

POETIC INSIGHT

SARAH GRIEVE

BY SCOTT ROARK



AS GLOBAL WARMING CONTINUES to melt the glaciers, the hearts of some people remain cold.

Sarah Grieve (ENGL '07) addresses this scenario quite eloquently in her poem "Hot Water," which won Cal Poly's 2007 Academy of American Poets Contest.

Her work earned kudos from her former professor, Kevin Clark, who calls Grieve "a tough-minded writer ... who combines descriptiveness, elegy and bittersweet comedy."

Grieve calls her poem a message about apathy, specifically the apathy of her generation. Because of this, relationships and ultimately the environment are affected. "It's being worried about the wrong things in life – the house, the furniture and other material things," she said.

The Carpinteria native earned a master's in English last June and is pursuing a master of fine arts in poetry at Florida State.

Grieve is a former starting center for the Cal Poly women's basketball team. She was named the Mustang Scholar Athlete of the Year and Outstanding College of Liberal Arts Student of the Year in 2005.

HOT WATER

If the sea rose ten feet,
and they say it will soon,
the woman on the hill
would stand to inherit
beachfront property—
her petunias replaced
by urchins or anemones—
which would be nice until
the kids tracked in sand,
grinding it against
the wood floor's finish...

The link to the entire poem

"Hot Water" can be found online at:

www.calpolynews.calpoly.edu/magazine/fall-07/index.html