Graduation rates at all-time high

Will Taylor
MUSTANG DAILY

Cal Poly leads the California State University (CSU) system with 74 percent of students graduating within six years. Provost Robert Koob predicted these rates will continue to rise despite the poor economic environment in California.

Additionally, the freshman retention rate (which measures the amount of Cal Poly students who return for their sophomore year and, Koob said, is strongly influential in graduation rates) from 2008-2009 was at a record high. Of the 3,011 freshmen who enrolled at Cal Poly in 2003, 2,288 graduated within six years, according to a press release from the provost’s office. The standard to Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, which operates under the National Center of Educational Statistics.

Of the 3,575 students who came to Cal Poly in 2005, more than 95 percent (3,450) graduated within four years. This percentage is up from a 15 percent four-year graduation rate 10 years ago.

Koob attributed Cal Poly’s graduation rate to the high-quality students and faculty who care about education, orientation and residential housing programs. These programs are crucial to creating an environment that make students feel comfortable and enables them to succeed. Koob’s goal is to increase the six-year graduation rate 6 percentage points to 80 in the next four years.

Koob plans to raise the rate in part by maintaining and raising an already high freshman retention rate. Students returning that first year is key because of high dropout rates at that time. In 2008, 3, 450 freshmen enrolled at Cal Poly and 91.4 percent returned as sophomores; it is the highest this rate has been in Cal Poly’s history.

Koob said he does not think the current budget deficits will affect the graduation rates or freshmen return rates.

“The standards haven’t changed; it’s our enforcement that seems to be changing,” he said.

In fact, Koob said it should help students who can’t graduate on time figure out early and decide on other plans. This might translate to higher graduation rates.

“The graduation (rate) will go up because the budget crisis will force us to be more selective,” he said. “We’ve gotten so much better information about what each student needs to take when.”

Caroly Moore, program coordinator for Career Services and a career counselor, said there was an increase in 2009 to 2010.

Although the majority of the generosity this season takes place in the spirit of Thanksgiving, Cal Poly journalism senior Eva Sanders and her roommate, Cuesta sophomore Erika Anderson first thought of having the Warm a Cold Shoulder winter clothing drive after noticing the homeless people around San Luis Obispo during summer. Sanders said she wondered how they stayed warm during cold winter nights. Sanders and Anderson got the word out about their clothing drive by posting invites on their Facebook and Twitter accounts. The two also walked through neighborhoods delivering fliers and paper bags. From neighborhoods alone, they collected 50 trash bags full of clothing and almost 150 more after setting up a drop-off location at Meadow Park Nov. 21.

All proceeds went to the Prado Day Center and a Grassroots center in Los Ojos.

“We had a better, more enthusiastic reception than we could have imagined. It’s just so cool that so many people want to help and so many people want to join,” Sanders said.
Grad rates

continued from page 1

significantly more freedom to take classes when she was a Cal Poly student.

"There was no hurry," Moore said. "We don't hang for luxury"

Moore said that Cal Poly still has an approach that fosters stu-
dent and faculty relationships. Job

fairst, orientations and networking

and giving all to the Cal Poly experi-

tence, she said.

"I think that Cal Poly, as op-
pposed to other schools, has a closer

relationship with its students," she said. "My guess, just being here on

campus, is the personal approach we
take to education.

Workshop

continued from page 1

The Pride Center also hosted an

art exhibit recognizing victims

of violence against people who are transgender. It featured hand-

prints with names of people in the

United States who have been tar-
den of violence because they are

transgender, Smith said. 

"We are making a hand-print

for each transgender person who

was physically harmed in the past

year," Smith said. "The lot has

more than 200 names.

The exhibit gives the commu-
nity a chance to contribute. Any-

body who knows a transgender

person who was a victim of an act

of violence can add their name to

the exhibit," Chetto said.

"We hope that this will make

people more aware of the hate

crimes committed against tran-
gender people in the community,

and across the country," Chetto

said.

Transgender Awareness Days

were held in celebration of Na-

tional Transgender Awareness Day

on Friday.

Thanksgiving

continued from page 1

said. 

"We're hoping to make as many

people as warm as possible."

The fraternity members of Al-

pha Epsilon Pi wanted to add fu-
to their donation event. The frater-
nity wanted to do something a little

more creative this year to not only

get participants, but to also make the

event fun and effective. When a brain-

storming session of donation ideas

yielded a Turkey Shootout, it

seemed like the perfect option. The

fraternity members built MayHower

and Plymouth Rock replicas to hide

behind while dressed as pilgrims,
cars of corn and turkeys.

Community members paid $3 for

five water balloons and all the pro-

ceeds went to the SLO Food Bank,
a group that helps deliver almost 4.5

million pounds of food a year to the

homeless and low-income seniors and

families on the Central Coast. Fraternity president Jordan Leib said

the club raised $300-$400. He hopes

to continue it next year. "It was a re-

ally good time. We had dozens of

people come out throughout the

day, and we're going to try to build

it up for next year so that we can

make it bigger for the food bank," Leib

said. "We liked what happened, and

we think we can make it really

good for next year.

The members of Zeta Beta Tau

participated in a turkey drive Nov.

13 The event was sponsored by local

news station KCVO Volunteers col-

lected over $30,000, 300 turkeys and

12-14 boxes of canned food and other

nonperishable items. The fraternity

members worked all day to load
turkeys onto trucks at Sierra Vista

Hospital and collect food in bins at

grocery stores. Fraternity vice-pres-

ident Grant Frick said a lot of the
donations came from anonymous
doctors, radio stations, news stations,

community members and the hos-

pital CEO, who matched the $1,500
donated by doctors. Individual fra-
terity and sorority members also donated

approximately 40 turkeys to the

food bank.

The event is held between the

clubs in the CAF ES to donate

food during other times of the year,

and we think we can make it really

good for next year.

The Collegiate Future Farmers of

America (CFFA) also take pride

in their yearly canned food drive,

the proceeds of which go to the food

bank. The contest is held between

the clubs in the CAF ES to donate

canned food in bins located around

the Alan A. Ehrung Agriculture build-

ing. The winners are based on the

number of the club's bin and its deco-

ration. Club member Ellie Michel
said that although each club would

love to have the bragging rights as-

sociated with being the winner, their

main focus is to donate as much as

possible.

"We try to do our part as well as

we can as college students but it's
definitely important that we help

out the local community.

—Ellie Michel

Agricultural science senior

to get involved in the turkey drive because the fraternity wants to share

with others the blessings they have.

"I think it's important to give

back during all times of the year, and
during the month of the trans-

gender awareness is to give back," he said. "We do things during other times of the year, you just don't hear about them."

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The Collegiate Future Farmers of

America (CFFA) also take pride

in their yearly canned food drive,
State

SAN LUIS OBISPO, Calif. (MCT) — A 19-year-old local college student has been diagnosed with listeriosis, the San Luis Obispo County Public Health Department announced Saturday night.

Health officials strongly suspect that he could have the form of the disease caused by eating contaminated prewashed greens.

Bacterial meningitis is spread in saliva or other oral secretions, usually by coughing, kissing and sneezing, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

MONTEREY, Calif. (MCT) — A state appeals board has ordered reinstatement of eight correctional officials who filed a lawsuit against the Monterey County Sheriff's Office. The case involved a long-running dispute over the handling of a threat against a jail inmate during an unauthorized protest.

The young man was described as a "student at a local college," but health officials would not disclose which one.

Bacterial meningitis is spread in saliva or other oral secretions, usually by coughing, kissing and sneezing, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

National

WASHINGTON (MCT) — Without a vote to spare, Democrats pushed their healthcare legislation over its first obstacle on the Senate floor Saturday, as the chamber voted to begin formal debate of a sweeping measure to guarantee medical coverage for all Americans.

The 60-39 procedural vote — backed by all 58 Democratic and two independent, with Ohio Republi­can George Voinovich not voting — overcame a Republican-led filibuster designed to block consideration of the bill and keep up momentum behind President Barack Obama's top legislative priority.

FORT HOOD, Texas — Maj. Nidal Malik Hasan faces a pretrial confinement hearing Saturday at the San Antonio Army post where he lives paralyzed in a heavily guarded intensive-care unit.

Rep. Michael McCaul, R-Texas, previously told The Dallas Morning News that Hasan wired money to Pakistan, a hallmark of terrorism fundraising. McCaul did not link the trans­fers to U.S.-born Awlaki, whose terrorist ties have been investigated for at least a decade.

Friday's confinement hearing could spell the psychi­atriest's transfer to a jail cell to await trial on 13 counts of premeditated murder, his civilian attorney said Friday.

International

KUWAIT (MCT) — For a second consecutive year, Kuwait dropped in a global corruption ranking, achieving 100 countries, according to a leading anti-graft watchdog. Transparency International (TI), a non-partisan global orga­nization, released yesterday the world index that measures cor­ruption levels in the domestic and public sectors. In TI's annual global Corruption Perception Index (CPI), Kuwait slipped further from 65 to 66 place in a roster of 180 countries. According to the Berlin-based organization fighting worldwide corruption, Kuwait hit the bottom spot as the most cor­rupt country in the Gulf, following Jordan (49) and Tunisia (65). Ku­wait ranks ninth in the Middle East and North African region.

MEXICO CITY, Mexico (MCT) — In 2008, Mexican mi­igrants living in the United States paid $53 billion in taxes, directly and indirectly, which is double the amount of remittances — about $26 billion: they sent home dur­ing the same period.

José Luis Oizard, an economist and expert in migration and de­velopment from the BBVA-Ban­conor Financial Group, said on Wednesday that Mexico-can contrib­ute to nearly 4 percent of the U.S. gross domestic product.

Anticipation high for Obama's first state dinner

Katherine Skiba

WASHINGTON — What's the hottest ticket in the nation's capital? An engraved invitation to Tuesday's White House State Dinner, the first hosted by President Barack Obama. He and the first lady will honor India's prime minister — in a big way, and in their way. In a departure from the most traditional venue, the elegant, high-celled State Dining Room, the Obamas instead will gather with a few hundred VIPs in a huge, heated tent on the South Lawn.

The guest list for the black-tie gala remains a closely guarded secret, so there's heavy speculation about who may turn up. Expect Vice President Joe Biden and his wife, Jill. Look, too, for top Obama aides, such as David Axelrod, Valerie Jarrett and Rahm Emanuel.

One White House veteran, Dee Dee Myers, who served as press sec­retary for Democratic President Bill Clinton, is certain that there's been "revelous" lobbying by lesser mortals seeking an invite.

The dinner is generally drawn ad­ministration officials, members of Congress, the Cabinet and the dip­lomatic corps. Obama donors and corporate titans, Hollywood glamour, athletic greats and leading artists are bound to be thrown into the mix, possibly joined by some academics and journalists.

The gentleman tent, still being as­sembled late last week, affords a bigger crowd than could fit in the State Dining Room, which holds only 140.

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UC Santa Cruz police force demonstrators out of Kerr Hall

J.M. Brown - Santa Cruz Sen­tion Wire Editor

SANTA CRUZ — Demonstrators calling for police officers in riot gear began forcibly removing dozens of barricaded students from UC San­ta Cruz's Clark Kerr Hall at dawn and after an hour-long standoff, students vacated the administra­tion building.

Protesters have been occupy­ing offices in the building for three days in opposition to a $32 percent fee hike, employee furloughs and other budget cuts. Campus officials had warned of possible arrests on Friday but continued to negotiate with students and faculty advocates until Saturday night, when both sides say talks broke down.

After students refused to heed an order from police to evacuate the building at 7 a.m. Sunday, offi­cers moved in with batons to force protesters out, according to several people at the scene.

The 70 students barricaded in­side Kerr Hall with cables and of­fice equipment hurrying the doors eventually left along with 30 stu­dents who had been standing out­side blocking the entrance, said graduate student Don Kingbery, a spokesman for the group. Protest­ers then began marching to Krege Town Hall for what he called a "victory rally."

No arrests were immediately reported, though a faculty mem­ber received minor injuries during a fall from a second-floor railing. While on the phone with the Sen­ator shortly after dawn, Kingbery described a chaotic scene after offi­cers from the University of Cali­fornia police force and Santa Cruz Sheriff's Office arrived.

About 30 demonstrators could be heard chanting "peaceful pro­test" just before Kingbery said offi­cers moved in a line toward the students, who were singing "Let It Be." Kingbery said he watched police strike several students in the chest area with a baton.

He also said officers shoved other students who had amassed on a sidewalk outside an entrance stairwell. Anthropology professor Mark Anderson, who was among several faculty members on site to observe the showdown, was caught in the crush on the deck and fell off the railing several feet to the ground, Kingbery said.

Campus spokesman Jim Burns said he could not verify the level of force used to remove students this

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Dinner
continued from page 3

the toast! And the music? And, chiefly, Did this most memorable of nights have the requisite allure, aura and grandeur?

The morning after, backheads left off the A-list are bound to let off steam. "There's always a few angry calls," Myers says, "because people read the guest list in the morning papers."

But until the dinner is pulled off, the heat is on, perhaps for no two people more than Chicagoan Devere Rogers, the White House social secretary, and Cristita Comerford, the White House's top chef. Others play a key role, such as Capricia Marshall, chief of protocol at the State Department — and a close friend to Myers.

Planners, say Myers, "work their hearts off for weeks!"

Myers was a guest at a few state dinners put on by Clinton and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, who is also secretary of state to Myers. She'll be joined by some friends, such as scholar Martin Pluta, historian for the National First Ladies Library in Canton, Ohio. He edited Dwight D. Eisenhower hosting Queen Elizabeth, Jimmy Carter's dinner honoring Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping and Ronald Reagan having Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

The Obama first, he said, "certainly will be the one to produce the most memories, if not the public."

But the particulars of these and other sought-after details aren't likely to come into focus until Tuesday afternoon. That's when the first lady and others make a presentation on the history and protocol surrounding state visits. She'll be joined by some of the young women involved in the new White House leadership and mentoring program. Others expected to be on hand: White House curator Katrina Schwarz, social sciences freshman Katrina Schwarz, social sciences freshman Jared Lee, environmental engineering junior

COMPILLED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY JENNIFER TITCOMB

President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama attend the Congressional Black Caucus's annual Phoenix Awards dinner at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington D.C.

William Altmann and Tanya Turner, a State Department protocol official. That preview event will be held in the State Dining Room, the same place the Obamas are planning to style the party in their own way.

Tentative plans for state dinners aren't entirely new. For example, President Clinton in his final year in office had about 70 guests under a tent for an earlier Indian prime minister, Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

There are two views when a president takes his guests into his sprawling backyard. You lose the intimacy, history and formality of the State Dining Room, but you gain space for more guests, as well as stylish and you have more freedom in styling the party. Myers said the Clintons heard some complaints about their tented affairs from critics who judged it "too Arkansas, too big and not exclusive enough." In addition, there were "noisy heaters" hauled in to warm the tent, he said.
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Please Enjoy Responsibly
See the Need Week helps homeless in SLO County

Erin Hurley
WEEKLY EDITOR

Student Community Services (SCS) annual See the Need Week drew attention to the very serious hunger and homelessness issues worldwide and in San Luis Obispo. The week was filled with many different events, including speeches from experts, hunger demonstrations and meals at local shelters.

"Most people in San Luis Obispo are fairly affluent and don't realize how much assistance the hungry and homeless really need or the many ways they can help the less fortunate," said Tara Johnston, one of the director co-ordinators of SCS.

See the Need Week offered several opportunities to help, beginning on the weekend of Nov. 14-15 with food drives at local grocery stores like Scolari's Market and Food 4 Less.

"We like to be very community-oriented and participate, and we really support Cal Poly's efforts," said Beth Hatchard, manager of the San Luis Obispo Food 4 Less.

Food and school supply drives see See the Need, page 8

Murphy's rounds out album of the decade series with nostalgic, melodramatic lyrics

Nostalgia is a dangerous thing. The past was not how we remember it, and we simply will never relieve whatever warm-fuzzies we think existed in the nebulous "back then." Example: I will never get that soft-focus childhood Christmas, even after I've eaten a whole stack of Advent calendars in the attempt.

James Murphy, the man behind LCD Soundsystem, knows the allure of such straw-grasping exercises. "Sound of Silver," Murphy's 2007 release, takes a long, hard look at some of the "Millennial" hang-ups: early-onset, pseudo-mid-life crises and nostalgic longing for the ridiculously recent past: "You turned 25, and you're all out of escapers," he sings in "Watch the Tapes," expressing a panicked, melodramatic sentiment that would be absurd except for the fact that it typifies the honest-to-god thinking of a shiny, new adulthood.

The epic pile-driver of the record, "All My Friends," uses sentimentality over raw panic to create a compulsive dance song that elevates "running out of drugs" and drunken treks home at dawn to the stuff of sighing remembrance: the circular, ceaseless piano marching on as endlessly as the days of your life ticking by.

As Murphy layers progressively more chaos into the mix, you can't help but be sucked into mythologizing your own analogous experiences as beautiful and precious, simply because they are gone: "You spend the first five years trying to get with the plan, and the next five years trying to be with your friends again." In fact, listening to this song in the right context, I've found myself overwhelmed with instant produced nostalgia for the present, as illogical as that is.

Similarly, "Somebody Great" has a persistently wistful content and real danceability. I think it's the Glockenspiel that really pulls the whole thing together). The lyrics lend themselves to multiple readings, with the lost "someone," possibly an ex-lover or a recently-deceased mentor: "You're smaller than my wife imagined, still surprised, you were human." "New York, I Love You but You're Bringing Me Down," may be a nostalgic wax for a pre-9/11 NYC, but probably not the one you might expect. Rather than mourning a loss of innocence, this song...

see Murphy, page 8

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Hipster Bullshit
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picture of the day

"Primal Instincts"

by Daniel Trimal
Science-fiction author Stephen King releases 51st novel

Author Stephen King has published 51 novels to date. His latest release, "Under the Dome," came out Nov. 10.

"I knew what was generating the interest anyone else," Stephen King, science-fiction author

See the Need

continued from page 7

were held on campus outside Student Life and Leadership, and all that cool stuff.

book it was O K for critics to like, and all that cool stuff.

The demonstration clarified student Lillian Dennis, who is also a part of the credential program.

the unexpurgated version?" Under the Dome" was released on Nov. 10, 2013, and the unexpurgated version of "The Shining" was released on Nov. 18, 2013.

I went into this with a conscious setting effects. "Under the Dome" is definitely the former. But it is the unexpurgated version!

The original manuscript was longer, but it's not like "The Stand," which was cut by 600 pages. Not that there was anything wrong with it — the kind of book-handling Doubleplay used back then made it impossible to be printed as one volume. So I said yes to the cuts — I needed the money.

When the uncut version of "Under the Dome" was going to win. It's hard; all this stuff becomes obsolete. Things move on. When you write it, you're a prisoner of your time.

I used to write as much as I could to move the book from 1978 to 1988. I didn't want it to be something caught in the past — you want to believe the fluff is happening in the future.

But keeping up with pop culture is more difficult now; things are faster and become passé just as fast.

"If you read "Under the Dome" closely, you'll see my blind spots," Stephen King said. "There's a reference to Facebook, but not to Twitter — that's the Internet I don't understand." He laughs about the one pop-culture event he missed completely: "My sister read it, and said, you know, there's something like this in the Simpson's movies. The whole town is under a dome. At least someone in the book should mention it."

If the movies don't get in front of you while you're typing, politics will.

"In the first draft of the book, the president is consistently referred to as she, because I was convinced women would rule the world," King said. "But I was wrong. It's going to win. It's hard; all this stuff becomes obsolete. Things move on. When you write it, you're a prisoner of your time."

So a lazy son of a gun, eh?

James Lileks

The New Standard (Maidenhead, England)

"You know, I'm a lazy son of a gun."

So says Stephen King, a man who just published a story in the New York Review of Books. He also has a piece in the horror mag Fangoria and a poem in the current issue of Playboy. Anything else under the Dome? His 51st novel, all 1,072 pages, drops this month. He just finished a five-part graphic novel for DC comics, as well. In his spare time, perhaps between putting away the breakfast dishes and waiting for the computer to boot up, he wrote a musical with John Mellencamp.

Lilly: What's that? Let's get the obvious stuff out of the way first. Not that you don't speak to people who expect a creepy guy with a ghoulish laugh probably thinks Vincent Price was the one black cape, casting spells. Stephen King is an affable, funny, gracious, efficient conversational fellow. He could be a guy you worked with in a college restaurant who'd drop the names of all your favorite authors and stuff and had some interesting ideas.

A normal fellow — except for the part about being one of the most successful authors in history, the American answer to Dickens.

His latest, "Under the Dome," might be described as "The Stand Under Glass." It has the epic length and apocalyptic character of his eschatological pandemic classic, but instead of a cross-country trek from a harrowing collapse, the story unfolds under a clear dome that seals off a small town in Maine (just north of Castle Rock, for all you Constant Readers). It can't be breached. There's no explanation.

I wanted to amuse myself, because if it doesn't interest me, it won't interest anyone else.

—Stephen King

How things fall apart, how ordinary folk react to extraordinary, inexplicable circumstances — these are timeless King themes. So perhaps it's apt that they come together in a story that's been working on more than half of his fans have been alive.

I got about 75 pages into it — and then I saw what I was looking at the scope of this was going to be, how many technological issues it raised, and I backpedaled. I'm not a sci-fi writer; I don't know a lot about technology, so I thought I'd try again, set it in an apartment building, and then I wouldn't have to deal with what the weather would be like under a dome. But I didn't like any of the characters, so I put it away.

When he returned to the book years later, he had help with issues more of us as he continued in our jobs the proper way to amputate a leg, meteorology in closed systems and the consumption rate of LG gas, matters which a lot more than what you'd cut off from civilization, all you have is propane, and most of it's been diverted by the bad guys.

But King had the same question at the reads: What caused a typical American town to be cut off from the world on an ordinary October day?

I knew what was generating the book, but I had no idea who or why or what, I think things happen, and we don't understand why one of the great attractions of some stories is the uncertainty.

That's his strong suit, really; the uncertainties provide more delicious shivers than the answers. "From a Buick 8" is a novel about the Metropolitan Police that also happens to be about a car from another world that spews nightmarish flora from its trunk, but no answers. We're not really sure what happened in the '20s at the Overlook Hotel. Why are you Creeping around there? There's a handful of some at the heart of his best stories. Is this any way to go on ahead with a story?" I went into this with a commitment to letting the reader know they found out why it all was happening.

In a book this long, the reader does serve an explanation.

The reader is singular. Not "readers." It's one-on-one relationship. At this point in his career, the Maine rocker is a catchy little thing with a sweet, crazy fan, was the first book it was OK for critics to like, to become self-referential and all that cool stuff.

So when the week ended, anyone tales of things unhappens, and rare papers whose brisk economy identifies the unsettling effects. "Under the Dome" is definitely the former. But it is the unexpurgated version!

The original manuscript was longer, but it's not like "The Stand," which was cut by 600 pages. Not that there was anything wrong with it — the kind of book-handling Doubleday used back then made it impossible to be printed as one volume. So I said yes to the cuts — I needed the money.

When the uncut version of "Under the Dome" was going to win. It's hard; all this stuff becomes obsolete. Things move on. When you write it, you're a prisoner of your time.

So a lazy son of a gun, eh?

Murphy

continued from page 7

pines for the filthy, unfriendly continued from page 7
dance records, right? And how much they spend with socially...so the boring collect / I dôme, but I had no idea who

dome. Hut I didn't like any of the characters, so I put it away.

I hope this week makes Cal

I tried as much as I could to

See the Need continued from page 7

were held on campus outside

Campus Market and Village Mar-

ket, offering students a more direct way to

aid to local food banks. And how much they spend with socially...so the boring collect / I dôme, but I had no idea who

dome. Hut I didn't like any of the characters, so I put it away.

I hope this week makes Cal

I tried as much as I could to

demise them as things you'd take
to occupy the hours on a beach

vocation. "Misery," a lean, horrifying

and grimmly comic account of a

popular fiction writer held captive by

a sweet, crazy fan, was the first book it was OK for critics to like, to become self-referential and all that cool stuff.

Since then, he's alternated

between enormous tales of things unhappens, and rare papers whose brisk economy identifies the unsettling effects. "Under the Dome" is definitely the former. But it is the unexpurgated version!

The original manuscript was longer, but it's not like "The Stand," which was cut by 600 pages. Not that there was anything wrong with it — the kind of book-handling Doubleday used back then made it impossible to be printed as one volume. So I said yes to the cuts — I needed the money.

When the uncut version of "Under the Dome" was going to win. It's hard; all this stuff becomes obsolete. Things move on. When you write it, you're a prisoner of your time.

So a lazy son of a gun, eh?

I kept thinking, Why can't I have all that?" McCormick said.

On Nov. 17, renowned author and social justice advocate Jana-

The demonstration clarified student Lillian Dennis, who is also a part of the credential program.

"I want to be a teacher, and it's so gratifying to know that teachers are being so important to society, she said.

The third part of See the Need block was serving meals at local homeless shelters. On the morn-

ling of Nov. 18, volunteers and

SCS members went to the Prado

Day Center to serve breakfast and

spend time with the clients. Also, on Nov. 20, another group of vol-

unteers went to the Maxine Lewis

Memorial Shelter to cook and

serve dinner.

Shari Worthington, the direc-

tor of Beyond Shelter, a program

within SCS that deals directly with

helping the homeless, said people

should consider volunteering and
donating beyond the holiday.

"This week is about reaching out to the homeless as well as the hungry, especially right around Thanksgiving. I think it's great that people have reached out this week, but they should reconsider that homeless goes beyond just this week - it's always there and al-

ways in need of people willing to help."

Jenee B. Whaley is a KCPR

DJ and "Hipster Bubbles" sound-
mixing volunteer.
Poly student sustainability mindset needs improvement

The time Cal Poly students spend studying for exams, writing research papers, and following Cal Poly's mission statement of learn by doing makes them extremely attractive candidates for employment upon graduation. But what virtue of our time as Cal Poly students leaves us so well off? How do long days and all-nighters translate to a successful education? Although knowledge gained in college gives us an edge when seeking employment, I think we're missing one major component beyond the wealth of knowledge that we acquire from our respective studies. We must develop a unique epistemology of thinking systems that is an understanding of how the world is seen by looking at the components as part of the whole. In this way, it is within our innate ability to devise a mindset for our actions, both personally (as a whole) and within our studies at Cal Poly. I ask this question: Is something missing from our current mindset as students?

Our Personal Lives

Developing a holistic mindset that allows us as individuals to think about our impact on the world is thinking with a split frame of mind. This mindset includes looking inward at our personal actions (micro) and is also looking at our contributing effects at a global level (macro). As individuals in a world economy, each and every one of us holds the power in deciding which products are produced simply by buying them or not. So when a person walks into a retail store and buys something, he or she is approving of the product, how it is made, what materials are in it, the manufacturer and what strains it might leave on the environment both in its production and after it is used, consumed and thus discarded. It is purchasing power that drives the economy. It is the actions that we take as individuals that fuel the innovation toward a more sustainable lifestyle, for consumers, businesses, the government and the world collectively.

Sustainability is Our Future

Although sustainability has just recently found limelight in the mainstream, it is a topic and a way of life that has been part of human civilizations since antiquity. A sustainable mindset is one that seeks to better environmental, economic, cultural and social standards. It is a basic survival skill that invests health, wellness and prosperity of future generations. If we as students develop a sustainable mindset during our studies at Cal Poly, we will have the ability to perceive a sustainable future in which we can all play a part. If agricultural students develop sustainable local agriculture, architecture students design sustainable cities, engineering students demand the most efficient methods for utilizing resources and business students market companies that seek to enhance their sustainability practices, we will be setting the foundation for a sustainable revolution.

Make Sustainability Your Own

I believe we are missing the sustainability element in our mindset as students. So how do we get to that point? As students of a polytechnic university, we have the ability to accentuate a specific line of study. If sustainability is something that you would like embedded into your studies at Cal Poly, ask for it to be taught in your classes. Research like crazy. Learn everything you can about the current happenings of the sustainable movement and bring them into your various classroom discussions. It is a paradigm shift in the way that we must begin to think about our lives and the effect we have on the world. If we understand the impacts of our day-to-day decision making and make the smartest choices possible, we will be living green. It is that simple. We must begin to cultivate this mindset within our own minds in order to live green from within.

Tyler Harrich is a city and regional planning senior, Empower Poly Coalition vice president and Mustang Daily columnist.

If you’d like to contribute to “The Green Spot,” let us know at mustangdaily@gmail.com.

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Poly student sustainability mindset needs improvement

In response to “Health care reform unresolved”

This is a beautiful case. Great article, I have a greater appreciation for hospital symbols now as a universal language.

-Selina

In response to “Art students submit designs for hospital symbol contest”

It isn’t just Republicans’ refusal to raise taxes that has put this state in a budget crisis, its also Democrat’s refusal to cut certain welfare programs, and the people’s decisions to keep incompetent politicians in office.

By making a temporary cut to welfare programs to fund education, we will see a larger educated workforce in the near future, and thus more taxes that can be used to fund the welfare programs. Just because you are a Democrat doesn’t mean you are not allowed to see fault within your own party.

-Chris

In response to “AB 636 could ease CSU budget woes”

Right now we have no other option but to use oil to transport ourselves and our products, right? Are we being forced to use oil? In directly, we have no other choice, our paycheck doesn’t allow it. If this is the case, I think it would be far for oil companies to go up so that the other energy prices can go down and can finally become affordable for the average Joe.

-Jorge

In response to “AB 636 could ease CSU budget woes”

NOTE: The Mustang Daily reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, punctuation, and length. Letters, commentaries, cartoons do not represent the views of the Mustang Daily. Please limit letters to 250 words. Letters should include the writer’s full name, phone number, major and class standing, along with his/her email from a Cal Poly e-mail account. Do not send letters as an attachment. Please send the text in the body of the e-mail.

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Megan Hassler

A 33-18 advantage in free throw attempts helped the Cal Poly women's basketball team edge Pepperdine 62-59 at Mott Gym Saturday.

In the last three minutes of the first half, junior forward Kristina Santiago received the free throw line 12 times. She sunk nine of 14 from the stripe overall.

With four players out with injuries and Santiago playing with a back injury, the team has had to adjust. Players have stepped up to fill the gaps.

"It is always physical, especially when you play a post position, so I was kind of expecting it, but I am always a little cautious because of my back," Santiago said.

The physicality of the game led both teams to the free throw line. "It's just as important tactical as you want it to be," Santiago said. "Most of the time, I can overcome it because I just get used to the fact that I don't really think about it.

After the fouls against Santiago in the first half, the Mustangs continued to try to keep Pepperdine from penetrating the key.

"We definitely wanted to take them out of penetration, that's their game," head coach Faith Mimnaugh said. "In the games we have been watching of them, they live at the free throw line they penetrate the ball so much.

Cal Poly was able to hold off the Waves as they came back in the second half. At the half, the Mustangs held the lead 32-23, but the Waves closed the point gap.


"Rebounding is just my job, so I get on the court and all I want to do is rebound offensively and defensively," Gregersen said. "You need to be a scorer, you don't need to be anything else. You need the boards no matter what.

Junior guard Rachel Clancy said that rebounding was a point of emphasis for the team.

Another point of emphasis is keeping Santiago on the court, said Mimnaugh. "In the games we have played, if Santiago is out of the game, I can overcome it because I just get used to the fact that I don't really think about it.

"It is probably the worst thing as a basketball player to foul out. You kind of feel like you let your team down, you let yourself down, you let the fans down," Santiago said.

Even with a player out of the game, Cal Poly was able to maintain the lead to the end. Knowing the Waves had just come off a 49point loss to Stanford helped the Mustangs focus from the beginning of the game.

"We knew they would be hungry and turning up the pressure right from the get-go," Clancy said.

The Mustangs matched that pressure Saturday. Santiago led the Mustangs with 15 points, followed by Clancy who went 5-6 from the field with 13 points.

Kate Menton led the Waves with 20 points.

The Mustangs host the third annual Courtyard by Marriott Holiday Beach Classic Nov. 28-29. The Mustangs will play Illinois to kick off the competition at 2 p.m. Saturday Nov. 28 in Mott Gym.

"You kind of feel like you let your team down, you let yourself down, you let the fans down," Santiago said. "I just get so focused in the game I can't think about what's going on in the game, she said. "It's all you kind of feel like you let your team down, you let yourself down, you let the fans down".

"I have been on a team that got along so well," Fithian leaves Cal Poly ranked eighth in program history with 1,617 assists and the eighth-best single season total in Mustang history with 1,181 assists recorded during her 2009 junior campaign.

Karina Woelkstein, a psychology junior and libero for Cal State Northridge, said Division I volleyball is more competitive than she expected. Like every team, the Matadors have both lost and beat teams they shouldn't have. "Every game kind of counts," she said. She attributed Cal Poly's win to the Mustangs' ability to pass, set and serve well on the court.

CSUN head coach Jeff Stork clearly summed up the hectic and competitive volleyball season when he said, "You win some, you lose some, and you got to play another one."

The problem with a big diamond is... We'll let you know as soon as we find one.

Volleyball continued from page 12

other player on the court. The lone senior on the team, Friday night was Fithian's final match of her collegiate career. She is the only remaining player from fifth-year head coach Steve Venson's first campaign in 2005.

Fithian said Friday's game was bittersweet and one she will remember out of all the other in her career. Her volleyball career at Cal Poly has taught her life lessons about working on a team and appreciating each part of the game, she said. "It's all about the little moments."

The team's easy demeanor and supportive attitude were obvious on the court; Fithian said they have great chemistry on and off the court. "It's a family," she said. "I've never been on a team that got along so well."
Mustangs fall to Wildcats in season finale

Brian De Los Santos

A 47-14 season-ending loss to Weber State Saturday marked the end of Cal Poly head coach Tim Walsh's first season leading the Mustangs.

The former Portland State head coach led Cal Poly to a 4-7 record, racking up four consecutive losses for the first time since 2002.

Before the Mustangs, Walsh had a 117-82 record in 18 seasons as a head coach. His 14-year stint with Portland State (1978-94) and his four years at Sonoma State (89-92) netted him a 70 career-winning percentage.

His first year at Cal Poly resulted in a 47 winning percentage, 11 points lower than the Mustangs' all-time record as a football team (453-356-20).

Succeeding former head coach Rich Ellerson, who departed last year for Army, Walsh has led Cal Poly's first wireless schedule in 11 years.

Under Ellerson, four-year starters Ranties Barden, James Noble, Stephen Field and Tre'adale Toliver and transfers Ryan Malo and Jonathan Dally departed after an 8-3 season.

This season, the roster featured 64 underclassmen.

Cal Poly held 37 upperclassmen, including 12 seniors who played their final game as a Mustang this weekend. The group included the likes of Jono Grayson, Carlton Gillespie and Jon Hall, among others.

It was deja vu for Cal Poly as No. 12 Weber State ended Cal Poly's season for the second consecutive year. The Mustangs' offense sputtered early, piecing together an 86-yard drive capped with a 28-yard David Mohr touchdown reception for the first possession of the game.

Weber State responded, nipping 31 points in the second second quarter against a Cal Poly defense that has struggled in past weeks. Thirty-eight points, 293 yards and three Mustang turnovers later, the Wildcat senior quarterback Cameron Higgins' fourth touchdown pass to tight end Trevyn Smith capped the 5,000-yard mark in career rushing. Higgins, who passed for 364 yards, connected with Bo Bolen on a 15-yard scoring pass and with Tim Toone on 26-, 17- and 44-yard touchdown passes as Weber State improved to 7-4.

Toone finished the regular season with his 200th career catch and 28th career touchdown. He had 11 catches for 176 yards against the Mustangs. Cal Poly's leaders offensive were Jake Rosenmeier, with 55 yards rushing on 15 carries, and Smith, who completed 11 of 24 passes for 166 yards and both Mustang touchdowns. He was sacked five times and threw a pair of interceptions.

Malt, Jon Hall, Eric Gardley and Jono Grayson each had a pair of catches for Cal Poly.

Junior linebacker Marty Moshamed recorded eight tackles and senior cornerback Xavier Gardner added seven for Cal Poly.

For Weber State, Higgins completed 23 of 33 passes. He passed for 399 yards and two scores in a 49-35 win over the Mustangs in last year's first-round NCAA Football Championship Subdivision playoff game.

This season Cal Poly's rushing attack ran for 1,963 yards and the Mustang passing threat contributed 1,686 yards.

This season marked a 1,408-yard drop-off on the ground. Fritcher said he was short of last year's campaign by 305 yards. Smith finished his first starting season with 1,618 yards and 15 touchdowns. Dally passed for 1,960 last year.

Cal Poly ended its season unranked and at the bottom of the Great West.