Applicants continue to soar as Poly releases latest ‘Factbook’

James Mfillor

The numbers for 2005 are in.

Cal Poly’s Office of Institutional Planning and Analysis released the 2005 “Factbook” of student characteristics at the university and states that for the 12th year in a row Cal Poly has received an increased number of applicants.

A record 28,840 incoming freshman applied to Poly for Fall 2005. The 3,420 admissions for the 12th year in a row.

A record 28,840 incoming freshman applied to Poly for Fall 2005. The 3,420 admissions for the 12th year in a row Cal Poly has received an increased number of applicants.

The public schools that sent the most new freshmen to Cal Poly were California High School in San Ramon, Monte Vista High School in Danville, Campolindo High School in Moraga, San Ramon Valley High School in Danville, Poway High School in Poway, and Atascadero High School and San Luis Obispo High School.

For most new freshmen to Cal Poly were from the San Francisco Bay Area, 18 percent were from the greater Los Angeles area, 10 percent from the San Joaquin Valley, 8.5 percent from San Diego county, 8.5 percent came from out-of-state, 7.1 percent from the Central Coast area, 7.1 percent from the Sacramento area and 6.9 percent from other California counties.

Among the number of applicants increased 5 percent from last year’s statistics, 41.6 percent from 2000 and has nearly tripled since 1993.

As of Fall 2005, 1.1 percent of Cal Poly students are black, 11.3 percent are Asian, 10 percent are Hispanic, 31 percent are Native American, 31 percent are of “other” non-white ethnic origin, 8.3 percent did not specify their ethnicity and 64.7 percent are white.

Two-thirds of the new students were from in-state residents.

A UC spokesman for the UC said that the UC policies are in line with state law and the policy is not meant to specifically support undocumented immigrants.

Foram Doshi

The UC policies are in line with state law, and the policy is not meant to specifically support undocumented immigrants.

“A UC spokesman for the UC said that the UC policies are in line with state law and the policy is not meant to specifically support undocumented immigrants.

‘This is not a benefit based on (legal or illegal) residency status. In fact, the vast majority of students who receive the benefits are actually U.S. citizens and/or legal citizens,' see Case, page 2.
Dean continued from page 1

health of the state, what goes into our bodies, the protection and economy of the state as a whole is the future of agriculture," Kiani said. She also said she looks forward to working with the 32,000 alumni, understanding the "rich history" of the college and developing a "vision for the future."

Future goals include the creation of a new technology lab building, however, Wehner said announcements and further details are "a long way away."
The new Agriculture Technology Center will expand laboratory space and provide new, modern equipment for agriculture research, Kiani said the new lab center would help direct the college's future.

As assistant dean of advancement and external relations, Kiani's main focus will be fund raising, Wehner explained. Although the title of the position is new to the College of Agriculture, the position itself is not. Former Cal Poly Director of Advancement for the College of Agriculture, Michael Barr, left to take a position for a nonprofit organization, Wehner said. His departure left the position vacant. The title of the position was changed to assistant dean of advancement and external relations to promote a "higher profile" for the job, Wehner said.

During the Centennial Campaign, a multi-year fund-raising campaign that ended in December 2004, the College of Agriculture raised more than $47 million. Helping to lead the College of Architecture and Environmental Design throughout the campaign, Kiani rallied support for fund-raising activities, bringing in $98 million in private support. She earned her bachelor's degree from CSU Long Beach and her M.B.A. from Cal Poly.

Kiani leaves the College of Architecture and Environmental Design with its 8,000 alumni to work with the 23,000 alumni involved in the College of Agriculture. According to Kiani, the position she is vacating has not been filled.

Case continued from page 1

he said. "The issue for us has nothing to do with illegal immigration but confronting the UC policies with state law." He added that the UC policy is aligned with other public institutions of higher education in California, such as the California State University and community colleges, with the hopes of reducing confusion for parents and students.

For the 2004-2005 school year, about 70 percent of the students who received the AB 540 tuition exemption were either U.S. citizens or legal residents. The remaining 30 percent could have been undocumented students, but were not definitely.

Immigration is an issue that faces constant media attention in Southern California, which hosts a large Hispanic population.

Susan Cox, spokeswoman for the Los Angeles Unified School District, said 72 percent of the student population in the district is Hispanic, though the district does not keep track of how many are undocumented students.

"When our students register, there are certain documents they need to show (such as) immunization, proof of residence and birth certificates. We don't distinguish students that enroll in our school as long as they provide the proper credentials," she said. "We're not Big Brother tracking who's here legally and illegally."

But Irina Mehman, a spokesman for the Federation of American Immigration Reform, said he believes undocumented students should not be admitted to state schools, let alone be allowed to pay the same fees as those of in-state residents for higher education.

"The number of seats in the UC is a finite resource. By admitting people who are in the country illegally, we're essentially saying no to someone else that has played by the rules," he said.

While undocumented students may be admitted to public institutions of higher education, they are not entitled to federal, state or university financial aid.

Martha, a UCLA student who immigrated to the United States when she was 10 years old and requested her last name not be used, said she believes this already makes it difficult for immigrant families to finance an education, and it would make it virtually impossible for them to attend college if they had to pay the tuition of out-of-state students.

"I always went to school thinking that I would go to college, but when I was a junior in high school, AB 540 didn't exist and I realized I couldn't go to college because ... my mother couldn't have provided for it," she said.

AB 540 was approved in 2001, before Martha's freshman year at UCLA, which allowed her to pay the in-state fees for the university.

Martha said she hopes that AB 540 will not be overturned as a result of the lawsuit against the UC.

She said it would make it extremely difficult for her to go to graduate school and would prevent her younger sister from attending college.

Under Four... or 'walk of shame'?

THE AVERAGE CAL POLY STUDENT DRINKS UNDER FOUR DRINKS IN ONE SITTING

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

Sudoku Puzzles by Pappocom

Under Four... or 'walk of shame'?

THE AVERAGE CAL POLY STUDENT DRINKS UNDER FOUR DRINKS IN ONE SITTING

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

NOW OPEN LATE ON THURSDAYS!!

Come in for:
2 Premium Beers (domestic & import) (2 oz servings)
$2 Pizza Slices (sloppy & traditional)

In the Downtown Center (near Starbucks)

544-8706 - 891 Higuera St - San Luis Obispo

News editor: Caitlin Donnell • mustangdailynews@gmail.com
Wednesday April 5, 2006

Statistics continued from page 1

"It reflects their education and I was prepared coming in here ... I think (Jesuit) does a good job for agriculture, the position itself is not.

Community colleges that were the most transfer students to Cal Poly were Cuesta College, Allan Hancock College, Santa Rosa Junior College, Ventura College and Diablo Valley College.

Cal Poly students in 2004 had a 91.3 retention rate after their freshman year, and 68.9 percent of the freshman class from 1999 have graduated within six years.

Summer in Spain

Spanish Language Immersion Program Summer 2006 - Valladolid

General Information Meeting Thursday, April 6, 11:00 am - 12 pm Erhart Agriculture Bldg. (10), Rm. 221

For further information contact: E-mail: E-mail: E-mail: E-mail:
Dr. Kevin Bagley, AB 540 Specialist; 1-800-546-8392 KBagley@calpoly.edu
Dr. Martha Martinez, TRT Specialist; 1-800-546-8392 MMartinez@calpoly.edu
K. Carpenter, TRT Specialist; 1-800-546-8392 KCarpenter@calpoly.edu
For Application visit our website: http://www.calpoly-ed.calpoly.edu/travel/spanish or call 765-7925

Summer in Mexico

Spanish Language Immersion Program Summer 2006 - Cuernavaca

General Information Meeting Thursday, April 6, 11 am - 12 pm Erhart Agriculture Bldg. (10), Rm. 222

For further information contact:
Dr. James Lester, Senior AB 540 Specialist; 765-7925 jlester@calpoly.edu
Dr. William Martinez, AB 540 Specialist; 765-7925 WMartinez@calpoly.edu
K. Carpenter, TRT Specialist; 1-800-546-8392 KCarpenter@calpoly.edu
For Application visit our website: http://www.calpoly-ed.calpoly.edu/travel/spanish or call 765-7925
WHO SAID THAT?

A stupid man’s report of what a clever man says can never be accurate, because he unconsciously translates what he hears into something he can understand.
— Bertrand Russell

But pain... seems to me an insufficient reason not to embrace life. Being dead is quite painless. Pain, like time, is going to come on regardless. Question is, what glorious moments can you win from life in addition to the pain?

Factotum: A person employed to do all kinds of work.

Opprobrium: Reproach mingled with contempt.
How I learned the ‘60s are over

The theatre is dark, but Reno dark, which means it’s permeated with the vague threat of cheap neon. The sound kicks in — a swell of sweeping orchestration, luridly grandiose, like a caramelized Stratocasters, his location is as indecipherable as the yellow lights pop to waking, and the band is ready. There is no opening act. Who needs one?

This is Bob Dylan. And he’s... well, he’s up there somewhere. In a convex arc of grey suits and white shirts. His voice. As “Maggie’s Farm” rolls on, country material without a single ‘60s classic, he seems an exhausted existence away from the furtively twosomething with dirty boots and furry for masters of war. (Though by contrast, Maggie’s Ma has a renewed vigil for the roar of that wave, still coming to dawn the world. But the Dylan performing today in his white cowboy hat has not riding it; instead, as illustrated laboriously in Reno, he now settles for a two-hour jamboree of newer country material without a single ‘60s classic. Also, he never speaks or picks up a guitar, either acoustic or [gasp!] electric.

It’s a rebellious set of standards; in all, Dylan only performs three of his early classics in the two-hour concert (“Maggie’s Farm” and “All Along the Watchtower”). The middle songs — most tracks taken from 2001’s “Love and Theft” — meld together duplicitously in a tunny haze of his flat mid-range and the technically excellent musicianship: precise arpeggios, churning stand-up bass, even the inexplicably cool banjo solo and Dylan’s whole-noote organs effect. Who cares? It’s a blip compared to what he could be giving the audience, and what prevents him from giving a substantial and inspiring performance. And it’s not like he doesn’t know all this. On the rare occasion he glimpses out into the bright lights and overflowing crowd, he must see the euphoria that crosses every face during “Like a Rolling Stone” — the moment he offers is uplifting, what people came to commune with. Maybe he’s simply too tired to stay larger than life, but so is the audience — a percentage leave the theatre dark, but Reno dark, which means it’s permeated with the vague threat of cheap neon.
Art Beat

continued from page 4

before the show is half over. Other ticketholders remain to offer lukewarm applause.

But when the band exits, and the lights dimmed in obvious acknowledgement of the encore to come, the crowd starts screaming. Their enthusiasm is back. That hopefulness, maybe stronger than anything that night, is reassuring — it recalls that idealistic '60s dynamic.

Their enthusiasm is back. That warm applause. Maybe no one can roll forever; they need to take roots. But in a lengthy and sprawling admission that lent both repetition and total length to the stage; it's not the worst thing he can admit. He could be more, but he still is worth wanting — for relevant, but not forever young.

Kristen Marschall

Students and community members can appreciate Another Type of Groove on Thursday night when student slam poets will be joined by two-time Individual World Poetry Slam champion Buddy Wakefield.

Another Type of Groove is a student-run organization that creates an open forum for ideas and dialogue, all of which is expressed through poetry.

Adam Serafin, ATOG coordinator of events and business administration senior, said it's an event "where no matter what you say... (the audience) will respect your right to say it and respect individuals."

The club meets on the first Thursday of every month for a two-part event: an open mic portion where students and community members can step up and perform, and a performance by a featured poet.

But April's show will offer more than the others. In addition to the open mic performances, there will also be a "student slam" — a competition among six students. To end the night, Wakefield will perform.

"Buddy actually contacted me toward the beginning of the year and said he'd be (in San Luis Obispo) in April and would love to perform," Serafin said.

Serafin said he was stunned given Wakefield's status in the slam poetry community, but said the slam poet "always speaks highly of the SLO community and the poetry program here." Wakefield estimated that he has performed in San Luis Obispo at least seven or eight times.

"I'm excited to get back there," he said. "There's a special place in my heart for ATOG."

Though every slam poet focuses on different themes and styles of work, Serafin said Wakefield is a more universal poet.

"Some poets (are) sometimes very political, sometimes very cultural, some poets are focused on gender issues and sexual orientation issues. (Wakefield) has a way of performing so it's home for everyone," Serafin said.

"I'm not very typical," Wakefield said of his style. "I'm terrified of mediocrity. I try not to bring clichés to the stage."

According to Wakefield's Web site, buddywakelfield.com, he left his job as an executive assist­ant at a biomedical firm in Washington and sold or gave away all of his belongings. From there, he set out to tour all the major poetry venues in North America.

"I wanted to be surrounded by people I admire and do what I love," he said. "Poetry gets a bad rap and can be seen as pretty lame... I come from who I am and hope it hms people hard — in a good way."

Wakefield founded the Hullhorn Collective, a talent agency that is comprised of many top poets throughout the nation. He manages to oversee the agency while touring full time.

"It's a well-known thing in the world of slam poetry, (but) I have to watch quality and continue to promote people I believe in... (I) have to keep it diverse and not have a bunch of white boys in there," he said. "We talk about the issues and have the people that do it the best."

It is through the Hullhorn Collective that ATOG has been able to arrange for different slam poets to come to Cal Poly and perform. Serafin said most of the poets come from Los Angeles or San Francisco. In May, Jerry Quickley will be the featured poet for the final performance of the year.

The event is free and open to the public at Phillips Hall located in the Performing Arts Center Thursday at 7:30 p.m.
COMMENTS

Self-segregation or Taking care of yourself?

Alexandre Emboaba da Costa
CORNELL DAILY SUN (CORNELL CL)

ITHACA, N.Y. — Recent comments made in an interview by The Independent Weekly with several black Duke students about the alleged rape of a black woman by members of the Duke Lacrosse team may shed light on race and space on college campuses as well as on the program house debate at Cornell. In particular, the interview demonstrates that experiences of dorm living, parties, and classroom environment can be very different depending on one’s race, ethnicity, sexuality or gender. Moreover, they illustrate the complexity of reason for choosing particular residences and for participating in particular groups or activities on college campuses.

As indicated in the interview, when black students take offense to accusations of “racist,” “ghetto” or separating themselves from the larger student body, other students respond by declaring that, “Black students just complain all the time … they are self-segregating.” Some quotes from Duke students are taken from: Morgan, Fiona, “Not Your Video Hee.” The Independent Weekly: “This attitude is reminiscent of some Cornell voices and betrays a lack of understanding of how or why someone could be offended or hurt by the racism they experience daily.

The students interviewed discussed how racism was a part of their everyday experience at Duke. They primarily described how white men often treat black women at parties, in dorms and in classrooms. Many white men at Duke and other predominantly white schools often interact with black females based on ideas they have about black women’s sexuality. White men unabashedly demonstrate their attraction to black women by telling black women that they want to be more than friends, asking them to dance provocatively, or to “hook-up.” These ideas often result in the men assuming that “black women” want to be touched, to be grabbed, to be fed. One Duke student said, “As if we’re there to be their video ho. We can’t just be regular students here. We can’t just go and party and enjoy ourselves.”

These women are not objects, not equal. The women also described how they are constantly propositioned and grabbed at parties and in dorms, even by close friends. They wonder why they just can’t dance or do homework with their friends without it being something more. This affects black-white relations at Duke as one student stated, “And then you wonder why there aren’t a lot of black white people at white parties, why we self-segregate.”

Black students have literally had students tell them, “Oh, calm down, racism is funny.” What are black students to make of such a statement? In a context of expected racialized sexuality and the denial of the significance of racism, students search for a response. One interviewee stated, “The blame is always put on us. It doesn’t even include the fact that maybe our race relation with others students is because it’s not welcoming, it’s not inclusive for us — how are we self-segregating? When we choose to have dinner with people who aren’t going to say racism is funny? Or if we choose to party with someone who’s not going to proposition us and offer us money because we’re black girls? That’s not self-segregation, that’s just taking care of yourself.”

We see in these testimonies that interactions are not only racially charged, but also gendered. Something white women may experience in their own interactions with men on campus. But, in the context of black women, racial hierarchy intersects with sexualized representations, creating a particular experience that is not shared with their white counterparts.

While denial of racism produces particular responses from black students, what are we to make of students who continually dismiss the existence of systematic institutional racism? I recently had an opportunity to examine the collected testimonies of COD students about their own experiences of racism, sexism and homophobia on campus and in the broader iThaca, N.Y. community. Some claim that black students are isolated. Others suggest that there is no verifiable evidence for institutional racism. The racism we experience is individualized. Anecdotal accounts suggest that a white man can deny that racism or patriarchy exist because he has not experienced it. In the case of the sexual assault at Duke and any female faculty member who has encountered pressures in her department, the experience of racism and sexism is institutional and not at all.

Seeing “self-segregation” as a group characteristic rather than a group response to an unwelcoming environment allows people to see program housed as one more expression of a group characteristic rather than the struggle to claim a space of comfort, self-expression, community. The virulently condemnation of these spaces such as the program housed reveal more about the attackers than those who live in these buildings. They uncover the uncomfortable feeling that the walls is built by broader societal racial, gender, and class relations cannot be overcome simply by membership in the category of “Cornell student.” Ultimately, accusations of self-segregation betray an inability to place oneself in another’s shoes.

Undoubtedly, the testimonies of Duke and Cornell students weaken claims of self-segregation as a racial or ethnic group characteristic because they require reflection on reasons for people’s choices as a racial or ethnic group characteristic because they require reflection on reasons for people’s choices as
This edition of the Mustang Daily was built with QuarkXPress 7. Quark Inc. is proud to recognize The Mustang Daily and it's staff as QuarkXPress 7 early adopters. Congratulations! - Shelli Hall Quark

Balk
continued from page 6
them?) and Wichita State all make the sweet 16. A nice story? Yes. But will these victors get top prospects flocking to the likes of Missouri Valley Conference or the Colonial Athletic Association? No. Settle down Dick Vitale, settle down.

Sweet 16
Following the Daily's Gonzaga games, I was terribly vexed. When a friend cries unnecessarily in the future I tell him to stop pulling a "Redick" or a "Morrison!"

J.J. Redick cried as Duke lost to LSU after being held to a 3-18 shooting performance, leaving coach Mike Krzyzewski with plenty of free time to film GM commercials. Adam Morrison began crying before the game against UCLA was even finished, then collapsed at mid-court. (On a side note: I find it interesting that commentators called Morrison "paeanotic" and "competitive" when he screamed obscenities while still walking free throws, and repeatedly banged his head against a basketball. However, when he wore his heart on his sleeve when losing, he was suddenly "in- nate." Thankful, I came to a compromise: When the crying is in self pity, it is pulling a "Redick," as he wept while watching his draft position and salary in the NBA drop with each miss. When the crying is a complete atonement, it's pulling a "Morrison." Aren't you glad I cleared that up and expanded your pop culture vocabulary?

Meanwhile, the George Mason Patriots beat the Wichita State Shockers once more to advance to the sweet 16. I promise that you will never, ever, ever, read that sentence again in the history of college basketball.

Elite Eight
Tyus Turner of LSU proves that this was his tournament; everyone else was just playing in it. He absolutely with LSU to the victory over Texas, scoring 21 points on 10-14 shooting, grabbing 13 rebounds, and blocking three shots. As a fan, not only would I want him on my NBA team right now, I can't wait for his nickname of "T-Time" to catch on.

Not to be forgotten in this tournament was Glen "Big Baby" Davis, who (with all respect to Charles Barkley) made a solid campaign to become the next "round mound of rebound."

In the ongoing saga of the Patriots, they repeatedly fail to close the door on the Connecticut Huskies. Still, when Davis rolls off easily the biggest upset of the tournament (with the hometown crowd) with a 76-56 win, I sense a 1.0 red flow from the Washington D.C. region in my bracket all the way to the final.

Final Four
UCLA take care of LSU and Florida reminds everyone why George Karl is in the Hall of Fame. No seed. However, George Mason is finally eliminated, just as I was learning to like them in the same way a hostage becomes enamored with their kidnapper. Except, you know, the hostage is my bracket and the kidnap­per is a college basketball team. The metaphor works; don't question it. Moving on...

Championship
The agnostic sports writer watching this game can best be summed up by an excerpt from the game show when CBS commentator Clark Kellogg gives us this gem as he attempts to sum up the entire state of Florida's Corey Brewer by comparing his talent to a potato. "His game is a versatile as a potato. Can he come baked or fried, hashed or mashed?" (What, no scalloped?) Without missing a beat, his wing­man Seth Davis responds with, "He got to avoid being french-fried by the UCLA defense." And to think, such witty banter was based on such a boring game...oh wait...

Budaff Appin is a sophomore jour­nalism major. His talent, which has been permanently fixed on CBS for the better part of a month, can now return to its normal position on ESPN. He can be reached for feedback atappin@calpoly.edu.

Glass FJED

HELP WANTED

CAMP WAYNE FOR GIRLS
Children's sleep-away camp, Northeast Pennsylvania (6/17-8/13/06) If you love children and want a caring, fun environment, we need Directors and instructors for Tennis, Swimming, W.S.I. preferred, Golf, Gymnastics, Cheerleading, Drama, High & Low Ropes, Team Sports, Waterskiing, Sailing, Painting, Drawing, Ceramics, Silk-screen, Printmaking, Batik, Jewelry, Calligraphy, Pottery, Guitar, Aerobics, Self-Defense, Video, Piano, Other staff: Assistant/Driver (21+), Nurses (R.N.s and Nursing Students), Bookkeeper, Mothers Helper. On campus interview April 16th. Select The Camp That Selects The Best Staff Call 1-800-279-3019 or apply on-line at www.campwaynegirls.com

CLASSIFIED

CLASSIFIED

CLASSIFIED

CLASSIFIED

CLASSIFIED
WINTER SPORTS WRAP

Men's Basketball

Record: 10-19, 7-7
Finish: Fourth, lost 68-57 to Pacific
Derek Stockalper, First Team All-Big West, 12.9 ppg, 6.7 rpg
Dawin White, Second Team All-Big West, 11.6 ppg
Trae Clark, Big West Freshman of the Year, 8.1 ppg, 43.1 3-point percentage
Chaz Thomas, All-Big West Freshman Team, 7.7 ppg, 42 steals

Women's Basketball

Record: 13-14, 7-7
Finish: Tied for sixth, lost 73-68 to UC Riverside
Jessica Eggleston, First Team All-Big West, 11.8 ppg, 6.1 rpg, 64 steals
Sparkle Anderson, 8.7 ppg, 4.7 assists, 34 steals
Megan Harrison, 9.2 ppg
Sarah Greive, 7.6 ppg, 5.5 rpg

Wrestling

National Rank: 28
Pac-10: Second, 2.5 points behind Arizona State
Chad Mendes, All American, sixth in nation at 125 pounds, Pac-10 champion, 21-5 overall record
Darrell Vasquez, 133 pounds, third in Pac-10, 25-5 overall record
Dave Roberts, 141 pounds, Pac-10 runner up, 16-5 overall record
Matt Monteiro, 197 pounds, Pac-10 runner up, 22-6 overall record

Swim & Dive

Men's Big West: Fifth
Women's Big West: Fifth
Daneal Lara, freshman, Big West 1-meter dive champion, 3-meter runner up
John Schmolke, senior, third in 100 and 200 breaststroke
Kira Linsmeier, senior, eighth in 200 backstroke
Stacey Sorensen, sophomore, 11th in 50 freestyle, 12th in 100 freestyle

I'm standing up as I write this. You may think it's because I am so excited about the topic of today's column that I can't sit still. Perhaps I am anxiously typing away as the NCAA Tournament Championship unfolds. Maybe my chair has been seized and hidden as part of some elaborate April fool's joke orchestrated by my roommates. However, none of these are the case. The finale of this year's NCAA Basketball Tournament has been anti-climactic at best, and absent of the twists and turns that generated such high expectations for it. Nor do my roommates have the required initiative to steal my one piece of furniture.

I am standing because I recently returned from an approximately 27-hour trip to and from Utah. So why should you care that my surplus can no longer stand to be seated? Because somewhere between the mountain tips frosted with ice and the golden glowing greed of Las Vegas, I realized that joy can not only be found in the destination, but often in the journey. In the van that came to be known as "The Beast," I found meaning to my bracket that lay crumpled up in the corner, vandalized and overrun with more red ink than even the most abysmal midterm.

The whimper that was the completion of the tournament will not overshadow the fan-friendly frenzy that came before it. I present to you the best moments of this year's college basketball tournament:

Round of 64

In a ruthless 48 hours, the field was cut in half, but only 9 of the 32 games were upsets by worst seeded teams. So why should you care that my surplus can no longer stand to be seated? Because somewhere between the mountain tips frosted with ice and the golden glowing greed of Las Vegas, I realized that joy can not only be found in the destination, but often in the journey. In the van that came to be known as "The Beast," I found meaning to my bracket that lay crumpled up in the corner, vandalized and overrun with more red ink than even the most abysmal midterm.

The whimper that was the completion of the tournament will not overshadow the fan-friendly frenzy that came before it. I present to you the best moments of this year's college basketball tournament:

Round of 64

In a ruthless 48 hours, the field was cut in half, but only 9 of the 32 games were upsets by worst seeded teams.

In a quaint story, a little team from the Colonial Athletic Association (no, that's not the name of a health club or insurance plan for retired people) called the George Mason Patriots upset the sixth-seeded Michigan State Spartans. They seem content with achieving their school's first victory in NCAA tournament history. But their deal with a major ink producer specializing in a certain color ink has not yet been revealed to the public.

Round of 32

While only five of the games are upsets based on the seeds, a mid-major media frenzy generates when Bradley, George Mason (remember see Balk, page 7).