



rain  
hi:56 lo:46



mostly cloudy  
hi:60 lo:54



rain  
hi:61 lo:51

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Cal Poly individual Big West champs head to Long Beach to defend their titles. Find out about one senior.

CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY SAN LUIS OBISPO

# MUSTANG DAILY

FEBRUARY 19, 1998

THURSDAY

VOLUME LXII, No. 72

## City Council cracks down on parking violators CETI talks continue

**Parking manager hopes increase will deter downtown employees from space hopping**

By Britt Fekete  
Daily Staff Writer

Students, shoppers and downtown employees will soon pay more for violating parking regulations on downtown streets.

### CITY COUNCIL

#### QUICK FACT

• Parking ticket fines are set to rise, pending final approval by the council.

In a 4-1 vote Tuesday night, the San Luis Obispo City Council passed an ordinance which will raise the cost of the street parking fines in order to deter people, mainly employees, from parking in convenient spots all day long, limiting parking availability for others.

The increased fines will be effective beginning April 1. The parking structure rates will remain the same.

Now, a regular citation will cost a parking violator anywhere from \$2 to \$20. The ordinance will raise the fines between \$2 and \$15, depending on the violation. Also under the ordinance, drivers who back into parking spaces will have to answer to a \$15 fine.

The money generated from the fines will go to the parking man-

agement.

Keith Opalewski, San Luis Obispo parking manager, said downtown parking problems arise when drivers park in a two-hour limit space, metered or unmetered, and proceed to move their vehicle from space to space as the time limits expire.

"We've had some real problems in some of the downtown streets and outlying two-hour areas where employees are really playing the game," Opalewski said. "We spend a lot of time, staff time. We've gone to the point of going undercover, plain clothes, plain cars, and essentially they just come and move the car, and it really defeats our purpose."

A new requirement will force drivers to re-park at least 500 meters (150 feet) from their original spot when the time limit expires.

"By requiring the vehicle to move 150 meters, it will make it inconvenient for the employee and that's the focus," Opalewski said. "It is to basically deter the employee from parking long-term in convenient spaces."

He said they will mark blocks

See TICKETS page 3



Daily file photo by Jason Kaltenbach

Be sure to feed your meter, because parking violation fines are likely to rise.

**continue**

By Ryan Becker  
Daily Staff Writer

California State University has resumed negotiations to create a technology partnership with four major corporations, and Cal Poly students and faculty are preparing for a final review of the unprecedented proposal.

Samuel Aborne, ASI Technology Committee board member, said ASI still has some reservations about the plan.

"We are looking at student issues that will be affected by (the plan)," Aborne said. "The final business document is supposed to be released by March 15."

The plan—called the California Education Technology Initiative, or CETI—outlines an alliance between the CSU and GTE, Microsoft, Hughes Communications and Fujitsu. The partners would create a for-profit company to finance and maintain a high-speed, high-capacity technology network on CSU campuses.

Negotiations between CSU officials and the four companies resumed earlier this month.

The private-sector partners plan to raise \$300 million within three years to finance the system-

See CETI page 2

## Presentation raises eating disorder awareness

By Mark Hartz  
Daily Staff Writer

The Cal Poly Panhellenic Council held a free program on eating disorders Tuesday night entitled "Friends Need Friends Who Lead."

Kristen Carnes and Soozie Shanley, speech communications majors, put on the program as their senior project with the intent of educating people on campus and the general public about eating disorders. Shanley's concentration is health communications.

"(The program) was good," said Erin Silva, nutritional science junior. "It wasn't preachy. I think that people here who have (eating) disorders will come forward."

Mary Kunz, an intern at the Eating Assessment and Treatment Center in San Luis Obispo (EAT SLO), spoke about her own battle with an eating disorder at a young age. She was teased as a child for

being too skinny, and then contracted German Measles which decreased her weight even more. Her doctor then told Kunz's parents to force her to eat, and she gained 40 pounds in two years.

Kunz went back to her doctor for being overweight, and he told her to go on a diet. That's when her anorexia and bulimia disorders started. Kunz said she turned herself around eight years ago.

"People with eating disorders tend to be really good people..." Kunz said. "But they tend to have Atila the Hun inside them...the journey to freeing themselves is hard."

The audience at the program consisted primarily of sorority members. Each sorority was required to attend the meeting, or they would have to pay a fine. One sorority member said she knew people with eating disorders and hoped this meeting could help them.

"We wanted to do something on eating disorders because it's a topic we see quite a bit with the women in our houses," said Carnes, who is also Panhellenic president. She added that she used to live in a house with someone who had an

eating disorder, and no one in the house knew how to deal with it.

Carnes also wanted the event to coincide with Women's History Month.

Mark Stanley, industrial engineering senior, said he attended the conference as a concerned male.

"I thought (the program) was informative," he said.

Both Carnes and Shanley feel eating disorders are not going to go away and popular culture has a lot to do with the problem.

"I believe it's all about what people see on TV," Shanley said. "There are also more and more magazines on fitness and shape (that have an influence)."

Shanley believes people with eating disorders begin their problem in puberty. She said women go through bodily changes and gain weight as they grow.

"They form child-bearing hips and freak out because they don't understand it," she said.

Those who attended completed an EAT SLO-sponsored screening survey to determine whether they possessed any of the symptoms which can lead to an eating disorder.

Carnes said she would have

## HERE SHE IS, MISS AMERICA



Daily photo by Joe Johnston

Miss America 1998, Kate Shindle, spoke about HIV prevention at the 2nd annual HIV Educational Summit in Chumash Auditorium yesterday.

liked to see more student athletes and freshmen from the dorms show up because they are at high risk for eating disorders.

"(From our survey we got) a very small proportion of the entire campus, especially because it's not a random sample," she said. "Basically sorority women and some athletes were the majority of the people that showed up tonight."

Rojean Dominguez, a health educator at Cal Poly, estimates that she sees between six and 10 people a week about eating disorders, but said this averages on the low side for the country. She said most women with eating disorders are perfectionists and driven high-achievers. She also feels the media has a lot to do with the problem,

See EAT page 2



## CETI

from page 1

wide infrastructure.

In return, the CSU would give the partners open access to its internal markets—344,000 students and 37,000 employees—and allow the four companies to sell additional products, such as long-distance phone service or Internet access.

But questions about the joint venture linger among students and faculty who fear a loss of academic freedom and believe the partnership would give the companies a total monopoly on CSU campuses.

"We have four main areas of concern," Aborne said. "It's a 10-year deal, and we want a way to re-evaluate it after the agreement is signed. We also don't want our current capabilities to change."

Aborne said ASI wants the agreement to include guarantees of student representation. ASI also wants the partnership to be flexible enough to adapt to changing technology.

"We want to make sure that

California technology funds aren't replaced by CETI funds," Aborne said. "We want the state to keep funding technology."

CSU officials say those concerns will be addressed as negotiations continue to unfold.

The Chancellor's Office expects to have a hard copy version of the plan available for review on or near March 1. After the complete plan is drafted, campuses will have 30 days to review the proposal and make suggestions. A 15-day period will follow so that suggestions gathered during the review can be considered.

A final decision on the proposal has been delayed until May.

Jerry Hanley, Cal Poly vice provost for Information Technology Services, said about 75 copies of the proposal will be distributed on campus. The complete plan will also be available for review on the Internet at <http://ceti.calstate.edu/>.

Students and faculty who want to make suggestions can submit their comments via e-mail at the Internet site or to Cal Poly President Warren Baker's office.

## EAT

from page 1

because of its images of "waif-like" women.

Aside from the obvious health problems associated with eating disorders—from tooth damage, throat problems and dulling and breakage of hair and fingernails with bulimia, to heart problems and malnutrition with anorexia—she said they also have a lot of personal problems.

"It affects their relationships," she said. "They can't share things with people because of their fear of rejection."

Warning signs of eating disorders are perfectionism warning signs, inability to sleep, high stress, inability to concentrate, depression, low self-esteem or a distorted body image, Dominguez said. She said the earlier a person seeks help, the easier it is to deal with the

problem.

Carnes, Shanley, Kunz and Dominguez all believe that helping someone who has a problem is a group effort.

"We don't want to attack people who have the problem," Kunz said. She said the things to do when you realize someone has a problem is to use "I" statements. She warned against being a "food cop" or trying to force someone to eat.

Most of all, Kunz emphasized the importance of educating oneself.

The Peer Health Education Nutrition Team offers one-on-one counseling for people with eating disorders as well as computer dietary analyses. They also give free workshops and presentations on any nutritional topic to interested parties. The team is located on the bottom floor of the Health Center.

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MUSTANG DAILY

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1998 3

## TICKETS from page 1

of cars with chalk to catch habitual violators.

"Yes, an innocent person perhaps could get caught in that loop, but if there is a bona fide reason, it's a shopper that got hung up, we're very flexible in that respect," Opalewski said.

"The focus of this is basically to get the person that's feeding the meter all day. They're sitting there six or seven hours, they're defeating the purpose of the short-term spaces. All the intent here tonight (Tuesday) is to go for the abuser. To the average person who doesn't get a citation, this is invisible. They will not really know it exists," he continued.

Mayor Allen Settle disagreed with the parking ordinance.

"I objected to the council passing the increases in the parking fees because, one, it was not needed and, two, it is very confused when you look at the stipulations there," he said. "I think the city has to be more focused on the customer that comes downtown, not for the benefit of the parking meter management people. They're not the ones that count."

Settle said he understands some of the strategies to improve enforcement, but thinks this ordinance it is going to make the parking situation difficult.

"I don't want to send the reputation that it's unfriendly to the customer and consumer. You'll chase them away," Settle said. "One thing about parking is that people are passionate about it. If they get a ticket, and they feel it's unfair, I'm convinced they will not come back. They will boycott that area, and I don't want that to happen."

Stephanie Zesiger, food science and nutrition senior, said she does not agree with the increases because she doesn't feel they will help catch parking violators. She said raising the fine will not stop people from feeding the meters.

"They're not solving the problem. If they're not catching everyone now at \$8, how will they catch them at \$10?" she said.

Zesiger said she doesn't see the difference between \$8 and \$10.

"Is \$2 a threat to you?" she questioned. "If the money was going to be used to employ people to monitor parking every two hours in a parking lot, and eventually get rid of the meters, then that (increasing the fines) would make sense."

Amy Marchiano, biochemistry junior, said her problem with the increased fines had to do with where the money was going.

"Unless the money is going to something to benefit the community, I don't feel this is a good way to increase funds in San Luis," she said.

She also said that a lot of times, especially with students, parking tickets are simply mistakes, and shouldn't have to pay more because they don't have a lot of money. Drinking and driving is also a concern for Marchiano.

"I'd rather have someone leave their car downtown overnight instead of driving drunk because they are worried about a fine," she said.

The council's resolution also established a new code which clearly defines the authority of the police chief, fire chief and director of public works to issue citations to vehicles.

Another resolution passed which extends official use time of the yellow curbs for commercial loading and unloading until 6 p.m. instead of 5 p.m. and on holidays.

The ordinance further clarifies that a vehicle must display a commercial vehicle license plate in order to use the yellow curb commercial zone.

The City Council will meet March 3 to give its final consent on the ordinance. If it does, the ordinance will take effect 30 days later.

## Mustang Daily tip #171

If you don't know the difference between "effect" and "affect," don't use them in a headline.

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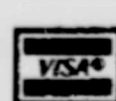
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# Efficiency and Cal Poly separated at birth

By Steve Barbaccia

The business school here at Cal Poly teaches us things of great importance about Corporate America. We learn how companies must adapt to the demands of a global marketplace. We study examples of blue-chip monoliths, such as GM and IBM, brought to their knees as a result of having reacted too late to changes in the outside world.

These corporate miscreants sleep all morning only to awaken in time to watch some competitor eating their lunch.

Fortunately for our revered institution, and the various appendages it calls "student services," there is no competition lurking in the wings to provide us with that most valued aspect of capitalism: choice. Hence, Cal Poly snores blissfully away.

Rather than bore you with a list of complaints, though, perhaps the allegorical method employed by the "Good Book" will serve best to deliver this message.

There was a guy, let's call him Steve, who awoke one recent morning to the sound of thunder and rain. This inclement weather would get most folks down after a while, but not him; he popped his daily Prozac and headed out the door.

The bus was full, however, and rather than wait in the rain another half-hour, he ran home and jumped in his car. He dutifully paid the \$1.50 daily parking fee and proceeded to look for a spot reasonably close to the business school. Through sheer luck, he found a space way up where they clone the sheep and cows, only about a mile away from his class.

Arriving late and soaked to the bone he was informed that his financial accounting professor, fed up with tardiness, had awarded 15 bonus points to those few students who had made it to lecture on time. Our hero's Prozac was starting to wear off, but he still held high hopes for the rest of the day. After all, a positive attitude is the key to life, so they say.

The clock finally struck noon, and Steve headed up to the business school's state-of-the-art computer lab to finish a project due on the morrow. He went there straight away, foregoing any lunch, because he knew of the high demand to use the lab. The green-vested employees, helpful as they are, never check to see if one is a student, shopkeeper, Martian, etc.; so everyone from here to Needles drops by. Thus Steve also dutifully waited in line.

At 1 p.m., Steve was finally and happily tapping away at a PC. In two hours he had just about wrapped up his 10-page paper when he glanced up at the light beginning to flicker overhead. Blink! The power went out; and then, just as quickly, the lights came on again. Looking back at the screen, he noticed his computer starting back up and realized he had

neglected to save his work. Did our hero's spirits wane? Not in the least, for repeating his task would bring him even closer to the fascinating world of Statistics.

Ahhh, five o'clock! Steve finished his work and headed for the Rec Center to blow off some steam. Entering the lobby, he noticed a row of exercise machines lined up along the wall. They seemed out of place until he read a sign explaining that the machines' former room upstairs was about to collapse through the floor.

Thinking nothing of it he headed to the basketball courts.

The courts were covered with players and would-be players lined up three teams deep, waiting their turn. He watched in awe as the games were played around a maze of garbage cans placed at various points on the floor where the roof leaked. He was then told the wait would be about an hour; and if his team lost, it would be another hour before they played again.

Being a flexible and prudent fellow, Steve decided to go lift weights instead. Half-way up the stairs, however, he ran into a line of more people. Though he found out the delay for the weight room was only a half-hour, he changed strategies once again and opted for a swim in the pool. In the rain, he thought, there won't be any wait for an open lane. Unfortunately, the pool was closed because the state-of-the-art Rec Center has no outdoor lighting.

"No problem. I'll just go home and research for my Marketing class on the net," he thought. Back at the ranch, armed with dry clothes and a warm cup of joe, Steve cranked up his Apple and dialed the Cal Poly server. Busy signals resounded as the modem tried again and again. He did a few chores and checked back... still busy. He cooked dinner... still busy. He finally gave up and decided to read the Mustang Daily.

One headline grabbed his attention: "Woman guilty of murdering twin sister."

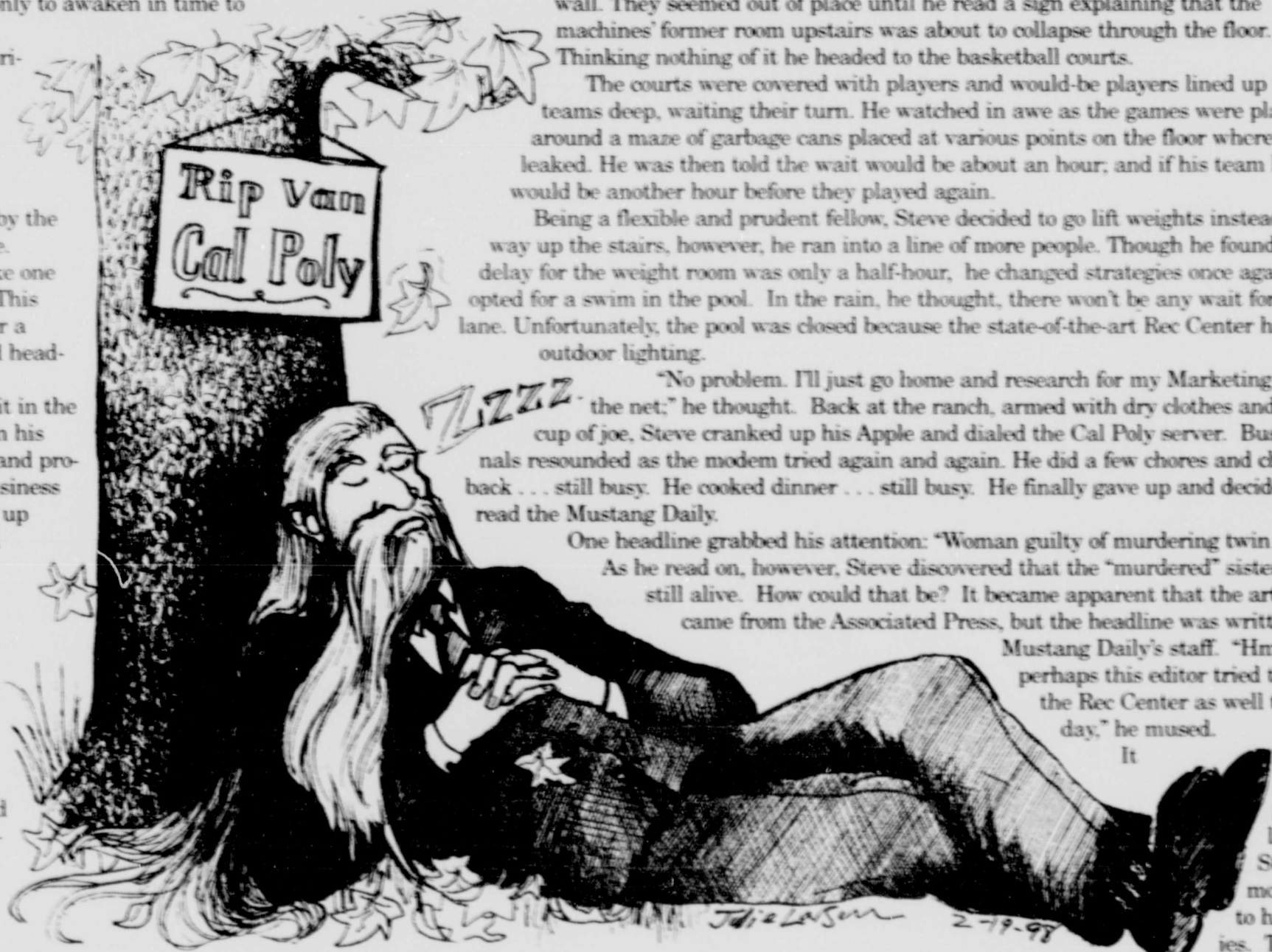
As he read on, however, Steve discovered that the "murdered" sister was still alive. How could that be? It became apparent that the article came from the Associated Press, but the headline was written by Mustang Daily's staff. "Hmmm, perhaps this editor tried to use the Rec Center as well that day," he mused.

It

was growing late, so Steve moved on to his studies. The sub-

ject, operations management, touched a chord as it covered a variety of business methods used to provide quality and value to global markets. The last thing he read as he nodded off to sleep was "... to survive, an organization must foster innovation, efficiency, and a total commitment to the needs of its customer." Steve dreamt of a university that did all that for its students. Is there a power of positive dreaming? We'll see...

Steve Barbaccia is an M.B.A. student.



## Your privacy is important to us, too

Editor,

The following comments are offered in response to Jennifer Brewer's letter Feb. 13 regarding student privacy rights and the ASI Student Directory.

The ASI Student Directory has been published each winter quarter for approximately 10 years. It provides information about ASI, a campus office directory and a listing of currently enrolled students. To notify students of their choice to either be included or excluded from the Directory, the quarterly class schedule contains information on privacy rights and describes the steps to be taken if a student does not want personal information published in the ASI Student Directory. The class schedules also contain much valuable information about campus policies and deadlines.

For one week during fall quarter, ASI paid for a quarter-page ad in Mustang Daily notifying students that a directory would be published. It explained the process they needed to follow to have their

names excluded from the publication. A number of students made this request.

Ms. Brewer was concerned about her housemate's permanent address being published. This would happen only when the university does not have a local address for a student. If no local address is available, the permanent address will always be used. Students are encouraged to update their local address each time they move. This can now easily be done on Mustang Info.

We understand that personal locator information is a sensitive issue for many students. Since this information will now be available on the web, the campus will be making an even stronger effort to inform students of their rights and offer an easy way to register their request for privacy.

**Marcia Friedman is the Associate Registrar in the Office of Academic Records and Soncia Lilly is the ASI Executive Director.**

## Pissed? Write a letter.

**Mustang Daily welcomes and encourages contributions from readers. Letters should be submitted complete with name, major or department, class standing and telephone number. We reserve the right to edit grammar, spelling errors and length without changing the meaning of what is written. Letters sent via e-mail will be given preference and can be sent to: jborasi@polymail.calpoly.edu. Fax your contribution to 756-6784 or drop letters by Building 26, Suite 226.**

## Believe in both

Editor,

This is in response to the opinion written by Julie O'Shea ("Does God Walk Among Us?" Feb. 11). There seems to be a misconception that if one believes in God, then he or she cannot believe in evolution. In fact, the Roman Catholic Church does believe in the theory of evolution and that humans could have evolved from animals. I went to Catholic schools for 12 years and I was taught about Darwin's theory of evolution in science class.

If the Roman Catholic church did not believe in this, then they would not allow it to be taught in their schools. Therefore, if one (specifically a Catholic) is torn between believing in evolution or the creation story of God, then he or she shouldn't feel guilty about believing in both because both are valid in the Catholic Church.

**Cherylanne Dizon is an industrial engineering freshman.**

Graphic Arts Bldg., Suite 226  
Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, Ca. 93407  
Editorial: (805) 756-1796  
Advertising: (805) 756-1143  
Fax: (805) 756-6784  
E-mail: jborasi@polymail.calpoly.edu  
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# ARTS WEEKLY

MUSTANG DAILY'S GUIDE TO ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

## Mardi Gras

By Ryan Becker, Arts Weekly Writer



Daily file photos

Get ready for crazy Mardi Gras happenings this weekend. SLO has the largest Mardi Gras celebration this side of the Mississippi! Parades, wacky costumes, and plenty of Gumbo for all.



**C**ajun food, live music and hordes of revelers will spice up the streets of downtown San Luis Obispo this weekend at the city's annual Mardi Gras celebration.

Last year's festivities drew more than 25,000 people, and organizers expect an even bigger turnout this year.

"It's gotten bigger and better in every way," said Don Koberg, who co-founded San Luis Obispo's celebration 20 years ago. "It really caught on."

The festivities kick off at 10 a.m. Saturday with a royal proclamation by Mardi Gras King Eric Losey and Queen Meredith Cofren.

"(Mardi Gras) is so much fun I can't even see straight," Cofren said. "It's so much fun to dress up crazy and go to parties. The people in San Luis Obispo are so wonderful. There's not a bad apple in the barrel. They are devoted to having fun."

For those wanting to start the party early, booths lining Garden Street will offer the usual mix of food and crafts beginning at 10 a.m. Beads and costume materials

will be sold, and New Orleans jazz and other music will fill the air.

Local restaurants will vie for the grand prize in the gumbo cook-off, and samples of the thick, spicy stew-like dish will be available for purchase.

Partygoers who want to skip straight to the main event can wait for the Mardi Gras parade, scheduled to begin at 5:31 p.m. Saturday. The parade will move down Marsh Street from Osos Street against the normal flow of traffic. The route is seven blocks long.

About 2,000 people in 38 different entries are expected to march in the parade and 25,000 are expected to line the streets screaming for beads and doubloons.

Zen Room, a Cal Poly theatrical group, will march in the parade dressed as characters from the Rocky Horror Picture Show. This will be the group's third year in the parade.

"Some of our members really like to (march)," said Erin Ferree, Zen Room vice president. "The whole town just breaks out and goes crazy."

Don Pimentel is one of three new directors of the Mystic Krewe of Karnival, a non-profit group that organizes San Luis Obispo's Mardi Gras celebration.

"Since this is our 20th anniversary, we will be throwing twice the number of beads and doubloons," Pimentel said. "And the quality of beads will be much higher."

In order to raise the \$10,000 required for the event, Mystic Krewe staged a media campaign to attract donors.

Results were mixed, Pimentel said, but the increased visibility of the celebration has some organizers predicting a huge turnout.

"We are concerned that we may have a very impacted parade route," Pimentel said. "It has been very crowded in the past. This is a family event, and people need to be appropriate along the parade route."

The parade should last about an hour and a half, said Mark Jorgeson, a Mardi Gras director.

Event organizers are increasing security at the day's festivities. Twenty-five additional sheriff's deputies will patrol the parade. The increase means more than 50 sworn officers will be present along the parade route, Jorgeson said.

Cal Poly Circle K, a community-service club, will help monitor the parade.

"We're there just to keep people behind the barriers, just for basic crowd control," said Janet Kwock, Circle K president.

Last year, 27 people were arrested during and after the Mardi Gras celebration, most for alcohol-related offenses.

Mystic Krewe of Karnival has arranged to have five safe-ride vans available to take people home after the festivities. They will be dispersed throughout the downtown area.

The Mardi Gras Masquerade Ball and Cajun dinner begins at 8 p.m. at the San Luis Obispo Veterans Hall. The party is open to those 21 and older, and a costume or mask is required. Tickets cost \$25 and are available at Costume Capers, Fastframe, Boo Boo Records, Patrick James Clothiers or at the door.

Organizers are also adding a teen dance this year for high school students. The masquerade ball, sponsored by Friday Night Live, begins at 8:30 p.m. Saturday at the San Luis Obispo Grange Hall.

The first Mardi Gras silent auction is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday at the Mission Mall. Mystic Krewe of Karnival will auction items donated by local businesses, and proceeds will help Mystic Krewe recoup the costs of the event.



# Mobile, Alabama vs. New Orleans: The Battle for Mardi Gras

By Mark Arnold  
Special to Arts Weekly

The difference between air, water and earth just 60 miles downstream from New Orleans became a matter of belief. At the close of the 17th Century, a band of men led by Pier le Moyne, Sieur d'Iberville, camped deep within the mist-shrouded swamps. Louisiana, France's toehold on the North American continent, didn't appear promising from where they huddled upon what was optimistically called high ground.

Thoughts turn toward home during the harsher realities of exploration, and the Sieur remembered the significance of March 3, 1699. He turned to his men and said, "I shall call this place the Point du Mardi Gras."

So went the first observance of the Gulf Coast's Hallmark holiday.

Discerning the origins of Mardi Gras is about as easy as trying to see through the water that flows through the swamps of the delta. Mobile, Alabama and New Orleans, Louisiana both claim to be the home of the holiday. While each of these cities is credited with the invention of important Mardi Gras traditions, the truth of exactly which city started the holiday blends history, legend and belief.

Mardi Gras celebrates a last, sensuously wild fling before turning to matters of spiritual con-

cern. People have celebrated the carnal parts of life since the time of the Greeks and Romans. At least one source states that "the carnival of the modern world is nothing more or less than the saturnalia of the Christian Romans who could not forget their pagan festivals." These pagan holidays were dedicated to the gods, Saturn (Dec. 15) and on spontaneous occasions to Bacchus, Pan and Venus.

Another explanation is that the term, Mardi Gras, originated in France during the Middle Ages as a reaction to Catholicism. Lupercalia, a Roman holiday dedicated to the fertility of the people and their flocks and fields, was celebrated on Feb. 15. The Church, promoting the notion that controlling lustful drives fostered spirituality, created Lent. This was to be a 40-day period of fasting in preparation for Easter, the observation of the resurrection of Christ.

This period, coincidentally, obliterated the observance of Lupercalia. It may be that Lupercalia, with themes easily adaptable to the notion of one last fling before 40 days of fasting, is the source of the modern holiday. The French dedicated the day before Lent began, Ash Wednesday, as a day of feasting. Fat Tuesday or Mardi Gras (Mhardi-Grah) was born.

Though the weeks of parades,

balls and parties beginning officially on twelfth night (Jan. 6) are often thought of as "Mardi Gras," that term applies only to the last day. The term for the whole season is Carnival, which translates loosely as "farewell to the flesh."

Mobile, Alabama and New Orleans share so many firsts when it comes to Mardi Gras that the truth of which city celebrated it first may never be properly determined. Records from the late 1600s and early 1700s are incomplete and in dispute by historians.

While it is fairly easy to pinpoint the origin of a city, not many of those who partook in such wild street parties cared to document either the festivity or their part in it. Not only that, but the dates of origin for individual parts of the event are within a few years between the two cities, making it all the more difficult to determine the truth.

It helps to know that Mobile and New Orleans shared duties as the French ports of entry to the new continent. With stories as colorful and interesting as these, though, it is hard to care about technicalities. The short answer is that while organized functions began earlier in Mobile, it appears that New Orleans was first to put all the parts of modern

Mardi Gras together.

A number of Mardi Gras traditions had their start during the century that followed d'Iberville's christening of the Point du Mardi Gras. Private masked balls and street processions gained popularity in Mobile and New Orleans. By the 1820s, processions both on foot and in decorated carriages became part of the Carnival season.

One account has a group of students returning to New Orleans from Paris as the origin of masking. They are said to have worn strange costumes with masks and to have danced through New Orleans in 1827.

Carriage decorating went up a level in 1839 with the debut of the first float in New Orleans.

By 1857, many of the trappings of the modern Mardi Gras, such as private balls and night parades sponsored by Krews and lit by flambeaux, were all in place.

The key to the modern celebration, however, lies with two men. One with a short name, Rex, and the other with a longer appendage, Chief Slacabomorinico.

Joe Cain, alias Chief Slacabomorinico, was not a member of the upper classes in 1866 Mobile, and so found himself

excluded from the parties.

Legend has it that he and several friends were engaged in an extended bout of libation when he noted that the word Carnival had a familiar ring to it. "I have it! Carnival—Carry naval! It means, carry a boat!" (Saying such things made sense during Mardi Gras.) The small band immediately, or perhaps after a few congratulatory toasts, set off to find a boat and a wagon.

They put the boat on the wagon and climbed aboard to "float" down the street. The new Krew, dressed as members of the Chickasaw Indian tribe, and, in a sarcastic switch, threw beads (Indian beads) to the white revelers. Most importantly, the Chief established the people's need to be included in the party.

\*\*\*\*\*

Rex, a.k.a. Lewis J. Salomon, organized the Rex pageant in New Orleans. Rex is never referred to as "King Rex," however the natives of the Crescent City will assure anyone who asks that Rex is royalty nonetheless. Rex, as much as the events that swirled around him in 1872, is credited with several important Mardi Gras innovations. The sto-

See HISTORY page A4



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By Michelle Boykin  
Arts Weekly Writer

## Poly Pops Concert

Cal Poly's Pops Concert is an annual tradition, going back almost 20 years. The Cal Poly Wind Orchestra and the University Jazz Band will host this year's concert in the Performing Arts Center Saturday.

"Pops music is a blend of classical and popular music, the kind of music you would hear on TV and in the movies," said William Johnson, conductor of the wind orchestra. This year's concert includes music by American composer Stephen Foster as well as songs from Phantom of the Opera and Disney's Fantasia.

He said Cal Poly's concert style was originally borrowed from the Boston Pops' style, in which the audience sits at round tables and munches on light snacks and drink refreshments while they enjoy the music. Before the opening of the PAC, the concert was held in Chumash Auditorium, allowing the audience to sit in a Boston Pops style setting. But since the concert moved to the PAC last year, the seating is now set up in the traditional auditorium arrangement, with refreshments during

intermission. Even though they miss the old style, Johnson said the groups like performing in the PAC.

"When you walk into the PAC, you can't believe you're still in San Luis Obispo," he said, because the auditorium has a Baroque, European style to it.

Last year at the band's first concert in the PAC, Johnson said the students were very nervous, but this year they are much more poised. The 72 orchestra players and the 22 in the band have been preparing for this concert since December. They were given the sheet music just before winter break to begin rehearsing. This quarter they have practiced together four hours each week and at least four hours a week individually.

Each year the concert hosts a special guest, a professional musician who performs with the student groups. This year's special guest is a group itself, the San Francisco Saxophone Quartet. The quartet

performed for the San Luis Obispo Mozart Festival last August and will be returning for this year's festival.

"With their appearance this August, they will have been in the area three times in the span of a year," Johnson said. "They have developed quite a following here."

The quartet will perform some selections alone, by memory in their unique fashion, and some pieces with the orchestra.

Also to be featured is student conductor Anna Binneweg, a music senior. Binneweg has been conducting for three years, after Johnson noticed her exceptional talent as a sophomore in a conducting class. To give her more practice, he has allowed her to conduct one selection for the wind orchestra for each concert until she graduates.

"She has the potential of being one of the finest conductors in the world," Johnson said. "You have to master non-verbal communication, and completely express

yourself through body language. Your eyes and hands have to express the music."

Binneweg said a little role playing helps in conducting also. For example, for the piece she conducted for last year's Pops Concert, "March to the Scaffold" by Berlioz, she imagined herself on that final walk, as a condemned person about to be beheaded, as she took her place in front of the orchestra.

"Being a conductor, you put yourself in another pair of shoes, either in the composer's or in the period in which it was written, to get a feel for the music," said Binneweg, who has played clarinet since sixth grade.

This year she will direct the orchestra in Johann Sebastian Bach's "Tocatta and Fugue in D Minor," the most challenging, but most exciting piece she has ever conducted.

Tickets are available at the ticket office or by calling 756-2787. Student tickets are \$9 to \$11, which Johnson said is due to an effort to keep students' prices low so they will come out to hear their classmates perform.

"Nine dollars to get into a world-class hall with refreshments being served is one of the best bargains of the year!" he said.



### Make a mask for Mardi Gras

If you're worried about maintaining your self image while romping the streets of San Luis Obispo during this weekend's Mardi Gras Festival, hide your face.

The ASI Craft Center is offering Mask making walk-in workshops in the spirit of Mardi Gras. Drop by room 111 in the

University Union between 11 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. and create your own identity.

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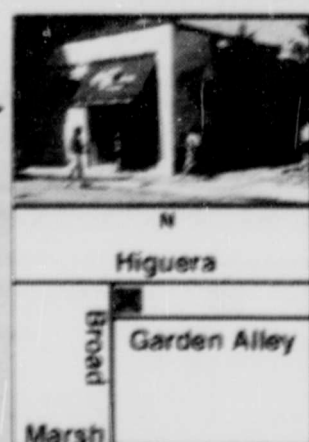
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A4 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1998

MUSTANG DAILY

## HISTORY from page A2

ries surrounding Rex, however, include two versions and one great contradiction.

In the version of the tale loaded with equal doses of sarcasm and romance, the King of Carnival was inspired by a visit from real royalty—Russian Grand Duke Alexis Romanoff. "We should have our own royalty to treat with foreign princes," ran the logic. Yet it may have been the behavior of the Grand Duke that inspired the heavily sarcastic portrayal of ribald royalty.

Romanoff, you see, may not have cared to be recognized by almost anyone. In this version of the tale, it seems that the Grand Duke was visiting New Orleans in romantic pursuit of a burlesque star, Lydia Thompson. (Her song in the theatrical production "If Ever I Cease to Love" became the official theme of Mardi Gras.)

The pair's liaison is commemorated each year at the official balls when men dress as royalty (tails, not tuxes if you please) and women dress in flamboyantly theatrical costumes. These costumes modified as burlesque changed from theater to, well, other forms of entertainment.

In a somewhat cynical version of the tale, Rex is nothing more than a tool in a public relations campaign. In this version Rex and the reconstruction of post-war New Orleans go hand in hand. In

1872, the Krewes were, in the tradition of Mobile, secretive elitist organizations. The need for a daylight people's parade, specifically for the purpose of enhancing tourism, prompted the emergence of Rex.

One newspaper account, published in the Republican, promoted the event in a way that sounds familiar today: "One of the foremost considerations in this display is to make our city attractive, not entirely for citizens, but principally for visitors. This will bring hither not less than 15,000 people and they will, on a low average, expend fifty dollars each, thus bringing capital to our city."

Regardless of the version, Rex is credited with many of the modern traditions in addition to the notion that the event should have a daytime presence open to the people. Rex established that the celebration should be presided over by royalty.

Rex is also said to have given us the colors of Mardi Gras: purple, for royalty, or justice, depending on who you talk to; gold for power; and green for faith. Regardless of the version, there was a liaison between the Grand Duke Romanoff and his burlesque queen that has set the pattern for dress at the balls.

Mardi Gras hasn't changed, at least much, since then. It's gotten bigger, definitely, but not different.

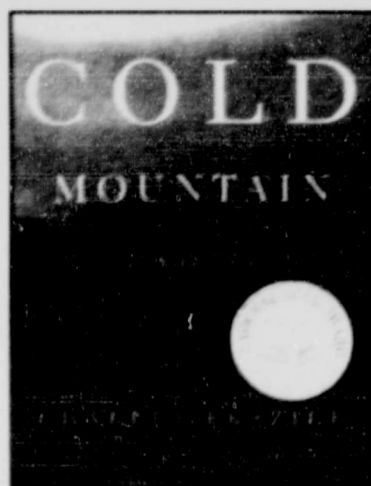


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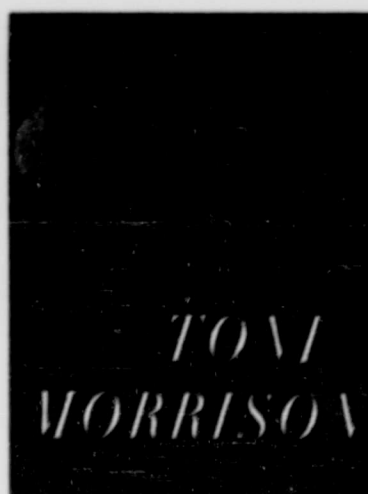
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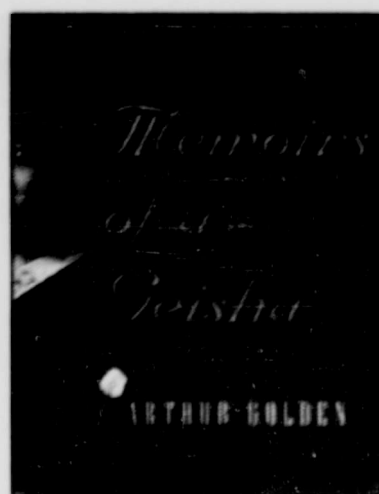
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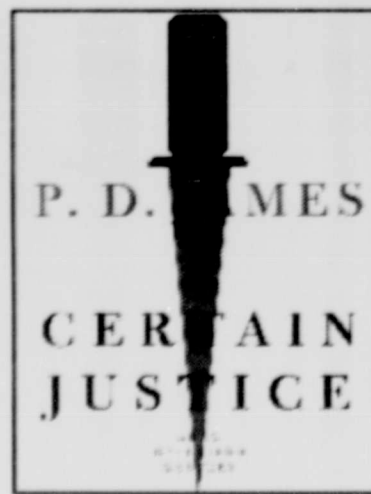
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**PYKA** from page 8

Pyka said he relies on Wyles to "push" him during workouts.

"Whether we're swimming for the team or against the clock, I'll never be mad if I lose to Eric," Pyka said. "We've talked about that before and I think he feels the same way. Competing against each other is fun!"

Wyles, whose main event is the 100 yard breaststroke, said that he swims with Pyka, rather than against him.

"Just the presence of us being together and the energy that surrounds us, gets me up and ready to go," Wyles said.

"There might be a little bit of competition that we feel there, but it's just completely positive."

Wyles said that before races, Pyka often glances over at him, gives him a nod and says "Let's do it!"

Pyka's teammate and housemate Blake Seely said that although Pyka is more of a quiet leader, his spirit and enthusiasm play a key role in getting the team "pumped up" for big races.

"He's always one of the first that's ready to say, 'let's go, let's win this

meet," Seely said.

Although physical strength plays a huge role, maybe it's Pyka's mental strengths that have allowed him to compete against some of the biggest competitors in the country.

Head swimming coach Rich Firman seems to think so.

"When he gets into a competition, he wants to excel, and he'll push himself to the limit," Firman said.

Firman added that Pyka's internal confidence helps him to lead by example.

**"When he gets into a competition, he wants to excel, and he'll push himself to the limit"**

**Rich Firman**  
head swimming and diving coach

"He's not a very vocal individual but he has a great work ethic that transfers into confidence in the meets," Firman said. "It's that kind of leadership that the younger athletes look up to."

When he doesn't perform as well as he expects to, Pyka's optimistic attitude keeps him from sinking.

"It's all mental," he said. "You just have to take a step back and realize it's not that big of a deal and have fun with it."

Despite closeness among members of the team, swimming remains

largely an individual sport. Pyka said because it is largely dependent upon individual performance, success depends heavily on self-motivation and dedication within each competitor.

"A lot of people can't take it and burn out," he said. "There's huge burn-out in swimming."

"I think that anybody who has made it to the college level has probably been swimming most of their life, and they've managed to make it through."

The monotony of swimming year round has the potential to wear an athlete down, but Pyka said even during the toughest times, swimming is never unbearable.

"At its worst it's just hanging out with your friends," he said.

Pyka said his commitment and love for swimming have helped him to stay afloat.

"Swimming is my life," Pyka said. "I don't know what I'm going to do after it's over!"

Pyka is confident that his performance in this weekend's championships will qualify him for the NCAA Division I championships in March. Qualifying places Pyka among the top 32 breaststrokers in the country.

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## SPORTS

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## SPORTS TRIVIA

## Yesterday's Answer:

Canadian Kurt Browning was the first male figure skater to land a quad in competition.

Congrats Kevin Lew!

## Today's Question:

What event did the U.S. just win capture the men's and women's gold medals in at the Nagano Olympics?

submit your answer to:  
kkaney@polymail.calpoly.edu

## SCHEDULE

## TODAY

- Wrestling vs. San Francisco State in Mott Gym at 7 p.m.

## TOMORROW

- Women's tennis vs. San Jose State at tennis courts behind Mott Gym at 2 p.m.
- Baseball vs. San Francisco at Sinsheimer Stadium at 7 p.m.
- Women's basketball vs. U.C. Santa Barbara at Santa Barbara at 7 p.m.
- Men's volleyball varsity team at U.C. Davis
- Men's volleyball junior varsity team at San Francisco State

## MEDAL COUNT

Winter Day 13  
OLYMPICS

Nagano 1998

COUNTRY	TOTAL
Germany	22
Norway	16
Russia	13
Austria	12
Canada	12
Netherlands	10
Finland	8
United States	8
Japan	8
Italy	6
France	5
Switzerland	4
South Korea	2
China	2
Sweden	2
Czech Republic	2
Belarus	1
Bulgaria	1
Denmark	1
Ukraine	1
Kazakhstan	1
Belgium	1

## All in the family



Daily photo by David Wood

By Jaime Borasi  
Daily Opinion Editor

**I**n Pyka has more than 50 brothers and sisters, all of whom were strangers to him four years ago. It wasn't some talk show host who brought them together on national television either. It was a visit to Cal Poly in his senior year of high school that led Pyka in the direction of his new family.

"I came for a trip and some seniors on the team walked me around," said the 22-year-old construction management senior. "They told me that Cal Poly wasn't a really high ranked team, but it was a family team, a close-knit team and that was good enough for me."

Pyka and his family left yesterday for their biggest road trip this season, the Big West Championships. Competition starts today in Long

Beach and continues through Saturday.

Pyka will try and defend his 1997 Big West championship title for the 200 yard breaststroke as well as compete in the 200 yard individual medley and the 400 yard individual medley.

It hasn't been easy gearing up for the Big West Championships, but if Pyka performs as he hopes to this weekend, the NCAA Division I Championships in March will be the grand finale to his swimming career.

In and out of the pool, it is the Cal Poly family of swimmers that Pyka turns to for support.

Pyka works out with junior breastroker Eric Wyles who is currently second in the Big West for the 200 yard breaststroke (2:07.68) with Pyka occupying a close third (2:08.83) in the event.

See PYKA page 7

## Pyka's placing in Big West

Defending 1997 Big West champion in the 200 breaststroke.

## Current standings:

100 Breaststroke  
3rd at 59.14

200 Breaststroke  
3rd at 2:08.83

200 Individual Medley  
7th at 1:58.21

400 Individual Medley  
6th at 4:15.17

## CLUB CORNER



## Men's Lacrosse

The men's lacrosse team went up to Humboldt for a game that unfortunately got rained out. On Sunday, though, the team took on St. Mary's. The game was a mess, with mud and puddles everywhere. Fortunately, Cal Poly ended the mudfest victorious with a 9-7 victory. That takes the team to 1-1 for the season, and 1-0 in Division II North games.

## Men's Volleyball

The men's volleyball varsity team finished 5th at Far Westerns. The men's volleyball junior varsity team won against Los Medanos and Simpson College and also had an excellent performance at the Far Westerns.

The Roller Hockey team took first place in the Far West Collegiate Roller Hockey Tournament in Sacramento last weekend. They went 3-1 in the qualifying rounds, beating U.C. Davis, Pepperdine and Sacramento State. In the championships, they defeated U.C. Santa Barbara 6-4. Steve Schneider was named tournament MVP by scoring 14 points in the first round.

## Results

Cal Poly 10  
Pepperdine 2

Cal Poly 8  
Sacramento State 0

Cal Poly 5  
U.C. Davis 2

Cal Poly 1  
U.C. Santa Barbara 6

Finals  
Cal Poly 6  
U.C. Santa Barbara 4

## Commenting on sports

By Joe Nolan  
Daily Staff Writer

The 1998 Winter Olympics will be coming to a close soon, and it's been very entertaining—what I've seen that is.

I've seen the Austrian skier skip across the snow like a stone along water. I also saw the women's hockey team doggy-pile on center ice after winning the gold. These moments define what the Olympics are all about: "The thrill of victory and the agony of defeat."

The problem is that CBS, TNT and ESPN have gone out of their way to show as little of the competition as possible.

ESPN, which is usually more than competent at covering sports, has a very simple job, showing highlights. However, for the most part it has just listed the medalists of a given event. This is completely worthless because most people don't even know who these people are. The remedy to this ailment is simple. Show highlights!

TNT and CBS are much more to blame than ESPN. They have the privilege (albeit it cost them millions to get to show the games that bring the world together. So what have they decided to do?

They've decided to tell us about Japanese culture. I actually heard CBS commentator Jim Nantz comment on how Japanese people drink their soup. He said that it's not rude in Japan to slurp soup in public.

Thanks Jim, can I watch the ski jump now?

TNT also added some Japanese culture when they did a 10-minute feature on popular shoes in Nagano. Are there really people out there who turned on the Olympics hoping to learn about shoe-wear in Nagano?

Can I watch the luge now?

I understand that CBS isn't the smartest network—after all it is responsible for "Murphy Brown" and "The Nanny." But, it doesn't take a rocket scientist to realize what a goldmine they could have exploited with the new events.

There are three new winter games this year: women's hockey, snowboarding and curling. Curling, which involves pushing a 44-pound stone down a long sheet of ice, shouldn't be an Olympic event. It shouldn't even be a sport. Actually, it's a pretty pathetic hobby. But, the other two had tremendous support.

Ratings are down 35 percent from the last Winter Games, and the one event that could have boosted the ratings was snowboarding. It had over 1,000 people lining the slopes on the first day. However, the two networks decided that it was more important to discuss whether Canadian Ross Rebagliati should get his gold medal back after testing positive for marijuana than to show the events. Some people believe CBS chose not to show a lot of snowboarding because of the sport's reputation for drug use. If this is true, CBS is going to love the NFL.

Women's hockey was another excellent addition to the list of winter games. The game is played with as much intensity as the men's, but the puck doesn't move as quickly which makes it easier to follow.

Thankfully, USA did very well because otherwise CBS probably would have chosen to do a feature on Japanese hairstyles instead of showing the gold medal game.

The Winter Olympics is a very special event. It's the one time when people care about events like downhill skiing and the bobsled. Athletes come from all around the world to compete and celebrate the sport they love. So save the Japanese culture for the classroom, and start showing the world's games.