Panel of professors, counselor analyze school shootings

Kristen Marschall

Three faculty members and a Counseling Center psychologist comprised the panel that answered students’ questions on the emotional responses, media attention and causes of school violence that have accompanied recent school shootings. More than 25 students gathered in the San Luis Lounge to hear what they had to say.

“We thought it was important to start a dialog on campus,” said LaMotte-Mitchell, who decided to do her senior project on school shootings. The event hit home for two panel members. Religious studies professor Stephanie Stillman, special-

Professor John Thompson co-teaches a French cooking class every spring. Taught entirely in French, students get to cook everything from crepes to soups every week for lab.

Knowing multiple languages may help students understand the world from different perspectives and cultures. “I’m kind of like the translator for the family,” child development junior Lauren Ambrose said of traveling through Latin America. Ambrose is currently pursuing a Spanish minor which she hopes to use while she’s traveling and in her future career. Ambrose plans to work with Spanish-speaking families when she graduates.

“I really like to work with that culture,” she said.

Students are often required to enroll in second language courses if they desire to take advantage of study abroad opportunities in non-English speaking

Matt Taylor wants to strengthen the ASI/student link

Isaiah Narciso

Business senior Matt Taylor thinks that he has the [it] factor that the next Associated Students Inc. president needs to succeed. Taylor feels that he can meet the demands of ASI and lead a normal student life at the same time.

“I’m a pretty normal person,” Taylor said. “I am really involved in ASI, and I want to better the college experience. I want to bring better communication (between students and ASI).”

If elected as ASI president, Taylor wants to continue the work left by Todd Maki. He wanted to ensure that the link remains strong between Cal Poly students and the campus to get ASI’s word out to the student population.

“I want to make sure that ASI is pointed in the right direction,” Taylor said. “I want to make it so that we’re more involved with the students. We have to make sure the link between the students and their leaders is there.”

Based on his interaction with other students, Taylor said that the major issues for Cal Poly students included overcrowding at the recreation center and campus dining. But he reminded students that neither he nor ASI itself can guarantee results overnight.

“They are problems that can’t be solved overnight.”

Swing with the SLO Lindy Hop Exchange this weekend

IN SPORTS, 16

IN SPOTLIGHT, 8

A psycholo-

gist from the Counseling Center and three profes-
sors discussed the causes and effects of school shoot-
ings.

SHEILA SOBCHIK

MUSTANG DAILY

Shirin Ebadi

Nobel Peace Prize winner, celebrated author and political activist Shirin Ebadi spoke Tuesday night to 1,000 attendants at the Performing Arts Center.

Reza Akhavain, an electrical engineering senior and president of the Persian Students of Cal Poly, introduced the evening’s honored guest speaker by delivering a quote that he said summed up the essence of the woman in ques-
tion. “Dr. Ebadi has worked to give a voice to those with no voice,” Akhavain said.

During the 90 minutes that followed, Ebadi delivered a speech punctuated throughout by studious silence, agreeable laughter and thun-
dering applause.

Early in the speech, the audience roared with applause after Ebadi extolled the positive

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see Taylor, page 2

see Ebadi, page 3

see Languages, page 2
French cooking is one of many classes available to students interested in studying a foreign language. The class incorporates learning how to cook and how food plays a role in French culture.

Making the effort to learn another language and understand a country’s culture will give travelers more respect and credibility in the eyes of natives, Kennelly said.

He emphasized that people work with whom they are comfortable with, and therefore, employers hire workers who they are compatible with.

"Languages facilitate communication, and there’s no way you’re going to make a connection with someone without communication," Kennelly said.

He said it’s important for students to give themselves an edge when applying for jobs. This can be achieved through immersion into different areas of study, whether it be through language classes, internships, or minors in other fields.

Not only are languages important in the world of business, they also affect day-to-day life.

"Languages are alive, evolving and changing, just like the people who speak them," Kennelly said. "They do so in order to keep up with their environment." He added that they are constantly being modified and changed to keep up with their culture.

"They reflect the culture and the people who are speaking them." Kennelly said.

"It’s becoming increasingly more difficult to maintain that arrogant posture." He added.

As Americans, "we’re used to believing the rest of the world needs to come to us and do things on our terms," Kennelly said. But in this global world, he emphasized, "it’s becoming increasingly more difficult to maintain that arrogant posture." He added.

In order for the United States to maintain its position as a superpower, Kennelly said the country needs to be in dialogue with the rest of the world.

"To be unable to deal with another person’s culture and their own point of view is detrimental," Spanish professor William Martinez said.

Studying another language is "the best way of learning about other people’s cultures and at the same time learning about your own," Martinez said. Students of language study and new culture from an outside perspective, which in turn can lead to a deeper understanding of their own cultures as they are able to step into other people’s shoes and examine their own customs, traditions and values from another viewpoint.

Spanish is the language to learn for California residents, Martinez said. Students of all majors would benefit from learning the language.

California is home to more than 12.4 million Spanish-speakers, according to the 2000 Census. There are currently more Spanish-speakers in the United States than speakers of French, Hawaiian, and the various Native-American dialects combined, as stated in the Census.

"Pretty much anyone in California should know Spanish," said agribusiness senior Andrew LaGraff, who is currently enrolled in his first Spanish course.

"I hear Spanish every day, just around town." If students think they enroll in "foreign" language courses, they are mistaken. Kennelly hates the term, not only because it perpetuates an "us versus them" opposition, but because language is everywhere, he said.

"The modern languages and literature departments offer classes in Spanish, French, German, Italian, Japanese and Mandarin Chinese. Majors must take classes in Spanish, with a choice of either French or German as a required second language. Minors are offered in Spanish, French, and German." Kennelly said Cal Poly doesn’t offer nearly enough language courses.

"That’s not a criticism; that’s an opportunity," he said.

Maynard, who wants to learn Greek, agreed.

"I really want to go to (Greece)," she said. "I Google pictures of it all the time." Kennelly grew up in South Africa, which has 11 official languages. In his lifetime he has learned Afrikaans, isiXhosa, Latin and French.

"In this country we’d be considered a wise kid or unique," he said of his knowledge of languages. Kennelly hopes that attitude will change.

Some of Kennelly’s goals as department chair are to expand Cal Poly’s Asian language course offerings to more than Chinese, Japanese and Spanish.

"Languages are the way human beings communicate," Kennelly said. "You can restrict your communication channel to English and miss out on a lot of fun."

As a current member on the ASI Board of Directors, Taylor proudly mentioned the organization’s response to high textbook prices. This is also an issue that he will mention in his campaign to be ASI president.

"ASI has passed a resolution that asks teachers to get their book orders in earlier, so that the bookstore has more time to order these books, so that the prices are cheaper," he said.

Taylor also wants to assure students that they have the right to graduate in four years. He said that he has tried to work with the provost’s office and Academic Advising Council to relieve some of the harder graduation requirements.

"I have no problem with you staying if you want to enjoy the college experience," Taylor said. "But if you can’t graduate, and you want to graduate in four years, that should be a right to you."

Although he had no previous leadership experience back in his Jesuit high school in San Jose, Cal Poly changed his perspective on student government.

"Once I got into Cal Poly, I started looking at it and thought this was something I wanted to do," Taylor said. "When I was a junior, I decided to get involved, and I’ve been loving it ever since."

To get his message out, Taylor plans to harness the power of podcasting for his campaign, as well as selling T-shirts and holding a tri-tip dodgeball tournament. He promised to start working on the job immediately if elected as ASI president.

"Once you’re voted in, that shouldn’t be all that matters," he said. "When you’re voted in, that’s when your job starts. Your job doesn’t end when they pass out the ballots."
Panel

continued from page 1

lies in what shapes Americans' memories of school shootings — particularly the Columbine incident. Stillman herself is from Littleton, Colo., the site of the 1999 shootings, and is writing a book about its aftermath.

"In the case of Columbine, it becomes very intellectual. It's more of the mind than of the heart," Stillman said of her studies on the subject.

"With Virginia Tech, I had much more of an emotional reaction because of my students. I wondered, if someone came in, how could I move the desk in the room? Would there be an open window?"

Additionally, Jodi Jacques, a graduate professor in the College of Education's counseling program, received her master's degree from Virginia Tech.

"It's interesting to watch the news and know where the shootings happened on campus," she said.

Of her former university and Cal Poly, she said there are few differences between the two polytechnic universities in small towns.

"Having been in Blacksburg and having been in San Luis, it's very ironic because Blacksburg has very much the same meaning to me," she said.

The other two panel members, psychology professor Linda Nelson and Counseling Center psychologist Barbara Gilbert, said school shootings are incredibly difficult to prevent.

"Everyone says, 'there were signs all along,' but those signs could be there and nothing happens," Gilbert said. "While we all have this aggression in us, we have empathy too. We're all aggression-prone to some extent."

"If the key is to identify that college student that's going to be violent, I'd say forget about it," Nelson said, adding that what needs to be done to prevent such a scenario should take place in an earlier age, such as elementary school or junior high.

Jacques said students become accustomed to taking tests as early as third grade and their level of stress becomes increasingly high.

"Kids are not allowed a lot of time to be kids," she said.

Gilbert said it's not unusual for resident advisors or professors to walk students over to the Counseling Center.

"We see ourselves as our brother's keepers," she said. "If someone's distressed, it matters." The discussion concluded with the panel asking questions of the students in the audience about how they felt.

"It was like watching an action movie," computer engineering sophomore Jacob Lopez said of the Virginia Tech coverage. "I had a lot of questions that had not been addressed by any other outlet. Now I have to digest it."

"That was one of our goals," LaMont-Mitchell said. "You sit and hold a candle, but there's no discussion."

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Panel continued from page 1

"I have been to prison once before. I have evaded a number of assassination attempts," she said.

"Thank the Lord I am here with you tonight. God only knows what will happen when I leave tomorrow."

"The biggest problem between Iranian and U.S. relations is the two current presidents," Ebadi said.

Faryal Saisiiano, a civil engineer- ing senior and the social chair of Persian Students of Cal Poly, said that bringing Ebadi to Cal Poly involved quite a bit of time and energy.

"We actually started the process during the spring quarter of last year," Saisiiano said. "One of our member's parents actually hand-delivered the invitation to her in Iran. In December, we got the go-ahead that she would love to speak at Cal Poly."

Negin Taymourian, a business junior and secretary of Persian Students of Cal Poly, said that Ebadi's speech left her enlightened toward women's issues.

"I definitely felt that I had a lot to learn from Dr. Ebadi's speech," Taymourian said. "The laws that were passed are the laws that are passed."

"The biggest problem between Iran and the United States is the two current presidents," Ebadi said.

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WASHINGTON — Congress failed to override President Bush's veto of legislation requiring the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq on Wednesday, a defeat for anti-war Democrats that triggered immediate talks on a new measure to fund the conflict.

The vote in the House was 222-203, 62 shy of the two-thirds majority needed to override a veto. With few exceptions, Republicans stood fast with Bush in the military clash.

"I'm confident we can reach agreement," the president said moments after the vote as he sat down at the White House with leaders of the Democrats-controlled Congress who have vowed repeatedly to force him to change war policy.

Democrats dashed defiance, yet signaled they were ready to make significant concessions such as jeopardizing the troop withdrawal timetable in order to gain Bush's signature on a replacement measure. There was early talk in both parties of setting goals for the government of Iraq to meet as it strives to develop a self-defending, democratic society.

"Make no mistake, Democrats are committed to ending this war," said House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif. "We hope to do so in unity with the president of the United States," she said on a day of carefully scripted political drama at both ends of Pennsylvania Avenue.

The veto vote hewed closely to party lines, with 220 Democrats and two Republicans in favor of overriding the president, and 196 Republicans and seven Democrats voting to sustain him.

Despite the magnitude of the issue, Bush's political victory was a foregone conclusion, and the one-hour debate on the House floor was suspenseless.

While Pelosi and other Democrats took turns criticizing Bush, Rep. John Boehner of Ohio, the Republican leader, said that terrorists had made Iraq the central focus of their war against the United States.

"If we're not going to stand up to them in Iraq, we're not going to take them on in Iraq and defeat them there, where and when will we do it?" he asked.

The day's developments unfold ed as the fourth of five brigades ordered into the war zone in January poured into Baghdad. Bush decided on the increased deployment as part of an attempt to quell sectarian violence in a war that has claimed the lives of more than 3,300 U.S. troops and grown increasingly unpopular.

It was only the second time in 6 1/2 years he has rejected a bill sent to him. In his formal veto message, he wrote that "the micromanagement in this legislation is unacceptable."

He also called the original bill unconstitutional for directing war operations "in a way that infringes upon the powers vested in the presidency." The veto vote hewed closely to party lines, with 220 Democrats and two Republicans in favor of overriding the president, and 196 Republicans and seven Democrats voting to sustain him.

Outside the White House, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid briefed at that claim. "We are not going to be submitting our legislation to somebody at one of the law schools to look for its constitutionality. We have an obligation, under the terms of the Constitution, to legislate," he said.

"That's our job." The main sticking point concerned the Democratic demand for a troop withdrawal timeline. Under the vetoed measure, the withdrawal would have begun no later than Oct. 1 with a goal of completing six months later.

It seemed unlikely Democrats would try the same approach a second time. Instead, there was talk of establishing standards for the Iraq government to meet. Republicans, too, support benchmarks, suggesting an area of potential compromise.

But that led instantly to an area of obvious disagreement — how, or whether, to enforce these so-called benchmarks if the government of Nouri al-Maliki fails to meet them.

"Benchmarks are important, but they have to have teeth in order to be effective," Pelosi said.

Whatever the ultimate outcome, Democrats said they were eager to proceed quickly.

"We're not going to leave our troops in harm's way ... without the resources they need," said House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer of Maryland. He said he hopes to have a replacement measure ready for a vote within two weeks.

Democratic leaders had said previously they hope to send Bush legislation he can sign before Memorial Day.

Bush has said the funds are needed quickly to prevent serious disruptions in military activities. Officials said White House Chief of Staff Josh Bolton would meet with Reid and Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky on Thursday.

The House vote and subsequent White House meeting occurred in a political environment of increasing complexity.

While the Democratic leadership in Congress signaled it was ready to make concessions, at least one of the party's presidential hopefuls called for a more confrontational approach.

"We've got a few days — maybe less — to do absolutely everything we can to ensure this Congress responds to Bush's veto by sending another binding plan to end the war," former Sen. John Edwards wrote in a fundraising appeal on his Web site.

Assuming they jettison the withdrawal timetable, Democrats could face significant defections on the next legislation. That, in turn, would give Republicans in the House and Senate more leverage.

While most GOP lawmakers have stuck with the president so far, public opinion polls show strong opposition to the war. Several Republican officials said during the day that the party's lawmakers are looking for a way to signal impatience with the conflict and the government in Baghdad.

Sen. Olympia Snowe, R-Maine, said she is circulating a proposal to reverse Bush's troop buildup and transfer combat operations to the Iraqs if the Baghdad government does not make progress in 120 days. U.S. military commanders would be given substantial flexibility, however, on how fast troops should leave.

Sen. John Warner of Virginia, a prominent Republican on defense issues, told reporters he was circu­lating one proposal that he declined to describe. He said he was confident "it can achieve more than 70 votes" needed to override a veto in the Senate.
Freeway connector to reopen within 10 days, Schwarzenegger says

Marcus Welzen
ASSOCIATED PRESS

OAKLAND — One of two connectors that shut down by Sunday’s freeway collapse will reopen within 10 days after officials determined it had not been as badly damaged as they had feared, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger said Wednesday.

The ramp connecting westbound Interstate 80 to southbound Interstate 808 was blocked Sunday morning when a burning tanker truck brought down an overpass near the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge. Crews finished clearing debris from the collapse Tuesday and later determined the lower section of freeway would not have to be rebuilt from scratch.

Schwarzenegger said the stretch could be fully open to traffic in as little as seven days.

“Progress on repairing the collapsed highway connectors is moving at lightning speed;” the governor said in a statement, after appearing at a Capitol news conference with state transportation officials.

Investigators found that the steel girders holding up the lower ramp had warped but remained structurally sound and could be straightened, California Department of Transportation spokesman Bob Mansfield said earlier Wednesday.

Schwarzenegger also said the work to reopen the connector ramp had qualified for federal emergency relief funding. Will Kempton, director of the state Department of Transportation, said repairs to the lower ramp were estimated to cost $8 million.

“We asked the federal government to come in and pay for this, and they have committed to pay for this. They recognize it is their responsibility,” Schwarzenegger said during the afternoon news conference.

The overpass connecting eastbound Interstate 80 to eastbound Interstate 808 was destroyed by the tanker explosion and will have to be replaced.

Officials said finding the steel and fabricating the custom-made beams needed to support the ramp will be big jobs that will delay a quick reopening.

A worldwide building boom, particularly in China, has created a voracious international demand for steel, leading to scarcity.

Workers at the collapse site in the labyrinth of converging freeways Wednesday were erecting support to reinforce both roadways in preparation for the repair work.

Traffic over the bridge into San Francisco was at or near morning since the collapse, but rain and several minor accidents appeared to be largely to blame.

The gridlock feared by authorities immediately following the collapse has eased to the point where it would take only a couple minutes to move through.

Meanwhile, the Bay Area Rapid Transit rail system reported record ridership Tuesday with more than 375,000 riders, up from an average weekday ridership of 340,000.

The track’s driver, James Mosqueda, 51, of Woodland, remained at Saint Francis Memorial Hospital in San Francisco in fair but stable condition, a hospital spokeswoman said.

No criminal charges or citations have been issued as a result of the accident. The California Highway Patrol said it is conducting a wide-ranging probe into the cause of the crash.

State

SAN JOSE (AP) — Santa Clara County officials plan to cite a fourth health care facility for sending surgical tubing, blood-stained gauze and other medical waste to a landfill in violation of state law.

Waste Management, Inc., operators of the San Jose landfill, found the improperly disposed of items from the Los Gatos Surgical Center while checking a load of trash on Friday, said spokeswoman Monica Devincenzi.

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — If you went to Google, Yahoo, AOL or another mapping site to plot a route from San Francisco to Oakland in the hours after an oil tanker exploded, they would have sent you driving over a collapsed overpass engulfed in flames.

But within 48 hours of Sunday’s accident, engineers at the major mapping sites had reprogrammed with alternate routes that added only a couple minutes to estimated drive times.

Digital cartographers say the response to the Oakland disaster was a promising sign of what’s to come — up-to-the-minute detours and routing technology that takes into account not only major disasters but fender benders and traffic jams.

Briefs

MYRTLEWOOD, Ala. (AP) — A freight train carrying segments of a space shuttle’s solid rocket boosters derailed Wednesday after a bridge collapsed, authorities said.

Six people aboard the train were reported injured. NASA said it was not immediately known whether the equipment was damaged. But space agency spokesman Allard Beutel in Washington said the accident should not delay any shuttle launches.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) — Wal-Mart Stores Inc. pulled sets of baby bibs Wednesday from its stores nationwide after the bibs tested positive for high levels of lead, a store official said.

The bibs, sold under the Baby Connection brand name, came in packs of two to seven bibs, with embroidered prints or images of Sesame Street characters. Some were sold as long ago as 2004. The bibs were made by Hamco Inc. exclusively for the Bentonville-based retailer.

Mia Masten, a Chicago-based spokeswoman for Wal-Mart, said the vinyl portion of the bibs exceeded the lead levels set by Illinois for children’s products.

International

STANBUL, Turkey (AP) — The United States and European Union on Wednesday warned Turkey, a NATO member and close ally, to prevent its military from defying civilian leaders in a conflict between the Islamic-rooted government and the secular establishment.

Fear of a coup have ebbed with the prospect of early general elections, but the military’s threat to intervene in the showdown and stamp out any sign of political Islam has confirmed in traditional role as a key player in Turkish politics.

Many Turks had believed the military, which wielded power from civilian governments three times in past decades, was inexorably withdrawing from the political arena as Turkey pursued EU-backed reforms and its economy accelerated after a financial crisis. But Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan’s decision to back the candidacy of one of his closest allies as president underestimated the backlash. At the heart of the conflict was a fear that the ruling party would use control of both Parliament and the presidency to chip away at the separation of state and religion, and curb secular freedoms such as women’s rights.
The survey relied on phone interviews of 1,302 adults from across the country, asking them which news sources they watch or read regularly. The results did not include other news sources the survey’s subjects most often consult. The show’s followers, such as University of Maryland computer science freshman Steve O’Brien, say the finding is not unexpected. “They always said it was a ‘fake news show,’ but they’re reporting the facts.”

Many students say the comedy news programs are other main sources for news. In fact, a 2004 Pew Research Center study found that 21 percent of people aged 18 to 29 regularly learned about presidential campaign news from “The Daily Show” and “Saturday Night Live.” Students in a nation re-energized by political campaigns “really know about the kinds of things that are affecting them,” such as the Iraq war and student budget referenda.

Regular viewers of the comedy news shows may know more about current events because “young people have more time to get the news, and then leisurely watch ‘The Daily Show’ afterward,” Marcelo said. “The Daily Show” requires people to know the news before they watch. “It’s not like the Jay Leno show where he makes references to things in popular culture that anyone can pick up.”

The report said viewers of the Fox News channel and local TV news were tied in second to last in knowledge of current events knowledge, with the least-informed viewers of network morning shows ranked as the least-informed viewers.

A 2003 university study found viewers of Fox News were 30 percent more likely than viewers of comedic news programs to hold misconceptions about the reasons for the U.S. invasion of Iraq. While Fox News doesn’t explicitly lie to viewers, some ambiguous reports can be interpreted incorrectly, said Steven Kull, the study’s author. “It’s rare that Fox News actually makes a false statement,” said Kull, director of the Program on International Policy Attitudes in the School of Public Policy. “It does so by implication.”

Although students who watch “The Daily Show” are well-informed, some studies suggest the program has led them to lose faith in politics. A study last year at East Carolina University measured the responses of students who watched traditional news coverage of the 2004 presidential election and then satirical news coverage. Students reacted more negatively to current events knowledge after watching Stewart’s commentary, possibly deterring young people from getting their news from the survey, according to the study. The Pew Center for the People and the Press, regular viewers of “The Daily Show With Jon Stewart” and “The Colbert Report” are among the most knowledgeable on current affairs. Fans of Comedy Central’s “fake news program” tied in the poll with readers of major newspaper Web sites as the most well-versed on issues of national matters, the April report said.

The survey’s participants were tested on their abilities to identify political figures such as House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, whom only half of all those polled could identify, and on their responses to quizzes about recent headline news stories.
Star-crossed lovers, adventure make local ballet a big success

Daniella Orihuela-Gruber
SLC | Artistic Director

There has not been a tale with as much teenage angst and drama as "Romeo and Juliet" until Leo Debiec's "Coppelia," which was performed by Ballet Theatre San Luis Obispo Sunday night at the Christopher Cohen Center.

A part of American Dance San Luis Obispo, Ballet Theatre San Luis Obispo was created in 2006 by artistic director and ballet teacher Theresa Slobodnik after the Gilbert Reed Ballet of San Luis Obispo was closed in 2003. Slobodnik created the company so that dancers of all ages could perform on stage in front of a large audience.

"I saw a documentary that featured a ballet company whose dancers and bread and butter was "Coppelia," said Slobodnik. "I loved the music and realized that I knew most of the variations and had the dancers to do it."

The ballet, which debuted in 1870 and is considered the last ballet created by Marius Petipa, tells the story of Franz and Swanilda, a couple that is about to get married in a group wedding. At their wedding the next day, Coppelius objects to Franz and Swanilda receiving their dowry from the lord since Swanilda did so much damage to his property. To appease Coppelius, the lord also gives Coppelius a dowry and the celebrations continue.

Slobodnik started conceptualizing the ballet in November and the dancers began to train in January. Most of the cast was made up of Slobodnik's students and a few guest dancers.

"It was a lot of hard work, but it was a lot of fun as well," said Sheridan Torgerson, 17, who played Swanilda and is a senior at San Luis Obispo High School.

Blair London, the assistant director of Ballet Theatre San Luis Obispo and a material engineering professor at Cal Poly, played Coppelius in the production.

"I've been involved in ballet since college and grad school," London said. "My whole family dances."

I loved (Coppelia's) music and realized that I knew most of the variations and had the dancers to do it."

—Theresa Slobodnik
Ballet Theatre of SLO Artistic Director

choke on the smell of wheat, she does not hear the sound that signifies their marriage will be prosperous.

Rebekah, Franz decides to pursue Coppelia and gets a ladder in order to break into Coppelius' house using and a few guest dancers, Swanilda and her friends also break into Coppelius' house using a ladder, Swanilda and her friends also break into Coppelius' house using a ladder, Swanilda and her friends also break into Coppelius' house using and a ladder in order to stall Coppelius and wake Franz in time. When Franz finally wakes up, Swanilda reveals herself to Coppelius and brings out the real Coppelius to show Franz. The couple escape. At their wedding the next day, Coppelius objects to Franz and Swanilda receiving their dowry from the lord since Swanilda did so much damage to his property. To appease Coppelius, the lord also gives Coppelius a dowry and the celebrations continue.

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"I've been involved in ballet since college and grad school," London said. "My whole family dances."
Hop, skip, jump to ‘Swinging’ exchange
Cal Poly Swing Club hosts the second annual SLO Lindy Hop exchange

Samantha Freitas
MUSTANG DAILY

The Cal Poly Swing Club is going to be “Swinging in the Rain” this weekend at the second annual San Luis Obispo Lindy Exchange. The exchange is a three-day event jam packed with dancing, competitions and bands from all over the country Friday through Sunday.

The main event is a 1920s movie premiere theme dance called “Swinging in the Rain” on Saturday from 9 p.m. to 4 a.m. in Chumash Auditorium.

“The best day for the general public to show up to is be Saturday night, ‘Swinging in the Rain’, because not only is it fantastic music, but it is also going to be a lot of fun to watch,” microbiology senior Krystal White said.

Saturday night will boast the biggest band of the weekend, the Darrell Vos Trio, and will also have a performance and three contests: Jack and Jill, the solo Charleston and best trick.

“Jack and Jill is a fun dance, the solo Charleston is fun and the best trick is a chance to see who is the best trickster,” White said.

Lindy exchanges, most often put on in major cities, attract dance lovers from around the world almost every weekend. The San Luis Obispo Lindy Exchange is unique in its small size, but still intends to have over 200 participants from around the nation.

“It’s very different from other exchanges. We’re all full-time students, some with jobs. This is something we do in our spare time for fun, so we try to make it really original and a lot of fun,” said horticulture senior and Cal Poly Swing Club president Kim Daum.

Last year’s inaugural exchange was inspired when the swing club put on a three-day event instead of their usual end of the year dance in memory of two friends who were killed in a car accident.

“We got a bit of a reputation last year for being very friendly and a lot of fun, so we wanted to keep that going and make the event even bigger,” White said.

“We decided we were going to put the exchange on again, but we wanted more bands, we wanted more people to come, and we wanted more dancing in general. That’s how it grew to be what we have now, and it will probably be even bigger next year.”

This year’s festivities aren’t exclusive to Saturday night — on Friday night, there will be dancing at the Dance Pavilion in Five Cities; Saturday there will be an afternoon of fun and games in Mitchell Park in San Luis Obispo; and Sunday there will be a local band at Mother’s Tavern and dancing at the American Dance Studio in San Luis Obispo.

Journalism sophomore Sara Hamilton took some time to dance with San Luis Obispo locals at the Madonna Inn Saturday. Hamilton is a member of the Cal Poly Swing Club, which is putting on the San Luis Obispo Lindy Hop Exchange, “Swinging in the Rain,” May 4 to 6 and features dancing contests, live music and games.

You can register for the entire weekend for $50 or pay event by event, where the price ranges from $3 to $20. For more information on this weekend’s events and venues, check out www.sloswing.com/slx.

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Hollywood's latest addiction: adopting

I
evived your letter, and I thought it was a bit misleading. As a journalist and a pop culture enthusiast, I must say that the world of celebrity relationships is quite complex. However, I do believe that there is a tendency among celebrities to adopt children, especially those who are less fortunate. This trend has certainly become more prominent in recent years.

For example, I recently learned that Brad and Angelina Jolie-Pitt just added another baby to their growing brood, this time a little girl from Vietnam. Then there's David Banda, the little boy Madonna and Guy Richie plucked out of the jungles of Africa. The term 'jungles' is rather loose, as I'm not sure where they find them, or what channel I hear it on.

But these couples are not alone, no. Following a long line of celebrity adoptions, they have joined the ranks of Steven Spielberg and Kate Capshaw, the former Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman, Calista Flockhart and Harrison Ford, to name but a few. The idea of adopting a child in need has become all the rage.

So what do these two distinct couples have in common, besides for an ostentatious amount of cash? Well for starters, they both have a membership to the "A" club. "A" for, "we can afford a child's education and then some!"

But these couples are not alone, no. Following a long line of celebrity adoptions, they have joined the ranks of Steven Spielberg and Kate Capshaw, the former Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman, Calista Flockhart and Harrison Ford, to name but a few. The idea of adopting a child in need has become all the rage.

But with the growing rate of celebrity split-ups, I can't help but wonder what adoption has become the latest social accessory? If so, I feel sorry for the hundreds of couples out there without the means to pay those heavy international adoption fees for all the children in the world that will go unnoticed and unloved because money can't buy them.

But if adoption amongst celebrities isn't the latest fad, although it is a phenomenon that has certainly become extremely commonplace within the realm of celebrity relationships, I somewhat hesitantly believe it can be a good thing. If these celebrities want to adopt hundreds of kids, have the means to do so and are able to love each of their children equally, then by all means, go for it!

Angelina, make the world a better place.

Across Angelina Jolie poses with her 6-year-old son Maddox. Jolie, who has adopted two other children from foreign countries with her husband Brad Pitt, started the newest adoption fad in Hollywood.

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May 3, 2007
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An award-winning weekly will be presenting a music recital...
GUEST COMMENTARY

Why there's a gash on my chin

Nat Hillard
The Journalism Daily (Simi Valley)

"Did you consume any alcohol beverage before the incident? Did you take any non-prescribed medication or inhale any chemical substances? Were you under the influence of ANYTHING?"

I wrote down a string of no's, shook her head, and left me to bleed in the lobby. On the bottom half of my face was a large piece of gauze, and on the top half was a look of shame.

Once again, I had been brought to the emergency room and once again, I had no excuse for it. I knew perfectly well that the time that I tried to surf on a Slip 'N Slide was a bad idea. But as I stood in the emergency room, I began to reassess my priorities. I knew that I had to get the gash on my chin treated. So I entered the hospital, ready to begin my journey, only one thought flashed through my mind: "Man! Even if I fall, this would make a great story!"

I was doing well for the first three-fourths of my hanging-10. But then Slip 'N Slide hide behind their fan exuberance and sinister demonic core, and the demon lashed out against me as I received a 3-by-2-by-5-inch gash at mile mark 0.76. As stepped off the Slip 'N Slide, trying to play off the massive slash as a simple scratch, I knew that I regretted what had just happened.

The same goes for my attempts to do a marathon yoga session (5 yoga classes in one day, because, no lie, I was in danger of failing), my almost trip to the screws bank that was tempting, but they can find you when they turn 18) and my skinny-dipping jump into 20 feet of water from 10 feet of the ground (next to a sign reading "do not jump here").

When you get a bunch of 18- to 24-year-olds together in one institution, no matter how intelligent they are, this kind of stupidity is bound to happen. Stanford, such a disease would be less prevalent. But as a student, you should have much less common sense than the average Joe. I'm not alone in my foolish attempts to become a celebrity, in fact, I find even more clever ways to be stupid. Before entering college, I didn't know what the explosive thermite was. I didn't know how to put subliming dry ice into it. I had never heard the sound of a pumpkin being hit by a chlorine gas bomb. But I knew the calculations necessary to ensure that the resulting splat didn't hit the nearby students.
Army warns: Soldiers will be punished for putting sensitive information in blogs

Lolita C. Baldor

WASHINGTON — The Army is taking stronger steps to warn soldiers they will be punished if they reveal sensitive military information on Web sites or blogs.

While the possibility of punishment is not new, the Army spelled out in recently published regulations the range of actions if soldiers “fail to protect critical and sensitive information.”

The Army was cracking down anew on soldiers who have blogs. But the bulk of the regulations, released April 19 in a memo and rules published in 2005 that required soldiers to consult with commanders before “publishing or posting information” in a public forum.

The regulation is not as explicit as the one issued by commanders a little over a year ago that requires soldiers in war zones to register their blogs with the military.

Army Maj. Ray M. Ceralde, who worked on the new regulations, said Wednesday the intention of the 2007 rule is not to have soldiers clear every public posting with commanders. “Not only is that impractical, but we are trusting the soldiers to protect critical information,” he said.

He said there is no effort to block soldiers from setting up or posting comments to blogs. “We’re not looking for them to seek approval each time a blog entry is posted,” Ceralde said.

Ceralde said soldiers are expected to consult or clear with commanders when they start a blog, in part so they can be warned about information they cannot publish.

Ceralde said Army leaders wanted to emphasize the importance of maintaining operational security. Soldiers will be punished if they publicly reveal sensitive information, such as troop movements, planned raids, travel itineraries, or photographs of casualties, new technology or other material that could compromise their location.

The rules say soldiers can be charged with violating a lawful order under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

He said unit commanders have the authority to establish more restrictive requirements — such as requiring that individual postings be reviewed — if they deem it necessary.

As before, the regulations require that soldiers tell their family members and friends to protect sensitive information. The blog rules were part of a much larger update to regulations governing operational security, including training requirements, policies and procedures on maintaining security, and sections stressing that soldiers are personally responsible for keeping operations secure.

Ceralde said Army officials said they did not have details on how many soldiers have violated the blogging rules.

The military set up the regulations in 2005, as blogs and other Web postings became more popular, particularly among service members who were deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Kaitlin Kovach

WASHINGTON — When it came time to choose a college, cost became the deciding factor for Kelsey Nielsen, a freshman at McHenry County College in Crystal Lake, Ill.

Nielsen was awarded a large scholarship to Carthage College in Kenosha, but decided to go to a two-year school initially to save money. She said she plans to use the scholarship when she transfers to Carthage in the fall of 2008.

Nielsen isn’t alone in her decision. Applications to community colleges have been on the rise over the past decade, according to Norma Kent, vice president of communications for the American Association of Community Colleges.

Kent said that about 12 million students currently attend two-year community colleges nationwide, and about 6 million of those students are taking classes for credit. Many of those students use their respective community colleges as a launching pad to finish the last two years of a degree at a four-year college or university.

“Some students who can’t qualify for the UW can prove they can do the work here,” Cibrario said. “A lot of students come here not being good students out of high school, but are inspired by our professors to succeed.”

Cibrario also said the individual student’s choice of college is quite reasonable, ” said Dan Cibrario, associate director of student services at the University of Wisconsin-Washington County.

The UW-Washington County is one of 13 two-year colleges in the UW system.

Cibrario said that some high school seniors choose a community college because they may not have been able to get into a four-year school initially. “Some students who can’t qualify for the UW can prove they can do the work here,” Cibrario said. “A lot of students come here not being good students out of high school, but are inspired by our professors to succeed.”

Cibrario also said the individual student’s choice of college is quite reasonable.
Web site helps students trade books for dates

Daniela Nermencro
Hawk Staff Reporter
CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — Two Harvard University students are looking to assist those undergraduates that find themselves too busy — or too rich — to bridge the gap between attraction and connection.

Daniel "Zac" Tanjeloff and David M. Galkowski, and their business plan for Check My Radar, a new take on social networking Web sites, walked away with the grand prize in a competition held this semester by the newly-formed Harvard College Entrepreneurship Forum.

HCEF will link the winners of their 2007 Startup Plan Competition and Summer Fellowship Program to an early-stage investor who will provide up to $10,000 to cover the team's expenses while they develop their business.

Tanjeloff and Galkowski, who were honored for their work in a ceremony held last week, first met through HCEF's online community and soon started work on the business plan they submitted in February.

The $10,000 idea. Check My Radar seeks to connect fellow college students with the newly-formed acquaintance that they may want to turn into something more.

Check My Radar’s pay more attention to you,” she said.

"I forget to breathe sometimes," Lohan replied.

Lindsay Lohan plans a Vegas to Malibu 21st birthday celebration

LOS ANGELES — Lindsay Lohan won’t be satisfied with a cake and some candles when she turns 21.

The rasp-voiced actress, who celebrates her big birthday on July 2, said Wednesday on "The Ellen DeGeneres Show" that she plans to "mill it" when she becomes old enough to legally go to clubs.

Lohan said turning 21 has "been a long time coming" for her friends who own clubs in Los Angeles. After she’s legal, "they don’t have to worry about getting into trouble," for letting her inside, she told host Ellen DeGeneres.

She’ll celebrate by partying in Vegas, she said, and also with a dinner in Malibu with family and friends.

Lohan also showed off a white tattoo of the word “breath” on the inside of her wrist. "And it’s ‘breathe’ because?" asked DeGeneres.

"I forget to breathe sometimes," Lohan replied.

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Gehrke-Jones continued from page 16

This fight is going to live up to all the hype. As someone who enjoys being more than UFC, I recommend this fight to everyone. The two fighters genuinely hate each other. I’ll guarantee if you watch the show, you’ll order it. Trust me, watch that show. Last but not least, I have to give a little love to the Golden State Warriors.

Let’s be honest — the best fans in the world reside in Northern California. If Sacramento is known as the loudest arena in the NBA, Golden State has to be a close second.

I wanted to hate on Warrior fans for just jumping on this winning trend, but I can’t.

First of all, they have the “hardest” team in all of sports. You could substitute Stephen Jackson (aka Mike Tyson) for De La Hoya this weekend and the fight wouldn’t move a beat.

Jackson always looks like he is ready to snap. He has been ejected in two of the five games so far this series.

I love watching the Warrior players. They have no rhythm, no style, no nothing. The best way I can teach you life skills, how to deal with people and take instruction.”

Cal Poly visits its Cal State Fullerton on Tuesday and Sunday before returning home to face Hawaii in the Big West tournament.

Jackie Gehrke-Jones

EXPERIENCE FOR YOUR RESUME.
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spurs off Nuggets

Elizabeth White

SAN ANTONIO — Michael Finley set a San Antonio playoff record with eight 3-pointers Wednesday night and the Spurs advanced to the Western Conference semifinals with a 93-78 victory over the Denver Nuggets.

Finley finished with 26 points. Tim Duncan had 23 points and 12 rebounds and Tony Parker added 16 points and 18 assists for the third-seeded Spurs, who dropped Game 1 to the Nuggetts before winning the next four in the first-round series.

It was a virtual repeat of 2005, when the Spurs lost Game 1 at home before winning the next four to close out Denver.

“Stay with the concept,” Finley said. “Stay with the team philoso- phy. If we do that, we’ll be successful.”

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The team of (Barnes and DeWitte was named Honorable Mention with an 11-9 dual-match record (3-9 overall). The team was 6-3 while playing at Nos. 3 and 5-6 at No. 2.

Cal Poly concluded the season with an 11-13 overall record and 4-0 mark in conference play. The Mustangs advanced to the Big West tournament title match before falling to UC Santa Barbara.

Golden State Warriors owner Mark Cuban.

stunning upsets in NBA history, seeing players lose their composure.

He also said Barnes was not even thinking of clapping.

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the Lafayette, Calif., native was 14-14 and 9-11 in dual matches when he led Cal Poly to a No. 3 seed in the Big West Tournament last week.

Young, a native of Durham, South Africa, posted an overall record of 18-16 and 12-11 in dual matches with most of his play coming at the No. 2 position, where he was 8-4.

The doubles team of Barnes and Rooybal teamed to post a 13-9 record at the No. 1 doubles position and compiled an overall record of 20-12.

The team of Young and Foy recorded a record of 14-6 in dual matches with 7-3 records at both the Nos. 2 and 3 spots. Overall, they were 15-10.

Foy was named Honorable Mention as a singles player when he produced a 13-10 record in dual matches (16-1 overall).

Foy was 8-4 while playing at No. 5 and 5-6 at No. 4.

The team of Barnes and DeWitte was named Honorable Mention with an 11-9 dual-match record (3-9 overall). The team was 6-3 while playing at Nos. 3 and 5-6 at No. 2.

Cal Poly concluded the season with an 11-13 overall record and 4-0 mark in conference play. The Mustangs advanced to the Big West tournament title match before falling to UC Santa Barbara.

"We had our opportunities to win and we just didn't make enough things happen," said Barnes. "We need to be ready to go when the ball comes our way and not take things for granted.

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White
continued from page 16
When the law passed in 1972, White attended meetings and worked with students to help put the federal law into place. Title IX states that men and women must have equal access to educational programs and athletics that are funded by the government.

Today, thanks to the efforts of White, Pellaton and others, things are different.

"People know who (women athletes) are now," Pellaton said. "People are beginning to say, hey, these girls are really good. It has really opened up. People are beginning to recognize the importance of women's athletics. Look at women's basketball today; for instance, before, women would have never had these opportunities."

White's early work went toward getting a director to the women's athletics building. Today, Pellaton said, "theAIAW's primary goal was to help women in athletics."

Her impact is one that extends beyond Cal Poly, though. Cone said. "White also was instrumental in the formation of the Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women, which was founded in 1971, before the NCAA took over women's athletics."

At the same time, he will be in our community in a number of ways and he will serve as a wonderful ambassador of our program, our department of athletics and our university."

Wooldridge has a 312-237 record traditionally in each of his last two seasons after coaching at the collegiate or professional level for 29 years. Before coaching at Kansas State, he was the head coach at Central Missouri State, Texas Tech and Louisiana Tech. He also served as an assistant coach to Tim Floyd with the Chicago Bulls in the 1998-99 and 1999-2000 seasons.

Wooldridge was fired at Kansas State in March 2006 after the Wildcats completed a 15-13 season.

"His single focus will be immediately apparent to his players, assistants, and colleagues in the department.

"At the same time, he will be in our community in a number of ways and he will serve as a wonderful ambassador of our program, our department of athletics and our university."

6-10 JoCo transfer center Freeman signs with 49ers

LONG BEACH — Brian Freeman, a 6-foot-10 center from Oregon City, Ore., has signed a national letter of intent to attend Long Beach State.

Freeman led Clackamas Community College to the 2007 NJCAA championship, averaging 18.3 points and 14.4 rebounds. Clackamas had a 29-4 record.

"We're extremely excited to sign a player of Brian's caliber," Dan Monson, hired as coach of the 49ers last month, said in a statement issued Wednesday. "Fortunately, he was still available. He adds versatility to our front line and he's a very good face­up shooter."

Freeman will have two years of eligibility at Long Beach State.
No job too tough for Poly's Gehrke-Jones

Pioneer for women's athletics at Poly dies at 84

Mary Lou White coached women's athletics at Cal Poly, said Evie Pellaton, a former women's physical education professor and associate athletics director, who worked with White during the 1960s and 70s. Pellaton described her friend of more than 50 years as smart, fun, compassionate, understanding and concerned — "she was just all those good things."

These traits are reflected in White's accomplishments. In 1990, White was inducted into the Cal Poly Athletics Hall of Fall as "the individual most responsible for the development of women's athletics at Cal Poly," according to a press release. She was the first woman administrator or coach to be granted the honor. White came to Cal Poly from Oregon in 1961, just after the university re-admitted women.

Until she retired in 1979, White remained active in various posts throughout the athletics department, including coaching volleyball, basketball, men's and women's fencing, softball and track. She also served as department chair for women's physical education and as women's athletics director.

At the time of her retirement, she held the position of associate dean of the new-remained School of Human Development and Education.

Throughout her career, she addressed equal rights and athletic opportunities for women.

"She was a participant in sports," Pellaton said. "She went through the whole thing of not getting funding or transportation, so she knew how important it was."

With that mindset, White — herself a competitive fencer and softball player — sought to change the system and provide better opportunities for women athletes in the future. "Women's athletics (before White's time) were organized loosely and under the leadership of a coach," according to a press release. "They didn't really have equipment or uniforms. They didn't really get what today's athletes get."

But all that changed with the passage of Title IX.

-- See White, page 15

What a week

John Middlekauff

Great times! Every sport imaginable is in full swing, from the NFL Draft to boxing. And you'd better believe people in the Bay Area are thinking about the NBA Playoffs.

I don't even know where to begin.

Let's start with those Oakland Raiders.

Who would have thought Randy Moss would be on the Patriots? That just doesn't sound possible to me. It's almost surreal.

Think about the Belichick-Moss marriage for a second. This has the serious makings of a TO-type situation.

That's like President Bush dying the lead singer of the Dixie Chicks. You just kind of shake your head.

But at the same time, you can't wait to see how it actually plays out. This is easily the No. 1 story going into the upcoming NFL season. T.O. is going to be so good out there, so omnivorous, it'll force him to step up his antics. It's going to be classic.

I can't quite figure out why the Raiders parted ties with one of the best receivers in the league.

I mean, just think about the on-the-spot replacement of Golden State's own Kyle Sweet and Moss. Yeah, it's probably better the Raiders got rid of Moss.

Quick side note, never been a big Raider guy, but if Shawnell makes the squad, I might have to jump on the bandwagon.

Speaking of jumping off the bandwagon, let's talk about every team when it comes to Brady Quinn. I can only imagine the leaden on Groupie Avenue in Miami when the Dolphins didn't take Quinn.

But if you thought the NFL did a good job of marketing its product during the draft, you haven't seen Floyd Mayweather/Oscar De La Hoya show on HBO.After watching the show, I couldn't be more fired up for the fight. By putting this show on right after "Entourage," the promoters probably just doubled their audience.

I find myself anticipating this reality show more than Ari and Vince. Whoever put this show together is helping to place this fight and boxing on the map.

see White, page 15

see Johnny, page 14

Mary Lou White, an important figure in the formation of Cal Poly's women's athletic programs and a longtime advocate for women's athletics equity before the passing of Title IX, died April 9 after a brief illness. She was 84.

Without White, Cal Poly athletics would look markedly different today. "If it wasn't for her, Cal Poly's athletics wouldn't be where it is today. She was instrumental in working for athletics on Cal Poly's campus," said Evie Pellaton, a former women's physical education professor and associate athletics director, who worked with White during the 1960s and 70s. Pellaton described her friend of more than 50 years as smart, fun, compassionate, understanding and concerned — "she was just all those good things." These traits are reflected in White's accomplishments. In 1990, White was inducted into the Cal Poly Athletics Hall of Fall as "the individual most responsible for the development of women's athletics at Cal Poly," according to a press release. She was the first woman administrator or coach to be granted the honor. White came to Cal Poly from Oregon in 1961, just after the university re-admitted women. Until she retired in 1979, White remained active in various posts throughout the athletics department, including coaching volleyball, basketball, men's and women's fencing, softball and track. She also served as department chair for women's physical education and as women's athletics director. At the time of her retirement, she held the position of associate dean of the now-remained School of Human Development and Education. Throughout her career, she addressed equal rights and athletic opportunities for women.

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But all that changed with the passage of Title IX. 

see White, page 15

see Johnny, page 14

No job too tough for Poly's Gehrke-Jones

Cal Poly senior catcher Jackie Gehrke-Jones never tried anything new.

The softball senior has gone from a right-handed hitter to lefty and currently second on the team in batting average at .340.

With only six games against two opponents remaining in the regular season, Gehrke-Jones could be a part of the first Big West title in program history.

Cal Poly (34-14) is currently tied atop the conference standings with Cal State Fullerton (30-18) at 9-3 league play.

"To go all the way this year, we just need to maintain what we have," Gehrke-Jones said. "We have put in the sweat, injuries and hard work. We can finish this season on top and leave next year's team with that to build on."

Gehrke-Jones first got into the game at 11 years old on the support of her grandmother, who was involved in the softball community in her hometown of Rancho Cordova. When the time came to choose her home after high school, Gehrke-Jones immediately fell in love with Cal Poly and Bob Janssen Field.

With a new school also came a new approach to her game. Her freshman year, Gehrke-Jones made the switch from batting to sleeping. Although she had practiced both during high school, the right-hander was now batting left-handed.

"I just carried over the new approach to my game. Her freshman year, Gehrke-Jones played shortstop for every one of the 47 games she took part in that season."

Check out mustangdaily.com for a FREE personalized podcast with Ryan Chartrand and-Aaron Champion. Cal Poly's podcast: the Mustangs' Draft day, with the Mustangs' baseball, softball, tennis, and track and field teams.

To listen to the 14-minute MP3, click on "Play Your Podcast" under Online Features.

Who would have thought Randy Moss would be on the Patriots? That just doesn't sound possible to me. It's almost surreal. Think about the Belichick-Moss marriage for a second. This has the serious makings of a TO-type situation.

That's like President Bush dying the lead singer of the Dixie Chicks. You just kind of shake your head.

But at the same time, you can't wait to see how it actually plays out. This is easily the No. 1 story going into the upcoming NFL season. T.O. is going to be so good out there, so omnivorous, it'll force him to step up his antics. It's going to be classic.

I can't quite figure out why the Raiders parted ties with one of the best receivers in the league.

I mean, just think about the on-the-spot replacement of Golden State's own Kyle Sweet and Moss. Yeah, it's probably better the Raiders got rid of Moss.

Quick side note, never been a big Raider guy, but if Shawnell makes the squad, I might have to jump on the bandwagon.

Speaking of jumping off the bandwagon, let's talk about every team when it comes to Brady Quinn. I can only imagine the leaden on Groupie Avenue in Miami when the Dolphins didn't take Quinn.

But if you thought the NFL did a good job of marketing its product during the draft, you haven't seen Floyd Mayweather/Oscar De La Hoya show on HBO.After watching the show, I couldn't be more fired up for the fight. By putting this show on right after "Entourage," the promoters probably just doubled their audience.

I find myself anticipating this reality show more than Ari and Vince. Whoever put this show together is helping to place this fight and boxing on the map.

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