Cassandra Carlson

One Cal Poly student has been recognized nationally for his proactive stance and efforts to halt hazing at his fraternity. Aerospace engineering senior and Tau Kappa Epsilon member Adrian Herrera was recently named one of the nation's Anti-Hazing Heroes by hazingprevention.org.

After attending a workshop at the Western Regional Greek Leadership Conference (WRGLC) last spring, Herrera decided to report his own fraternity, though hazing was considered common practice by most — even he had been harmed — he wanted to put an end to it.

For over a year, Herrera was concerned with his fraternity's activities involving new pledges. After Herrera attended an Undergraduate Interfraternity Institute Conference, he realized there was an anti-hazing movement within the organization. This conference stirred a turn of events that the Tau Kappa Epsilon Rho Omicron chapter at Cal Poly was not ready for.

"I definitely pulled the carpet from underneath them," he said.

After some initial opposition within his fraternity — based mainly on the idea that hazing practices kept with tradition and his corresponding warning that he would report them if the hazing continued, Herrera eventually pulled members onto his side.

One member Herrera credits with contributing to the end of hazing is Jacob Lopez, a social science junior, new member educator and chaplain for the group. Lopez presented factual information to the group about hazing, adding even more information to the much discussed and debated topic.

"I think it might be more difficult to remove it from fraternities than sororities because there is very much a childish machismo attitude surrounding hazing," Lopez said. "I very much believe in the Greek community and believe that it can rid itself of hazing."

The fraternity as a whole was still divided on the issue even after many of its members went to a leadership conference. That's when Herrera decided to report his chapter.

"The people at the western headquarters say to report to your brother, and if you can't tell any other chapter what you are doing, it is illegal," he said.

As a result, TKE was suspended from all new member activities and social events and put on a moratorium.

At first Herrera did not vouch that he was the one who reported his own fraternity. "I didn't feel validated in telling them, and in retrospect nobody came up to me and asked me," Herrera said. "The international headquarters and the fraternity were very supportive of my decision and pro-active about the situation by interviewing everybody.

Already ostracized, he received hate mail from his brothers and was cut off from relationships with long-time friends.

Terence Hunt

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Bush

continued from page 1

and extensions of unemployment benefits for the jobless. Bush said those changes "would delay it or defeat it and neither option is acceptable."

He also pushed Congress to extend his tax cuts, which are to expire in 2010, and said allowing them to lapse would mean higher tax bills for 116 million American taxpayers. For those who say they're willing to pay more, Bush said, "I welcome their enthusiasm and I am pleased to report that the IRS accepts both checks and money orders."

Before speaking, Bush turned to shake hands with a smiling House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Vice President Dick Cheney, seated behind him. Bush's wife, Laura, and their twin daughters, Barbara and Jenna, sat in a VIP box. His speech lasted 53 minutes, interrupted frequently by applause, most often by Republican lawmakers.

Since the 2003 invasion of Iraq, the war has been a major topic of Bush's annual addresses to Congress. He said Monday night the buildup of 30,000 U.S. troops and an increase in Iraqi forces "have achieved results few of us could have imagined just one year ago."

"Some may deny the surge is working," Bush said, "but among the terrorists there is no doubt. Al-Qaeda is on the run in Iraq and this enemy will be defeated."

Still, Bush said, "The mission in Iraq has been difficult and trying for our nation. But it is in the vital interest of the United States that we succeed."

He made no commitment about withdrawing additional troops from Iraq, and he said Gen. David Petraeus, the top U.S. general there, has warned that pulling Americans out too quickly could undermine Iraqi forces, allow al-Qaeda to regroup and trigger an increase in violence.

"Members of Congress: Having come so far and achieved so much, we must not allow this to happen," the president said.

Bush said U.S. adversaries in Iraq have been hit hard, though "they are not yet defeated and we can still expect tough fighting ahead."

There are 158,000 U.S. troops in Iraq, a number that is expected to drop to 135,000 by July. There are 28,000 in Afghanistan, the highest number of the war, which began there in October 2001. Congress, despite repeated attempts, has been unable to force troop withdrawals or deadlines for pullbacks, and Iraq has receded as an issue in Washington.

Aides had said Bush would not use the address as a summation of his time in office. But in a shift, he turned to the phrase "over the past seven years" when talking about some of the most-prized efforts of his administration: tax relief, federal involvement with religious charities, the global freedom agenda and increased funding for veterans.

A major challenge for Bush in his address was simply being heard when many Americans already are looking beyond him to the next president.

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Herrera

continued from page 1

to the fraternity and taking an unpopular position. That speaks to strength and to the ideals of the organization."

At Cal Poly, there are more than 2,000 students in the greek system, which is comprised of 20 fraternities, seven (soon to be nine) traditional sororities, and 11 culture-based greek organizations.

"We educate each class by presenting a special meeting prior to recruitment to describe what hazing is, past situations, and talk about consequences," Lamb said.

Adrienne Miller, Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities coordinator, emphasized that students should go to a recruiter, club advisor, Greek Affairs or her office to report hazing. Her office would then conduct an investigation.

"Students have individual responsibility standards of conduct," Miller said. "Our investigations consist of asking questions on behalf of Student Life and Leadership and present findings of individual responsibility. Students can be put on disciplinary probation, meaning they cannot violate standards of student conduct."

In the end, the Cal Poly chapter of TKE was not disbanded, as the hazing was self-reported. According to Herrera, all its members had a probation mark on their records.

These alleged marks and the volunteer hours the members were told to complete led many fraternity members to quit, Herrera said.

"When people left, it was a sting to the fraternity because we couldn't deal with the vision of the club," Herrera said. "We started past fall with 14 and lost 11. People were even put on alumni status because they were from Cuesta."

With the no-hazing taking effect, they recruited 18 new members this past fall. One of those new members is Grant Bailey, an anti-hazing pledge class president of TKE and civil engineering freshman.

"I think there are many positive changes that have come and will come out of our fraternity having ceased all hazing practices," Lopez said. "I have much more pride in our organization and it is allowing us to live up to the ideals of our founding fathers. Some of the things we did and other fraternities and sororities do are an embarrassment to the greek community and are where a lot of our negative image comes from. There is no excuse."

Daniel Kim, a soil science senior and Cal Poly Delta Chi associate member counselor, feels that hazing exists both inside and outside the greek community at Cal Poly.

"People automatically assume that only fraternities and sororities haze when the truth is that sports clubs, NCAAs, Sports and other clubs on this campus do haze; it is just not as publicly known. I personally know of teams and organizations on this campus that do haze that are not greek," Kim said.

"It is not easy to speak out against a topic that is kept under the rug, and Advisory's effort toward changing the hazing culture should be acknowledged," Kim urged.

After all his experiences, Herrera has gained new perspectives and experiences concerning hazing.

"People who are greek need to hold each other accountable. It is their place in the greek community to act like a family. The greek community will be on the forefront to help out other non-greek organizations," Herrera advised.

Herrera now plays the role of IFP president in addition to being involved in the Cal Poly Democrats, the Associated Students, Inc., Lobby Corp., the philanthropic council, University- Diversity Enrichment Council, Week of Welcome and the Multicultural Center.

Herrera
Machete-wielding youths disrupt peace over Kenyan elections

Katharine Houreld

Thousands of machete-wielding youths hunted down members of President Mwai Kibaki's Kikuyu tribe Monday in western Kenya's Rift Valley, torching homes and busing, clashing with police and blocking roads with burning tires.

Witnesses described seeing two people pulled from cars and stoned to death, while another was burned alive in a minibus — the latest victims in a month of escalating violence triggered by a disputed presidential election.

The death toll has soared over 800.

"The road is covered in blood. It's chaos. Luos are hunting Kikuyus for revenge," said Baraka Karuma, a journalist for independent Kenya Television in Kisumu.

There was no sign of relief from international mediators trying to persuade politicians to resolve the crisis that has erupted over Kibaki's re-election in Dec. 27balloting that international and local observers say was marred by a rigged vote tally.

Kibaki has said he is open to direct talks with opposition leader Raila Odinga, who is from the Luo tribe, but that his position as president is not negotiable. Odinga says Kibaki must step down over the weekend, 1  )istrict CTimmissioner Katee Mwanza said.

As youths set buses ablaze at Kisumu bus station Monday, po­lice used tear gas, then opened fire. A morgue attendant said one man whose body was brought in had been shot in the back of the head. A school janitor also was killed by a stray bullet fired through a slum in Naivasha and trapped them in a shanty before setting it on fire, police commander Grace Kakai said. The victims were Luos. At least three other people were killed in the town over the weekend, District Commissioner Katee Mwanza said.

Fred Marenj, a gas station attendant, said he saw two other "protesters" shot in the back and killed as they ran from police.

In Naivasha, provincial capital of the Rift Valley, 64 bodies were counted Monday at the morgue, according to a worker who asked that his name not be used because he was not authorized to speak to the media.

Over the weekend, a gang of Kikuyus chased 19 people through a slum in Naivasha and trapped them in a shanty before setting it on fire, police commander Grace Kakai said. The victims were Luos. At least three other people were killed in the town over the weekend, District Commissioner Katee Mwanza said.

Columns of smoke rose from burning homes in Kisumu, ac­cording to journalists who flew into the town.

"We wish to find one, a Kikuyu ... We will butcher them like a cow," said David Babgy, 24, who was among 50 young men stopping buses at a roadblock of burned cars and upmoted lamp posts.

But the only deaths reported there Monday, apart from the burned bus driver, were people shot by police whom human rights groups accuse of using excessive force.

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In villages around the town of Eldoret, gangs of Kalenjin youths hunted Kikuyus and killed six. Four were slashed with machetes and two were pulled from the cars and stoned to death, according to witnesses. A military helicopter tried to land at the village of Cheptire but was protested by youths who set grasslands ablaze.

Naivasha, Kenya's flower-exporting capital on a freshwater lake inhabited by pink flamingos, became a war zone Monday where some 2,000 people from rival tribes faced off, taunting each other with machetes and clubs inset with nails.

Each time they approached each other, a handful of police holding a line between them fired live bullets into the air. They retreated only to regroup.

"We want peace, but we (also) want to fight them," said Peter Mwangi, 20. "We don't want Luos here," he said.

"This is Kikuyu land!" they cried, calling for revenge.

The Rift Valley is home to the Kalenjin and Masai ethnic groups. British colonizers seized large tracts of land to cultivate fertile farms there. After in­dependence in 1963, Presi­dent Jomo Kenyatta flooded reclaimed farmlands with his Kikuyu people, creating deep­seated resentment that exists to this day.

Kikuyus also are resented for their domination of politics and the economy, a success cem­mented by endemic corruption.

More than half the 255,000 people driven from their homes this month have been Kikuyus displaced in the Rift Valley.

The bloodshed has transformed this once-stable African coun­try, pitting longtime neighbors against one another and turning tourist towns into no-go zones.

Kibaki and Odinga blame each other for the violence, trading accusations of "ethnic cleansing." Human rights groups and of­ficials charge it has become organized.

"What is so alarming about the last few days is... there's evi­dently hidden hands organizing it now," Britain's visiting minister for Africa, Mark Malloch-Brown, told reporters.

He spoke after meetings with Odinga, Kibaki and their media­tor, former U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan. Malloch-Brown said they were making little headway "because the level of anger between the two sides is just growing exponentially!"

State Department spokesman Sean McCormack said Kenya has "gone from bad to worse, in terms of the violence".
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Compiled and photographed by Brittrny Clyde

NDEX

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Associated Press

In a daring ambush, insurgents

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explosion last week in an abandoned

apartment that authorities say was

under pressure to withdraw its

growing number of troops from Kandahar prov­

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health and safety codes.

National

MEXICO CITY (AP) — A man suspected of running over and killing a U.S. border agent has been held over for trial in Mexico on migrant smuggling charges.

The federal Attorney General’s office announced late Sunday that a judge had ordered a trial for Jesus Navarro, 22. It did not say when his ruling was issued.

The agency said officials also believe that Navarro ran over U.S. border agent Luis Aguilar, but are still gathering evidence in that case.

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TORONTO (AP) — Can­

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The toll so far is 56 percent high­

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Ready for a lesson in the fragility of the human body? "Rambo" can teach you everything you need to know.

If you're looking for an '80s formula action movie with modern special effects, this is it. And it is awesome. An intensely gory film depicting modern combat and the wretched condition of those living under a genocidal regime, "Rambo" should succeed in entertaining the action-film junkie while tugging gently on their heartstrings. And what's more, the anticipated cheesy ending is there, too.

It's no use to argue right out of the gate whether the acting in this movie is Oscar-worthy; no one expects that from "Rambo," or any Sylvester Stallone flick for that matter. You can, however, say that the acting sucks but is made bearable by the fact that not much speaking happens after the film is halfway through. You may walk away from this movie spouting off a couple key mush-mouth lines lipped by Stallone. But the words aren't at all powerful; it's the images that will stick with you.

Speaking of Stallone, the guy is huge. He is bigger in "Rambo" than in any of the "Rocky" movies, making for a truly amazing scene when he is running, or standing beside skinny dudes.

The story begins with John Rambo, a Vietnam War veteran and badass killing machine, living a simple life on the border of Burma, where a military-led genocide against Christian minority villages is occurring. The depiction of this genocide is horrific. In one scene, soldiers throw mines into a soggy rice field and then place bets and exchange money before sending captured village people running through the same field — gore ensues.

Back at his job capturing snakes for a venomous snake show, Rambo seems distant from the realities of the situation across the border until a group of Christian activists from Colorado show up and request he take them, by way of boat, into Burma so that they can deliver medicine and food to the affected villages.

A reluctant Rambo delivers the activists to Burma, but not before asking them if they brought guns with them. When their leader responds no, Rambo says, "Then you're not changing anything" — an instant cheese-ball classic.

While giving their humanitarian aid, the Christian activists are ambushed and abducted by the Burmese military. Then it's up to Rambo to save them, but not before some boring scenes that just seem to fill the time before the action occurs, which will most likely be skipped to on the DVD version anyways.

To rescue the activists, Rambo and a small, ragtag group of mercenaries have to take on a platoon of 100 men. Rambo is way casual about this fact — he's done this one before, and he makes it look so easy.

What happens after Rambo and the mercenaries land in Burma is pure action-movie gold.

The Burmese soldiers you've grown to despise for their cruelty are brutally disemboweled, disemboweled and otherwise slain by sniper rifles, machine guns, combat knives and, let's not forget, Rambo's bare hands (Spoiler Alert: He literally rips out a man's jugular until his hair stands).

The special effects in creating the death scenes are top-notch. You may walk away from "Rambo," page 7

Experience Cal Poly the way it was intended!
Faith Espresso

In a busy world, sometimes you need to remember what’s really important. Reconnect with your faith once a week over espresso with other members of the Cal Poly and Cuesta Communities.

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It is a perfect retreat for you, offering good conversation, great music and inspiring discussions.

Come join us every Wednesday evening at 6 o’clock.

Explore the Bible with a contemporary edge
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Courageous Faith in a busy world, sometimes you need to remember what’s really important. Reconnect with your faith once a week over espresso with other members of the Cal Poly and Cuesta Communities.

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Courageous Faith

Lost in the Middle finds SLO success

Director Trevor Povah’s new film “Lost in the Middle” features Central Coast surfers and surfing spots.

Aaron Gaudette, Mustang Daily

With a line that stretched almost the entire block of Garden Street between Marsh and Higuera streets, filmmaker Trevor Povah could never have imagined that the premiere of his latest film would produce such a turnout.

He and the staff at Downtown Brewing Co. ultimately turned away more than 100 surf enthusiasts who braved the wind and rain of downtown San Luis Obispo in hope of seeing Povah’s latest film venture, “Lost in the Middle,” because there simply wasn’t room for any more people.

Povah, a Cal Poly graduate who is now a filmmaker-turned-photographer and an emergency medical technician for San Luis Ambulance, was almost bewildered at the turnout his film screening generated.

“I thought completely blown away,” Povah said. “I had no idea that it would sell out so fast. (Neither I) nor any of my team expected it.”

“Lost in the Middle” is focused entirely on surfing on California’s Central Coast, ranging from Ventura to Big Sur. The surfers featured in the film are all based on the Central Coast.

“This film was made for the surfers of San Luis Obispo County,” Povah told the crowd, which responded with a roar of cheers. “It features killer local music and will only be sold in San Luis Obispo surf shops so that the money can stay local. There are no interviews, no B.S. — just surfing.”

All of the music in the film is also from San Luis Obispo County-based bands such as Resination, Still Time, Killview and The Expendables. The soundtrack ranging from fast-paced punk to reggae to melodic jam music with trumpets and keyboards.

The premiere had an unmistakably local feel to it, with the crowd cheering both for friends whose surfing was featured in the film and for the bolder tricks and barrel rides. Six of the surfers from the film were present at the screening.

The film, which, according to opening credits, was “made for the surfers who inhabit the cold, fickle, shark-laden coastlines” of Central California, highlighted various characteristics that have come to define San Luis Obispo County, such as the presence of otters, seals and signs warning of shark sightings.

The featured surfers were full-body wetsuits for the entirety of the film.

In stark contrast to the chilly weather outside, the venue itself was standing-room only and was humid to the point that perspiration could be seen on most people.

The immense response the screening received forced Povah and the staff at Downtown Brewing Co. to schedule another film screening for Feb. 10 at 8 p.m. Doors will open at 7 p.m.

The film also has a bonus section, which features the same surfers riding waves in other parts of California as well as in Costa Rica and Indonesia. However, the focus of the film is clearly on California’s Central Coast.

The overall presentation of the film was quite seamless, with accompanying animations of surfboards being made and other surf-related elements providing the transitions from surfer to surfer.

The camera angles in the film range from aerial views to underwater perspectives, reflective of Povah’s expertise in both still-image capture and filmmaking when documenting extreme sports.

“Lost in the Middle” is set to hit San Luis Obispo surf shops this week and is also available on www.redpotion.com, along with examples of Povah’s photography.

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Bored with facebook? www.mustangdaily.net

Cal Poly’s original news feed
A tale of secrets and lies, race and sex

In 1997, Philip Roth published "American Pastoral," the first in his America trilogy, which examined the evolving socio-cultural-political landscape of the United States in the half-century following World War II. Next came "I Married a Communist" and then "The Human Stain" in 2000, ending the trilogy on an unfinished and impossibly high note.

Narated by Roth's long-term literary alter ego, writer Nathan Zuckerman, the book begins in the summer of 1998 with the country disgusted yet morbidly obsessed with the Bill Clinton-Monica Lewinsky sex scandal. The author's contempt for the degradation of human privacy and the sensationalistic way the affair was treated by the media, politicians and public alike is palpable in the opening pages, in which Zuckerman fulminates against "the ecstasy of sanctimony" and members can resist, even on the thinnest and most politically correct surface level, it refers to the traces of Clinton's semen on Monica Lewinsky's dress, the "stain" that would lead to his impeachment. On a deeper level, it is about the human obsession with skin pigmentation and its tragic legacy of racism, alienation and forced deception. Finally, if revealed, would exonerate him. But, for reasons simultaneously heroic and tragic, his personal integrity and identity are more important than his public reputation.

After leaving the college, Silk embarks on an affair with Faunia Farley, an illiterate janitor half his age — a relationship which, in the eyes of the academic community, seems to confirm the worst about Silk.

Rambo continued from page 5

from this movie believing you have actually seen a man's head get blown off of his body.

This film definitely solidifies Rambo's place in the Hall of Badass, because no one can take out an entire planet with so much precision and brutality as Rambo.

As far as gripes are concerned, it's really hard to complain about this movie if you have realistic expectations. You can't go into the theater expecting good acting, plot or an ending that's not somewhat laughable. The movie does have a couple of dull moments, but the action sequences more than make up for them.

And let's not forget that the movie does attempt at something more than entertainment. It just spoons the beauty of the Burmese countryside with the grotesque killing of innocent villagers as an attempt to strike the viewers a tone of compassion. Mission successful. You will walk away from this movie sad that somewhere in the world, people are going through horrific genocides, but you will also be glad that Rambo brought justice in the form of 50 caliber bullets to this one small area of Burma.

Quentin Dunne is a psychology graduate student and Mustang Daily columnist.
Top 10 ways to have a healthy Super Bowl

Here it comes again, that fantastic icon of American testosterone, the Super Bowl. Even if you don’t like football, everyone can find some enjoyment in it by hanging out with friends, eating, and watching those ridiculous Super Bowl commercials. It is a day traditionally filled with nachos, beer, buffalo wings and just about any other fatty foods you can handle. There is one problem that we have to keep in mind: the post-Super Bowl food hangover. You’ve had a fun day, but you are paying for it with your stomachaches and constant pondering of, “Why on earth did I eat that?”

Just to scare you a little, check out these post-game stats. For Super Bowl 2007, the average intake from kickoff to finish was 925 calories, along with 38 grams of fat and 890 milligrams of sodium. That is just under half of what you are supposed to eat in an entire day crammed into three hours of gorging.

I am here this week to help you and your guests avoid the post-Super Bowl regrets by offering some healthy yet still fun ways to eat this coming Sunday.

1. Nachos
   Always a crowd favorite, but they don’t have to be as heavy. Try using reduced-fat cheese and baked chips for fewer calories and less fat.

2. Dips
   Instead of using full-fat mayonnaise or sour cream in your dip, try non-fat plain yogurt. Bean dips are also yummy and healthy with extra fiber and some B vitamins for an energy boost. Home-made fresh salsa is not only more delicious, but it also packs a serious vitamin C punch. Guacamole is a great source of potassium and the healthier type of fat called monounsaturated fatty acids.

3. Fruit and veggie trays
   Make your own or buy one from the store. Make sure you don’t put out the ranch dressing. Use hummus or bean dip instead.

4. Pizza
   Order a pizza with extra veggies and half the cheese on a whole-wheat crust. You could even save yourself some money and make your own.

5. Chili
   With so many tomatoes and beans, chili has a lot of potential to be a pretty healthy meal. Try using extra-bean or ground turkey (but your guests won’t even notice it is turkey) along with reduced-fat cheese to garnish. For your cornbread, use part whole-wheat flour along with low-fat canola oil.

6. Chicken
   Side line those greasy buffalo wings and try making some chicken fingers. Just dip some chicken breast strips in milk and seasoned bread crumbs and throw them in the oven. Don’t forget to put out honey mustard and barbecue sauce as well as some buffalo sauce for your guests that need the heat.

7. Salad
   Try making a southwestern salad. Not only is it super tasty, but it’s healthy, filling and delicious. Just throw some canned corn, kidney beans, lettuce, onions, chopped tomatoes and peppers in a bowl with a ton of fresh salsa. Add some low-fat jack cheese if you want some extra flair.

8. Sandwiches
   Instead of getting a big sub sandwich, put out the ingredients for your guests to make their own. Use lean, low-sodium meats with reduced-fat cheese. Whole grain bread or tortillas are a good substitute for those huge French rolls. Make sure to include all of the veggies (lettuce, tomatoes, onions, pickles, roasted red peppers, sprouts, cucumbers) along with mustard and low-fat mayo.

9. Liquids
   Try to drink diet soda, juice or water. If you choose to drink, pick a light beer, but don’t get too crazy because you have school the next day!

10. Halftime Show
    I know it might be tough to pull yourself away from Tom Petty during halftime, but grab your pigskin and your pals and go outside to have your own mini-football game. This will help get you off the couch and away from all the food!

    So go out there and scream at your team, just not for Tom Brady. ( Seriously, leaving your preg­nant girlfriend for a supermodel?!) Anyway, have a fun and healthy Super Bowl!

Sarah Bailey is a nutrition senior, a Mustang Daily nutrition columnist and a member of PULSE. E-mail her your questions at sbailey@calpoly.edu.

MARGARET SCOTT HEWART
College students have long begrudged that an 18-year-old can fight and die for the country but not purchase a beer.

Newly released statistics demonstrate that college students are among the lucky ones — an 18-year-old can fight and die for the country without finishing high school.

Less than a week ago, TIME magazine published a story revealing a disturbing trend in recent army recruiting tactics.

The article, titled "Army Recruiting More Dropouts" (Jan. 23), cites a National Priorities Project report that analyzed the army's most recent recruiting push.

That the army is recruiting high school dropouts at alarming rates highlights two main facets of the American sentiment: that the army is desperate for recruits and resorting to unethical tactics targeting those with little education (and poor socioeconomic standing), and that affluent, educated Americans do not believe today's wars are wars their children should fight.

The report is especially pertinent given that Los Angeles ranked third on the report's list of cities ranked by raw number of recruits enlisted with 917 in 2007.

According to the National Priorities Project report, the army is not only continuing to target the uneducated but also the fiscally dependent.

The most productive recruiting done is that on the fiscal group of families incomes of $45,000 to $50,000.

The ratio of active-duty army recruits in the 18 to 24-year-old group is more than tenfold that of families with incomes of $45,000 to $50,000.

The report also shows a steep, continuous drop in recruits as in- coming to meet its army benchmarks, and that "high quality" recruits are scarce.

Morally implications aside, it is not even in the best interest of the army to recruit what they themselves label "Low Quality Recruits."

According to a Department of Defense report cited by the National Priorities Project, a high school diploma "is the single best predictor of successful completion of a first term of enlistment."

So when high school dropouts enlist, the army risks spending massive amounts of money (each successful recruiting attempt costs thousands of dollars) on recruits that are less likely to complete their tours.

The country is admitted a highly complex one.

The facts are that America is fighting wars, that the army is failing to meet its army benchmarks, and that "high quality" recruits are scarce.

However, attacking these problems by compromising moral and civil responsibilities is hardly the solution.

Instead of continuing to prey on those with little education or fiscal access, the army should face the truth: the American public is not willing to fight wars they do not believe in.

Until policy changes, recruiting numbers will not rise.

Wealthy politicians will continue to speak of supporting the troops while shielding their own children from the firefight.

Army recruiters will shun areas over low-income areas.

Our nation's uneducated and low-income young men and women will risk their lives for war the rest of us choose not to fight — because we can.

Further evidence of the military's current problems is readily available.

An MSNBC.com article exposed the military as one of five groups of "STD Super-Spreaders," in the company of convicts, ex- convicts and intravenous drug users.

The report estimated that 2.5 percent of all female soldiers on active duty in Iraq have been infected with a sexually transmitted disease, and that viral infections are more common in the military than bacterial ones.

While correlation has not been reported, it seems likely that uneducated and lower-income recruits would fall prey to sexually transmitted diseases, given that lower-income and low education areas in the states themselves suffer from a similar trend.

According to a 2006 Centers for Disease Control study on STD's, racial and ethnic minorities (among the poorest of Americans) were afflicted by "contributing factors including limited access to quality health care, poverty."

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Girls & Sports by Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein

Are you guys coming to my super bowl party? I hear we're having a best commercial contest...

Halftime forget show cards, games, and... true fans watch the game, not commercials!

We can't wait for Sunday, Raiders! Yeah, can we doing anything?

Edited by Will Shortz No. 1218

Last Ditch Effort by John Kroes

Hey these are our kids, are you sure? Sometimes they surprise us...

Edited by Will Shortz No. 1218

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 1218

Pop Culture Shock Therapy by Doug Bratton

NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION WEEK CAL POLY

"I'm not sure our fathers would approve of this little arrangement."

su|do|ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

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Solution, tips, and computer program at www.sudoku.com
Basketball
continued from page 12
The wining effort centered around two key team statistics. Cal Poly outscored the Aggies in fast-break points 10-4, and the Mustangs' bench outperformed its counterparts 30-28.

Leading the Mustangs reserves in scoring was freshman forward Kristin Santiago, who had 11 points in only 11 minutes of action. Senior forward Megan Harrison reached double figures for the 21st time in 25 contests, finishing with 10 points and five rebounds.

She is only 78 points shy of becoming the 12th player in program history to reach 400 points in a career. The last player to do so was Anderson, who is just 128 points shy of breaking 1,000 points for her career. The victory marked six of the two programs' last seven contests and moved Cal Poly into sole possession of third place in the Big West.

The Mustangs will also be looking to make history, as Cal Poly has never started a conference schedule 6-2.

A premier sorority for women is starting at Cal Poly.

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suo do kumorkov TOWN'S SOLUTIONS
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L O S T
LOYAL Fat gray cat Heron.

January 29 is RA/CA Appreciation Day!
Local prep star commits to Cal Poly

Donovan Aird
MUSTANG DAILY

Logan Budd may be new to the Cal Poly football program, but it's not so new to him.

"The quarterback, defensive back and kicker from Morro Bay High committed Sunday to play for Cal Poly on a partial-scholarship package, he said Monday."

Budd, who led the Pirates this past season to their first league title since 1971, was named the San Luis Obispo County Player of the Year and the CIF-Southen Section Northwest Division co-Offensive Player of the Year.

After visiting the Cal Poly campus Thursday, Friday and Saturday mornings, he said, he elected to stay close to home.

"I grew up going to (Cal Poly) games," Budd said. "It was his school of choice," said Mike Jackson, Budd's football coach at Los Padres League power Bishop. Budd, who led the Pirates this past season to their first league title since 1971, was named the San Luis Obispo County Player of the Year and the CIF-Southen Section Northwest Division co-Offensive Player of the Year.

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