

1916

# MUSTANG DAILY

CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY

2005

## TODAY'S WEATHER

High 65°

Low 49°

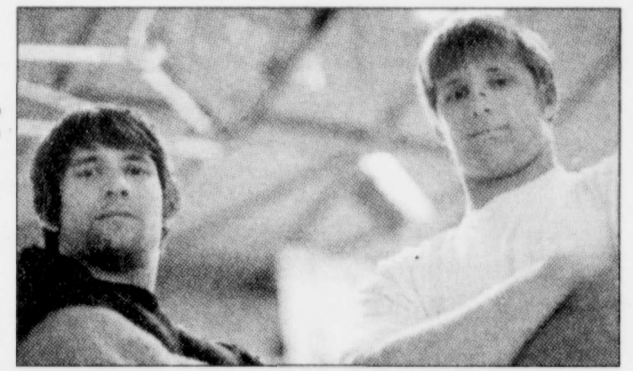


Wildflower event will showcase some of the best athletes in the country this weekend

IN SPORTS, 8

Kyle and Ryan Shotwell: keeping football in the family

IN SPORTS, 8



Volume LXVIII, Number 106

Wednesday, April 27, 2005

Mustangdaily@calpoly.edu



SHEILA SOBCHIK MUSTANG DAILY

Structural engineering senior Amy Suhoza works on a project in a steel design lab Tuesday.

## Poly women tackle male-dominated majors, industries

As of spring enrollment, 22 percent of Cal Poly engineering majors were female

Tiffany Dias  
MUSTANG DAILY

This is the first part of a two-part series that examines the low number of women in male-dominated majors.

Can you name the engineer who invented windshield wipers? Or the engineer-turned-astronaut who developed ceramic tiles that allow space shuttles to endure the layers of the earth's atmosphere?

Most students don't realize these works were invented by women engineers.

Mary Anderson noticed streetcar drivers had to open the win-

dows of their cars during the rain and thus invented the windshield wiper in 1903. Years later, Bonnie J. Dunbar tested her invention as she reentered the earth's atmosphere during the late 1970s.

Over the past 10 years, there has been a significant increase in the fields of engineering and science, but women and men are still not equally represented in either field or on the Cal Poly campus.

As of spring enrollment, only 22 percent of the engineering majors were female.

"Women have long played a vital role in engineering, overcoming discrimination and harassment to bring some of the most significant advances to this significant field. From bullet-proof vests to the fire escape to AZT, women have made and continue to

make outstanding engineering contributions," according to the National Engineers Foundation. Society for Women Engineers president Malia Francisco understands the pressures of her major.

"There's a lot of intimidation for females, especially in engineering," Francisco said. "You have to believe in yourself and your ability. You have to apply yourself the best way you know how."

Francisco and other members of SWE try to encourage girls in grade school and high school to become engineers, since no one may have previously suggested

it.

"We try to cultivate the idea that engineers are not necessarily male. Actually, women on average have higher GPAs than men in the engineering program," Francisco said.

Electrical engineering department chairman Mike Cirovic said the lack of women in engineering is not caused by the professors, but that "the problem is lack of adequate role models for these women. Things are changing, though. Our goal is to bring more women into engineering and to keep them there."

At Cal Poly, some faculty members recognize the added pressure on women in male-dominated majors.

"It is not like these women cannot hack the work, they were leaving because of pressure and stress caused by

see Women, page 2

## Remembering self defense



MATT WECHTER MUSTANG DAILY

Female Cal Poly students learn how to defend themselves against sexual predators in a self-defense workshop. The workshop was put on by the SARP Center as part of Remember week.

## Bush's Social Security reform targets youth

A recent poll shows 47 percent of people age 18 to 29 know 'nothing at all' about the private investment proposal

Shaina Jones  
U-WIRE

WASHINGTON — Saving money for retirement may not be on the minds of many college students. But in his push to transform Social Security, President George W. Bush hopes to reach out to the 20-something age group.

The president wants to add individual investment accounts to Social Security so that workers could invest in stocks and bonds and watch the money grow as they age. President Bush maintains that young workers, living paycheck to paycheck, have the most to gain from the proposal. With such accounts, the president believes,



ASSOCIATED PRESS

More than 100 people demonstrated outside Bush's roundtable discussion in response to his plan to reform Social Security.

workers could create a nest egg that could even be passed on to their children.

"If you're in your mid-20s, I want you to think about a Social Security

see Security, page 2

## Cal Poly students win clean energy award

The California Student Sustainability Coalition awarded Cal Poly 105,000-kilowatt hours of renewable energy

Erick Smith  
MUSTANG DAILY

The effort of Cal Poly students involved in the California Student Sustainability Coalition resulted in Cal Poly being awarded 105,000-

kilowatt hours of renewable energy.

The 105,000-kilowatt hours of renewable energy, equivalent to about one day of energy use, was a prize awarded once group members gathered 27,000 signatures during their two-month Race to End Dirty Energy signature drive, sponsored by Energy Action, a national coalition of more than 17 environmental advocacy groups.

"We are looking out for the future of the university," club vice president, Jesse Churchill said. "We want the university to begin looking into renewable energy sources when designing new campus buildings"

The goal of the nationwide effort was to raise awareness while lobbying for a push away from energy sources

see Energy, page 2



# Women

continued from page 1

some of the males in the department," Cirovic said.

Senior Amy Suhoza, began as a structural engineer at Cal Poly in the college of architectural design. She has mixed feelings about her encounters with some of her fellow engineers.

"Although it's getting better in the (engineering) program, I feel like the boys in our major feel like they can do

better than women," Suhoza said.

Lab classes and group projects are common in all engineering majors. Students are usually asked to perform physical tasks and apply their knowledge in labs. This is also where Suhoza has experienced bias from some of the male students.

"In our group projects, men always try to take charge. The other day, one group member had a question and asked everyone sitting around me, who were all guys, but not me," she

said.

While her experiences may not apply to every woman studying in a male-dominated major, Suhoza said she has proven herself.

"I feel like the men respect me more because I'm in it for the long haul," she said.

Electrical engineering sophomore Elyse DeSalvo decided at a young age that she was going to follow in the footsteps of her father and become an engineer. Through the course of her

education, DeSalvo experienced noticeable gender bias.

DeSalvo described one lab professor, who taught her how to build power supplies, as having an air about him that women didn't belong (in the lab) handling power tools."

While men in her previous classes have been "intimidated by a smart woman," DeSalvo sites ambition as her motivation for doing well academically.

"I think women are driven, espe-

cially in engineering. They are not here to mess around. I think men sometimes have a hard time when women do better than them," she added.

Like Francisco, and other women in male dominated majors, DeSalvo said that young women need strong female role models and "that people need to get out of the mindset that women can't be engineers. We should not be forced into roles because society tells us to."

# Energy

continued from page 1

like oil, natural gas and nuclear power and to head in a direction of clean sources of energy such as solar, wind and hydrogen.

Of the groups that participated in the signature drive, a promise went

to the 10 schools which raised the most signatures that would be awarded a clean energy award. Cal Poly finished sixth, guaranteeing the school the alternative energy.

The signatures gathered by the club were sent to government officials across the nation, including Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, mem-

bers of the White House and legislature, California State University Chancellor Charles B. Reed and University of California President Robert C. Dynes.

By receiving this award, Cal Poly will save roughly \$12,600, saving the cost of a single day's energy use. Also eliminated was the emission of 74 tons of CO2 and gasses into the atmosphere.

Churchill said he hopes the school will notice the club's hard, which began in February of last year.

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# Security

continued from page 1

system that will be flat bust, bankrupt, unless the U.S. Congress has got the willingness to act now," the president said in a January speech.

As far as college students are concerned, polls show that young people are not tuned in to the Social Security debate. A March poll by the Pew Research Center for People and the Press found that 47 percent of people age 18 to 29 knew "nothing at all" about the private investment proposal. Only 14 percent of this age group said they were following the debate "very closely" in the news.

"I don't get to watch the news as much because I'm at work and class all day and after that in the animation lab or doing homework in a study lounge," said Columbia College film student Anthony Taylor. "But I think I should worry about it because I'm going to need that money someday."

The current retirement program under Social Security provides a lifetime monthly income for qualified workers once they reach their full retirement age. Depending on when they were born, that age ranges from 65 to 67. The amount of retirement benefits that a worker receives is

based on his or her income while working.

The Bush administration said that the money backing Social Security is rapidly dwindling. According to the White House Web site, in 1950 there were 16 workers supporting every one beneficiary of Social Security. The president said by the time that younger workers retire, there will be only two workers supporting each beneficiary.

With young people working more years, they would have more time for their investments to compound interest. Under the president's proposed plan, a young person who earns an average \$35,000 a year over his career would have saved nearly a quarter million dollars for retirement. There are no plans to reduce benefits for current or soon-to-be retirees.

But his proposal is not without criticisms, from Democrats and many interests groups like the AARP. Critics say that the plan carries higher risks of losing money by investing in the stock market, and guaranteed benefits would be reduced. Opponents also worry that the reform would burden the next generation with trillions of dollars in federal debt. Democrats maintain that a less drastic measure is a better solution.

Most Republicans seem wary about fully backing the president's plan. Senate Finance Chairman Chuck Grassley of Iowa is ready to put individual investment accounts aside and focus on mending the current system, according to USA Today.

Wheaton College senior Maegan Mitchell doubts Bush's current proposal for private accounts will ever receive bipartisan support.

"If Democrats have anything to do with it, I think, and I hope they'll stop it," Mitchell said. "I don't think they will fix it, but I'm sure they'll come to some compromises if and when it is absolutely necessary."



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STATE NEWS

**SACRAMENTO** — An Assembly committee has rejected a bill designed to lower the price and increase production of hybrid cars and other low polluting vehicles by allowing manufacturers to sell directly to motorists.

The measure, which was supported by several environmental groups but opposed by auto dealers and manufacturers, went down to

defeat Monday night on a 4-4 vote in the Transportation Committee.

The bill would allow manufacturers and others who obtained a special license from the Department of Motor Vehicles to sell new hybrids and other low-emission vehicles to drivers on the Internet.

• • •

**SACRAMENTO** — A bill that would make it easier for reporters to interview prison inmates was advanced by a Senate committee Tuesday after Gov. Arnold

Schwarzenegger vetoed a similar measure last year.

The bill by Senate Majority Leader Gloria Romero, D-Los Angeles, would override Department of Corrections' limits on news media interviews that have been in place since 1996.

The bill would permit interviews using television cameras and audio recording equipment, and let inmates correspond confidentially with reporters unless it presented a security problem.

• • •

**LOS ANGELES** — Two Los Angeles teenagers pleaded guilty Tuesday to stealing a computer belonging to Robert Blake's attorney that contained vital information in the actor's murder case.

Michael Washington Jr., 19, pleaded guilty to two counts of residential burglary and was immediately sentenced to two years in prison. Koi Burton, 18, pleaded guilty to a burglary charge.

—Associated Press

IN OTHER NEWS



ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Two of ten bison that escaped from a farm run from police and volunteers Tuesday**

**PIKESVILLE, Md.** — A herd of buffalo somehow got loose and wandered around an upscale neighborhood Tuesday, disrupting traffic and alarming homeowners before officers managed to corral them in a tennis court.

More than a dozen police cars and a police helicopter were used to herd the roughly 10 beasts, authorities said.

Authorities have identified the owner of the buffalo but did not release the person's name.

Residents in the Baltimore suburb first reported that buffalo were meandering along the road about 7 a.m. Police shut down several major traffic arteries, including a section of the Baltimore Beltway, while they tried to anticipate which way the buffalo would roam.

Officers eventually managed to maneuver the buffalo onto the tennis court about a mile from where they were first spotted.

—Associated Press

NATIONAL NEWS

**LAS VEGAS** — The woman who was arrested after claiming she bit into a human finger in a bowl of Wendy's chili waived extradition Tuesday, telling a judge she was eager to return to California to face charges.

Anna Ayala, 39, appeared before the same judge who issued a warrant for police to search her home outside Las Vegas on April 6.

Records from that raid are sealed.

• • •

**WASHINGTON** — From the buttoned-down confines of a Senate hearing room to a boisterous outdoor rally nearby, Democrats took on President Bush and his Social Security proposals with gusto on Tuesday and rebuffed pleas for bipartisanship from frustrated Republicans.

"If he's going out to push for privatization, let's help him pack," Sen. Dick Durbin of Illinois said to cheers

from a sun-splashed crowd on the lawn across the street from the Capitol. He was ridiculing Bush's heavily publicized 60-day tour to build support for his proposals.

• • •

**SEATTLE** — Five years after being arrested with a trunkful of bomb-making materials at the U.S. border, Ahmed Ressam has been a remarkable resource in the nation's efforts to understand and eradicate terrorists.

He told investigators from many

countries about the locations of terror cells and camps, who ran them and how they operated. Ressam, 37, awaits sentencing Wednesday.

Ressam, an Algerian convicted of plotting a millennium-eve bombing at Los Angeles International Airport, stopped cooperating with prosecutors in 2003 when he realized the Justice Department would not recommend a sentence shorter than 27 years, they say.

—Associated Press

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

**AMAGASAKI, Japan** — Twenty-two hours after Japan's worst train crash in decades, the final survivor was pulled from the wreckage Tuesday. Meanwhile, the death toll increased from nine to 90 as more bodies were recovered, the Kyodo news agency said. At least 456 people were injured. Kyodo on Wednesday estimated that at least 52 people were missing, while the

NHK broadcaster said there were more bodies still inside, and that the death toll would likely rise.

• • •

**MASNAA, Lebanon** — Syria's last soldier in Lebanon walked across the border Tuesday, welcomed home with cheers and flowers after a modest farewell from the Lebanese, a quiet end to a once indomitable 29-year military presence that was the key to Damascus' control of its neighbor. With the Syrians gone, Lebanese

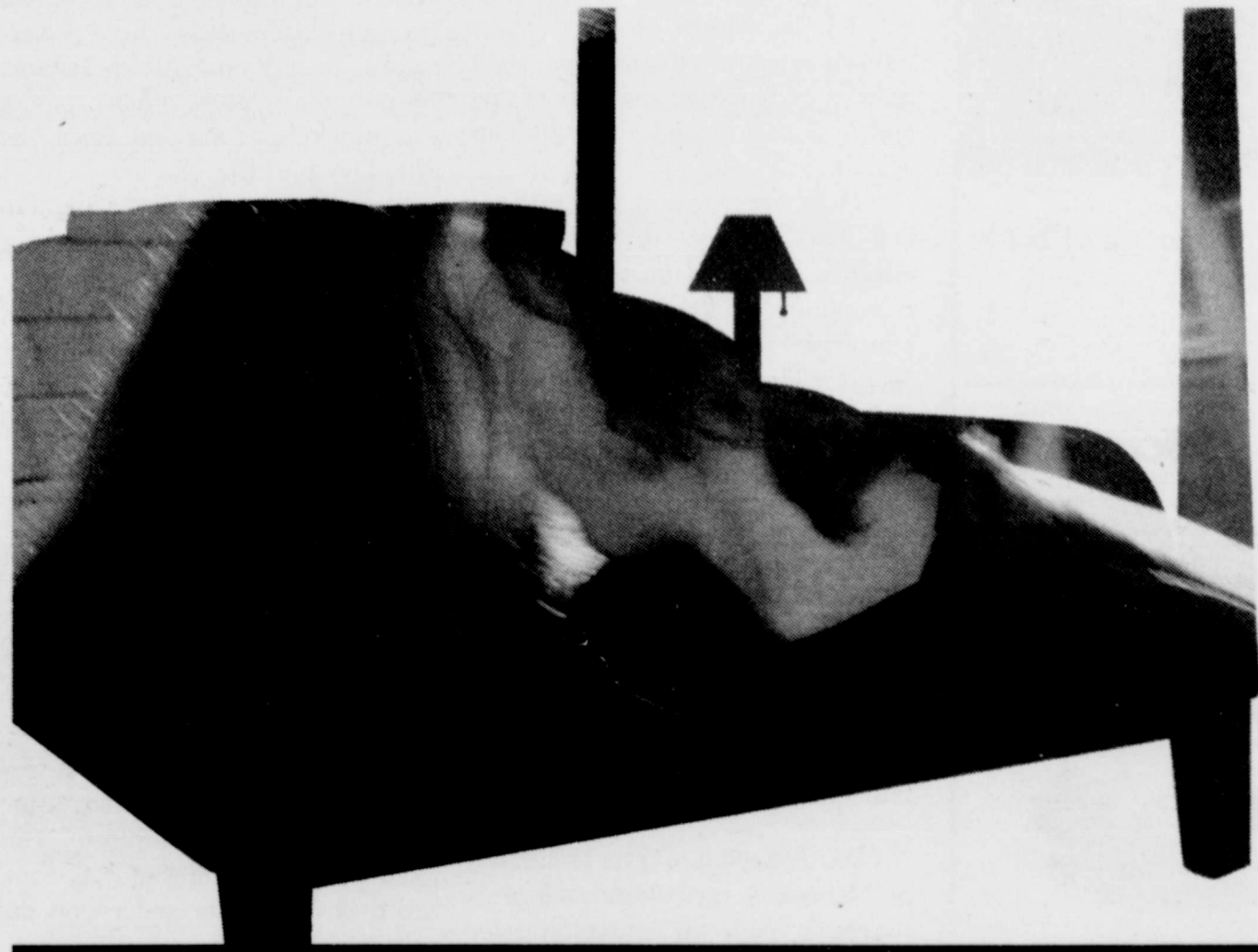
now look ahead to an election that should prove freer of Syrian influence but still runs the risk of sinking into violence. Lebanon's anti-Syrian opposition is hoping to defeat Damascus' political allies at the ballot box.

The withdrawal would have been unthinkable only a few months ago. But amid series of strategic blunders by Syrian President Bashar Assad, Damascus came under relentless international pressure.

• • •

**WASHINGTON** — After a postelection respite, the pace of insurgent attacks in Iraq has increased in recent weeks to approach last year's levels, Pentagon officials said Tuesday. "Where they are right now is where they were almost a year ago, and it's nowhere near the peak," said Air Force Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, in a Pentagon press conference.

—Associated Press



# UNDER FOUR? OR SAYING "I DID WHAT?"

52% of students never experience memory loss due to drinking. The average CP student drinks less than 4 in a sitting.



Based on a survey collected by Cal Poly Reality of 512 randomly selected CalPoly students with an error margin of +/- 5%.



# ASI STUDENT GOVERNMENT

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# KCPR 91.3

## NEWS

4 Wednesday, April 27, 2005

## Students urged to tattle for incentives

**Doug Gross**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLANTA — For a growing number of students, the easiest way to make a couple hundred dollars has nothing to do with chores or after-school jobs, and everything to do with telling on classmates.

Tragedies like last month's deadly shooting at a Red Lake, Minn., school have prompted more schools to offer cash and other prizes — including pizza and premium parking spots — to students who report classmates who carry guns, drugs or alcohol, commit vandalism or otherwise break school rules.

"For kids of that age, it's hard for them to tell on their peers. This gives them an opportunity to step up if they

know something that will help us make an arrest," said James Kinchen, an assistant school superintendent in Houston County, Ga., which earlier this month started offering rewards of up to \$100 for reporting relatively minor crimes like vandalism or theft and \$500 for information about a crime, or plans for a crime, involving a gun.

Critics call them "snitch" programs, saying they are a knee-jerk reaction to student violence. Some education professionals fear such policies could create a climate of distrust in schools and turn students against each other.

"There are very few things that I can think of that would be more effective at destroying that sense of community," said Bruce Marlowe, an education psychology professor at Roger Williams University in Bristol, R.I.

About 2,000 schools and colleges,

from Honolulu to Palm Beach County, Fla., have adopted Student Crime Stoppers programs like Houston County's.

Most schools offer an anonymous phone line or a school drop box for tips. Rewards range from cash to gift certificates to free parking passes.

Elsewhere in Georgia, Model High School in Rome uses the proceeds from its candy and soda sales to pay students up to \$100 for tips about drugs or weapons on campus or other crimes.

The goal: "Heading off some problems rather than waiting until they happen and responding afterward," said Tim Hensley, a school system spokesman.

*"Everyone just thinks it's a joke. No one is going to tell on their friends for cash."*

— KATIE BURNS  
high school senior

Some students fear classmates with a grudge or set on making some quick money may level false accusations or plant drugs or weapons in their lockers.

But Houston County's Kinchen said: "That will sort itself out. Our officers deal with these kind of things every day; they can find out which kid is being set up and which kid is telling the truth."

At Model High, some of the 650 students complain that the program wrongly implies their school is dangerous. In a Rome News-Tribune cartoon, the school's official mascot was mockingly changed from the Blue Devils to the "Tattlers."

"Everyone just thinks it's a joke. No one is going to tell on their friends for cash," said senior Katie Burnes, president of the school's National Honor Society chapter. "If someone brings a gun to school or is doing drugs in the bathroom, no one has to pay me to let the teachers know."

## College considers dropping 'ag' name to broaden appeal

**Emily Fredrix**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

OMAHA, Neb. — The University of Nebraska's agriculture college is swapping seeds for semantics as it considers dropping 'ag' from its name to boost sagging enrollment numbers.

The College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources is surveying alumni, faculty, high school students and their parents to see what they think of a possible name change, said Steve Waller, dean of the college.

"I want to do what's best for the college," Waller said, "and if that is changing the name, then that's what I would like to see happen."

Such a move would highlight the college's new programs, such as a major in professional golf course management, and future ones in forensic science and hospitality, restaurant and tourism management, Waller said last week.

Most people have a notion of what agriculture is, Waller said, but it's often antiquated. More than 100

years ago, when the college was created, nearly everyone had some interaction with agriculture. But today people lose sight of it, he said, and they don't fully understand the college's offerings.

Last fall there were 1,222 students with majors within the college. The school reached its peak at 1,889 students in 1980. For the last eight years, school enrollment has declined.

Survey responses probably will be compiled through next month, Waller said, with faculty making a recommendation next fall.

Possible names would include the concepts of food and life sciences, and environmental sciences to replace natural resources.

As the student base comes more from urban areas, the school's trends show their interests are changing, he said. Agronomy used to be a top subject, but it has seen a 60 percent decline in enrollment from 1999 to 2004. Meanwhile, biochemistry has grown more than 220 percent in the same time.



## COMMENTARY

# Luck be a lady

Vanna White smiles at me. I give her one back. She doesn't look away; she stands rigidly, grinning with all her might. I look around in mild alarm and glance back reluctantly. She is staring at me with a fixed, lipstick grin.

OK, I knew she was cardboard, but, still, the whole thing was just too freaky. In a furious blaze of get-rich-quick fever, I lassoed two unfortunate friends into joining me for "Wheel of Fortune" tryouts recently, an afternoon I'd assumed would end in thousands of undeserved dollars and some kind of anecdote involving Pat Sajak. Instead, it concluded with pronounced bouts of whining, public humiliation and my vow to supply Raid to every man, woman and child in America.

Held at a car dealership on Los Osos Valley Road, the tryouts already had several strikes against them. For starters, though dozens of enthusiastic couch commanders dropped by, no one was looking at the proudly waxed Cadillacs, or Escalades or whatever kind of cars they were. As if lured by Sirens, the legions of sweatshirt-clad savants only had interest in the click-click-click of the cardboard money wheel (and the satisfying thud of the two-dimensional Vanna every time she hit the ground) — and this seems to make sense; as those who devotedly watch a show about clichéd phrases don't seem likely to collect pricey garage toys. A slicked-back and maniacal young host stood chattering onstage — the kind of guy one could easily imagine answering to the name "Chip." Yet, hordes of people gathered at this spectacle, swatting at the millions of gnats that had also arrived to try their luck.

"This is lame," complained my pal Ryan. (At least, that's what he said in the PG-13 version.)

Beyond the stage and audience was a lengthy, single-file line of people, one my cohorts and I curiously approached. Recognizing a friend in line, I asked what he was waiting for.

"I'm waiting to get an application and then I can drop it off and maybe wait again and get picked for the preliminary round. Then I might get an audition to be on the show," he proudly explained.

For some profound reason, I couldn't understand this. Maybe it was the heat, maybe it was the exhaust, maybe it was the dizzy little bugs trying to eat me alive, but why would you wait in line so you can wait in another line so you can maybe on a tryout for a tryout for the show? My patient acquaintance ran through the procedure again, splicing his explanation with general comments about how stupid I am. A "Wheel of Fortune" roadie noticed my glazed expression and snuck up behind me.

"What don't you get? Why don't you get it?" he bellowed. "It's easy!"

I tried to explain that the application system seemed a bit roundabout. He smirked with awful laughter, adjusted his puffy blue crew jacket and proceeded to give me my third step-by-step guide to applying. I can't remember exactly what he said but, again, it seemed to be mostly spliced with general comments about how stupid I am.

"Got anymore questions, maybe about the universe?" he roared, seeming to enjoy the crowd of onlookers we had amassed.

"Do you have any answers?" I retorted.

He said no, and I chose this opportunity to blend back into the crowd. At the moment, they were cheering on an overalls-clad woman in her 30s who was giving a shout-out to her "twenty-six adorable grandchildren." I asked my weary-looking companions if they wanted to apply for the show. They answered no, quite fiercely.

As we trekked back to the car, my faithful friend Leah reminded me that this had been my idea, and that I was supposed to be rich by now. I declared that we forget this dirty, suburbia-gone-awry money venture. There were easier ways to get it — taming lions maybe, or setting up an offshore drilling base. And as if in divine agreement, the gnats temporarily parted in front of us, then resumed their spinning.

Stacey Anderson is a journalism and music junior, KCPR DJ and *M\_st\_ng D\_ly c\_l\_mn\_st*. Catch her Sundays from 6 to 7 p.m. and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to noon on 91.3 FM or e-mail her at [standers@calpoly.edu](mailto:standers@calpoly.edu).

## REVIEW

# Ben Folds moves out of suburbs

Michael Barnett

THE DIAMONDBACK

Somewhere along the line, Ben Folds dropped the Five and flew solo — and a smart move it was.

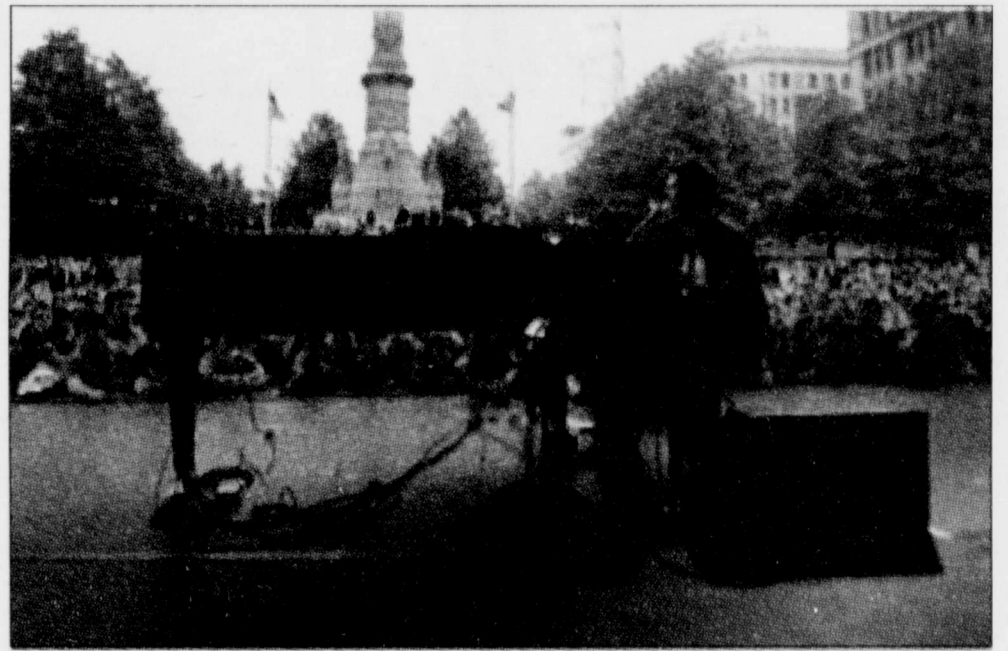
Though Folds saw some mainstream success with his band's mid-'90s hit, "Brick," he decided to try out the solo gig and it worked out nicely. For the first time in five years, he is back with a band, but not the original one.

Folds returns with the follow-up to 2001's "Rockin' the Suburbs" as if he had hit pause four years ago and just decided to hit play. "Songs for Silverman" is a collection of brilliant piano-pop ballads. Dropping that whole "Five" thing has allowed Folds to bring his piano chops to the forefront.

And for fans of the "Five," Silverman sounds more like something Folds would have put out back in the day, but with a more mature twist.

The album showcases some of Folds' best lyrics. It seems his maturation as an artist, and as a person, has caused his words to seem a bit more introspective. He turns to his daughter for inspiration on "Gracie," an almost-lullaby backed by an enchantingly cheesy progression.

His latest single, "Landed," a return to the Folds of old, is about being stuck in a stalled relationship and boasts the album's catchiest chorus. In



COURTESY PHOTO

Singer/songwriter Ben Folds' new album, 'Songs for Silverman,' is more reminiscent of music he made back in the day with Ben Folds Five.

tribute to the late Elliott Smith, Folds penned "Late," a track about sharing experiences with someone as they did on tour in 1998. He sings about Smith's guitar playing and dirty, elbow-throwing basketball skills.

The self-produced album was recorded over the span of a month in a Nashville, Tenn. studio with Jared Reynolds on bass and Lindsay Jamieson on drums. The trio also enlisted the help of another '90s "icon," "Weird Al" Yankovic, for backing in some soaring "oohs" and "ahs" on "Time." The songs on "Silverman" cover a range of emotions and styles, including a country

feel on "Give Judy My Notice," where Bucky Baxter sits in on pedal steel guitar.

While his style seems to lean toward adult contemporary, Folds comes right back at you with a few pop ballads. "Jesusland" kicks off with some harmonies reminiscent of The Beach Boys and moves on to sound a bit like Elton John, while "Bastard" feels a bit more like classic Folds.

Sure, "Silverman" has nothing on "Suburbs" musically, but it shows outstanding musical growth and a smooth transition into a new Ben Folds era.

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# Tony Blair is the 'dog's bollocks'

In the run up to the war in Iraq, President Bush drove me crazy. Each time he came on TV to tell us Saddam Hussein had weapons of mass destruction and ties to al-Qaida, I found myself screaming "liar," "idiot" and other words inappropriate for this column. But when our president appeared in joint press conferences with British Prime Minister Tony Blair, my reactions dramatically changed when Blair took to the microphone. The prime minister would make the same exact points as our president and I actually liked what I was hearing.

Blair's eloquence accompanied by a great vocabulary stands in contrast to Bush's "language handicap." Between the two men, I think Blair and I would get along better. Most people agree Bush is a great guy to meet, whether you're liberal or conservative, but he and I have nothing in common. Lately, the President's been recommending his friends to read Tom Wolfe's "I Am Charlotte Simmons" while I'm telling my friends to read Milan Kundera's "The Unbearable Lightness of Being." We not only differ on music preferences (as proved by his iPod), but on literature as well.

Although I disagree with Blair on Iraq, he's a much more likeable person — at least for a stereotypical New-York- liberal Jewish intellectual like myself. People who walk and talk like President Bush naturally make us nervous; we can't help it. This is probably why Blair will have a much easier time winning re-election than Bush did.

Polls show on May 5 Blair will easily take the office of prime minister for the third time. He lost a great amount of support from his own labor party for supporting the war in Iraq, but has been able to make a comeback. Part of this comes from the opposition. The Conservative Party's leader, Michael Howard, has criticized Blair dramatically on Iraq, but has not been able to offer a clear alternative.

"On the one thing on which he has taken a stand in the eight years he has been prime minister, which is taking us to war, he didn't even tell the truth on that," said Howard. It seems many Britons are willing to forgive Blair's support for the Iraq war and vote for his domestic policies. Believe it or not, but Blair gained a lot of backing from liberals for supporting a ban on fox hunting. And Americans think abortion and Social Security are controversial?

One southerner I like, former President Bill Clinton, recently addressed a labor party rally throwing his support behind Blair. Clinton pretty much said Tony Blair was a great person and an effective leader.

"I'm just here to say thank you, amen and go get 'em," Clinton remarked. Blair in turn called Clinton, "a fantastic friend and supporter." Personally, I was hoping Blair would refer to Clinton as the "dog's bollocks." Technically, that means "dog's balls," but it's actually a compliment in Britain. Don't ask me why. All I know is America's founders decided to leave these crazy people 230 years ago.

As the campaign in England continues, we should be rooting for Tony Blair. If liberals can't win in the United States, at least we can win with a moderate in England. Blair has proved he is a great ally and friend to the United States. He's simply the "dog's bollocks."

*Josh Kob is a political science senior and Mustang Daily columnist.*

## COMING TOMORROW

Campus Troubleshooter with Mustang Daily columnist Carrie McGourty

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Send your letters to the editor to [opinion@mustangdaily.net](mailto:opinion@mustangdaily.net)



from **LEFT**  
field  
political viewpoint

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### One year olds cannot sustain life, why do they have rights?

Lindsey Karin proposes that something that cannot sustain life on its own doesn't have any rights. It sounds good, but is the argument valid? One way to find out is to follow the logic to completion — simply applying the argument only far enough to get the conclusion we want isn't good enough.

Suppose I said "anything that can be used to hurt people should be prohibited by law." I could claim that my argument was rock-solid by applying it to guns and showing how well it worked. At first glance, my letter would even seem sound, but if we take the premise at face value, we would have to conclude that cars should also be outlawed. The argument seemed valid when viewed from one context, but we found that it was not really valid. We could not outlaw guns based on that premise.

So what do we get when we take the premise that "something that cannot sustain life on its own does not have rights" to completion? We would conclude that one-year old children (who can't survive without parental nourishment), sick elderly people and those seriously injured in car accidents do not have rights either. I think everyone would agree that a mother who kills her young child is a murderer, and that someone who shoots and kills a seriously injured car crash victim is also a murderer. The premise is not valid in all contexts, so we cannot use it as an argument to support abortion.

**Thomas Norrie**

*Computer engineering sophomore*

### Embryos should have rights despite life sustainability

To the author of "Embryo cannot sustain life, so why should it have rights?"

I have a question for you. If a loved one of yours got into a car wreck and could only survive with medical attention, would you save them? I think the obvious answer is yes. So why do you think if something (an embryo) that "cannot sustain life on its own" in if it should live or not? Would you give your loved one a say even though they may need a little help to survive?

Also, if you believe that "something that cannot sustain life on its own" does not deserve any rights, then I assume you would not want anyone who needs any kind of medicine to stay alive. Unless, of course, it was you.

**Kendra Boyer**

*Animal science junior*

### Women should have choice on abortion, pregnancy

In response to "Embryo cannot sustain life ..."

You stated that the mother is the only person who has the right to choose a baby's fate. I would like to add that not only should a woman have the right to choose her baby's fate, she should also have the right to choose her own fate.

Although it may seem selfish, women who do not want to carry a fetus to term should have the option of abortion. There are many reasons why a woman might not want to be pregnant and this should be respected; it is up to her, and her alone, whether or not she will commit to a pregnancy.

It is clear that certain embryonic rights have already been conceded (as was recently demonstrated by the verdict of the Scott Peterson trial). I do not necessarily disagree with these rights. As the debate on abortion moves forward, it is important that the rights of the embryo and the rights of the mother are not confused. In the case of abortion the rights of the mother should supersede those of the embryo.

Only 83 members of the present Congress are women (about 15 percent). If an anti-abortion law

were to be passed, it would be done by an assembly where men control 85 percent of the votes. Am I the only one who finds this disconcerting? Men are simply not qualified to make decisions regarding what a woman can or cannot do with her body.

**Tammie Nelson**  
*Biochemistry freshman*

### The real question is when does an embryo become human?

What exactly are embryonic rights? The phrase implies that an embryo actually has rights, but is that true? And if so, what specifically are those rights?

Obviously, giving an embryo, or even an infant, the right to vote or to worship as it pleases is meaningless, since the embryo or infant can't think or reason enough to utilize these rights. So, the only embryonic rights that can exist should be those that the fetus can have without needing intelligence. And that pretty much leaves the right to life, doesn't it?

Only something that is alive can be given the right to live, since granting that right to a rock or a log is pointless. But we can't automatically say that every living thing has this right. I mean, when was the last time you chose not to step on a cockroach just because it was alive?

So, more important than life is humanity. At what point can an embryo be considered human? One might consider a combined sperm and egg cell to be alive, but I doubt many would consider it human. All humans have the right to life, so we can assume that once we determine an embryo to be human, any abortion after that is murder. The real question isn't whether or not embryos have rights, but when does an embryo become a living human being?

Of course, this isn't an easy question either, and it is certainly something to think about amidst all this controversy.

**Alan Wehrman**  
*Aerospace engineering freshman*

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## Wildflower

continued from page 8

"Triathlons are unpredictable because someone could have a breakout performance," he said. "It's just like any other race; you can never tell who will win."

Calkins suggested that Chris Turkovich could be the first among the top three fastest males on the Cal Poly Triathlon team, followed by Anthony Yount as the second fastest male member. However, he said the order in which these two competitors finish is debatable. In his opinion, the third placing is up in the air due to the wide range of talent on the team.

"We have good hopes for Turkovich because he's strong on the bike and is also a Cal Poly Wheelman," Calkins said. "And Yount has been a great role model for workouts and training ethics; he's really tapered down and is ready for Wildflower."

Calkins said that the tapering down is a technical term used by triathletes and means performing shorter and faster workouts to peak your body before competing.

For Cal Poly Triathlon team females, Calkins thinks Michelle Allen has a good chance at placing first and new member Tamara Presser may come in second, followed by Breanne Long who is described as a consistent element in training.

"On the women's side we have some really strong people," he said. "Presser is a strong swimmer and placed second in our women's team at nationals."

Nationals was Presser's first Olympic distance triathlon.

"I got really nervous at nationals," Presser said. "But for me, all those nerves turned into energy. It was exciting."

## Shotwell

continued from page 8

Kyle Shotwell said. "When I came away from here, it just felt like the best place for me. San Luis just matched with my personality."

Kyle Shotwell admitted that attending Cal Poly probably made his younger brother choose to play for Cal Poly over Colorado State.

"By coming up to visit me, he could just watch the program really develop," Kyle Shotwell said. "He got pretty fired up about it. He came up here on a recruiting trip and really liked the guys and the coaches; it was just the whole atmosphere, really."

While visiting, the high school senior was able to attend an informal Cal Poly practice.

"Ryan was out there watching, so we tried to teach him a little bit. He was able to pick up some of the things, which was awesome," Kyle Shotwell said.

The team also took well to Ryan Shotwell.

"All the guys really like him. Ryan's a pretty outgoing kid. He'll fit in really well with the team," Kyle Shotwell said. "I think at the end of the day, there were just too many pros. He was asking himself, 'How could I not come here?' It was just a perfect fit."

The brothers try to do as much together as possible when they have time. Often, they will shoot hoops or lift weights. Sometimes hanging out is as simple as throwing around a football in their backyard.

"It'll be nice to have him here," Kyle Shotwell said. "I'm just looking forward to being able to play on the same team."

## Turn

continued from page 8

like to relax and do absolutely nothing. I also like to listen to music to relax my mind. Depending on my mood, I will listen to any type of music.

Q. — Do you think it is difficult to balance your sport with school?

A. — This quarter I feel like I am on campus all day. I am also in the Black Student Union so I go to those meetings as well as train-

ing. I think I just get used to it. It would be like someone who has a job and also goes to school. I have a lot of support from everyone on track. The whole team as a unit comes together. I have their support whether I am on the track or at school.

## The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

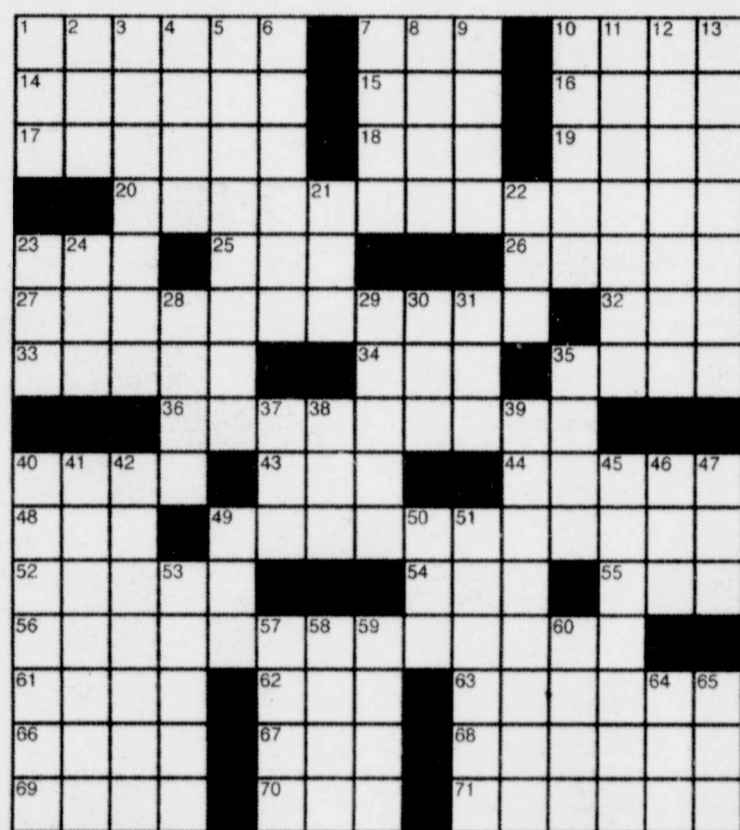
No. 0316

- ACROSS**
- 1 Service unit  
7 Itinerary abbr.  
10 Blunders  
14 Garner of jazz  
15 "Get it?"  
16 Nair competitor  
17 Watergate judge John  
18 Biblical jawbone source  
19 Way off  
20 "No kidding!?"  
23 Give, as odds  
25 Untrustworthy sort  
26 Up \_\_\_\_ (trapped)  
27 Really attractive  
32 Tolkien creature  
33 Stop by  
34 Hugs, in a letter  
35 Drugs, briefly  
36 Trip to the Bahamas, e.g.
- 40 "Doonesbury" character based on Hunter S. Thompson  
43 Rock's Bon Jovi  
44 Pushed hard  
48 Genetic material  
49 "The Mothers-in-Law" co-star  
52 Bone: Prefix  
54 Bend shape  
55 European carrier  
56 Jimmy Carter autobiography  
61 Zilch  
62 Narrow inlet  
63 Habituates  
66 Blue-pencil  
67 Creature with a tiny waist  
68 Bar request  
69 "\_\_\_\_ Dinah" (Frankie Avalon's first hit)  
70 Range units: Abbr.

- 71 Word spelled phonetically by the starts of 1-, 20-, 27-, 36-, 49- and 56-Across

## DOWN

- 1 French possessive  
2 "\_\_\_\_ tu" (Verdi aria)  
3 In formation  
4 Rope fiber  
5 Develop sores  
6 Dabble in  
7 Biblical twin  
8 Hardy heroine  
9 Ricky player in '50s TV  
10 Put on the books  
11 Grid coin tosser  
12 Collide with, in a way  
13 D and C, in D.C.  
21 Like Nasdaq trades  
22 Xanthippe, e.g.  
23 Peggy with the 1958 hit "Fever"  
24 Novelist Rand  
28 Job for Perry Mason  
29 Chanteuse Lena  
30 Marker  
31 "There's \_\_\_\_ in 'team'"  
35 Old World blackbird  
37 1977 double-platinum Steely Dan album



Puzzle by Holden Baker

## ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

PATS MECCA SHUE  
ACRE ATARI KARL  
SHERYL CROW ERIE  
TEAPOT NAME TAG  
ADDED UNEITCHY  
NACHOS SER  
POET LOO STRAFE  
RID JOHN JAY NOR  
OLDHAT DUN SEER  
YON BANGLE  
CARTE EYE EASYA  
INASTIR FAMOUS  
GIVE PETER FINCH  
ASEA STALE LACE  
RENT OSSIE ERAS

- 38 Playing hard to get  
39 More morose  
40 Blotted (out)  
41 Expose to the sun  
42 Grasshopper's cousin  
45 Stomach-related  
46 Stat. for Pedro Martinez  
47 Letters on a shingle  
49 "Kitchy-\_\_\_\_!"  
50 Waggle dance performer  
51 Victoria's prince  
53 Related maternally  
57 Vehicle on rails  
58 Glasses option  
59 Boaters and bowlers  
60 Muslim mystic  
64 Yellowstone herd member  
65 Like some grins

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## THE ATHLETE'S TURN

This week's spotlight on ...



Track and field's  
Cortney Stafford

Elizabeth Engelman  
MUSTANG DAILY

Cortney Stafford is breaking records on the track and field team and still manages to be involved in other activities.

Stafford is a political science senior who recently broke her own school record in the triple jump on April 17 with a leap of 44-01.25 at the Mt. Sac Relays held at Hilmer Lodge Stadium in Walnut.

She will be graduating in December and says she has aspirations of going to the 2008 Olympics in Beijing. She is part of the Black Student Union and says she loves staying active and is learning how to balance her time, on and off the track.

**Q.** — How did you first get involved in track and field?

**A.** — It was actually an ultimatum by my mom. My first love is basketball and in high school my mom gave me the option that if I wanted to continue playing basketball I had to join track. She wanted me to be active and stay in shape.

I still play basketball, but just to have fun. Basketball involves jumping as well, so the triple jump is easy for me.

**Q.** — How does the team spirit of track compare to more traditional team sports?

**A.** — In track you compete individually but score altogether. You have more drive because if something goes wrong, you either performed or you didn't. I look back at basketball and I don't miss it that much because you get more frustrated when you feel you are doing everything you can but you're still not winning.

I think it is more rewarding. With track you are constantly training and working to improve yourself. It's kind of a cocky sport I guess.

**Q.** — What do you think you have been doing differently this year that has improved your performance?

**A.** — This past summer was the first time I took track seriously. I was disappointed in my season last year. I missed out on nationals and got frustrated. I knew I could jump just as far as the other girls were jumping and asked myself why I wasn't. I got real hungry for the sport and became a student of my event. I definitely have more confidence now.

**Q.** — What do you like to do in your spare time?

**A.** — I like to sleep and eat. Most of the time I am at practice and school, so in the free time I just

see Turn, page 7

# Wildflower: The long and short of it



MIKE DINSMORE COURTESY PHOTO

One in three collegiate triathletes at Wildflower, the second largest triathlon in the world, is a Mustang.

Tonya Strickland  
MUSTANG DAILY

Transitioning from the constant motion of peddling a bike up and across a notoriously hilly course, to beginning a run can create a feeling of heaviness in triathletes' legs, a feeling similar to lifting a ton of bricks with each step.

Five months and 14 hours of weekly workouts helped the Cal Poly Triathlon Team train more than 80 club members to overcome this sensation and to peak their bodies for optimal performance this weekend at Wildflower.

Some students will compete Saturday in the long course race, which consists of a 1.2-mile swim, a 56-mile bike ride, and a half marathon run. The majority of the Cal Poly Triathlon team will compete Sunday in the Olympic distance race, swimming 1500 meters, biking 24 miles and running a 10K.

"Everyone races for their own reasons," said Matt Calkins, art and design junior and the Cal Poly Triathlon team's Wildflower coordi-

nator. "Whether it's to prove to themselves that they can do it, to see the training pay off, or to have the satisfaction of success, our triathletes are very competitive. I'm confident we will do well."

With the Olympic distance and long course offerings, along with a mountain bike sprint race, Wildflower is the second largest event in the world through ranking of sponsors, media coverage and more than 8,000 competitors in all divisions.

MUSTANGDAILY  
3-PART SERIES

Cal Poly is definitely a presence at the event, between the many students who volunteer and those on the Triathlon team who race. Calkins said he did the math and figured out that out of the 252 collegiate triathletes racing, one in every three people on the course will be a Cal Poly athlete.

Caleb Guest, Cal Poly Triathlon team president and kinesiology senior, said seeing a teammate run past him on the run is quite inspiring.

"Our team is so big you're constantly seeing a Cal Poly person, which is great because it keeps us going," he said.

The Cal Poly Triathlon team will compete on a world-class course that includes a 1.5K open water swim, a 40K bike course and a 10K run course with students from 32 colleges across the country. Such states include Hawaii, Idaho, Colorado and Wisconsin. Male and female competitors will begin in two waves, based on gender.

Coach Rick Ellison said in the past ten years, the Cal Poly Triathlon team has won the collegiate division of Wildflower about five times.

"It's not all about winning," Ellison said. "My goal is for each person to reach their individual best, which time and time again our athletes have proved they can do."

Calkins predicted the team's male and female frontrunners for Wildflower, based on scores received at the USA Triathlon Collegiate National Triathlon Championships held in Arizona on April 16.

see Wildflower, page 7

## Mustang football's band of brothers

Kristen Oato  
MUSTANG DAILY

Football is in the Shotwell family's blood.

Kyle Shotwell has already played two seasons as a linebacker for the Cal Poly football team. This fall, his brother Ryan Shotwell will join him. The brothers grew up playing sports recreationally, but this will be the first time they have been on a team together.

"I'm three years older than him, so we were never on the same team whether it came to Little League, soccer, basketball or football," Kyle Shotwell said. "I was always too many years older to play with him. It's ironic that at this really high level of competition, this will be the first time we're ever going to get to be on the same team."

Ryan Shotwell began playing football at age 8, while Kyle Shotwell started when he was 11.

"I've pretty much played linebacker my entire life, starting back when I was 11. Ryan's a defensive end and a tight end, but he actually used to play quarterback when he first started," Kyle Shotwell said. Both brothers participated in many different types of sports when they were younger.

"We played all the sports. We were active in everything. Our dad played football for Cal, so growing up we all wanted to be just like



NICK HOOVER MUSTANG DAILY

Kyle Shotwell, left, and Ryan Shotwell will both suit up in Mustang football uniforms next season.

Dad," Kyle Shotwell said.

"Once I got old enough to play football, I didn't have as big of an interest in playing other sports anymore. In high school, I did play track and basketball. My senior year I actually ended up playing soccer. So I lettered in three sports: football, track and basketball."

Ryan is not the only up-and-coming Shotwell when it comes to playing football. There are four brothers in the family.

"Troy is a sophomore in high school, so he plays. Matthew is only six, but he has definitely been playing football since he's been able to walk. He's got his little helmet and

everything," Kyle Shotwell said.

When it came time to choose colleges for Kyle Shotwell, the final decision was between Cal Poly and the Naval Academy in Maryland.

"As great as the Navy is, I didn't see myself making a career out of it. Cal Poly just felt right to me,"

see Shotwell, page 7