A large amount of drugs were found after San Diego police raided nine locations near SDSU.

For one Hipster Bullshit columnist, Port O’Brien’s ‘All We Could Do Was Sing’ is a masterpiece.

Poly softball team excels in conference play.

THURSDAY’S WEATHER
Sunny
High 67°/Low 47°

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Police crack down on Cal Poly parties
Rachel Glas

Cal Poly students can expect to see a host of new police measures designed to crack down on parties in their residential neighborhoods when school starts up in fall 2008.

Thanks to Measure Y, the half-cent sales tax measure passed in November 2006 and implemented in April 2007, the San Luis Obispo Police Department has been able to hire six new law enforcement officers and is recruiting one more.

At a special city council meeting held Tuesday at City Hall, police Chief Deborah Linden detailed the police department’s plans to use these new officers.

Her primary concern: Improve neighborhood wellness, or — as Cal Poly students might see it — crack down on loud parties.

The plan is to create “neighborhood teams” of officers that travel residential neighborhoods from late afternoon until 3 a.m. the following morning, Thursday through Saturday. These specially trained officers would be assigned to different neighborhood beats to develop relationships with the communities in that beat.

“We created these neighborhood teams with the mission to work proactively with the residents and improve their quality of life and decrease disturbances,” Linden said.

The main problems she cited were loud music, parties and alcohol violations, though she also mentioned automobile burglaries and theft as issues to be developed.

Linden hopes that these neighborhood teams can stop problems before they start.

“If we find out that someone is hosting a party, through passing out flyers or bringing alcohol into their homes, we want the officers to talk to them early about noise and alcohol restrictions before a problem occurs,” she said.

Obama wins NC primary; Clinton leads in Indiana

David Espo and Liz Sidoti
ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS — Barack Obama swept to victory in the North Carolina primary Tuesday night and declared he was closing in on the Democratic presidential nomination.

Hillary Rodham Clinton led narrowly in Indiana, struggling to halt her rival’s march into history.

The Associated Press declared he was winning 75 percent of the vote, compared to Clinton’s 24 percent.

In Indiana, Obama swept to victory in the North Carolina primary Tuesday night and declared he was closing in on the Democratic presidential nomination.

Obama was gaining more than 90 percent of the black vote in Indiana, while Clinton was winning an estimated 61 percent of the white vote.

The elections occurred, she said.

There returns from 79 percent of the precincts showed Clinton with 52 percent of the vote to 48 percent for Obama.

In North Carolina, Clinton won 60 percent of the white vote, while Obama claimed support from roughly 90 percent of the blacks who cast ballots.

Obama’s delegate haul edged him closer to his prize — 1,785.5 to 1,639 for Clinton in The Associated Press count, out of 2,025 needed to win the nomination.

He has long led Clinton among delegates won in the primaries and caucuses, and has increasingly narrowed his deficit among superdelegates — who will attend the convention by virtue of their status as party leaders. The AP tally showed Clinton with 265 superdelegates, and Obama with 255.

The impact of a long-running controversy over Obama’s former precinct worker Pat Bartels helps Julie Jacobs sign in to vote as she balances her daughter Brooklyn, 1, on Tuesday in Garrett, Ind.

see Police, page 2

see Primaries, page 2
The questionnaire used to learn about voter motivation did not include any questions about the gasoline tax. In Indiana, about one in five voters said they were independents, an additional one in 10 said Republican. Only Democrats and unaffiliated voters were permitted to vote in North Carolina.

Voting in Indiana was carried out under a state law, recently upheld by the Supreme Court, that requires voters to produce a valid photo ID. About a dozen nuns in their 80s and 90s at St. Mary's Convent in South Bend were denied ballots because they lacked a possible to judge.
Wednesday, May 7, 2008

**WORD ON THE STREET**

"How influential is the ASI president?"

Compiled and photographed by Dustin Stone

"I know who's running, but I don't know what duties they have."
— Spencer Widin, biology sophomore

"Other than what I've read in the paper, I haven't really seen a presence of the ASI president."
— Zach Steeber, civil engineering freshman

"I would say the office has minimal influence. In the four years I've been here, the promises have all either been broken or coincidentally already in progress."
— Jordan Dorenfeld, business junior

"I actually don't know what the ASI president does."
— Kendra Nomoto, graphic communication sophomore

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Dietitian hired to arrest officer obesity

Shaya Tayefe Mohajer
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rana Parker tells pudgy police they have the right to remain chubbily, but it can and will be used against them on the streets of Los Angeles.

The dietitian lays down the law for recruits, veterans and top brass, letting them know that eating right can help them do a better job and could even save their lives.

"I joke with them that I'm not the food police, that I'm just here to give them information, education and hopefully give them motivation to help themselves," she said.

While overweight officers aren't unique to Los Angeles, the police department believes it's the first to hire a full-time diet coach, Rana Parker.

Faced with a need for more officers in recent years, the LAPD briefly relaxed body fat limits from a maximum of 22 percent for men and 30 percent for women, drawing the federal civil rights complaint.

"For the longest time in law enforcement we trained our people in policing, but we didn't teach our people about how to maintain their mental and physical well-being," he said.

Though Parker's met some resistance to her belt-tightening measures, she's also recognized diet as an important issue.

While overweight officers aren't unique to Los Angeles, the police department believes it's the first to hire a full-time diet coach, Rana Parker.

Francisco Rubio Jr., a 30-year-old recruit, said he used to look at it as a joke.

"Now I tend to look at it as a heart attack waiting to happen."
With food costs rising, ethanol benefits questioned

H. Josef Hebert
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Just months ago, ethanol was the Holy Grail to energy independence and a "green fuel" that would help nudge the country away from climate-changing oil and gas...but not anymore.

Democrats and Republicans cheered its benefits as Congress directed a fivefold increase in ethanol use as a motor fuel. President Bush called it to key to his strategy to cut gasoline use by 20 percent by 2010.

But now with skyrocketing food costs — even U.S. senators are complaining about seeing shocking prices at the supermarket — and hunger spreading across the globe, some lawmakers are wondering if they made a mistake.

"Our enthusiasm for corn ethanol deserves a second look, That's all I'm saying, a second look," said Rep. Jane Harman, D-Calif., at a House hearing Tuesday where the impact of ethanol on soaring food costs was given a wide airing.

Democrats and Republicans cheered its benefits as Congress directed a fivefold increase in ethanol use as a motor fuel. President Bush called it to key to his strategy to cut gasoline use by 20 percent by 2010. Meanwhile, Sen. John Thune, R-S.D., is gathering senators' signatures on a letter to his strategy to cut gasoline use by 20 percent by 2010.

The uproar over ethanol is clearly gaining momentum.

Democrats and Republicans cheered its benefits as Congress directed a fivefold increase in ethanol use as a motor fuel. President Bush called it to key to his strategy to cut gasoline use by 20 percent by 2010. Meanwhile, Sen. John Thune, R-S.D., is gathering senators' signatures on a letter to his strategy to cut gasoline use by 20 percent by 2010.

"Corn ethanol was presented as an almost Holy Grail solution," said Charlotte Duvall of the Environmental Protection Agency, which is responsible for setting the standards. "But I believe that it's today far outweighed in benefits... We need to revisit this... and back up from the food to fuel policy."

But Barton is not so naive to think his bill has a chance. House Demo­cratic leaders have given no indication of retreating from the ethanol re­quirement. Still, said Barton, "it's worth putting in."

And congressional unease about the food-for-fuel debate is showing it­self in a number of places.

In a massive farm bill — for the first time in memory — lawmakers recently trimmed back the federal tax subsidy for corn ethanol, reducing the tax break from 51 cents to 45 cents a gallon. US-AP-

The leader of an apocalyptic sect in northeastern New Mexico was arrested Tuesday and charged with felony sex crimes against children.

State police arrested Wayne Bent, 66, on three counts of criminal sexual contact of a minor and three counts of contributing to the delinquency of a minor, said Department of Pub­lic Safety spokesman Pete Olson.

Bent was being held on $500,000 bond at the Union County Deten­tion Center in Clayton and was scheduled to be arraigned on Thurs­day.

JACKSON, Ga. (AP) — A Georgia man who killed his line-in-girlfriend was executed Tuesday, the first inmate put to death since the US Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of lethal injections. William Earl Lynd was pronounced dead at 7:35 a.m. EDT, Georgia Department of Corrections spokeswoman Mallicie McCord told The Associated Press.

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — A Tulsa businessman who uses the phrases "Barkstrong" and "Purr­strong" on his animal charity's pet collars has sued the Lance Armstrong Foundation in a trademark dispute.

Chris Ohman filed his suit on April 24 in federal court, and claimed the Armstrong Foundation — which has marketed popular yellow "LiveS­trong" wristbands — is infringing on Ohman's intellectual property rights because it also sells pet collars with the "LiveStrong" motto.

GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP) — Finally, David Winthoft shunned his Brett Favre jersey for the first time in 1,581 days. The Ridgefield, Conn. boy, 12, wore the No 4 jersey every day since receiving it as a gift for Christmas in 2003. David's father, Chuck Winthoft, said Monday that his son's last day wearing the jersey was April 23 — his 12th birthday.

Winthoft conceded his son was starting to become more concerned about his appearance after the jersey barely came down to his belt line.

SACRAMENTO (AP) — A California lawmaker wants to ban notori­ous from holding pets on their laps while driving and getting caught can cost a $35 fine. The bill passed the Assembly on a 44-11 vote on Mon­day, and heads to the Senate. Assemblyman Bill Mazer said his legislation has nothing to do with pet-loving celebrities who are pho­tographed driving around Los Ange­les with their small dogs.

Mazer said he introduced the bill after seeing a woman driving with three dogs on her lap.

DENVER (AP) — Waving the Tibet flag, or paying tribute to the Dalai Lama during the medals cer­emony will be against the rules at the Beijing Olympics, though the penalties for those infractions remain unknown.

With fewer than 100 days until the Beijing Games, the International Olympic Committee clarified its protest rules Monday, saying that ath­letes' external appearance, clothing and gestures would be scrutinized at Olympic venues.

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — A half-dozen police officers kicked and beat three men pulled from a car during a traffic stop as a TV helicopt­er taped the confrontation.

The video, shot by WTXF-TV, shows three police cars stopping a car Monday, two days after a city of­ficer was shot to death responding to a bank robbery.

The tape shows about a dozen officers gathering around the vehicle. About a half-dozen officers hold two of the men on the ground.

POLICE BLOTTER

May 5, 23:29 - Officer arrested a subject for public intoxication at the Recreation Center.

May 5, 14:53 - Officers responded to a complaint of a transient causing problems in the area of the railroad tracks near the stadium. Officers searched the area, located the subject and directed him to leave the area.

May 4, 23:37 - Officer investigated a complaint received from the security guard at the Poly Canyon Village construction site regarding three subjects trespassing in the area.

May 2, 09:44 - Officer arrested a subject for disorderly conduct; he was discovered taking pictures of people in a restroom at the university dining complex.

May 1, 23:17 - Officer arrested a subject attempting to steal parking sign(s) in Lot A-1.

April 29, 20:08 - Officer responds to a medical aid call where a subject cut his/her own finger on a can. The subject refused treatment and opted for private transport to a physician.

April 29, 16:38 - A non-injury traffic collision occurred in the G-02 parking lot when a vehicle rolled out of its space and struck a parked vehicle.
Drug probe at San Diego State University nets 75 students

Allison Hoffman

San Diego State University students were arrested and six fraternities were suspended after a sweeping drug investigation found that some fraternity members openly dealt drugs, and one even sent a mass text message advertising cocaine, authorities said Tuesday.

A five-month investigation prompted by a cocaine overdose death last year led to the arrests of 65 people, 7% of the San Diego State student body. A second drug death occurred while the investigation was ongoing.

Twenty-six students were arrested early Tuesday in raids at nine locations including the Theta Chi fraternity, where agents found cocaine, ecstasy and three guns. Eighteen of them were sentenced on warrants for selling to undercover agents.

Two kilograms of cocaine were seized in all, along with 350 ecstasy pills, marijuana, psychedelic mushrooms, hash oil, methamphetamine, illicit prescription drugs, several guns and at least $60,000 in cash, authorities said.

Profs may have been used to finance fraternity operations, they said. Those arrested included a student who was about to receive a criminal justice degree and another who was to receive a master’s degree in homeland security.

"A sad commentary is that when one of these individuals was arrested, they inquired as to (whether) or not his arrest and incarceration would have an effect on him becoming a federal law enforcement officer," said Ralph Partridge, special agent in charge of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration in San Diego.

During the probe, investigators discovered that in some fraternities most members were aware of "organized drug deals occurring from the fraternity houses by its members," the DEA said in a news release.

"Undercover agents purchased cocaine from fraternity members and confirmed that a hierarchy existed for the purpose of selling drugs for money," the DEA said.

The district attorney’s office said search warrants were served in San Diego and suburban La Mesa, including the Theta Chi fraternity house and several apartment complexes.

A member of Theta Chi sent out a mass text message to his "faithful customers" stating that he and his "associates" would be unable to sell cocaine while they were in Las Vegas on weekend, according to the DEA. The text promoted a cocaine "party" and listed the reduced prices.

San Diego State suspended Theta Chi and five other fraternities Tuesday pending a hearing on evidence gathered during the investigation. Members of at least three fraternities were arrested, according to authorities. Investigators infiltrated seven fraternities in the course of the probe.

The undercover probe, dubbed Operation Sudden Fall, was sparked by the cocaine overdose death of a student in May 2007, authorities said. As the investigation continued, another student, from Mesa College, died of a cocaine overdose at an SDSU fraternity house, the DEA said.

Two defendants in the case pleaded not guilty to drug charges Tuesday. Diego Superior Court — Patrick Hawley to selling cocaine and Omar Castaneda to possession of cocaine.

Theta Chi’s San Diego chapter declined to comment. The chapter occupies two low-slung homes a block off Fraternity Row, with large red-and-white Greek symbols propped on the roof.

"We’re talking to our advisors," said John Phillips, a past president of the chapter.

Dale Taylor, the fraternity’s national executive director, said he was "obviously shocked and saddened" by the allegations.

Theta Chi’s San Diego chapter declined to comment. The text promoted a cocaine "party" and listed the reduced prices.

San Diego State University president Stephen Weber, right, and SDSU chief of police John Browning, stood over guns and drugs seized during the arrest of 96 people.

International Briefs

BAHIDG (AP) — A rocket slammed into Bagh­

dad’s city hall and another hit a downtown park Tuesday as more

"It’s time to hoop it up!"

San Luis Obispo

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television station.

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP) — The Chaiten volcano spewed lava and blasted ash 12 miles (20 kilometers) into the sky on Tuesday, prompting officials to order a total evacuation of a nearby area.

More than 4,000 people had already fled, and Pajonel province Gov. Fernando Aguirre ordered 280 more to leave immediately.

The volcano, one of South America’s tallest, erupted Saturday and has triggered a massive ash cloud across the entire continent and over the Atlantic.

YANGON, Myanmar (AP) — International aid be­

came trickled into Myanmar on Tuesday, but the stricken Irrawaddy delta, the nation’s rice bowl where 22,000 people perished and twice as many are missing, remained cut off from the world.

3,500 US troops to leave Iraq

Bradley Brooks

About 3,500 American soldiers are scheduled to leave Iraq in mid-June, the U.S. military announced as part of a joint Pentagon’s overall reduction in troop strength following last year’s "surge."

"We’re reducing the forces to 140,000 soldiers by the summer — from a peak of about 175,000 in October at the height of the troop buildup in Baghdad and Anbar province."

The departures, part of the 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, will redeploy to Fort Benning, Ga., the military said.

The U.S. sent some 30,000 additional troops into Iraq last year to help stem growing violence. The troop in­

crease, a truce by a key Shiite Muslim militia and the rise of Sunni fighters who allied with the U.S. in the battle against al-Qaida were credited with a sharp decrease in bloodshed during the last 10 months.

The soldiers are part of the third of five "surge" brigades scheduled to leave the country. The other two are expected to return to the U.S. by the end of July. There are currently about 139,000 U.S. soldiers in Iraq.

"The continued drawdown of surge brigades demon­

strates continued progress in Iraq," Brig. Gen. Dan Allyn said in the statement released late Monday. "After July, commanders will assess our security posture for about 45 days and determine future force requirements based on these conditions-based assessments."

"I am delighted that the top U.S. commander in Iraq, has pushed for a so-called "pause" in further redeployment of U.S. troops," Sen. Hillary Clinton said in the same statement released late Monday. "The pause was called for a quicker withdrawal of American soldiers, but commanders on the ground insist the slowdown is needed so a sharp increase in violence is not seen when U.S. forces leave."

The Americans blamed the attack on al-Qaida insurgents, but local police did not speculate on who carried out the killings.

Iraqi police said the attack in Mosul killed three pros­


titutes and wounded two others.

There have been a string of attacks against women

demanded immural in recent months, including the bomb­

ing of hair styling salons and the frequent murder of wom­
en not wearing traditional clothing in the southern city of Basra.

Meanwhile, at least four civilians were killed overnight in the Baghdad Shiite neighborhood of Sadr City, hospital officials said Tuesday. Some 21 people were wounded at the same time in Sadr City, which has seen fierce fighting between the Mahdi Army militia and U.S. and Iraqi troops.

Clashes in the sprawling slum of 2.5 million people that serves as a power base for radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al­

Sadr and his Mahdi fighters have raged for five weeks, since the Iraqi government began a crackdown on the militias in southern Iraq.

Husam al-Rubaye, a Saddam lawyer, suspended his seat in parliament on Tuesday to protest the fighting in Sadr City. He said he held the government of Prime Min­

ister Nouri al-Maliki responsible for the fighting in the slums.

The lawmaker also blamed Iran for interfering with Iraq’s security and said the neighboring nation was caus­ing much of the violence by supplying weapons, money and training to Iraqi militias, a charge U.S. commanders have repeatedly made. Iran denies the allegations.

Meanwhile, a rocket slammed into Baghdad’s mu­

icipal building in the central city. Seven people were wounded in the attack, officials said.

Elsewhere in the capital, a mortar hit a college campus, wounding one person.

U.S. and Iraqi forces raided two police stations and ar­

rested 48 policemen suspected of having links to Shiite militiamen in the Baghdad neighborhood of Shula, a Shiite stronghold, a policeman said on condition of anonymity as he was not authorized to speak to the media. Around the same time in eastern Mosul, two gunmen were killed by police.

North of Baghdad in Tikrit, a car bomb targeting a police patrol exploded in the central part of the city, killing four people and wounding eight others, local police said.

One policeman was among the dead.
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Swing dance enthusiasts will have the chance to show their stuff at various events, competitions and games this weekend at the third annual San Luis Obispo Lindy Exchange.

Have a swingin’ good time

Shannon Boren
MUSTANG DAILY

Those looking to jump and jive this weekend are in luck, as the third annual San Luis Obispo Lindy Exchange will take place in various locations around town for the enjoyment of students and community members alike.

Beginning Friday, the Cal Poly Swing Dance Club and the SLO swing dancing community will host dancing events, competitions and games for both dance-savy and novice movers. The largest event will be a vintage-themed dance held in Chumash Auditorium Saturday night, according to Swing Dance Club president and political science junior Mary Freitag.

"Swing dancing comes from the '20s to the '40s," Freitag said. "It's a vintage dance, so we're having a more formal, dressier theme for it based on the 1939 World's Fair. It will have different exhibits and pictures to help create the atmosphere.”

Tickets for the event will be $15 for the general public, and $12 for Cal Poly students with identification. A free, beginning lesson will be available from 7 to 8 p.m. for those who purchase a ticket and will immediately be followed by dancing festivities until midnight.

Prior to Saturday evening's events, the club will host swing games in Mitchell Park from 1 to 4 p.m., including competitions like the "doughnut dip," which requires dancers to eat a doughnut while being dipped by their partners in an effort to finish first. Prizes ranging from gift cards for local restaurants and stores to T-shirts and even a jar of granola will be awarded to winners throughout the day.

"The whole thing is going to be a lot bigger this year," Freitag said. "We already have a lot more people registered than we've had before; there are more DJs, and a lot more people coming from out of town to dance with us. It's going to be pretty awesome."

Dancing will also take place in Chumash Auditorium from 8 p.m. to midnight on Friday and Sunday, as well as a free dance at Mother's Tavern from 3 to 6 p.m. on Sunday. Prices for the individual dances range from $7 to $15 and can be paid at the door.

Those who pre-register online, however, can purchase admittance to all the weekend's events for a flat fee of $35 and receive a free T-shirt. According to Freitag, more than 100 people have already pre-registered, and the club is expecting more than 150 people to attend throughout the weekend. More details about the event can be found at sloswing.com.

"It's a time for students, the swing community and jazz lovers from all over California to come together and dance," Freitag said. "If you want to learn to dance, if you already know, if you're a senior and you can't dance but you just want to listen to the music and watch — then you should come. There will be something for everyone.”

——Mary Freitag
Swing Club president

Doug Rice is someone who decided to collect the former and turn his findings into a 145-page bathroom/coffee table book.

"From the Stall" showcases some of the graffiti Rice has discovered in mainly university campus and bar bathrooms — all the places where one would expect to find humorous and pseudo-intelligent thoughts.

Although Rice has only been collecting graffiti for a year and a half, the idea came to him when he was attending Oakland University as a student. "It was finals week, and I was in the library, and I had to 'swing by the office.'

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Although Rice has only been collecting graffiti for a year and a half, the idea came to him when he was attending Oakland University as a student. "It was finals week, and I was in the library, and I had to 'swing by the office.'

So I go to the basement floor bathroom and in front of me I read 'Rick Moranis has enormous horse balls,' and at this very moment I was inspired to make a home bathroom reading book of a compilation of all of the unbelievable public bathroom-stall graffiti people write."

Rice visited six colleges in Michigan, a few restrooms in Boston and "God knows how many bars. I found most of my material from the colleges because I think people are more likely to have pens when they shit," Rice said.

Sara Tezel
DAKOTA STUDENT (U. NORTH DAKOTA)

When most people head to the restroom, their main objective is to get in, take care of business and get out as quickly as possible. Occasionally, a bathroom will have something for a person to read, such as a few words someone took the time to write on the stall between chemistry class and English or advertisements for cars, classes and other campus happenings.

Doug Rice is someone who decided to collect the former and turn his findings into a 145-page bathroom/coffee table book.

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——Mary Freitag
Swing Club president

"It's a time for students, the swing community and jazz lovers from all over California to come together and dance."
For students whose idea of cooking is grabbing the phone or finding the keys, help with a little Cal Poly twist is out there. Jackie Oliver, mother of Cal Poly architecture sophomore Sophie Foly, decided to see if publishers had any interest in the book. When an agent rejected her, she decided to do it alone.

She limited costs by using Create Space, an online service through Amazon that allows individuals to self-publish books at a much cheaper price by publishing the material only after it has been purchased online. While the book does have recipes, its most valuable contribution to the kitchen is as a reference guide. The recipe section is divided into two parts: basic and easy but detailed instructions. The materials are simple to digest, and the book is simple enough to fit into any nook or cranny. As far as aesthetics go, the pictures are salivating, which, as any late-night Food Channel addict knows, makes all the difference.

The glossary of terms covers equipment, utensils and cooking terms, including definitions for techniques such as "braising" or "sautee." The ingredients section is extensive, containing information of fruits, herbs and vegetables that includes preparation and quantity tips. The herbs section is especially useful for those who do not know the difference between arugula and arganaga.

"The objective is for it to be a go-to resource that you can use to solve complicated recipes from family or other cookbooks," Oliver said.

Some of the most valuable information "I've Found the Kitchen, Now What?" provides are grocery shopping tips. Even the most novice chef will feel confident in picking out the best available fruit, vegetables and meat.

It also gives advice on staples to keep in your pantry, fridge and freezer that gives the reader plenty of options to make quick, easy homemade meals from scratch. The recipe section is divided into two parts: basic and easy but impressive, the latter of which is a handy tool to use for parents and significant others. All recipes include preparation and cooking times as well as detailed instructions.

"I've Found the Kitchen, Now What?" can be purchased at the www.nowwhatbooks.com

$24.99

Port O'Brien's "All We Could Do Was Sing" turned me back into a 16-year-old holding a copy of Wiznet's "Pokémon." I can be a hipster about it, I can't feed you a bunch of hyped-up bullshit. I'm just entirely embracing it as the best album of the year with fervent, off-putting love. I've heard these songs live more than I've heard any band play any songs live. A tape of the band playing these tunes at KCPR last year is almost permanently wedged in my car's cassette deck. On top of that, the band members are my friends, people I run into at coffee shops and slag Keyston Light with at house shows. The songs still don't fade like the blog era demands for music: we've listened to only a handful of times. The album captures exactly what made this band so pulling for me for the last two years—lyrical quality mixed with raw, Boone-soaked, full-band cohesion. These songs are parts of a long-term lover, breasts and thighs I've known that still unabashedly excite me.

The focus of the album defines post-college emotions better than any in recent memory have. The lyrics draw from principal songwriter Van Pierszalowski's time spent commercial fishing with his father in Alaska. During this time, he spent a few months unable to communicate with his life, band and love. It builds on the cliché of "doing what you have to do versus what you want to do" with full emotional honesty and the deepest of nuances. The songs draw on personalized temporary estrangement, providing a universal template that the separated can't help but lay their emotions upon.

Yes, it's anthemic. But like the best anthemic albums, its power builds upon details thrown off-hand like the blog era demands for music we've come to expect now.

An anthemic album

Port O'Brien's "All We Could Do Was Sing" turned me back into a 16-year-old holding a copy of Wiznet's "Pokémon." I can be a hipster about it, I can't feed you a bunch of hyped-up bullshit. I'm just entirely embracing it as the best album of the year with fervent, off-putting love. I've heard these songs live more than I've heard any band play any songs live. A tape of the band playing these tunes at KCPR last year is almost permanently wedged in my car's cassette deck. On top of that, the band members are my friends, people I run into at coffee shops and slag Keyston Light with at house shows. The songs still don't fade like the blog era demands for music: we've listened to only a handful of times. The album captures exactly what made this band so pulling for me for the last two years—lyrical quality mixed with raw, Boone-soaked, full-band cohesion. These songs are parts of a long-term lover, breasts and thighs I've known that still unabashedly excite me.

The focus of the album defines post-college emotions better than any in recent memory have. The lyrics draw from principal songwriter Van Pierszalowski's time spent commercial fishing with his father in Alaska. During this time, he spent a few months unable to communicate with his life, band and love. It builds on the cliché of "doing what you have to do versus what you want to do" with full emotional honesty and the deepest of nuances. The songs draw on personalized temporary estrangement, providing a universal template that the separated can't help but lay their emotions upon.

Yes, it's anthemic. But like the best anthemic albums, its power builds upon details thrown off-hand like the blog era demands for music we've come to expect now.
Graffiti

continued from page 8

Interestingly enough, Rice has never personally written on a bathroom stall. Maybe this will change as he visits more schools and bathrooms in preparation for his second book, which should be on shelves in the next two to three years. "I encourage people from everywhere to send photos that they take to the Web site (www.fromthestall.com) to get their school on the map and in the next book."

When asked about the purpose of his book, Rice responded, "I think this book is incredible on many different levels. It is a showcase to the mindframe of humans when they are doing their business. It is a form of expression that is very dirty, stinky and fucking hilarious!"

Rice also said that the book serves as a sort of portal into the minds of members of the opposite sex. "If you are a guy and interested in what the girls write in their stalls, or vice versa, this book is for you." Maybe this book is the answer to the always daunting question of how the other sex thinks and acts.

One neat aspect of "From the Stall" is that the end is filled with pictures of non-graffiti-filled stalls in which the owner of the book can legally express their thoughts and feelings. This is an area where the reader can get their "feelings out about an annoying roommate or just draw a picture of their dick."

Speaking of... private information, if this book were to have a rating it would be "R." The book includes many swear words, derogatory slams and numerous naked drawings... pretty much the things that go on in the mind of an average college student.

Don't let this fact cause you to overlook or ignore the book though. It is humorous and at times touching, although the touching moments and thoughtful ponderings sketched on the wall of a dirty stall are often counteracted and belittled by Rice's commentary, appearing on the side of every page.

As one man from Oakland University wrote in a stall, "I can't help but wonder if all the wisdom of the world is etched on some bathroom wall."

Feeling like crap?

Get the day's top stories and more (from home) at www.mustangdaily.net
A gift a mother would love

You may be struggling through your classes, trying to keep on task during the beautiful spring weather, but May probably brings one of the biggest challenges: finding a present for your mother or another maternal figure for Mother’s Day. Mothers always say the same things: “You don’t have to get me anything,” or “I’ll love whatever you get me.” You also know both are not true; the flowers were nice but were cast aside after the newness faded, and she already had the latest Celine Dion CD. This said, take a look at the ideas below to help jumpstart your search for a decent gift that isn’t too impersonal, impractical or unoriginal.

— Sam

1. Give gifts that give more

So your mom already has everything she wants? Don’t waste your money and time giving her something she won’t need — give her the gift of humanitarianism. Lots of charities and non-profits give people the opportunity to give to a needy cause in someone else’s name. For instance, I went to hungersite.com, which raises money for world hunger and other such causes, and bought a month’s worth of food for an Rwandan family as well as a teddy bear for an African child with AIDS. My mother was much happier to receive the certificates with a picture of the Rwandan family than she would if she had gotten a box of candy.

2. Take her to a restaurant

Your mother certainly shouldn’t have to cook on Mother’s Day. Take her out; she would love to spend more time with her little snookums anyway. Ask her where she wants to go or surprise her by taking her to your favorite eatery. There’s no real prep or clean-up you need to worry about either, unless you need to make reservations. However, you might want to cook her a meal yourself, if you dare, to avoid the Mother’s Day busyness at restaurants.

3. Hire a babysitter

If you have a little sibling who sucks the life out of your mother, give her a break and hire a sitter for the night. You might even want to include a free massage or other pampering treatment for her to enjoy on her night out while you’re at it.

4. Take portraits with your siblings or other members of the family

Mothers love photos of their little babies — but they probably haven’t been updated since you were a baby. Make an appointment with your siblings at the JCPenney studio, or even include your mom in the mix by making an appointment for later that she can join in on. Just remember that you get what you pay for; try to find a legitimate photographer who will take a memorable, quality portrait. Also, make sure to get a nice frame to go with it; don’t just pick one up at the dollar store.

Work Hard.

Play Hard.
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Growing old is not necessarily... 

I have been retired from Cal Poly for about 16 years and I wanted to thank each and every one of the Daily reporters who did their story some time ago on the basketball shooting contests in the Cal Poly Recreation Center. She then posted on HubPages under "Don Morris Basketball." Recently, several Cal Poly student competitors have indicated that they have been watching basketball analysis and videos and have challenged the "basketball shooting skills in the Recreation Center" by posting on the HubPages - and it has been lots of fun. Since the article was published in the Mustang Daily and Hub Pages, I have gained another year of basketball experience and now look forward to my 27th year of it all. As stated in the HubPages story, it is my pleasure to give a price of a Gatorade to any Cal Poly student that can best me in three of five Sere Olympic Basketball Shooting Events. The events are free throw shooting, three point shooting, precision shooting, HORSE, and the mini-minute drill. Each of these events has rules set down by the World Senior Olympic Association and they include "no drinking." Please your report for her story and I look forward to them completing challenge of competi- ing with the Cal Poly students in the Rec Center. I usually go on the gym courts in the morning and Tuesday and Thursday late mornings. It is suggested that you see the oldest guy in the gym, and it will surely be this old timer. "Grewing old is not for sustainability, but I know it's very important and I want to learn." My initial reaction was skeptical, but Angela proved me wrong.

Over the few months, Angela attended Empower Poly meet- ings, educated herself about the issues, volunteered at the luncheon, and now is very much busier. Angela's commitment to sustain- ability, but I know it's very im- portant and I want to learn." My initial reaction was skeptical, but Angela proved me wrong.

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For the past few weeks, the national dialogue in this country has been a delusion. People have been talking about pasts, patriotism and elitism while ignoring the critical issues facing this country, such as the ongoing wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, or the deteriorating U.S. economy. To be fair, I understand why certain groups (namely Republicans and the 24-hour news businesses) would prefer to divert attention toward Rev. Jeremiah Wright rather than focusing on the catastrophes they helped create. Nevertheless, when I read that April was the deadliest month in Iraq in more than seven months, I am reminded of Sagan's quote and the need to break this delusional debate. Ultimately, if we are to thrive as a nation, we cannot become immersed in side spectacles while ignoring the realities around us. We need to get back to discussing solutions to our problems, something this column will try to do regarding the Iraq war.

May 1 marked the five-year anniversary of the president's "Mission Accomplished" speech about Iraq; that same day, two suicide bombers attacked an Iraqi wedding ceremony, killing 35 people and wounding 67. The sad truth is, despite heavily investing U.S. blood and treasure, our noble mission in Iraq is far from accomplished. And while the deaths of 50 U.S. soldiers and more than 1,000 Iraqis in April alone disproves claims of "progress,"

Furthermore, Gen. David Petraeus's testimony last month gave little hope to the notion that Iraq is "isp" of this lies in the recent student outcry over the pending contract with JUC in Saudi Arabia. Students wanted a forum to have their concerns addressed when previous attempts to talk about the issue were shut down. Angela was the only member of the Board of Directors who stood up in public repeatedly, not only against discriminatory programs, but also in support of the rights of students to be heard by members of the Cal Poly administration, including President Baker.

One thing is clear when talking to Angela: She looks to take into consideration the many different points of view of the student body. She will not exclude voices that do not agree with her own because she is a true advocate of free speech. Representation that notes diversity of opinion, background and social perspective (as her platform states) is vital to a well-rounded college experience.

A significant part of her platform is her focus on sustainability—a realistic goal with possible solutions. At the risk of sounding like the recent Gingrich/Pelosi or Robert/Sharpton commercials on "Global Climate Change," we're going to tell you why both of us can get behind this platform point. Liberals often discuss their motivations regarding sustainability as being about protecting the environment, as well as alleviating our dependence on foreign oil. To continue that thread, it's safe to say that conservatives would lean toward discussing the ways that sustainability is good for the economy. The more money we can save on energy costs, the better we can stimulate healthy spending in our communities and our individual pocketbooks.

So, we want someone who can walk the walk, and Angela's track record is proof of her dedication to this movement. During her time on the Board of Directors, she co-authored a resolution promoting the Office of Sustainability. And her current campaign includes a pledge to create a campus-wide composting program and recycling bins in every classroom. Improving the Health Center and generating relationships with downtown businesses are formidable ambitions; however, we need to put our energy first to concentrate on campus issues. By dividing the land along ethnic lines, it dramatically reduces the bloodshed by literally putting space between each group, allowing them to govern their own people as they see fit, as opposed to following a central government that is constantly in disagreement over regional policy.

If this plan sounds familiar, it's because it has been successfully adopted in other violent sectarian regions, the most recent being Bosnia in 1995. Thirteen years ago, Bosnia was being torn apart by ethnic warfare and civil war among a handful of ethnic-religious groups. The U. S. eventually stepped in to keep the country whole by declaring Bosnia and Herzegovina into ethnically separated federations amongst the Muslims, Croats and Serbs. Now, more than a decade later, a fragile peace still holds.

Patrick Melton is a business junior and a lib­ ertarian columnist for the Mustang Daily.

"It is better to grasp the universe as it really is, than to persist in delusion." - Carl Sagan, astronomer and astrophysicist

GUEST COMMENTARY

We finally agree

Not surprisingly, as the presidents of the Cal Poly College Republicans and Cal Poly Democrats, we are rarely in agreement. Our paths first crossed in middle school, back in the days when life was so much simpler, when student elections depended on who the nicest person was, or who was more popular, or maybe even who passed out more candy with their name on it. College changed everything. Freshman year, we ended up on opposite sides of the political spectrum. And while our dy with their platform points.
Girls & Sports by Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein

Look, it's time sports people get equal treatment in this society.

Are you sure this unfair treatment isn't just your imagination?

I'd love to dance with you, let me put my drink down first.

Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie at the Adoption Agency

The New York Times Crossword

Across
1. Came down (on) 36. Carry away, in a way
2. Word processing 37. Zebra feature
3. 39. Lunch specialty of an Emmy-winning actor?
4. Of an Emmy-winning actor? 40. Informed about
5. Of an Emmy-winning actor? 41. Popular online magazine
6. Of Part of M.Y.O.B. 42. Dance with
7. A law itself 43. Informed about
8. A law itself 44. Popular online magazine
9. A law itself 45. Part of M.Y.O.B.
10. A law itself 46. Studio sign
11. A law itself 47. Informed about
12. A law itself 48. Popular online magazine
13. A law itself 49. Pass
14. A law itself 50. Clinton cabinet member
15. A law itself 51. Clinton cabinet member
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34. A law itself 70. Clinton cabinet member
35. A law itself 71. Clinton cabinet member

Down
2. Downtime 14. Big Turkish export
3. "No more, thanks" 15. Oracula feature
4. Butchers' offerings 16. Big Turkish export
5. Toiler of yore 17. Mos and mos.
6. Purim's month 18. Big Turkish export
7. Workbench attachment 19. Big Turkish export
8. ___ alcohol 20. Big Turkish export
10. Angered and enraged, e.g. 22. Wall St watchdog
11. Oracula feature 23. More recent
12. Big Turkish export 24. More recent

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0326

Solution, tips, and computer program at www.sudoku.com

Let it out!

Post a comment or send a letter to the editor

Only at www.mustangdaily.net
Bryant has said this was his best regular season and his most enjoyable — very different from his feelings last spring.

First, he challenged the Lakers to upgrade their roster, then demanded a trade.

Things quieted down and Bryant said all the right things during training camp until Lakers owner Jerry Buss said he would listen to trade offers. That upset Bryant again, but he promised he would focus on basketball once the season began. And he did.

After a 9-8 start, the Lakers put it together. The most obvious upgrades were Fisher and Pau Gasol, acquired Feb. 1 from Memphis. The Lakers already had Andrew Bynum, Jordan Farmar and Sasha Vujacic — all former first-round draft choices — when Bryant had his trade last spring. All three, especially the 20-year-old Bynum, showed great improvement, but the 7-footer hasn’t played since injuring his left knee Jan. 13.

Another talented newcomer, Trevor Ariza, has been sidelined since breaking his right foot Jan. 20. Gasol missed nine games late in the season because of a sprained ankle.

Through it all, led by their MVP, the Lakers kept winning. And now they appear to have as good a chance as any team to win another NBA championship.

AP sports writer Jimmy Golden contributed to this report from Boston.

Jeffrey D. Stulberg

One mistake shouldn't cost you your summer.

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**Maiden’s new voyage a success**

**Sara Wright**

For Jenna Maiden, change is a good thing.

The 21-year-old junior has shown she can adapt and thrive in many positions for the Cal Poly softball team, playing as a pitcher, rightfielder and utility player before a successful move to center field this season.

"I wanted to become more of a leader and take the position of a role player," Maiden says. "Whatever positions our coach wanted me to play, I would put forth the energy and hard work to become the best that I could for the team."

Prior to the switch, Maiden collected a team-high in wins in the circle for Cal Poly in 2007 by compiling a 13-4 record while boasting a 2.4 ERA.

Through 43 games this season, the relocated Maiden is second for the Mustangs in batting average (.304) and RBI (23), and has surpassed her 2007 totals in runs, hits, triples and home runs.

Cal Poly head coach Jenny Condon has praised Maiden's improvement upon transitioning to her new role in center field.

"She provides some power and consistency offensively," Condon says. "I just expect her to continue getting better and better, and, as she becomes more confident in herself, to bring a little bit more leadership as a senior."

One of Maiden's best performances this year came in March at the Sacramento State-hosted Capital Classic Tournament, which she entered with one home run and left with three, as well as team-leading totals in runs (six), hits (eight), RBI (11), total bases (19) and slugging percentage (.1.056). She was named Big West Conference Player of the Week the following Monday.

Her versatility was rewarded with three separate All-Big West merits in 2007, including second-team distinction as a pitcher and as an honorable-mention nod as a rightfielder and a utility player.

Maiden's recent accomplishments are especially impressive considering she entered the 2007 season with only five collegiate at-bats.

"My love for this game has far exceeded the struggles and triumphs I have gone through, and I'm so proud of the person and player I have developed into," she says. "Softball has helped me to become a stronger person and deal with everything life has to offer."

Maiden started playing T-ball at age 5 — with boys, she wasn't allowed to play softball until she was 7.

Following a stellar prep career at Righetti High in Santa Maria, where Maiden was a four-year letterwinner and All-Pac 5 League First Team and All-San Luis Obispo County in the West, the 21-year-old junior has shown she can do it. Her team had a great year, finishing first in the Western Conference.

"Many people were doubtful as to whether I would ever start another softball game again," she says. "I feel my hard work and resilience helped me know what kind of softball player I really was."

While Maiden says the season thus far hasn't turned out as well as the Mustangs (22-21) may have planned, she thinks the coming years will put the program on a path toward winning a national championship.

"I am so impressed with the amount of hard work we have all put into this season," she says. "I feel that each and every one of us has a will and desire to win ... individually, we have all done some great things."

Maiden, who hopes to use her experience at Cal Poly to coach softball in the future, has been invaluable as any of those individuals to Condon.

"She definitely leads by example in how hard she works," Condon explains. "I expect there to be lots of leaders next year, Jenna being one of them."

**Bryant wins first MVP award**

**John Nadel**

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Finally, an MVP award for Kobe Bryant.

Regarded as the NBA's best player for several years but never its most valuable, Bryant earned the honor at last on Tuesday after leading the Los Angeles Lakers to the best record in the Western Conference.

He called the award a blessing and an honor and emphasized that he wants another trophy this year.

"It's Hollywood, it's a movie script. The perfect ending would be for us to hold a championship trophy at the end of it," Bryant said at a news conference attended by his wife, two daughters.

"This is an award I couldn't have won on my own. I can't thank these guys (his teammates) enough. These are my guys, these are my brothers. Let's get ready for tomorrow."

The Lakers tried to a 2-0 lead against Utah in their conference semifinal on Wednesday night, Bryant will receive the MVP trophy from commissioner David Stern before the game.

Bryant entered the season as the league's two-time defending scoring champion. He had finished as high as third in the MVP voting twice — after the 2002-03 season, when he averaged 30 points for the first time, and last year when Dallas' Dirk Nowitzki won.

"I don't know anybody who's ever deserved this trophy more. I don't know anybody who's ever worked as hard to accomplish what he's accomplished," said Lakers coach Phil Jackson, who had five-time MVP Michael Jordan with Chicago and was at the Lakers' helm when Shaquille O'Neal won the award in 2000.

Bryant received 82-first-place votes and 1,105 points in the media vote. He was followed by New Orleans' Chris Paul (28 and 889), Boston's Kevin Garnett (15 and 670) and Cleveland's LeBron James (1 and 438).

"I've said since two, three years ago that Kobe Bryant is the best player in the league," James said before the Cavaliers faced the Celtics in Game 1 of their Eastern Conference semifinal series. "He's been the best player the last five, six years. I'm glad he won it. His team had a great year, finishing first in the West."

This season, there was no denying the Lakers' 6-foot-6 star. Los Angeles rose to the top of the West despite key injuries and following Bryant's trade demands last spring when his team was eliminated in the first round by Phoenix for the second straight year.

Bryant averaged 28.3 points, 6.3 rebounds, 5.4 assists and 1.8 steals while playing all 82 games despite tearing a ligament in his right pinkie in February. He put off surgery until after the Olympics.

The knock on the 29-year-old Bryant had been that he didn't make those around him better — not anymore.

"He's deserving in this particular season, with all of the question marks and everything going on, coming into the season and the uncertainty," teammate Derek Fisher said. "Not only did he statistically have an MVP type of season, everybody can reasonably say they were better this year because of what he did. He met the so-called criteria, elevating his teammates' games."

Word leaked last Friday night that Bryant had won the award.

Bryant, second in the NBA in scoring see Bryant, page 15