Shrek loses his bite in third installment

IN SPOTLIGHT, 7

Poly softball team reloads, but is already thinking about 2008

IN SPORTS, 12

Professor leads way through castle halls

Giana Magnoli

Speech communications professor Jeffrey Schultz spends his weekends and summers among antiques, beautiful gardens and hundreds of strangers. He is in his 10th year as a Hearst Castle tour guide, and works at the castle part-time and teaches at Cal Poly part-time.

"It's a state job — nobody's getting rich. You do it because you love it," Schultz said. "The place is so unique and so remarkable. And people have such a 'wow' factor, and you get told every two hours what a great job you just did. There aren't many of those kinds of jobs around, believe me."

The state historical monument gets over 750,000 visitors a year, and during busy summer days, can have 70 guides working. Publishing tycoon William Randolph Hearst had the estate built and entertained many guests there over the years. Though many other guides have been working there longer than he has, Schultz has had the desire since he graduated from Cal Poly.

"I nearly went to work there the summer of '71 before I went on to get my master's in fine arts," he said. "If they had hired one more person that year, I would have worked that summer, so it was kind of implanted

see Guide, page 2

The three candidates for ASI president spent more money on food, apparel, signs and other items than candidates before them.

Jennifer Hall

Bright colored flers, hundreds of identical T-shirts and buttons with catchy slogans mean more competition and people spend more and more," said Mia White, director of the elections committee for ASI.

Where the money comes from

President-elect Brandon Souza spent $4,000 on his campaign, the lowest of the three candidates. Matt Taylor spent $4,600 and Arvand Sabedian spent $6,000.

"I (ran) because I believe I can do the best for students. It's not about the money," Souza said. "Just because you don't have a lot of money to put into a campaign doesn't mean you aren't qualified!"

In fact, in 2003, presidential candidate Allison Anderson ran with just $5,000 and won.

"Money doesn't necessarily win you the election," Souza and Sabedian combined donations from businesses, organizations, friends and family with their own money to fund the campaign, though most of Sabedian's money came from his Internet business, Arvixe, LLC.

Candidates have many options to raise money for their campaign. Some fundraise or ask for donations from businesses, friends and family. Others choose to self-finance by working.

"Taylor worked a full-time job all last year in order to fund his campaign, stating that he didn't want his friends to pay for it. If you want to do this you should be willing to make the sacrifice," Taylor said. "You shouldn't be playing with other people's chips."

Though many students take on the challenge of running in the 2007-08 Associated Students Inc. presidential elections. All three were well-qualified and wanted to make Cal Poly a better place for students.

But behind the vibrant banners and booths "Every year as more people run, it gets more competitive and people spend more and And lots of it."

This year, three students took on the challenge of running in the 2007-08 Associated Students Inc. presidential elections. All three were well-qualified and wanted to make Cal Poly a better place for students.

And all three spent thousands of dollars on their campaigns.

"Every year as more people run, it gets more competitive and people spend more and more," said Mia White, director of the elections committee for ASI.

The three candidates for ASI president spent more money on food, apparel, signs and other items than candidates before them.

"It's a state job — nobody's getting rich. You do it because you love it," Schultz said. "The place is so unique and so remarkable. And people have such a 'wow' factor, and you get told every two hours what a great job you just did. There aren't many of those kinds of jobs around, believe me."

The three candidates for ASI president spent more money on food, apparel, signs and other items than candidates before them.
Campaigns continued from page 1

"You're almost backed into a corner," Souza said. "You're going to have to spend some dough to get anywhere."

No cap for candidates

Currently, ASI presidential candidates can spend as little or as much as they want on their campaigns. There is no spending cap or any other regulations related to how much money is involved.

"The cost involved is huge, not only financially, but also the time and emotions," Taylor said.

In the past, ASI had rules that limited the amount students could spend on a campaign and even discussed implementing a cap. But ultimately, they were advised not to for free speech reasons.

"Political money is protected by free speech laws," 2005-06 ASI President Tyler Middlestadt said. "ASI as an organization has no right to limit how people spend their money."

Despite the free speech argument, many campuses still impose caps on campaign spending.

CSU Long Beach found a middle ground by asking candidates to follow a voluntary spending limit when they sign on to run.

Boston University has a $500 cap for primary elections and candidates are allowed to spend an additional $150 if they advance to a second round.

"Something that low can't even pierce the skin of an 18,000 student body," Maki said.

Spending caps vary considerably; Texas A&M has a $1,500 limit while CSU Monterey Bay has a $75 limit.

"Other ASUs do have these policies that limit spending but they're not legal," Middlestadt said.

Another idea that had been proposed included ASI funding the candidates who ran for office, White said.

"If someone else funded it, then everyone's going to jump in," executive director of ASI Rick Johnson said.

When dollars matter at the polls

In addition to concerns over the quality of the candidates running, improving voter turnout campus-wide.

"We don't want campaigns to disrupt life on campus," White said. "But we want to get the vote up too."

Guide continued from page 1 in my mind.

If he had worked back then, he would have been able to swim in the gorgeous pools every night if he wanted too; employees today get to swim in them once a year.

The estate's many tours include a handicapped-accessible tour, Schultz' favorite to guide, which visits a garden and the kitchen.

While the job is a performance, the guide is not supposed to be the center of attention; "the place, the story, the architecture, that's what it's about," he said.

Guides are responsible for dispensing the information, but have no set script, being open to questions also.

Schultz teaches public speaking, and realizes that his students are learning.

"It's a type of public speaking that's very unusual in that it's not at a podium and certainly not with a microphone," he said. "And you're talking to groups ranging from as little as two people to 56, indoors and outdoors, in all weathers."

One extreme situation was during the 6.5-magnitude earthquake in 2003. He was giving a tour when it hit.

"He shook the house so much that all the bells started clanging at once," he said. However, only 11 out of around 22,500 antique pieces were damaged.

He credits the estate's survival of the quake to the genius of Julia Morgan, the first female architect in California who was in charge of the project. She worked with Hearst for more than 20 years, while working on 300 other commissions elsewhere.

In fact, Schultz is working on a master's thesis right now dealing with "the synergy between Julia Morgan, the architect, and William Randolph Hearst through three decades," he said. "The roaring '20s, the Depression, through the period of World War II ... despite all the things that were going on in the world, they kept the other project going. No other people, I contend, could have done that."

Much of his research has been done in the Robert A. Kennedy Library, which has a large amount of Morgan's original personal and professional documents in its Special Collections department, including letters exchanged between Morgan and Hearst.

According to the library's Web site, most of the material is from the late 1890s when Morgan studied architecture in Paris, to the mid-1940s, when her practice started to wind down.

To add to his list of Hearst-related activities, Schultz, once a professional actor, researched, wrote and performed a one-act play about George Hearst, the father of William Randolph Hearst.

"I just like that time better than the future, where it's going, I'm more comfortable," he said.

Of Hearst Castle's existence, he attributed it to the rare qualities of Hearst's era.

It was an "unique opportunity with the availability of the antiquities because they desperately needed money in Europe, and the availability of craftsmen because there was no work for them in the 1920s," he said. There was "a rich man with the imagination and the perseverance and the willingness to spend and spend." And the genius lady architect who not only knows how to look pretty but make it stand through a 6.5 magnitude earthquake 80 years later."

www.mustangdaily.com

Any time money is involved, you have to ask where it's coming from and are there strings attached.

It's important for students to know where the candidates are getting their money.

—Tyler Middlestadt

2005-06 ASI president

This year, 25.3 percent of the student body voted in the first round of elections and 14 percent voted in the run-off election.

"(Elections) are good for the campus because they get people's attention," Sabetian said. "It's getting a lot of students to support ASI government and elections."

The payoff

To return for serving as ASI president, the winning candidate is provided with a stipend during his or her term of office that covers tuition, room and board, books and supplies, personal and transportation expenses as estimated by the Financial Aid Office. It's equivalent of a full ride scholarship," Middlestadt said.

This year, that amount totaled $17,043 and for the 2007-08 academic year the total will be $17,901, according to the Financial Aid Web site.

The ASI president also gets their own parking spot and priority registration.

Reporting the numbers

ASI presidential candidates are required to write a $100 check to ASI prior to the start of campaigning. They receive a refund for that check when they complete a voluntary self-reported financial summary at the end of campaigning.

"There's really no reason for someone not to report," Sabetian said.

However, there is no system in place to check up on what the candidates are self-reporting.

"Right now it's an honor system on what you're reporting and not reporting," Souza said. He planned to donate any leftover money raised to Doctors Without Borders, a humanitarian organization that provides emergency health care.

After the candidates give their financial summary to Student Affairs, any other sort of campaign finance measures since 2004 when Middlestadt offered to head a committee to look into the matter.

"I felt that with the amount people were spending, it was intimidating people from running," Middlestadt said. "It's good, it gets to be so much that people aren't even throwing their hat in the ring, then it's a problem."

Most people involved with elections said that the amount candidates spend on their campaigns is not a deterrent yet.

"It's an issue that needs to be discussed," Middlestadt said. "But it's not a problem right now."

If ASI decided to adopt a voluntary spending limit for presidential candidates, what should it be?

take the poll at www.mustanddaily.net

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Bush defends Gonzales despite no-confidence vote

Ben Feller

ASSOCIATED PRESS

CRAWFORD, Texas — President Bush insisted Monday that embattled Attorney General Alberto Gonzales still has his support and denounced Democratic plans for a no-confidence vote as "pure political theater.

"He has done nothing wrong," Bush said in an impassioned defense of his longtime friend and adviser during a news conference at his Texas ranch.

Despite Bush's comments, support for Gonzales is eroding, even in the president's own party. The Senate is prepared to hold a no-confidence vote, possibly by week's end, and five Republican senators have joined many Democrats in calling for Gonzales' resignation.

The attorney general is under investigation by Congress for last year's ousters of eight federal prosecutors. He is also under fire for an alleged 2004 hospital visit, as White House counsel, to have the then-acting Attorney General John Ashcroft certify the legality of Bush's controversial warrantless eavesdropping program.

The visit was detailed last week by former Deputy Attorney General James Comey.

In Washington, the Justice Department released a new batch of documents linked to the firings in anticipation of House testimony Wednesday by Monica Goodling, Gonzales' former counsel and White House lawyer.

The Justice Department hasmain­tained the firings — planned in part by Goodling — targeted underper­forming U.S. attorneys. A chart com­piled by Goodling, dated Feb. 12, planned the leadership abilities of the eight fired prosecutors and compared them with years of mostly compli­mentary peer reviews each received.

For example, Seattle prosecutor John McKay showed a "pattern of insubordination," poor judgment, and "demonstrations of temperament issues," according to his leadership evaluation, which was compiled by Justice officials. His peer review, by contrast, called McKay "an effective, well-regarded, and capable leader."

The president told the Democrats to get back to more pressing matters.

Drive

continued from page 1

all of them raised their hands, but few signed up.

Baker finds this frustrating. "There is time if you just make it," she said.

Baker, an A+ blood type, has donated blood every 56 days, the required number of days between donations, since she first became eligi­ble at the age of 17.

"The reason I really got into it is something that could be somebody else's..."

as a state of emergency.

"My first instinct was to turn them around, but the whales applied to be navigated by their own compass.

A gunman suspected of killing three people and himself said during a court-ordered mental evaluation that if he committed suicide, he would try to take a large number of people with him, police said Monday.

Three months after that con­versation, authorities say, Jason Hamilton shot and killed his wife at their home, then drove downtown with two assault rifles and fired a barrage of bal­lets into an emergency dispatch center inside a courthouse and a parking lot outside.

The woman was the first Israeli to die in a Palestinian rocket attack since November.

Even before the fatal salvo, Hamas leaders feared for their safety. They turned off their cell phones, stayed out of official vehicles and reduced their move­ments as militant groups declared a state of emergency.

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WASHINGTON — Senate leaders agreed Monday that they would wait until June to take final action on a bipartisan plan to give millions of unlawful immigrants legal status.

The measure, which also tightens border security and workplace enforcement measures, unites a group of influential liberals, cen­
trist and conservatives and has White House backing, but it has drawn criticism from across the political spectrum. In a nod to that opposition, Senate leaders won’t seek to complete it before a hoped-for, Memorial Day deadline.

“It would be to the best interest of the Senate ... that we not try to finish this bill this week,” said Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., as the chamber began debate on the volatil­e issue, “I think we could, but I’m afraid the conclusion wouldn’t be any­thing that anyone wanted.”

The bipartisan compromise cleared its first hurdle Monday with a bipartisan Senate vote to begin debate on the volatile issue. Reid, I-D-Nev., as the chamber debated will be a proposal by Sen. Jeff Sessions, R-Ala., said the measure’s so-called “point system” doesn’t do enough to guarantee that future immigration will serve the country’s economic needs.

“I’m nervous about this thing,” said Sessions, who voted not to go forward with the debate. He called the point scheme “bait” to get con­servatives to embrace the measure, and accused Republicans of com­promising too much on an outline drafted by the White House in late March to attract GOP support. “I’m disappointed — almost heartbroken — because we made some progress toward getting to this new framework, but the politi­cal wheeling and dealing and com­promising and splitting the baby has resulted in a circumstance in which, you know, we just didn’t get far enough,” Sessions said.

Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, R­, Texas, who also opposed opening debate, announced she would seek to alter the bill to mandate that ile­gal immigrants go back to their home countries before gaining legal status.

“The proposal, that requires only applies to heads of households seeking green cards and a path to citizenship. Others here unlawfully could obtain visas to live and work in the U.S. indefinitely, without returning home. Reid said.

“Each of us who crafted it, clearly the measure’s strengths are its elements that we strongly support and elements we believe could be improved. No one believes this is a perfect bill,” Kennedy said.

The White House has begun an active lobbying effort to drum up support for the measure, especially among Republicans who voted against an immigration overhaul last year.

President Bush is still hoping to sign the bill by summer’s end, said Tony Fratto, a White House spokesman.

“This is a very high priority for the president,” Fratto told reporters in Crawford, Texas, “We know that it is an emotional issue for mem­bers on both sides of political par­ties and both sides of the ideologi­cal spectrum, but we hope that we can find common ground.”

Conservatives in the House, whose opposition helped kill an immigration overhaul last year, began laying down markers in anticipation of their own debate, expected only if the Senate com­pletes its measure.

Rep. Dan Lungren, R-Calif., unveiled legislation he said was “an alternative to several of the large­scale proposals in the so-called Senate com­promise.” It would send home illegal immigrants who had been in the U.S. for fewer than five years and bar them from gaining lawful status.

“Those in the country five years or more would be able to get a ‘blue card’ to live and work legally in the U.S. after paying a $1,000 fine and learning English and American civics, but they could not bring their families. Blue card holders would have to leave the country to apply for legal residen­cy.”

In contrast, the bipartisan Senate compromise would allow illegal immigrants in the country by the beginning of this year to adjust their status.

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Collapsed part of Bay Bridge will reopen for weekend

OAKLAND (AP) — Repairs to a section of the San Francisco­Oakland Bay Bridge that collapsed in a tanker truck fire last month will be completed by Thursday night, reopening the busy freeway for Memorial Day weekend, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger said Monday.

By finishing the work more than a month before the June 27 deadline set by the California Department of Transportation, Rancho Cordova­based contractor C.C. Myers Inc. will receive a $5 million bonus for the work.

"Thanks to hard, around-the­clock work of Caltrans and C.C. Myers, our local partners and bus­inesses, Bay Area motorists can once again travel through this busy inter­change," Schwarzenegger said in a statement. "Just in time for the holi­day weekend, this roadway will be open in 26 days from when the acci­dent occurred."

The contractor originally predict­ed the portion of the MacArthur Maze, which connects eastbound Interstate-80 to eastbound 1-580, would be completed by June 2.

Myers announced the earlier finish late last week and Schwarzenegger confirmed the opening Monday.

The early reopening is good news for commuters on one of the nation’s busiest freeway inter­changes, hobbled by the April 29 fire caused by an overloaded gasoline tanker.

C.C. Myers bid $867,075 for the contract. Caltrans offered a bonus of $200,000 for each day the work is finished ahead of the deadline, with a maximum of $5 million. To collect the full amount under the contract, work would have to be completed by June 2.
Iraq drawing up plans in case of sudden U.S. pullout, while U.S. pressure mounts on al-Maliki

Robert H. Reid
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD — Iraq's military is drawing up plans to cope with any quick U.S. military pullout, the defense minister said Monday, as a senior American official warned that the Bush administration may reconsider its support if Iraqis don't make major reforms by fall.

The official did not say what actions could be taken by the White House, but his comments reflected the administration's need to show results in Iraq — as an answer to pressure by the Democrats in Congress seeking to set timetables on the U.S. military presence.

Several mortar shells hit the U.S.-controlled Green Zone, one striking the Iraqi parliament building but causing no casualties — the latest in near daily barrages on the nerve center of the U.S. mission and Iraqi government that underline the country's tenuous security.

At least 58 Iraqis were killed by attacks or found dead across Iraq, including seven people ambushed on a bus northeast of Baghdad, police said. The dead included 24 men whose bullet-riddled bodies were found across Baghdad, apparently men whose bullet-riddled bodies police said. The dead included 24 men whose bullet-riddled bodies were found across Baghdad, apparently in the southern city of Basra. Britain's military said it was drawing up plans to cope with any security vacuum, al-Obeidi said. "There are meetings with political leaders on how we can deal with a sudden pullout."

But two senior Iraqi officials told The Associated Press that Bush warned al-Maliki that Washington expected to see "tangible results quickly" on the oil bill and other legislation as the price for continued support.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren't supposed to release the information.

In London, a senior U.S. official echoed that warning, saying the Bush administration wanted signs of progress by fall or it would be forced to reconsider its policy in Iraq.

The official, who briefed reporters on condition his name not be published, said the top American diplomat and military commander in Iraq would submit a report on Iraqi progress in September.

"If one looks at where critical progress is to be made, one would be best advised to look at this fall as a key point," the official said.

Senior Kurdish lawmaker Mahmoud Othman confirmed that U.S. pressure was mounting, especially on the oil bill, which was endorsed by the Iraqi Cabinet three months ago but has yet to come to the floor of parliament.

"The Americans are pressuring us to accept the oil law. Their pressure is very strong. They want to show Congress that they have done something so that they want the law to be adopted this month. This interferes with a negative consequence," Othman told AP.

Iraqis also fired mortar and rifle fire at a group of Iraqi soldiers patrolling near the Iraqi parliament building but failed to find three soldiers missing since a May 12 ambush that left four other Americans and an Iraqi dead.

"We've identified some safe houses and we targeted a couple of those today and they were able to get away from us. But we're going to come at things from a different angle," a U.S. spokesman, Maj. Webster Wright, said without elaborating.

U.S. officials said the search by thousands of U.S. and Iraqi soldiers may be forcing the kidnappers to move the three Americans frequently, preventing insurgents from posting pictures of their captives on the Internet.

"We choose to be cautiously optimistic," Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch told CNN. "We're pursuing all leads with a passion, but right now we believe our soldiers are still alive. Each day that passes when we don't see proof of life, it causes us concern."

With violence raging, pressure is mounting on Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki's government to demonstrate progress on key reforms or risk losing American support for the unpopular war.

On Monday, Defense Minister Abdul-Qader al-Obeidi told reporters Iraq's military was drawing up plans in case U.S.-led forces left the country quickly.

"The army plans on the basis of a worst case scenario so as not to allow any security vacuum," al-Obeidi said. "There are meetings with political leaders on how we can deal with a sudden pullout."

It was unclear whether al-Obeidi's comment referred to routine contingency planning or reflected a feeling among Iraqi leaders that the days of U.S. support may be numbered even though President Bush blocked an effort by Congress to set a withdrawal timetable.

A White House spokesman, Tony Fratto, said President Bush expressed confidence in al-Maliki during a telephone call Monday to the Iraqi leader.

He said the two talked about political progress in Iraq, and al-Maliki gave Bush updates on two key U.S. demands — legislation to share Iraq's oil wealth among its regions and ethnic groups and a reform of the constitution.

"The Americans are pressuring us to accept the oil law. Their pressure is very strong. They want to show Congress that they have done something so that they want the law to be adopted this month. This interferes with a negative consequence," Othman told AP.

Iraqi legislators oppose the formula for distributing oil revenues among the Iraqi communities, arguing for a greater say in how the money is disbursed.

Major Shiites and Kurdish parties oppose several proposed changes in the constitution, as well as Sunni Arab demands for a loosening of rules banning former Saddam Hussein supporters from government jobs.

Prospects for far-reaching agreements among Sunnis, Shiites and Kurds were thrown into doubt over the weekend when the leader of the largest Shiite party, Abdul-Aziz al-Hakim, was diagnosed with lung cancer at a hospital in Houston. He was briefly in the U.S. for treatment in Iran, delivered a televised address Monday in which he said Iraq was "suffering from a limited tumor" but expected to return to the country soon.

U.S. officials had been counting on al-Hakim to help push through reforms, and a lengthy absence could make it difficult to deliver Shiite support.

In other violence, the Iraqi newspaper Azama reported Monday that one of its reporters, Ali Khalil, 22, was kidnapped while leaving a relative's house in the increasingly volatile Bayaa neighborhood of Baghdad and found dead several hours later. He is survived by his wife and week-old baby, the newspaper said.

The attack came three days after two Iraqi journalists working for ABC News were ambushed and killed on their way home from work. The New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists said 104 journalists — not including Khalil — had been killed in Iraq since the 2003 U.S.-led invasion. About 80 percent of those were Iraqis, it said.

A roadside bomb exploded near a group of soldiers patrolling the Sunni-dominated Adil neighborhood in western Baghdad, killing three and injuring two others.

In Mqadidiya, about 40 miles north of Baghdad, two gunmen killed two police officers as they walked by the police station.

Insurgents also fired mortar rounds into a neighborhood in Baghdad while civilians were lined up to collect their pensions, killing two people, police said.
‘Lucky You’ deals lame hand for audience

Lukewarm gambling flick goes from flushes to crushes, and back again

Rachelle Santucci
MUSTANG DAILY

If you’re a fan of the classic Drew Barrymore film where she prances around the screen and falls in love with someone, then out of love, and back into it again, then “Lucky You” is not quite what you are looking for.

It is mainly centered on a hothead poker player, Huck Cheever (played by Eric Bana of “Munich” and “Hulk”), who is struggling to make it in Sin City as a competitor in the World Series of Poker.

Cards are not Cheever’s only worries, though. His relationship with his father, L.C. (Robert Duvall), a two-time winner of the series, is not too great either.

While Huck Cheever is supposed to be the tough guy who does anything to win, his character is honestly not all that believable.

The movie makes sure you know Barrymore’s feelings.

In the film, Barrymore takes second (maybe even third) stage playing Billie Offer, an aspiring singer who moves from Bakersfield to Las Vegas and lives with her older sister played by Debra Messing. A bit naive, Offer is almost instantly intrigued by Cheever, who charms her with his smooth-talking.

You better like poker a whole lot if you go to see this because about half of the screen time is taken up by cards, chips and cash flying around.

The rest is father-son drama with a little romance thrown in to keep the ladies interested.

Throughout the movie, Huck wins prepared for cheesy poker puns and it has a little something for everyone.

The romantic comedy aspect of the movie was predictable and I cared more about who won each round of cards than whether Huck and Billie wound up together, but I did like Barrymore’s character. She is not too forgiving and knows when to stand up for herself.

The part was well-cast, but it is surprising that Barrymore would do such a small movie when she doesn’t even have a huge role.

The romantic comedy aspect of the movie was predictable and I cared more about who won each round of cards than whether Huck and Billie wound up together, but I did like Barrymore’s character. She is not too forgiving and knows when to stand up for herself.

What happens in Vegas stays in Vegas. Actors Eric Bana and Drew Barrymore are busy finding each other and themselves in “Lucky You.”

For the most part, “Lucky You” will keep your attention as it moves from flushes to crushes and it has a little something for everyone. The man with a boob job got a laugh out of me and there’s even a fight scene; it’s short and basically just a threat, but still. At least Bana gets a black eye and it distracted me from thinking about how I desperately wanted to cut his terrible hair.

If the relationship between Bana and Barrymore had been a given a little more airtime, it might have helped create some chemistry which was lacking simply because it wasn’t developed. Come on, it’s “Lucky You” and a one-night stand is supposed to be devastating! Throughout the movie, Huck wins and loses painful amounts of money repeatedly while getting ready for the World Series and he wins and loses the girl just about as many times.

It’s not too convincing and there were dull moments, but overall, “Lucky You” is a great way to spend a couple hours when you have nothing better to do. Just be prepared for cheesy poker puns and a Las Vegas where no one seems to be all that had.

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The student anchors define “McDreamy.”
Shrek III a fairytale gone boring

Third installment fails to measure up to its magical predecessors

Isaiah Narciso

It seems that great movie franchises start to lose some steam after the second film. Even a lovable green ogre like Shrek has fallen victim to this curse.

"Shrek the Third" attempted to bring back the parody, humor and take-home public service messages that gave the first film an Academy Award in 2001 and record profits to its 2004 sequel. The film also has many of its original cast members back, including the voices of Shrek (Mike Myers), Fiona (Cameron Diaz), Donkey (Eddie Murphy) and Puss In Boots (Antonio Banderas).

Newcomers of "Saturday Night Live" fame played characters such as Snow White (Amy Poehler) and Rapunzel (Maya Rudolph). Even Regis Philbin and Larry King made cameo appearances as women with men's voices.

Apparently, the film is trying to stand out with other blockbusters like "Spider-man 3" and "Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End." As a result, some of its quality has declined. For instance, C.Juleen Lillian (Julie Andrews) rarely speaks in the latest film, a total waste of Andrews' s talent and experience.

Everybody's favorite ogre Shrek (Mike Myers) gets into a tiff with Artie, aka King Arthur, (Justin Timberlake) while on board the Jolly Roger. The movie was seemingly misguided in its attempt to carry on the tradition.

Away Kingdom. But Shrek did not want to be king, and wanted someone else to rule the land.

Desperate for an heir to the throne, Shrek, Donkey and Puss in Boots set sail to bring Fiona's relative Artie (Justin Timberlake) home. In Shrek's absence, Prince Charming (Rupert Everett) managed to convince the "villains" to make him the new leader of Far, Far Away.

The phrase "Happily Ever After" takes on a new meaning when the nerdy Artie, with the help of Shrek and friends, has to fight for the crown against Prince Charming.

Shrek, who is mostly reluctant to play a father role in his own life, actually counsels the boy like a dad.

As with the previous films, "Shrek the Third" skewered both fairytales and pop culture. It used characters like Snow White, Sleeping Beauty, Cinderella and Rapunzel to mock baby showers, fairy tale romance and girl power for comic effect.

The villains Captain Hook and the Headless Horseman were given a softer side, but that shows up later. The film also parodies "Charlie's Angels" (when Fiona and the princesses do their ninja poses) and "Harold and Kumar" (when gingerbread man Gingi has a near-death experience).

Unfortunately, the film lacks about half the wit and originality that has made the Shrek franchise famous. Slapstick humor is used (sometimes quite literally) to pass over the dragging parts of the film.

There is also a lack of visual imagery (i.e. "Versarchery") that brought laughs to grown-ups and children alike.

The film is not a total loss, though. Donkey and Puss In Boots retained the wit and crass attitude that made them rival favorites with Shrek.

There is even a part in the film where, thanks to a fluke in Merlin's magic spell, they switch voices, character portrayal, and body parts.

The film also redeemed itself with inherently complex jokes. It manages to keep "Family Guy" elements of humor in certain parts while being sensitive to children's ears at the same time. For example, Pinocchio thwarted Prince Charming's efforts with answers like, "I don't know where he's not."

Overall, "Shrek the Third" will appeal to die-hard Shrek fans and children alike. But to appreciate its worth, watch the film when there are no whiny, hyper kids in the theater.

- = don't bother.
- = eehhh...
- = rent it
- = pretty good
- = damn good!
Found Sound spends mythic 21st birthday in musical style

My mom has been watching me between moments all week. We've scheduled three concerts this week that fall all along a week of drunken celebration known as my birthday. I'm afraid it's all still going and you're going to have to catch me between moments too.

It's late Sunday afternoon and there are two hours to go until the Pitt-Ez-Pat/Priestbird show at the Steynberg Gallery. Even while writing, I frequently strap to set up equipment, eat and a myriad of other things. Everything's been going full tilt since my birthday on Tuesday. I don't manage to pull out of a hangover until I'm in the gallery setting up for the Alela Diane show. I belt through setting up and then drive home so my grandma can pick me up and take me to Vallarta's Mexican Food.

Friday follows the pattern of napping, eating and working on my short story. By the time I go to get the equipment for the Port O'Brien show, my body feels dead and sluggish.

We show up late and have to wait an hour to get in. We take advantage of the hour and bounce through solid sets. Alela Diane plays all of her delicate and beautiful folk music. It enraptures the audience so much that an encore is demanded one of about three that has ever happened this year. Oh yeah, she sings me happy birthday and that's quite the heart meter too.

As per the usual, the Port O'Brien show at the Art Center goes off without a hitch and there is a solid turnout. They have become one of the best local bands. An overwhelming powerful set from Van and the rest of the crew. We say goodbye to them and by the time you read this column, they'll be flying to Alaska for a three month stay.

Monday is supposed to be a break. I work on my short story because that's all I really want to do. I write first-person stories about beautiful girls who play records with their tongues. I catch my short story between moments: Fascist Art Party at the Establishment, a day leg in Murray Station, Mother Mountain Music Festival in the dorms, a party over in the Madonna area, the bars and a bike taxi to my house. And now I'm here at the gallery for the Sunday night show.

Getting ready for dinner with the band which I always seem to write about. Maybe you'll catch me between moments tonight. Maybe not. Either way, I'm ready to sleep through next week.
HUMOR COLUMN

Getting legit with the latest epic slang

A local reader of my arti­cle wanted to know what it was my birthday just a few weeks ago. With my birthday, I became a ripe old age exactly 22. With this old age, I have noticed that there are some things I can no longer relate to when it comes to the younger generation. Namely, I feel just like I either don't understand, or will always refuse to say some of the things.

What comes as a surprise to me though is that this generation that I am writing about is just a few years younger than I am, yet I feel that the language gap is huge. I suppose that this is one of those things about language constantly evolve over time, and that I have missed. However, I do feel that facts that I can't just describe my girlfriend as being someone who is all that with a bag of chips anymore.

But, regardless of this gap, I am going to give you this guide on breaking down common-day slang and even give you some new words you can use to be a trend­setter among your peers.

The first word to look at is of epic proportions. Well, not really. Why? Well, the word “epic” is start­ting to be used in more ways than I ever thought it would be. I think of the word “epic,” I think of staff that actually has to be huge. Dinosaurs, I would say, were pretty epic. I mean come on, those castas were huge. You know what else is epic or will be looked at as epic? Yes, you guessed it — Will Smith movies, especially if they were huge. You know what else is epic? That shit will be epic and not use the word “epic” should only be used in horse­shoes and hand grenades, so just keep that in mind. The next word was truly popular in the late ’80s and early 90s, and for some reason the word is back, but the original use still forgotten. Of course, I am talking about the word “legit.” I am still wondering how MC Hammer is totally out of the equation after “Too Legit To Quit.” One explanation for Hammer being forgotten can come from the fact that, God forbid, this younger generation is talking about don’t know who Hammer is. I am going to give them the ben­efit of the doubt and say that they do know who the legendary Hammer is though, because if they don’t, they probably have no sense of what music should actually sound like, anyway. The word “legit” used out of con­text of Hammer’s song just shouldn’t be used the way it is. I understand that that takes a bit of breath and man power to say “legitmate,” but I also think that for some people you are actually sounding intelligent when you speak in cool or something. Basically, let’s just leave the word “legit” to the legendary Hammer who made the cool word, and not use the word unless we’re quoting the song.

As promised, I am now going to suggest some new slang words for you all. Unfortunately, “That’s so Raven” never caught on as describing comedy, good acting and more comedy, but I’ll give alternatives that should stick.

The first is “co-cumber.” Yeah, no longer you do have to be as cool as a cucumber because that is way too many words. Plus, it has always been used as a description of someone that is cool. I mean you don’t say “{}“ than the cool,” so saying “co-cumber” will really give you some street cred to your name. For example, “Damn, that bro is co-cumber right now, know what I’m saying bitches?” Or how about “Damn that’s Blaney”?

This word will be used to describe things that are breezy, fresh and monotone all in one: Platonic surgery to make your fingers all the same size is just Blaney.” The third is that you just “Sanjaya’d it.” This will be used if you want to describe something or someone that is annoying, some­what funny to watch, and still in the closet. For example, “He definit­ely Sanjaya’d it when he started bumping the couch in front of everyone.”

Well that does it for another Guide to Life. Again, I hope you learned something and I will see you all next week.

Mike Homovits is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily humor columnist. See what makes him so cool at mikedimovits.com.

Let it out!

All letters to the editor must be 250 words or less and include your name, year and major.

www.mustangdaily.com

STAFF EDITORIAL

ASI should hold candidates more accountable for campaign spending

It was almost impossible to miss all the T­shirts, water bottles, hats, barbeques, root beer floats and giant chalkboards during election month this month.

And if let some students wondering if there is a limit on how much Associated Students Inc. candidates can spend.

The Mustang Daily decided to find out and we were a little shocked at what we found.

Between all three candidates, $14,600 was spent in 18 days of campaigning. This money came from businesses, organizations, friends, family and their own wallets. Of course, the candidates need to campaign to the student and why they would want the best president for Cal Poly. But couldn’t it be done in a much more manage­able level?

The Mustang Daily thinks the answer is yes.

ASI representatives said that they cannot impose spending caps on the because it would violate their free speech rights.

But they could ask candidates to volunteer to stay under a certain spending limit.

Voluntary spending caps and legitimate financial checks would makeASI elections better for candidates and the students they may represent.

We would love to see campus life change in the presidency next year and we encourage him to make sure future candidates become more accountable for their hopefully lower spending.

Editorial reflect the opinion of the Mustang Daily editorial staff.
The NBA Draft lottery can be seen at halftime of Game 2 between the Utah Jazz and San Antonio Spurs, which tips off at 6 tonight on ESPN.

NEW YORK — After all these losses — some of them unexpected on purpose — there’s finally a payoff.

Two of the NBA’s worst teams will be rewarded at the draft lottery tonight, winning the chance to choose Greg Oden or Kevin Durant.

Representatives from 14 teams will be in Secaucus, N.J., hoping they earn the right to select another Tim Duncan or Lebron James, players who went No. 1 in the draft and now have their teams deep into the post season.

“Someone is going to get very smart in a hurry,” Nets president Rod Thorn said. “There is going to be a GM who all the sudden becomes a guru and a coach that is going to be very good.”

The Memphis Grizzlies, after finishing with a league-worst 22-60 record, have a 25 percent chance of landing the top pick. The Boston Celtics have a nearly 20 percent chance, and the Milwaukee Bucks will be looking to turn the league’s third-worst record into their second lottery win in three years.

The Bucks took Andrew Bogut with the No. 1 pick in the 2005 draft and made the playoffs the following season, so they know the impact one player can make. And general manager Larry Harris has hinted that player would be Oden if Milwaukee beats the odds to win again.

“One player solves a lot of problems for us defensively,” said Harris, who will be trying to win a more submarine-fan-topped by a fan in a contest the team ran to find a lucky charm. “I mean, we were 29th in defense, 30th in rebounding, 30th in shot blocking. One guy solves you a lot of those issues, and defense wins games.”

Oden could have been the top pick last year if not for the league’s age requirement, so instead helped Ohio State reach the national championship game with shooting and rebounding. Durant, a forward who was the college player of the year, was the Big 12’s most outstanding offensive player.

With two potentially franchise-caliber players heading this year’s draft, there is more attention on the lottery than any since James was the big prize in 2003. And there sometimes seemed quite a desire to be a part of a better situation.

Strange substitution patterns and curious injury absences convinced people that some teams were losing games on purpose. Boston coach Doc Rivers opened this column at

The entire package will serve as an iconic symbol of the football program — a brand new stadium or glowing Mustang sign — more beautiful than in the daytime. We will see if we can go out and finish some games.”

The Mustangs won the Cuesta Title and Pacific Coast Intercollegiates at the football program. At the junior Chris Kirk shot a school-record round of 64 as part of a school-record 199 total to lead the conference.

The scary part? The whole team returns next season.

The track and field team has been paced literally and figuratively by Rod Thorn, who set the Big West Championships record in 1,500-meter run in 3 minutes, 42.54 seconds.

Who hasn’t had a winning season since 1991-92.

The softball team reached the National Tournament in 2002, and won time after winning its first Big West title.

Cal Poly (39-17) was led all season by its USA Softball Collegiate Player of the Year finalist, senior center fielder Lisa Modig. The school’s Female Athlete of the Year finished the regular season nationally second among all Big West players in batting average (.488) and slugging percentage (.951).

The baseball team clinched in fourth straight winning season with a 3-1 home win over perennial Big West power Cal State Fullerton for a historic 2-1 series victory Sunday.

The weekend marked Cal Poly’s first series victory over the Titans since 1973. That’s four years before the original Star Wars hit the big screen.

The Mustangs bounced back from an 0-5 start and currently stand 29-24 overall and 10-4 in Big West. Thursday night they’re due to start playing in a contract conference that features three teams in the top 17 of Monday’s College Basketball Top 20 and basketball poll and while playing with what BoysWorld.com ranks the fifth-toughest schedule among 291 Division I teams.

Not bad at all.

The men’s tennis team went 4-0 in the Big West before bowing out to UCSD in the conference tournament title match.

First-all conference honors went to Matt Baca and Darryn Young in singles and Kyle Roybal and Baca in doubles.

The women’s tennis team upset 32nd-ranked UC Irvine to earn a spot in the NCAA tournament.

The women’s volleyball team upset 32nd-ranked UC Irvine to earn a spot in the NCAA tournament.

The Mustangs sent a fleet of athletes to the NCAA West Regional Meet in Eugene, Ore., Friday through Saturday. Stay tuned.

If this were a court case, that would be a mountain of evidence.

Evidence to suggest that this was the most successful season across the board for CSU Poly athletics since moving to the Division I level in 1994-95.

But there are other years to consider.

Take, for instance, 1997, when the football and softball programs generated talk of the playoffs for the first time since going DI. The football team was 10-1 that year, and despite the fact seven of the part 16 Male Athletes of the Year have come from football programs was the Sean Brown of the track and field program who won the award in 1997. That shows how diverse the success of men’s athletics was nine years ago.

There are other, more recent milestones — 10-1 that year, and despite the fact seven of the part 16 Male Athletes of the Year have come from football programs was the Sean Brown of the track and field program who won the award in 1997. That shows how diverse the success of men’s athletics was nine years ago.

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Lacrosse continued from page 12

Cal Poly then advanced to the final.

"We were confident going into the tourney," Friesen said. "Hindsight we know who any given day any team can win and any team can lose. We knew every team wanted to give us a run to Cal Poly down and every team plays their best against us.

The last matchup was against Navy, seeded second nationally.

"We knew we had to put points on the board first to set the tone of the game," Kupinski said. "Navy is a good team and they are going to NCAA Division I next year, so we had to play the moment the whistle started the game." Navy scored three goals before halftime, but Cal Poly still maintained a comfortable lead of 6-3.

The Mustang defense held strong, with junior midfielder Jamie Altenau leading the way. "Jannie had an amazing game," Janelle Jones said. "She definitely led our defense and had several interceptions and turnovers."

The Mustangs would put the game out of reach with a 16-9 win in the second half, while the Jones sisters recorded the rest to give the Mustangs a 16-9 win and their seventh straight crown.

"You can score so fast in lacrosse, so I was never really confident," Janelle Jones said. "I kept waiting for them to turn their game around and make a comeback. As soon as the game was over, I couldn't believe that we won. I feel like the game went by so fast." Friesen added: "When we stepped out onto the field, we stepped out confident and unfazed. The game was almost flawless. Two teams competed. However, Navy told a parent after the game that they had never seen the level of lacrosse played that Poly played. That is a compliment that I will not forget."

Brittany Jones was named the tournament's Outstanding Offensive Player with 14 goals over the weekend, including eight in the title game. Orange was named the tournament's Outstanding Defensive Player. Both the Jones sisters and Kupinsk earned first-team all-league honors and Friesen and Altenau earned second-team all-league recognition.

"Having a six-year streak to hold up add a lot of pressure on us," Brittany Jones said. "But it was also a huge motivator for us too. We came out really strong in the beginning of the final game and I think that helped relax some of the girls' nervousness."

In NCAA-sanctioned women's lacrosse, Northwest, Duke, Virginia and Penn remain in the Division I tournament. The national semifinals are Saturday.

softball
continued from page 12
first baseman Krysten Cary (28), five honorables, 31 RBIs, sophomore third baseman Kristen Lee (262), junior right-hander Rubyn Kontra (12-7, 2.28 ERA) and sophomore second baseman Jena Maiden (13-4, 2.40).

The Mustangs announced last fall a recruiting class comprised of four California high school standouts — pitcher Anna Cohn (Los Alamitos), first baseman Kristen Haus (Soquel) and utility players Stephanie Correa (Visalia) and Brandi Guzman (Huntington).

"I think that they have an awesome team on the horizon," Modgilin said. "I know the recruiting class is really good class. Even our sophomore class this year, they're going to be dominant next year."
Poly softball looks to score 2nd straight BWC title, replace 5 seniors in ’08

Although the Mustangs return five All-Big West Conference selections, they lose just as many seniors — perhaps the most productive senior class in program history.

Tristan Aird
MUSTANG DAILY

The Cal Poly softball team cleans out its lockers today after its final team meeting of the 2007 season.

A season that is sure to be remembered and discussed by future patrons of Bob Janssen Field for years.

“We’re just disappointed it’s over,” Cal Poly head coach Jenny Condon said Sunday. “February can’t come soon enough for us.”

Although the Mustangs ended the season with a disappointing 6-2 showing and early exit from the NCAA Tournament, they without question achieved their best season since moving to the Division I level in 1995, and arguably the best since the program began rebuilding in 1985.

Cal Poly (39-17) reached the tournament for the first time, won its first Big West Conference title and set program records for both wins in a season (39) and winning percentage (.696).

All that success, though, still feels very much in the present for C’al Poly’s Female Athlete of the Year, All-Big West center fielder Lisa Modglin, one of five departing seniors.

“It’s still a little soon,” Modglin said Sunday. “It’s sinking in. We had a team meeting today, maybe you can clear out the locker.

Modglin enjoyed the finest season of any player in program history. The San Yi Valley native was named the Cal Poly Female Athlete of the Year, Big West Player of the Year and to the National Fastpitch Coaches Association All-West Region First Team.

In the leadoff role, the finished regular season second nationally among all Division I players in batting average (.488) and slugging percentage (.951) and led the Mustangs in nine offensive categories, including home runs (16) and RBI (44).

And Modglin isn’t the only high-profile player on the way out. The other four seniors are pitcher Jackie Gehrk-Jones, catcher Emily Hively, first baseman Shannon Brooks and left fielder Kelly Comstock.

Modglin (235 hits) and Gehrk-Jones (170) finished their collegiate careers first and seventh, respectively, on the school’s all-time list of hits leaders. Hively is sixth all-time in wins (26), Brooks tied for fifth in single-season batting average (.364 in 2005) and Comstock seventh all-time in runs (63).

“It’s an awesome group,” Modglin said of the seniors. “It’s a pretty close senior class. We’ll keep in touch.”

Condon said the quintet has been instrumental in showing the underclassmen the way.

“They did a great job for us this year,” she said. “The last three years have been great. They’ve helped the team get better and better. They helped get the program to the post-season. Even though they’re leaving, they helped build a tradition.

But can all that production be replaced?

“I think next year we’re obviously going to miss the seniors,” Condon said. “We’ve got some freshmen coming in that can step in and try to fill those shoes. We’ve got a couple good kids coming in. Hopefully we build on what we’ve done this year.”

Among the players Cal Poly has returning who put up solid numbers in 2007 are sophomore shortstop Melissa Pura (.364, 10 homers, 48 RBI), junior designated player Sarah Iwata (.329, 447 on-base percentage), Big West Newcomer of the Year freshman Kelly Condon.

The championship game was a fun and memorable experience,” Cal Poly catcher Jackie Gehrk-Jones said Sunday. “It was a great way to end the season. I knew that if we started playing together and as a team we would have no problem. However, I was wondering what would happen.”

The Mustangs fell behind in the first half 7-3 for the first time in the tournament after Colorado State’s Lindsey Brown made two shots in a row. They picked up their game shortly afterward to come within one goal of the Rams at halftime.

Jones took back the lead during the second half, but the Mustangs fell behind once more before leading a five-goal streak that put them on top for the win, 12-9.

“Our team went into halftime down by one, which was clutch, and then came back (in the) second half never looking back,” Friesen said.

Rupnik added: “(Colorado State) came out with intensity, and we had to come together as a team to come back and win it.”

Jones led once again with she and her younger sister, sophomore midfielder Brittany Jones, posting four goals each. Rupnik also put up a tournament-high 10 saves.

In 2004, the Mustangs (7-17) averaged 9.3 goals against and 8.1 goals per game.

Above, Cal Poly left fielder Kelly Comstock scores in the seventh inning of a 3-2 home win over Big West Conference foe Pacific in the second game of a doubleheader at Bob Janssen Field on May 11. Below, Cal Poly catcher Jackie Gehrk-Jones bunts during a 6-5, nine-inning home loss to rival UC Santa Barbara on April 29. The two make up 40 percent of the Mustangs’ senior class.

Mustangs don’t horse around in 2006-07

Tristan Aird
MUSTANG DAILY

Was there ever a more exciting year to be a Mustang Maniac? It’s hard to believe that only two of Cal Poly’s 22 intercollegiate sports programs (baseball and track and field) are still in season.

And with less than three weeks until final exams and only 12 editions of the Mustang Daily remaining after today’s it’s already time to reflect on what some might argue was the best fall for sports athletics at Cal Poly since the school moved to the Division I level in 1994-95.

Here are only a few of the many feats accomplished by various teams this year:

• The women’s cross country team won its fourth straight Big West Conference title, took ninth at the NCAA West Regional Meet and finished 15th at the NCAA Division I Championships.

• The volleyball team reached the second round of the NCAA Tournament, but was only the culmination of its endeavors. The Mustangs earned their first Big West title ever and their first outright conference crown of any kind since 1984, went 23-6 for their most wins since 1985, entered a national ranking for the first time since 1999, won a tournament match for the first time since 2000 and earned their first tournament berth since 2002.

• With 32 wins in the last four years, the Cal Poly football team’s 16 seniors capped a cluster of more victories in a four-year stretch than any other senior class in the 91-year history of the program.

Also this season, the Mustangs (7-2)

see Wild Pitch, page 10