talent, but not
about that.
Andrew Bynum, center
Ranks sixth in the NBA
with 3.76 blocks per
48 minutes. That
would be impressive, except for the
fact that he only averages 7 minutes
a game — meaning for over 5 minutes,
blocks per game. Unfortunately,
I failed to exactly how many of
those blocks were against Black
Mania is an effort to get him to
pass Brian Cook, PF, Devon
George, SF, and Devin Green,
With a combined 13.9 points
per game, they collectively have a
significant impact on the game.
Brain Cook leads the team with a
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The New York Times Crossword

Can you figure out what's unusual about this crossword? Not when you're done, read the first letters of the clues in reverse order
ACROSS
1. Does battle 8. Onsager
2. Name preceding 9. The Mamba sun
3. Earmark 10. Tissue
4. Part of the 11. Abrechnung oder undaway
5. O'Brien, 12. Omega
6. Hold up 13. Fuchs
7. They're often old 14. Sliver
15. Where a lesser columnist would take an easy cheap shot at Michael Jordan and his abilities as a
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Central Coast is Stephenson’s haven

Frank Stranzl

The sunny central coastline is an alluring attraction to many Cal Poly students. Trepid winters and comfortable summers combined with an abundance of eye-earsting beaches makes the university an ideal location for those seeking a scenic and adventurous campus.

The splendor of the Central Coast lays in stark contrast to the four-season calendar of the Northeast. Tucked away in the southern end of Cayuga Lake, N.Y., is a campus with an academic calendar just as infamous as the Northeast’s rigid winters. Cornell University, where a 21-year-old student-athlete from Denver, Col., was about to make a life-changing decision.

“He wasn’t the kind of guy that I would go to war with, go to the trenches with, I just couldn’t trust him,” the former Big Red player said candidly. “One moment he was a great guy, the next moment he was stabbing me in the back and I just didn’t want to play for a coach like that.”

Athletic teams, especially at the higher levels of competition, are like second families. The coach acts as the father, the university as the mother, the players as brothers who share the common bond of sweat, dedication and most importantly, trust. When one of those bonds is broken, distrust isn’t far behind.

“I actually knew I was going to transfer before the season started so I had my dad send out some e-mails that said, ‘Well, here’s a kid and here’s what he’s done. Would you be interested?’

“Back when I was transferring I didn’t say anything negative,” he said, carefully choosing his words. “I said it was a personal decision, and that I wanted to come out West, and obviously I wouldn’t have made this decision if I was happy with the coach. The coach really lost my respect, because I don’t think he was on my side.”

Frank Stranzl

Though the bond he had with the assistant coaches and teammates remained intact, he felt he could no longer play for a coach he didn’t trust or respect.

Gabe Stephenson, a senior forward for the Cal Poly men’s basketball team, had one year of eligibility remaining at Cornell when he called his parents to ask their advice.

“I know what he told me, I know what the coaches told me and I know from being a coach of my own,” said Gabe’s father, David Stephenson. “Sometimes Gabe has a different perspective from how the coaches view him. I simply told him it was his decision and he knew what was right for him.”

Gabe’s mother, Cassandra Sasso, now divorced and living in Shell Beach, Calif., understood Gabe’s desire to transfer.

“When he first called me, I was working as a trial lawyer in Denver and he called me and told me that he wanted to do it,” Sasso said. “At the time that he first called me he was a little emotional and I knew he had wanted to live in California since he was in high school.”

Gabe had made up his mind. He would leave the icy atmosphere of Ithaca behind to transfer to a much warmer climate.

Sunday night I was still trying to comprehend the significance of the NFL conference championship games. Was the fact that the Seahawks were going to the Super Bowl a sign that fire and brimstone would soon rain from the sky? Was the name Jake permanent­ly disgraced by Jake Plummer and Jake Delhomme in one weekend with their combined seven turnovers? (Seriously, I challenge you to find a baby born in the next week that isn’t named Jake.)

Would Super Bowl XL be renamed “XXXL” in honor of Jerome Bettis, homecoming to Detroit and his Michelin Man like physique? I was contemplating all things pertaining to football when the Black Mamba struck.

For those of you unfamiliar with the Black Mamba, it is the self-pro­claimed nickname of a certain shooting guard who wears No. 8 for the Los Angeles Lakers. I will revisit the overwhelming urge to go on a tirade about how he blatantly ripped through the net, one thought stuck out in my head above all others: I would hate to be his teammate.

Rather than being awestruck by the second highest scoring output by a single player in a single NBA game (second behind Wilt Chamberlain’s 100 points), I found myself sympathizing with his forgotten teammates. Would you want to be one of the guys endlessly feeding the ball in his pursuit of individual glory; never receiving any recognition or media attention for your performance? Would you secretly hope that BM would tear his knee in several places? Would a mysterious locker room “accident” lead to the end of BM’s season?

Which is why when talking with my friend CJ, I realized it was time to give the others their 15 minutes in the spotlight. No, not “The Others” from Lost (I’ve yet to see a basketball court on the island). The other 11 basketball players that currently wear a Lakers jersey and must suffer through the torture that is playing with a man who is averaging 27.7 shots per game. With the exception of “the one who cannot not score,” I present to you, the Los Angeles Lakers! see Stephenson, page 15

see Bald, page 15

SPORTS BALK

WITH BRAD

Thursday, January 26, 2006

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