WEATHER

Low 45°

High 70°

Thursday, October 17, 2006

Swimming team hopes to improve

IN SPORTS, 12

Reggae band of brothers play at all-night event

IN SPOTLIGHT, 6

U.S. lags in race to educate

Lauren Zahner

A recent study indicates that the United States is falling behind in the global race to educate young adults and workers.


The study compares national and state higher education access and completion with that of other countries. Although the American baby boomers remain one of the most educated groups of their generation in the world, 25 to 34 year olds have fallen in rank to seventh.

"The report card finds that as the country's well-educated baby boomer generation begins to retire, the diverse young population that will replace it does not appear prepared educationally to maintain the edge in the global economy," the National Center said in a press release.

Ryan McRae, a mechanical engineering sophomore, found the report troubling.

"It'd be good to have a certain level with education across the nation. It'd just be nice to have everyone at the same level," McRae said.

Kinesiology junior Zoarel Puentes also had concerns about the findings.

"(People from other countries) will take jobs we might be interested in. There's nothing we can do about it," Puentes said.

The U.S. also fell in ranking in college access and is in the bottom half for see Education, page 2

Women discuss the workplace

Ronnie Meehan

Cal Poly's Women's Programs and Career Services will be hosting the two-part "Women Career Discussion Series," starting today from 11 a.m. to noon. It will be held in the Women's Center, in the University Union room 217. The event is free and open to all faculty, staff and students.

"It will be a great opportunity for women to get together and discuss important issues," said Kelly Anderson, wellness coordinator for the Women's Center. "Women share the same concerns, but it isn't very often that they get the chance to voice these concerns together."

The first discussion is titled, "What do you want your life to look like, and where does career fit in?" It will focus on women who struggle with raising a family and juggling a career.

"(The discussion) will be about identifying values," Anderson said. "We will look at both aspects; women who want to raise a family and work, and those who decide to focus on their careers."

The discussions will be open-ended, so anyone in attendance is encouraged to share their thoughts. Charlotte Rinaldi, career counselor for the College of Education, will facilitate the discussion and she will present questions that the audience can respond to.

"I'm hoping some mentoring happens," Rinaldi said. "There will be staff and faculty there, so I hope the women feel the support and that they know they are not alone with their concerns."

Rinaldi developed her discussion ideas based on career counseling she has given to women. She found many women chose not to pursue a career see Workplace, page 2
Maniac
continued from page 1
Kirkish’s membership in Mustang Maniacs dates back to when the group was known as Running Thunder, which was created in 1994 as the school moved to the Division I level of athletics. He was one of the minority who voted to keep the name before it changed three years ago. “It has the sound of the student section in 2001,” he said. “But Kirkish, who also participates in organizing a variety of triathlon events throughout the state, has among those impressed by Kirkish’s work ethic is Spencer, who, along with his younger brother, run the Mustang Maniacs, Kirkish said. He helps organize weekl...
Question of the day:
What do you want your life to look like and where does a career fit in?

"It's kind of important for my life to revolve around my career before I have a family or anything."

-Tessa Pahkamaa
graphic communications freshman

"I would want my career to be a big part of it; hopefully I'm not going to college for nothing."

-Lisa Maves
city and regional planning junior

"A career doesn't really fit in. I just want to be happy, so whatever that takes."

-Megan Worthington
journalism junior

"I probably want to have a set career. I'd put my career first, before anything else."

-Stella Lee
graphic communications freshman

"I want it to represent my aspirations. A career is a subset of that instead of something that exists outside my goals."

-Lauren Ross
nutrition senior

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Tuesday, October 17, 2006
Los Angeles Fashion Week kicks off

Rasha Macalor
ASSOCIATE PRESS

HOUSTON — Heavy thunderstorms brought torrential rains, flooding and tornadoes to Southeast Texas Monday, killing four people, ripping roofs off mobile homes, and trapping rush-hour drivers on flooded, tangled freeways.

A Houston mother and daughter were found dead in a sport utility vehicle in floodwaters at least 8 feet deep in Houston, apparently of drowning, the Harris County Medical Examiners Office said.

Harris County Sheriff's spokesman P.E. Ogden III said the floodwaters exert such pressure on submerged cars, "Arnold Schwarzenegger couldn't get out."

Two people died in Brazoria County. One person was found dead in a submerged vehicle and a 54-year-old woman died in a two-vehicle collision on a rain-slicked highway. No other information was immediately available about the death.

Nine members of one family were injured when their sport-utility vehicle skidded off a rain-slicked freeway, and a guardrail on their way home from a family gathering, said Harris County emergency management spokeswoman Gloria Roemer. None of the injuries was life-threatening, Harris County Sheriff's Dana Wolfe said.

As much as 10 inches of rain fell in the Houston-Galveston area overnight.

More rain was expected across Texas on Monday, although floodwaters were receding in parts of the Houston area by late morning.

Parts of interstates 10 and 45 were shut down around Houston, and the University of Houston and several other schools were closed. Twenty bayous overflowed their banks, but county officials said no evacuations were ordered. Some delays were reported at both of Houston's major airports.

A tornado struck east of Houston near the Jefferson County town of China, not far from the Louisiana line, said emergency management spokeswoman Darlene Koch. The National Weather Service confirmed the tornado, and Koch said five mobile homes and two houses were destroyed. No injuries were reported.

Another tornado ripped through northern Newton County on the Texas-Louisiana line, toppling trees and power lines, authorities said. There were no reported injuries.

In the Texas Coastal Bend, as many as 20 homes were damaged as a suspected tornado roared through the small Levaca Bay community of Magnolia Beach before daybreak Monday, Calhoun County Sheriff B.B. Browning said. The only injury reported in the small community 75 miles northeast of Corpus Christi was a cut thumb a man suffered from flying glass, he said.

Parts of North and West Texas got as much as 4 inches of rain overnight, prompting flash flood warnings. National Weather Service meteorologist Stacie Weidel, a spokesman for the Houston office, said the storm system was expected to dissipate by evening.

In Louisiana, three people were hurt early Monday when strong winds blew through the fishing community of Leeville, 90 miles south of New Orleans, authorities said.

An elderly couple was rescued from an overturned trailer. The woman suffered a broken arm, while her husband was treated for bruises and lacerations, said Larry Weidel, a spokesman for the Lafourche Parish sheriff. Another person was treated for a knee injury, he said. The storm sank at least two boats, as well.

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Cal Poly Pomona
Stephen Schulte is the kind of Cal Poly student who goes to the store to buy "a couple brews" and then plays golf with his buddies on a late Monday afternoon. He's also the kind of brother and best friend who will drive to Petaluma to practice with his best friends and younger brother for their band.

Moods of Melody, consisting of two sets of brothers, will bring a funky reggae sound inspired by the Red Hot Chili Peppers to the Red Center at 8:30 p.m. on Thursday during "Dusk 'til Dawn."

The band was started four years ago in Petaluma by Schulte, an agribusiness senior, and his best friend, Kyle Turk.

"It's not really like anything else... It's a very natural sound, but at the same time you can't put your finger on it. It's kind of indescribable, it's kind of a feeling," lead vocals and guitarist Blaise Turk said of their original music.

Their younger brothers, Kyle Turk and Marc "The Punisher" Schulte, were always around but joined the band later, Stephen Schulte said. The four have been friends for almost 10 years.

"We are a band based around love, but at the same time you can't put your finger on it. It's kind of indefinable, it's kind of a feeling," lead vocals and guitarist Blaise Turk said of their original music.

Moods of Melody wrote on their MySpace profile.

"It's the love we have for each other because we're brothers and best friends," Stephen Schulte said.

Kyle Turk and Marc Schulte are students at Santa Rosa Junior College and Blaise Turk works full time in construction in Petaluma. The distance between Stephen Schulte and the rest of the band is a challenge.

"He hits the ball because he knows he's flaking on us so he'll drive back," Blaise Turk said of Stephen Schulte.

"Sometimes we're harder on each other. I feel like I can just tell him how it is without worrying about hurting his feelings." Working with his brother makes it easier to be honest, he said.

The origin of Marc's nickname, "The Punisher," is unclear.

"When we were growing up we used to call him 'Big Pun' because he's bigger than us. It just turned into 'The Punisher' because - you got to meet him." Stephen Schulte said.

Blaise Turk said one of the challenges of working with his younger brother is that their fan base is older and Kyle has a hard time identifying with that older crowd. But working with his brother and friends has its advantages, too.

"The chemistry is just always there," Blaise Turk said.

Schulte attributes this chemistry to his hope for the future of Moods of Melody.

"I think it's for the long run definitely. We're only getting stronger and improving. The band's only getting stronger," he said.

Both sets of brothers' parents have a love of music that has been influential in the life of the band. Their families are very supportive and help them get gigs. Schulte said he can remember that he was 14 or 15 years old when he started playing the bass because his mom gave him to lessons.

Artists such as the Sublime, Bob Marley and Jack Johnson have inspired the band as well.

For Blaise, performing is a release.

"It's like the climax of music. That's the ultimate gratification of why you make music in the first place," he said.

Moods of Melody is opening for The Expendables at Cal Poly at 8:30 p.m. on Thursday. Admission is $4 or free with a PolytCard. They will also be at Frog and Peach on Friday at 10:30 p.m.

The "clown prince of hip-hop," Ludacris, released his fifth LP "Release Therapy" which has already reached No. 1 on the Billboard charts. He opens the album with a warning stating that it may contain "ludicrous material."

Ludacris bounces back with new album

Keegan Davis

STILLWATER, Okla. — Ludacris, the "clown prince of hip-hop," is back with his cartoonish lyrics and over-the-top style to release his fifth LP "Release Therapy," already the No. 1 album on the Billboard charts.

He opens the album giving a "Warning" that the album contains "ludicrous material" and that listeners are "about to witness history." Ludacris, as he is known to his fans, puts his money where his mouth is.

Hoping to bounce back from less-than-spectacular fourth album, "The Red Light District," Ludacris returns to previous form on his newest release.

The self-described busiest man in hip-hop has appeared in such recent films as "Hustle & Flow" and the Oscar-winning "Crash." The break from recording must have helped because his latest album is easily his most grown up, if not his finest, work.

Claiming the album is "part release and part therapy," Ludacris spends the first half of the album cutting loose and the second half cutting deep. Although he has taken on social issues in previous work, Ludacris is more known for his wild party anthems that target alcohol, drug use and sex.

While this album contains those elements, it is in smaller doses and replaced in some songs with sympathy, motivation and understanding to those who are less fortunate or have suffered social injustice.

Although no longer sporting his infamous Brenda, Ludacris hasn't lost his creativity or swagger. His lyrics are on point and as imaginative as ever. His cutting up is evident in the album's first single.

The Neptune-produced "Money Maker" is nothing different from previous singles but is reprinted in the album's introduction. The "clown prince of hip-hop," Ludacris, released his fifth LP "Release Therapy" which has already reached No. 1 on the Billboard charts. He opens the album with a warning stating that it may contain "ludicrous material."

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Ryan Chartrand  
**MUSTANG DAILY**

Do you ever get the feeling that some weeks are better than others? Last week was "Employee of the Month," this week is "Man of the Year." Somehow going from "month" to "year" was all it took to help us forget Jessica Simpson's existence and savor Robin Williams' return to comedy. "Man of the Year" takes the question "What if Jon Stewart became president of the United States?" and tries to blend it with conspiracy, thrills and comedy. The film gets out of control halfway through and is extended to an unnecessary two hours. Ultimately, the underlying question is never even answered and you're left with some pretty good jokes and a disorganized group of political statements.

Trying to make up for the doomed-from-the-start, com-a-inducing project known as "RV," Williams plays the political comedian elected president of the United States (or so he thinks). Once Williams falls in love with a woman holding onto a dark secret that there was a glitch in the voting machines which allowed him to win, the story takes a dark, thrilling turn that makes cracking those Viagra jokes a bit harder. What it ultimately comes down to, however, is the question of where comedians like Jon Stewart belong and the somewhat unknown importance they serve in their role as jesters to the king. You might gain a little more respect for political comedians, but you'll probably still be wondering how you can scream and laugh at the same time.

Although "Man of the Year" tries to be more exhilarating and in-your-face than it probably should be, it's obvious from the get-go why Williams took on the project. The jokes are all fresh, original and delivered in the Williams fashion you've come to love. It also helped that they were exactly what Williams needed to raise "Mrs. Doubtfire" DVD sales. Writer/director Barry Levinson, who hasn't written a film in seven years or teamed with Williams since "Good Morning Vietnam," blends the comedy with some serious political statements so well that you actually start to believe Stephen Colbert or Jon Stewart could run for president two years from now. It's those moments of comedy and hope for change in America that you have to hold onto if you plan on leaving with any satisfaction.

There's so many out of place scenes diving into conspiracy and the terrible world of Jeff Cioldbluin that Levinson starts to take those scenes as a joke. But you can't help but laugh along with him. "Man of the Year" finished third at the box office over the weekend and offers a variety of comedy from Williams in the two hour political film.
Ludacris
continued from page 6
nice complement to the first half of the album. Borrowing a line from the late Notorious B.I.G., the second track and later single, “Grew Up a Screw Up,” features fellow Atlanta native Young Jeezy and is dedicated to “All my hustlers that’s a product of their environment.”

On “Ultimate Satisfaction,” where he is joined by his protégés Field Mob, Ludacris sports some of his best lines, making it quite possibly the best track on the album. Never one to hide his feelings for the ladies, they are addressed on “Girls Gone Wild: “End of the Night” and “Woow,” which features R. Kelly. Here, “Release Therapy” takes on a different approach and addresses serious issues. Topics ranging from his critics and those in prison, to the president and God are featured as subjects on “Tell It Like It Is,” “War With God,” “Do Your Time” and “Slap.”

But Ludacris doesn’t stop there. His most profound work is featured on the last two songs. “Runaway Love,” graced by the presence of Mary J. Blige, tells harrowing stories of young girls who believe “hell is a place called home.” Very powerful and compelling, Ludacris has plans for Spike Lee to direct the video, according to Billboard.com. Where has all this newfound maturity come from? He explains it on “Freedom of Preach,” saying he’s “smarter because of his daughter” and “that’s all starting to make sense.” It may not make sense to some, but United States, youth might just be getting too old.”

Man
continued from page 8
originally enjoyable moments away from the audience. Leonissi tries to add on top of the growing mess a theme of credibility that never quite hits home hard enough. He makes a good point, however, that America could vote a comedian president simply because television lacks so much authenticity. It really comes down to the people to know who’s right and who’s wrong a theme of credibility that’s all starting to make sense.”

It was affectionate and touching to see so many young kids touched by something so honest and pure and earnest and helping.

Sounds from Sunday night

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DATING COLUMN

When I'm around other twenty-somethings chatting indiscursively about relationships, I have no qualms referring to my significant other as my boyfriend. But at certain times, usually around the older and wiser, the word "boyfriend" sounds awkward coming out of my mouth. It's the prefix. My boyfriend isn't a boy, he's a guy, but "gay friend" and no one gets the romantic connotation. With girls it's different. At whatever age, whether we really are still "girls" or full-fledged women, guys will still see us as girls, so it will use the term even when we're not little old ladies. I don't know if it's just me (and hopefully I don't offend him), but I hear a trace of impermanence, and maybe even immaturity, in the term "boyfriend." After a certain length of time, do we graduate from girls- or boyfriend to something else?

Saying "significant others" works, but it's too long-winded for everyday conversation. An immediate jump to "fiancée" can freak people out, especially if they're just party doing the jumping.

Besides encountering trouble with what to call each other, is it my "boyfriend" and I doing what do we call the activity itself?

Dating! Gasp! She said the D word! The term "dating" seems to have dropped out of linguistic favor but it isn't going extinct; it's just one party doing the jumping and the other being offended (or nervous) or nervously shrug shoulders at family gatherings and say, "What if we've found him/her), saying it can. Flaying the "what-if" game along with our own. However, it seems we were so traumatized by that startling childhood realization that all that remains is a feeling of unease when it comes to approaching the opposite sex. And so people avoid dating (at least under that heading) because it's risky, and there aren't a lot of people who enjoy employing a trial-and-error method with their hearts on the line.

Last week a friend of mine was asked, "How can you ask a girl out without making it awkward for her to say no?" Okay, here's the cold, hard fact. Of course it's awkward! That's the defining emotion of the whole business. The concept of dating as we've been socialized to understand wouldn't be the same if it weren't unnerving. But despite the ineptitude that the physiological idea of the response to the idea of asking someone out ranges anywhere from winged insects in one's gut to hearing said insects, people go to lengths to avoid it, knowing there's no way around it.

I think the problem at the core of human interaction is that everyone just tries too hard. It's cliché advice to say "just be yourself," but maybe if people followed it, we'd meet people who get along with the real version of ourselves.

Although I don't have my phsyx degree (yet), I'm sure it's safe to say that being real in a relationship with someone who can be real with you is actually functional.

Just rip off the Band-aid — the quicker, the better. If awkwardness can't be avoided, ramifications over it. Case I: Playing the "what-if" game won't get you closer to working up the nerve, and the most you could lose is your dignity for maybe a minute or two if you try it last that long.

The least you could gain is more experience with this age-old and newfangled predicament, and when it comes to understanding relationships, we could all use more of that.

Of course, everything's easier said than done. But for those of us searching for "The One" (or hoping we've found him/her), saying anything easily isn't worth half as much as succeeding at something we've done the hard way.

Sarah Carholt is an English and psychology junior.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Solving the campus bike dilemma

In May 1999, "walk your bike" zones were introduced at Cal Poly on certain roads, as a response to a growing number of bike versus pedestrian injuries on Polyview Drive. The zones have increased pedestrian safety, but it has made getting around campus with a bicycle harder. Cyclists cannot easily get from class to class with their bikes, since most courses are located within "walk your bike" zones.

How do we improve the mobility of cyclists while protecting the safety of pedestrians? I propose that Polyview Drive be widened to accommodate pedestrians, bicycles, and one-way vehicular traffic for service vehicles. A widened Polyview Drive will support bike lanes in both directions, sidewalks for pedestrians that are wide enough to accommodate the large amount of pedestrians who use Polyview Drive, and space for service vehicles. Widening would be easy in most sections of the road because of the large amount of unused right-of-way. The section between Via Carta and the University Union would be difficult to widen because of lack of right-of-way, but this can be made up for by building a shorter bicycle bridge parallel to this section.

The widened Polyview Drive should also feature some bicycle speed limit and even some stop signs. This signage will force cyclists to be more aware of their surroundings. I believe that these improvements to Polyview Drive will improve mobility for cyclists while also keeping pedestrians safe.

Michael McThrow
Computer science sophomore

MUSTANG DAILY

OPINION/EDITORIAL

Tuesday, October 17, 2006

DATING COLUMN

Love in the Time of College

by Sarah Carholt

When I'm around other twenty-somethings chatting indiscursively about relationships, I have no qualms referring to my significant other as my boyfriend. But at certain times, usually around the older and wiser, the word "boyfriend" sounds awkward coming out of my mouth. It's the prefix. My boyfriend isn't a boy, he's a guy, but "gay friend" and no one gets the romantic connotation. With girls it's different. At whatever age, whether we really are still "girls" or full-fledged women, guys will still see us as girls, so it will use the term even when we're not little old ladies. I don't know if it's just me (and hopefully I don't offend him), but I hear a trace of impermanence, and maybe even immaturity, in the term "boyfriend." After a certain length of time, do we graduate from girls- or boyfriend to something else?

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Michael McThrow

Computer science sophomore

GET IT OFF YOUR CHEST!

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WE'VE GOT FREE CAKE!
Allison Wing leads Cal Poly in tie for 126th place.

The Cal Poly women's golf team is in a tie for seventh place with Portland State, 27 strokes behind team leader Denver after one round of play in the TaylorMade Lady Aztec Fall Classic, hosted by San Diego State at The Auld Course.

Coach Scott Cartright's Mustangs compiled a four-person 306 total, led by Allison Wing with a 73. Wing is tied for 126th place entering Tuesday's final round while Stephanie Yocum is tied for 33rd place after a round of 77 on the 6,259-yard, par-72 layout.

Other Mustang scorers are Hamrath Brabt and Julia Heath, both tied for 46th place with 78s, and Jessica Huss with an 85 for a 109-total tie.

Competing as an individual, Cal Poly's Kelly McEachern carded an 86 and is tied for 106th place.

Denver finished with a nine-under-par 279 total and was led by individual leader Emily Hooper with a six-under-par 66. Teammate Stephanie Sherlock and UC Irvine's Selene Henderson carded 70s for a second-place tie.

Denver has a 17-stroke advantage over Brigham Young with UC Irvine another five shots back in third place. There are 19 teams in the 36-hole event.

Wheelchair

continued from page 12

Center if they don't have their own. Tennis Warehouse, the event's sponsor, is donating tennis balls and a $100 gift certificate, plus $5 for every item sold during the tournament.

The Cal Poly chapter of the Wheelchair Foundation is made up of 22 students, led by chapter adviser and marketing professor Lynn Metcalf, working to raise money to distribute wheelchairs to people in need as part of their senior projects.

But Hurley says that working for the Wheelchair Foundation has more rewards than just getting credit for a senior project.

"It's a lot more than that to us, it's a cause. It's really inspiring to keep going and keep working," she said. Students working on the campaign, mostly business majors, were recruited last spring and make up the biggest group the chapter has had to date. They chose to distribute wheelchairs in Argentina from a list of countries that are in need.

"It's about raising money, but it's also about raising awareness. It's hard to imagine not having mobility," Hurley said.

According to the chapter's press release, it's estimated that only 45 percent of Argentina's population has health coverage, but there are nearly 3.5 million disabled persons, with that number increasing by 3.5 million every year.

Last year's group raised approximately $66,000 to distribute wheelchairs to children and adults in Belize. This past August, Metcalf and six chapter alumni went to Belize to hand-deliver the wheelchairs.

Other fundraising events include a showing of "Beetlejuice" at the Fremont Theatre in downtown San Luis Obispo at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 26. Tickets are $5 and the event is open to the public.

The group will also host their Sixth Annual Gift of Mobility Benefit on April 14 at the Cliffs Resort in Pismo Beach. The event will include dinner and an auction of items donated by community members, with each $75 ticket purchasing one wheelchair for an Argentinian in need.

The Cal Poly Chapter of the Wheelchair Foundation is also accepting individual donations.

Mustang women's golf team tied for seventh at tournament

Meet the Call Daily

Wild Pitch

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foot, 3-inch presence in the lineup.

For a program that has reached the NCAA Tournament just three times since 1989, in recent years it might have been easy to look back too often. The Mustangs, after all, went to the tournament in consecutive years from 1981-89.

But while the 2006 team is mindful of such history, it is decisively not living in the past.

"We can never go back," Stevenson said. "We don't want to go back. We want to create something new."

Milich

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ning, making his swimmers do pulling exercises without kicking in order to condition their arms, and intense kicking to improve power and stamina in their legs.

"I would like them all to be better. If I can do that, it's a huge accomplishment," Milich said.

Demers said a few of Cal Poly's swimmers quit the team because they were unable to keep up with the intense practice schedule set by Milich. However, the dedicated swimmers who have stuck with the team are excited to improve their skills and "be in a whole new level of competition," Demers said.

"Milich knows how hard he pushes his team and says he is impressed by how his swimmers manage their workload of classes and frequent practices.

"I find that the students at Cal Poly are outstanding athletes," Milich said.

Milich hopes to continually improve the Mustangs' record by recruiting up-and-coming swimmers to Cal Poly, which is a new direction for the team.

"I hope I'm here for the rest of my career," Milich said.

ATTENTION CAL POLY CLUBS:
As fire chief Macha in wake of ALCS debacle

Macha managed the Oakland Athletics into the AL Championship Series, yet it wasn’t enough to save his job.

Reports are that a disconnect between Macha and his players contributed to the firing of the manager, who was 368-280 in four years at the helm.

Janie McCauley

Ken Macha managed the Oakland Athletics into the AL Championship Series, yet it wasn’t enough to save his job.

Macha was fired by the Athletics on Monday, two days after the West champions were swept out of the playoffs by Detroit. The A’s did not announce a replacement.

“Not to fault either side, but I felt a disconnect on a lot of levels,” general manager Billy Beane said.

“Once again, it’s not to point the finger at Ken or anything like that. But that disconnect was there and it was something we needed to address as soon as possible.”

Oakland went 368-280 in his four seasons as manager, but has frustrated management and fans by failing to get into the World Series.

The A’s finished this year following four straight first-round exits from 2000-03. The Tigers eliminated them in four straight games.

“I feel good about what we did here,” Macha said in a phone interview. “I went to the ballpark every day with the sole intent of winning a baseball game for the Oakland A’s, and we did a lot of that. I have zero regrets.”

In an odd episode last October, the A’s parted ways with Macha and then rehired him about a week later, giving him a three-year contract.

The A’s became the sixth major league team to let its manager go since the final days of the season. Dusty Baker (Chicago Cubs), Joe Girardi (Florida), Tony La Russa (San Francisco), Frank Robinson (Washington) and Buck Showalter (Texas) are not coming back next year.

To manage the A’s, take a back seat to Beane’s management style and rely on statistics, the job comes as practically interchangeable and not worthy of the big dollars that other teams pay their managers.

Macha made $800,000 this year and was still owed $2,025 million. He was due to make $875,000 in 2007 and $1.15 million in 2008.

Oakland won the West with a 93-69 record this year. After sweeping Minnesota in three games in the first round of the playoffs, the A’s were eliminated by the Tigers in four straight in the AL championship series — their first ALCS since 1992.

“I’m really shocked by this,” said Cardinals manager Tony La Russa, who managed from Oakland from 1986-95.
New coach Milich hopes to revive Polv swimming and diving team

Cal Poly will try to bounce back this season after losing eight of its meets last year, including contests against Division II UC Santa Cruz and NAIA Cal Baptist.

Amy Dierdorff - Mustang Daily

Cal Poly’s swimming and diving team can expect to put a lot of hard work in this year with new head coach Tom Milich. Not only does he boast an extensive resume as an award-winning coach, but he is dedicated to making the Mustangs a winning team.

“We’re going to be like a whole new team,” said one of the team’s captains, Julie Deemer. “I can tell that we’re definitely going to be in a lot better shape.”

Cal Poly’s former head coach, Rich Firman, retired last spring after 19 years at the school. Assistant coach Phil Yoshida served as interim coach this year with new head coach Milich hopes to revive Division II UC Santa Cruz and Santa Barbara, Cal Poly (14-4, 6-0) moved from No. 20 to 19 in the NCAA Division I-AA poll.

Focus will be key for Cal Poly as it heads to Pac 10 and Cal State Northridge for a pair of matches this week. The Mustangs set a goal before the season of reaching the round of 16 in the NCAA Tournament, a prospect that is only strengthened by the team’s best conference start in 21 years.

Potential recruits have not been turned away by the youthful roster. Cal Poly second-year head coach Jon Stevenson said. In fact, he said, the No. 20 ranking in the American Volleyball Coaches Association/College Sports TV poll has only enhanced the program in the eyes of potential recruits.

“We’ve got some recruits looking at us that just wouldn’t have before,” Stevenson said. “Some of the recruits we’re talking to are top 25. We’ll be a ranked recruiting class next year, almost certainly.”

All this on top of the possibility that the best incoming player to the program this year is already a Mustang. The reason?

But for 20th-ranked Cal Poly, there’s a lot of work to be done.

The team will host singles, doubles and mixed doubles matches for men and women at Cal Poly’s tennis courts. The event is open to anyone 18 years of age and older.

The cost is $25 for singles players and $40 for a doubles team, with Cal Poly students receiving $5 off the entrance fee. Entries will be accepted through Oct. 17.

“We’re just trying to get everyone involved in the program,” said the group’s media relations manager, Kelly Hurley.

There will be separate divisions for beginners and advanced players, but the Wheelchair Foundation is encouraging anyone to attend, even if they’ve never played tennis.

The tournament will host singles, doubles and mixed doubles matches for men and women at Cal Poly’s tennis courts. The event is open to anyone 18 years of age and older.

The cost is $25 for singles players and $40 for a doubles team, with Cal Poly students receiving $5 off the entrance fee. Entries will be accepted through Oct. 17.

“Whenever someone new comes in, regardless of their job, they’re going to do things their way,” Milich said.

The traveling and diving team has been doing things Milich’s way, increasing from seven practices per week last year with Firman to 11 this year. The swimmers practice twice a day Monday through Friday at 6 a.m. and 3 p.m. and again at 8 a.m. Saturday.

“I’m a high-volume kind of coach, we train a lot,” Milich said.

Milich has also significantly increased the amount of yardage his swimmers do at each practice, with distance swimmers swimming around nine to 10 miles each day. He is also focusing on breaking down the components of swimming.

3,100 tickets to be held for students

The free general admission tickets are for Saturday’s homecoming game.

Spectators are encouraged to arrive early to avoid long lines and find their seats well in advance of kickoff.

Tickets will be distributed on a first-come, first-serve basis. Kickoff on Mustang Memorial Field at Alex G. Spanos Stadium is set for 4 p.m.

Cal Poly Athletics once again will hold for students 3,300 free general admission tickets for Saturday’s homecoming football game against South Dakota State.

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