Study: Calif. drug offenders skip out on treatment

Timothy Joe
THE CALIFORNIA AGENT (UC-DAY)

Statistics from a state-funded University of California at Los Angeles study show that nearly half of California’s drug offenders who opted for community-based rehabilitation programs in lieu of jail time never completed their treatment, and over 25 percent of offenders did not show up on their first day.

In 2000, voters passed Proposition 36, an initiative that gives nonviolent drug users an opportunity to stop using narcotics through local drug treatment programs before they face incarceration. Every year since, a comprehensive study analyzing Proposition 36 has been conducted by UCLA assessing the efficacy of the program.

The most recent study, released in 2006, also showed that the program saved the state $2.50 for every $1 spent because offenders who successfully completed the rehabilitation process stayed out of the state’s overcrowded prison system and county jails.

Critics of Proposition 36, including Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, said the high number of offenders who skipped out on treatment brought the program’s success rate into question.

“The big problem is there’s a loophole where offenders can opt to never show up for treatment,” said Sabrina Lockhart, spokesperson for the governor. “In order to meet the voters’ intentions that nonviolent offenders successfully complete treatment, the governor believes that it’s appropriate to have a number of tools to ensure

see Offenders, page 3

WHAT IS FAIR?

Although a Fairness Board is available for students to dispute their grades, few know about it and fewer have their cases heard.

Jackie Pugh
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

At least once during college, students get a grade they simply feel they don’t deserve.

While most sigh and look forward to the next quarter, few know that they can actually do something about it.

The Cal Poly Fairness Board works to protect the rights of students in grade disputes with professors.

The 18-member board is comprised of a tenured or tenure-track faculty member from each college and two Associated Students, Inc. appointed student representatives. It deals with grade appeals by discussing written explanations or by having a hearing where both the student and professor settle a dispute through the process.

The board, established in 1969, hears cases based on students’ complaints that an instructor has made a mistake, has bad faith or incompetence, or been unfair.

“If a student got a grade, they think it is unfair from the professor and they haven’t received a satisfactory outcome from the professor or department, they discuss it with us to find a remedy,” said Fairness Board chair, Greg Bohr.

Yet, one Cal Poly electrical engineering student had a different experience with the board when the only evidence he had was thrown away once he had returned from active duty in Baghdad.

Geoff Lewis brought his case to his professor, the department head, Student Affairs, the Disability Resource Center, the Fairness Board, the vice president and the provost in 2003, and none could give him the fairness he sought.

“I had a problem with a professor because I felt he was grading unfairly, but my situation was kind of unique because I was going to the DRC and everyone else kept referring me back to the DRC,” Lewis said.

Lewis started the process of going to different outlets on campus two quarters before he actually went to the Fairness Board in January 2003. He was activated a week later in the guard and had to go to Baghdad for a year.

“The time I got back, the professor, knowing I had a grievance with him, had thrown the final away,” Lewis said.

“I got frustrated and gave up,” he added.

There’s no overnight fix, like a few watch­ing a chicken coup ... everything was see Fairness, page 2

SLO Transit extends bus hours, more extensions expected for fall

Devan McClaine
Serra Staff Writer

On Monday, San Luis Obispo Public Works department began the extension of the SLO Transit evening bus routes.

Prior to the extension, route 4, which runs from Cal Poly to downtown, Los Osos Valley Road, and back at 6:04 p.m. The route will now make its final stop at Los Osos Valley Road and Loma Village at 9:44 p.m. The final pickup at Cal Poly will be at 8:30 p.m.

The extension is the result of a collaborative effort that began in the fall between Cal Poly, Associated Students Inc. and the city of San Luis Obispo.

The extension was one of the platforms of ASI President Todd Maki’s campaign last year. As chair of a transportation committee, Maki conducted a ride-along survey last year and determined that later service was the overwhelming improvement demanded by riders.

The extension comes on top of the expansion of the No. 5 evening route in January. Route 5 runs from Cal Poly to the Madonna shopping center, downtown and back. Maki said both routes 4 and 5, have been extended at no extra cost to Cal Poly, a gesture which Maki said the city performed “out of goodwill.”

“(The extension) was a campaign promise and has been a high priority, the city has been really helpful in getting this done,” Maki said.

see Bus, page 13
Local briefs

SAN LUIS OBISPO — A 19-year-old man was treated for head and neck injuries after falling off of a roof and becoming unconscious on Wednesday morning, police said.

Daniel Wright-Miller of San Luis Obispo had climbed onto the roof of Health Plus Pharmacy in the University Square Shopping Center on Foothill Boulevard and fell 13 feet onto the pavement at about 4 a.m., a San Luis Obispo Police Department press release said.

His roommate, a Cal Poly student, told police they both were heavily intoxicated and had decided to go for a walk. Police said Wright-Miller was stabilized by paramedics and taken to Sierra Vista Hospital. Meanwhile, Health Plus Pharmacy owner Dana Nelson said she would not press charges on Wright-Miller for trespassing.

... CAL POLY ... A graduate student from the College of Education received the annual Outstanding Graduate Student Award from the American College Personnel Association's Commission for Student Involvement.

Heather Iwata, a student in the counseling and guidance program, received the award for her involvement in student initiatives or on a daily basis.

Iwata's presence in Cal Poly's Greek life as a co-advisor, and she also holds the position of graduate assistant to Greek Life and Orientation programs.

A ceremony to present the award was held at the annual American College Personnel Association conference in Orlando, Fla., earlier this week.

Compiled by the Mustang Daily staff

The Army ROTC Leader's Training Course is a paid 4-week summer experience that marks the beginning of your career as an Officer, a leader of the U.S. Army.

Find out more about Army ROTC's Summer Leader's Training Course.

Contact LTC (Ret) Gus Lecaros at 805-756-7690, email alecaros@calpoly.edu

2LT Chad Garton at 805-756-7686, email cparton@calpoly.edu

MAJ Wellman at 805-756-7685, email nwellman@calpoly.edu

Fairness

continued from page 1

wrong; it was just horrible.”

The only person to side with Lewis was an electrical engineering professor.

“(The board) turned the case down because the test didn't exist ... all you'd need to do is throw the test away,” the professor said on grounds of anonymity, alluding to how ironically unfair he believed the board to be.

The source said he brought his own senior project to the board in the '80s and never went to a formal hearing.

“The rules were too open to confront and the burden of proof was on the student... so I was wondering, what cases do they take?” the professor said.

“The first approach would be to come to me and have a conversation,” Bohr said.

"I'd give them some advice on whether or not they have a valid appeal for us. They would then provide a written letter of complaint and I'd distribute that to the board and we'd meet to decide if a hearing is needed.”

Hearings are decided upon when the board believes that a grade change is likely.

Then a request is made to the provost of Cal Poly, who can decide whether a grade change will be made.

An appeal has to be made with evidence: a student brings in the test or project in question. Bohr said past appeals involved a professor's syllabus or Scannon discrepancies.

Appeals should be made within the quarter after the grade was assigned so that professors have the evidence on file. But the board has accepted complaints up to a year after.

From the 1991-92 academic year until 2005-06, records show that there were 133 total cases and 59 actual hearings.

“It breaks down by year after that, but there really is no pattern,” said Gladys Gregory administrative assistant for the Academic Senate.

“In 2003-02013 there were seven letters and six hearings, and in 2003-2004 there were 24 cases and 16 hearings,” she said. “But there were also years where there was nothing... in 1999-2000 there were zero cases.”

The cases that didn't go to a hearing were resolved at different levels or were deemed insufficient to have a hearing.

This past year, the board was able to resolve the three cases brought to them without going to a hearing.

Chris Parker-Kennedy of the DRC is a new member on the Fairness Board who sat in on an appeal last spring.

“It ended up being something we just met up on, just one time, and we came up with a temporary solution,” Parker-Kennedy said.

“There weren't really grounds for an appeal and the board of the committee ended up making a decision.”

While the board has not called in both sides of the dispute since she has been a member, Parker-Kennedy said she understands that the board is fair and it considers all sides.

However, when questioned about the lack of cases brought to the board, her response turned to the other outlets students have on vocalizing their concerns.

“The question remains; do students feel comfortable going to a board of mostly faculty members? Do students feel like they even have a chance if they are "guilty until proven innocent"? Regardless, the board is there for those willing to fight for a grade.

But, by no means does the dean of students replace the Fairness Board. The small number of cases brought to the board out of the approximate 18,000 students that attend Cal Poly, is most likely due to a lack of knowledge that such a committee exists.

Bohr said that the cases come in bits of randomness and also by the way that students hear about the board.

“(Students) aren't going to know to come to us, but we are working on changing that through the Academic Senate to spread the word through departments and faculty,” Bohr said.

The board is also working on making the process easier for students. While the board has to assume that the professor is correct, as stated in the description of the Fairness Board and its procedures, it is trying to communicate directly with students in a more efficient manner.

“What happens sometimes when a case is resolved informally, there are a couple of avenues where (the student) talks to the dean of students and other members of the academic senate,” Bohr said. “We are trying to streamline the process so that they don't get "lost in the system.”

Cal Poly's Fairness Board, while actively trying to assist students for the past 38 years, has seen six revisions to its description and procedures document since 1973. Records are now kept classified and the committee is still largely unknown.

The question remains: do students feel comfortable going to a board of mostly faculty members? Do students feel like they even have a chance if they are "guilty until proven innocent"? Regardless, the board is there for those willing to fight for a grade.
Subs

continued from page 1

enough bread to make 150 to 200
sandwiches, and was sold out by 2
p.m., said Thornton, who worked the
window Monday.

“We have had a pretty steady
stream of people,” said Kathy
Jermaine, an animal science jun­ior
and Campus Dining employee.

The reaction to City Subs has been
positive, but the sandwiches are simi­lar
to what was already available on
campus, Jermaine said.

“People like the bread, that’s pretty
much the only difference,” she said.

Ray Truman, business sophomore
and Campus Dining employee,
worked the window Monday.

One advantage the new sandwich­es
here is that they are not sold in just
“one standard size,” physics freshman
Kyle Reynolds said. The smaller sizes
are helpful because they can be eaten
with a salad.

The decision to open another
sandwich window was influenced by
surveys conducted by Cal Poly and
marketing firms, Thornton said. The
surveys found that students were
interested in having sandwich eateries
similar to Subway and Quiznos.

“It’s not to determine what peo­ple
want on the campus,” Thornton
said.

If City Subs is successful, it may
switch locations with City Deli, as
City Subs is currently limited in its
condiment and vegetable selection
due to the window’s size, Thornton
said.

Offenders

continued from page 1

that treatment is completed.”
Among those tools the governor
is exploring is incarcerating drug
offenders who do not attend their
rehabilitation.

In 2006, Schwarzenegger want­
ed judges to issue brief jail sen­
tences to drug users who failed to
enter prescribed treatment. The
state legislature also passed a law
allowing judges to imprison repeat
drug offenders for up to 30 days
and remove them from rehab.

Recently, Schwarzenegger pro­
posed cutting funding for the pro­
gram, which has cost taxpayers
$600 million to date.

Supporters of Proposition 36
have said they are not pleased with
the governor’s proposals. They say a
lack of funding and neglect of rec­
ommendations issued by UCLA
researchers working on the study,
such as better supervision of drug
users, has hampered the drug-treat­
tment program from its intended
effect.

“We need to make sure it’s pos­
sible for drug users to overcome
the barriers to get treatment,”
Margaret Dooley of the Drug
Policy Alliance said, speaking on
behalf of Proposition 36’s authors.

“It’s not easy for a drug user to
walk out of court and just show up
in treatment. We’re asking a lot of a
person who’s not psychologically
possible to do such a thing.”

Dooley said imprisoning more
drug offenders instead of placing
them into community-based drug-
treatment programs will only exac­
trate overcrowding in prisons and
jails.
State

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The lawyer and parents of American-born Taliban soldier John Wolfs Lindh asked President Bush on Wednesday to commute his 20-year prison term, citing the case of an Australian man who was sentenced to less than a year for aiding terrorism.

Lindh, 26, was captured in Afghanistan in November 2001 by American forces sent to topple the Taliban after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. He was charged with conspiring to kill Americans and support terrorists but pleaded guilty to lesser offenses, including carrying weapons against U.S. forces.

Lindh's lawyer, Christopher T. Argenti, issued a statement Wednesday saying they were appealing Lindh's sentence, which is more than double that of Australian Stuart Donald McIvor, who was convicted of terrorism-related charges.

Lindh's lawyer said the sentence was inconsistent with McIvor's.

His lawyer said Lindh was a political prisoner.

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**

John Amache, the first NBA player to publicly come out of the closet, will be the grand marshal for a gay pride festival in West Hollywood this summer.

Amache, a former Orlando Magic player who is now retired from basketball, recently released a book called "Man in the Middle, which chronicles his life as a gay man.

"We are inspired by Amache's courage and despite personal risk, he opened himself up to the world and showed his authentic self," said Rodney Scott, president of Christopher Street West, an organization that advocates for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community.

The organization said Amache was selected because he showed courage and conviction despite personal risk.

**WASHINGTON (AP)**

Two soldiers killed in Iraq in February may have died as a result of friendly fire, Army officials said Wednesday.

The Army said it is investigating the deaths of Pvt. Matthew Zeimer, 18, of Glandive, Mont., and Spec. Alan McPeck, 20, of Tuscon, Ariz., who were killed in Ramadi, in western Iraq, on Feb. 2. The families of the two soldiers were initially told they were killed by enemy fire.

**SYLVANIA, Ala. (AP)**

A woman used a horse to ram a vehicle in a neighborhood in Sylvania, Ala., late Tuesday, injuring a police officer.

Police said the woman mounted her horse and then walked over to a manager at the Promenade, a shopping center, and refused to leave.

The officer took her horse away.

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**MUNDA, Solomon Islands (AP)**

— Darrieux has broken off its discussions about nuclear testing in the Munda Islands, a Red Cross official said Wednesday, the first worrying sign that thousands of people who lost their homes in the waves may be at risk of disease.

International aid was slow to trickle into the Harmon settlement partly in the historically tense town of Gizo, where at least 2,000 people spent a third uneaten night on a hillside near Gizo following Monday's earthquake and ocean surge.

A New Zealand military plane unloaded an aid package of tarps, water and food rations by the town of Munda late Tuesday.

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**ATTENTION BUS RIDERS**

The City of San Luis Obispo has extended Route 4 hours to better accommodate evening riders.

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Extended hours brought to you by City of San Luis Obispo and Cal Poly Administration in collaboration with Cal Poly ASI and SLOCOG.
Bush says he knows nation is weary of war in California speech

Ben Feller
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FORT IRWIN — President Bush said Wednesday he knows the nation is weary of war and wondering if the U.S. can win. Still, he said, efforts to pull troops home from Iraq only make the U.S. more vulnerable to attack from an enemy that is "pure evil.

"The enemy does not measure the conflict in Iraq in terms of timetables," Bush said to soldiers preparing to deploy to Iraq, Bush said. "And it's not going to become less."

When asked about bush in Fort Irwin, where more combat units are preparing to deploy to Iraq, Bush was trying to keep public pressure on Democrats. Both the House and Senate have approved war-funding bills that would establish timetables for U.S. troops to return home from the four-year-old conflict.

"It's a tough war," Bush said. "The American people are weary of this war. They're wondering whether or not we can succeed. They're horrified by the suicide bombing they see."

Yet Bush used a horrific tale in his war speech at Fort Irwin, where one in which terrorists put children in a car to get through a checkpoint, then exploded the vehicle to describe why he won't pull troops from Baghdad neighborhood, which have been the focus of latest military buildup in Iraq.

"If we abandon some of these areas and withdraw into the countryside or whatever to do these targeted missions, that you could have a fairly significant ethnic cleansing inside Baghdad or in Iraq more broadly," Gates said in a radio interview Wednesday with conservative talk show host Laura Ingraham.

Bush is on a six-day break from Washington just as he's in a stalemate with Congress.

The first stop was Fort Irwin, home of the U.S. Army's premier desert training center for combat units. Created during the Cold War era of tank warfare, the National Training Center has been redesigned to teach the counterinsurgency work of detecting homemade bombs.

Before his speech, Bush stood in a dusty, rocky field as soldiers explained how they detect and disarm homemade bombs, called improvised explosive devices, Bush operated a remote control robot, playfully steering the device straight into a row of news photographers. Bush is chiding the House and Senate for passing war-funding legislation they knew he would veto — because of the withdrawal provisions and for taking Easter vacation with the matter unfinished.

"The president can sign a bill anywhere, anytime," said spokesman Gordon Johnstone.

His schedule calls mostly for quiet time in Crawford through the weekend. He is expected to promote his immigration policies in Arizona and return to Washington on Monday.

AWESOME SUMMER JOB! CAMP WAYNE FOR GIRLS
Northeast Pennsylvania (6/16-8/12/07)

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AWESOME SUMMER JOB! CAMP WAYNE FOR GIRLS
Northeast Pennsylvania (6/16-8/12/07) If you love children and want a caring, fun environment we need Counselors and instructors for our summer camp. We will be on the Cal Poly campus April 13th to conduct interviews. Call 1-215-944-3069 or apply at www.campwaynegirls.com Select The Camp That Selects The Best Staff!

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June 23 - July 21, 2007 — Earn 8 Units of Credit

On-Campus Info Session
Thursday, April 5, 11 am ♦ Erhart Ag Bldg. (10), Rm. 222

Applications are still being accepted at Cal Poly Continuing Education for this Spanish language immersion program in historical Querétaro, in the heart of Mexico.

Program fee of $2,595 includes:
• 8 units of credit:
  • 4 units in Spanish 101, 102, 121, 122 or 124
  • 4 units in HUM 310 — Culture of Mexico, GE C4
• An intensive language learning experience
• Room and board with a host family
• Field trips and more!

For more information or to download an application, visit www.continuing-ed.calpoly.edu/travel_mex.htm or contact Rose Whitworth, Academic Program Administrator(805) 756-7196 or rwhitworth@calpoly.edu
Iran says it is releasing 15 captive British sailors and marines

Nasser Karimi
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TEHRAN, Iran — President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, in a surprise move that defused escalating tension in the Middle East, announced the release of 15 captive British sailors and marines Wednesday in what he called an Easter gift to the British people.

Prime Minister Tony Blair, who said the Britons had been released, added that he bore "no ill will" toward the Iranian people following the 13-day standoff.

The breakthrough eased tensions that have been increasing steadily, raising fears of military conflict in the volatile region and prompting a spike in oil prices. It suggested that Iran's hard-line leadership had decided Tehran had demonstrated its strength in the standoff but did not want to push the crisis too far.

Despite the announcement, however, the crew members had not arrived at the British Embassy as of 9 p.m. local time in Tehran.

Alex Pinfold, first secretary of embassy in Tehran, said it's not clear when they would be handed over or where they are going to spend the night. He indicated the British "are still discussing the Iranian case with the Iranian Foreign Ministry."

 Asked about apparent contradictions over Blair saying the crew had been freed and British Embassy statements that they had not yet been handed over to British authorities, a Downing Street spokesman would only say "the process is under way."

Iranian state television showed the 14 men and one woman a meeting with Ahmadinejad outside the presidential palace following his announcement at a news conference that they were being freed. The crew members were seized while on patrol in the northern Persian Gulf on March 23, would leave Iran on Thursday.

At the news conference, Ahmadinejad pinned a medal on the chest of the Iranian coast guard commander who intercepted the sailors and marines, then made the dramatic announcement.

"On the occasion of the birthday of the great prophet (Muhammad) ... and for the occasion of the passing of Christ, I say the Islamic Republic government and the Iranian people — with all powers and legal right to put the soldiers on trial — forgave those 15," he said, referring to the Muslim prophet's birthday on March 30 and the Easter holiday.

"This pardon is a gift to the British people," he said.

The standoff between London and Tehran began when the crew was seized as it searched for smugglers off the Iraqi coast. Britain denied Iranian claims the crew had entered Iranian waters.

"I'm glad that our 15 service personnel have been released and I know their release will come as a relief not just to them but to their families," Blair said outside his No. 10 Downing St. office.

"Throughout, we have taken a measured approach, firm but calm, not negotiating but not confronting, either," Blair added, "To the Iranian people, I would simply say this: We bear you no ill will."

President Bush, who had condemned the seizure and referred to the captives as "hostages," also welcomed the news, said his national security spokesman, Gordon Johndroo, Blair thanked British allies in Europe, the U.N. Security Council and in the Middle East for their help in securing the freedom of the Royal Navy personnel.

Syria's information and foreign ministers said Damascus had played a key role.

"Syria exercised a sort of quiet diplomacy to solve this problem and see Captives, page 12
‘Groovy’ poet to grace Cal Poly stage, share new jams with students

Brooke Robertson

Champion slum poet Steve Connell brings his critically acclaimed, powerful and energetic Brooke Robertson new jams with students Cal Poly stage, share groovy poet to grace Series National Poetry Thursday of every month. Showtime’s appeared on HBO’s “Def Poetry Jam,” MTV’s “Crossover,” BET’S “Lyric-Crossover,” and was featured on Showtime’s and ATOG student Olsen said Connell’s performance. The two men were an In a slam during last year’s Week of the idea to “create an open space for dialogue and interchange of ideas,” according to the program’s Web site.

While some students share poems that deal with controversial issues and may be shocking, others are more sweet-tempered.

Olsen calls Another Type of Groove a “true home space” with the mantra, respect the mic and respect the poet. “The audience is very welcoming,” she added.

Approximately 250 people attended ATOG’s March 1 show, when Connell’s artistic partner Sekou (the miph) performed, said Multicultural Programs and Services Coordinator Renelda Campbell. A special turnout is expected.

Anyone interested in sharing their poetry at the show will need to sign up before the performance begins, or, Olsen said, “just find someone with a clip-board.”

The open mic session attracts everyone from engineering to English majors, from veteran to new poets, Olsen said. “One of the coolest things about Another Type of Groove is we get all different kinds of people,” she added.

Sponsored by the Multicultural Center, ATOG was founded with the idea to “create an open space for dialogue and interchange of ideas,” according to the program’s Web site.

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‘A Christmas Story’ director, son killed in LA car crash

Jeremiah Marquez

LOANS ANGELES — Film director Bob Clark, best known for the beloved holiday classic “A Christmas Story,” and his son were killed Wednesday in a head-on crash with an alleged drunken driver on Pacific Coast Highway, the filmmaker’s assistant and police said. Clark, 67, and son Ariel Hannah-Clark, 22, were killed in the accident in Pacific Palisades, said Lynne Leavy, Clark’s personal assistant.

The two men were in an Infiniti that collided head-on with a GMC. Vernon, a police spokesman. The driver of the other vehicle, Hector Velazquez-Nava, 24, of Los Angeles and his passenger, described as a 29-year-old woman, were taken to UCLA Medical Center with minor injuries.

The driver remained hospitalized and will be booked for investigation of “gross vehicular manslaughter” after being treated. Vernon said.

“Children Shouldn’t Play With Dead Things,” “Murder by Decree,” “Breaking Point” and “Black Christmas,” which was released last year.

His breakout success came with 1983’s x-rated “Porky’s,” a coming-of-age romp that he followed two years later with “Porky’s II: The Next Day.”

In 1983, “A Christmas Story” marked a career high for Clark. Darrin McGavin, Melinda Dillon and Peter Billingsley starred in the adaptation of Jean Shepherd’s child­hood memoir of a boy in the 1940s. The film was a modest theatrical success, but critics loved it.

In Cleveland, the executive director of The Christmas Story House, which was used for several exterior shots in the film, said Clark had been planning to visit the house in August.

“We were all very excited about meeting him,” Steve Siedlecki said. “It’s very sad to think that that will never happen.”

In 1994, Clark directed a forgettable sequel, “It Runs in the Family,” featuring Charles Grodin, Mary Steenburgen and Kieran Culkin in a continuation of Shepard’s memoirs.

In recent years, Clark made family comedies that were savaged by critics, including “Karde Dog,” “Baby Geniuses” and its sequel, “Superbabies: Baby Geniuses 2.”

Among Clark’s other movies were Sylvester Stalone and Dolly Parton’s “Rhinestone,” Timothy Hutton’s “Turk 182!”, and Gene Hackman and Dan Aykroyd’s “Loose Cannons.”

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After 30 years, Redford and Newman can still pull of a big ‘Sting’ on screen

Daniel Seguin
MUSTANG DAILY

The audience quiets down as the lights dim in the historic Fremont Theatre. Everyone settles in, eager for the next installment of the Fremont Theatre’s Screening Room Classics series film — a 1970s classic sure to conjure up a few smiles, a few laughs and a few memories as well — "The Sting" in its original 35-millimeter format.

This is Hollywood in its glory days, raw and real; a pleasant flashback to days long gone by, never to be seen again. "The Sting," stars Paul Newman and Robert Redford, and features an all-star cast of prominent actors. The film made its 1973 debut premiering simultaneously in New York and Los Angeles. The film continued to garner rave reviews worldwide as well as generate box office gold for the studio. Current film-making trends, such as computerized images, green screen special effects and a digitized editing process, stand in stark contrast to the film-making days of yesterday. The screening choice of 35-millimeter leaves the viewing audience with the impression they are seeing the film as it was originally meant to be seen. The distinctive sound effects are crisp and clean. Hard-soled shoes click-clack neatly off hard packed surfaces, engine motors grumble as cars sail smoothly over surface streets and torrential rain plummets down upon corrugated steel rooftops. The pops, scratches and glitches of the voice track are there for the distinguishing ear to define. A welcome and refreshing sight to witness comes from the film’s actors performing their own stunts, while interacting with actual props.

Set in the 1930s Depression era of Chicago, the film is a throwback to the days of hard-hitting mobsters and slick-talking con men, tough-talking dames and gun-toting lawmen.

Semi-experienced con man Johnny Hooker (Redford) butches a simple scam, and ends up fleeing from crime boss Doyle Lonnegan (played brilliantly by Robert Shaw). What follows are a series of events involving crooked cops, promiscuous prostitutes and gregarious gangsters, that nearly cost Hooker his life on more than one occasion.

While being pursued by Lonnegan and not knowing where to turn, Hooker enlists the aid of longtime con man Henry Gondorff (Newman). Together, they hatch a scheme so brilliant, so detailed, and so complex, it will surely go down in history as the con to rival all others. They want to pull off the ultimate score involving crooked cops, promiscuous prostitutes and gregarious gangsters, that nearly cost Hooker his life on more than one occasion.

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Hoocker and Gondorff team up with a host of other eager players out for revenge. The list includes such characters as the "Erie Kid" and "Kid Twist" as well as others. They concoct the ultimate scam, enabling them to pull off the ultimate score against Lonnegan. The film twists and turns its way to a genius climax, where, in the end, nothing is as it seems, and no one is who they appear to be. Not since "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid" have Redford and Newman been so on track. The duo play off each other like yin and yang, with the backing of an excellent supporting cast. With a great film score, including "The Entertainer" by Scott Joplin, the film went on to win several awards, including the Academy Award for Best Music. "The Sting" was, is and will always remain a classic in American filmmaking.

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You're a fine walking canvas, won't you tatt that skin up?

MD's Pop Tart takes an up close and personal look at the evolution of tattooing

A tattoo is a commitment. It is a permanent mark on your skin, an oath to carry something sacred with you till the end of your days, perhaps a piece of today you want to remember tomorrow. It is the birth of something new. Tattoos are whatever the bearer wants them to be. They can symbolize rites of passage, depict status, or rank, be symbols of religious and spiritual devotion, be decorations of bravery, or even just a silly mark. Tattoo enthusiasts, connoisseurs of this ancient art, are destroying cultural defenses and have taken traditional Americana for a loop.

Some people in fact, that I can't help but ask, "Has getting a tattoo become more of a cultural fad than cultural statement?"

These days, it seems everyone has a tattoo. Everywhere you look, it's ink on skin, ink on skin. At the beach, walking down the street, at the gym, tattoos; like I said, absolutely everywhere. Some people have a problem with this growing phenomenon of artistic expression, my own parents being two of them. Some people believe tattoos are destroying the moral fabric of the world, lives, that they are evil. These people don't understand the symbolism of this ancient art, and luckily, I am here to enlighten.

A tattoo is a commitment. It is a permanent mark on your skin, an oath to carry something sacred with you till the end of your days, perhaps a piece of today you want to remember tomorrow. It is the birth of something new.

Tattoos are whatever the bearer wants them to be. They can symbolize rites of passage, depict status, or rank, be symbols of religious and spiritual devotion, be decorations of bravery, or even just a silly mark. Tattoos can be many things and can be found on all types of people. Which brings me to my next point.

To define who the modern tattoo connoisseur is and to categorize them into groups would be a gross generalization.

Far too often I've heard of the "hardcore tattoo enthusiast, complete with full-body tattoos on all body surfaces" people, the "I did it in college" people, the "I'm a cool soccer mom because I have a tattoo" crowd, the "bikers," the "rockers," and I'm sick of it.

Perhaps it's time to let go of these juvenile stereotypes and see everyone as one unit, because in the end we are all just people. We're all human, and no matter what we do to escape being put into boxes or placed in categories, we all belong to the same collective group and no matter what we do to escape it, we are all already different, and absolutely the same; tattoo or no tattoo, so why do they matter?

Alexandra Bublik is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily's pop culture critic. Please e-mail any comments or suggestions to mustangdailyspotlight@gmail.com

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Thursday, April 5, 2007

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G in college" people, the "I'm a cool soccer mom because I have a tattoo" crowd, the "bikers," the "rockers," and I'm sick of it. Maybe people should just stop judging others by the colors they have on their skin and the ink they wear on their sleeves. People are gonna do what they're gonna do. Perhaps it's time to let go of these juvenile stereotypes and see everyone as one unit, because in the end we are all just people. We're all human, and no matter what we do to escape being put into boxes or placed in categories, we all belong to the same collective group and no matter what we do to escape it, we are all already different, and absolutely the same; tattoo or no tattoo, so why do they matter?

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**To take or not to take... a break**

**The Mustang Daily**

**Volume LXX, No. 112 © 2007**

**April 5, 2007**

Write a letter to the editor!

The desire to take a break from a relationship can result from a number of different situations:

- Sometimes the propulsion toward a break has volatile beginnings. After long enough, a heated ongoing fight about a serious issue, or incessant arguing about trivialities, can come to a head and erupt. Before long you begin to forget what it was like when you actually got along.

- In contrast, it can also come from the abyss of boredom. It's the same old thing, the same dinner-and-a-movie routine every weekend, the same unenthusiastic peck before you part. You are along just fine, with no significant spats — but "just fine" is the problem.

- Another reason — one that seems particularly relevant to a college-aged group — is the desire to "see what else is out there." You feel you're too young, you haven't experienced enough constant fighting won't magically resolve disputes. The underlying disagreements between the two you won't always disappear after time has passed, it may just come down to a personality conflict and incompatibility.

- • Taking a break because of mediocrity and stalemate might help to rekindle the spark and attraction that existed at the beginning; but if monotony has overtaken comfortable companionship, the relationship may not provide either person with anything but boredom.

- • Taking a break because of curiosity in "other fish in the sea" begs the question: "If I really wanted to be with this person, why would I want to take a break?"

**Absence can make the heart grow fonder... or it can make the heart go wander.**

In brief boy and girl fight. Boy thinks they're "on a break" and gets with someone else. Girl gets mad, slightly vindictive; boy is in big trouble. Boy's and girl's relationship is now on the rocks.

While "Friends" certainly has its intrinsic benefits, it only begins to touch upon the implications that the concept of "taking a break" raises. (Disclaimer: I wouldn't rely on "Friends" for answers to all relationship questions; after all, there are only 10 seasons.)

The Mustang Daily staff takes pride in publishing a daily newspaper for the Cal Poly campus and the surrounding community. We appreciate your readership and are thankful for your careful reading. Please send your correspondence to mustangdaily@gmail.com.
Dan Burroughs

The thought of making Mitt Romney look "hip" and "up with the times" is about as sad as it is laughable.

For God's sake, this generation thinks "The Daily Show" and "The Colbert Report" are actual news broadcasts. Country music is "a place for friends." That means meeting people halfway around the world who share your interests. It means meeting people in your town for a random hookup. It can even mean making yourself feel less of a loser by having the most friends on your list. What it doesn't mean is connecting with your future presidential candidates. I don't know whose bright idea it was to make Hillary Clinton, John McCain and others MySpace profiles, but they missed one important point: Politics will never be cool.

It can even mean making yourself feel less of a loser by having the most friends on your list. MySpace is "a place for friends." That means meeting people halfway around the world who share your interests. It means making yourself feel less of a loser by having the most friends on your list. What it doesn't mean is connecting with your future presidential candidates. I don't know whose bright idea it was to make Hillary Clinton, John McCain and others MySpace profiles, but they missed one important point: Politics will never be cool.

Politics will never be cool.

It's ridiculous that our politicians need to always accept praise or complaining will make anyone take us seriously. You have to vote.

Instead, we choose not to care. We choose not to care about the people who get voted into office, and we choose not to care about the laws those people pass once they get there. For many of us, our understanding of how this country runs and who runs it is more shallow than the single wrinkle in Paris Hilton's brain. And that's pretty damn shallow.

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Among the crew at the palace was sailor Faye Turney, the sole woman among the captives, wearing a blue jacket and floral-patterned blue and white headscarf. Iranian TV said the British captives had watched Ahmadinejad's news conference live and were ecstatic when a translator told them what the president had said. British Defense Secretary Des Browne said they had acted with dignity during their captivity.

"It is vital that we get them back home quickly and safely so they can be reunited with their families and loved ones — that is our priority now," he said.

Recent days saw talk of direct negotiations between Britain and Iran, and a decrease in tensions that had risen after Iran broadcast videos in which Turney and the others "confessed" to violating Iranian territorial waters, and Britain expressed outrage.

Ahmadinejad said London had sent a letter to the Iranian Foreign Ministry pledging that entering Iranian waters "will not happen again." The British Foreign Office responded: "We haven't gone into detail of what was in the note. But we have said all along we made our position clear (about being in Iranian waters)."

The crew would be handed over to British diplomats in Tehran and that it would then be up to the Foreign Office to decide whether to deport the five British nationals. The Foreign Ministry said entering Iranian territorial waters was "punish" the crew for confessing to violating Iranian territorial waters, and Britain expressed outrage.

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Ahmadinejad continued: "You are welcome."
Bus
continued from page 1

Cal Poly subsidizes student riders' fee every year, a figure which Maki estimates to be in the $300,000 range. The money, which allows students to ride with a PolyCard, is raised through various sources including parking tickets issued on campus. Despite the extensions, Cal Poly will not be required to contribute additional funds.

"This change is important for students because many classes at Cal Poly don't end until after the bus routes have ended. Students will finally have much-needed transportation after their evening classes, which will improve safety and the overall transit situation in the city," Maki said.

Routes 4, 5, 6A and 6B are the most popular among Cal Poly students with all three buses running through campus. With stops close to campus as well as downtown and the areas surrounding Los Osos Valley Road, the advantages for Cal Poly students are obvious.

Maki also believes the extensions will benefit the community as well.

"The focus of the extension has been Cal Poly students, but it will help all of San Luis Obispo. The No. 4 route especially will provide service downtown to those who work there or want to shop there," Maki said.

At no extra cost to the university, Cal Poly students can now board the route 4, SLO Transit bus two hours later than before.

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Andrew Rocha said, “My plan was to do it as early I could. I’m going to practice and questionably have an impressive overall workout of the something like that,” he said. “I’ll stop when my hamstring.”

Marks at the San Jose State Pro Day.

“In 2006, C’roronelas was 12 for 18 on the .01 and scored a 27 points per kick with a long of 70 and landed 17 inside the opponent’s 20-yard line.”

In his sophomore and junior seas­ons, Mayfield played in all 24 games with 12 starts on the O-line.

SU/BC Randy Samuel

Samuel, a sprinter on the men’s track and field team, was clocked in the 40 in the 4.5-second range March 26.

The 5-10, 175-pound Samuel had 26 tackles, three interceptions and six pass deflections and received All­Great West Football Conference second­team honors as a senior.

K/P Nick Coromelas

Coromelas punted for scouts before the 40-yard dashes began.

A former soccer player, he began the 2006 season as kicker only before taking over punting duties after incumbent starting punter Tim Chicone suffered a quad injury.

In 2006, Coromelas was 12 for 18 on field goals, 25 for 27 on extra points and booted eight touchbacks. Punting-wise, he averaged 41.5 yards per kick with a long of 70 and landed 17 inside the opponent’s 20-yard line.

Editor’s Note: This story originally ran on the Mustang Daily Web site March 26 during spring break. It has been revised to incorporate more recent information.

Civil engineering junior Kirk Torosian holds up his winning bid of $7,920 Tuesday after taking the free Mustang Daily ‘Em Pick em’ contest.

Torosian won a 500 gift certificate to Firestone Grill. He picked the entire Final Four and championship correctly to score 167 of a possible 192 points and beat out 35 other entrants.

Second place went to Danny Scarborough, who scored 151 points.

Robinson’s career spanned 11 presidents, several wars and the civil rights movement. Though his teams stopped at the semis in his first year, his overall record of excellence is what will be remembered:

“Every team I coached was successful,” Robinson said. “Every team I coached won a national championship.”

Until John Gagliardi of St. John’s, Minn., toppled the victory mark four years ago, Robinson was the winningest coach in all of college football.

Robinson continued from page 16

hundreds of players to the NFL and other leagues, and the majority of them were clustering college degrees when they did.

“We will be forever grateful for the more than 10 young men he developed at Grambling who started in the NFL and those who later coached the next generation of NFL players,” NFL commissioner Roger Goodell said. “He always focused on coaching his players to be better men as well as better football players.”

Playing at Grambling became a goal of young black men as Robinson’s fame grew.

“Every team I coached played at Grambling,” Jackson State coach Rick Comegy said. “He did so much of a fantastic job. He was on national TV, you know, and that was the first time I’d ever seen a black college football team on TV growing up.”

university football team on TV growing up.

Robinson’s career spanned 11 presidents, several wars and the civil rights movement. Though his teams stopped at the semis in his first year, his overall record of excellence is what will be remembered:

They look as good off, as they do on!
Johnny continued from page 16
when you watch them play. Not only were they better than every­
on, they wanted it more. If some­
one wasn't playing well, someone was there to pick him up. The 
Gateau atmosphere where sports are all about teamwork, winning, and love of the game. The one thing that was ques­
tionable was just how good Oden is going to be, but after Monday 
night all the hackers were turned into believers. If an NBA team was drafting to make senior citizens feel like they can still play at a high 
level, then Oden would be the pick. 
Oden showed every NBA team that not only can he can play at a high level (he schooled two lottery picks), but also that he can be an immediate impact defensively. He 
finally had a game where you were yelling at the TV for him to keep 
getting the ball. Every time he touched it down low, the Buckeyes scored. But like most college teams, they lived and died by the 3-pointer, and in Ohio State's case, it was the latter. They blew it by not getting the ball to him more. 
I would love to watch Oden come back and dominate college basketball for one more year, but let's be honest — it's game. 
$80 million contract just to use his computers when I wrote my col­
umn. 
I mean, school's fun and all, but it looks like the grass is a little 
greener on the other side. And I'm talking 100-dollar bill green. 
Oden, it was fun watching you play in college, but its time to go 
play with people your own age. Except I forgot that everyone's 
age is retired.
Tristan Aird

The big question regarding Kyle Shotwell’s NFL Draft stock was finally answered March 25 when Cal Poly’s graduating senior linebacker ran a 40-yard dash in the 4.5-second range. And he did it by overcoming a nagging hamstring injury in front of NFL scouts from at least four NFC teams and a recruiter from the AFC at Cal Poly’s Pro Day at Day at Alex G. Spanos Stadium.

“I came out here today really just hoping that I’d be able to run a 4.6,” Shotwell said. “I came out here and warmed up, it felt pretty good, so I gave it a go. I’m satisfied with it. I’m pretty satisfied with everything else.”

Shotwell said scouts clicked him at everywhere from 4.52 to 4.62 seconds in the 40, but that the majority of times were either 4.55 or 4.56. Pro Days are crucial for players such as Shotwell, one of five Mustangs who ran the 40 Saturday — who are trying to build up their stock for the NFL Draft, which runs from April 28 to 29.

One scout from an AFC team politely declined an interview, but two from NFC teams said they were impressed with Shotwell’s performance.

“He ran well for us,” one of the NFC scouts said. “I know he’s had a right hamstring, so he only ran one (40), but everybody’s times were all (in the same area), so he did run well today.”

A scout from another NFC team spoke fondly not only of Shotwell’s workload, but also of his production during a four-year career that included 392 tackles and a Buck Buchanan Award as the top defensive player in Division I-AA this past season.

“If I thought he did a great job,” the scout said. “I thought the whole squad did a really good job. They prepared. Kyle did some workouts. He’s athletic. He’s ready to play in the NFL. You look at Jordan Beck and the (Mustang’s) track record, you have to be impressed with the numbers (Shotwell) put up and how he competed at the East-West Shrine Game.”

The East-West Shrine Game was where Shotwell made seven tackles (five solo) and earned the Pat Tillman Award for showing character and work ethic during the week of practice leading up to the game.

Beck, a middle linebacker, and Chris Gogon, a defensive end, won consecutive Buchanan Awards at Cal Poly in 2004 and 2005. They both excelled at the Shrine Game and were then chosen in the third round of the ensuing drafts, Beck by the Atlanta Falcons and Gogon by the Philadelphia Eagles.

BRENNAN ANGEL (FILE PHOTO)

Cal Poly senior linebacker Kyle Shotwell (left) makes one of his eight tackles against Savannah State senior tackle Chad Cone in the Mustangs’ 55-6 win Nov. 18, 2006 at Alex G. Spanos Stadium.

“The thing is,” the first NFC scout said, “they’re playing for some good coaches here in head coach Rich Ellerson and guys are being coached well. Those guys, Gogon and Beck, were dominant football players at this level. That’s why they got the opportunity at the next level and had the opportunity to make it.”

Unlike Beck and Gogon before him, Shotwell was not invited to February's annual NFL Scouting Combine in Indianapolis. Shotwell’s 40 time, though, compares favorably with those who did go to the combine this year.

Of the 27 linebackers who ran the 40 in Indianapolis, only five ran times faster than Shotwell did March 26, according to marks listed at FFLiveWire.com.

Although the 6-foot-1 Shotwell’s playing weight during this past season hovered around 235 pounds, he said he could be anywhere from 215 to 240 pounds depending on whatever an NFL team might want him to play.

“I’ll play anywhere,” Shotwell said. “If they want me to play special teams and be the field-goal holder, I’ll do that. It really doesn’t matter whatever they want me to do, I could do that. I’m going to have to make my mark on special teams, and I’m prepared to do that. I have a big heart, a big will. I’m going to go out there and try and make every block, every tackle. That’s something that I think I can bring that a lot of guys can’t, is the want-to.”

Shotwell was interviewed by both the Baltimore Ravens and Carolina Panthers during the Shrine week and got an extended look after the Pro Day’s conclusion from an NFC scout.

“There’s been a lot of interest in Kyle,” Shotwell said. “It’s encouraging. Hopefully today some of the numbers I put up might raise a couple eyebrows and we’ll see what happens.”

Shotwell said the most stressful aspect of preparing for the Pro Day was “just the uncertainty,” but he arrived at a solid mental state a couple days beforehand and felt more comfortable.

“Everyone knows I can play on the field and now they want to see, ‘is he just a product of a system or is he be a really good athlete?’” Shotwell said. “I think I was able to come out here and show today that I’m a good football player, but I’m also a good athlete. No matter what you put me in, I’m going to go out there and be able to perform. I think I was able to demonstrate my athletic ability today, which was big.”

Here are updates on some of Cal Poly’s other senior pro prospects:

CB Courtney Brown

Brown opted not to run through drills March 26 for three reasons — the ongoing hamstring injury suffered in the week prior, had just turned in an electrifying performance at San Jose State’s Pro Day on March 6 and was still preparing for an individual workout at Hype’s Pro Day, where he ran through position drills at the Home Depot Center in Carson on March 30.

The 6-2, 205-pound Brown posted his 40 at 4.55 to 4.62.

The Mustangs will combine this year.

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Sports

Gators chomp Buckeyes; Oden to chomp NBA?

John Middletkauff

Many say it’s sweeter the second time around.

I would say that many people in Gainesville, Fla., would have to agree.

We all learned two things in Monday night’s national championship game.

First, Florida is the most dominant college basketball team in the world.

Second, Ohio State hasn’t been good enough against teams off the Big Ten since Duke repeated, and Greg Oden looks like he could be a grandpa. On a more serious note, Oden put on a performance that showed everyone he’s all hype.

The University of Florida has to be living right now. It is the two-time defending national champion in basketball, holds the BCS championship trophy in football and has smoking hot cheerleaders.

The Gators have owned that school known as “The Ohio State University” in both championship games this year.

I would be happier that a team that I don’t have any affiliation with won. This team represents everything that is good about college sports. If you are a college basketball fan, you couldn’t help but love this team. This team hopefully can show all young basketball players it’s not about getting paid.

First, all five starters returned after winning the championship in 2006, something about as common as Angelina Jolie actually having her own child. Over the last seven years, there has been a simple formula for championship teams. It goes: you have good freshmen and/or sophomores that dominate the tournament and then bolt for the NBA.

Flordia.

This team decided it wanted to do something special, something as a team. Players such as Joakim Noah, Al Horford and Corey Brewer all turned down millions on the table. Players such as Joakim Noah, Al Horford and Corey Brewer all turned down millions.

These guys couldn’t have played harder or with more enthusiasm. It just jumps out