Fraudsters target students for sublets

Cassie Gaeto

As summer quarter is quickly approaching, many students are turning to Cal Poly’s housing Web site, Craigslist and Facebook to post rooms for rent or find a sublease. With the rise of the online housing listings, some people creating housing posts have made themselves vulnerable to a new ploy by Internet scam artists, and the Cal Poly housing Web site is no exception.

“You would think that the Cal Poly, site would be safer than a more open site like Craigslist because it is just for our college community,” said business junior Moses Torreblanca, who was recently the victim of an online posting.

Last month, Torreblanca was looking for someone to sublease his room for the summer quarter and made a posting on the Cal Poly Housing and Residential Life Web site. He quickly received an e-mail expressing interest from someone under the name of Cheryl Bronke; although the price that Torreblanca and Bronke had ultimately agreed upon was a total of $1,575 for three months rent plus the deposit. Torreblanca soon received a cashier’s check for $5,000.

see Sublease, page 12

Professor who set milestones passes away

Brooke Robertson

One of the most prominent women faculty members Cal Poly has ever had passed away May 14 after a year-long battle with cancer.

“She fought a good fight,” friend and retired professor Don Morris said.

Sarah Burroughs joined the Cal Poly staff in 1967 as one of the university’s first woman science professors. She taught courses on nutrition, and became the first woman ever

see Burroughs, page 3

Rec Center: When to go and and when to wait

Rachelle Santucci

Anyone who has waited 20 minutes to get a machine at the Cal Poly Rec Center knows that certain times of the day are much busier than others. What most people don’t know is exactly what times those are.

At the Rec Center, PolyCard swipes are added to see how many people are coming in during each hour and day. Over the last year, the busiest times have been between the hours of 2 and 6 p.m. with the 4 p.m. hour being the busiest. The slowest times, and the best for students to come if they want to get the machine of their choice, are right around opening and closing.

“I usually go at either 9 in the morning or 10 or 11 at night to try to avoid the crowds at the Rec Center,” liberal studies junior Alyson Yabumoto said.

The Rec Center’s hours are Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to mid-night; Sunday from 10 a.m. and Saturday from 7 to 8 a.m.

The facility’s maximum capacity is 150 people and when that number is reached, students must be limited for safety reasons, said Ron Skamfer, the assistant director of Associated Students Inc. recreational sports.

see Gym, page 2

Is your diploma on hold?

Many seniors will don caps and gowns and enter the real world in a few days, which eventually means diplomas and a confirmation of their degree posted online.

Although about 3,600 seniors will participate in the commencement ceremony, some will not actually know if they’ve earned their diploma beforehand because of a backlog in the processing of graduation evaluations.

The Evaluations office of the Office of Academic Records (OAR) has been unable to notify 600 seniors if they are set to graduate or if they failed to meet all requirements. All were students who did not turn in their graduation evaluation requests until after Nov. 1, 2006; the Evaluations office recommends turning them in four quarters in advance to avoid a backlog such as this.

Some students, like journalism senior Megan Marderosian, received a notice from their department that their evaluations would not be handled back before graduation. Therefore, if any classes or degree requirements have not been fulfilled, a student will not know until the ceremony itself.

“I received an e-mail from the journalism department saying that everyone who turned in their evaluation after fall quarter would not be getting their graduation evaluation back before they graduated,” Marderosian said.

She added that she has managed to independently keep track of her own academic progress and doesn’t expect any surprises.

see Graduation, page 2

Stabbing occurs near local eatery

Michelle Norgan

Two men were stabbed in an incident Tuesday afternoon around 3:30 p.m. in the 300 block of Wrigley Street, according to the San Luis Obispo Police Department.

A San Luis Obispo police detective was driving by Ben Franklin’s Sandwiches when he saw a disturbance involving several men and called for backup, police said. The responding officers were able to separate the parties and discovered that two of the men had been stabbed.

Police later identified the men involved as Jason Iorio, 23, of Belvedere, Ill.; John Vora, 19, of Las Cruces, N.M.; Michael Moorfield, 24, of Phoenix, Ariz.; Robert Thrasher, 23, of Independence, Mo.; and Adam Caraveo, 24, of San Luis Obispo.

Iorio, Vora, Moorfield and Thrasher were in San Luis Obispo as part of a group that was selling magazines, police said. They were in a van when

see Stabbing, page 3
often more than 120 people during the 4 p.m. hour and that makes it hard for students to work out without waiting around for other people to finish.

The number of students that come in throughout the day looks like a bell curve, with the most students in the afternoon and less in the mornings and at night. The day of the week and time of the quarter also affects the number of students who go to the Rec Center. Mondays are the busiest days, and as the week goes on, the numbers get smaller. Saturdays are a little bit slower than Sundays.

The beginning of the quarter is almost always busier than the rest. The first week of any quarter is going to be a significantly higher attendance than we normally see," Skamfer said.

Dead week and finals week are usually more thorough than the rest of the weeks. Spring and winter quarters are a little bit busier than fall quarter, but summer is much slower than any other time.

Try to go to the Rec Center early or late instead of right after class and you’ll save yourself and others a whole lot of time.

Graduation

continued from page 1

"I did everything to ensure that I graduated on time," Marderosian said. "I don’t feel like I should have to come back to San Luis Obispo and take another class."

Thomas Zuur, OAK registrar and director of academic records, said that the biggest reason for not giving back graduation evaluations is because students were late to turn them in. However, he said that the friends and family of those students will not be disappointed on graduation day.

"The students just didn’t file a timely request to graduate," Zuur said. "However, they’re not being held out of commencement ceremonies." Although there are only two formal graduation commencement ceremonies at Cal Poly during spring and fall quarters, the college graduates students every quarter. This adds more stress to the 10 people who work in the Evaluations office.

"We go student by student, and we check everything that was left after your graduation evaluation," academic progress counselor Helen Bailey said.

Zuur said that the Evaluations office works hard every quarter to ensure that students meet graduation requirements and get out of college on time.

The OAK, which is in charge of evaluating a student’s progress toward a major, strongly encourages seniors to turn in a graduation evaluation form at least four quarters in advance," Bailey said. "The more automated the system is, the more efficient our office could be." It’s kind of a shared responsibility," Bailey said. "We’re not being held out of commencement ceremonies at all.“ In the Evaluations office can “specialize more in the complexities and kind of minutiae of the various curricula.” To make the process of graduation evaluations go faster, there is a push to have an automated degree audit system where degree requirements are checked on a regular basis. Right now the system is known as “Poly Progress,” available to some students.

“We’re hoping that it will be a good tool,” Bailey said. "The more automated the system is, the more efficient our office could be. Until such a system is widely used for instant degree audits, OAK recommends that students turn in their evaluations in a timely manner so they can walk the stage at the right time.

"It’s kind of a shared responsibility," Bailey said. "If faculty and staff can all work together on completion because if students are on top of their curriculum, it’s a smoother flow for everybody."
Burroughs

continued from page 1

The two men were treated for stab wounds, police said.

When officers arrived on the scene, they determined that Moorefield had been stabbed in the back, and Thrasher had been stabbed in both arms, police said. The two men were treated for minor injuries at Sierra Vista Regional Medical Center.

Police Lt. Chris Staley said, "Everyonewas involved in the incident so that was witnessed by at least nine people and a young woman was uninvolved but observed the entire incident and that woman's name was Kim Wilimek so she was able to observe and then also was able to provide us all with a lot of information about what had occurred at the scene.

"We went ahead and interviewed that evening," Staley said. "We're going to bring charges against those who may have been involved in the incident."

Arraignment will probably take place Thursday and if convicted, those men may face up to four years in state prison. The severity of the assault and the wounds inflicted would determine Caraveo's sentence, he said.

Staley said that the men involved were arrested, the case is still being investigated by the San Luis Obispo Police Department.

"We're going to bring charges against those who may have been involved in the incident," Staley said. "We're going to bring charges against those who may have been involved in the incident."
Scientists mimic embryonic stem cells using skin cells in mice

Malcolm Ritter

NEW YORK — In a leap forward for stem cell research, three independent teams of scientists reported Wednesday that they have produced the equivalent of embryonic stem cells in mice using skin cells without the controversial destruction of embryos.

If the same could be done with human skin cells — a big if — the procedure could lead to breakthrough medical treatments without the contentious ethical and political debates surrounding the use of embryos.

Experts were impressed by the achievement.

"I think it's one of the most exciting things that has come out about embryonic stem cells, period," said researcher Dr. Asa Abeliovich of Columbia University in New York, who didn't participate in the work. "It's very convincing that it's real."

But he and others cautioned that it will take further study to see whether this scientific advance can be harnessed for creating new human therapies. For one thing, the procedure used to get the mouse skin cells to mimic embryonic stem cells wouldn't be suitable. And it's simply not known whether the mouse results can be reproduced with human cells.

"We have a long way to go," said John Gearhart of Johns Hopkins University, a stem cell researcher who also wasn't involved in the new work.

In any case, scientists said, the advance does not mean that research that involves getting stem cells from human embryos should now be abandoned. "We simply don't know which approach ... will work the best," said researcher Konrad Hochedlinger of the Harvard Stem Cell Institute, who led one of the three teams.

Embryonic stem cells are prized because they can develop into all types of tissue. So experts believe they might be used for transplant therapies in people who are paralyzed or have illnesses ranging from diabetes to Parkinson's disease.

To harvest human embryonic stem cells, embryos must be destroyed, an action many people oppose.

Scientists have long hoped to find a way to reprogram ordinary body cells to act like stem cells, avoiding the use of embryos altogether. The new mouse studies seem to have accomplished that. Past experiments seeking alternative routes to getting stem cells have generally involved tampering with an embryo or egg.
Students get diplomas denied at first because of graduation cheers

Jan Dennis

GALESBURG, Ill. — Five students will get their diplomas after they were denied when cheers erupted for them at a high school graduation, and school officials said Wednesday they would review a get-tough decorum policy.

Galesburg High School officials said they would not hand over the diplomas, which had been withheld and await their return, until they received apologies. But the stalemate over the diplomas and the media attention it attracted had taken valuable time and energy, they said.

"This is time for the good of the community, the school district, the families and the students involved to move on," Superintendent Gene Denisar said in a written statement.

The diplomas were withheld because the school said cheering violated a school policy aimed at restoring graduation decorum. The students still were considered graduates on paper, but they didn't have a diploma.

Graduate Nadia Trent, who picked up her diploma from the school secretary Wednesday afternoon, said she's "just happy it's over.

"If they would have apologized, it would have been better," said Trent.

Denisar cited talks with the Illinois State Board of Education, which has said it cannot support the district's decorum policy because it makes students responsible for behavior they cannot control, in explaining the decision.

The central Illinois school district, 112 miles southwest of Chicago, will continue efforts to make commencement a "respectful and dignified occasion that all graduates and their families can enjoy," school board President Michael Purdy said in a statement. Officials did not say how they planned to review the no-cheer policy.

Peoria attorney Jeffrey Green, who took the students' case to the Illinois State Board of Education, which has said it cannot support the district's decorum policy because it makes students responsible for behavior they cannot control, has said they planned to review the no-cheer policy.

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International

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — Hundreds of Turkish soldiers crossed into northern Iraq on Wednesday pursuing Kurdish guerrillas who stage attacks on Turkey from hideouts there, Turkish officials and an Iraqi Kurdish official said.

The reports came amid worries Turkey might launch an offensive against the rebel bases, touching off a conflict with U.S.-backed Iraqi Kurds in one of Iraq's most stable regions. The U.S. is urging its NATO ally not to strike, and Turkey's foreign minister denied any incursion occurred.

An American official in Washington, who agreed to discuss the situation along the frontier only if not quoted by name, said the reports of a border crossing should be treated with skepticism.

The official said some Turkish officials might be feeling pressure to show increasingly angry Turks that the government is responding to a recent escalation of attacks by PKK rebels, who are fighting for autonomy in Turkey's heavily Kurdish southeast.

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The Pop-Tart is a glorious thing. It's a tasty treat packed with sugary goodness much akin to its lesser-known pastry twin, the strudel. Very satisfying, hugely entertaining...with all the sprinkles and stuff to look at on its face, totally embraced by popular culture, yet highly debatable nutritional content.

Who would have thought that a flat toaster pastry approximately 3 by 5 inches wide and across would creep into the hearts and cupboards of American suburbia to become the confection of the century? Just for the record, I did.

Now, I know there are a few questions floating around campus as to the questionable naming of this column Pop Tart. But before as to the questionable naming of the confection of the century? Just for the record, I did.

Actually, it was first believed that Pop-Tart raw is a Pop-Tart still edible. And finally, I know that maple is the greatest flavor the Pop-Tart flavor guy could ever have imagined. To each his own is what I say. And now, without further ado, some exciting Pop-Tart history: Pop-Tarts first "popped up" on the scene in the early 1960s and, contrary to popular belief, were packed up on a rainy day. But due to some exciting Pop-Tart history: Pop-Tarts first "popped up" on the scene in the early 1960s and, contrary to popular belief, were packed up on a rainy day. But due to

...with all the sprinkles and stuff that can of worms, to this column Pop Tart. But before as to the questionable naming of the confection of the century? Just for the record, I did.

Actually, it was first believed that the delicious frosting would melt in the toaster thereby causing a huge catastrophic mess a la the end of Stagnant thriller sure to 'bug' you.

The opening shot was sadly overlooked. So why was this column called "Pop Tart"? It's simple. Really. Besides for my intense love for modern food processing, this tasty treat, this column was about everything "Pop Culture." Pop Culture. Pop Tart, you see the resemblance: both "Pop." Also, I enjoy a good

Orange rolls, (flierry trio to pick for my intense love for modern food processing, this tasty treat, this column was about everything "Pop Culture." Pop Culture. Pop Tart, you see the resemblance: both "Pop." Also, I enjoy a good

Enjoy the delicious jazzy filling. A Pop-Tart raw is a Pop-Tart still edible. And finally, I know that maple is the greatest flavor the Pop-Tart flavor guy could ever have imagined. To each his own is what I say. And now, without further ado, some exciting Pop-Tart history: Pop-Tarts first "popped up" on the scene in the early 1960s and, contrary to popular belief, were packed up on a rainy day. But due to...
Urinetown ... yeah, we said Urinetown

Cal Poly students present the popular musical through Saturday

Michelle Norgan

A group of Cal Poly students and community members are putting on Urinetown: The Musical, in the Cal Poly Black Box Theater through Saturday.

Of the student members of the cast and crew, the director, stage manager and advertising manager are using the musical as a senior project.

The play is a fun, fanciful musical that pokes fun at other works in the genre, but also has deeper political and social meanings.

"I wanted to do something fun so we'd get a wider audience," said Ryan Cordero, a theatre senior and director of the production. "Once I read the script I knew that was the production I wanted to do.

Cordero said that Urinetown makes fun of many other musicals, including West Side Story and Les Miserables. Cordero has also added his own personal spin on the production, adding a musical number that jokes about the play Wicked.

Urinetown also incorporates many musical forms from rap to gospel.

"The play is supposed to be lighthearted and even the heavy parts are over the top funny," Cordero said. "The play is essentially the story of a town where everyone must pay to use the bathroom. There is a large population of poor people who work constantly just to scrape together enough money to use the bathroom. At the top of this business is the villain Cladwell, who owns the restrooms. The play also features a love story between the idealistic hero Bobby Strong and Cladwell's daughter Hope. "What's great is the cast all understand that underneath it's a satire," Cordero said. "They also see that their characters aren't three-dimensional, and once they got that, light bulbs went on about how to play them."

One of the other unique and interesting features of the play that Cordero said he loves is that at times the characters are interacting with one another as well as the audience. The narrator and certain characters turn to the audience and speak directly to them at certain points within the story, helping the audience feel more involved.

Cordero has spent more than a year working on this, and he says it has taken up most of his time. But the combination of a great cast and an interesting production has made it a joy to Cordero.

"I've fallen in love with it," Cordero said. "I go home and think what I can do to make the show better."

Part of the challenge of the production has been working with a small theater.

"We're doing it in a small space, but we've made it work by using the room to full potential," he said.

"Urinetown" cast members, led by theatre senior Greg Corriea (Bobby Strong) and theatre junior Rocky Jarman (Hope Caldwell), sing a hilarious song about being charged money to go to the bathroom.

"Part of the challenge of the production has been working with a small theater. "We're doing it in a small space, but we've made it work by using the room to full potential," he said.

Ratings: 1-10

1. Knight, Physics
2. Gerston, Calif Politics
3. Plato, Republic
4. Ferrante, Sociology (not adopted)
5. Wade, Invitation to Psychology
6. Edwards, Differential Equations
7. Silberberg, Chemistry
8. Mill, On Liberty
9. Hacker, Writer's Reference
10. Starr, Basic Concepts in Biology

Local Competitor

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Where will you sell your books in June?
Evans simply stands around after the aforementioned ex (an imposing Harry Connick Jr.) makes his inevitable return. It can’t be for emotional connection, as Agnes even notes that all she and Evans ever talk about is bugs.

“Bug” flies straight into acid-laced Vaseline about halfway through, as Agnes abandons any hint of sanity and joins Evans in a descent into abject madness.

With it, the last shreds of credibility are trampled. Agnes’ turn from mild depression into full-blown psychosis is far too rapid, to the point where it’s almost laughable. Apparently Evans has some type of insanity-inducing mojo, but whatever it is fails to communicate itself because we don’t believe Agnes’ descent, we lose sympathy for her, and with that, the film loses its viewers.

The actors do what they can to salvage Tracy Letts’ adapted stage play. Judd de-glams and is believable, despite variances of the Oklahoma accent (sometimes it’s not apparent, other times it’s overdone, but mostly it’s adequate).

Michael Shannon, who also starred in the stage play, is the strongest member of the cast, bringing a nervous intensity to his performance. Harry Connick Jr. brings skill and charisma to his small part.

Unfortunately, “Bug” is overwhelmed by its inadequacies. Beyond the aforementioned problems, the film fails to escape staginess, spending the bulk of its 102 minutes in the claustrophobic motel room.

Some of the dialogue is clunky and unconvincing. The third act flies even further off the hinges, introducing a character that makes little sense and some additional intelligence-insulting plot developments.

Ultimately, “Bug” is unpleasant and unrewarding. The abrupt ending left silence in the theater, interrupted only by a bit of mild, bewildered laughter. “Bug” probably won’t scare you, but it will leave you miffed that you wasted money on a failed play put to screen.
Urinetown

continued from page 7

This included designing sets that fit together and did double duty, so that there is still space on stage for the actors.

Another challenge in such a small space is that everything is in view. Krista Schoenbaum, theatre senior and stage director. “Because everything is seen in a small space, we have to make sure that cast members’ facial expressions are right and a dozen other small things,” Schoenbaum said.

Schoenbaum said that the production has gotten a huge audience already, and the interest level is extremely high.

“I think that interest is a combination of things,” Schoenbaum said. “It’s a student production, which is different; the play itself has been very popular and well-known; it’s funny and people want to see it; and there is a large cast with a big group of fans.”

Part of the production’s strength has been the large number of students involved, said Greg Correia, theatre senior and male lead, Bobby Strong.

“It’s refreshing to work with other students and nice to be under the control of peers,” Correia said.

He said that every member is learning from the others, and that he feels free to express an idea with student direction. He said that a fellow student is more open to ideas than a professor might be, because they are still learning as well.

“We have more freedom to experiment with new techniques for things,” Schoenbaum said.

She agreed that working with peers helped foster a different atmosphere, but also said that sometimes it can be tricky because someone has to take charge.

“There is this bond, though, because we are all in it together,” Schoenbaum said.

Theatre freshman Rocky Jarman who plays the female lead, Hope Cladwell, also agreed that being in a mainly student production was an interesting and rewarding experience.

“It’s been exciting and fun and it really motivates me to see Ryan’s hard work and passion,” Jarman said.

She said it’s great to have people to work with who are just as involved in theater as she is, and it is an inspiration that makes her work harder.

Jarman said she knew right away that she wanted to be a part of Urinetown. She got a copy of the script long before auditions and learned as much of it as she could.

All the cast and crew members learned as much of it as they could. Correia also said his character, Bobby Strong, grows over the course of the play.

“Bobby Strong is at first just coasting through life working at a public restroom,” Correia said. “There’s nothing going on for him, but nothing is really going wrong either.”

After Bobby meets Hope, who tells him to follow his heart, Bobby takes his idealism and tries to change the world.

The quarter is almost over. Finals are coming. It’s your last chance to party!

MOTHER’S TAVERN

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BAR OPEN LATE

S expressions and on campus.

“We also created a board in the music building that is a dynamic display to advertise the show,” Bowie said.

She combined props, toilet paper and facts about the play to create an interesting display that showed the essence of Urinetown.

The production was funded partly by the theater club Alpha Psi Omega, and also by a generous donation from Cordero’s parents. As demand for the play increased, they opened up a few preview nights where people could come and watch the production in dress rehearsals.

Because the Black Box Theater is so small, there is an extremely limited amount of seating for such a popular production. The public is strongly encouraged to show up to the performances even if they fail to get tickets, because seats sometimes are vacant and the cast wants to perform to as a large a group as possible.

For further information on Urinetown, or to purchase tickets, call Ryan Cordero at (805) 458-2080. Performances are June 6 to 9 at 8 p.m., with a special afternoon show June 9 at 2 p.m.

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After Bobby meets Hope, who tells him to follow his heart, Bobby takes his idealism and tries to change the world.

All the cast and crew members agreed that one of the best aspects of the play is its humor.
In search of the perfect relationship

"Love in the Time of College"

by Sarah Carhonz

The good news is, even things that aren't perfect can still be pretty damn wonderful.

"Perfection": an abstract concept undoubtedly, but one that we are taught to grasp early. Growing up, there was always that one "perfect" friend or sibling you grappled with. Or perhaps you were the "perfect" one, and had to grapple with maintaining the crown.

Academically, perfectionism was one of the qualities that got many of us into this university in the first place. Racking up the straight As wasn't enough; we felt the pressure to go above and beyond in and outside of the classroom.

Perhaps, as time progresses, the propensity to be perfect fades a little. Eventually we learn the impracticality and unfeasibility of doing everything just right all the time. We come to understand that asking for perfection 24/7 is a tall order.

But, to some extent, many of us will be demanding the regalia of accomplishment soon enough. As we stride proudly across the stage (or lawn, or room), the analytical mind that our professors have bred in us will profoundly wonder:

"Who started the cap-and-gown fashion statement anyway? I'll Wiki it when I get home."

And then it hit you! The search for meaning, for purpose in life, is over! What would we ever do without Google and Wikipedia? Of course it just. Though you get 63,300,000 hits from a "meaning of life" search on the Google engine and an exhaustive eight-page article on Wiki, it looks like we've still got some non-Internet-assisted searching to do.

Not only will we be searching for the perfect career, the perfect place to live, and the perfect lifestyle; all the while, we'll be searching for the perfect relationship, too.

Good luck with THAT.

Still vaguely feel the remnants of that pressure today. Even if we've accepted that we can't do everything perfectly, somehow we still demand perfection from other areas of our lives.

We are all searching for the perfect relationship, "crafting the definition of and the meaning of the idea of the "perfect relationship" is a great deal more complicated. Does it exist in the real world, as far as the perfect relationship is concerned? Is it something that can even be attained?

Trendy cynicism says no. Since people will never be perfect, their relationships can't be, either. We're all doomed to half-satisfying, mediocre relationships and all we can really do is make the best of the little we've got.

Trendy positive psychology self-help books say yes. Everyone has self-actualizing potential within, in and outside of the classroom, to make things right and make it all happen.

No trend predicts with us an answer. But it wouldn't matter even if one of them did. Regardless of the answer, we will go on trying to figure out what a perfect relationship is, and we will go on trying to find one for ourselves.

Gregory Johnson

copy editor

Sarah Carhonz is an English and Psychology junior and Mustang Daily dating columnist.

MUSTANG DAILY

Editor in chief: Emily Rancer
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www.mustangdaily.com

DATING COLUMN

In search of the perfect relationship

"Perfection": an abstract concept undoubtedly, but one that we are taught to grasp early. Growing up, there was always that one "perfect" friend or sibling you grappled with. Or perhaps you were the "perfect" one, and had to grapple with maintaining the crown.

Academically, perfectionism was one of the qualities that got many of us into this university in the first place. Racking up the straight As wasn't enough; we felt the pressure to go above and beyond in and outside of the classroom.

Perhaps, as time progresses, the propensity to be perfect fades a little. Eventually we learn the impracticality and unfeasibility of doing everything just right all the time. We come to understand that asking for perfection 24/7 is a tall order.

But, to some extent, many of us will be demanding the regalia of accomplishment soon enough. As we stride proudly across the stage (or lawn, or room), the analytical mind that our professors have bred in us will profoundly wonder:

"Who started the cap-and-gown fashion statement anyway? I'll Wiki it when I get home."

And then it hit you! The search for meaning, for purpose in life, is over! What would we ever do without Google and Wikipedia? Of course it just. Though you get 63,300,000 hits from a "meaning of life" search on the Google engine and an exhaustive eight-page article on Wiki, it looks like we've still got some non-Internet-assisted searching to do.

Not only will we be searching for the perfect career, the perfect place to live, and the perfect lifestyle; all the while, we'll be searching for the perfect relationship, too.

"She's not the one for me," "He's not the one for me," "What's wrong with me?" Are these the same questions? Of course not. If you've been asking these questions for a year, it's time to go searching somewhere else.

Do you believe in the "perfect relationship"? Let's leave the definitions to the talking heads and so-called relationship experts (who, by the way, seem to come by those titles without any formal training or certification whatsoever).

If you're looking for one or you've found the one, if you're in a less-than-perfect one or one that's too perfect, if you want one with all your heart or stopped wanting because you've wanted one so much the reality really isn't so complicated.

The closest to "perfect" we're ever going to be able to achieve or find or create is the acceptance that nothing will ever be exactly perfect.

The good news is, even things that aren't perfect can still be pretty damn wonderful.

What does that mean for relationships? It means that, no matter where you stand, there will always be more to learn about relationship.

Trendy positive psychology self-help books say yes. Everyone has self-actualizing potential within, in and outside of the classroom.
STAFF COMMENTARY

America's favorite pastime: the tantrum

I love watching grown men throw temper tantrums. As an avid sports fan, I was treated to two gems last weekend in the form of baseball managers offering full-blown hissy fits, much to my delight.

Friday night provided an outburst for the ages. Philip Wellman went ballistic after the umpire ejected his pitcher for apparently using a foreign substance. Wellman is the manager of Double-A baseball's Mississippi Braves.

Wellman stormed out of the dugout, threw his hat and began shouting at the umpire's face. He proceeded to cover home plate in dirt, outlining the plate with his finger. All this was pretty standard, unsupervised pitching that is actually pretty common in baseball.

He then stomped over to third base, pulled up the bag and continued on toward second base. He tossed the helmet into the outfield. This is where he really impressed me and any one else who has watched at least two minutes of ESPN in the last 24 hours.

Wellman dropped to the ground and crawled on his stomach in a military waggle to the pitcher's mound. He pretended the room bag was a grenade by pulling an imaginary pin with his teeth and checked it toward home where the umpire was standing. The bag exploded with a tiny pop.

The moment that he was ejecting the umpire, he picked up second and third base again, and stormed off toward the outfield gate.

After blowing a few kisses to the wildly cheering crowd, he offered a final salute, and left.

His performance rivaled those of the all time greats: Earl Weaver, Billy Martin and Bob Knight would all be proud. Wellman received a three-game suspension for his childish behavior.

Not to be outdone, major league manager and perennial time bomb Lou Piniella unleashed a tirade of kicking dirt while disputing a call.

Piniella has been terrorizing umpires and making a fool of himself over the course of his entire career. For him to say that it won't happen again is downright laughable. I almost feel bad for the guy because I know ESPN will play that clip after his next meltdown. Trust me. It's only a matter of time.

These clowns need more than three- and four-game suspensions. They deserve stiff fines and harsher excuses. I actually supported Wellman's suspension.

Baseball is a sport so steeped in tradition, it will hold on to even the most prehistoric of practices. For example, the bench clearing scuffles that seem to occur every other week. Or the practice of retaliation, where pitchers are actually encouraged to bean batters as a means of sticking up for their teammates.

The sense of tradition that makes baseball America's pastime is simultaneously holding it back. Partisans may disagree, but it's time for baseball to join other professional sports (basketball excluded because it has only reason to watch), and think about changing some of its old-time lore.

There may not be a rule in place to stop managers from bursting onto the field, but that still doesn't excuse Wellman and Piniella.

So until there's a rule prohibiting managers disputing a call or the penalty for doing so is increased, I hope to see more tantrums and hissy fits. Sports are supposed to be entertaining, right?

And I can't think of a more entertaining sight at a ball game than watching a middle-aged man in a baseball uniform lose his mind.

BARRY MAGUIRE

STAFF COMMENTARY

Next Halo has street cred

The great thing about Halo is that it transcends its role as a "video game," something which the general populace and the "cool" people don't waste their time with. Halo is "legit," it has street cred. People who would never dare pick up a game controller for fear of social rejection by their peers are more than happy to jump into a team sayer, 50 frag-limiter multiplayer map on Lockout, or help their buddy get a kill. It's enough to promote strategy, forethought, and teamwork while at the same time appealing enough for the average John (or Jane, in some cases) to pick up and have fun with.

The prolifera­tion and popular­i­ty of Halo didn't really hit me full-force until recently. I went to a friend's house one weekend and to my amusement discovered the people who lived there were big on Halo. Not only were they big on Halo but they had actually constructed a screen divider that fit over the front of their television. I was impressed with their Cal Poly engineering education. It divided the TV into quadrants so that everyone could watch their favorite part.

Halo 3 is released for the Xbox 360.

How big is Halo 3 going to be? The game is coming in three different versions, the most expensive of which comes with a scale model of the main character's helmet. Microsoft is creating a special edition of its Zune mp3 player that has game trailers, videos, and artwork pre-installed on it. Microsoft's VIP of Interactive Entertainment is calling Halo 3 "I'll serve it and I will learn from it and over and over again toward the outcome of a game."

The game can be enjoyed in long, caffeine-induced marathons, or in short bursts right before heading to the bars and parties.

That's a pretty big accomplishment for a video game.
Thursday, June 7, 2007

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**Sublease continued from page 1**

Brooke followed the check with another e-mail asking that Torreblanca wire $2,000 from her $5,000 check to the United Kingdom to cover her traveling expenses to the U.S. He agreed and after successfully cashing the check at The First Bank of San Luis Obispo, Torreblanca wired the money, which cost an additional $114, to whom he believed was a travel agent.

After a second e-mail from Brooke appearing asking for the remainder of the $5,000 wired to the United Kingdom to cover expenses for a car accident she claimed happened that week Torreblanca started to see that the numbers were not adding up. He returned to The First Bank of San Luis Obispo to discover that the check had been deemed fraudulent and that he was responsible for paying back $2,200 to the bank for the money he wired overseas.

The scam has put Torreblanca in a tight financial situation as the money he had saved for rent and living expenses is gone and he has additional monthly fees to pay back the bank.

"The bank has been great about working this out with me and setting up a payment plan," Torreblanca said. "I had heard of different kinds of online scams but not this. I am going to be more wary of who I talk to online and what sites I go to. Students should be suspicious if they receive checks or offers for a greater amount than necessary for the room; that can be a sign."

This is not the first time that a Cal Poly student was fast out of cash from scams operated through the Cal Poly housing Web site. Last summer, then civil engineering junior Bruce Jones lost $3,000 to a similar con. Other students have received e-mails and been in e-mail correspondence with those trying to use similar strategies to get a renter's money.

Aerospace engineering senior Erika Berg is no stranger to the world of online advertising for housing as she has subleased her room for the past two summers. This year, she posted her room for sublease on Cuesta Street on "in house" only Web sites like facebook and the university site for off-campus housing.

"I have had really good luck on the Cal Poly housing site in the past," Berg said. "I used these sites specifically because I wanted my renters to be college students."

Two weeks after Berg's posting, she received an e-mail from a Lula Johnson claiming to be a student from the United Kingdom currently living in Africa with her father and planning on transferring to Cal Poly.

"At first I thought that this response was completely legitimate; I rented to an exchange student a couple years ago and it was great," Berg said. "It was funny, last weekend I mentioned this situation to a friend and she explained that there are a lot of housing scams involving renters sending fraudulent checks."

Johnson then e-mailed Berg Sunday letting her know that she would be sending $3,000 in money orders or travelers checks and would need Berg to deduct the deposit and wire her the remaining balance. That was a red flag for Berg and she has not responded to the e-mails.

The scam, which is becoming increasingly frequent through housing Web sites, consists of the impostor sending a large amount of money, usually over the amount requested by the person subleasing in fraudulent checks. The impostor then asks for the difference or an entire refund sent back to him or her. The impostor's plan is to get the renter to send the refund before they realize the check is fraudulent and make away with the money.

"If there was a way to track and report her, I would," Berg said. "With all the summer subleasing right now this is something that students should know about."

In response to several student reports of scam artists operating through the Cal Poly housing Web site, about one year ago the site began issuing a warning on their page prior to students making a new posting.

"The disclaimer lets landlords and tenants be aware of the scam and report any fraud to the San Luis Obispo Police Department," said Marilyn Allison, a staff member at Cal Poly housing.

The warning encourages students to validate any checks received by potential renters prior to sending a check of their own. "If the deal sounds too good, then it probably is," said Bill Proll, detective lieutenant at the San Luis Obispo Police Department. "These people are hard for us to investigate because it happens overseas."

The San Luis Obispo Police Department receives reports of many different scams but only has a few instances of this particular online housing scam reported each year. Torreblanca filed a consumer complaint with the district attorney office in San Luis Obispo County and was told he would be notified of any developments.

"People just need to stop and think; if anyone asks you to send them something first, you should be suspicious," Proll said.
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Ducks continued from page 16

won was so much sweeter as he stopped 11 shots in the clincher. The biggest roar for him came when Antoine Vermette had the puck slide wide of the post during a penalty shot in the third.

Scott Niedermayer finally earned the MVP award many thought he deserved four years ago. His biggest thrill came when he handed the Cup off to Rob, one of the reasons he left New Jersey for Anaheim before last season.

"That was something I'll never forget," Scott said. "You can't even dream that stuff. It doesn't get any better."

The 36-year-old Selanne waited 14 seasons to become a champion. After leading the Ducks in scoring this season, he capped off the year with a title. Pronger was with Edmonton last season when the Oilers lost in seven games to Carolina. He returned to the lineup for the clincher after serving a one-game suspension.

A perfect finish after demanding a trade from Edmonton last summer.

"This is a special moment," he said. "It's always worth it when you win it."

Sticks and gloves flew in front of Cigars when it ended. Fireworks went off and streamers fell as the skies showered confetti falling to the ice.

"What an unbelievable feeling, I've been waiting a long time," Selanne said. "What an ending."

There were some times when I never thought this would happen."

Askled if this was the end of his career, Selanne said, "I don't know."

Senators forward Daniel Alfredsson, the first European captain in finals history, came up short of his first championship in 11 seasons. He supplied all the Ottawa offense despite feeling the wrath of fans, who boomed him all night in response to his shooting the puck at Scott Niedermayer in Game 4.

Andy McDonald started the scoring 3 minutes, 41 seconds into the first period with a power-play goal, his third tally in two games, and Rob Niedermayer made it 2-0 with 2:19 left in the frame. Travis Moen had two goals, one that never touched his stick and another in conventional fashion.

Alfredsson scored twice in the second period, including a short-handed goal that cut Anaheim's lead to one for a second time, but the Senators couldn't shake off a flake goal that defenseman Chris Phillips put into his own net with a pass off the skates of goalie Kay Emery.

That one belonged to Moen.

When Francois Beauchemin scored a power-play goal with 1:32 left in the second, the Ducks' 3-goal lead was back and the excited crowd anticipated an appearance by the Stanley Cup that sat in a crate offstage.

But then it was just a matter of time for the Ducks, 8-0 at home in series-clinching games — including 4-0 this year when they dropped the "rubgy" from their name.

Honor pours in for Poly baseball team on eve of draft

Mustang junior right fielder Grant Desme and redshirt-sophomore right-hander Thomas Eager are expected to go in the top five rounds of the MLB Draft, which will be televised from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. today on ESPN2.

SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT

Cal Poly junior right fielder Grant Desme earned the Cal Poly baseball team's Ozzie Smith Most Valuable Player Award for 2007 and sophomore right-hander Thomas Eager has been named winner of the Mike Krukow Outstanding Pitcher award.

Mustang fifth-year head coach Larry Lee announced the award winners Wednesday.

Desme earned the Big West's triple crown for the regular season with a .450 batting average, 15 home runs and 53 RBI. He also stole 12 of 15 bases and was first in both innings pitched and wins for the regular season.

Desme also picked up one other team award — the Moony Waltz Big Stick Award.

Sophomore third baseman Brent Morel (.332, 17 doubles, five homers, 31 RBI) earned the Jason Maas Team Captain Award and pitcher Kevin Waldens (.5-0, 8.80 ERA, city and regional planning senior) and pitcher Steven Fischback (2-2, 6.98 ERA, industrial technology freshman) shared the Robin Baggett Scholar-Athlete Award.

Other award winners were:

• Dick Morrow Coaches Award — Freshman second baseman Pat Peretz (279, 30 RBI).
• John Orton Golden Glove Award — Sophomore center fielder Logan Shearer (335, 34 RBI).
• Jim Newkirk Fireman's Award — Junior right-handed closer Evan Reed (4-3, 3.19 ERA, 11 saves).

Cal Poly finished the 2007 season 32-24 and fourth in the Big West at 13-8. The Mustangs won eight of their last nine games and 19 of their final 27, posted their fourth straight winning season and reached the 30-victory mark for the sixth time in eight years.

Dorrell named freshmen All-American

Dorrell has been named to the 2007 Louisville Slugger Freshmen All-American Baseball Team. Voting was conducted by Collegiate Baseball Newspaper.

Dorrell hit .303 this spring with six home runs and 40 RBI en route to earning the Mustang's Scott Kidd Rookie of the Year Award and second-team All-Big West honors.

He played 54 of Cal Poly's 56 games this spring, starting in contests — 25 as a catcher, eight as designated hitter and 11 at first base.

Dorrell's batting average was as high as .346 this season.

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Johnny continued from page 16

• Rogue & Roll New Orleans - Does the name "Marino Williams" sound familiar? • Golden State Warriors - Wow, how this team made the list is beyond me. But I couldn’t leave them off. I’ll never forget Baron Davis throwdown on AK-47 in a long

though Brady did not win the big game this year, DiCaprio handed him a pretty nice consolation prize. I think her name is Gisele. Life doesn’t get much better.

University of Ohio - I never want to hear "The Ohio State University" again.

Billy Donovan is turning down some serious offers for this school.

Roger Clemens/Barry Bonds - A combined age of 90 and combined salaries of $43 million.

Jake Peavy - Let me state one thing: I hate the Padres. But I ABSOLUTELY love this guy! He is unreal.

LeBron James - This man is on another level. He’s 22 and in the NBA Finals. That game where he dropped 48 was a thing of beauty. We don’t just root for this man because he is good, but partly because his team is that bad.

Losers • Michael Vick/Pacman

Jones/Cincinnati Bengals - Between dog fighting, strip club addiction and jail-bird central, Roger Goodwell needs to get himself one heck of an oxygen.

• USA Basketball Basketball - Was not our finest hour becoming a cornerstone of an Olympic team.

Lindsay Lohan / Paris Hilton - Lindsay just got a DVD, and was caught with a white substance. (What could that be?) Hilton is serving 40 days in Maui, I mean jail. News reports had her admiring to hanging rock bottom. Who would have thought that K-Fed was the normal one?

Popcorn Baby, we’re all rooting for you, Kevin!

• USC Football - Don’t forget that UCLA ruined the Trojans’ chances of being a national champion. Don’t act like last season was a trick.

• Floyd Landis - I would say that Landis falls on the other side of the Bonds/Clemens coin.

• Yankee fans - Ha ha ha ha ha ha

I’ll end on this. Sometimes we lose our perspective on our sport and their perspective on us. We spend too much time talking about athletes that just aren’t that important (chuck me up in the guilty column). Seeing how we put too much on these men and make them out to be heroes, which they are not. We all love sports, especially me, but at the end of the day, there is more to life. I’m just not really sure how much more.

Sloha Call Poly, and until next year, I’m out!

HELP WANTED

Student couple seeking student with camera who could film wedding on sunday 8/19/2007. Will pay, please contact matthm@gmail.com

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I would say that Landis falls on the other side of the Bonds/Clemens coin.

• Yankee fans - Ha ha ha ha ha ha

“MY STARS’!” David Letterman was almost speechless after Davis’ throwdown on AK-47 as long

I’m just not really sure how much more. Sloha Call Poly, and until next year, I’m out!

SLO TOWN BARBER SHOP $11 HAIRCUTS

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Poly 3rd in Big West commish's cup

Amanda Retzer
MUSTANG DAILY

With three Big West Conference titles this year, Cal Poly has taken third among eight teams in the Big West Commissioner’s Cup, two spots higher than last year’s finish. The Mustangs won Big West titles in men’s cross country (fourth straight), volleyball and softball.

“I think that it is great that (Cal Poly is) ranked and that we are known for having good sports teams,” Mustang sophomore volleyball outside hitter Kylie Atherstone said. “I know that all the sports teams are hard-working and doing everything they can to win, so it’s nice to see all the hard work pay off.”

Second-place points were awarded to the men’s basketball team, men’s tennis and men’s golf. Women’s basketball and men’s track and field took third.

UC Santa Barbara took the top spot for the sixth time in seven years with five conference titles, including a men’s soccer team that went on to win the national championship. Long Beach State trailed by just one point to take second.

The Commissioner’s Cup standings are ranked according to the Big West standings in the conference’s 17 intercollegiate sports. Points are added and then divided. A 20-point bonus is given to first-place finishers.

UCSB reigned with 112.5 points, followed by Long Beach State (111.5), Cal Poly (94.7), UC Irvine (91.9), Cal State Fullerton (75), Cal State Northridge (71.9), UC Riverside (66) and Pacific (51.7).

“Any time that we can bring recognition to Cal Poly through our sport, it is encouraging because it means we are on the right track,” Cal Poly junior volleyball setter Chelsea Hayes said. “I think it’s great that we placed third. Hopefully we can keep building a strong tradition of success at Cal Poly and place first in years to come.”

Ducks 1st California team to win Stanley Cup

Anaheim won 6-2 in front of its home crowd at the Honda Center to take the series from the Ottawa Senators 4-1.

Ira Podell
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ANAHEIM — The Anaheim Ducks aren’t called mighty anymore. Now they can simply answer to Stanley Cup champions.

The 14-year-old Ducks captured their first NHL title with a 6-2 victory over the Ottawa Senators on Wednesday night, ending the series in five games in front of the home fans again.

For the first time, the Stanley Cup resides in California and at the expense of Canada, which hasn’t boasted a winner since Montreal in 1993. Calgary, Edmonton and now Ottawa — in its first trip since the Senators were reborn in 1992 — each had a chance the past three seasons only to be done in by a U.S. club from the sun belt.

Tampa Bay, Carolina and Anaheim aren’t exactly traditional hockey hotbeds but they have been the Cup’s warm weather homes since 2004. Wayne Gretzky made the game a happening in Southern California when he came to Los Angeles in 1988, then the Ducks made it legitimate two decades later with their second trip to the finals.

No longer Disney’s darlings, the Mighty Ducks’ movie days are gone. A victory rally awaits them Saturday night.

Ducks captain Scott Niedermayer won the Cup for the fourth time, and brought his brother Rob and teammates Teemu Selanne and Chris Pronger along for the ride for their first. Rob Niedermayer is one of three Ducks left from the losing side in 2003 when Scott Niedermayer and the New Jersey Devils captured their third title in Game 7.

Only Anaheim goalie Jean-Sebastien Giguere had something to smile about that year when he was given the Conn Smythe Trophy, awarded to the play-off MVP this year.

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Johnny in the Box

Johnny in the Box

Thursday, June 7, 2007

What a year!

John Middlekauff
SPORTS EDITOR

Well, I’m sad to say this is my last go round for the year. I don’t know what I’m going to do without my weekly spot, life just isn’t going to be the same. It’s bittersweet in a way.

Before I go off on my weekly rant, I have to thank a few people. First and foremost, my main man Tristan and made this entire thing possible. This man is just a grinder, the Bill Belichick of the Mustang Daily. He wrote more stories for the Mustang Daily than the rest of the staff combined! I’m not kidding.

I have to give some love to my boy Frank Stranzl, who was also a big reason my column is in this paper every week. He’s another main reason the sports section has been what it is for the last two years. He’s the reason my first article got in two years ago.

I have to give some love to Cal Poly athletics media relations for always updating me with pointless information that I derive off of. I wouldn’t be here if it wasn’t for Eric Bondick’s tutorial in the world of sports writing. This guy is the ultimate professional, unlike me.

Last but not least, I have to give some love to Team 3006, Aaron Warshawsky, the man who patented my column. I am happy to say my name will forever live on.

By no means do I consider myself a journalist, just a sports fan who has had the opportunity to vent to you every Thursday. I thank everyone for reading my rambblings and making this whole thing possible. To all those students coming back next year, no worries, my friends. I’m not going anywhere.

What a year, huh? So much has happened that I don’t even know where to start. Here are my winners and losers of 2006-07.

Winners
- Cal Poly Athletics — The Mustangs sent multiple teams to the NCAA Tournament, had individuals win All-American honors and even hosted a women’s volleyball regional.

The most successful year the school has had in my four years of enrollment. The sky looks bright in this town, my friends.

- Peyton Manning — Let’s face it, he was a loser his entire life until he won the Super Bowl. He never had a big game in high school, college or the NFL. This was a man that people used to roll their eyes at the Kentucky Derby because he was bad luck. Congrats Peyton, you needed that one bad.

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