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Exploring the Central Coast

Raula Camelot
Friday, April 11, 2008

San Luis Obispo contains a wide variety of activities for students trying to escape campus life. The list of possibilities is in no way short, but if all the eventful places are mentioned, the mystery of finding memorable places on your own is gone. So here is a rough guide of places to check out while in the heart of the Central Coast.

One of the most important social activities to attend is Farmers’ Market. Every Thursday night from 6 to 9 p.m., the city closes the downtown portion of Higuera Street and vendors from all over the county bring their fresh produce and goods for the locals to consume. Restaurants drag out their barbecue pits and make mouth-watering tri-tip sandwiches, not to mention corn on the cob, kettle corn, burritos, and roasted chicken.

Farmers’ Market is geared toward all age groups, with street performers entertaining the kids, bands playing for the teenagers and twenty-somethings, along with numerous other special events.

Higuera Street is also packed full of shops, ranging from local boutiques like Lucky Lu’s and Therapy to national staples such as Cap and Fixpress. But for college kids who can barely afford to pay the rent, window-shopping is always an alternative. And when you’ve worked up an appetite after perusing the merchandise, Higuera Street and the surrounding blocks are home to restaurants of all different flavors and prices.

While downtown during the evening, students frequently sell out Downtown Brew, a Bubble Gum Alley. Although the alley itself is far from sanitary, it is a San Luis Obispo staple and therefore a necessary experience. Stop by the alley at least once and leave your mark if you dare.

Not far from Downtown Brew is Bubble Gum Alley. When it first opened it was called the "Theatre of Tomorrow." If you’re looking for a lodging experience, one hotel in downtown nearby the famous Bubble Gum Alley (right).

Another historic is the Fremont Theatre. Built in 1942, it is a classic structure from the Art Deco period. The ceiling holds ultraviolet bulbs, which create a black light effect on the patterned carpet that is woven with fluorescent thread. When it first opened it was called the "Theatre of Tomorrow."

If you’re looking for a lodging experience, one hotel in downtown nearby the famous Bubble Gum Alley (right).

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LIGHTEN UP. for earth month
California high school students join for concert Sunday

Brittney Clyde

A tedious judging process and listening to countless audition CDs, director of bands William V. Johnson, symphony conductor David Arriveè, and director of jazz studies Paul Rander have chosen 150 high school students from all over California to play together at the All-State Festival Concert during Open House weekend.

“Do this every year and have developed a state-wide reputation for excellence and bring in some of the finest high school students as well as bring to our campus world-renowned conductors,” Johnson said.

Arriveè said some of the things he looks for in students for the string section includes “how in tune they play, how they are able to maneuver their bow, and especially in terms of stringing, you listen to if they are actually conveying the music with soul or if it’s just mechanical.”

Amazing enough, practice for the chosen students only begins two days before the actual concert.

“It starts Friday evening and all day Saturday,” Johnson said. “They rehearse Sunday morning, then there is a big banquet in the early afternoon and after the concert will begin.”

Each year, a new repertoire is chosen by the guest conductors; Arriveè said that one of the pieces to be played by the youth orchestra this year was composed by Aaron Copland.

“The pieces are for really large orchestras so it should be fun,” Arriveè said. “But this year it’s all high school students playing the instruments.”

Julian Wachner will be conducting the Festival Symphony Orchestra, which has an array of musicians over the years, including the Music Academy of the West Chamber Orchestra and the McGill Classical Orchestra.

Conducting the Festival Jazz Band will be guitarist Bruce Forman, who will also perform as a guest soloist.

His work has been featured in Clint Eastwood’s Academy Award-winning film “Million Dollar Baby,” and his recent Lucas film performing and recording credits that include Freddie Hubbard and Joe Henderson.

The Festival Wind Orchestra will be conducted by Laszlo Marosi, who was twice awarded the Artius prize by the Hungarian Composers Union, as well as the PAME prize for his conducting on an international level.

Johnson said that it’s “always an absolutely spectacular concert” a lot of variety that will not disappoint its audience.

The concert commences at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, at the Christopher Cohan Performing Arts Center Ticket prices range from $8 to $19 depending on student, senior or general admission status.

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Exploring continued from page 8

particular will accommodate you with a room of tomorrow, yesterday or nearly any theme possible. The place to go is the Madonna Inn. Open since the late ‘70s, each of the 109 rooms is decorated in a different style. From safari, buffalo, vintage cars, caves and Irish hills, this hotel is unique to say the least.

On a four-mile trek roundtrip, you can stand at the top of the world if you hike up Bishop Peak. This is the highest peak in San Luis Obispo, named by the padres from the mission because of the three points easily seen from a distance.

John Muir, a famous explorer and preservationist, noted Bishop Peak in one of his travel logs while coming down the Cuesta Grade.

If you’re 21 or older, you can stay the course, and wine, there are dozens of places to taste the local fruit. Maps are available at tourist information centers and at the wineries themselves. Talking with the bartisans is usually the best way to get recommendations of other wineries or tips on good wines to try.

These are just a few of the stops you should make during your stay in the Central Coast. And just one more perk about the city is that there are always friendly people who are willing to help provide directions and new places to check out. Happy exploring!

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More college students see counselors after Virginia Tech

Justin Pope
APRIL 11, 2008

The rampage carried out nearly a year ago by a deranged Virginia Tech student who dipped through the mental health system has changed how American colleges reach out to troubled students.

Administrators are pushing students harder to get help, looking more aggressively for signs of trouble and urging faculty to speak up when they have concerns.

Counselors say the changes are sending even more students their way, which is both welcome and a challenge, given that many still lack the resources to handle their growing workloads.

Behind these changes, colleges have edged away in the last year from decades-old practices that made student privacy paramount.

Now, they are more likely to err on the side of sharing information — with the police, for instance, and parents — if there is any possible threat to community safety. But even some who say the changes are appropriate worry it could discourage students from seeking treatment.

Concerns also linger that the response to shooters like Seung-Hui Cho at Virginia Tech and Severe Kasmirezak, who killed five others at Northern Illinois University, has focused excessively on boosting the capacity of campus police to respond to rare, terrible events.

Such reforms may be worthwhile, but they don't address how to prevent such a tragedy in the first place.

It was last April 16, just after 7 a.m., that Cho killed 33 students in a Virginia Tech dormitory, the start of a shooting spree that continued in a classroom building and eventually claimed 33 lives, including his own.

Cho's behavior and writing had alarmed professors and administrators, as well as the campus police. But when an off-campus psychiatrist sent him back to the school for outpatient treatment, there was no follow-up to ensure he got it.

People who work every day in the campus mental health field — counselors, lawyers, advocates and students at colleges around the country — put the changes they have seen since the Cho shootings into three broad categories.

Faculty are speaking up more about students who worry them. That’s accelerating a trend of more demand for mental health services that was already under way before the Virginia Tech shootings.

Professors “have a really heightened level of fear and concern from the behavior that goes on around them,” said Ben Locke, assistant director of the counseling center at Penn State University.

David Wallace, director of counseling at the University of Central Florida, said teachers are paying closer attention to violent material in writing assignments.

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"25 to 35' advice worth remembering

Shannon Boren

Friday, April 18, 2007

Mustang Daily

Open House

^25 to 35' advice worth remembering

Shannon Boren

Many college students the world over equate exams with academic success. For those who desire academic success, however, it might be a necessary evil.

Because of this, the "25 to 35" campaign was created to remind students to be aware of the way they spend their time outside the classroom.

Most students see the bright yellow, pink and blue signs suggesting studying 25 to 35 hours of each week on their daily walk through campus, and they undoubtedly hear about it during Open House and Welcome.

But how many really heed the mantra?

"Last year I lived in the dorms so it was a really big deal with posters everywhere and signs when you first walked into your room," industrial technologies sophomore Brad Taylor said. "My first quarter I tried to follow the suggestion, but I failed a class anyway and now I only study about 12 hours a week."

According to the campaign's creator, Philip Bailey, dean of the College of Science and Mathematics, this is a common problem for incoming freshmen who are often unprepared for the workload that college entails.

He said the average high school student studies about 19 minutes per night. Because of this, an increase to 10 hours a week may seem huge, but some students still find themselves on academic probation because it won't be enough, Bailey said.

He also likes to point out to new students that they would generally spend 40 to 50 hours in high school between classes and extra curricular activities.

In college, the average student spends 12 to 16 hours in class each week, compared to 19 per night in high school. Most professors suggest studying 25 to 35 hours per week in college.

Whether students choose to take the advice or leave it, the signs will likely be a permanent fixture on campus.

"Superficially, it's like a brand or an advertisement," Bailey said. "It's not just about the signs though, it's really about what takes place inside and outside the classroom."

In the beginning of the campaign, the number of freshmen on academic probation within the College of Science and Mathematics has declined.

Whether students choose to take the advice or leave it, the signs will likely be a permanent fixture on campus.

"Superficially, it's like a brand or an advertisement," Bailey said. "It's not just about the signs though, it's really about what takes place inside and outside the classroom."
Construction changing the face of campus

Patrick Barbieri

The Cal Poly that freshmen see today may differ greatly from what they see upon graduation, since big changes are underway in the form of new and ongoing construction projects around campus.

Besides the two major construction projects visibly under way — Poly Canyon Village and the Center for Construction Excellence — two other projects are already in the pipeline: the Recreation Center expansion and the new Center for Science and Mathematics.

Thanks to a mild rain season, both Poly Canyon Village and the new Center for Construction Excellence projects are ahead of schedule, according to Johan Uyttewaal, associate director of Facilities Planning.

Poly Canyon Village consists of two phases. Phase one is complete and awaiting final punch list inspection and will be open to students in September. Phase two is complete on the exterior, needing only interior drywall, electric, plumbing and paint, and will open in September 2009.

Once finished, the state-of-the-art 2,700-bed complex will include two parking structures, a pool, dining, retail, studying and recreation facilities.

"We're just finishing up interior work on phase two, but it will take another year or so," Uyttewaal said.

The new Center for Construction Excellence project, located next to the Engineering West and Graphic Arts buildings, includes construction of a new 58,000 square foot structure and partial renovation of the Engineering West building. The center will include state-of-the-art instruction and demonstration labs for construction and architecture students. Installation of equipment and labs will take place this summer, and both buildings will be open in the fall.

The Center for Science and Mathematics is first in line of future projects. The project includes demolition of the northern portion of building 52, replacing it with

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**Gerasure Projects on campus**

**Poly Canyon Village**
- Completion date: Fall 2008 (Phase I), Fall 2009 (Phase II)
- Two parking structures with 2,000 spaces
- Olympic-sized pool and recreation and fitness facilities
- Learning center, retail and food-service areas, hiking trails
- Housing for 2,700 students
- Two 5-bedroom units with full kitchen
- Total project budget $299,085,517
- Over 400 new trees planted

**Recreation Center**
- Expected completion date: Fall 2011
- Approximately 65,000 square feet total expansion
- Approximately 14,000 square feet weight room expansion
- Two new basketball/volleyball courts
- Addition of a leisure pool
- Replacement of two upper Sports Center fields with synthetic turf
- Expected project budget roughly $72 million

**Center for Construction Excellence**
- Completion date: Fall 2008
- 46,000 new square feet and 163,000 square feet of renovation
- A two-story, 3,000 square foot materials demonstration lab with adjoining labs
- Bridge adjoining Center with Engineering West Bldg. 21
- Total project budget $25,441,053

**Center for Science and Mathematics**
- Expected completion date: 2010
- Approximate 146,000 square foot new structure spanning 4-5 stories
- 29 labs
- 10 classrooms
- Student and faculty research space, offices and conference rooms
- Expected project budget roughly $128 million

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Construction
continued from page 10

A multi-story, modern structure that will house 29 laboratories, 10 classrooms, student and faculty research space, offices and conference rooms, as well as meeting updated safety and disability requirements. The net result is that math and science courses will take place in cutting-edge classroom environments.

The Recreation Center expansion, voted into effect last quarter, is still in the early stages of development. The university is currently seeking an architect to design plans for the expansion, which will essentially double the amount of space available for students’ recreation. In addition, the expansion will meet LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification, ensuring the highest standards of environment sustainability.

“Things are going really well; we plan to submit paperwork for LEED certification by the end of this month,” said Cheryl Mullan, project manager for Facilities Services. “We plan to certify other buildings as well. It’s a great way to promote sustainability and it shows Cal Poly’s interest in using natural resources and thinking environmentally.”

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Low graduation rates in many city school districts

Ken Thomas

WASHINGTON — Seventeen of the nation’s 50 largest cities had high school graduation rates lower than 50 percent, with the lowest graduation rates reported in Detroit, Indianapolis and Cleveland, according to a report released Tuesday.

The report, issued by America’s Promise Alliance, found that about half of the students served by public school systems in the nation’s largest cities receive diplomas.

Students in suburban and rural public high schools were more likely to graduate than their counterparts in urban public high schools, the researchers said.

Nationally, about 70 percent of U.S. students graduate on time with a regular diploma and about 1.2 million students drop out annually.

“When more than 1 million students a year drop out of high school, it’s more than a problem, it’s a catastrophe,” said former Secretary of State Colin Powell, founding chair of the alliance.

His wife, Alma Powell, the chair of the alliance, said students need to graduate with skills that will help them in higher education and beyond.

“We must invest in the whole child, and that means finding solutions that involve the family, the school and the community.”

The Powell’s organization was beginning a national campaign to cut high school dropout rates.

The group, joining Education Secretary Margaret Spellings at a Tuesday news conference, was announcing plans to hold summits in every state during the next two years on ways to better prepare students for college and the work force.

The report found troubling data on the prospects of urban public high school students getting to college.

In Detroit’s public schools, 24.9 percent of the students graduated from high school, while 30.5 percent graduated in Indianapolis Public Schools and 34.1 percent received diplomas in the Cleveland Municipal City School District.

see Graduation, page 15

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Graduation
continued from page 14

Researchers analyzed school district data from 2003-2004 collected by the U.S. Department of Education. To calculate graduation rates, the report estimated the likelihood that a 9th grader would complete high school on time with a regular diploma.

Researchers used school enrollment and diploma data, but did not use data on dropouts as part of its calculation. Many metropolitan areas also showed a considerable gap in the graduation rates between their inner-city schools and the surrounding suburbs.

Researchers found, for example, that 81.5 percent of the public school students in Baltimore's suburbs graduate, compared with 34.6 percent in the city schools.

In Ohio, nearly 83 percent of public high school students in suburban Columbus graduate while 78.1 percent in suburban Cleveland earn their diplomas, well above their local city schools.

Ohio Department of Education spokesman Scott Blake said the state delays its estimates by a few months so it can include summer graduates in its calculations. Based on the state's methodology, he said Columbus graduated 68.6 percent of its students in 2003-2004, rather than the 40.9 percent the study calculated.

By Ohio's reckoning, Columbus has improved each year since the 2001-2002 school year, with 72.9 percent of students graduating in 2005-2006, Columbus Public Schools spokesman Jeff Warner said.

Warner said the gains were partly because of after-school and weekend tutoring, coordinated literacy programs in the district's elementary schools and bolstered English-as-a-second-language programs.

Cleveland's current graduation rates are also higher than the statistics cited in the new report, school district spokesman Ben Holloway said.

Spellings has called for requiring states to provide graduation data in a more uniform way under the renewal of the No Child Left Behind education law pending in Congress.

Under the 2002 law, schools that miss progress goals face increasing sanctions, including forced use of federal money for private tutoring, easing student transfers, and restructuring of school staff.

States calculate their graduation rates using all sorts of methods, many of which critics say are based on unreliable information about school dropouts.

Under No Child Left Behind, states may use their own methods of calculating graduation rates and set their own goals for improving them.

The research was conducted by Editorial Projects in Education, a Bethesda, Md., nonprofit organization, with support from America's Promise Alliance and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

The alliance is based on a joint effort of nonprofit groups, corporations, community leaders, charities, faith-based organizations and individuals to improve children's lives.

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Far-flung field trip brings college class to Nevada brothel

Kathleen Hennessey

PARLAM, Nev. — Nicki Amouri hands her camera to a friend, throws her arm over another and smiles wide as she lines up for a shot with the monument her class came to visit.

It’s a typical field trip moment — except that Amouri is in a brothel. The monument is a thundershower bedded in a Western-themed party room reserved for VIPs and big spenders.

Amouri was one of a dozen Randolph College students who toured the Chicken Ranch, a legal brothel in the desert 60 miles outside Las Vegas. Thursday’s class trip, which included seminars from the working girls, capped the desert tour.

F a r - f l u n g  f i e l d  t r i p  b r i n g s  c o l l e g e  c l a s s  t o  N e v a d a  b r o t h e l

A junior at the private liberal arts school in Lynchburg, Va., wrote the first class tour request she’d received in 21 years.

“A few students in the class are interested in water rights and conservation. It grew to include discussions of the wedding and entertainment industries and, inevitably, prostitution,” said Chicken Ranch general manager Debbie Rivenburgh, who acknowledged this was a course on American consumption and “the ideas that consume us.”

Nevada is the only state where prostitution is legal. Brothels are allowed in 10 Nevada counties, though not in Las Vegas.

Randolph College students at the Chicken Ranch brothel as part of their American Culture Program studies.

“Think it’s fascinating, this is fun for me,” said Amouri, a junior at the private liberal arts school in Lynchburg, Va., that until last year admitted only women. “Not many people get to do this.”

Students “don’t just study America — live it,” said Julio Rodriguez, the director of the college’s American Culture Program.

Each semester the course examines a strain of American culture and ends with a class trip. Past destinations included the Civil Rights Memorial Center in Montgomery, Ala., and, inevitably, prostitution.

 interest in water rights and conservation. It grew to include discussions of the wedding and entertainment industries and, inevitably, prostitution.

Nevada is the only state where prostitution is legal. Brothels are allowed in 10 Nevada counties, though not in Las Vegas.

Alexis, 38, and Alicia, “over 30” sat on white folding chairs in front of the young, earnest women in the brothel’s Victorian-style parlor, usually the setting for the “lineup.”

They would not give their last names. The group took close notes as a handful of television cameras and reporters looked on.

A blonde in jeans and platform boots, Alexis talked about the job’s flexibility and the free time it has allowed her to write a book about her life.

“I enjoy giving back what some people don’t get in their lives, as far as companionship, time just the touch of a woman,” she said. The job allows her to take care of her mother and grandmother. She’s also in real estate.

A blonde in jeans and platform boots. Alexis talked about the job’s flexibility and the free time it has allowed her to write a book about her life.

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Coffee is the norm for a growing number of teens, kids

Getting your morning jolt is tough in Hayward, Iowa, where there are 2,600 people and not one Starbucks or Dunkin’ Donuts. It’s even harder when you’re too young to drive.

Which makes the middle and high school students at West Sioux Community School especially grateful for the Falcon Joe Coffee Shop, an oasis of espresso, lattes and other coffee drinks right inside their school.

“It’s a very popular thing. Most of us hang out on the couches in the senior lounge and chat while we drink lattes,” says 18-year-old Dusti Rubes, who has been drinking coffee since she was about 12.

She and the 8-year-old cafe — part of the school’s business curriculum — are part of a new fast-growing culture of coffee-drinking youths who co-opted a drink once enjoyed mostly by adults.

“Parents view it as the least of possible evils,” says Kevin Osborn, an analyst with consumer research firm NPD Group, who studies teen coffee-drinking trends as an analyst with consumer research firm NPD Group. Last year it was 13 percent.

From there, the numbers go up. The National Coffee Association says young people are the fastest-growing coffee-drinking niche. In 2002, about 24 percent of 18- to 24-year-olds drank coffee. Last year, it was 37 percent.

It’s a trend the coffee companies aren’t fighting. Dunkin’ Donuts declined to comment except to say it provides a range of drinks that appeal to a broad demographic. Starbucks echoed that sentiment in a written statement, calling itself “a gathering place for the entire community.”

“What makes young customers good customers is that they generally buy expensive, high-profit drinks, like Frappuccinos,” says Bryan Simon, a Temple University history professor who is writing a book about Starbucks.

“They are important because they have the potential to become lifelong customers,” he says.

But are coffee drinks — with the fancy names often packed with sugar and fat — good for kids?

“It is not associated with life-threatening health risk, but that is not to say that it is entirely benign,” says Roland Griffiths, a caffeine expert and professor of psychopharmacology and neuroscience at Johns Hopkins University.

“Caffeine is likely the world’s most-used mood-altering drug and it does produce mood changes and physical dependence. Among the side effects, caffeine withdrawal can trigger headaches, lethargy, inability to concentrate, irritability, depression, mood changes and in some cases, anxiety, vomiting or achy flu-like symptoms,” Griffiths said.

“What becomes the least of possible evils is something they do themselves,” says Kevin Osborn, who studies teen coffee-drinking trends as an analyst with consumer research firm NPD Group, who studies teen coffee-drinking trends as an analyst with consumer research firm NPD Group.

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Intramural sports attract thousands of students on campus

Kory Harbeck

Were you a star athlete in high school, but got passed over by recruiters? Do you pine for the days of recs and dodgeball? I hate working out but need some way to keep off the dreaded freshman fifteen?

Cal Poly intramural sports may be just what the doctor ordered. According to Greg Avakian, supervisor for the Recreation Center and head of IM sports, 10,000 participants played some form of intramural activity this year, making it one of the best ways on campus to escape from the stress of college.

"Our goal is to provide a non-academic outlet that provides a social atmosphere with a sense of competition and camaraderie," Avakian said. "A place to leave your worries and studies behind for an hour and a half."

The social atmosphere is one of the most valued aspects of the IM sports program.

"I really like the attitude of the competition," said business senior Ryan Crooks, an IM participant for eight quarters.

The numbers break down to players every quarter, though fall and spring participation is higher because of the availability of outdoor fields.

The actual number of students participating is unavailable due to students who compete in multiple leagues.

Participants can play as many sports as they like but are restricted to one team per sport.

A wide range of IM sports are offered at Cal Poly including basketball, flag football, soccer (9v9, indoor, and speed), slow-pitch softball and tennis.

The price for registering a team ranges from $10 to $150 depending on the number of referees needed for the game, with the exception of tennis, which is only $15 and is self-officiated.

Students have the choice of three divisions depending on their skill and the desired competition level.

"There are lots of variations with good competition, where you can compete against people of the same skill level," Crooks said.

Some of the most popular leagues are coed divisions, speed soccer (6v6 on a smaller field) had 771 participants last fall and 51.2 percent were female.

"I like intramurals because it gives me a chance to still play the sports I love without having to be very good," mechanical engineering senior Lisa Diaks said.

Another option IM sports offers are one-day tournaments for off-beat competitions. The registration fee for all tournaments is $25 and possibilities include bowling, dodgeball, kickball, over the line (3v3 softball variations), sand volleyball, racquetball and shuffleball.

All members of winning teams, leagues and tournaments receive a free T-shirt proclaiming their athletic prowess.

If your competitive juices don't flow this way and you're too busy to get a job but need a few extra dollars on the side, all IM sports referees are students paid $8 per hour.

Intramural registration takes place during the first week of each quarter, with some leagues filling up in a matter of hours.
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From crafts to climbing walls: 10 ways to have fun on campus

Rachel Glas  
MUSTANG DAILY

At first glance, it might seem that every Cal Poly student on campus is either studying or walking to class. But that does not mean the only thing to do on campus is homework... far from it.

From simply hanging out on Dexter Lawn to climbing the rock wall, Cal Poly offers plenty of activities right on campus for students to enjoy. Here are the top 10 ways to have fun on campus, in no particular order and with no car necessary.

**Hike Poly Canyon or the “P”**

Been sitting at your computer writing that essay for too long? Well, pull on your sneakers and head over to one of Cal Poly’s hiking trails. Located on campus, both Poly Canyon and the “P” are fun and accessible. Biology junior Shannon Murphy is a major Poly Canyon enthusiast.

“There are so many trails and you can go forever and it’ll never end. You can bike, hike, run, and have picnics and there are tons of deer, birds, lizards and squirrels,” she said.

The Poly “P” or large white P on the hills behind the residence halls, is another popular destination point for students. The trail going up to the P is steep (and watch out for the horse manure!) but as graphic communication junior Alyssa Duhe puts it, “hiking to the P at night is one of the greatest things ever.”

**Visit the horse unit**

If you’re missing your dog or cat, take a trip up to Cal Poly’s equine unit and you’ll be sure to feel better. Located on Via Carta past Campus Market and Baggett Stadium, the Cal Poly Equine Center houses dozens of different horses, reared and trained by students. Bring an apple or sugar cube and make a friend! Just be sure to go during the springtime to see the foals.

**Climb the wall at Poly Escapes**

If you’re hankering for a little adrenaline rush, but only have an hour break between classes, the Poly Escapes climbing wall is perfect for you. Right behind the University Union (or UU), the climbing wall is free for all students and open six days a week.

“It’s a good place to take a break from classes and close enough to stop in for students,” said Jeff Stern, a business junior and Poly Escapes employee.

**Bowl at Mustang Lanes**

In the mood for something a little more low-key? Head over to Mustang Lanes, San Luis Obispo’s only bowling alley, conveniently located right inside the UU.


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Mustang Lanes is the only bowling alley in the city.

**Visit Mustang Lanes**

In the mood for something a little more low-key? Head over to Mustang Lanes, San Luis Obispo’s only bowling alley, conveniently located right inside the UU.
Tractors like this can be seen in the Open House Truck and Tractor Pull.

Aaron Gaudette

A spectacle of dirt, horsepower and diesel exhaust will take place Saturday afternoon, as the Cal Poly Tractor Pull Club hosts the annual Open House Truck and Tractor Pull at the pull site near the crops unit.

With a tradition that dates back to the East Coast in the late 1960s, the tractor pull has become a definitive event for both Cal Poly as well as the greater California agriculture scene. Cal Poly has been at the forefront of tractor pull innovation on the West Coast, factoring in the technological progress of tractors over the years. The result has been an increase in both horsepower and overall entertainment.

"These pulls originated as a sort of contest between farmers on the East Coast, with each boasting about how his tractor could pull more weight than the other," said Mark Zohns, a bioresource and agricultural engineering professor and club adviser. "A member of our faculty, who was getting his Ph.D. at the University of Michigan at the time, saw the pull going on and thought it would be the perfect thing to bring to Cal Poly. We have the first tractor pull on the West Coast at the 1972 Poly Royal."

The contest consists of a tractor pulling a sled down a strip, with weight being added on as it moved. The winner is the tractor that gets the furthest.

"Initially, the tractors pulled sleds down the strip, and students and people would jump onto the sled as it came by, which allowed for the increase in weight," Zohns said. "There are several tractor classes, and people on the sleds would provide an even bigger weight differential."

The bulk of tractor pull innovations on the West Coast have originated at Cal Poly, like when one alumna built the first modified tractor on the West Coast with the engine of a Ford Mustang. Another notable innovation was the first weight transfer machine on a sled, built as a senior project in 1973.

"When the tractors started working, 300 mph instead of 60, the sleds weren't safe for people to jump on," Zohns said. "So we designed and implemented the weight transfer mechanisms for the sleds, which have the same effect."

Instead of people jumping on to increase the weight, the weight transfer mechanism features a solid steel box, which moves from the back of the sled to the front. The sled is easier to pull when the box is at the back, allowing for starting, but the box slides on the tractor increases as the box moves forward.

The Tractor Pull Club has two tractors, each with its own storied history. One, aptly named Mustang Fever, was designed and built entirely from scratch in an equipment design and building class as the class design project. Three students worked on the tractor for 10 weeks, and the end result can be seen at any pull in which the team competes.

"This tractor has the most driver changes of any in the circuit, with a new driver just about every time it competes," Zohns said. "He also has his own tractor, as do several of his friends, and he'll be competing in the Open House Pull as well."

"It's fun because it allows for a teacher versus the students sort of thing," Zohns said. "The winner will be able to haggle the other for the rest of the year."
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Visit Cal Poly University Art Gallery

Watch too many reality shows? Need something a little more... cultured? Then head on over to the Cal Poly University Art Gallery, located in the Dexter building, room 177.

The gallery has five exhibitions a year, most of which run for a month or so. Everything from international to local art to the annual spring showing of top student work is displayed. Whether you're interested in traditional painting, graphic art, photography or something else entirely, you're sure to find it on display here.

Create art at the Craft Center

If you'd rather create your own art, prepare to be challenged at the

see Activities, page 27

Ryan Polei Mustang Daily

Sigma Pi members spent April 5 cleaning the trail leading to the Poly "P"
LOS ANGELES — MySpace, which has lured millions of big acts and garage bands alike to build profiles on the popular social networking hub to attract fans, said last week that it will turn those pages into portals for selling music, merchandise and more.

Helping back the new MySpace Music are three of the biggest recording companies — Vivendi SA’s Universal Music Group, Sony BMG Music Entertainment and Warner Music Group Corp.

Financial terms of the partnership were not disclosed, but each of the music companies will receive an unspecified equity stake in the new company, said Chris DeWolfe, MySpace co-founder and chief executive.

The fourth-largest music company, EMI Group PLC, is not part of the deal.

DeWolfe said MySpace is in licensing talks with “everyone” but declined to say where discussions stand with EMI, home to artists such as Coldplay and Norah Jones.

MySpace Music, which will roll out gradually in coming months, will enable artists to sell music downloads, concert tickets and merchandise such as T-shirts through their profile pages and to offer ringtones through a unit of MySpace parent News Corp.

“We believe that the Web is becoming increasingly more social,” DeWolfe said during a conference call. “MySpace Music is a new way of experiencing music online that everyone can participate in.”

Fans also will be able stream audio and video for free through musical artists’ profile pages.

DeWolfe said some tracks will be sold without copy-protection safeguards but noted that the major labels had committed only to experimenting with offering content in an unrestricted format.

Selling music without the copy protections that make such tracks incompatible with Apple Inc.’s iPod music players could place MySpace Music in direct competition with existing digital music stores such as Apple’s iTunes, Amazon.com, Napster Inc. and others, analysts said.

“It’s definitely got a lot of potential to it, but how much it really changes the game is yet to be determined,” said Michael Gartenberg, vice president and research director for JupiterResearch. “This is one of those important events in the history of digital music and it has a lot of potential going forward.”

MySpace may also be looking for ways to maintain its lead on rival social network Facebook, which has been gaining in popularity.

James McQuivey, digital music analyst for Forrester Research, noted that the venture is wisely aiming to serve as a one-stop portal for music fans.

“A MySpace music store is exactly the right step to get the music industry to the next level because it recognizes that consumers don’t just buy music, they experience it... That’s what people do with music already on MySpace, it’s what has made Last.fm and jMusic.com so popular so quickly,” he said.

The company declined to discuss pricing or other revenue details.

In 2006, MySpace began letting artists sell music from their profile pages using a third-party technology but that capability never was integrated into the site the way MySpace Music’s storefront will be, DeWolfe said.

MySpace, which boasts more than 110 million monthly users, has more than 5 million profile pages showcasing major label artists, independents and unsigned acts. All those artists would eventually be able to take advantage of MySpace Music’s offerings, the company said.

MySpace Music will operate as a separate company, with a president who reports to DeWolfe and to a board of directors that will include representatives from the recording companies.

“Everything involved with these events is done by the people here,” said Bassett, who noted that Cal Poly is the only university in the circuit to compete in tractor pulls; “It’s not just ‘sit in a tractor and drive’; it’s much more than that.”

The Cal Poly Open House Truck and Tractor Pull will take place at 1 p.m. Saturday, at the tractor pull site, which is just off Mt. Bishop Road.
More and more Catholic schools closing across U.S.

Matt Sedensky
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIAMI GARDENS, Fla. — For 46 years, crmics, recessions and hurricanes proved no threat to the daily ritual of St. Monica School, where the entire blue-and-white uniformed student body gathered outside each morning to join in prayer.

Come June, though, the tradition will fade away, and "amen" will close St. Monica's morning recitations for the last time. The school, a home-away-from-home for mostly minority students, will close.

As Pope Benedict XVI next week makes his first trip to the U.S. as pontiff, Catholic schools across the country, long a force in educating the underprivileged regardless of their faith, face the same fate as St. Monica.

About 1,200 Catholic schools have closed since 2000 and enrollment nationwide has dropped by 382,125 students, or 14 percent, according to the National Catholic Education Association. The problem is most apparent in inner cities, in schools like St. Monica with large concentrations of minorities whose parents often struggle to pay tuition rather than send them to failing public schools.

"We lose the kids. They can't afford it. And then as the school gets smaller, you have to raise the tuition to pay the costs and it's a vicious cycle," said Sister Dale McDonald, the association's director of public policy and education research.

The pope will gather with Catholic educators during his visit, but not those who run elementary schools — the meeting is with college presidents.

St. Monica has been operating on a deficit for about a decade. Enrollment went from 368 students in 2004 to 106 today. Requests for financial aid increased. The Archdiocese of Miami devoted more than $2.7 million in subsidies over the past seven years to keep it open.

"There's not the numbers there to keep going," said Kristen Hughes, superintendent of schools for the archdiocese. "The economy really has had a huge impact."

McDonald notes Catholic schools have been closing since their peak in the 1960s, when there were 12,803 schools with about 5.25 million students. Today, there are 7,378 schools with 2.27 million students. The decline in enrollment is accelerating, fueling further school closures.

The recent economic downturn is being blamed for some of them, but McDonald said dioceses' huge payouts to settle sex abuse lawsuits could have played a role too.

"We have no direct correlation," she said, "but as the dioceses have gone into financial debt the hindrance to subsidize these schools would be diminished."

See Catholic, page 28
Open House

Activities
continued from page 24

Mustang Daily

Craft Center, located across from Poly Escapes in the UU.

The Craft Center offers classes where you can learn to do anything from making earrings to shaping a surfboard. Woodworking, ceramics and stained glassmaking are other popular areas of interest. Students can also purchase quarterly passes, which enable them to work on personal projects any time the center is open.

Graphic communication junior Amy McGivern is one of these students. Thanks to the Craft Center, she’s built herself a hat rack and a skateboard.

“The center is a great place to forget about school and just get creative and fool around,” she said.

The Craft Center is open every day but Saturday. For more information, hours and class schedules, call 756-1266 or visit www.asi.calpoly.edu/static/craft_center.

Laugh at Smile and Nod

If you need to get your laugh on, there’s no better place to go than one of the Smile and Nod troupe’s improv nights. The group performs its unique and hilarious brand of improv comedy every weekend in the H.P. Davidson Music Center, room 212. To see a schedule of events, go to www.smileandnod.org. The cost is $5 per show.

Catch a movie at Chumash Auditorium

For those who want a movie theater experience minus the cost and the crying babies, Associated Students Inc. (or ASI) is here to help. Not-yet-released-to-DVD movies are regularly shown in Chumash Auditorium, located on the upper floor of the UU. The screen is big, the chairs comfortable and the audience large.

ASI employee and industrial technology senior Scott Head estimates that 200 to 300 people regularly show up. To get a full schedule of movie screenings and other ASI events, go to http://www.asi.calpoly.edu/static/what_is_happening.

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See a band during Concerts in the Plaza

Every week, ASI brings an artist or band to play during UU Hour. Past bands have included Augustana (known for the song “Boston”) and The Ataris. Since most students don’t have class during UU Hour (11 a.m. on Thursdays), the plaza is usually filled with students watching the concert.

So grab a drink from Julian’s, take a break from rock climbing and check out some live music when UU Hour rolls around.

There is a lot more to Cal Poly than studying and test-taking. From art to outdoor activities, from watching bands to shaping surfboards, any student can find something of interest to do on campus.

“I love Smile and Nod. It’s really nice to just go laugh and have fun after a stressful week of school,” said business junior Melissa Feldman.

Grab coffee or ice cream at Julian’s

Featuring gourmet coffee, freshly baked pastries and delicious ice cream, Julian’s has long been the go-to place on campus for a pick-me-up. Whether your vice is sugar or caffeine, this coffee shop located on the bottom floor of the UU is the place to visit.

The friendly baristas will serve you anything from black coffee to a nonfat, no-ship, extra hot, extra short latte with extra foam, along with a bagel, muffin, danish or donut.

Julian’s also serves as the university’s ice cream parlor, offering more than a dozen different flavors of Dreyer’s ice cream. Grab a treat with your friends while studying or hanging out in the UU, and life gets a little sweeter.

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High school enrollment has remained roughly the same and schools are opening in suburban, particularly in the West and SouthWest. The Northeast and Midwest have been hit hardest.

Some dioceses have turned to public-private partnerships to keep schools open, and others have created consortiums of schools to share resources. In the Archdiocese of Washington, officials plan to convert seven schools into publicly funded charter schools this fall.

Taking taxpayer money means sacrificing the core element of Catholic schools: their faith. The schools won't be able to have prayers, and will have to strip religion from the curriculum. That has prompted petitions from parents who want the schools to stay as they are.

"What is lost is the teachings of the Catholic faith," said Joe McKenzie, a 41-year-old technology consultant who has two children at St. Gabriel School in Washington. "That voice will be silent." McDonald said she is concerned, too. Catholic schools were once considered vital to passing on the faith to the next generation and to exposing multitudes of non-Catholics to the church. With declining enrollment, the church will need to find new means. Perhaps most distressing to McDonald and others is the loss of schools in the inner city.

"The church has always had a strong sense of mission, particularly to the poor," she said. "As it becomes more and more difficult, not only on the poor but on middle-income people, we're not really fulfilling the mission of the church to serve all if we only can afford to serve the people who can afford the big bucks."

The issue has caught the attention of President Bush, who called faith-based schools "lifelines of learning" in his State of the Union address and said they were disappearing at an alarming rate. The White House will host a summit on the topic later this month.

Advocates for Catholic schools say it's in the public's interest to preserve them. McDonald said Catholic school students save the government $19.8 billion annually.

"They've left these urban inner-city schools when they close and they have to go somewhere," said Virginia Gentles, who oversees the nonpublic education office of the U.S. Department of Education. "It could be tough for the districts financially and from other standpoints to absorb those children."

For now parents still line up in cars outside St. Monica each afternoon to pick their children up. Many say how sad they are to see it close.

www.mustangdaily.net
Always in color
Study compares students’ drinking habits in high school, college

Katie Kennedy

For many university students, college is a time to experience new things. And for James Arruebarrena, history senior, that meant drinking. “I drank in high school, maybe once, but I just didn’t really have the opportunity to,” Arruebarrena said. “I lived at home; I was a good student. I wasn’t interested in it.”

Four years later, Arruebarrena now drinks three to four nights a week. “I have a lot of friends who drink now,” Arruebarrena said. “I like to go out and drink and have a good time.”

Some university students think people who did not drink in high school are more likely to indulge once they reach college. “They’re more likely to do it since they’ve never tried it,” anthropology junior Meredith Cook said. “If they understand how it affects them before they get to college, they’re more likely to know how to handle themselves.”

But this was not the case for Arruebarrena. “I thought I would experiment with it, but I had no idea I would drink as much as I do now,” Arruebarrena said.

But Arruebarrena’s drinking pattern is actually in the minority. In 2006, researchers at the Harvard School of Public Health found that college students who did not binge drink in high school were less likely to binge drink in college.

This study defined binge drinking as consuming four or more drinks on one occasion for females and consuming five or more drinks per occasion for males. Aaron Yglesias, industrial engineering junior, was surprised by these findings. “There’s so much drinking around campus; it’s one of the biggest social activities,” Yglesias said. “If you’re a new student coming in, you’re pretty likely to get wrapped up in drinking.”

But Kathy Saiuchuck, Wellness Education coordinator at the Health Center, agreed with the findings. “Students are likely to continue to adhere to the habits they’ve established in high school,” Saiuchuck said.

The study found that parents’ drinking habits can affect how much a student drinks in college. College students whose parents disapprove of drinking are less likely to binge drink in college.

Jennifer Loisel, elementary education junior, had a different opinion. “My dad drinks a lot, but I didn’t drink until I turned 21,” Loisel said. “My dad thinks that we actually didn’t drink as much because of how much he drank.”

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see Drinking, page 39

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Mustang Daily

Open House

See Drinking, page 39
Robots face off in annual CENG event

Aaron Gaudette

Cal Poly’s Institute of Electrical Electronic Engineers (IEEE) Computer Society will host the 14th annual RoboRodeo contest Saturday, a hectic competition in which autonomous robots face off in a quasi-table tennis match. “This is one of the biggest events that the College of Engineering puts on during Open House,” said John Seng, a computer engineering professor and faculty advisor to the IEEE Computer Society. “Over the last few years, we’ve had at least 1,000 people turn out, and it’s a good time at Open House for the engineering students to get excited and parents to come out and cheer for their kids’ robots.”

The event takes place with a court on nets on either side, slightly resembling a soccer field, with a wall in the middle dividing it in half. The object of the competition is to have your robot score as many ping-pong balls as possible into the opposing robot’s net. All robots are fully autonomous, requiring no in-game guidance from the team, which usually consists of two to see RoboRodeo, page 31

BRYAN HILKE / MUSTANG DAILY
Computer engineering major José Angulo tests out his robot on the battle field to gear up for Saturday’s competition.
Simple changes can help students bring up grades

John Bailey
(30 DECEMBER 1975; CONNECTICUT)

When the professor hands out the syllabus at the start of the semester, there's all this info that you don't need to know: attendance expectations, readings, essay due dates, plagiarism rules. All you really care about are those percentages at the bottom of the page: how badly can you screw up the exams and still get that C-?

Of course, once you get two-thirds of the way through the semester, you take out that calculator and you work the numbers out. You start to feel nervous, maybe a little queasy. Because, see, with all the quizzes you skipped and homework you missed, you can't screw up the exams at all. In fact, to even get a B in the class, you need to get a hundred and forty-nine on the final.

So what do you do, aside from curling up in the fetal position with a thick blanket and a leg of Keystone hooked up intravenously? That grade's gotta come up if you don't want to stay in academic limbo forever.

Hit Up the Library, and unplug the Internet. Getting away from distractions is over half the studying battle.

"The library doesn't have distractions, like T.V. or (Smash Brothers) Bronze," says Eliza Caldwell, a 2nd-year secondary education major at the University of Connecticut. "And it's got really comfy green couches in the basement. It's great in theory, I don't study there as often as I should."

Someone once said that writing is 5 percent inspiration and 95 percent not getting distracted by the Internet. This holds true for studying, too; if you are hanging around your room, you've got all the tools for a fun study session: the Internet, video games, snacks, cheap beer in the fridge and lots of buddies. But what you probably don't have is the dedication and focus to ignore all these distractions and actually digest through those biology chapters. Four hours of studying only counts as two if you're reading Wikipedia articles about submarines half the time.

There's nothing wrong with a few study breaks, but they should be short and beneficial. That's what makes the library so good: get up and grab a coffee at Bookworms, check your e-mail and maybe say hi to some folks — and then get right back to work.

The library isn't a total haven. People can still call you up and tempt you with evening or weekend plans.

"Sometimes putting your social life on hold is crucial," says Eric Schuler, an 8th-year English and psychology major. "Especially at the end of the semester when papers are due, and exams and other deadlines have to be met. The best thing you can do is start studying early and manage your time wisely so that your friends don't think you've vanished off the face of the earth."

It's not nice and it never feels good to say "nope, sorry, I have to do work," but sometimes you need to put a moratorium on parties and pickup hoops. While you probably could still end up drinking with your crew till 4 a.m. on a Wednesday, you probably couldn't wake up in time for your exam the next morning. Lock your door and write something mean and dismissive on your whiteboard.

Your friends won't hate you — not too much. And you'll get the last laugh when you're the one with the mortarboard and they're 8th-year sophomores.

That's not to say that you can't see your friends at all, of course. "Study groups are good because they motivate you," says Dippi Dehria, a 4th-year chemistry major. "They don't allow you to be lazy, since you're obligated to someone other than yourself and they're fun, too, like all those Friday night parties we should be going to."

Nobody likes to do it alone.

see Grades, page 39
Take a tour on the wild side

Dustin Stone
March 18, 2008

Prospective students, hello and welcome to Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. My name is Dustin and I will be your tour guide on our little walk through campus today.

Keep in mind that we have to make this tour quick, so I’m going to skip all of those boring things like classrooms and labs. You know what goes on in those places, and because this is Cal Poly, you already know that they are all high-quality bastions of learning by doing.

Instead, today we are going to focus on some of the most commonly used areas of campus. That way, when you decide to become a part of our big happy family you will know where to go for food, books, bowling... you know, the essentials.

Cal Poly is the second largest land-holding university in the United States (9,678 acres total, 1,321 of which make up the main campus) and somehow every inch of it is uphill, in all directions. It’s really one of the great mysteries of the natural world and as a result, all Cal Poly students have hyper-developed calves and glutes. So if anybody has trouble keeping up as we are walking, please let me know.

If there are no questions, let’s go ahead and start the tour!

Stop 1: Grand Avenue
What better place to start our tour than the main entrance to campus? As we head up this street, there are a few things I would like to point out.

If you look to your right you will see some of our on-campus housing. There are 13 residence halls on campus, providing a total of 2,783 living spaces. Also, construction is currently underway on the new Poly Canyon Village housing units that will make room for 2,704 more students.

In an effort to promote good study habits, Cal Poly students living on campus have the option to live in dorms segmented by major. Mixed-major housing is also available for those who desire a more socially eclectic dorm experience.

All dorms have high-speed Internet access, cable, digital phone service and all the other necessities you’ll need.

Stop 2: Grand Avenue
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Stop 3: Faculty Offices
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Stop 5: Mott Gym
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Stop 6: UPD
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Stop 7: Campus Market
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All dorms have high-speed Internet access, cable, digital phone service and all the other necessities you’ll need.
comforts of home packed into one "efficient" space.

As we continue up Grand Avenue, you will see some of our parking facilities on the left. As of fall 2007, Cal Poly had roughly 22,648 students, faculty and staff members and a whopping 6,700 parking spaces. If you take a moment to do the math, you will find that there are not enough parking spaces for everybody on campus.

If you are planning to live off-campus, I would suggest investing in a bicycle. San Luis Obispo isn't a huge town and just about everywhere is accessible by bicycle. Students who ride bikes to campus often manage to make it to class quicker and with less hassle than those of us who commute.

If physical activity isn't your thing, you can always ride the bus for free with your Cal Poly student ID.

Stop 2: The Performing Arts Center
Just past the parking structure, we find the PAC. It is the Central Coast's premiere live entertainment venue and it seems like there is always something great going on just beyond its doors.

The facility includes a concert hall with 1,282 seats, the pavilion, which serves as a multi-purpose venue, and a 170-seat recital hall.

If you're a fan of live entertainment whether it be drama, musicals, ballet, symphony, opera, stand-up comedy, children's theater or anything else for that matter, you should be able to find something amazing at the PAC during any season. Plus, students get special discounts, so there are no excuses for being uncultured.

Stop 3: The University Union
The UU is the heart of campus. If you need something, there's a good chance you can find it here.

The first thing you will notice is El Corral Bookstore. With a few exceptions, this is where you will purchase all of those expensive textbooks that you might open once or twice throughout the quarter. Also, feel free to peruse the fine collections of Cal Poly shot glasses, T-shirts and bumper stickers. Hey, if you are lucky enough to be accepted to this university, why not show it off by buying a pair of skating sweats with "Cal Poly" name embroidered on the butt?

Above the bookstore, we find the 940-seat Chumash Auditorium, which hosts various events, lectures and conferences throughout the year. Just last year I had the chance to see adult film star Ron Jeremy debate anti-pornography pastor Craig Gross over the impact of pornography in our society, all thanks to Chumash Auditorium.

Also housed in the UU is Mustang Lanes, the only bowling alley in San Luis Obispo. Poly Escapes, providing rentals of outdoor gear for weekend adventures the Craft Center, where you can take classes in surfboard shaping and photography, among others; a coffee shop (currently Julian's but it will switch to Starbucks soon); and a whole plethora of interesting offices, student resource centers, computer terminals, chairs ... and oh yeah, a giant TV that always seems to play bad daytime talk shows.

Stop 4: The Avenue
I know this is what you've all been waiting for: food! That is what The Avenue is all about.

The place is a lot like a food court. OK, it is a food court...
Tour
continued from page 33

... but it's pretty good as far as food courts go. The salad bar is usually a good bet and the only Chick-fil-A in the area is located here, so fill up on waffle fries and chicken sandwiches while you have the chance.

The Avenue accepts PubMed Dollars (part of on-campus meal plans), cash, Campus Express Cards and credit and debit cards.

Stop 5: Mott Gym and the Recreation Center
If you would please direct your attention across the street, you will notice our Recreation Center, and directly to the left, Mott Gym — home of Mustangs basketball and volleyball.

If you can't make it through your day without hitting the gym, the Rec Center is definitely something you should be aware of. The facility houses a weight and exercise room, a pool, several sports complex fields, beach volleyball courts and also serves as a venue for concerts and other events. The weight and exercise room tends to fill up during certain times of the day, but once you get a feeling for what those times are each quarter, it's not too tough to plan around them.

Due to a campuswide vote held last quarter, the Rec Center will undergo an expansion in the near future that will double its amount of usable space. The weight and exercise room will actually triple in size, hopefully alleviating some of the crowding during those high-traffic periods.

Also planned for the expansion: air conditioning in high-use areas, artificial turf on the sports fields, new basketball courts and a multi-activity facility for concerts and other events. The center will remain open during construction.

Stop 6: The Robert E. Kennedy Library
I suppose our tour does need something educational, so let's head across campus and check out the library. As you can see, this place is huge: 203,605 square feet to be exact. According to the Cal Poly Facebook (because there is no way I knew this), the library holdings consist of 2,576,300 items, including 634,400 books and other printed works, 99,700 bound periodicals, 417,700 government documents, 31,500 maps, 48,300 audiovisual items, 1,339,400 microforms, 5,400 online databases and other resources.

I'm not sure what all of that means, but it sounds impressive.

The library is open Monday through Thursday from 7 a.m. to 2 a.m. with shorter hours Friday through Sunday. There is a study room near the entrance that stays open 24 hours a day during the regular quarter. So if you really need to get away from obnoxious roommates, you can always hide there.

Also located in the library is Pony Prints. If you need to print out that last-minute research paper, copy packets for a group presentation, bind reports or print out an oversized color portrait of your buddy passed out on your couch after last weekend's costume party, these guys can take care of you. All for a nominal fee, of course.

Stop 7: Campus Market
Since we're on this side of campus, let's stop in the market for a minute. If the UU didn't have what you were looking for, Campus Market is your next best bet. They carry the essentials for survival, as well as the non-essentials like pizza and those organic snack foods that we college students love so dearly.

Stop 8: The University Police Department
In case of emergency it's always good to know where the campus police station is. Located just around the corner from Cam-

See Tour, page 39

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Where Do We Go From Here...

Career Forum
A speakers' panel on careers for current and prospective students in Liberal Arts. Come listen to and talk with alumni who are pursuing a broad range of successful career paths.

Sabisha Basrai
(BPA Art & Design)
Kendra Deutsche
(BS Journalism)
Elhora Donato
(BA Music)
Jordan Ray
(BA Music)

Open House
Saturday, April 19
11-12:15 pm
Philips Hall, PAC

The College of Liberal Arts
Meet Cal Poly...
in only five minutes

Sara Wright

If you fall into the majority in every category of en-
rolled students at Cal Poly, you are probably a 21-year-
old Caucasian male engineering major from the San
Francisco Bay area — at least that's what the statistics say.
Figures found in the past two years show that certain
trends prevail among Cal Poly students, especially as far as
career, ethnicity and region of origin go.
A lot can be discerned by taking a look at incoming
freshman classes as well.
In the 2007-2008 "Admit-
ted Student Questionnaire
Plan," prepared by Applied
Educational Research Inc. for
Cal Poly every year, incoming
freshmen indicated the most
important characteristic
in choosing the college they
wished to attend was the qua-
lity of majors.
Other top reasons included the undergrad teach-
ing commitment, availability of majors, and academic
reputation.
The top feeder high schools — that is, the high
schools that the most fall 2007 enrolled first-time
freshmen attended — were St. Francis High School
in San Jose with 33; La Costa Canyon High School in
Encinitas with 31; and San Luis Obispo High School
with 30.
David Marques, a former St. Francis High School
student and a mechanical engineering sophomore said
he applied to Cal Poly not because there was an em-
phasis by the high school's ad-
mision and counseling office
to apply, but just because a lot
of other students did.
"A lot of people apply to
Cal Poly as a back-up if (they)
don't get into a UC or private
school, but a lot of people ap-
ply as their first choice, too," Marques said.
"Cal Poly is a lot like St.
Francis in a lot of ways, it's
comfortable for the students
that go to Cal Poly from there."
According to James Mara-
viglia, assistant vice presi-
dent for admissions, recruitment
and financial aid, 34,000 appli-
cations were submitted for fall
2007, while there were 7,900
applicants in 1993.
"It was another record applicant pool this year," Marqued said.
Aswin Marques, head of guidance and counseling
at St. Francis High School, indicated a reason might be
the feedback they get from current Cal Poly students.
"It's a self-fulfilling prophecy," Marques said. "No
one transfers out of Cal Poly like at other schools."

• Engineering: 4,706 undergrad students
• Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences: 3,686 undergrad students
• Liberal Arts: 2,811 undergrad students
• Business: 2,582 undergrad students
• Architecture and Environmental Design: 1,961 undergrad students
• Science and Math: 1,961 undergrad students

STUDENT HOME LOCATION BREAKDOWN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sacramento area</td>
<td>8.7 percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Francisco Bay area</td>
<td>32.4 percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Joaquin Valley area</td>
<td>9.8 percent</td>
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<td>Central Coast area</td>
<td>7.9 percent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Los Angeles area</td>
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<tr>
<td>San Diego</td>
<td>7.9 percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other California counties</td>
<td>6.8 percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out of state</td>
<td>6.4 percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International</td>
<td>0.1 percent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Average age of all enrolled students: 21 years
Average age of full-time undergraduates: 20.5 years
Average age of students living on campus: 18.8 years

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Open House Weekend
Fri. April 18 • 10
Sat. April 19 • 10
Sun. April 20 • 10
El Corral Bookstore
Open House Weekend Hours
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Sat. April 19 • 9:00am - 5:00pm
Sun. April 20 • 11:00am - 2:00pm
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10:00am - 8:00pm
10:00am - 5:00pm

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Army ROTC. Start Strong.
Tour
continued from page 34

put Market, hopefully you won't have much need to visit this building. I've been there once, but it was only to pay off a stack of parking tickets. Don't be like me — buy a parking permit at the beginning of the school year and maybe you won't have to come over here at all.

Stop 9: Building 47
For the last stop on our tour, I've chosen the infamous Faculty Offices North building.

When you inevitably have to visit a professor during office hours, chances are you will have to brave the catacombs that make up this ridiculous structure.

Nicknamed "The Maze," building 47 is a complex puzzle of hallways, hidden rooms and disappearing staircases. It's as if the Winchester Mystery House and an M.C. Escher print had a demon love child.

It's definitely an interesting and aesthetically pleasing building, but just be aware that once you go in, you may not be able to find your way out. When scheduling an appointment with a professor, allow yourself a few extra minutes to brave the labyrinth and fight the Minotaur that guards the halls.

So that concludes our extremely abridged tour of campus, and now that we are done, I would suggest that you take a quick, tour of campus. Maybe check out some of those classrooms and research facilities we skipped. Our campus also contains a radio station!

Dustin Stone is a journalism senior and a reporter for the Mustang Daily.

Grades
continued from page 31

Sometimes work gets hard, especially if it's scary science or messy math. There's no need to be an academic martyr; call up the team, order a pizza and get in a big circle of comfy chairs and heavy textbooks. And even if you think you'd do better on your own, one of the best ways to internalize complex information is to teach it to others. You might have a little fun, too, especially if you think that "tangent to your curves" joke is hilarious.

If you're this far down the ladder of options, a few points of extra credit aren't going to save your hide. And the professor probably doesn't care that much about you, especially if you're a real slacker. But if you genuinely don't understand the material, he or she can probably be a pretty useful tool — bring specific questions to office hours for some helpful explanation. But if it's just a case of not putting in the time, you probably won't find any love there. Good luck anyway.

Drinking
continued from page 29

Loisel also said parents putting restrictions on their kids could have negative effects. "(It seems like) people who have strict parents would go crazy in college, thinking that they can do it now because they don't have parental authority," Loisel said.

Arruebarrena said his parents expected him not to drink in high school.

"Neither of my parents drink, and they really didn't want me to drink," Arruebarrena said. "They would have been disturbed if I drank in high school.

"So if I drank, I would have been the one to take responsibility," Arruebarrena said. "I like the way it developed. I got to college, and drinking is just a different stage and a different experience."
Girls & Sports by Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein

TODAY'S THE DAY YOU ASK HER OUT. YOU CAN DO THIS, HARRIS!

U M,... CLARISIA, WAS WONDERING IF...

OUR FIRST SASHA IS THE WORST AS IF A GUY ISN'T PERFORMING WELL I SAY GET RID OF HIM IMMEDIATELY!

SORRY, SO WHAT NEED YOU GOING TO ASK ME?

TODAY'S THE DAY YOU ASK HER OUT. YOU CAN DO THIS, HARRIS!

YOUR TASTE IN MUSIC...

NO, OR I'D HAVE enclosing him with those who have more money!

Sorry, so what need you going to ask me?

Last Ditch Effort by John Kroes

According to this article, it's better to take the higher route. Uncontrollable about where we'll go, but we're sure we're in business.

WHAT ABOUT HOPING WOULD YOU HAVE CHOSEN WHO WERE MORE MONEY?

WHAT A MEANS?

AW,  CLARISIA, WAS WONDERING IF...

OUR FIRST SASHA IS THE WORST AS IF A GUY ISN'T PERFORMING WELL I SAY GET RID OF HIM IMMEDIATELY!

SORRY, SO WHAT NEED YOU GOING TO ASK ME?

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YOUR TASTE IN MUSIC...

NO, OR I'D HAVE enclosing him with those who have more money!

Sorry, so what need you going to ask me?

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz  No. 0307

Across
1 Climbing Mt. Everest, for Sir Edmund Hillary: drama
2 Stanford of Stanford University: syllable
3 Remotely accessible?
4 Evidence that one is short
5 A foot has 305 of these; Abbr.
6 Like most medicine bottles
7 Things in nngs
8 Big name in college guides
9 Old one, along the Oder
10 Holmes fought him
11 50-50 proposition
12 Hand holding
13 Passing subject?
14 Artist Wyeth
15 Not lit
19 Princess Celia's creator
22 Nine (London district)
23 Bug zapper?
25 "Deer" ones

Down
1 Remote access?
2 Stanford of Stanford University: syllable
3 Base runners?
4 Evidence that one is short
5 A foot has 305 of these; Abbr.
6 Like most medicine bottles
7 Things in nngs
8 Big name in college guides
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States consider allowing guns on campuses

Thao Le

Headlines about violent killings on college campuses have become almost common. Currently, 12 states are considering allowing people to carry weapons on campuses. This may serve as a defense tool, but allowing guns on campus will not resolve the problem, according to some people at Cal State Fullerton.

USA Today said the Virginia Tech shootings last April sparked two dozen schools to consider allowing weapons on public universities. State legislatures are considering implementing a bill that would allow faculty, staff and students to carry concealed weapons.

Allowing guns on campus, however, will not help the problem, according to the Cal State Fullerton Student Affairs Committee. "It fills the public with thinking they've solved the problem," he said.

"It's a false sense of security," he said.

Students Concealed Carry on Campus (SCCC), an Internet-based organization, supports the right for those who are licensed handgun holders to carry weapons on college campuses. The group is holding their second nationwide vote on April 21 to 25, calling for students to wear empty holsters to class. The first national "Empty Holster Protest" took place October 22-26 last year.

The organization is not only trying to increase support on college campuses, but also trying to voice it to others as well.

"We're lobbying state legislators and school administrators in 'right-to-carry' states to vote for state laws and school policies that would allow concealed [weapons] on college campuses," said W. Scott Lewis, the media coordinator for SCCC.

Twelve states have bills pending, including Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia and Illinois. South Dakota's bill was opposed by the State Senate Alliance Committee with a vote of 7-1. The other states include Arizona, Kentucky, Ohio, Wisconsin, South Carolina, Washington and Virginia, according to USA Today.

CSUF English major Laura Durica, 23, does not like the idea of allowing students to carry guns to school. "I wouldn't feel any safer," Durica said. "But I wouldn't feel scared if I saw someone with a gun because you would know who has it." With more than 18,000 members nationwide in its Facebook group, 2,500 students have signed up to participate in the protest on over 500 campuses, Lewis said.

Legally licensed gun holders should have the right to defend themselves on campuses because they can be armed nearly everywhere else, according to SCCC.

"Arbitrary 'gun free' zones only serve to stack the odds in favor of dangerous criminals who have no regard for state law or school policy," Lewis said.

Among the 500 campuses joining the protest, universities in California that will be joining the demonstration in April include UCLA, USC, UC Santa Barbara, UC San Diego and Cal State Northridge, according to the SCCC Web page on Facebook.

Since SCCC's kickoff, Lewis said legislators in the states have considered SCCC's argument. Serious debates have ignited among administrators and board members at a few smaller colleges.

Lovell suggests that the problem lies deeper than just allowing guns on campuses and that passing a new law would not make it any different. "It fills the public with thinking they've solved the problem," he said.

"The energy would be better spent on bigger problems, those that actually take away people's lives every day," Lovell said. "If we want to avoid a premature death in the U.S., we have to target the real killers," Lovell said.

"Things such as lack of access to healthcare, car accidents, heart disease — those are the stories we should be focusing on."

Making new laws is pointless when people cannot even abide by the existing ones, Lovell said. Laws are always broken.

Opponents of SCCC believe that with more guns on campus, the level of violence may increase. Lewis, however, said otherwise. Lewis suggested that there is no evidence to show that allowing concealed guns on college campuses would lead to more violence.

"Though we can't say whether (carrying handguns) could prevent or mitigate any particular school shooting, sexual assault or hate crime, we can say that (carrying handguns) has the potential to even the odds," Lewis said. Marketing major Eugene Kwon, 22, is also against the idea of permitting guns on campus.

"It would distract me from my classes," Kwon said.
While baseball, softball, golf, tennis and track and field wind down their spring seasons at Cal Poly, it can't hurt to take a look ahead to the fall and winter sports on the horizon.

Football
A year after finishing with the second most productive offense in the entire Football Championship Subdivision, 10 Mustangs starters return on that side of the ball in 2008, and by the looks of their schedule, they'll need every one of them.

Bookending what Cal Poly head coach Rich Ellerson calls one of the toughest schedules in the country are contests at Football Bowl Subdivision foes San Diego State on Aug. 30 and Wisconsin on Nov. 22.

The 11-game slate currently includes two byes, although the athletic department is still conducting a search for a 12th opponent, which could add to the Mustangs' playoff hopes, considering they'll face Montana (11-1 in 2007) and McNeese State (also 11-1) in the two weeks following the San Diego trip.

Cal Poly, which finished last season 7-4 and ranked No. 24 in the Sports Network poll, compiled 457.1 yards per game to finish second in the FCS behind national champion Appalachian State's 486.3.

That leaves most of the Mustangs' questions on defense. On that side of the ball, Cal Poly returns just five starters from a unit that finished 62nd in the country a year ago, allowing 376.4 yards per outing.

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Guns
continued from page 41

Learning,” Kevin said. “And I wouldn’t feel safe.”

Safety was the dominant issue on all ac-
counts.

The idea of carrying a concealed weapon on college campuses is a defense mechanism. Those who already hold a valid license are educated about the weapons, and usually people over the age of 21 should be able to carry a concealed weapon, Lewis said.

“It could give students or faculty facing an
armed gunman some recourse other than hiding
under their desks, hoping not to die,” he said.

Currently, 11 U.S. colleges, including Colo-
rado State University, Blue Ridge Community
College in Va., and all nine public universities in Utah alone, concealed weapons on their cam-
puses, Lewis said.

Those have not been as reports of gun vio-
ence or incidents since those schools have al-
lowed concealed weapons on campus, Lewis
said.

“If there’s no evidence to suggest that it will cause problems, and if it has the potential to save lives, why not allow it?” said Lewis. “Why not take the advantage away from those who seek to harm the innocent?”

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**Review**

**Women’s Volleyball**

Only libero Kristin Jackson and setter Chelsea Hayes graduated from the Mustangs squad that made its first regional postseason appearance since 1985 and lost in the Sweet 16 to top-seeded Stanford.

Prior to getting there, the two-time defending Big West Conference champions placed a program-record six players on the all-conference team and posted a 14-match winning streak, the school’s longest since 1981.

While dominating Big West play, the Mustangs set school records for Big West victories (15) and winning percentage (.938).

Two of Cal Poly’s key contributors, senior opposite Kyle Atherton (the reigning Big West player of the year) and sophomore middle blocker Dominique Olumofe (the Big West all-freshman team honored), will play with the United States Women’s National A2 Team at the 2008 USA Adult Open Championships, scheduled for May 24 to 31 at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta.

**Men’s Basketball**

A loaded backcourt figures to set the tone for the Mustangs in 2008-09.

Senior Trac Clark and junior Lorenzo Keeler, who shared a team-high of 10.3 points per game this past season, will likely start at point and shooting guard, respectively.

Anchoring the post ought to be senior center Titus Shelton, who started 29 of 30 games while averaging 7.9 points and 4.7 rebounds per outing during Cal Poly’s 12-18 campaign last season.

*see Review, page 45*
A year removed from coming within a win of reaching the NCAA Tournament, the Mustangs fell in the opening round of the Big West Conference Tournament to UC Riverside, 62-54. Both forward spots appear open.

Women's Basketball
Although they finished 13-19 in 2007-08, 11 of the Mustangs' losses were by 10 or fewer points, including three in overtime. In order to emerge victorious from more close calls next season, Cal Poly will be relying largely on a talented frontcourt.

Among those returning will be senior forwards Megan Harrison and Lisa McBride, who led the Mustangs in scoring by averaging 13.3 and 9.5 points per game last year, respectively. They also posted team highs of 6.9 and six rebounds apiece.

Forwards joining them on the block will be sophomore Kristina Santiago, a Big West all-freshman team selection last year, and junior Rebecca Tratter, who was named to the All-Big West Tournament Team after averaging 13.3 points and six rebounds in the postseason.

Three key guards — Sparkle Anderson, Toni Newman and Kyla Howell, who combined for 37 starts last season — have to be replaced.

Wrestling
Of the seven Mustangs whose Cal Poly careers came to a close this past season, the departure of Chad Mendes will likely be felt the most.

Mendes, an All-American and Cal Poly's first Pac-10 Wrestler of the Year, entered the 141-pound national championship match 30-0 before being upset by Jeff Ogilvie of Ohio State, 5-2.

Headlining the Mustangs' returning grapplers will likely be junior 157-pounder Chase Patu, who finished the season ranked ninth in the country.

Men's Soccer
Only three of 33 players graduated from last year's Mustangs, who finished 11-4-4 overall and third in the Big West at 7-1-2.

During the season, Cal Poly won 11 straight at one point, including a 3-2 victory at the expense of UC Irvine on behalf of two scores by Soccer America Freshman All-American David Zamora, and a 2-1 upset
Iraq war leaves students confused about future careers

While students become increasingly wary of weapons jobs after the Iraq war, ethics are leaving many engineers conflicted as well

Nikhil Karamat
THE STANFORD DAILY (STANFORD)

With the Iraq war in its fifth year, technological developments have been key to American military strategy. But while many engineering undergraduates and graduate students express a distaste for direct involvement in weapons design, development of technologies with joint civilian and military applications seems much more palatable.

According to Stanford University Electrical Engineering graduate student Siddhartha Kasiwahala, the overlap in civilian and military technology is staggering enough that many engineering students cannot effectively draw the line.

"For example, I could be involved with a project involved with the design of more efficient solar panels for satellites," Kasiwahala said, "but weapons guidance satellites will ultimately end up using solar cell technology used by commercial satellites. Technology in one context can easily translate to another."

Stanford engineering undergraduates, especially those involved in research, highlighted how the defense industry allows commercial technology to flourish because of its funding. While some were opposed to participating directly in weapons design, they noted that commercial technologies often started out as a military technology.

"You never know when military research will become mainstream," said Mechanical Engineering student Sunthar Premakumar '08. "The Internet started out as some army project, and look at how important it is now."

see Iraq, page 47
Other undergraduates were more focused on the importance of defense funding at the University level. Students like John Laxson '10, an undeclared undergraduate thinking about majoring in Materials Science and Engineering, noted that war has historically accelerated the pace of technological development.

"I don't see anybody avoiding it," Laxson said. "Wars have a long history of promoting innovation in technological fields. In that sense they are very well-funded, and often in a position to make improvements in our lives."

Others like Mechanical Engineering student Lewis Horn '10 noted that Stanford is heavily supported by funding from defense-related projects for the government, and that many labs would be severely hindered without such funding.

"In the lab I am working in, some things are actually funded by the Department of Defense," Horn said, "but generally, I enjoy that my research focus has attention and generally don't think of them as being ethically bad."

Horn said that the good attributes of defense research may outweigh the potentially negative attributes. He cited the DMRPA challenge as a project entirely funded by the military that could ultimately go toward the development of self-navigating vehicles.

Though many students pursue research projects supported by the Department of Defense, the war has not enhanced student interest in defense. Several Stanford professors found themselves unable to see any particular trends in students pursuing defense-related jobs or internships.

"Unfortunately this is something that I know nothing about," said Stanford Electrical Engineering Assistant Professor Shanhui Fan. "None of my graduated students went into defense industry."

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"You never know when military research will become mainstream. The Internet started out as some army project and look how important it is now."

—Sunthar Premakumar
Mechanical engineering major '08

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Cal Poly's Chad Mendes, shown at the NCAA Championships in March, finished last season 30-1 and as the nation's No. 2 wrestler at 141 pounds.

Preview continued from page 45

of defending national champion UCSD before a crowd of 7,113 at Alex G. Spanos Stadium, shattering the program's 11-year-old attendance record of 2,694.

Women's Soccer
Five seniors will be lost from last year's 9-9-3 Mustangs, including two All-Big West Conference Second Team selections — goalkeeper Ali Travels and forward Sharon Day — and one All-conference honorable mention, midfielder Erica Zambahlen.

The rest of last season's squad, though, which went 5-2-1 in Big West play, finished 7-1-2 overall and was a game away from advancing to the NCAA College Cup.

Men's Cross Country
A mere two seniors graduated from 2007's Mustangs, who took 11th at the NCAA Championships to outdo their national ranking of 22 entering the race and take second in the West Region.

One, however, was Phillip Reid, who finished 33rd overall en route to his second All-American selection in as many years.

Swimming and Diving
A cast of freshmen broke several school records at Cal Poly this past season, including Matthew Waggoner, who was named the 2008 Big West Conference Freshman of the Year.

At the conference championships, he tallied more points than any other freshman in the Big West and was its only freshman to win an event.

During the regular season, Waggoner broke Cal Poly marks in the 1,650-meter freestyle, the 1,000 and the 500.

Altogether, the men's and women's teams chalked up 17 Mustangs records at the conference championships, and a trio of them — Waggoner and fellow freshmen Peter Kline and Glorita Benefield — qualified provisionally for the 2008 NCAA Championships.

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