Web sites try to make being a student easier

Samantha Freitas  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The enormous popularity of online social networking forums, such as Facebook and MySpace has prompted a new trend of academically inspired Web sites aimed at helping college students.

Web sites such as Gradefix.com, ichapters.com, and Notezonic.com provide everything from planning and organizing schedules to purchasing textbooks and exchanging notes.

Gradefix.com, which has been operating for less than a year, is a homework management system designed to stop the art of procrastination. It breaks down homework assignments (including reading and studying time) and creates a detailed schedule.

“We were surprised by how popular the site became. We already have students from over 30 countries and 600 schools,” said Gradefix.com co-owner Mac Newbold.

Gradefix.com was created by University of Utah graduate student Mark Polson, who realized that he devoted as many as 29 hours to schoolwork some weeks and as few as seven hours other weeks. Polson designed the program to avoid overwhelming and unnecessary stress.

After logging all homework assignments, the amount of time they will require, and their due date (either all at once or at the beginning of the semester, or as they’re assigned), Gradefix.com evenly dishares the workload and designates specific amounts of time to designate to each assignment on a given day.

“Studies show cramming doesn’t work,” Newbold said. “You have better retention when you study the week leading up to a test. We break tasks up over a series of days instead of cramming.”

ichapters.com is a Web site that allows students to search for discounted textbooks, but is unique from Web sites like screwthebookstore.com because it also sells individual chapters and electronic versions of the text.

Ebooks, as they are called, are not as readily available as the traditional textbooks on the site, but are desired since you can purchase the text in full or in individual chapters that range from 99 cents to $8.

“Instead of buying a book and only using a quarter of it, I can pick and choose the chapter I buy and save a ton of money,” architectural engineering senior Lindsey Patch said.

Anna Nicole Smith dies after collapsing at Florida hotel

Suzette Laboy  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOLLYWOOD, Fla. — Anna Nicole Smith, the pneumatic blonde whose life played out as an extraordinary tabloid tale — Playboy centerfold, jeans model, bride of an octogenarian oil tycoon, reality-show subject, tragic mother — died Thursday after collapsing at a hotel. She was 39.

She was stricken while staying at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino and was rushed to a hospital. Edwin Johnson, chief investigator for the Broward County Medical Examiner’s Office, said the cause of death was under investigation and an autopsy will be done.

Anna Nicole Smith's 20-year-old son died suddenly in the spring of 2007.
Lake continued from page 1

multiple use trails to keep any hiker’s appetite satisfied. Some of the trails, called “back trails,” are designed especially for those wishing to have roots of a wilderness experience. The park also has trails and camps designated to accommodate horses. There are five “horse camps” along the lake. Each site is set-up with a fire pit, restroom, picnic benches, watering trough and a horse corral. These camps are called back camps, because they can only be reached by boat or hiking in. Currently, the California Conservation is carving another trail in Santa Margarita are called back camps, because they can only be reached on warm days.

Santa Margarita Lake is very family and pet friendly. Pets are allowed as long as they are on a leash. There are many activities throughout the year that cater to family camping. Once a month, the park rangers put on a campfire show for kids. They present pictures of wild animals found in the park and share ways to help protect the park, so everyone can enjoy it. They also have a junior ranger program; for a weekend, the kids spend time learning about the wilderness, in value and how to be earth conscious. At the end of the year, they are certified as a “Junior Ranger.” Princic says, “The kids really enjoy it, because they get a badge when they are finished.”

There are about 65 campsites of all types. If tent or trailer camping is your pleasure, then Santa Margarita Lake is the perfect place to help you out at home outdoors. Although there are no full hook-ups, there are plenty of spaces that accommodate RVs. They conveniently have a shower and restroom with 10 showers, to clean up during your stay.

The experiences and adventures at the park are endless. Fromo mountain biking to kayaking, boating to fishing, there is something that everyone can enjoy. There is also a marina with a launch and dock that offers rental boats, concessions, tackle, and fuel year-round.

Superbaking ranger Ken Kils describes Santa Margarita Lake as: “The only one that’s a natural, pristine and serene niche.” This park is not as popular as others in the area, yet offers a lot that surrounding parks cannot. The calm, quiet, beauty of true wilderness is captured. It is one of the only places you can still observe a vast display of wildlife in its own habitat. Kils pointed out at the mountain range; “There is so much diversity in the species, because so much of it has not been disturbed.” The glorious views, smell of the trees, and the warmth of the glowing sun brings me to a comforting place. I take a one last deep breath and let the splendor set in. It undoubt­edly is, in Princic’s words—“serenity in a natural environment, minutes from San Luis Obispo.”

To contact the Santa Margarita Lake Headquarters for information on rates and availability, call (805) 781-5930, or visit the Web site at www.slocountyparks.org.

Sites

continued from page 1

http://www.mysnot.com and life-hacker.com, that allows university students to share, exchange and com­ pare class notes. University of New Mexico student Hung Truong developed the Web site in August 2006 as a way to share notes with classmates as well as to have a primary and easily accessi­ ble place to store his notes. The site is now available to students from universities around the nation, but is admittedly still try­ ing to catch a following. “There’s actually more universities than there are people,” Truong said.

All the mentioned Web sites are free of charge except Gadefix.com, which charges $3 a month if you choose to log more than 10 tasks.

Smith continued from page 1

911 after finding Smith unrespon­ sive in her sixth-floor room at the hotel, which is an Indian reser­ vation. He said Smith’s bodyguard administered CPR, but she was declared dead at a hospital.

Through the ’60s and into the new century, Smith was famous for being famous, a pop-culture punchline because of her up-and-down weight, her Marilyn Munroe look, her exaggerated curves, her little-girl voice, her ditzy-blonde persona, and her over-the-top revealing outfits. Recently, she lost a reported 69 pounds and became a spoken woman for TriaSpa, a weight-loss supplement. On her reality show and other recent TV appearances, her speech was often slurred and she seemed out of it. Some critics said she seemed dazed-out.

Her former lawyer Leonard Leolds listed the celebrity gossip Web site TMZ that Smith “always had problems with her weight going up and down, and there’s no question she used alcohol.” Leolds said it was no secret that “she had a very troubled life” and had “so many, many problems.”

“She wanted to be like Marilyn her whole life and mentally died in a similar manner,” Leolds said. Monroe died of a drug overdose at age 36 in 1962.

Her attorney Ron Tale told The Associated Press that he had talked to Smith on Tuesday or Wednesday, and she had flu symp­ toms and a fever and was still grieving over her loss.

“Poor Anna Nicole,” he said. “She’s been the underdog. She’s been besieged ... and she’s been trying her best and nobody should have to endure what she’s endured.”

The Texas-born Smith was a topless dancer at strip club before she entered her photos in a search contest and made the cover of Playboy magazine in 1992. She became Playboy’s playmate of the year in 1993. She was also signed to a contract with Guess jeans, appearing in TV commercials, bill­boards and magazine ads.

Sudoku

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

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Friday, February 9, 2007

State

CAMP PENDLETON (AP) — A military judge granted a Marine corporal's request Thursday to withdraw his guilty plea to charges of murdering an unarmed Iraqi civilian, but warned the service man that he could be sentenced to death if convicted.

Cpl. Trent Thomas, 25, pleaded guilty as part of a pre-trial agreement to several charges Jan. 18, including kidnap­ping and murder, in the slaying of 52-year-old Hashim Ibrahim Awad in Hamdania last year.

OAKLAND (AP) — A man who hacked his pelvis and skull when he tumbled 30 feet from a tree after being pepper sprayed by police will receive a $300,000 payment in one of the largest misconduct cases in which police responded to a report of a prowler in the Dimond neighborhood in the early hours of Thursday.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Some of the Pentagon's premier intelligence work, including a contentions that the CIA under­played the likelihood of al-Qaida connections to Saddam Hussein, was inappropriate but not illegal, a Defense Department investigation has concluded.

In a report to be presented to Congress on Friday, the department's inspector general said former Pentagon policy chief Douglas J. Feith had not engaged in illegal activities through the creation of special offices to review intelligence. Some Democrats also have contended that Feith misled Congress about the basis of the administration's assertions on the threat posed by Iraq.

OSWEGO, N.Y. (AP) — While the southern Plains and Northeast shiver in dangerously cold temperatures, the folks in upstate New York are keeping warm shoveling snow — lots of it.

Since Sunday, the small towns of Parish and Mexico have recorded more than 6 feet of snow, and forecasters with the National Weather Service say it isn't over yet.

The area received short reprieves Thursday as the squalls shifted south into Syracuse, where between 4 and 8 inches fell. The snow, and forecasters with the National Weather Service say it isn't over yet.

The area received short reprieves Thursday as the squalls shifted south into Syracuse, where between 4 and 8 inches fell. The lake-effect bands were expected to move north overnight and strengthen.

National

WASHINGTON (AP) — Talks on North Korea's nuclear pro­grams resumed on a positive note Thursday, with the Chinese hosts distributing a draft agreement and the North agreeing in principle to initial steps to disarm. Envoy from six nations are trying to agree on steps to implement a September 2005 deal in which North Korea pledged to disarm in exchange for aid and security guarantees.

The 2005 deal — the only one to emerge since negotiations began in 2003 — was a broad statement of principles that did not outline any concrete steps for dismantling North Korea's nuclear program.

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — U.S.-backed Iraqi forces stormed the Health Ministry and arrested the No. 2 official Thursday, accusing him of diverting millions of dollars to the biggest Shia militia and allowing death squads use of ambulances and government hospitals to carry out kidnapping and killings.

Shiite politicians allied with anti-American cleric Muqtada al-Sadr denounced the arrest of Deputy Health Minister Hakan al-Zamili as a violation of Iraqi sovereignty and condemned that the prime minister intervene to win his release.

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International

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3 illegal immigrants killed by gunmen in Arizona

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — Gunmen stopped a pickup truck full of illegal immigrants, shot some and took the rest captive Feb. 8, in an attack that left at least three people dead and two wounded, authorities said.

Officials have not determined who the gunmen were but believe at least two of the immigrants were Guatemalan. They believe that the driver, who was probably a smuggler, escaped along with a guide.

The men are believed to have shot five people, three fatally, along a road north of the Arizona border. They believe the driver was on his way to deliver the group of nine or 10 immigrants to a U.S.-based smuggler.

Ten illegal immigrants including a 15-year-old girl were among 14 people who were killed. Another 15-year-old girl was later found with slight injuries, and another apparently uninjured person was in custody and telling authori­ties what happened. It was not clear whether anyone remained missing.

Investigators did not immediately know a motive for Thursday's attack, but gangs of bandits are known to roam border areas preying on illegal immigrants as they cross into the country. Feuding among smuggling organizations also is not uncommon, sometimes involving demands for ransom from the smuggler relatives to gain their freedom.

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Filipino club, Omega Xi Delta go to ‘Affinity’ and beyond

Saturday’s fundraiser at The Graduate will help support Affinity, an upcoming cultural awareness show.

Tristan Aird
MUSTANG DAILY

Although Cal Poly’s Filipino Cultural Exchange and Omega Xi Delta fraternity recently postponed their long-awaited Affinity event, a fundraiser will be held Saturday to help support the upcoming showcase of hip-hop and dance.

The two groups will co-host the fundraiser from 10 p.m. Saturday to 2 a.m. Sunday at The Graduate in San Luis Obispo. Prices will be reduced to $6 for attendees 21 years and older and $5 for those between 18 and 21.

All proceeds from Saturday’s music and dance party will fund the May 26 Affinity event at the Performing Arts Center.

“We really need to raise money for [Affinity],” said electrical engineering junior Brian Kwa, a member of both the Filipino Cultural Exchange and Omega Xi Delta. “That’s what Saturday is for — to try to get the ticket cost (in May) low. What better way to provide for the show than dance (Saturday)?”

Kwa said Affinity was postponed from its originally scheduled date of Saturday to May 26 because not enough acts had been signed to perform at the event. The two groups hope Saturday’s fundraiser can help in that respect.

“The reason why [Affinity] was pushed back was because (acts) were starting to cancel on us,” Kwa said. “If there weren’t enough acts, it was ridiculous to have a show. We pushed it back and tried to get commitments for performers.”

The purpose of Affinity, Kwa said, is “to promote Asian talent and diversity.”

May would be a good time for the event, Kwa added, because it is Asian-Pacific Islander Month.

The event we’re promoting is a hip-hop cultural showcase,” Heraldo said. “We recognize that hip-hop plays a big part in our culture, especially today.”

Heraldo said that the more money the two groups can rake in May will become.

“What this fundraiser (Saturday) does is the more money we bring in, the better the show gets,” Heraldo said. “It’s really just to pay for the show because we’re getting the PAC. It’s an expensive building to rent for the night.”

“We want to get that lower bowl filled up. We just want to come out and support the culture that isn’t really represented.”

One of Filipino Cultural Exchange’s members, psychology sophomore Maribeth Diesta, said the group represents a “home away from home away from home for basically anyone.”

“They don’t have to be Filipino,” Diesta said. “It’s just a way of having people from high school and college and helping them. Just finding yourself.”

Heraldo echoed those sentiments, adding that Filipino Cultural Exchange is the largest cultural club on campus.

“We know that for students coming from minority backgrounds,” Heraldo said. “It’s kind of a culture shock to come here. Our motto is ‘a home away from home.’”

Although the group is named the Filipino Cultural Exchange, Heraldo said that the “exchange” component is the main part.

“We accept members from any background. You don’t have to be Filipino to be in the club,” he said. “Basically, it’s just a group of students that want to have that family-oriented experience in college.”

Heraldo said Filipino Cultural Exchange also organizes a variety of intramural sports teams and has a big-brother, big-sister program.

“We’re an all-around organization,” Heraldo said. “We do events almost every weekend and yet we’re kind of the unknown identity on campus because we are a cultural organization. Our doors are open to everybody.”

Members from the San Diego-based dance company “Funkanometry” break it down during a performance. The company will perform at Affinity on Saturday.

COURTESY PHOTO

“[Affinity] is the more money we bring in, the better the show gets,” Heraldo said. “We do events almost every weekend and yet we’re kind of the unknown identity on campus because we are a cultural organization. Our doors are open to everybody.”

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Poly Music Department to host 'A Night at the Mission'

Hayley Bramble

The Cal Poly Music Department will present a lively evening of chamber music on Saturday, Feb. 9 in the Old Mission Church downtown.

The concert will feature six Cal Poly student ensembles, including the Trombone Choir, Clarinet Ensemble, Chamber Winds, Saxophone Quartet, Brass Choir, and String Quartet.

"I think it's fun because you get to hear the small ensembles that don't play in the big concerts," said Valerie Gong, who plays oboe for the wind ensemble and will perform with the Chamber Winds on Saturday. "It's a different experience that was held in both France and Spain."

The benefit concert, which is now an annual event, started a few years ago as a fundraiser for a single faculty member since 1981 and chose the lively, and energetic, yet difficult piece for this year's concert after "it was kind of a good fit," said Johnson.

"It's a whole different experience for them as students," said music professor Bill Johnson of the music department, who coordinates the event. "It just belongs to them." Johnson conducts the Cal Poly Wind Orchestra and the Cal Poly Wind Ensemble and has been a faculty member since 1996.

Chamber music is written for a small group of performers, "four, five, six, ten at the most," said Johnson, and is designed to be played in a small room or "chamber." For this concert, he said the "key players" from each section have been put into small groups for the best sound possible.

The Chamber Winds ensemble will play a piece called "Old Wine in New Bottles," written in 1958 by British composer Gordon Jacob. Johnson met Jacob in England in 1981 and chose the lively, and energetic, yet difficult piece for this year's concert after "it was kind of just sitting around" in his office for a while.

"He was a funny guy," Johnson said of the late Jacob. "You can hear his humor in it." The Chamber Winds, which usually plays as a quintet, will play as a group of ten students this year to accommodate the piece, Johnson said.

Admission to the concert is $8 for students and seniors and $10 for the public. Johnson said he expects a big turnout from the community but also a lot of students and everyone to come and hear them speak. They are both very well-known in the field, Pulitano said.

Native American writers to discuss 'narrative inheritance'

Devan McClaine

Award-winning Native American authors Kimberly Blaeser and Gordon Henry Jr. will speak on the Cal Poly campus Friday at 4:10 p.m. in the Agricultural Engineering building, room 123.

The pair will give a presentation titled "Intellectual Property Rights: The Inheritance of Family Narrative in Native America." The presentation will focus on the history of the narrative in Native American culture and its subsequent effects.

Both Blaeser and Henry are of Anishinaabe ancestry and members of the White Earth Chippewa tribe of Minnesota, and Blaeser was raised on the White Earth reservation.

The Anishinaabe is comprised of indigenous peoples throughout the American Northwest and southwest Canada.

Blaeser earned master's and doctoral degrees in English from the University of Notre Dame. She is now an associate professor of English at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and teaches courses in Native American literature, creative writing and American nature writing.

Henry is an associate professor at Cal Poly and teaches Native Literature and Prose," which she co-authored with Henry. She has also won the Native Writers' Circle of the Americas First Book Award for her work on "Trailing You," a collection of poems, which was published in 1998.

Author Kimberly Blaeser speaks at Cal Poly today. She will talk about the history of the narrative in Native American culture.
Where has all the pepper gone?

There are certain aspects of studying abroad that I knew I was ready to adjust. Extended language barriers, missing family and friends, and meeting new people. But what I didn’t think about so much was the absence of flavor.

One of the first things I noticed was that the Chilean food was bad, but I thought, “How bad could it be? I’ll adjust.” Had I only known… After six months of suffering, I’ve discovered that I miss the creative spice combinations—accompanied by a welcoming ambiance.

The bland food, salt and sugar are two flavor enhancers ubiquitously recognized. This is where the Chilean salt obsession begins. No matter how much salt may already be in a dish, the Chilean habit is to grab a salt shaker before you even pick up a fork and dose it with a thick coat of salt. The usage of salt frightens me the same way as a small snail might feel after he has witnessed the foamy death of his unsuspecting brother.

The singularity of salt is evident as you enter any restaurant. I found myself reaching at the end of the table for pepper to realize that salt’s best friend wasn’t there? Where has all the pepper gone? Instead of pepper as in salt, salt’s best friend has been replaced with the “other white spice”…SUGAR! You may find this abundance in your coffee, juice, tomato, or other instances as desired. Perhaps a strategy to hide the high salt contents of their desserts is to dissolve them into tiny, dry bins. Just digest the Chileans overly sweet brown sugar, you must to vacum sucking the disassembled bits out of the tube. Chileans also seem to love the convenience of powered drinks. For example, powdered juice, powdered milk and the highest crime among crimes…instant coffee. You’ll find the better excuse for coffee served in every coffee shop in Chile. Unfortunately, one of the few places that serve ground coffee is what I like to call the Gringo Headquarters, aka Starbucks. Perhaps it isn’t so bad that the instant coffee that I abhor, but the ambiance typically associated with an American coffee shop that I miss.

The Chilean coffee shop is lit just enough so that you must strain to read the menu. That’s only if you’re lucky enough to have found a coffee shop that has comfortable chairs instead of bar stools. This is because coffee is usually just a side businesses to their kiosk, bar or ice- cream shop. For your added content, cafes generally open around 10 in the morning, just in time to the morning rush.

Even with these few examples you see how you adjust to ways of life you never thought would require adjusting. It’s all a part of the cultural exchange! While I may think Chileans are definitely more relaxed, I still try to meet, to study, or to relax, I have learned that those sets of activities are also going to continue at home with family and friends instead. And while I also may think that the furious downpour of salt is a little cackasing. Chileans are probably thinking that I have that uncanny desire for pepper.
The Mustangs were on the losing end of three tiebreakers and their record dropped to 1-14 on the season.

Cal Poly forced tight doubles matches at the top positions. The Mustangs’ Brittany Blalock and Diana Filip lost the battle at the No. 2 spot to Ana Anastasia and Lindsey Nelson of USC in an 8-6 match. Cal Poly’s Carol Erickson and Steffi Wong could not pull off the upset and relinquished a 3-0 lead in the tiebreaker to lose, 9-8, to the No. 15-ranked Judy DeVeraz and Ana zona Frias. In singles, Erickson had a lead in the first set but could not hold on.

Cal Poly women’s soccer program signs 3 recruits

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Friday, February 9, 2007

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Poly softball team opens season today

The Mustangs play their first five games this year at home before beginning a 25-game road trip.

Tristan Aird

When the Cal Poly softball team opens its season today, it could have its deepest pitching staff in years.

The Mustangs will put that belief to the test when they begin the inaugural round-robin Mustang Classic with a nonconference home doubleheader against 16th-ranked Washington at 3 p.m. today at Bob Janssen Field.

“They’re all so different how they throw,” Cal Poly assistant coach Claire Sua said Monday at a weekly athletics department news conference. “Depending on who we’re playing, we can always bring in somebody with a different tool. Adding a lefty to our lineup is a huge asset to us. We’re really deep in our pitching staff.”

The left-hander Sua referred to is touted freshman Helen Pena, the team’s likely No. 3 starter. Also in the mix are right-handers Robyn Kontra (junior), Jenna Masden (sophomore) and Emily Hively (sophomore), Sua said.

The Mustang Classic runs today through Sunday with Cal Poly also playing a doubleheader against Sacramento State at 3 p.m. Saturday. The Mustangs then wrap up the tournament against Santa Clara at noon Sunday.

Sua said opening the season against the Huskies could benefit the team in the long run.

“I think it gives us a sense of urgency,” she said. “We start with a ranked team and have no time to rest. Starting things off super intense against one of the best teams in the country will help us keep our level of play throughout the season. For us to bring in a team that’s ranked within the top 20, that’s always a plus for us.”

Cal Poly returns 14 players from a team that finished 27-23 overall and third at 13-7 in the Big West Conference last season. The Mustangs were picked to finish second in the Big West preseason coaches poll released Jan. 24.

Sua said Cal Poly could receive a lift from starting this season at home, as opposed to last season when it opened on the road to a 5-14 start.

“I think it’s a huge boost for us,” Sua said. “Any time you start off your season and want to hit the ground running, you always want to start off at home. It’s where the girls are comfortable, where they practice every single day. It’s a huge morale boost to everyone involved.”

Cal Poly, however, plays in its next 25 games after this weekend away from home.

Editor’s Note: A complete preview of the Cal Poly softball team’s 2007 season ran in the Mustang Daily on Jan. 24. It can still be viewed at www.mustangdaily.net.

49ers rally past Mustangs 80-77, hold first-place lead

Cal Poly senior forward Tyler McGinn drives to the hoop during the first half of the Mustangs' Big West Conference game against visiting Long Beach State on Thursday night in Mott Gym. The Mustangs surrendered a 14-point lead and wound up 80-77 losers in front of 2,711 fans — the largest home crowd at Mott Gym this season.

Matt Hanson led Cal Poly (11-10, 3-5 Big West) with 19 points. Teammates Derek Stockalper (17), Trac Clark (12) and Chaz Thomas (10) also scored in double figures.

It was only the Mustangs' second loss in their last seven games. Cal Poly, which is 7-2 at home, hosts UC Irvine at 4 p.m. Saturday.

For a complete recap of Thursday night's game, visit the Mustang Daily's Web site at www.mustangdaily.net today.

Nick Camacho

Mustang women's lacrosse team wins tourney

Cal Poly continues its season when it hosts UCLA at 10 a.m. Saturday.

Amanda Retzer

With six national titles under its belt, the Cal Poly women's lacrosse team is back in the winner's circle after capturing the Santa Barbara Shootout championship last week-end with an 8-6 win over UC Santa Barbara in the title game.

The Mustangs started off the weekend Saturday morning with a win against the post-collegiate alumni team Tri Check, 10-6. Moving right along, it held Arizona State to a 14-12 loss, defeating the Sun Devils 13-3.

Cal Poly (5-0) then went on to rout UC (Saturday night) and Pepperdine (Sunday morning) by respective scores of 17-0 and 13-0.

"I think you could tell it was the fifth game of two days and because we were really tired and not playing our 'A' game, it made it a closer game," Cal Poly captain and attack player Janelle Jones said of the title game. "But even though we were down and tired, it showed a lot about the mental composure for our team.

Top scorers Brittany Jones and Hayley Saxton, both midfielders, paved the way for the Mustangs, inching UC 17-0.

"Overall I was really impressed because this was our first weekend," Cal Poly captain and center Julie Frank said. "They're an aggressive team and coaches came up to us and complimented us not just on our stick skills but on how much fun we were having together on the field. They were saying that they haven't seen a team that's as cohesive on the field. That's the best compliment as a team that we could get."

As with most teams, graduated seniors have moved on and new freshmen are moved in. But team camaraderie is still a priority and a dynamic element for the Mustangs.

"We've played teams that have better individual skills than we do, but individuals don't win a game, teams do," Friesen said. "That starts with us — we respect each other on and off the field. That makes us a much more intimidating team to play so when you take one of us, you take on the other 12 on the field."

That could come into play when Cal Poly faces UCLA in its first home conference game at 10 a.m. Saturday. The Mustangs will square another 2007 playoff team as their weekend as they travel back down the coast to face UC Santa Barbara again.

"We always have a big rivalry against UCSB," Janelle Jones said. "We play them so many times, so you know how everyone on their team plays and they know how you play too. They're an aggressive team but I think that we have better skills than they do and we'll be able to beat them."

The Mustangs resume their season when they visit Chico State on Saturday.

Jackie Pugh

The Cal Poly men's lacrosse team built an 11-0 lead in its home opener last Saturday on its way to a 14-3 rout of Nevada.

Defensively, the team was led by top scorers and seniors Sean Quirk and captain Davis Reilly, who had three goals and one assist apiece.

On defense, Cal Poly held in ground with junior Mark Gowan and seniors Shea McMann and Ryan Hatherly.

"It was a great way to start our season," Hatherway said. "Hopefully we can keep our momentum going all year."