Vigil for Haiti draws 35 students

A Cal Poly Student Community Services program called Raise the Respect hosted a vigil on Dexter Lawn last night. The event was to educate students and raise money for the victims of the 7.0 magnitude earthquake in Haiti that occurred Jan. 12. Alcenat John Honorât, a native Haitian and civil engineering junior, spoke about his family and friends affected by the quake. Child development junior Molly Beach shared a reading on behalf of former Poly student Jack Strutner, who was present during the earthquake. Industrial engineering sophomore Reed said that he figured out who opened the new site through e-mail. "He didn’t talk to us at all about it," Reed said. "It’s kind of like ‘whack-a-mole.’" Reed said. "It’s a process of kind of wading through all of the errors. As soon as you would get one page working, the next one would be broken." While Reed was working on fixing the issues, another person, unaffiliated with Cal Poly or Polyratings, opened a new site, Calpolyratings, opened a new site, Calpolyratings.com, with the archived information from Polyratings. This site was probably opened with archived HTML information taken from the Internet, Reed said.

ASI preps for upcoming elections

The Associated Students Inc. (ASI) presidential elections begin Feb. 1 and staff are busy streamlining the application rules in preparation.

The rules for running are essentially the same as in previous years, except for the implementation of a new bylaw regulating presidencies and the rules for raising money. In accordance with the new bylaws, anyone running for ASI presidency must have a minimum 2.3 GPA for winter quarter and an overall CPA of at least 2.0. The bill "was really a clarification of something that has always been in practice," said Carl Payne, chair of the University Union Advising Board. "It’s always been part of the election rules." The bill "was really a clarification of something that has always been in practice," said Carl Payne, chair of the University Union Advising Board. "It’s always been part of the election rules." The bill "was really a clarification of something that has always been in practice," said Carl Payne, chair of the University Union Advising Board. "It’s always been part of the election rules." The bill "was really a clarification of something that has always been in practice," said Carl Payne, chair of the University Union Advising Board. "It’s always been part of the election rules." The bill "was really a clarification of something that has always been in practice," said Carl Payne, chair of the University Union Advising Board. "It’s always been part of the election rules."
**Polyratings**

*continued from page 1*

...and determine if they were liable. Service providers are protected by federal mandate, while publishers are not. In this case, the operators would probably be seen as publishers, Loving said.

Despite the inappropriate comments, legal threats, and technical issues, students still continue to utilize the tool on a quarterly basis. Kempzell said she consistently uses Polyratings to get her classes and was at a loss when the site went down in the fall.

"I was like, 'My link is gone,'" Kempzell said. "For those Git spots I felt more vulnerable to getting bad comments similar to this one had led to threats of legal action. Communication studies lecturer Rebecca Laidlaw looked at her Polyrating a few years ago and was shocked to find some "sexual, degrading comments that made me extremely uncomfortable," she said.

Laidlaw sent an e-mail to the site operators saying that she wanted two specific comments removed. When she received no response, she sent another e-mail asking if the site needed to bring the matter into the legal arena. This time, she got a reply. They removed what she deemed the most offensive post, but also told her she would have no legal ground to stand on if she chose to pursue a lawsuit. Laidlaw said this was satisfactory and mentioned that she is pro-Polyratings as long as the comments and criticisms are directed at her teaching and not her personal life or characteristics.

But could Polyratings be used? It's complicated, said Bill Loving, journalist professor and department chair and co-author of "Law and Mass Communication." First, the person bringing the lawsuit would have to prove that he or she was libeled and not just the subject of an opinion. Second, the court would have to decide whether the people operating the site were publishers or merely carriers.

...You can always tell when someone has good insight about a teacher or when it's a load of bull.

--Christine Kempzell

_teachers. It was a relief when it came back up. This last quarter I definitely used it._

Kempzell said that she had used Polyratings every quarter since her freshman year. Although she is a "heavy user" of the site, she admitted that she has only posted one or two comments herself.

"I don't really make many comments," she said. "I've only posted one or two when the teacher is really good." This tendency is indicative of the site. For one, students don't regularly comment on teachers. Second, the comments often provide a polarized view of the instructor, whether he or she is very good or very bad. Both professors and students said that this could provide a biased view of a teacher.

"I truly hope someone that goes to Cal Poly can sift through the bullshit answers," Kempzell said. "Although some of the people writing comments might be nguyênism their level of insight. But you can always tell when someone has good insight about a teacher or when it's a total load of bull."

The type of students who are most motivated to contribute to the site leads to some professors questioning their students' abilities to sort through the posts. It's hard to imagine a philosophy lecture, said it is a useful tool that would be even more useful if students from the middle ground, between love and hate, made more comments.

"The people in the middle, those are probably some of the people that have the best things to say," Graziano said. "And I don't really feel bad that someone points out a mistake, I think are absolutely right. Those are things I need to pay attention to so I just hope students can make a good decision."

Graziano said he occasionally looks at the site, if only for a laugh. Some professors aren't so light-hearted about personal criticisms being broadcast on a site that's accessible to anyone and everyone.

"I think a lot of faculty have that attitude, 'I don't want people to see critical comments,'" he said. "They don't mind good critical comments, but when it comes to the bad, they don't want to hear it."

Communication studies assistant professor Juan Blas said he doesn't look at the site and is wary of its fairness. A more representative sample to draw from are the class evaluations that Cal Poly faculty have to do to the end of each quarter. Plus, quarterly teacher evaluations aren't posted for the public to see.

"All it takes is one or two dis-gruntled students to post on there for the picture that paints of you to become very skewed, perhaps unfairly," Blas said. "Sometimes these dis-gruntled people may have reasons for what they do, but other times it may be questionable."

Blas did, however, acknowledge that the site can be a useful tool, if used correctly.

"It's kind of like Wikipedia, as long you go in knowing it isn't the ultimate source and you just touch base with it and that in part of an informed decision, then it isn't entirely bad," Blas said.

Instructors generally agreed that the tool could be useful, if the information wasn't taken at face value, but rather questioned and thought about in an active manner. You can't take the site, the tool, away, Brian Kem­p­sell, professor of modern languages and literature, said.

"We think students should have whatever tools they want to have available," Kempsell said. "Whether or not the site is a load of bull, we should be able to determine what that is, the big picture in mind."

Students can track Reed at prodx@polyratings.com or send in comments, criticisms or suggestions at polyratings.com.
WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama, saying he was making a new commitment to fiscal restraint while re­ newing his bid for an overhaul of the nation’s health care system, called on Americans Wednesday night to re­ pare “deficit of trust.”

The president, addressing the nation and a joint session of Con­ gress in his first State of the Union address, suggested that the nation’s budgetary deficit is not the only problem confronting Americans.

“We have to recognize that we face more than a deficit of dollars right now,” the president said to the ready applause released by the White House. “We face a deficit of trust — deep and durable — that is creating its own budgetary deficit.”

Obama, who last year called on Congress to pass health care legis­ lation, issued a new call for health­ care reform without adding any specific direction that leaders might heed.

“The time has finally come for this country to make that big political move,” Obama said. “We will not walk away from these Americans, and neither should the people in this chamber.”

Obama reaffirmed his commit­ ment to the fight against terrorism. He addressed the wars in Afghan­

ian, which he is escalating, and Iraq, where he is scaling back, and the challenge of containing the nuclear ambitions of Iran.

And the president, reiterating a promise made before, said he would call on military leaders to finally find a way to reverse the budget cuts of “Don’t ask, don’t tell” for gays and lesbians serving in the armed forces.

In the wake of continuing con­ troversy over bonuses that bailed-out Wall Street investment companies have awarded, Obama is pressing for new federal regulation over banks aimed at averting another credit cri­ sis like the one that prompted a fed­ eral rescue of failing banks last year.

But he attempted to strike an optimistic tone about the prospects for recovery from the worst recess­ ion since the Great Depression.

“I have never been more hopeful about America’s future than I have today,” Obama planned to say. “I will not heed the naysayers who counsel us to walk away from these Americans, and neither should the people in this chamber.”

Obama is planning to say. “We will not give up. We do not quit.”

The political environment sur­ rounding this address was fraught with challenges. Obama, who promised to “change the way things work in Wash­ington,” faces a Congress sharply divided since the passing last month of Republican John Boehner’s seat in the House was vacated this month.

“We face big and difficult chal­lenges,” Obama planned to say. “And what the American people hope — what they deserve — is for all of us, Democrats and Republicans, to work through our differences, to overcome the numerical weight of our politics.”

The iPad has a 10-hour battery life, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth and comes in versions that hold 16 gigabytes, 32 gigabytes and 64 gigabytes. They cost $499, $599 and $699, respectively.

“We want to put this in the hands of lots of people,” Jobs said. “We have met our cost goals.”

Separate versions that support AT&T’s 3G wireless internet cost $629, $729 and $829 for 16 gigabytes, 32 gigabytes and 64 gigabytes respectively. Customers can sign up for AT&T’s 3G without a contract. A 250-megabyte-per-month plan (that’s not very much data) costs $14.99, and unlimited Internet access costs $29.99. Sub­ scribers also get access to AT&T’s Wi-Fi hotspots, including Star­ bucks.

A software development kit will see iPad, page 4
"If you could be a contestant on any game show which one would you choose and why?"

"Cash Cab. mostly just to say I was on Cash Cab. The guy that runs it looks like a pretty legit dude."
Sean Ellenberg, political science and history junior

"Jeopardy! because that means I'm smart."
-Cori Belis, environmental engineering sophomore

"Who Wants to Be a Millionaire, because if I get in trouble I feel like I have smart friends to get me out."
-Mark Mominiki, landscape architecture sophomore

"Who Wants to be a Millionaire, because I love trivia."
-Sean O'Brien, landscape architecture sophomore

"Card Sharks, it's a pretty ridiculous show to watch and made me laugh."
-Mick McConnell, biochemistry sophomore

"Wheel of Fortune, because whenever I watch it I feel like I'm pretty good at it."
-Cierra Rawlings, mathematics sophomore

"Jeopardy! because that means I'm smart."
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iPad
continued from page 3
be available immediately to soft-
ware makers to design apps spe-
cifically for the iPad. Some devel-
opers have already begun revising
their software for the larger screen
and more powerful processor.
Apple has revised its own soft-
ware that ships with the device. The
iPad version of iTunes re-
sembles a hybrid between the
desktop version and the one on
the iPhone. The calendar big big
text and buttons. YouTube sup-
ports high-definition video.
Apple also showed off a ver-
sion of its iWork software — a
competitor to Microsoft Office —
built for a touch-screen. It in-
cludes Keynote, Pages and Num-
bers — the Apple equivalents of
PowerPoint, Word and Excel, re-
spectively. Each costs $9.99 and
can be downloaded from the App
Store.

"Watching one is nothing like getting one in your hands," Jobs said after a demo.
The device is half-an-inch deep
and 1.5 pounds — "that's thinner
and lighter than any netbook."
Earlier, Jobs lambasted netbooks,
those tiny, inexpensive laptops that
have become so popular recently.
"Is there room for a third de-
vice?" Jobs said before introduc-
ing the gadget. "Now, some people
have thought, 'That's a netbook.'
The problem is, netbooks aren't
better at anything. ... They're slow.
They have low-quality displays."
Like an iPhone, users input data
by touching an on-screen key-
board. A keyboard accessory with
a dock turns the iPad into a sort
of laptop. And a case that acts as a
stand — to watch video without
holding the device — will also be
available.
Jobs says the iPad is better than
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video, music, Web browsing and
reading e-books.

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State
SAN LUIS OBISPO (MCT) — A failure to conduct proper testing caused two safety valves to be misaligned for more than a year at a Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant.

The inspectors and other agency officials met with plant operators Tuesday to discuss the results at a public meeting.

In February 2008 during a previous refueling outage, opera­ tors at the plant made several modifications to valves that would be used to recirculate cooling water lost from the reactor resulting from a broken pipe or other severe accident, said Mi­ chael Peck, senior resident NRC inspector at the plant.

LOS ANGELES (MCT) — President Barack Obama will award the California high-speed train project with a $2.25-billion stimulus grant Thursday, a huge boost that virtually guarantees construction will begin in late summer and along the Caltrain tracks within two and a half years.

The California High-Speed Rail Authority could match the grant with voter-approved Proposition 1A money — funds that only can be unlocked when matched — bringing the total price closer to $4.5 billion.

National
WASHINGTON (MCT) — The Food and Drug Administration is calling on pharmaceutical firms to give more attention to the potential for abuse of new drugs when sub­ jecting them to pre-market testing.

The agency this week released a draft of new voluntary guidelines to assist drugmakers in figuring out which compounds should be placed under the Controlled Substances Act, which regulates the handling, record-keeping and dispensing of controlled substances, in some cases imposing criminal penalties for misuse.

The guidelines urge researchers to look beyond traditional indicators such as whether a compound is addict­ive to other characteristics that could lead to abuse.

MIAMI (MCT) — In a poll that provides a glimpse of how Haitians living in the United States have been affected by their home coun­ try's devastating earthquake, a clear majority of Haitians have lost faith in the Haitian govern­ ment's ability to rebuild the divided nation.

The New America Media/Bendixen & Amanti poll, which surveyed Haitians living across the country, found 63 percent disap­ prove of how Haitian President Rene Preval's government has re­ sponded to the natural disaster.

Briefs

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Students organize benefit concert to raise funds for Haiti

Mikaela Akana

A benefit concert called "Hope for Haiti" is being held at Sally Loos Wholesome Cafe Friday between 4 and 10 p.m. to raise money for the relief effort in Haiti.

The concert will feature a variety of local artists. Proceeds from ticket sales, as well as some of the income from the cafe, will be donated to doctors who are currently in Haiti.

SLOCAL, a community service club from Cal Poly, is putting together the event along with Ernie Killig, the student group in charge of raising money for Haiti benefit funds.

The concert will be a part of the series this quarter. The first of three performances slated to perform as a part of the series this quarter. The concert will be a part of this series.

Indie musician Ingrid Michaelson to perform at Campus Market

Raquel Redding

Ingrid Michaelson, best known for her song "The Way I Am" and her contributions in the ABC program "Grey's Anatomy," is coming to Cal Poly Thursday to play for Music in the Market at 11 a.m.

Music in the Market is a concert series formed by Associated Students Inc. (ASI) that brings free music to the Via Carta Mall outside of Campus Market while the University Union is under construction. Musical entertainment student supervisor Dave Carlson, who is in charge of booking acts for Music in the Market, chose Michaelson because of her growing popularity.

"Michaelson has a very likable sound; all of Cal Poly students can wrap their ears around it," Carlson said.

Students may like Michaelson, but non-students have also heard about her coming to Cal Poly to perform, and since the venue is spacious, it is accessible to everyone.

"She's an awesome singer that isn't mainstream (with) that horrible breathy pop music; she has folk style," Meredith Wolf, an employee at Barries and Noble, said. "I'm taking my niece. It's good for her to see strong female performers.

Since the venue is outside, ASI Program Coordinator Missi Bullock said that the weather is bad, Thursday has been said to be the best day in her trip to a performance in Los Angeles. She is just concerned about the weather.

Other upcoming acts for Music in the Market include the Stone Foxes February 11, and Timmy Curran Feb. 18.
Orchesis reaches 40th anniversary

Katie Grady

Fusing complex choreography with social issues that go beyond the stage, students in Cal Poly's Orchesis Dance Company will be performing a 40th Anniversary Concert called "Continuum" in Spanos Theater Jan. 29 through Feb. 6. This year's winter dance concert is a compilation of pieces choreographed by students, faculty, and professionals that toy with actions as simple as breath to concepts as intricate as the world's connections.

The concert has long been a part of Cal Poly's art community. Founded in 1969, Orchesis itself is a concert dance organization that allows Cal Poly students to immerse themselves in various dance styles after auditioning for the company in the first week of fall quarter. The dancers commit to an intensive four-month-long rehearsal to prepare for the final performance.

This is Diana Stanton's second year directing the Orchesis Company. She is a full-time faculty member of the theater and dance department and also founder of local performance group, Variable Velocity. Her choreography has been presented professionally in many venues such as University of California, Irvine and the L.A. Open Festival.

Stanton said with the amount of good ideas this year, "Continuum" has evolved into an extensive show with 17 dances, 26 dancers and 10 student-choreographed pieces. The company has evolved into an extensive show with 17 dances, 26 dancers and 10 student-choreographed pieces. The company has presented professional performances that toy with actions as simple as breath to concepts as intricate as the world's connections.

"I liked the idea of using softer lines like bird formations in nature along with the sharp robotic movements of modern day connections," Valdez said. After a tedious search, she landed on a theme that is not only being held up this year, but throughout the company as a whole. The piece she created is called "Birds and Circuit Boards." She explored the meaning of a continuum by contrasting organic versus modern connections. The organic inspiration for Valdez came from the wave-like motions of bird formations, whereas the modern idea stemmed from circuits of technology.

"Internal Sabotage." With the creative placement of black and white translucent fabric on stage, Thoma's piece focuses on striving for perfection and the internal struggles that come with that quest. "Diana has really helped us to push the envelope this year and create something interesting," Thoma said. "Exploring more conceptual dancing has really expanded our spectrum of dance."

Orchesis vice president and choreographer Diana Hall, a freshman in the theater and dance department and founder of the Circhesis company, added that Thoma has really helped us to push the envelope this year and create something interesting. "Diana has really helped us to push the envelope this year and create something interesting," Thoma said. "Exploring more conceptual dancing has really expanded our spectrum of dance."

One of Stanton's analogies for the modern piece she choreographed is how movement can be like the intricate connections found in the natural world, such as the complexity of ant mines. Faculty members Michelle Walters and Moon Ja Suh also choreographed as well.

Local professional, Lisa Davis from the Ballet Theater San Luis Obispo contributed a romantic and emotional piece. Guest choreographers from outside of the area include Chad Michael Hall, a professor at Lincoln Marymount, and founder of MOVE Dance Theater, and BARE company founder Mike Esperanza.

Hall choreographed last year for the Orchesis "Momentum" performance. Meghan Hudson, a recreation, parks and tourism administration senior and focal dancer in Hall's piece, said the movement is very personal to him and a reflection of himself. "Last year (Hall's piece) was very mad and angry where we were doing army crawl across the stage," Hudson said. "This year was totally different. When he came he was a different person. He spent more time with us and made the piece more personal.

Business administration sophomore Guinevere Chan is taking on more leadership this year. She said the company has presented professional performances that toy with actions as simple as breath to concepts as intricate as the world's connections.

"I was thinking of a theme, rather than a piece," Chan said. "I wanted to do something that was about being in the moment and not in the past or the future. I wanted to do something that was about being spontaneous and not premeditated."

One of Chan's pieces is called "Clouds Roll In" and features a choreography by student Jessica Thonia Valdez said. "I liked the idea of using softer lines like bird formations in nature along with the sharp robotic movements of modern day connections."
Haiti
continued from page 6

ed me to play; I feel like I'm out of my realm compared to some of the other groups."

The line-up promises to have something for all concert-goers, from indie rock, to pop covers, to more experimental sounds. Alisia Baretta and her boyfriend/hand-mate Jon Gallow are both Cal Poly alumni and local musical artists that will play during the two-hour event.

"It's not like I can't see there and help tomorrow, and I don't have money to donate specifically, and I'm not a name who can help that way," Baretta said. "But through this show, I can take something that I'm good at, love and would do anyway, and use it to contribute to this good cause."

The money from Hope for Haiti will go directly to doctors and medical staff who are currently volunteering in Haiti to give medical aid to those in need. One of the doctors who will be receiving funds is a San Luis Obispo native, Dr. Scott Nelson. Nelson could not be reached for an interview, but did issue a short letter that can be seen on the concert's blog. The note said that Nelson is currently stationed in Haiti-Haitian, about 80 miles north of Port-au-Prince, where the quake was centered. Nelson described the quake as intense and fun. Although Chan didn't choreograph this year, she hopes to for the student-run Spring Show held the last week of May. "Orches and the Spring Show are great opportunities for students to choreograph," Chan said. "A lot of places won't let you do that."

The students who are part of Orches take that opportunity very seriously. Dancers and Stanton agreed that the level of professionalism and maturity is more evident in choreography this year. Darren Bridges and Rebecca Jensen put together a contemporary piece entitled "ME" getting its name from an artistic approach to selflessness. Aside from his piece, Bridges says a piece entitled "VII" depicting the seven deadly sins choreographed by recreation, parks and tourism administration senior Kathleen Helm has been his favorite to rehearse.

"I feel like a lot of choreographers this year have a story to tell. The movement is clear and the message is clearer than previous years," Bridges said.

According to Kathleen Helm, President of the Orches Company, the stage will see more professional modern dances this year. This being her third year choreographing for Orches, Helm got the idea for her dance while studying abroad in Thailand where she saw an art exhibit on the seven deadly sins. Helm said, "Helmchoreographed the deadly sins of gluttony in Helm's haunting piece. "It's fun to be evil for seven or ten minutes," Helm said. "I'm very aware of my stomach throughout the dance and I'm constantly touching it. I also use a lot of weird and grab motions as if I'm feeding off the audience." Helm cholecographed Orches for the second time. She got the idea for her piece after observing the interactions of the women she was on a camping trip this summer. She focused on the transition of when a daughter becomes a mother and a mother becomes a grandmother.

"My dance is about generations and the relationship between grandmothers, mothers and daughters," Helm said. "I started to portray that with flowing movements and never-ending phrases. I didn't think about what was first started, but the title 'Continuum' definitely plays into my piece, especially with the dance being about the continuation of generations. The process keeps replenishing and people are always stepping into those roles."

There's a lot of work that goes into putting such socially in-depth concepts into movement and dance. Helm explained how the choreographic process isn't always easy. "Starting everything is the hardest part. I choreographed for six dancers last year, and this year when I turned around, there were 16 counts of movement connected to each other," Helm said. "We are all on the same page," Valdez said. Tickets for "Continuum" are $13 for the public and $10 for students.

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Thursday, January 28, 2010

Bring this ad to the Mustang Daily Office. Building 60 room 115. Students with a Mustang Daily student ID can combine this offer with our 25% student discount. Please bring it to the office with payment or email (photo to submissions@mustangdaily.net). All coupons must be received by Monday, February 1st on your order and will not run out.

Restrictions: The Mustang Daily reserves the right to decline publication of advertising material.
Obama needs to stop passing the football to Republicans

The initial ruling on the field was touchdown, but once the call was challenged, the refs overturned the call. When you take a look at the replay, it's quite clear in my mind that Bush did, in fact, full short.

There are interesting parallels between the Vikings' loss and the Democrats losing their chance to pass a substantive health care initiative.

President Obama, has become desperate to regain his image of bipartisanship. Instead of maintaining his compose and making forward progress on a health care bill including the public option and hard-hitting reforms, he has thrown the Republicans the ball.

The Democrats are behaving as though they're the party with 41 votes, not the Republicans. If President Obama maintains this passive attitude, he will regret it well after he has retired from politics — just like Favre will regret another fourth-quarter interceptions.

And who was there to advocate against Bush's touchdowns? In football, the refs determine the rulings on the plays. But in politics, there's a chance to argue and debate. The health care initiative is the touchdown for the Democrat. It matters who wins that debate.

Obama just needs to stay on track and not give concessions to Republicans simply because the media reports that the tide is turning in America, and the Republicans won Massachusetts. The Vikings will have another shot at the Super Bowl. He won't have another shot at health care.

Stephanie England is an English senior and Mustang Daily political columnist.
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Events
See ham radio in action! On Feb. 2 the Cal Poly Amateur Radio Club will host a series of demos on Dexter Lawn. See www.w6bbz.org for more info.

"Get your ham radio licenses. The Cal Poly Amateur Radio Club will hold a testing session on February 6th @ 9:30 AM in 20-129. RSVP’s to calpolyradiochib@gmail.com are appreciated. See www.w6bbz.org for more info."

Announcements
If you are interested in law and want to help bring justice for the citizens of San Luis Obispo, come volunteer at Law Line SLO, a Pro Bono lawyer referral service. Through this program, money bears no price for justice in our courts!!! Contact Ken Mangalindan @ lawlineslo@gmail.com for more information.

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Conference and Event Planning is hiring 10-20 staff for summer conference season. Paid training begins in May. Seeking hardworking, responsible and positive individuals who enjoy working in a fun, fast-paced team setting! Customer service and cashier experience preferred. Optional on campus summer housing at highly reduced rate. Flexible hours. PT/FT available. $8.00-$10.00/hr. Great internship opportunity.

Applications and job descriptions available in Bldg. 170G (Cerro Vista Administration Building). Position is available this upcoming Spring Quarter.

To apply, please email resume to gus@calpoly.edu. Include your availability and interest in the subject line. 

"I Carroll took great care of me! I just relaxed while they handled my troop's shirt order from start to finish. They even accepted payment in bananas."

We no longer accept payment in bananas.

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Darling
continued from page 12

actually be on the team," Darling said.
"But I walked into the locker room and
found my own set of practice gear.

Darling held up a green and white
practice jersey with the words "Cal Poly"
and the number 31 embroidered on the
back — he had made the

"I believed he could (make the
team)," Savitsky said. "He always thought he'd had the
ability, drive and athleticism," Shelton

Darling reimbursed his junior year
and then found limited playing time
in his next season.

When former Seattle University
head coach Joe Calero took over the
reigns of the Mustangs, Darling had
no need to prove himself again —
Calero knew all about Darling.

"He was pretty athletic and pretty
active, but he was very raw," Calero

Calle on 22 minutes
through the team’s four 10 games of
this season. He was used mainly
as a utility man. Filling in for play­
ers with foul trouble and injuries,
Darling trotted on the court and
did what he was asked to do. Half­
way through the season, inabil­
ity struck starting center and second
reading scorer Will Donaldson. Ryan

Darling finished with 10 points and
12 rebounds — a career-high dou­
ble-double.

"He is a good example
to perseverance in sports as I have
seen in 23 years of coaching," Calero

In the game, Keeler hit Darling
under the basket with a dish on a
drive. Darling jumped up in be­
between numerous defenders and
finished emphatically with a two­
point bucket. The moment was
the image that Darling had once
dreamed about when he sat at the
end of the bench. He was no longer
the one staring at the players, he was
the one playing.

"I just think he can get bet­
ter," Bryant said of Gasol, whom
Bryant gave a brief talking-to
Tuesday night in the fourth
quarter upon sensing a late-game
turnover.

"I want to see him take an­
other step. Bryant wanted for him and from
him. Yet it has worked out just
fine because of Gasol, whose 26
points Tuesday night mirrored
Bryant’s 26, with Odom contrib­
uting, too.

"A-plus," Odom said when
asked about Gasol. "Plus-plus­
plus." Odom is satisfied with Gasol
having gotten the Lakers to be
defending champions.

Tonight still is not.

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Ryan Darling turns rags to swishes

Brian De Los Santos
Mustang Daily

"I don't think anyone knows this, but I am not right now. Cal Poly's basketball forward Ryan Darling said. "It was a dream come true. ... It was a ride from day one."

Three years ago, Darling was a walk-on at Cal Poly basketball team. His official title with the Mustangs was team manager. Darling handed players water, wiped sweat off the court and brought drinks. When he wasn't cleaning up after Cal Poly's men's basketball team, his job was to hand players towels, wipe sweat off athletes competing. His official title with the Mustangs was team manager. Darling handed players water, wiped sweat off the court and brought drinks. When he wasn't cleaning up after Cal Poly's men's basketball team, his job was to hand players towels, wipe sweat off athletes competing. His official title with the Mustangs was team manager. Darling handed players water, wiped sweat off the court and brought drinks. When he wasn't cleaning up after Cal Poly's men's basketball team, his job was to hand players towels, wipe sweat off athletes competing.

"As a team manager on the bench, seeing these players make plays, you're just sitting there thinking, 'I wish that could be me.'" Darling said. "I knew I could do it. It was just a matter of time. I just had to put my mind to it."

He played basketball in high school, but adored all sports his whole life. Despite coming from a family of swimmers, Darling dove into a path that combined burnt brown leather of the world. I didn't want to put my mind to it.

"It didn't come easy to Darling. With only two years of experience in high school, he wasn't recruited. He came to Cal Poly for an education, not to become a basketball player. Despite his doubts, Darling found himself inside Mott Gym when open tryouts began his freshman year. "I realized that if I didn't take advantage of (tying out), it was something that I was going to regret for the rest of my life," Darling said.

Competing against upperclassmen with scholarships, Darling struggled to keep up with the other players. When the final team roster was released, Darling's name didn't make the cut. "Ryan is not one to lay down and give up; he is a competitor," Shelton said. "If there was something he needed to do or work on, he found out and worked on it." Darling never set his sights on giving up. He didn't see being cut as a failure. "I think failing is when you truly want something and give up. Darling said. "This is something deep down that I know that I do want to do. Thinking that this is going to be hard was not reason I shouldn't try again."

As his freshman year drew on, Darling befriended some of the players who played against Cal Poly and started playing pick-up games with them. "Sometimes the team had an open gym shoot around, Darling was always there. "After playing with the team for a while, I started to think that I actually had a shot at making the team, so I decided to put my mind to it and give it everything I had," Darling said.

Darling was motivated to wash out the taste of defeat he had left over from his previous tryout. He hit the gym to build on the 6-foot-7-inch, 25-pound frame he had when he graduated high school. By the time tryouts came the second time around, Darling recalled tipping the scales 25 pounds heavier than freshman year. But, another tryout was filled with more disappointment as his weight failed to make the team once again. "To my knowledge, the team was filled. I thought I did well in tryouts so the coaching staff said I could stick around and be a team manager if I wanted."

"Being burdened with rejection twice, Darling still had no inclination to hang up his shoes. To show his commitment to his dream, Darling took the position. When the team was on the court practicing, Darling was there serving as a team manager. When the team wasn't, he hit the gym. "I came into (my junior year) with the mentality that I am going to play," Darling said. "I don't care what it takes, I had come this far. I wasn't ready to turn back."

When the first day of official team practice came his junior year, three weeks before tryouts, Darling headed to Mott Gym. For him, it was just another day. "I wanted to see that if maybe (coach Brandon) wanted to see me in some of the drills, but I wouldn't see Darling, page 11.

Somebody could offer me a billion dollars to not play out this year, and I honestly don't think I would take it.

—Ryan Darling
Cal Poly forward

Cal Poly forward Ryan Darling played 29 minutes last season. This season he has seen the court for more than 150 minutes.

Lakers' Pau Gasol keeps his priorities on winning teamwork

Kevin Ding
The Orange County Register

WASHINGTON — The Lakers were in Washington on a trip when Gasol joined the team after the Feb. 1 trade with Memphis. He arrived into Washington late at night and met with a group of reporters in a suite in the Lakers' team hotel.

Some first impressions of Gasol that first night in the hotel suite still hold true. He was a bit cautious in the considerate, polite way that few look at me NBA players understand. Gasol, who is from Spain, comes across as a regular guy who is eager to please, and even in his second language of English, his intelligence comes across just as much.

Bryant referred to him the other night as "so intelligent" and then followed up with "very intelligent" and "highly intelligent." Jackson mentions that the key thing is that Gasol was a "very willing student" upon joining the team.

But what was most memorable about talking to Gasol that first night was his earnestness about just how sick he was of being a Loser in Memphis.

"You get into a mindset that is not really positive," Gasol said that night. "You kind of sink.

And right after that session, Gasol went to have a much more important sit-down with Bryant, where that particular topic of needing to win was further emphasized. It has turned out that Gasol's drive to win has been greater than could be understood even six months ago.

"Pau is underrated," Lamar Odom said Tuesday, "for his aggressiveness and his will to win, but ability to do anything to make the team better."

It's no stretch to further another day in Washington.

The Los Angeles Lakers acquired forward Pau Gasol from the Memphis Grizzlies last February. Gasol helped fuel a second-half run that led to a NBA Finals victory over the Orlando Magic last season.

Four years ago, the Lakers blew a 16-point lead and lost by three points to the Wizards. It was Bryant's second season with Odom. Odom lined up on the wrong side of the court for the final play, costing the Lakers and Bryant a shot at a tying 3-pointer. Bryant was enraged. He berated Odom the entire time they walked off the court, all the way to the locker room, and later Odom rushed out of there.

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