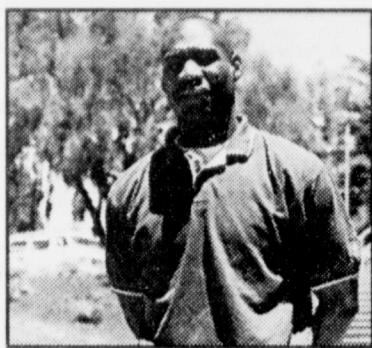


## Blowing toxic air

One reporter believes smoking is a detestable habit

Opinion, page 4



## Kwanza has arrived

Cal Poly hires new assistant men's basketball coach

Sports, back page

## Haunted house?

"The Haunting" isn't a scare, it's a repeat of lame horror

Arts & Entertainment, page 6



High 72°  
Low 54°

# SUMMER MUSTANG

Thursday

July 29, 1999

CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY SAN LUIS OBISPO

## Teens reach upward with Poly's help

By Erin Green  
Summer Mustang

Cal Poly students are mentored by their professors, but they also act as mentors themselves through a program that strives to help college hopefuls.

Students are involved in the Upward Bound summer tutorial program for disadvantaged high school students.

"It's my way of giving back to those who help others," said Ryan Trammell, an Upward Bound resident advisor and a social science senior.

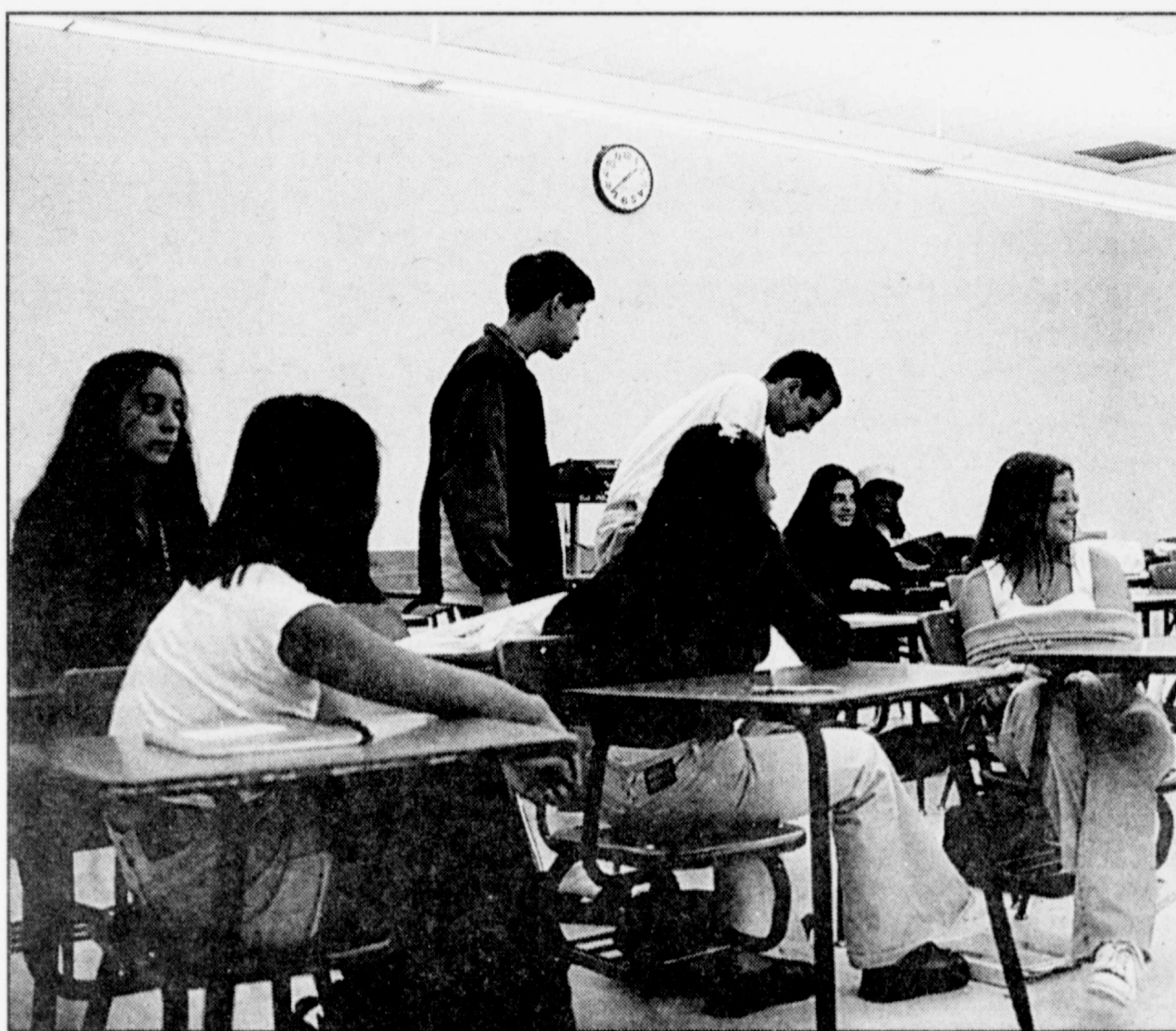
Upward Bound, a live-in tutorial program, is funded by the university and U.S. Department of Education. High school students from south San Luis Obispo County live in dorms on campus and take classes at Cal Poly.

"Our goal is to prepare low income students and first generation college students for college," said Sam Cortez, director of Upward Bound.

The program has been successful in its goal — 92 percent of the Upward Bound graduates end up going to college. Cortez attributes some of that success to the teacher assistants and resident advisors, many of whom are Upward Bound graduates.

"The Cal Poly students have a great impact," Cortez said. "That is primarily why they are here. They are great role models because they have the same background as the students in the program."

Trammell, a graduate of a similar program in San Diego, recognizes the importance of his role



Jon King/ Summer Mustang

College hopefuls sit in class at Cal Poly as members of Upward Bound, a program that tries to prepare low income students and first generation students for college.

in Upward Bound.

"I'm a mentor and a friend," Trammell said. "Those roles go hand in hand."

Cortez explained that mentoring is the fundamental principle of Upward Bound.

"Our philosophy is that the college students are mentors," Cortez said. "We strongly believe in the college students' involvement with the younger ones. In addition to being academic supporters, they are also big brothers and big sisters."

The kids will call the RAs in the middle of the night with girlfriend or boyfriend problems."

While creating friendships is a bonus for the program, Upward Bound students remember the original reason why they are there.

"The program gives me an advantage," said Cecilia Gomez, an Upward Bound student. "It's fun and it gets you more prepared. When you are done, you really know how college life is."

## Budget grants fee decrease

By Erin Green  
Summer Mustang

Cal Poly student fees have been decreased for fall quarter. Undergraduate registration fees for fall quarter will cost \$715 for six or more units, down \$26 from the anticipated amount.

The fee drop is due to higher education funding in the California State budget, which California Gov. Gray Davis signed on June 29.

According to Davis' office, the budget included "\$43 million to reduce UC and CSU undergraduate fees by 10 percent from last year." This brings student fees in California to their lowest level since 1992-93.

Students at Cal Poly are pleased with the change.

"Good," Phap Vu, a fourth year

see DECREASE, page 2

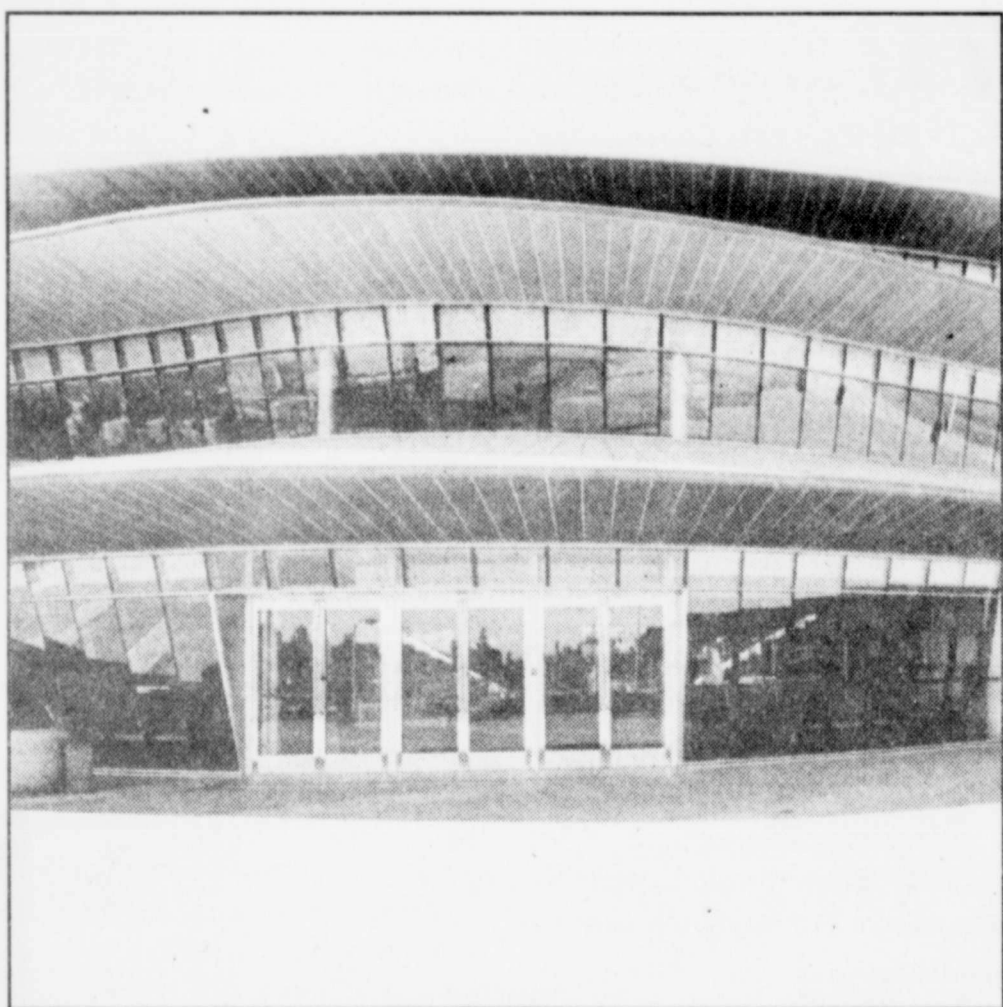
### Fall Quarter Fee Decrease

#### Undergraduate Fees

- 6 units or less \$515
- more than 6 units \$715

#### Graduate Fees

- 6 units or less \$531
- more than 6 units \$741



Corey Harting/ Summer Mustang

Although Cal Poly's Performing Arts Center caters to many different audiences, some students would like to have greater access to the center.

## Who really owns the PAC?

Students feel they should be granted more access to the venue

By Erin Crosby  
Summer Mustang

Cal Poly's Performing Arts Center sets the stage for a variety of national and international performances every year, but for the campus community, it isn't all it is cracked up to be.

Many students and faculty feel the PAC belongs to the students, and should be able to use the facilities at their will without having to pay for it. According to students, this isn't the case.

The building, which opened in 1996, is not actually owned by Cal Poly, rather it is owned by the state of California. According to Ron Regier, managing director for the PAC, it was built as a partnership between the university, the city of San Luis Obispo and the

Foundation for the Performing Arts Center.

"The Performing Arts Center is basically a rental facility," Regier said. "The individual groups decide who will perform in the center and then we rent it to them."

Since the PAC doesn't sponsor any of the performances except those done by the Youth Outreach of the Performing Arts Center, anyone — Cal Poly students included — wishing to use the facilities must pay.

"It is a very expensive thing to run (the PAC) and to run it well, so I feel that the fees are justified," said

Thomas Davies, choir conductor for the Cal Poly choirs.

Rent for the PAC can cost anywhere from \$925 to \$2,125 per night. This is just the price for the building. Use of the grand piano, tape recording machines, tables, chairs, technicians, management and any kind of labor costs extra. Also, those wishing to sell tickets to their events must do so through the PAC ticket system, which charges about \$1.75 per ticket sold.

Students are given the break of not having to pay rent for the facil-

**"The Performing Arts Center is basically a rental facility."**

— Ron Regier

managing director for the PAC

see PAC, page 2



**DECREASE**

continued from page 1

Many students were confused by the decrease because they were under the impression they would be paying more in the future.

"What happened to the fee increase?" Jennifer Jongsma, a biochemistry senior asked. "If the fees are going to change, I'd rather have

them go down than up."

Others are apathetic towards the decrease.

"If the money does not go to Cal Poly, then it's going to go to Visa," Lew Smith, a microbiology senior, said.

Undergraduate registration fees for fall quarter will cost \$715 for six or more units. This brings undergraduate student fees at Cal Poly down \$26.

**PAC**

continued from page 1

ity, but they still must pay for labor, technicians and the ticket system.

Whether the fees are justified, many of the students and faculty feel that paying to use the facilities is unfair. They feel that the PAC was built with the students in mind and that they should be allowed to use it at their will - free of charge.

According to Lara Black, an English senior and theater minor, "the PAC is more of a hindrance than a help."

Black points out that while the students are allowed to use the facilities, they must do so on the PAC's terms. There are 12 days set aside

per year in which Cal Poly has priority over other organizations. If the students wish to use the facility any other time they must compete with other groups, and the students are not always given use of the building.

Scheduling for the PAC is handled by Regier, who works for President Baker, but does not make all of the decisions. He is advised by the Central Coast Performing Arts Center Commission, which is the PAC advisory board. The commission consists of nine members — five appointed by Cal Poly, two by the city of San Luis Obispo and two by the Foundation of Performing Arts.

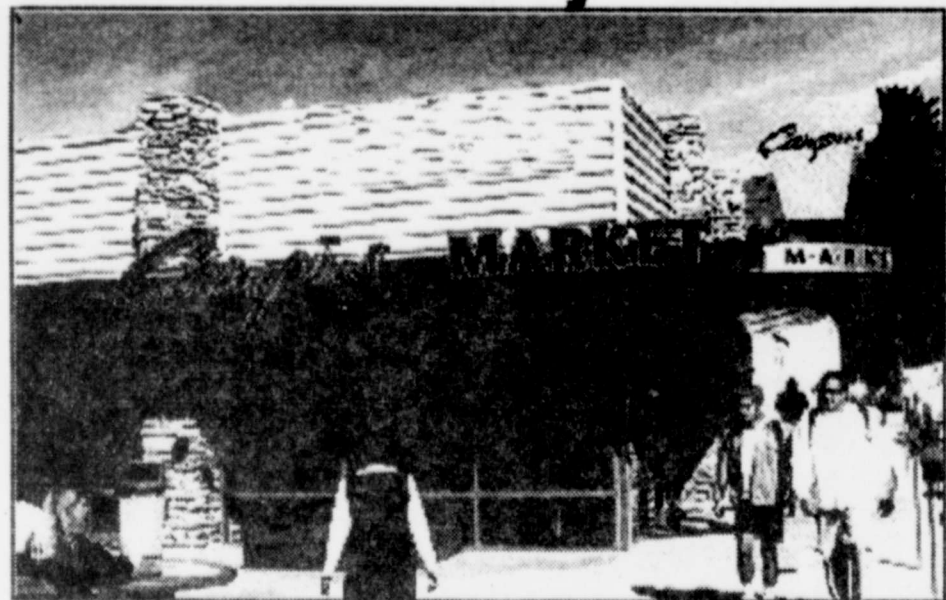
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Mustang Daily publishes corrections on its own and in its own voice as soon as we are told about a mistake by anyone — our staff, an uninvolved reader, or an aggrieved reader — and can confirm the correct information. This policy, however, should not be taken for a policy of accommodating readers who are simply unhappy about a story that has been published. For corrections or complaints, contact editor Joe Nolan at (805) 756-1796 or [editor@mustangdaily.calpoly.edu](mailto:editor@mustangdaily.calpoly.edu)

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Mustang Daily needs people to sell display advertising for summer and fall.

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**Campus Market Wins Beauty Award**

**STYLE:** A new modern look beautifies campus.

Cal Poly was one of five winners of a 1999 Commendation Award from the Obispo Beautiful Association. Campus Market was the prize winner in the institution-remodel category for its recent renovation.

The Obispo Beautiful Awards are presented annually to residents and businesses that improve the overall appearance

of the community.

The awards committee includes architects, designer-builders, landscape designers, artists and planners. This year's 37 awards were chosen from approximately 85 nominees.

Campus Market is proud to be among those adding to the beauty of Cal Poly and the community of San Luis Obispo.

— paid advertisement —

**Poly joins university alliance to forbid sweatshop apparel**

By Teresa Wilson  
Summer Mustang

Cal Poly Foundation has joined in a nationwide student calling for the Clinton Administration to "mend it or end it" in regards to its noncommittal stance on sweatshop practices.

Members of United Students Against Sweatshops are dissatisfied with the current position of the Fair Labor Association in regard to the monitoring of sweatshop practices.

Formed in November 1998, the FLA is an organization within the U.S. Labor Department whose mission is to maintain an industry-wide code of conduct and monitoring system. The objective of the FLA is the creation of a credible, independent monitoring system that will hold companies publicly accountable for their labor practices as well as those of their principal contractors and suppliers around the world.

USAS members want more from the FLA, and they want the dozens of universities affiliated with the FLA, including Cal Poly, to reconsider their association with the FLA.

In a recent protest in front of the U.S. Department of Labor, more than 100 USAS members demanded full public disclosure of factory locations and living wage provisions by the FLA.

The result of the protest was the invitation by National Economic Advisor Gene Sperling to USAS members who met with Sperling and Labor Department officials at the White House July 20.

Students urged officials to press companies to disclose the location of their factories and permit independent monitoring for sweatshop conditions. USAS members brought with them a letter of support from Sen. Paul Wellstone, D-Minn.

The response from Sperling was noncommittal.

University of Pennsylvania anthropology senior Miriam Joffe-Block attended the meeting with Sperling.

"This meeting was an attempt to mollify our concerns about our universities' involvement with the



Steve Schueneman/ Summer Mustang

**Cal Poly sweatshirts, sold at El Corral Bookstore, are just some of the products that are manufactured in non-sweatshop facilities, a trend that universities across the United States would like to see become prevalent.**

FLA," Joffe-Block said.

Students' anti-sweatshop activism forced more than 15 universities to resist corporate pressure and require licensees to publicly disclose the names and locations of factories.

"Full public disclosure is the most basic starting point in addressing labor issues in factories," Joffe-Block said. "If consumers don't know under what conditions their clothes are made, they can't make educated purchasing decisions."

Labor Secretary Alexis Herman says the goal of the Labor Department is to make sweatshops go out of fashion. She proposes five goals for this: to equip every worker with the skills to find and keep a good job, to move people from welfare to work, to assure that all workers are economically secure when they retire, to help workers balance the demands of job and family and to guarantee every worker a safe, healthy and fair workplace.

USAS member Maria Roeper, a

political science senior at Haverford College in Pennsylvania also attended the White House meeting and is not satisfied with the Clinton Administration's initiative.

"We have taken a strong position against the FLA because we disapprove of our universities lending legitimacy to any institution which gives cover to sweatshop abuses," Roeper said. "We will continue to organize against the FLA until there has been substantial change not only for disclosure and public accountability, but also for provisions of a living wage, real independent monitoring and a governance structure which is not controlled by corporations."

Though only a year old, USAS is growing with affiliate organizations at more than 125 schools across the United States and Canada. Members intend to continue protesting sweatshop practices and FLA unwillingness to permit full disclosure and independent monitoring of factories.

**Turning 24 means more aid**

By Nanette Pietroforte  
Summer Mustang

For many Cal Poly students, turning 18 isn't the mark of independence, and neither is 21. The magic age for students to be considered financially independent is 24.

According to John Anderson, Cal Poly's director of student financial aid, turning 24 is just one of many factors in receiving financial aid.

"If you're a veteran, a graduate student, have a dependent, are an orphan or ward of the court, or over the age of 24, you qualify," Anderson said.

"In a survey we conducted to help determine living costs of our financial aid students, many students wrote about the age qualification in

the comment portion of the survey," Anderson said.

He said many students asked in the recent survey why they had to be 24 to be considered financially independent from their parents and qualify for financial aid.

"I don't think that many students understand Cal Poly doesn't determine the age," Anderson said.

"Congress chose the age of 24," he said. "I'm not sure anybody has the answer to why they chose that particular age."

For some students, the age qualification is a problem when it comes to paying for school.

Biochemistry and microbiology senior Ryon Tognazzini is paying for his entire education and receives no

help from his parents.

"Everyone has this idea that your parents saved up for you to go to college and want to help you out. With my parents, their view on it is, 'You're 18. You're an adult now. You can take care of yourself,'" Tognazzini said.

"If the government expects your parents to pay for your college, than they should be forced to pay for your college, as sad as it is," he said.

Anderson said colleges have no methods to force parents to pay for their child's education.

"If the government says a parent should contribute, we don't have any way of making parents do that," Anderson said.

see AID page 3



# Unpredictable weather yields to warm and cool SLO summer days

By Kimberly D. Kralick  
Summer Mustang

Foggy today, sunny tomorrow.

Many students are frustrated with the unpredictable weather this summer. And they have only one thing to blame — La Nina.

"I wish the weather would make up its mind," said environmental horticultural science senior Barbara Bravo.

La Nina is a cooling of the Pacific Ocean that follows its bigger and nastier brother, El Nino. While the last two years the Central Coast has been

drenched in the rains from El Nino, this year La Nina brings drier weather and off and on hot temperatures.

"We have had subtle differences in the weather with La Nina," said Sharon Graves, chief meteorologist for KSBY.

"I did notice this past year cooler nights, which is a result of having less rain. If you have less moisture in the air the night's cool. We also noticed a cooler beginning to our summer," Graves said.

Graves calls La Nina a mixed bag of weather but more subtle than El Nino. Most students wish that La Nina would get her act together.

"The weather has been unpredictable, so it's hard to tell in the morning what you should wear," said recreation administration senior Jason Olaiz.

Grad student Heather Craig isn't so upset with the weather.

"I like warmer weather — it's not been really all that bad here (Shell Beach)," Craig said.

Graves' outlook for the rest of the summer is sizzling.

"I know that the models were showing the latter part of our summer, beginning in late July through September, to be hot. They were forecasting hotter than normal conditions," she said.

Most students don't mind the heat and have ways of coping with the high temperatures.

"I love the sun. Because I have a physical condition, when it's warmer I can do more," Craig said.

"I love to swim.

I love to go to the beach and I love to putter in my garden."

Olaiz likes the sun too.

"I just go down to the San Luis Obispo recreation pool and take a dip," Olaiz said.

Bravo puts her feet up, sips cold drinks and sits in front of fan, but says she prefers the cooler times. Hot temperatures affect her major and her job.

"There's no air conditioning up at the unit and we have to work out in the sun. Plus the plants need more water. So when it's hot, it makes my job harder," Bravo said.

Graves expects that at least once this summer San Luis Obispo will see some thunderstorm activity. Expect the unexpected the rest of the summer. It will be hot. It will be muggy. It will be cool. It will be foggy. That's the game called La Nina.

**"I wish the weather would make up its mind."**

—Barbara Bravo  
environmental horticulture  
science senior

## AID

continued from page 2

Tognazzini said his parents make too much for him to qualify for financial aid. He tried for nearly 10 different scholarships and gave up because he didn't qualify for certain minority or financial need scholarships.

"There is so much help out there for certain people, but for the general public, there isn't," he said.

Tognazzini received his associate of science degree at Cuesta College in hopes of finding a job that would pay enough for him to go to school. His job, though, turned out to hurt more than help.

"I made too much money in my job supporting myself to qualify for financial aid," he said. "It's like a catch-22."

Tognazzini is not the only one having to support himself to go to school.

Business administration senior Ryan Maxwell is also receiving his education with no financial help

**"I made too much money in my job to qualify for financial aid. It's like a catch-22."**

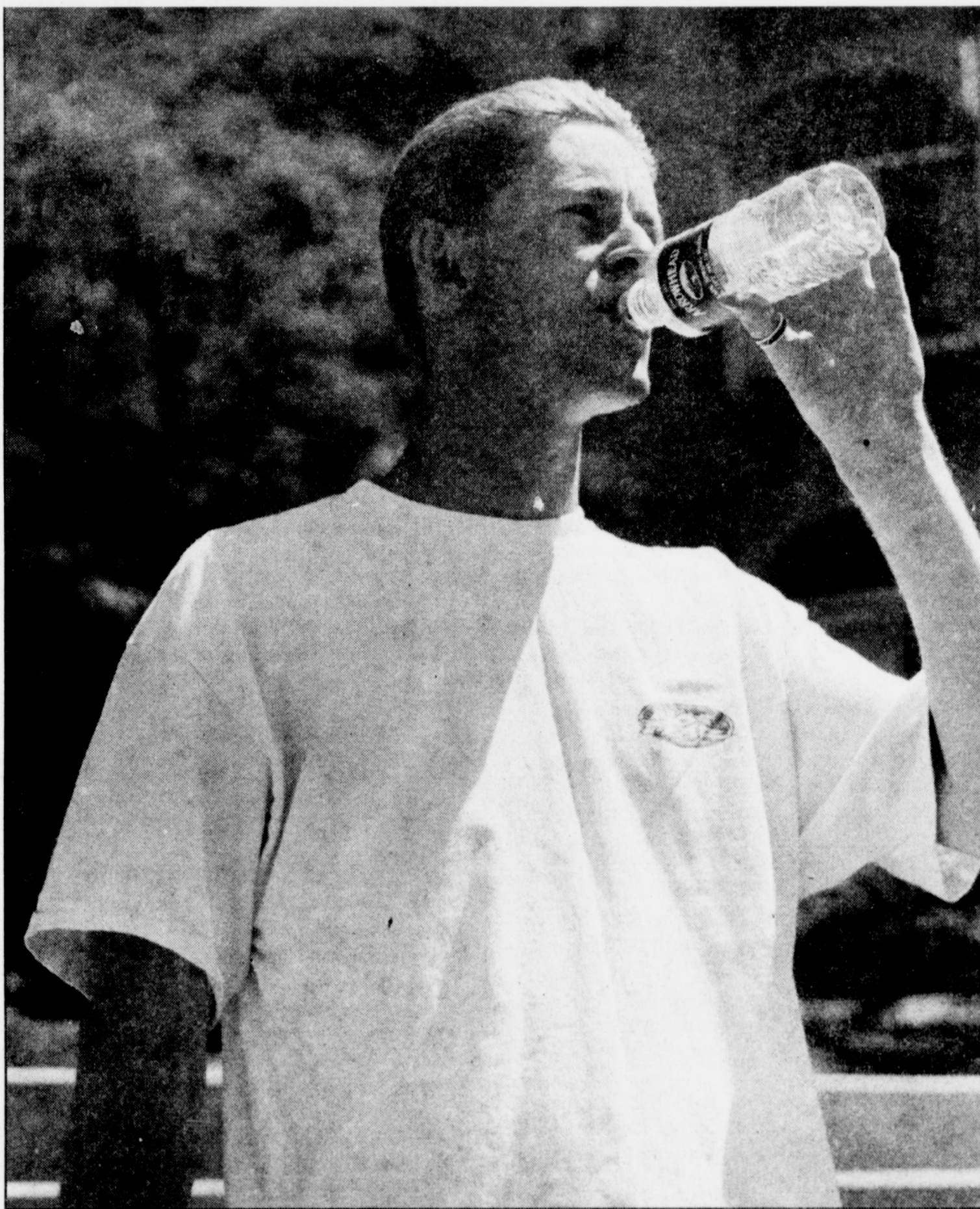
— Ryon Tognazzini  
biochemistry senior

from his parents. He has alternated going to school and taking time off from school to work full-time to get his degree.

"If I could, I'd just like to go to school. Unfortunately, they don't pay us to go to school," Maxwell said.

Maxwell said the financial aid system has its downfalls but understands the difficulty in pleasing everyone.

"It's hard to show need when they look at the family income and not family obligations, like house payments," Maxwell said. "There's no easy solution to it."



Jon King/ Summer Mustang

One student tries to seek relief from the warm weather by drinking water, even though the next day he may be pulling out some of his winter clothes due to the unpredictable weather.

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## A skateboard park is a legal mess to come

Recently, the city of Grover Beach decided to erect a park specifically for skateboarders and rollerbladers. In part, this park can be seen as a compromise between a city ordinance against such activity taking place around businesses and providing a place for adolescents to unwind. On the surface, this park appears to be the answer for parents of rowdy teenagers, but I believe this park will be an economic and legal albatross for the city.

Before going into my reasons, some other points need to be addressed. First, I do not harbor any ill will against skateboarders or rollerbladers so long as they do their "thing" safely and don't endanger others needlessly.

Second, the city of Grover Beach has enacted a set of ground rules for the park. These include the usual rules prohibiting vandalism of city property as well as rules mandating that all users of the park — regardless of age or

expertise — shall wear a helmet, elbow pads and kneepads.

Furthermore, the rules state that there is no supervision provided; therefore, use at your own risk. This derivative version of caveat emptor is a nice

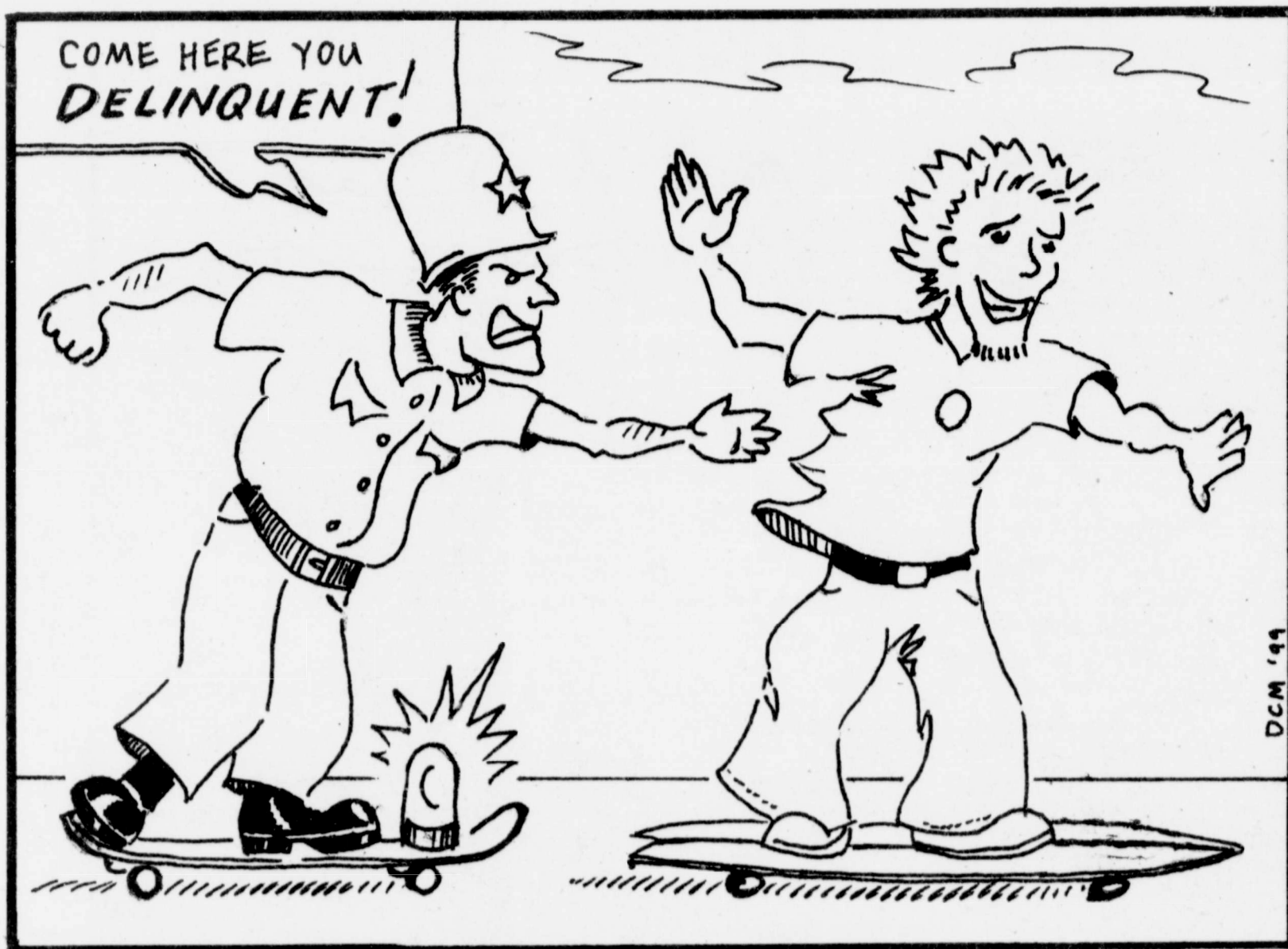
move by the city to deflect potential lawsuits by shifting the assumption of risk onto the user rather than the city and/or contractor(s) involved.

Lastly, I applaud recent efforts by the local police to uphold the park rules, specifically for the arrest of a young girl who was caught vandalizing a sign containing the rules, no doubt in the presence of parental onlookers with cellular phones. My reasons for believing this park will be an economic and legal albatross for the city stem from the belief that it will not take long for the park-users to hurt themselves seriously enough to warrant a hospital trip. One look at the park will be all that is needed to observe the unforgiving pool-like concrete foundation and certain places imbedded with steel to aid in maneuvers.

My prediction that lawsuits are not far behind comes from the precept that no parent wishes to see their child bleed profusely and wallow in pain and will seek out whoever is responsible. Those parents who applaud the park will probably be the same ones running to their lawyers right after the hospital to make allegations that it is not their child's fault for attempting a handrail maneuver that resulted in a face-plant requiring 37 stitches.

Perhaps I am completely baseless in my assumptions; perhaps Grover Beach has indemnified themselves in some way. Nonetheless, the city will still engage in the preliminary stages of defending itself in civil lawsuits as well as continue to pay high insurance premiums for such a park, if in fact such insurance exists. The fact remains to be seen that the city will probably spend 50 times more money dealing with the aftermath of accidents than it did incurring construction and development costs. This park may serve as political good will to the community by the city, but at what cost to its bank account? It is for these reasons that I believe the park should be torn down.

Scott A. Lemos is a political science senior.



## COMMENTARY

## Smoking is more than hazardous

There are many things in my life I appreciate. I appreciate computers. I appreciate lifeguards. I appreciate my boyfriend's bizarre sense of humor. I appreciate the sign on my car that says, "Objects in mirror are closer than they appear." But even after all these, there is one thing I appreciate even more: my ability to breathe.

I am asthmatic, and, as a result, I carry a prescription inhaler everywhere I go in case my body suddenly decides to stop absorbing oxygen. My appreciation for every breath I take is the driving force behind the emotions I feel each and every time I see someone light up a cigarette.

I get angry. Smoking costs the United States \$97.2 billion each year in health care. Last time I checked, the U.S. didn't have that kind of spare change lying around.

I become overwhelmed with sadness. Smoking-related diseases claim an estimated 430,700 American lives each year. How many of them will be people I have met, I have known, or I have loved?

I feel pity. I understand smoking is an addiction many people can't seem to overcome, despite trying the Patch, Nicorette or quitting cold turkey. The hundreds of cigarette butts on our campus are daily reminders that there are people who have to smoke.

I get scared. Experts say that second-hand smoke is just as bad as (if not worse

than) what smokers ingest. There are more than 4,000 chemicals released into the air every time a cigarette is lit.

Let's take a moment to discuss what exactly cigarettes emit when lit. Cigarettes give off carbon monoxide. Why would someone want to ingest the same chemical found in car exhaust?

Tar is what roads are made of and is also an ingredient in cigarettes. I wonder how many people would be licking the streets if it were considered "the thing to do."

Ammonia is also found in cigarettes. That chemical may work wonders cleaning toilets and showers, but it must do a number on the inside of someone's lungs.

Remember the stuff used to preserve dead frogs and human organs from our biology classes? Yes, formaldehyde is found in cigarettes too.

One of the most toxic chemicals in cigarettes is cyanide. For those of you who aren't familiar with cyanide, it's a poison used to fumigate ships and buildings. Raise your hand if you want that in your body.

My point here isn't to get up on a soapbox and preach to the masses about the dangers of smoking. If someone wants to ingest substances they may not even be able to pronounce, who am I to stop them? I'm not perfect. I have my faults. The difference is my faults don't jeopardize the air quality and the lives of others around me.

A few evenings ago, I came across a

website for smokers' rights. On a message board, one smoker posted the message, "I am two months pregnant and don't want to quit smoking. E-mail me back if you have any advice on how to handle this."

I wanted to e-mail a reply that read, "Here's some advice. Give the baby up for adoption if you are really that ignorant." I couldn't comprehend how she could think ingesting cigarettes with a life growing inside of her wouldn't pose a threat to that baby.

I'll admit even though I have never once had a cigarette, I have a few friends who are smokers. Some are occasional smokers, and some smoke habitually. Each time they light up, I lose respect for them.

They like to joke about my asthma and the little inhaler I carry around with me. I doubt they'll be laughing when they're wheeling around an oxygen tank and breathing out of a tube in their throat.

They joke about my being left out of their conversations when they go outside to smoke, like it's some elite social circle in which I should aspire to be included. I wonder, though, when they come in smelling of cigarette smoke, smiling with their yellow teeth and coughing up phlegm balls, how many of them will wish they had been left out of that social circle.

Nanette Pietroforte is a journalism senior.

## SUMMER MUSTANG

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"I will be an irritant on her ass until she lets me in."



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Open your 'Eyes' to Kubrick's film Editor,

Last week, in the arts and entertainment section of the Summer Mustang, Nanette Pietroforte gave a less than complimentary review of Stanley Kubrick's final movie, "Eyes Wide Shut."

Her reasons for this were the movie was too long, the plot was not developed quickly enough for her, there were inconsistencies in the story and, namely, that she had "to sit and ponder the film to the point of frustration." Careful Nanette, we wouldn't want you to hurt yourself.

Besides the fact that Nanette's article spent most of its words simply recounting the events in the movie, her criticism is poorly given and demonstrated a lack of artistic appreciation. Because the movie's meaning was not abundantly clear, i.e. the "audience has to think too long and hard about the plot and the message of a film," does not mean it was/is a poor movie.

Unlike "Titanic" or some other grotesquerie of Hollywood's simplistic appeal, "Eyes Wide Shut" was truly a piece of art. Kubrick was indeed a perfectionist. His intention in making movies was not to sell tickets, action figures or soundtracks. Kubrick, throughout his film-making career, hoped to explore the more intriguing aspects of humanity, aspects that are not terribly obvious, aspects that, in many cases, are embarrassing, frightening or shamefully self-revealing. Kubrick, as all serious artists hope to do, pushed back the walls of consciousness in select areas of our minds and culture.

So, in conclusion, go see "Eyes Wide Shut." Yes, it is confusing, it is dark and it does explore and reveal things that are uncomfortable. To do this sometimes takes more than the standard 90 or so minutes of running time. And it even requires a thoughtful audience, heaven forbid.

Aron DeFerrari is a political science junior.

## Make headlines. I dare you.

Columns, cartoons and letters reflect the views of their authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Summer Mustang.

Summer Mustang encourages comments on editorial policy and university affairs. Letters should be typewritten, double-spaced, signed with your major and class standing. They can be mailed, faxed, delivered or e-mailed to [opinion@mustangdaily.calpoly.edu](mailto:opinion@mustangdaily.calpoly.edu)

## Don't take all your beliefs and views from what a book tells you Editor,

This is in response to "Gay Pride" is not in the Bible" (July 22) written by Cassandra Jones. Ms. Jones, after reading your religious nonsensical preaching, I have one conclusion: fundamental Christians like you must despise thinking for themselves or making their own decisions.

It seems before forming any opinion or judgment in your life, you are searching the Bible for answers on how you should think and act. I can't comprehend how you can base your answers to life on various scriptures and verses you have retrieved from the Bible because, to me, the Bible is a piece of literature and nothing more.

I am happy I have the freedom to experience life to the fullest, and I can make my own judgments based on my own experiences and observations, not by what some book tells me. You can call me a "sinner," I don't care — that label means nothing to me.

To have an open mind, to respect everyone and every living thing, to appreciate everyone's unique contributions to this world, to be honest and take responsibility for my actions — these are the principles that I strive for. I don't need the Bible to tell me how I should live my life or what's good and bad because I am a thinking being who is capable of making my own decisions!

Ms. Jones, I am sorry that you have so obviously been brainwashed.

Meredith Rogers is a nutrition sophomore.

## The Bible is not a Biology text Editor,

Cassandra Jones' article, "Gay Pride" is not in the Bible" (July 22), provides very good background and evidence for homosexuality being a sin. However, she erred in her thinking and reasoning by declaring that homosexuality is "not a genetic trait."

Being a Catholic Christian myself, and having attended private schools my whole life (up until now), I was always taught the Bible was a book of FAITH and not a science book. Nowhere in the Bible does it say that eye color and hair color are genetic traits, but does that mean they aren't? To my knowledge,

the writers of the Bible, although given divine inspiration by God, were not experts in the field of genetics.

Irman Arcibal is a biological sciences junior.

## Experience life before you preach Editor,

Once again religious rhetoric has made its way into the opinion page, this time in the form of gay bashing. Cassandra Jones seems to think that by letting everyone know what she considers to be God's word says, homosexuals will deny their sexuality in the name of a myth called the Bible. Sorry, Ms. Jones, but it's not that easy.

Backed by her supposed truths, Jones attempts to prove that homosexuality is a sin and not a genetic trait. Besides denying the proof of science that homosexuality is predisposed, she wrongly assumes that her religion is the universal truth. You may have the right to preach your blind faith, which I feel is pure hypocrisy, but homosexuals also have the right to express their sexuality through a gay pride parade.

I'm sure being the good Christian you are, you attend church every Sunday to celebrate your love of the Lord. Homosexuals, who are often denied love from their families, your God and church, should also be able to celebrate in their community. They are faced with a sexuality that is hard to reveal in a world full of closed-minded people like you. Your article is clearly intended to use the words of your God in the hope that homosexuals will conform to the mold you find acceptable.

You claim not to be self-righteous, but by simply writing this article, the stones are being thrown. If you think homosexuals can simply "forsake that sin and turn to Jesus Christ for forgiveness," you are kidding yourself. Why would anyone choose to be gay with all the persecution that comes with it? Maybe you'd suggest they turn to the Catholic faith where sexually repressed priests allegedly molest alter boys.

The breeding of this intolerance of homosexuality is the reason behind hate-crimes like Matthew Shepard's murder. I ask you, Ms. Jones, were you among many approving Christians who watched the disgusting behavior of the religious right at Shepard's funeral? Would you be the one holding a sign that

reads, "God hates fags," as mourners tried to deal with a life taken in the name of hate?

You judge this group based on religion alone, as I seriously doubt you even know any homosexuals. Or at least you don't think you know any homosexuals. I suggest escaping those sheltered walls of your faith to experience what your Bible calls an "abomination." But you're probably afraid to discover something beyond the so-called truth you preach.

Whitney Phaneuf is a journalism senior.

## Cal Poly mother/student grieves for the Kennedy family's loss Editor,

Retrieved and buried in a breathless fashion, JFK Jr., his wife Carolyn and sister-in-law Lauren Bessette were returned to the sea. Forever now, the same cool waters that snatched and hid them for days, carry their ashes.

The monumental enormity of the Atlantic Ocean explains the quick dissipation of lives in the crest and crash of every wave. Each one brief and beautiful in its passage, is but a landmark only when captured ... if momentarily ... on the canvas of history.

A torch flickered a week ago, and for the first time since Jacqueline Kennedy's death, I am glad she is not here to brave another tragedy. Better cancer to crumble an icon than the death of a second son.

Children perish every day, but this accident bears a double agony. The Bessette family lost two of their three daughters. And with the death of her brother, Caroline Kennedy Schlossberg is the only surviving Kennedy sibling.

As a mother, I can only begin to comprehend the horror and anguish of these families. Life is out of order when you bury a child. No ax strikes harder, no test of faith is more violent, and no cry could be more constricted than the strangled sob of a grieving parent.

As if in consolation, briny arms hold them now. They offer, at long last, privacy in a deep blue world where the distance against intrusion is measured in fathoms and eternity.

Mary Alice Altorfer is a journalism senior.

## I still need voices.

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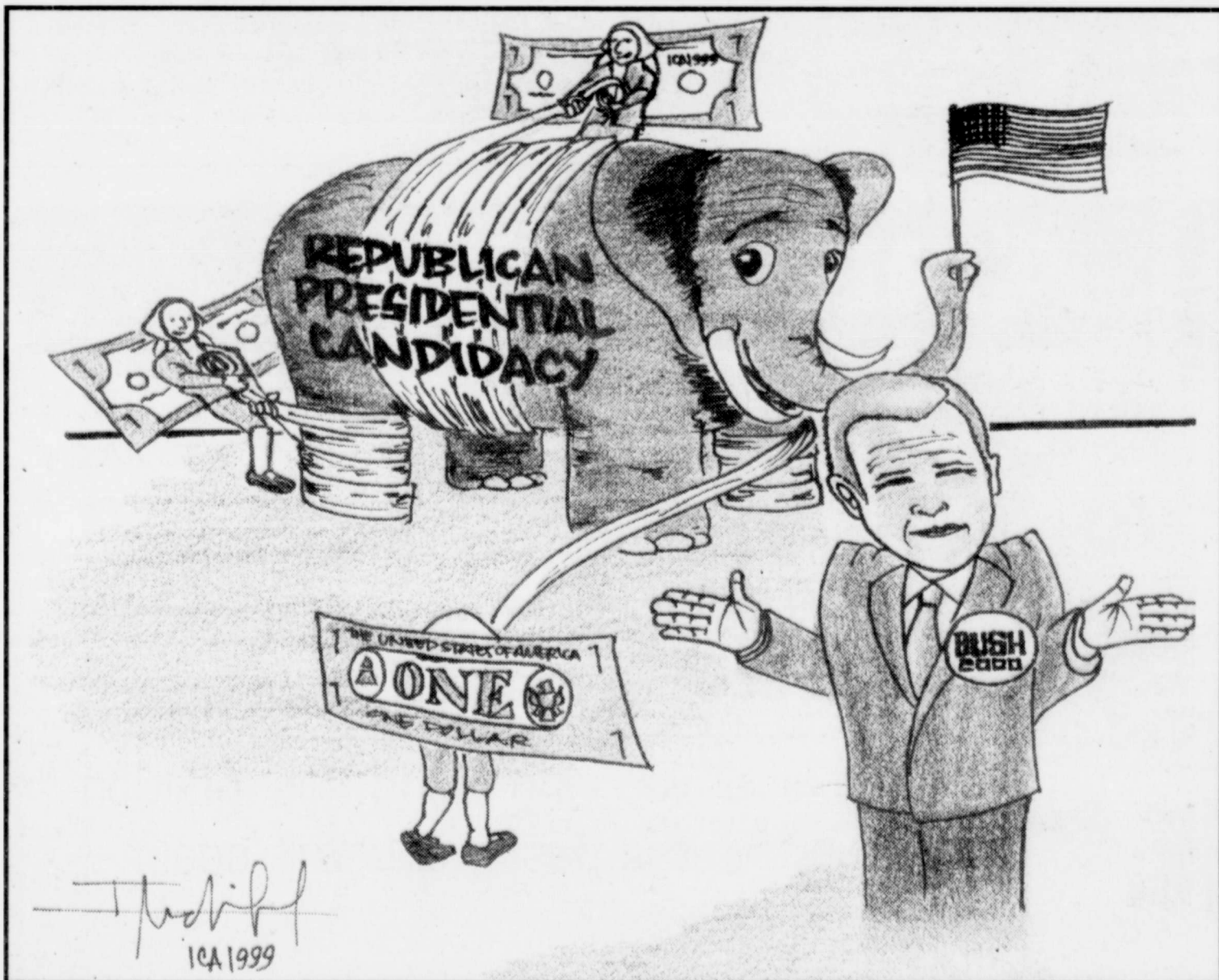
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# 'Haunting' delivers lackluster horror clichés

By Erin Green  
Summer Mustang

Warning: keep all actors away from director Jan De Bont. He sucks the personality out of all actors.

The man who brought us Keanu Reeves' thrilling William Shatner impersonation in "Speed" has finished his latest project — "The Haunting." The film is not an action-adventure flick, but this horror movie ends up the same way as "Speed" — full of monotone monologues and fast moving objects.

"The Haunting," like every other haunted-house story ever, is full of good and bad ghosts. It is also complete with a character who feels she is one with the ghosts. In this movie, that person is Nell (Lili Taylor). Of course, there is the skeptical guy, Luke (Owen Wilson), who doesn't really believe any of it.

The story takes place in the Northeast where a group of insom-

niacs, including the beautiful and racy Theo (Catherine Zeta-Jones), are recruited to participate in a study of insomnia. The week-long study takes place at fictional Hill House, a scary but beautiful mansion designed to be creepy upon first glance (the rumor is the set was so creepy that the crew wouldn't stay near the set at night).

## Movie Review

Little do the study participants know, the psychologist running the experiment, Dr. Marrow (Liam Neeson), plans to study fear and its effect on group activity. Of course, the movie then turns into a study of the audiences' fear. Examining the audience's inner demons seems like a good idea except that the movie's execution of this idea lacks.

The actors are bland. By watching "The Mask of Zorro" and "Schindler's List," there is proof that Zeta-Jones and Neeson have personalities. With a little direction, these

two can act, at least a little. But, under De Bont, they, and the rest of their castmates, are about as interesting as watching grass grow. Apparently the house was supposed to get all the personality in the film. De Bont thought it was okay that all the people in the movie just walk through the house looking scared.

Ignoring the fact that there are holes in the plot the size of New England, the script and the dialogue are boring. People communicating with ghosts is an old idea, and "The Haunting" brings nothing new to the arena, except for a few special effects. The special effects team makes the house come alive (literally) intriguing the viewers. Other than that, the movie falls flat.

Many will argue that "The Haunting" doesn't need to have pizzazz. A plot, decent acting or fun dialogue are irrelevant as long as the movie is scary. Scary movies exist to scare the audience, not to impress them.

Is the film scary? Yes, it is mildly



Courtesy Photo

Lili Taylor and Catherine Zeta-Jones plan an escape of the feared manor.

scary. But what does it take for a movie to scare the audience? It takes creepy music, a thud in the night and something that jumps out from around the corner. These forms of instilling fear are boring.

"The Haunting" has all these things, and that's it.

If you're looking for a real scare, go revisit the horror of Keanu Reeves and rent "Speed."

## Sounds and quirky set add flavor to local Shakespeare play

By Erin Crosby  
Summer Mustang

Disney's Toontown-like sound effects, WWF wrestling and "Kung Fu Fighting" make the San Luis Obispo Little Theatre's version of "A Comedy of Errors" anything but classic Shakespeare.

From the first look at the set, the audience knows that it is in for a good time. Filled with bright reds, blues, greens, purples and a jack-in-the-box above the center doors, the backdrop is the perfect setting for such a silly play.

Stuffed full of absurdities, "Comedy" is the unlikely story of two sets of twins separated at a young age and years later end up in the same town. There are great mix-ups because none of the twins realizes that the others are there, and everyone ends up horribly confused. This is the feeling a viewer might get after trying to read the synopsis of the

play in the program, but things become clear as the play progresses.

As with typical Shakespeare, the confusion leads to a climactic ending where one brother is imprisoned, the other must find sanctuary in the local abbey and their father, who also happens to arrive in the same city at the same time, is almost executed. Just as though a light bulb has turned on in the minds of all of the characters, everything suddenly becomes clear and it all works out in the end.

With such a crazy plot, anyone will find this play to be hysterical entertainment. The play keeps the audience laughing with slapstick comedy and constant one-liners. With the numerous jokes and wise cracks there is no down time from the comedy.

The perfect cast helps to round out the play. If the script wasn't already funny enough as it is, the emotional outpourings of Adriana (Lara Black), the seductive courtesan (Carrie

Barber) and the pathetic tale of Egeon (Marshall Smith) will leave the audience laughing until they cry.

The play is given a modern twist when the twins' father tells his sad story of how he lost his children, using the aid of a projector and a cheesy slide show. Fight scenes are full of comedic sound effects reminiscent of Toontown at Disneyland or the fight scenes in old Batman shows. Complete with the theme from "Shaft," pornography music and "Kung Fu Fighting" the audience can hardly ask for more. There is even a "Star Wars" reference when two of the characters come out brandishing light sabers instead of swords.

"A Comedy of Errors" is anything but dull and dry Shakespeare. Young and old alike will find this two hour play amusing and entertaining.

## Nothing 'Gorgeous' about new beauty queen film

(U-WIRE) The best thing about a promotional screening for a lousy movie is the audience with whom you share the theater. These are the women who phone in mock orgasms to the local radio station but scream their loudest delight when offered movie passes in exchange for their dignity. These are the young men who call just to thank KISS, "...for making an awesome comeback," just in case the band is listening to the station. You will not find an audience more eager to please — or to be pleased.

Yet this perfect audience — bowled over by Kirstie Alley's Minnesota accent in the beginning of the movie — laughed less certainly as the movie went on. By the end, viewers were virtually silent.

"Drop Dead Gorgeous," the story of a small town Miss Teen

Princess America Pageant, is a mockumentary, but its consciousness of its own construction ends there. There is no indication of what fictional audience this fictional documentary is for, and it

never criticizes the tradition of pageants, only the women who participate in them.

Writer Lona Williams takes the easy way out by taking shots at women, Asian-Americans, trailer trash, the mentally retarded, the fat and the anorexic.

Williams' script isn't funny. It isn't even offensive. It's just stupid. It lacks the empathy, sexuality and scathing social commentary of John Waters, who Williams adores but cannot come close to.

After 90 minutes of bad jokes that weren't remotely enjoyable, the radio audience scooted toward the edge of its seat. I actually laughed out loud for once.

## Movie Review

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Santa Lucia Bank has placed two ATMs in front of the Galileo Surgery Center (formerly a bank building).

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## SUMMER

continued from page 8

"When I stand there, my shoulder is always partially dislocated because of loose tendons," Poet said.

In addition to maintaining her health, Poet uses off-season training to help solidify her place on the team.

"It's a competition within ourselves," Poet said. "My first year I thought I was giving 110 percent. But when I came back, there were other players down my throat."

Furthermore, Poet coaches a 16-and-under girls' team in her hometown of Bloomfield, Calif. during the summer to keep her mind on softball.

"I'm trying to get these little girls better, and I think of getting myself better," Poet said.

Summer is not much different for the football team. Eric Wicks is a defensive lineman and agriculture business junior. He and teammate Danny Loney, a social science major, continue their training during the off-season as well.

"Basically, I just want to be ready," Wicks said. "We're always looking at the first game of the season."

Last season, the Mustang football team had a trying record of 3-8.

"Our record alone (from last season) is what's keeping me going," Wicks said.

Football players are careful about when and who they workout with. The NCAA has a strict set of rules that keeps coaches away from their players until a formal

schedule of practices begins. Some of the rules even prohibit players from working out in the presence of a coach until the NCAA schedule allows.

During the week, Wicks, Loney and about six other football players have spent the summer running. On Wednesdays, the group runs to the top of Bishop Peak. Every other day of the week is dedicated to specific footwork, sprints and other leg-strengthening exercises.

According to Loney, the hard work during the off-season obviously pays off.

"It just puts you ahead of everybody else," Loney said. "Some guys start off quick in the beginning and get sluggish towards the end. You can tell who's been staying strong and keeping in shape."

Brad Pickett, a senior pole-vaulter, hasn't let training take the fun out of summer. Like the other athletes, Pickett runs daily and consistently follows an intensive weight training regiment. But Pickett includes surfing, playing basketball and soccer to remain active on off-training days.

"Surfing is a big part," Pickett said. "It's a staple. It contributes to cardiovascular conditioning, balance and endurance."

Pickett likes to mix hill running with intense weight training while taking a few hours to rest and stretch in between. Also according to Pickett, it is necessary to learn the mechanics of the body and mind working together.

"We like to use gymnastics to learn how to control the body," Pickett said. "We're constantly watching videos.

their backing. That's what baseball is all about, giving the fans something to cheer for."

With two victories over the Foresters this weekend, the Blues can pull within one game of the first place position. They will get no rest either way. The Blues play their last five games in the next five days.

After Saturday's game, the Santa Maria Indians, Santa Maria Stars and San Luis Obispo Rangers come into

SLO Stadium on consecutive nights. All games start at 7:15 p.m.

"We have our work cut out for us, that's for sure," Howell said.

The Blues will put either Chris Sherman, Jason Luker, or Cal Poly pitcher Prentice Rios in the two games against Santa Barbara.

"These are obviously very important games, so we will throw our best guys at them and hope for the best," Howell said.

## Hasek shocks hockey with retirement announcement

Associated Press

Dominik Hasek will announce his retirement effective at the end of the 1999-2000 season at a press conference today, The Buffalo News will report in today's editions.

The five-time winner of the Vezina Trophy and two-time winner of the Hart Trophy will make the announcement from Prague at a 7 a.m. press conference. Hasek has been the single-most dominant player in the league, if not the world, over the last six seasons. But it was only in this past season, when he led the Buffalo Sabres to the Stanley Cup finals, that his efforts were answered with a complete team effort.

He completed a rare sweep of the

Hart and Vezina trophies in 1997 and 1998, becoming the first goalie to win both awards in the same year since Jacques Plante in 1962.

He also led the Czech Republic to a surprise gold medal at the Nagano Olympics in 1998.

Hasek, 35 in January, signed an extension with the Sabres after the 1997-98 season that would have kept him in Buffalo potentially through the 2001-02 season. He will make \$7 million this season, was scheduled to make \$7.5 million next season and \$9 million in a club option for '01-02.

Many doubted, however, that Buffalo could have afforded that price and may not have been able to exercise the option.

## New 49er eager to get started

STOCKTON (AP) — Charlie Garner quietly reported to the 49ers training camp and took part Wednesday in his first practice with his new team.

While his arrival didn't draw the same kind of attention as that of Lawrence Phillips, San Francisco's "other" free agent running back let it be known he intends to make an impact.

"I'm competing for a starting job," said Garner. "That's what I'm here for. That's why they brought me in here and that's what I hope to do."

A productive runner and sometime starter in five years in

Philadelphia, Garner was signed along with Phillips after the 49ers learned Garrison Hearst would miss most of the season because of complications in his recovery from a broken left ankle.

Phillips is regarded as the front-runner to become the team's No. 1 running back.

"Even though Charlie Garner is competing for a starting job so to speak, I don't know if he will be an every down back for us," coach Steve Mariucci said. "I think you would spot play him and use him wisely, keep him fresh, keep him healthy."



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## SPORTS BAR

### SPORTS TRIVIA

**LAST WEEK'S ANSWER**  
Rickey Henderson was Nolan Ryan's 5,000th strikeout victim.

Congrats Chad Kecy!

**TODAY'S QUESTION**  
Which baseball franchise became the first wild-card team to win the World Series?

Please submit answer to: [sports@mustangdaily.calpoly.edu](mailto:sports@mustangdaily.calpoly.edu) Please include your name. The first correct answer received via e-mail will be printed in the next issue of the paper.

### SCORES

#### SOCCER

Roadrunners	3
Stanislaus	1
Roadrunners	0
Chico	1

### SCHEDULE

#### FRIDAY

° Santa Barbara Foresters at San Luis Obispo Blues at SLO Stadium at 7:15 p.m.

° Central Coast Roadrunners at California Jaguars at 8 p.m.

#### SATURDAY

° Santa Barbara Foresters at San Luis Obispo Blues at SLO Stadium at 7:15 p.m.

° Silicon Valley Ambassadors at the Central Coast Roadrunners at Arroyo Grande High School at 8 p.m.

### BRIEFS

■ LOS ANGELES (AP) — Disabled activists booed outside as nine UCLA football players apologized in court for using handicapped permits to get better parking spots around campus.

"We did not realize the seriousness of our actions," linebacker Ali Abdul Azziz said outside court after nine of 14 Bruins charged in the case entered pleas.

Five more current and former members of the team face arraignment Aug. 25. Duval Hicks and Craig Walendy, two of the players, are in NFL training camps.

## Lions' Sanders announces retirement

Barry Sanders' statement on his retirement, as posted today on The Wichita Eagle's website:

"Shortly after the end of last season, I felt that I probably would not return for the 1999-2000 season. I also felt that I should take as much time as possible to sort through my feelings and make sure that my feelings were backed with conviction.

Today, I officially declare my departure from the NFL.

It was a wonderful experience to play in the NFL, and I have no regrets. I truly will miss playing for the Lions. I consider the Lions' players, coaches, staff, management and fans my family. I



**BARRY SANDERS**  
Running back.

leave on good terms with everyone in the organization.

I have enjoyed playing for two great head coaches, Wayne Fontes and Bobby Ross, who are good coaches and leaders. I am not involved in a salary dispute of any kind. If I had played this season, I would have earned a more than satisfactory salary.

The reason I am retiring is simple: my desire to exit the game is greater than my desire to remain in it. I have searched my heart through and

through and feel comfortable with this decision.

I want to thank all of the fans and media who made playing in the NFL such a wonderful experience. I have had the pleasure of meeting many of them.

Although I was not able to honor many of your requests for autographs and interviews, it was not because I overlooked the importance of those who asked.

Finally, I want to thank my family and friends for their support and guidance.

I wish my teammates, coaches and the entire Lions organization all the best.

## Poly names new assistant coach

By Aaron Culp  
Summer Mustang

The Cal Poly men's basketball team will see a new face next season under head coach Jeff Schneider. Kwanza Johnson will take the reins as assistant coach, replacing Brian Loyd.

"I hope to be a positive influence for these guys," Johnson said. "It's a great opportunity for me to be here."

For the last two seasons, Johnson, 27, worked as assistant coach at Tulsa University. He also played two successful seasons as a forward at Tulsa and graduated in 1995.

Loyd, also a graduate of the University of Tulsa, spent four years at Cal Poly before accepting a job as assistant coach at Portland State University.

Johnson is no stranger to Schneider's fast-paced coaching style. Schneider was the assistant coach at Tulsa during Johnson's career.

"I liked playing under coach Schneider," Johnson said. "He coaches an up-tempo game instead of always having a set of plays. All

the kids like to play that way too."

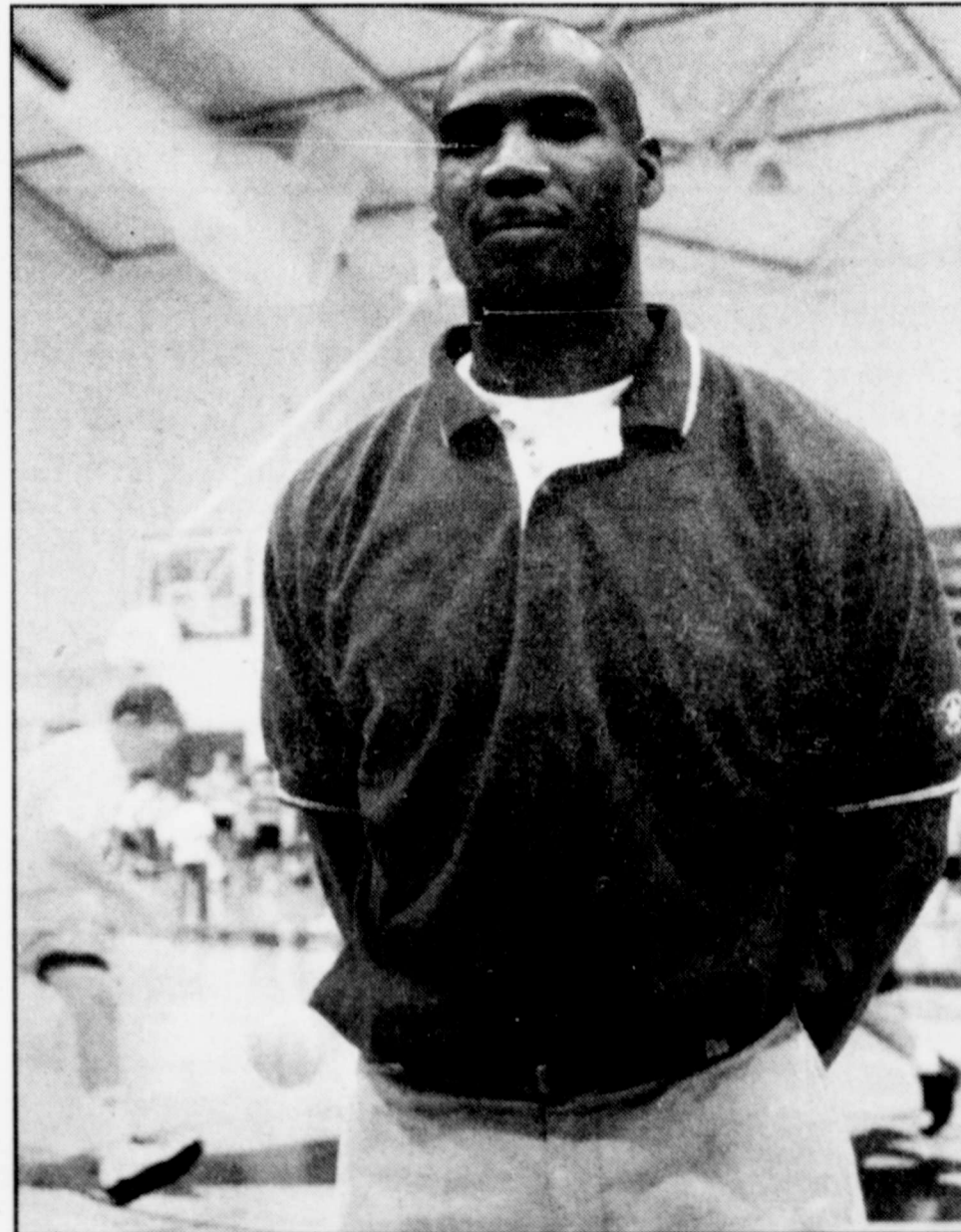
As a Golden Hurricane, Johnson averaged 6.4 points and 4.8 rebounds per game. In 1995, he was named to the Missouri Valley Conference's all-defensive team as a senior. In addition to starting 33 games, highlights from Johnson's career include 19 points against Northern Iowa and 19 rebounds versus Drake during the 1994-95 season.

As a junior, Johnson was instrumental in Tulsa's run in the NCAA tournament, which included an upset over UCLA. He went 6-for-6 from the free-throw line against the Bruins and 7-for-9 overall.

Before his career at Tulsa, Johnson was the top-rated junior college player in the state of Oklahoma during the 1992-93 season at Rosa State College. He previously attended the University of Kansas on a track scholarship.

In May, Johnson earned his judiciary degree from the University of Tulsa College of Law.

"This is a great program at Cal Poly," Johnson said. "I just want to continue to help anyway I can."



Jon King/Summer Mustang

**New assistant men's basketball coach Kwanza Johnson is already working with the coaching staff doing summer camp duties.**

## Summer no time to rest for Poly athletes

By Aaron Culp  
Summer Mustang

For most Cal Poly students, summertime requires little more than rest and relaxation. As far as Mustang athletes are concerned, summertime is the perfect time to shape up and get ready for the athletic season.

"For a lot of us, during the off-season is when we do the most training," said Kasey Poet, a third baseman for the Cal Poly softball team and liberal studies junior. "Most of us improve over the summer because we can work on individual skills."

In addition to weight training, Poet runs short distance conditioning exercises three times per week. She also paces herself to run two miles in less than 15 minutes twice a week.

"My No. 1 thing is strengthening my forearms for outside pitches," Poet said. "It's nice because I can work as long as I want."

For Poet, much of her time is dedicated to rehabilitating torn shoulder ligaments she injured near the end of last season. She faces orthoscopic surgery if back strengthening with light weights doesn't repair the damage.

## SLO Blues enter weekend series needing victories to make playoffs

By Aaron Emerson  
Summer Mustang

The fate of the San Luis Obispo Blues' season may be determined this weekend at SLO Stadium. The Blues, three games behind first place Santa Barbara, have a pair of pivotal games against the Foresters Friday and Saturday.

**"The whole team appreciates their backing. That's what baseball is all about, giving the fans something to cheer for."**

**Roy Howell—**  
Blues head coach

"We still have time," he said. "We need to keep playing hard and having fun to

have a chance at the Championships next week."

The Championships, which begins Aug. 4 in Wichita, Kan., is the postseason tournament for semi-professional collegiate teams. The Blues failed to gain an automatic bid to the Championships earlier this year by not winning the NBC Central California Tournament.

A first place finish in the California Coastal Collegiate League would give the Blues a chance to be champions.

"Either way, I am proud of these guys, but we would all love to go to Kansas," Howell said.

The Blues took two of three games on their recent road trip to Fresno before falling to San Francisco Monday.

The Blues will get their chance to show whom they think is the best team in the league Friday. The game begins at 7:15 p.m. at SLO Stadium. Howell expects a rather large crowd for the game.

"I think we will have great fan support for