Poly journalism student dies in car collision

Ryan Chartrand
MUSTANG DAILY

Cal Poly journalism junior Anna Rose Luskin died June 22 after suffering major injuries when her car collided with a tree in Paso Robles the night of June 20, the California Highway Patrol said.

Luskin, 20, was like many Cal Poly students, driving to her home in Redwood City for the summer. While headed north on U.S. Highway 101 with her brother, Daniel, 15, her car drifted into the dirt center divider for unknown reasons around 8 p.m., police said.

Officials reported that Luskin observed back onto the road but then skidded off the right shoulder. Her car reportedly struck a large oak tree near Paso Robles Street with its left side, causing major injuries for her and minor injuries for her brother.

The Luskens were transported to Twin Cities Community Hospital. Anna Luskin died two days later at Sierra Vista Hospital, police said.

Luskin was one quarter away from taking the Mustang Daily class where her byline would have been found in these pages.

“It’s such a loss,” said journalism department chair George Ramos who taught her in his public affairs reporting class. “She was a bright student and I think she had unlimited potential.

“She was on the staff of her high school’s national award-winning online newspaper, the Poly Voice. She also held an internship at the Palo Alto Weekly where she wrote columns, one of which was about how she had been accepted to Cal Poly.

“It (Cal Poly) offers courses in news writing, magazine writing and editing — exactly what I want,” she wrote. With her acceptance, she said, “I think I might finally be able to be at peace with myself, and with the world.”

“Anna at 18 is more mature and emotionally stable than I was in my twenties,” wrote her father, Stanford University professor Fred Luskin, in the same column. “She is both blessed and cursed with a strong desire to do well and a profound sense of responsibility.”

Luskin had a 3.3 cumulative GPA at Cal Poly and was specializing in print journalism.

“She was very careful about how she did her work and she took pride in what she was doing,” Ramos said. “She certainly was an asset to the department and to her interest in journalism.”

see Luskin, page 2

Credit cards may come to entire campus

Isaiah Narciso
MUSTANG DAILY

Cash, checks. Campus Express cards and even your student ID have been accepted as payment for most transactions on campus. Now a new option will emerge next fall if things go according to plan.

If outgoing ASI President and mechanical engineering senior Todd Maki gets his way, students would be able to use their credit cards next year.

“If the credit cards were to be implemented this summer, they will be available for students on campus when we return in fall quarter,” Maki said.

Currently the only places where students can use a credit card are at El Corral Bookstore and Vista Grande restaurant. The plastic cards, along with a small percentage fee, can also be used to pay academic tuition.

In the case of tuition fees, there is a 2.9 percent “convenience fee” if students pay with a credit card. Student Accounts, which is in charge of tuition payments, says on its website that they will not take Visa cards.

“For any credit card charge that you make, the way that credit cards make money off of those is that they take a percentage of the transaction,” Maki explained.

Maki believes that the 2.9 percent fee will not extend to other parts of campus when students use their cards. He believes that opening up this new payment transaction method will lead to increased business on campus.

“By opening up the credit cards, they will have greater uses of their resources,” Maki said.

However, Maki admitted that he has not personally seen what the new credit debit card system would look like next year. He claimed that the costs of implementing the new system would not be passed on to students.

“At of now, it’s in the budget for the Cal Poly Corporation this year,” he said. “That means the corporation will be able to implement it over the summer, assuming that we (ASI) can do it.”

Cal Poly Corporation, a non-profit sees Cards, page 2

Water, sewage rates rise in SLO

Ryan Chartrand
MUSTANG DAILY

The cost to live in San Luis Obispo isn’t only rising in the prices of homes, but the rates at which residents must pay to have the basic necessities.

With a City Council decision to increase both water rates by 13 percent in July, despite 1,869 written protests, and sewer rates by 11 percent, Mayor Dave Romero hopes to secure a strong future for San Luis Obispo.

“This is to assure a good quality of life for my grandchildren, great grandchildren and anyone else who may be here down the line,” Romero said.

The future, however, sees no sign of slowing down those rising rates until 2012 to help fund an additional water supply for the city.

The city currently gets its water from Santa Margarita Lake and the Whale Rock reservoir in Cayucos. If either of those goes out of service for a long period of time, we would not be able to supply enough water to the city,” Romero said.

“We’re looking for a third supply, which is the Nacimiento (Lake) water project,” he said.

The increasing rates will mainly help to fund the Nacimiento Lake Water Project, estimated $185 million project that will create a 45-
Roads to, through campus to close during summer

Megan Priley

Students may find themselves looking for another way onto campus for the summer quarter as the Cal Poly sewer project gets underway.

Project manager Barbara Queen said that involvement in the sewer line replacement project is to upgrade the size of the existing sewer line and increase the capacity to the campus sewer system due to the new Poly Canyon Village.

The Poly Canyon Village Project is funding the replacement that involves removing the existing sewer line and replacing it with a new sewer pipe that is of a larger diameter.

"The contractor is starting the work starting from the lowest point of the sewer line to the highest point," Queen said. "He is scheduled to perform the work in sections, completing one section before continuing to the next."

The impacted roads include California Boulevard, North Perimeter Road, University Drive, Highland Drive, and Feedmill Road. California Boulevard will continue to be closed until July 3 and access to the library located on the corner of Highland and California Boulevard will be closed from July 6 through July 19.

For some students, this may mean having to take an inconvenient detour around campus in order to get to class on time. "I use California every day to get to school. I was surprised when I had to take a different route to my house the first day of summer quarter," theater senior Ashley Beach said. However, the right steps are being taken to help reduce any complications.

"Facilities Planning and Capital Projects is working directly with campus facilities to ensure the project will not affect any critical areas," Queen said.

The reopening of all roads will be announced by the LlOIS Church and private housing will remain open from the south side of California as well.

Additional updates for closures related to the road work as they are determined will be available as needed.

Rates continued from page 1

male pipeline to provide water for five communities, including San Luis Obispo.

The project will require yearly increased rates, so the council also approved an adding 13 percent water rate increase and 10 percent sewage rate increase effective July 28, 2007.

The city's sewage rate increased 12 percent last year.

By July 2008, the average rate payable for sewer and sewage payer will be an extra $19.06 added to each monthly bill. For those who conserve water usage, however, it could mean smaller bills as the sewage rate will now be volume-based opposed to a fixed rate.

Using ratemakers' money to fund the Nacimiento Lake Water Project has been a controversial decision due to a debated topic.

Councilwoman Christine Mulholland cast the dissenting vote in the 4-1 vote that approved the new water rate.

"I do not believe that current residents who already have enough water should pay for the project," Mulholland said. "New development will be paying surcharges and increased costs to hook up to our water system, but those of us who are footing the money aren't going to get our money back."

"It's all about affordability," Romero said. "Nacimiento could be the last vestige of voting in the 4-1 vote that approved the new water rate."

"We need to take better care to be vigilant and at home to drive carefully and to wait until morning if they are tired."

Luskin continued from page 1

Journalism senior and friend Jennifer Jagan conveyed a similar sense of loss.

"She was really friendly and always helpful with assignments when we had," Jagan said. "We all really advanced for her age. She's got As on her stories and she was a great writer."

Luskin's death marks the sixth Cal Poly student death in the past year.

"All the untimely accidents that are tragic and remind us all of the time about how fragile life can be and how quickly life can be extinguished," vice president for student affairs Cornel Morton said.

Luskin's family and her friends on campus have not contacted Morton to set up a memorial, endowment or scholarship.

"Most of those are accidents and avoidable, but basically we just have to take care to be vigilant about safety," Morton advised students visiting campus for work and play to drive carefully and to wait until morning if they are tired.

Rates continued from page 1

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Card continued from page 1

ganiation directly connected to the campus, is also responsible for providing services like Campus Dining and EL Corral Bookstore. However, they are a separate organization from the university. It's similar to how ASI operates with the Rec Center and the union," Maki explained. "Cal Poly itself doesn't run dining, but the corporation does."

Maki stated that Cal Poly is the only college in the Californ­ia State University system that doesn't allow credit cards across campus. However, students students like aerospace engineering student Jonathan Hernandez expressed second thoughts in regards to the new system.

He claimed that the current system has worked for him and many other students and thought it would be a waste of resources to put in a costly credit card system. "I don't think we should have credit cards in place," Hernandez said. "I put money in my card and simply use cash. There are also concerns brought up as a result of the new credit card system. Depending on what system Cal Poly Corporation chooses, no signature would be necessary for purchases under $25."

Maki thought it would result in fewer lines all around campus. "Chip and debit cards take a while because they're a lot slower than cash or campus express cards," he said. "So if we can speed that up by sliding your card, getting your receipt and not having to sign, it would take out about 20-25 seconds per customer."

The plan to implement credit cards as part of Cal Poly's pay­ment system several years ago hit a roadblock due to the high costs associated with a renovation project.

The plan was to renovate building 19, which is the building that houses the Avenue, Light­house, Sandwich Factory and Veracruz Cafe," Maki said. "Within that renovation they were going to implement the credit and debit card system."

Maki explained that the credit cards would have been in place there after the renovation. Howev­er, there are currently no dates set for the renovation of building 19.
Wrestler Benoit strangled wife, smothered son, hung himself in weight room

ATLANTA (AP) - Pro wrestler Chris Benoit strangled his wife and smothered his son before hanging himself in his weight room, a law enforcement official told The Associated Press on Tuesday.

Authorities also said they are investigating whether steroids may have been a factor in the deaths of Benoit, his wife and their 7-year-old son. Steroid abuse has been linked to depression, paranoia, and aggressive behavior or angry outbursts known as "roid rage."

"We don't know yet. That's one of the things we'll be looking at," said Fayette County District Attorney Scott Ballard. He said test results may not be back for weeks.

The bodies were found Monday afternoon in the interior of the house, sheriff's officials said. Results were expected by late Tuesday.

"We are out of town. He was out of town. He was out of town," Benoit's father, Bob, said when reached by phone. "We're not saying anything. It is all going through the police." The bodies were found Monday afternoon in three separate rooms of the house, off a gravel road about two miles from a new suit and tried to give the pants is worth $54 million, allegedly hindering the investigation. He also was due in court Monday.

WASHINGTON (AP) - A judge ruled Monday that no part of pants is worth $54 million, rejecting a lawsuit that took a dry cleaner's premise of "Satisfaction Guaranteed" to its most litigious extreme.

Roy L. Pearson became a worldwide symbol of legal abuse by seeking jackpot justice from a simple complaint — that a neighborhood dry cleaner lost the pants from a new suit and tried to give the pants is worth $54 million, allegedly hindering the investigation. He also was due in court Monday.

WRESTLING Entertainment said on its Web site that it asked authorities to check on Benoit and his family after being alerted by friends who received "several curious text messages sent by Benoit early Saturday morning."

The WWE, based in Stamford, Conn., said authorities asked that it not release further information on the deaths.

Benoit, born in Montreal, became a professional wrestler with the World Wrestling Federation in the late 1980s and had wrestled in several countries. He had been with the WWE since 2003.

The WWE added in its statement: "We are shocked and saddened to hear the news of this very tragic event. We will continue to work alongside law enforcement to get to the bottom of this story."
**1408**: an original thrill ride

Ryan Chardrand

What better way to start off the year’s summer films than with John Cusack battling against a creepy, unforgiving hotel room? Oddly enough, it’s a good start indeed.

But it’s not just any hotel room. As Samuel L. Jackson, who plays the hotel’s manager, says, “It’s one fucking evil room.”

From the director of “Daredevil” comes “1408,” on what started as a Stephen King short story about a room, a guy, and a potty full of tension.

Horror novelist Mike Flinun, played by Cusack, is afraid of nothing. He doesn’t believe in ghosts, yet visits haunted locations and writes books about his experiences to give his readers cheap thrills.

Then he visits room 1408, or what appears to be a normal hotel room in an upscale New York hotel. No one has ever lasted more than an hour inside of it, yet Enlin insists on staying the night. And so the ride begins.

Like any ghost or evil supernatural entity, the room forces Enlin to face his past and work his problems out in order to survive. I’m not quite sure who came up with this idea originally, but ghosts in horror films tend to act like hardcore psychopaths that literally try to beat your problems out of you.

The room itself is ever-changing in size, temperature, structure and who is inside of it. As Enlin is forced to remember life before his divorce, he begins to lose all control as the plot really starts to amplify.

“1408” has its scariest moments in the first 15 minutes of being in the room. As it turns out, the more subtle thrills created by slight changes in the room, such as a radio spontaneously blasting “It’s Only Just Begun” by The Beatles, or a painting suddenly turning slightly, are far more frightening than when the CGI kicks in and makes it into a dramatic, Hollywood thriller.

“1408” shines when it focuses on creating a painfully uncomfortable cozier rather than trying to make you jump (which it never really does). Keeping it quiet, dark and as realistic as possible made the imagery have a far more lasting impression on the mind. It’s a lesson that all films should take to heart, and it’s certainly one of the most twisted, most intense and most horrifying features of the year. If’s one of the few horror films, as it doesn’t get a lot of attention, or so it seems. . . . All the pieces are thought provoking in their own way, and some are just funny,” said Harmon.

One piece in particular — “He Who Dies with the Most Toys Wins” — has been particularly well praised. The collage features seven cigar boxes (smoking is one of the main themes of the show), each with a toy nested inside.

“I think it’s fair to say that he is just a culture freak, and man in general,” she explained. “I think men seem obsessed — well, in some cases — with winning toys of one kind or another.”

Harmon graduated from Cal Poly in 1997 with a degree in liberal studies. Though she has dabbled in art throughout her life, Harmon has been serious about this hobby for the past five or six years. In February, her work will be showcased in a Cal Poly alumni art show at the Robert E. Kennedy Library.

For more information on “The Man Show,” contact Monterey St. Wine Company at 541-1325 or e-mail john@montereystreetwines.com.

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**‘Man Show’ defines masculinity**

Janelle Eastridge

Since “most men remain a mystery to themselves and a confusion to others throughout their lives,” as Heidi Harmon once warned her, this local artist and Cal Poly graduate has been using art to make sense of what she deems the “opposite and enigmatic sex.”

Harmon has created a collection of sculpture and collage pieces that focus on a single chapter from her own perspective. “The Man Show,” appearing at the Monterey Street Wine Company in Salinas, Obispo, will run through the end of July.

The artists began creating the pieces for the show several months ago, she said.

After seeing her work shown at Per Bacco Cellars in February, John Stipicevich — owner of Monterey St. Wine Company — was “very impressed with this talented artist.” So when Harmon approached him about showing her latest work, he was fairly simple, and that art doesn’t get a lot of attention, or so she thought — subject matter.

“I came into this show thinking that men were fairly simple, and that art about men would be fairly simple, too. But the more I got into the material, the more complex and interesting the material and subjects became to me,” Harmon said. “I guess I just realized how complex men really are.”

With that in mind, Harmon said that she hopes others leave with a greater depth of understanding and appreciation of men. As before the show opened, reactions to her ideas were fairly negative. Harmon said. Unfortunately, society has the idea that men are destructive, violent and unable to be physically close without being gay, she said. Harmon hopes to break these stereotypes and, at the same time, hold men accountable for not repeating violent actions.

There is an assumption that men are essentially bad. They get fairly bad press,” she said. “When you say you are going to explore what it means to be a man, rightly or wrongly, people assume that it is going to be negative.”

Since the show’s opening, Harmon said that other people have responded well to the pieces.

“I think it’s a subject that doesn’t get a lot of attention, or so it seems,” she said.

**Man Show**

In an exhibit at Monterey Street Wine Company, Cal Poly graduate Heidi Harmon explores men, the “opposite and enigmatic sex,” through art. Her piece “What Can Dick Make?” overlaps an old “Dick and Jane” drawing with images of missiles and guns from the Vietnam War.

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**4th of July FUN**

Annual 4th of July Celebration, Arroyo Grande: Enjoy the Village Band, barbecue, and period costumes by the South County Historical Society.

Time: Band starts at noon. Place: Rotary Bandstand on the Village Green

Cost: Free

Sand sculpture contest & fireworks, Cayucos: Sand sculpture contest and parade through downtown; fireworks.

Time: 5:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Place: Downtown Cayucos, near the pier

Cost: Free

Winery 4th of July Celebration, Paso Robles: Live music, a fireworks show, and desserts. For tickets, contact the Meridian Vineyards tasting room, and the Paso Robles or San Luis Obispo chambers of commerce.

Time: 6 to 9:30 p.m.

Place: Meridian Vineyards, 7000 Highway 46 East

Cost: approximately $16

Fireworks on the Water, Morro Bay: Cruise the bay until fireworks begin; great food and beverages from bar.

Time: 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Place: Shumard Park

Cost: Free

Independence Day Celebration, Cambria: Pites, food, activities, water sports races, moonbounce and fireworks display over ocean at dusk.

Time: 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Place: Shumard Park

Cost: Free

Fireworks, Pismo Beach: Live band entertainment downtown before fireworks show.

Time: 2 to 9:30 p.m.

Place: Pismo Pier

Cost: Free or $25 for VIP seating.

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Compiled by Jesse O’Keefe, a Mustang Daily staff writer
Brooke Robertson

Mustang Daily

Saturday, June 28 2007

SLOfolks makes Over the Edge

June 1 concert at Coalesce Bookstore's Garden Chapel in Morro Bay.

Holob described the feeling he experiences during this stage as "a nirvana you could plug into and be able to channel that energy from mind, body and soul." Ongst and in the studio, Gottstein crafts melodies on an acoustic/electric violin guitar that range in style from blues, folk, jazz, samba, and salsa. Holob accompanies him on an electric violin handmade in Nova Scotia, which he plays and plucks with a bow and his fingers to create original, audience-grabbing solos.

The pair brings an intense chemistry to the stage. Both Gottstein and Holob work off of each other's music and enthusiasm to produce a powerful onstage energy that transfers to the audience. They introduced audiences at both the Garden Chapel and at Green Acres Lavender Farm in Atascadero the following night, performing both original compositions and as well as toe-tapping cover songs, including "Hit the Road Jack" and "Swingin.'"

Over the Edge opened in Friday show with one of its signature original songs, "Holyoke," as an instrumental ballad Holob described as "dream-like." It was written in the back of a station wagon on an early-morning drive down a country road, he said.

Holob is often inspired by nature. Many of his songs stem from beats discovered while hiking, from the pulse of a stream to the pattern of Holob's own breath. "The rhythms would just fall into place," he said.

But don't expect Over the Edge to be back in the San Luis Obispo area any time soon.

Demongeot rarely books artists that have already played in the Central Coast. Her goal is to maintain a flow of different and unique performers so that Central Coast audiences can always discover and experience something new.

"The hardest thing is not having any artists book," she said. "They think that if they do well, they will get to come back. But that's not the case. SLOfolks' next installment in its summer concert series will feature Sigo Rags, a versatile band which covers a wide range of inspired songs, while also dabbling in rock and roll.

The group was awarded the title of "Best Folk Band in Orange County" at both the 2004 and 2005 Orange County Music Awards. The ensemble will appear July 6 at the Coalesce Bookstore and July 7 at Green Acres Lavender Farm.

Funny or not is the question

Matt Manning

The BG News (BLOOMINGGROVE STATE U.)

Michael Richards found himself in the hot seat during a show at the comedy club where Kramer yells the word that carries so much pain to so many people repeatedly. "We're funny!" Not in the least bit.

Other comedians, such as Carlos Mencia and Dave Chappelle, have also taken similar issues dealing with race, culture and gender to extremes, highlighting those well-explored no-mans-land to make people laugh in a way that only touchy issues can.

So where is the line drawn between what is offensive and what is acceptable in comedic acts? Is it color of skin that makes it acceptable, or is it the tone of how the jokes are said? Well, according to Grant Paule, director of the improvisation sketch comedy group Bad Genetics, there is no definite line.

"Comedy is only acceptable if it makes you laugh," he said. "I don't think the performer or the audience should worry about boundary lines...it's just a matter of making it funny." As director, Paule pushes other members to take more risks in their comedy as they build their routine off of real life experiences.

"As long as you approach a topic with honesty, I feel like it's going to be funny and more enjoyable for the audience anyways," he said.

However, fans may have a different opinion as to what can be addressed.

Scott Metzger, a fan of comedians such as Lewis Black, Dennis Leary and Mitch Hedberg, also a member of a Facebook group devoted to comedy, feels that a line does exist, it's just hard to tell where it is.

"Every joke, there's always the possibility of it being offensive," he said. "There is a line there...most comedians don't cross the line but there are a few that do.

The local club devoted to comedy in the area, Connections, has supplied a variety of comedy for 15 years, with the biggest competitor being Comedy Central.

The club tends to make their entertainment more family oriented, but since there is a want for a race-centered comedian, they have one act a year for those fans.

Shella Gomez, general manager of Connections, said that these types of comics are great if their topics are addressed in a tasteful way.

"If you're there to offend people, it's not comedy," Gomez said. "We don't have many that do [comedy clubs]."

"We advertise it as a blue show, as a highly offensive show," she said. "One of the biggest things we want is to get away from the image that it's just about racial stereotype." Both Paule and Comedic's prospective, what's offensive isn't necessarily something that's offensive to a particular group.

"I find it offensive when comics pander to the audience," Paule said. "What do they rely on joke-book
The new generation of men and relationships

Cristina Albers
mustangdaily@gmail.com

The way men show women feelings has always changed. Different ages and different decades bring about different ways of dating and showing affection. But lately it seems as though my generation, especially that of guys, has lost the ability to commit to an actual relationship.

The opposite sex starts out having coquettes, and if a girl ever played with a boy or vice versa, it was simply a friendship, or possibly a fight and they were trying to show each other up on the playground.

These coquettes turned into hair-pulling and nine girls around the ashphalt in order for boys to show their feelings. They would tear in and make us feel horrible, but we would want to take it, because it made us want them. Classic bad-boy syndrome. I suppose.

As everyone started getting older, going through junior high and getting into high school, these immature forms of attention started to fade, being replaced by more subtle hints of affection.

But many couldn’t bear to show their feelings, and it was incredibly common for no people to have crushes on one another and never find out years down the line.

However, when two people did start dating there were rules. Not the same kind of strict rules that our parents had to endure, but guys were expected to treat us a certain way. Opening at least one door, paying, and at the end of the night it was a first kiss, but if anything, but nothing more.

Holding hands was still a gesture to first show you really like one another. I graduated high school in 2005, and I’ll be graduating from college at the end of 2007, and it’s this generation of dating, ranging around thirty years older as well, that I suppose we’ve lost something, or to have completely vanished. It’s almost as if guys don’t even try to commit to anyone. They meet, pretend to want to get to know you and become great friends, and since this generation of girls is also more promiscuous, we give into them before we should, and soon after they vanish.

This doesn’t apply to all guys, of course. I couldn’t make a general statement like that. Who knows? Perhaps it’s my bad judgment and luck that causes me to get into these situations and no one else experiences any of it.

I highly doubt that’s true, though.

This does, however, apply to basically all the guys I’ve met since being away at college, and to all the guys out there I haven’t met who know they’re this way.

I’ve gone through the periods of not wanting a boyfriend, refusing to commit to someone because I was having too much fun being free. I’ve probably ruined chances with a couple of different people because of this attitude, and so I understand when guys are completely against getting into a relationship.

But there’s something the average man has to understand about girls: we take the sweet things you say and the little gestures and the promises to mean something.

When you act like you like us, we’re going to believe you and we’re going to think that it may lead to something more. The biggest problem with this generation is how little they expect to get out of something. People spend so much time coming up with lies to tell each other that there’s no room for saying what someone actually feels. My two biggest crushes over the last two years have been told how I felt about them, and I’m still on good terms with both.

But hardly anyone can just say if they like someone or not. Those who don’t actually like someone don’t seem to show more feelings than those who do. Did not make sense.

Here’s a word of advice to guys out there: Don’t act like you don’t want someone, don’t make those promises, and don’t put ideas of romance in a girl’s head. If you do, then they’ll expect something. We don’t need those false promises; all we need is a good time. If you don’t want to be with us monogamously and forevermore, then don’t, but don’t pretend otherwise.

Where did all the sweet guys go? Those adorable male heroes in the movies that fall in love with the girl and will do anything to keep her. Now every time a guy gets the girl he just screws it up because the quest was conquered. Who needs a man when all the sweet guys are gone?

I’m not sure what’s responsible for this change. Maybe it’s because girls have been changing too.

Some girls have slacked on their standards of what they want out of their men, and maybe that’s made guys think they can get away with more.

I think things like MySpace have something to do with this new change. When I first joined MySpace about a year-and-a-half ago, it was a place to play. You could go on there looking for old friends from high school, people from your current college classes, or new people in the area to have fun with.

The Web site was more of a social gathering and a place for friends, but now it seems like a place to simply find hook-ups. While the sweet male figure and the idea of relationships seem to be fading out, this new idea of “friends with benefits,” and casual hook-ups has been booming.

This isn’t even a horrible thing, the idea of casual sex, but when it destroys the idea of even finding a decent guy to settle down with and commit to, it becomes a problem.

So is it true that the man of my generation’s won’t commit? It’s hard to tell without actually polling every guy my age, but those who don’t are keeping reminding me of how things have changed. I feel like I can never get that crushback again.

Today’s generation skips steps, the dates seem to come after the first night together, just to make the point of attention, and then soon all it stops. The guy you meet at first isn’t actually the guy you think he is.

To quote “He Wasn’t” by Avery Lawton, “He turns up when I want, what I thought, no. He wouldn’t even open up the door. He never made me feel like I was special. He isn’t really what I’m looking for.”

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Summer offers students an opportunity to improve. This improvement typically comes in the form of earning a summer job or summer classes at college, but these don’t need to be the only option.

Often, during the hustle of getting homework done and flaring up as a social butterfly, we lose sight of other paths to personal growth.

The mind needs to stay sharp. For those who have less-than-challenging summer jobs, a demanding book can be the reader rethink their ideas and learn new things.

Read a book that takes an opinion you can’t stand (just not...
with student-athletes—making sure that we have the right coaches in place, and the right staff to help them, and secondarily, that those right people have the resources necessary to do everything that they can to help student-athletes. I think that everyone really needs to take their teams where they need to go, to do proper re­training, to feed them right, and put them in the right uniforms.

After many years in the field, Cone still enjoys her work, and finds it rewarding. "I think the most rewarding part is to see our student-athletes succeed both academically and athletically," she said. "We're in watching the progress of our student-athletes in the classroom, and watching them succeed on the courts. Seeing all the student-athletes who get postseason experience, and knowing that those student-athletes are walking across the stage at graduation is really rewarding, too. It's also very rewarding to see venues full of enthusiastic students.

Now Cone finds herself at the beginning of another summer with much planning and preparation ahead already. Cone is trying to put herself in a position to best take advant­age of whatever those changes may be. Do I know what those changes are at this point? Absolutely not.

"We're just continuing to work hard," she said. "One thing about athletics is, there's always change, and something different. We're just trying to put ourselves in a position to best take advan­tage of whatever those changes may be. Do I know what those changes are at this point? Absolutely not.

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—Alison Cone
Director of Athletics
Summer is no break for Cone

Jared Cleaver

Alison Cone has known her whole life that she wanted to work in athletics.

However, she says that it was a combination of luck and timing that landed her the job as the athletics director at Cal Poly just more than two years ago.

"I grew up in a family where my dad was an athlete," Cone said. "So, we were always attending something or playing something. It was part of our family growing up. I just worked in a lot of positions. Timing was right here, and I got pretty lucky. But it's a really good job. I worked at Cal Poly for about 10 years before I got this job."

When she took the position in 2005, Cone became one of only 19 female athletics directors at the NCAA Division I level, which includes more than 315 colleges and universities across the nation. Cone took over from John McCaslin, who accepted a similar position at the University of Massachusetts.

After earning a bachelor's degree in physical education from Washington State University and a master's degree in education from Cal State Dominguez Hills, Cone spent more than 30 years coaching and teaching before finally landing her current position.

Cone is currently finishing her second full school year as the full-time athletics director at Cal Poly.

But just because the school year is over doesn't mean that she's on a vacation. Although her job is slightly less time-consuming during the summer, there is much preparation that is needed for the upcoming school year.

"Summertime is usually the least busy, since we don't have the events during the summer," Cone said. "So most of the things that have to happen during summer, happen during the normal work week. During late August through the end of May, things happen during the regular work week, in the evening, as well as on the weekends.

So it's really a seven-days-a-week kind of situation."

Whereas Cone spends much of the school year organizing and attending events, the summertime is reserved for planning and preparation.

"There are still a lot of important things that are happening—working on future schedules, fundraising issues, academic issues, budget issues and all the things that come up during the summer," Cone said. "You know, strategic planning and making sure you have things ready so when the school year starts, things happen smoothly."

As athletics director, Cone must supervise the coaches and staff who support the athletics department.

For Cone, no two days are exactly alike.

"Every day is a little bit different," she said. "We have a fairly decreed-sized staff over here. We have to make sure that everybody has the direction and vision of what they're supposed to be doing." Cone said. "We have a really talented staff and group of coaches. So, it's trying to best serve that group and help them get the tools they need to be successful, I spend a little time with student-athletes, but more time with the coaches and the staff who work with the student-athletes."

After a summer full of preparation, Cone spends the school year ensuring that all 20 of the intercollegiate programs on campus are functioning smoothly.

"I do attend a lot of the events, as do many of our staff people," she said. "We're greeting the public, working to generate interest in the program and working to have our program be a part of student life on campus. We're working with people in our housing department and other people on campus, so that students take advantage of the athletics program. And we're always working with the external people to encourage their participation in our programs."

Cone is responsible for hiring new athletic staff members, which she enjoys. However, that means that she also has the task of having to replace staff members that don't meet required expectations.

"Hiring people is a great part of the job," she said. "The most difficult part is probably when you have to make those negative-type of evaluations on somebody's work. Probably the most important part of the job would be making sure that the right people are dealing with Cone, page 7

Day finishes 2nd at U.S. outdoor national meet

The Cal Poly high jumper finished ahead of NCAA champion Destinee Hooker.

Josh Ayers

Spring athletics at Cal Poly wrapped up a little under a month ago and many student athletes are enjoying the break from their busy schedules.

For Sharon Day, there is no break.

The star Cal Poly high jumper took second place last weekend at the USA Track and Field Championships in Indianapolis with a jump of 6-0.25.

"She did fantastic," said Cal Poly head coach Terry Crawford in a phone interview. "She competed ferociously. Crawford and assistant coach Jack Hoyt both traveled to Indianapolis with Day for the competition that featured world-class athletes and former Olympians.

"It's a pretty cool atmosphere," Day said of the event in a phone interview. "It's kind of inspiring to see people running so fast and jumping so far."

Day cleared the same height as the winner of the event, Amy Acuff, but she had more missed attempts. Day did manage, however, to edge out the 2007 NCAA high jump champion, Destinee Hooker, by a full inch.

"Her mental tenaciousness speaks volumes about how she performed this weekend," Crawford said.

Day has rebounded back into the national spotlight after breaking her foot in December 2005. She took fourth place at the NCAA National Championships in Sacramento after finishing first at the Big West Conference Championships in late May, and the NCAA West Regional meet held in Oregon in early June.

see Day, page 7

Sharon Day clears a height of 6 feet 1/2 inch at the NCAA West Regional Meet in Eugene, Ore, on May 25. She will travel to Central and South America to compete.