

MUSTANG DAILY

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CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY

2006

TODAY'S WEATHER

High 77°

Low 51°



Find out how The Art Beat snagged an interview with The Beach Boys' Brian Wilson
IN DIVERSIONS, 7

Take a look at the world of baseball superstitions

IN SPORTS, 12



Volume LXIX, Number 136

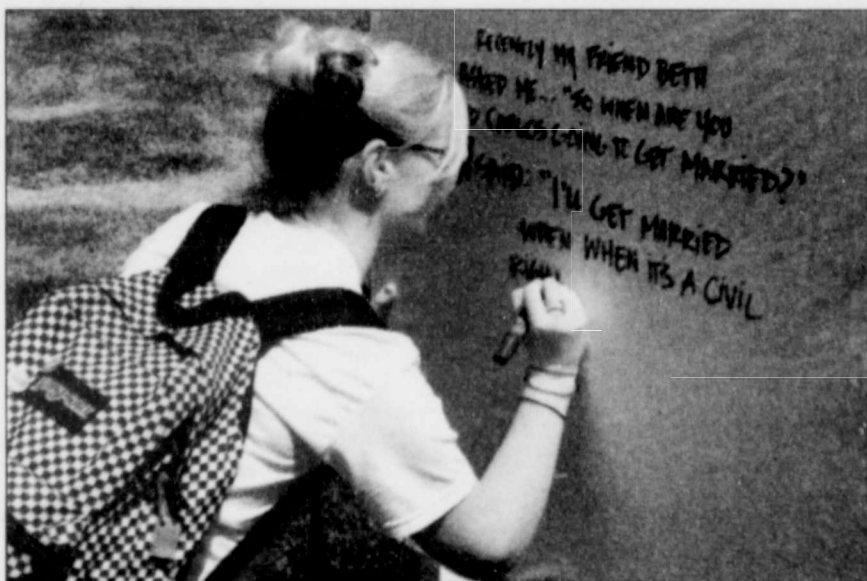
Wednesday, May 17, 2006

www.mustangdaily.net

COMMUNITY PRIDE WEEK



Marching for equality



NICK COURY MUSTANG DAILY

Above, Students marched Tuesday in support of civil rights and equality as part of Poly Pride Week. Left, Morgan Leckie, an English senior and Pride Alliance student coordinator, signed a board at the march in support of equal rights for marriage.

Katie Hofstetter

MUSTANG DAILY

Over 20 students marched from Dexter Lawn to the University Union Tuesday chanting "What do we want? Civil Rights! When do we want them? Now!"

The demonstrators, lead by Cal Poly Pride Alliance student coordinators Angela Kramer and Morgan Leckie, cheered as they demanded equality for homosexuals.

The route included Via Carta and South Perimeter roads as well as a walk through the Avenue, before concluding in the UU.

Upon entering the UU, both Kramer and Leckie gave short speeches that touched on Poly Pride week and the state of homosexuality in America.

"It makes me really sad that we have chosen to ostracize another group from

see March, page 2

Innovation in a globalized world

Jennifer Boudevin

MUSTANG DAILY

Innovation was the word of the day Wednesday afternoon as a near-capacity crowd filled the Spanos Theater for a speech by Jeff Henley, chairman of the board of directors of Oracle Corp.

His presentation, "Collaborate to Innovate — Critical Skills and Technologies for Tomorrow's Global Leaders," emphasized the importance of constant innovation in business, discussed why globalization may not be as threatening as it is often portrayed, and outlined key factors for both personal and business success.

Oracle, the largest enterprise software vendor, is an innovation-driven company, he explained, and its ability to execute on innovation is key.

"We certainly like to think that we are innovative," he said, "but quite frankly we are responding to the innovation of others."

He cited the necessity of a company to get its products on the market ahead of the competition — "speed to market," in business lingo.

On the topic of growing concerns of a global marketplace, Henley thinks the concern may be for naught.

"Understand that we are enter-

ing a global world; don't be threatened by it," Henley said. "As long as we take advantage of this global world we will be successful."

In terms of suggestions for success on a less-global scale, Henley had a few key points to share with the audience.

"My advice to you is to find something you really like and go for it," he said. "Don't be afraid to take some risks. Don't reach too hard and fall on your face, but you have to stress yourself to some degree."

He recommended gaining experience in multiple industries, as well as internationally, thinking outside the box, developing personal integrity and maintaining a strong corporate governance ethic as means for success.

He emphasized the importance of finding work that excites you, saying, "If you aren't turned on every day you go to work, you won't be successful."

Henley served as Oracle's chief financial officer and an executive vice president from 1991 to 2004,

see Henley, page 2



Jeff Henley

Poly students' involvement in Peace Corps commemorated with Peace Pole

Kristen Marschall
MUSTANG DAILY

Not every Cal Poly student would be so bold as to leave their way of life behind for more than two years to travel to a foreign country in need. But this year, 46 students are working to promote world peace, and friendship through the Peace Corps.

Administrative officials, Peace Corps alumni and recruiters were all in attendance Tuesday for the dedication of the new Peace Pole which celebrates the countless Cal Poly men and women who provided their services to the organization.

"We're really proud to have that symbol," said Robert Detweiler, interim provost and vice president for Academic

Affairs. "Cal Poly's learn-by-doing volunteer commitment fits very nicely."

The new pole stands near the Mustang

MUSTANGDAILY 2-PART SERIES

This is the first story of a two-part series on the Peace Corps.

statue between the University Union and the Administration building and proclaims "May peace prevail on Earth" in four languages: English, Spanish, Mandarin and Chumash.

Jill Andrews, the western regional manager for the Peace Corps said each of the languages holds a particular significance. The Spanish translation marks the California heritage and the involvement

of the Peace Corps, in Central and South America; Mandarin, because it is a fast-growing language and English because it is taught as a second language in China by volunteers; and Chumash as a tribute to a language that is indigenous to the area of San Luis Obispo.

Each year a peace pole is dedicated to the top school, Andrews said. "In this region, Cal Poly is the top school."

This year, the 46 Cal Poly volunteers propelled the university to the No. 22 spot of top universities in the nation to recruit students and is ranked above universities such as the Universities of California at Davis and Santa Barbara, both of which have large programs. The ranking also marks the first time Cal Poly

see Peace, page 2



The Peace Corps honored Cal Poly with a Peace Pole Tuesday in a dedication ceremony that celebrated the first year that Cal Poly is part of the top 25 universities in the nation to recruit students into the Peace Corps.

NICK CAMACHO
MUSTANG DAILY

March

continued from page 1

society in America," Kramer said.

Tuesday's events marked the second day of CommUnity Pride Week, which includes six consecutive days of events designed to educate and celebrate lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) students.

The festivities kicked off Monday night with a slam poetry event.

"It's a week of education and empowerment for LGBT students and their allies," Leckie said, adding "It's not just about the gay and lesbian students here, it's about everyone."

The Pride Alliance, with support from Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals United, organized Poly Pride Week in order to bring visibility and support to Cal Poly.

Since the creation of the Pride Alliance in 2002, two homosexual students were taken out of Cal Poly and enrolled by their parents into "ex-gay" student programs, Leckie

said.

She said she hopes that campus support can avoid such recurrences in the future.

Booths were set up in the UU Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in an attempt to offer such support.

The Central Coast Chapter of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG), the AIDS Support Network, Fusion and the Pride Alliance were all present.

The organization's goal is to "try to smooth the waters and help parents (with homosexual children) understand that this is still the same person they've always loved," Rick Tibben, 63, a member of PFLAG, said.

San Luis Obispo County continues to deal with instances where homosexual children are kicked out of their parent's homes, Tibben said. In such cases, he said, PFLAG tries to place the children in homes until parents hopefully, "come to their senses."

Despite the attempts to increase the visibility and acceptance of LGBT students, sometimes "the big-

otry is still there," Leckie said.

Several insularity comments were written on the display set up on Dexter Lawn as a part of Pride Week, including one that read, "Homos are gay, heteros are straight!" she said.

To curb such ignorance, Leckie said the Pride Alliance constantly encourages training the allies for the homosexual community.

"An ally is somebody who's willing to put on a (pride) shirt, somebody who's willing to hold hands with someone of the same sex," she said.

A "Soup and Substance" luncheon, held on Tuesday in Chumash Auditorium, addressed fraternity life as a gay man.

Vice President of Tau Kappa Epsilon Adrian Herrera read individual accounts about gay fraternity members out of the book "Brotherhood" and then invited attendees to discuss the issues raised.

Herrera finished by reading his personal story from the book about coming out to his fraternity brothers.

Henley

continued from page 1

and joined the board of directors in June 1995.

He visited Cal Poly as part of the Orfalea College of Business' Distinguished Speaker Series. The Orfalea College of Business, College

of Engineering and San Luis Obispo Chamber of Commerce sponsored the presentation.

Despite Henley's many recommendations for achievement, his point was simple and eloquent: "At the end of the day, you can't go wrong with common sense and good business judgment."

Peace

continued from page 1

has been among the top 25.

The Peace Corps is an organization which strives to build world peace and friendship by sending Americans to countries that have invited the Peace Corps to get involved. Though it is an international program, Shellye Clark, the new regional recruiter for the San Luis Obispo area, said most volunteers travel to Latin America or Africa.

Volunteers are assigned tasks based on their skills. These can include anything from education, health, business development, environment or agriculture. Cal Poly provides students with the necessary skills to accomplish many of these tasks, Andrews said; noting in particular the agriculture students. Of the Southern California region which she oversees, Cal Poly is one of the few universities that has agriculture students.

"There are also great engineers, as well as nutrition grads who are improving health all over the world," she said.

Clark's plans are to draw even more majors into the program.

"I'm hoping to get a lot more diverse volunteers," she said, listing animal science and education as beneficial majors.

Even some soon-to-be Peace Corps volunteers were in attendance. Penny Porter, a Cal Poly alumna, will travel to Armenia in June to serve as a teacher-trainer.

"It's really my background — it's perfect for me," she said.

She said she has done a lot of reading on Armenian history in preparation for her trip, though surviving in a foreign country is the least of her worries. She could be found on Tuesday listening to the experiences of veteran volunteers and asking if anyone would take care of her cat for the next two years.

"I want to make the biggest splash with my little rock — I want to do something for the world," she said. "The goal is to promote peace and that's the only way it happens is one-on-one."

For more information about the Peace Corps, visit the Web site at www.peacecorps.gov. Recruiters are available to talk to in the Kennedy Library, Room 207 on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.



Henley

continued from page 1

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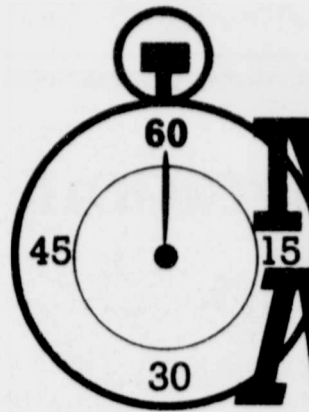
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MUSTANG MINUTE

Assistant news editor: Erick Smith • esmith00@calpoly.edu

Online: www.mustangdaily.net

Wednesday, May 17, 2006

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WHO SAID THAT?

The problem is never how to get new, innovative thoughts into your mind, but how to get old ones out. Every mind is a building filled with archaic furniture. Clean out a corner of your mind and creativity will instantly fill it.

— Dee Hock

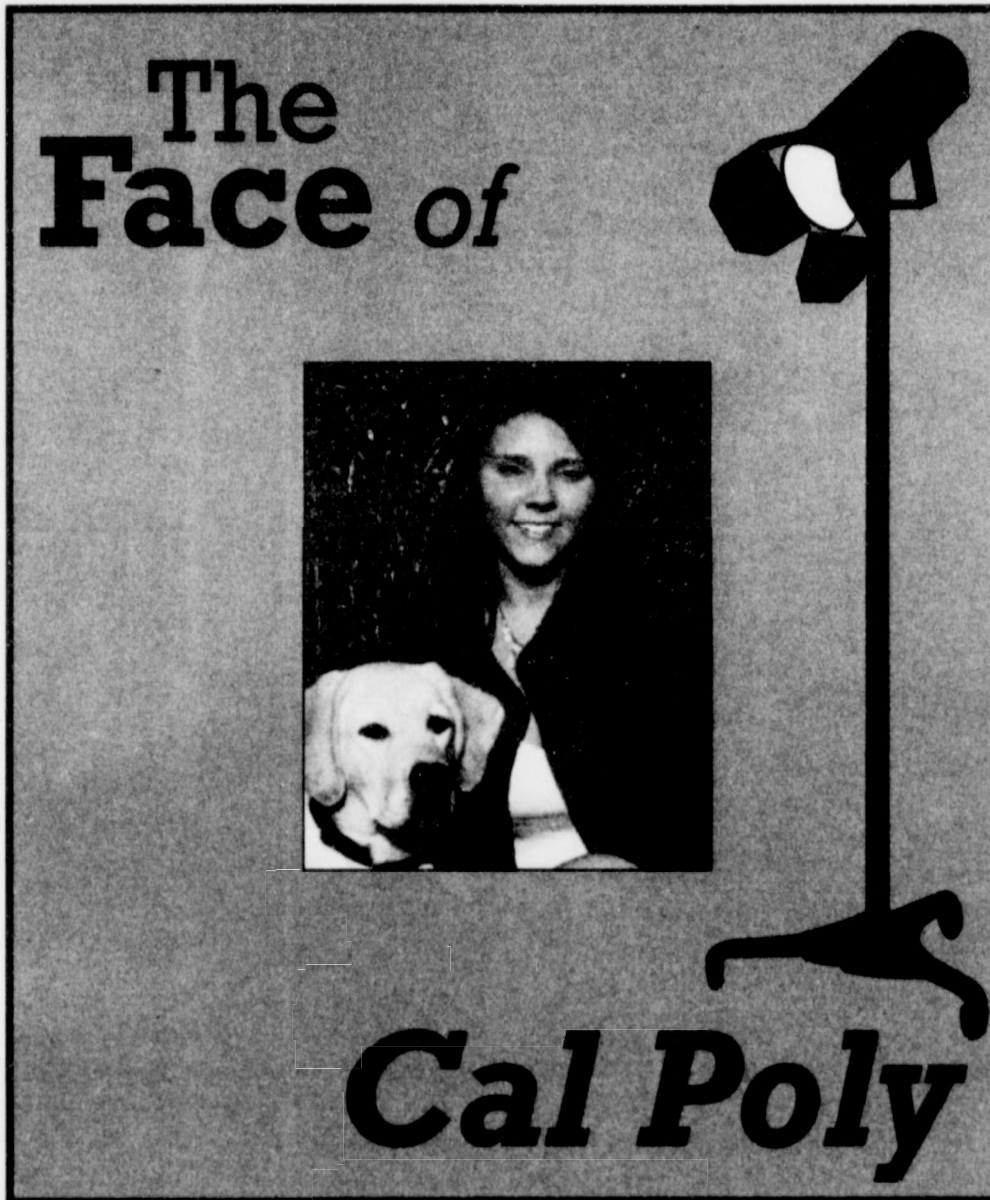
Ninety-eight percent of the adults in this country are decent, hard-working, honest Americans. It's the other lousy two percent that get all the publicity. But then — we elected them.

— Lily Tomlin

Wordly Wise

Spoonerism: The transposition of usually initial sounds in a pair of words.

BREAKING NEWS
UPDATED AT THE SPEED OF COLLEGE LIFE
www.mustangdaily.net



Name: Lindsey Koroly • **Year:** senior
Hometown: Spring Valley • **Major:** animal science

Favorites

Place in SLO: Montana de Oro
Holiday: Christmas
Food: ABC burger from Firestone
Restaurant: McClintocks

If You Could ...

— have any theme song, what would you pick?
"Surfer Girl" by Homegrown

— live in any decade in the 1900s, which would it be?
Now

— be any animal?
A dolphin, because I love the ocean.

Either/Or

— Without TV or the Internet?
That's too hard.

— Peanut butter or jelly?
It's peanut butter jelly time!

— The facebook or myspace?
Myspace



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.

National briefs

WASHINGTON

Seventeen years after it was withdrawn from U.S. markets, a synthetic version of the active ingredient in marijuana is going back on sale as a prescription treatment for the vomiting and nausea that often accompanies chemotherapy, its California-based manufacturer said Tuesday.

Valeant Pharmaceuticals International hopes to begin selling Cesamet in the next two to three weeks, company president Wes Wheeler said.

Synthetic THC acts on the brain like the THC in smoked marijuana, but eliminates having to inhale the otherwise harmful smoke contained in the illegal drug, Valeant said.

— The Associated Press

WASHINGTON

President Bush insisted Tuesday that the United States does not listen in on domestic telephone conversations among ordinary Americans. But he declined to specifically discuss the government's alleged compiling of phone records, or whether it would amount to an invasion of privacy. "We do not listen to domestic phone calls without court approval," Bush said in an East Room news conference with Australian Prime Minister John Howard.

— The Associated Press

Bush wants National Guard to fight illegal immigration, urges Senate to find 'middle ground' on citizenship

David Espo

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The Senate rejected a call Tuesday to secure the nation's borders before tackling other immigration-related concerns such as citizenship for millions of men and women in the country illegally, a victory for President Bush and supporters of a comprehensive approach to a volatile election-year issue.

The vote was 55-40 against a proposal by Sen. Johnny Isakson, R-Ga., who said that anything less than a border security-first approach amounted to "a wink and a nod one more time to those who would come here" unlawfully.

Republican and Democratic supporters of the sweeping Senate bill said Isakson's approach would be self-defeating and derail the approach that Bush backed in Monday night's prime time speech from the Oval Office. "We have to have a comprehensive approach if we're going to gain control of the borders," said Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass.

In all, 36 Democrats and 18 Republicans joined with one independent to torpedo the amendment. Thirty-three Republicans and seven Democrats supported it.

Eager to blunt any political fallout from opposing Isakson's proposal, the bill's sponsors countered with an alternative of their own. Backed by Sen. Ken Salazar, D-Colo., it said



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Homeland Security Michael Chertoff, center, speaks at a press briefing on border security on Tuesday.

immigration changes envisioned in the legislation could proceed if the president declared they were in the national security interests of the United States. It passed, 79-16.

The Senate cast its first votes on the immigration bill as Bush renewed his call for Congress to act. "The objective is, on the one hand, protect our borders; and, on the other hand, never lose sight of the thing that makes America unique which is, we're a land of immigrants and that we're not going to discriminate against people," he said at a news conference with Australian Prime Minister John Howard.

Bush drew continued criticism from House Republicans for his

speech, and the White House sought to emphasize the border security elements of the president's plan.

"This is going to be a tremendous enforcement support partnership," U.S. Border Patrol Chief David Aguilar told reporters at the White House, anticipating the deployment of up to 6,000 National Guard troops to states along the Mexican border.

"We can certainly do what is asked by our commander in chief," added Lt. Gen. Steven Blum, National Guard Bureau Chief.

Blum, Aguilar and others stressed that National Guard forces would function in support roles, leaving front-line law enforcement against

illegal immigrants in the hands of federal Border Patrol agents.

Republicans expressed support for new attempts to secure America's porous borders, but they rebelled against another element of what Bush calls a comprehensive plan to alter immigration laws.

"Thinly veiled attempts to promote amnesty cannot be tolerated," said Rep. Tom Price, R-Ga. "While America is a nation of immigrants, we are also a nation of laws, and rewarding those who break our laws not only dishonors the hard work of those who came here legally but does nothing to fix our current situation."

Any legislation that emerges from Congress will eventually come from House-Senate negotiations.

But first, the Senate had to act, and there, Bush's speech won praise from Republicans and Democrats alike lining up behind long-stalled legislation.

Sen. Mel Martinez, R-Fla., said he and other supporters had the support needed to defeat any crippling amendments offered by critics. Bush's speech "solidified some votes," he told reporters.

"The president gets it," added Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill.

Behind the rhetorical lovefest lay political calculations — politicians of both parties stressing their election-year credentials as tough on illegal immigration in an era of terrorism.

NAACP sues Nebraska over law dividing schools into racially identifiable districts

Chuck Brown

ASSOCIATED PRESS

OMAHA, Neb. — The NAACP sued Nebraska's governor and a state committee Tuesday over a new law that divides Omaha Public Schools into three racially identifiable districts.

The law, passed by the Legislature at the end of its recent session, splits the Omaha district starting in 2008 into three districts: one mostly black, one largely Hispanic and one predominantly white.

It was aimed at solving a dispute over school boundaries in the state's largest city after Omaha Public Schools tried to take over some suburban schools.

The NAACP's federal lawsuit says the new law violates the constitutional principals embodied in the 1954 U.S. Supreme Court ruling in Brown vs. Board of Education, which said separate but equal facilities have no place in public education.

"Segregation is morally wrong, regardless of who advocates it," said Tommie Wilson of the Omaha chapter of the NAACP.

Supporters said the plan would give minorities control over their own school board and ensure that their children were not shortchanged.

State Sen. Ernie Chambers, the Legislature's only black senator and designer of the amendment dividing the districts, has long argued that the Omaha district was already segregated because it no longer bused students for integration purposes.

"The NAACP, in my opinion, jumped on this issue because billionaire Warren Buffett spoke against it without understanding it," Chambers said.

Buffett, an Omaha native, and other local business leaders came out against the law as the Legislature was considering it.

The NAACP and Omaha Public Schools officials said the new law was short on funding and would do too little to promote integration — even hampering other efforts.

The NAACP wants the Legislature and Gov. Dave Heineman to come up with a workable alternative to the new law by January, said John Jackson, the national NAACP's chief policy director.

Heineman, who signed the legislation, has said provisions of the law were subject to changes.

The 45,000-student Omaha school system is 46 percent white, 31 percent black, 20 percent Hispanic, and 3 percent Asian or American Indian.

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BREAKING NEWS
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GOP senator: Secretive court briefed on Bush's controversial surveillance

Katherine Shrader
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Two judges on the secretive court that approves warrants for intelligence surveillance were told of the broad monitoring programs that have raised recent controversy, a Republican senator said Tuesday, connecting a court to knowledge of the collecting of millions of phone records for the first time.

President Bush, meanwhile, insisted the government does not listen in on domestic telephone conversations among ordinary Americans. But he declined to specifically discuss the compiling of phone records, or whether that would amount to an invasion of privacy.

USA Today reported last week that three of the four major telephone companies had provided information about millions of Americans' calls to the National Security Agency. However, Verizon Communications

Inc. denied on Tuesday that it had been asked by the agency for customer information, one day after BellSouth said the same thing.

Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, said that at least two of the chief judges on the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court had been informed since 2001 of White House-approved National Security Agency monitoring operations.

"None raised any objections, as far as I know," said Hatch, a member of a special Intelligence Committee panel appointed to oversee the NSA's work.

Hatch made the comment in answering a question in an interview about recent reports of the government compiling lists of Americans' phone calls. He later suggested he was also speaking broadly of the administration's terror-related monitoring.

When asked if the judges somehow approved the operations, Hatch said, "That is not their position, but they were informed."

The surveillance court, whose 11 members are chosen by the chief justice of the United States, was set up after Congress rewrote key laws in 1978 that govern intelligence collection inside the U.S.

The court is charged with secretly considering individual warrants for physical searches, wiretaps and traces on phone records when someone is suspected of being an agent of a foreign power and making the request to a regular court might reveal highly classified information.

Since Sept. 11, 2001, the court has been led by U.S. District Judge Royce C. Lamberth, and then by U.S. District Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly, who succeeded him.

Bush was asked Tuesday about the reported lists of calls.

"We do not listen to domestic phone calls without court approval," Bush said.

He appeared to acknowledge the NSA sweep of phone records indirectly, saying that the program

referred to by a questioner "is one that has been fully briefed to members of the United States Congress in both political parties."

"They're very aware of what is taking place. The American people expect their government to protect them within the laws of this country and I'm going to continue to do just that," Bush said.

Spokesman Tony Snow later said Bush's comments did not amount to a confirmation of published reports that the NSA's surveillance included secretly collecting millions of phone-call records.

Verizon, meanwhile, called into question key points of a USA Today story that has led to wide coverage by other news media in the past week.

"Contrary to the media reports, Verizon was not asked by NSA to provide, nor did Verizon provide, customer phone records," the New York-based phone company said in an e-mail statement.

A day earlier, BellSouth Corp. had

said NSA had never requested customer call data, nor had the company provided any.

A story in USA Today last Thursday said Verizon, AT&T Inc. and BellSouth had complied with an NSA request for tens of millions of customer phone records after the 2001 terror attacks.

USA Today spokesman Steve Anderson said Tuesday, "We're confident in our coverage of the phone database story, but we won't summarily dismiss BellSouth's and Verizon's denials without taking a closer look."

The Senate Intelligence Committee is to hold a confirmation hearing Thursday on Bush's nomination of Air Force Gen. Michael Hayden to head the CIA. Hayden is sure to face vigorous questioning. As the NSA director from 1999 until last year, Hayden oversaw the creation of some of the government's most controversial intelligence surveillance.

Powerful earthquake rattles islands north of New Zealand

Ray Lilley
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WELLINGTON, New Zealand — A powerful earthquake hit deep under the South Pacific late Tuesday north of New Zealand, and it rocked a wide area of the country, but no damage or injuries were reported.

The Pacific Tsunami Warning Center issued a bulletin saying the magnitude 7.4 quake had not generate a destructive Pacific-wide tsunami but warned it could spawn a small tsunami within 60 miles of its epicenter.

The U.S. Geological Survey said the quake hit at 10:39 p.m. (6:39 a.m. EDT) about 90 miles below the seabed, and was centered about 180 miles south-southwest of Raoul Island in the Kermadec island chain,

which is 712 miles northeast of New Zealand's largest city, Auckland.

It came hours before countries around the Pacific rim were to test a tsunami warning system spanning the world's largest ocean.

Later Tuesday night, an earthquake measuring magnitude 6.8 struck western Indonesia, but no damage or casualties were reported and the quake did not appear to have triggered a tsunami.

The quake struck at 10:28 p.m. (11:28 a.m. EDT) off the coast of Nias island, just over 600 miles northwest of Indonesia's capital, Jakarta. Indonesian meteorologist Agung Sunaryadi said "some cracks were reported on land, but that's all we've heard."

The powerful quake north of New Zealand, which seismologists

said registered at magnitude 7.5, rocked a wide area of the country — but was unlikely to have caused damage, seismologist Ken Gledhill told The Associated Press.

"It has been felt very widely but is unlikely to have caused any damage in New Zealand," he said, adding that within half an hour more than 500 people had reported the quake's impact.

"It was too deep to have ruptured the sea floor," Gledhill said, adding a tsunami was unlikely "if that depth is correct."

A policeman in the east coast North Island town of Whakatane said he was sitting on a chair talking to the police communications center in the northern city of Auckland when it struck.

"Things started moving and I

thought, 'this is a goodie,'" said Sgt. Andrew O'Reilly.

Wellington police inspector Peter Stokes said there were no immediate reports of injury or damage.

"We sure did feel it. Our building swayed a bit," he said.

Raoul Island was the center of a series of earthquakes during a volcanic eruption in March that killed a New Zealand Department of Conservation worker and forced the evacuation of the island.

Several conservation workers returned to the island last month to perform tasks like eradicating weeds, monitoring birds and preventing the arrival of unwanted pests such as rats.

There was no immediate word on whether they were affected by

the quake.

The quake was felt as far south as Christchurch on South Island.

New Zealand is among more than two dozen countries taking part in the drill to test the Pacific warning system that has been in place since 1965.

During the exercise early Wednesday, the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center in Hawaii will send out warnings about mock earthquakes off the Chilean coast and Luzon island in the northern Philippines that are powerful enough to set off a tsunami across the vast ocean.

Governments will test if and how fast they receive the warnings and how rapidly they are relayed through domestic emergency alert systems.


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Chair Nominations

Nominations for the 06-07 Chair of the University Union Advisory Board (UUAB) will be accepted at the UUAB meetings on May 9 and 23 in UU 216 at 3 p.m.

Elections will be held at the May 23 meeting

Membership on the University Union Advisory Board provides a "front row seat" for experiencing issues involved with the University Union, Recreation Center and Sports Complex operations. The UUAB is the official advisory board to the University President and ASI Executive Director regarding UU fee funded facilities, programs and services.

The Chair of the UUAB also serves as an officer of Associated Students, Inc. www.asi.calpoly.edu/government/

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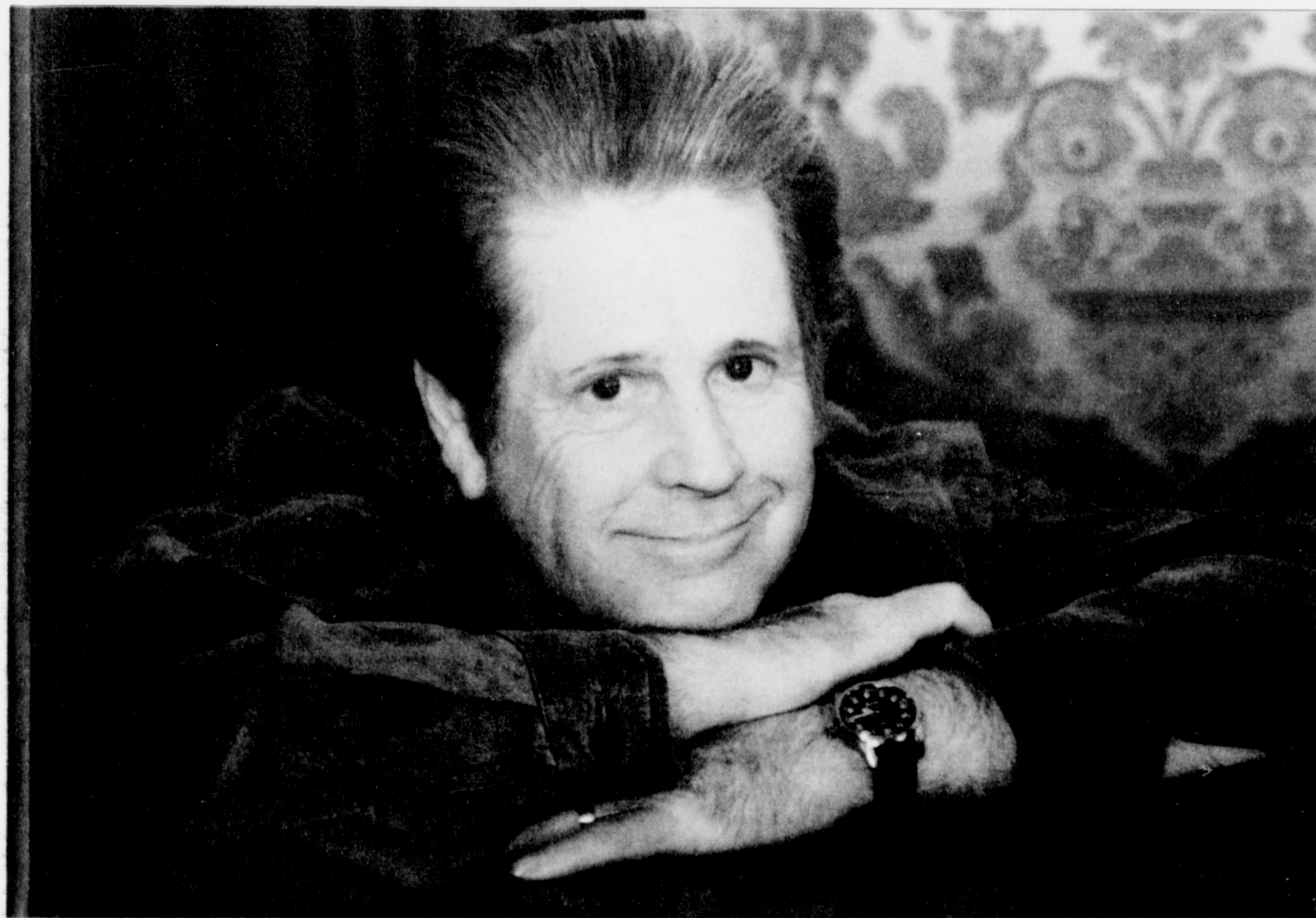
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Brian Wilson

was the creative and infamously unstable genius behind the **Beach Boys**, who rose to fame in the 1960s with whimsical surf and California-inspired tunes. The group evolved into one of the most influential rock and pop groups of all time. Their 1966 opus "Pet Sounds" is ranked the No. 2 album of all time by Rolling Stone.

COURTESY PHOTO

Brian Wilson, formerly of the Beach Boys, now records as a solo artist.

How Brian Wilson saved my father



STACEY ANDERSON
SPECIAL TO THE DAILY

"I don't give a goddamn about the Beach Boys!"

It was 1963, and the generational gap had never yawned wider. My grandfather, the principal of Lennox High School in Hawthorne, Calif., had suffered a particularly bad day; two young scoundrels named Brian and Dennis Wilson had caused a scene by trespassing onto his closed campus during school hours, gunning the engine of their souped-up '57 Chevy in the parking lot. The plan was to whisk their cheerleader girlfriends to the beach, but he'd removed them in a screaming display of authority. Now, in his own home, he was receiving a rapturous lesson from his 8-year-old son, Dale, about how these delinquents were actu-

ally members of the most famous rock band in the country.

Dale displayed his prized possession — the 7-inch single for "Surfin' USA," which he'd played with single-minded intensity for weeks. And then he had to grab it back, when his father threatened to smash it over his head.

Forty-two years later, Brian Wilson crashed back into my father's life, just when he was needed most desperately. But this time, I was around to complicate matters hopelessly.

By the time my dad had children, the apple fell much closer to the tree. As the only child, I shunned my mother's interests (ballet, math, feminine decorum in general) and grew into my father's enthusiasm for trumpet, guitar and '60s rock. Hours of shared practice on the instruments, and even more

spent listening to classic rock, kept us close — especially when he suffered a near-fatal brain tumor in 1993, and we passed the months of sterile hospital hours

comparing The Beatles trivia with forced levity. He predicted then that we would collaborate someday, on something unprecedented and fantastic. At the time, it seemed merely hopeful; our future

was not guaranteed, or even imaginable, in those bleak surroundings. But several surgeries later, he was renewed — muted in some ways, but more confident than ever in our impending collaboration.

Twelve years later on a lazy October afternoon, it arrived. While trolling music 'zines online, I read one fan's enthusiastic coverage about the Brian Wilson Katrina Relief Challenge, which was currently underway on the musician's Web site. The premise: Donate to the national hurricane relief effort, and Wilson would make a personal phone call. To you.

It seemed like such an odd concept — help the country in its rebuilding, and chat with the Mozart of '60s rock! But it was also vaguely noble — surely, Wilson had better enticements than making hundreds of calls to stammering fans. But it wasn't until the next day's fatherly phone update that the idea took root.

"Time is running out," he sighed. "I don't know what to do."

These comments had become repetitive, but no less depressing. My father, aside from being a bilingual public schoolteacher, had been a Bay Area singer-songwriter for years. His easygoing folk-rock

had always fared well with students and state radio stations; in the late '90s, he joined forces with one of the oldest independent labels in the country. He didn't seem an immediate match for them — their typical offerings were cloying novelty songs — but he had recently received airplay on over 350 contemporary radio stations around the country. It was one step closer

to his ultimate goal: enough popularity to headline a series of ambitious charity concerts for children. (Sort of like Live 8 for the under-8.) But the promotional expenses were bleeding him dry, and now he only had a few weeks left in his promotion contract, then airplay of his songs would halt for good.

Forty-two years later, Brian Wilson crashed back into my father's life, just when he was needed most desperately.

And so would his only dream.

"If this attempt fails, I'm done," he said. "I lose."

Down a phone line, and 200 miles away, I listened in silence. Our talks had evolved to a dismal routine; I spent my days immersed in coed life and my own idealistic future plans, only to spend hours delving into his brutal mid-life misery. Sometimes he broke down, teary in his blue period. He was right — without the new recordings and radio promotion he couldn't afford, his newfound career would plummet. But that one night, I thought of something ridiculous.

"Why don't you talk to Brian Wilson?" And it made sense; my father needed a buoyant spirit, a trouper, someone filled with inspiring musical shop-talk. After all, he'd identified with Wilson for decades; he too had felt the emotional hari-kiri of a cold and disapproving father (my grandfather has refused to acknowledge Dad's musical accomplishments from fourth grade to present). After his brain tumor and surgery, he leaned far more to his creative instincts, and came to imagine Wilson as a positive leader, a mentor. So maybe he would get a good nudge for his own songwriting career, or at least culminate a lifetime of Wilson worship — not a bad consolation prize.

He thought so, too. We submitted a donation to the Relief

see Wilson, page 8

MUSTANGDAILY 2-PART SERIES

This is the first installment in a special two-part The Art Beat. Pick up next Wednesday's Mustang Daily for an interview with the former Beach Boy.

'Just My Luck' saved by supporting cast

Matthew Zane

SPARTAN DAILY (SAN JOSE STATE U.)

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Let's be clear from the start: "Just My Luck" is a cotton-candy movie aimed at teens and tweens, not a college audience.

Disney channel alumna Lindsay Lohan plays Ashley Albright, a New York public relations agent who is blessed with impossibly good luck.

Albright can't help but to catch break after break. When she steps outside, the clouds part and stop raining, and lottery tickets are more like mini-ATMs than games of chance for her.

It is Lohan's supporting cast though, that just barely keeps the movie afloat above the murky depths of typical teenage movie mediocrity.

Chris Pine plays Jake Hardin, the polar opposite of Lohan's character. Hardin has a horrible janitorial job in a local bowling alley. He's



COURTESY PHOTO

see Luck, page 9



COURTESY PHOTO

Brian Wilson formed The Beach Boys in the early 1960's, which became a world-wide rock and pop group with hits such as 'Surfin' USA' and 'Good Vibrations.'

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Wilson

continued from page 7

fund-raiser form, listed the hours and days that Wilson could call. Our times spanned 20 hours over two weeks, which my dad spent the duration of eyeing the phone impatiently.

But a week passed, then two, and Wilson didn't call. Take-out boxes littered the ever-dwindling space around the dusty phone, and Dad slept skittishly. Even a week past the specified times, there was never a Beach Boy on the line. And our great plan seemed a disaster — now my father had been let down by his record label and his hero.

A world away, I investigated — and according to a press release, he had finished making calls. I was incensed. Irresponsible musicians were no novelty (I've come to a few ear-shattering showdowns in pursuit of this column), but I'd been raised on The Beach Boys because of my father; this was a more personal blow than being ignored by some piss-ant eyelined rocker. It was war.

In the over-caffeinated span of 10 minutes, hunched maniacally over my laptop, I composed a brutally indignant e-mail to Wilson's fund-raising manager. It demanded, in scalding pseudo-litigious fervor (mostly recycled from high school business club), an explanation for why my father had not received his call. I expressed, with the typed equivalent of schoolteacher's scorn, that I hoped this was

not their customary style business. It was a rampage and I debated sending it, but ultimately did. Odds were slim that anyone would see or consider the letter; it had almost been a therapeutic offering, to ease the guilt felt for suggesting my dad place hope in Wilson. It was my fault that his disappointment was now deeper.

Two nights later, after the e-mail had faded from con-

cern, I logged onto a campus computer and discovered a response to the letter! It came from his wife, Melinda Wilson. I gaped before opening it, starstruck at the idea of communication with a superstar's spouse.

Too bad she was pissed off. In fact, she was furious and quite verbose about it, citing my letter the first "nasty" response she and Brian Wilson had ever

see Wilson, page 9

Two nights later, after the e-mail
had faded from concern,
I logged onto a campus computer
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Luck

continued from page 8

prone to getting soaked by random rainstorms on otherwise sunny days and has the number for the poison control center hotline memorized by heart.

Samaire Armstrong (Anna from Fox's "O.C."), shines in her role as Albright's friend Maggie, an aspiring songwriter and all-around adorable girl.

The quirky members of the British pop band McFly steal many of the scenes that they appear in, and actually sound pretty good when they perform on screen.

The first half-hour of the movie is forgettable, devoted to pounding it into the heads of audience members that Albright is indeed lucky and that Hardin is a hopeless mess.

The one thing that Hardin has going for him is that he is the manager of the band McFly, but, of course, because of his luck he can't get any studios to listen to the group's demo CD.

The movie finally starts to pick up when Albright throws a blowout gala for her boss, complete with mysterious Mardis Gras-esque masked dancers in tuxedos and sequined cocktail dresses.

The party is emceed by Damon Phillips (Faizon Love), who displays the perfect amounts of gusto and ego to make a believable record mogul.

Hardin sneaks into the party by taking the place of a masked dancer that didn't show up and bumbles around the party until he runs into Albright.

The two dance for a bit before sharing an intimate kiss, which is when their fates are suddenly reversed.

Albright breaks a heel, rips her dress and is thrown in jail.

Meanwhile, Hardin's luck begins to change when he secures an audition for McFly after saving Phillips' life.

Albright is struck with calamity after calamity as she desperately searches for the mysterious dancer that stole her luck.

She is reduced to working at Hardin's old bowling alley janitorial job, which he no longer needs since he is living the penthouse life of a superstar band manager.

The cleaning job is the basis for some genuinely funny physical comedy bits from Lohan, such as when she scrapes old pieces of gum from the bottom of tables, and one falls into her mouth.

After sitting through the first 30 minutes of the movie watching Lohan's character have nothing but good luck, or perhaps because of a bit of real-life jealousy, it's enjoyable to see her being put down a peg or two.

Still, it's impossible to truly root against her, and you always hope that she will eventually rebound back.

It is this delicate balance that makes this movie work.

Sure it's a cotton-candy movie: It's fluffy, lacks a lot of substance and can sometimes be a bit too sweet to bear.

Just like real cotton candy though, this movie can be enjoyable as long as you're not expecting it to be a real meal.

So if you see "Just My Luck," forget any expectations of seeing the next great cinematic masterpiece, turn off your brain for a little bit, and just go along for the sugary ride.

Wilson

continued from page 8

received about their Relief Challenge ("ever" was highlighted in a startlingly red shade). She claimed that Brian Wilson had tried to call my father on two separate occasions, and went head-on to my other accusations, slashing my statements with vehement indignation for her husband. The duo had sincerely attempted to assist in a national crisis, and my callow behavior marred the process.

Right about there, I started to sweat — because the overall tone was not angry, but wounded. Melinda Wilson was as committed to her man as I was to mine, and her words pricked tears in my eyes. Though Brian Wilson had obviously not tried to call, I still had offended and hurt him and his wife. I'd added a political dimension to a charitable undertaking. In one succinct moment the whole situation, from origin to present, seemed to solely exist on my hurting others — first my dad, then a rock legend and his spouse. And scolding Brian Wilson was a terrible accomplishment — after all his mental problems and seclusions, attacking him was akin to waving a knife at a kitten. I couldn't get

lower.

So I wrote her back, tail lodged firmly between my legs. In my guilt, and the resentment still lingering, I explained my concern for my father — that, I would not apologize for. What did it matter? Brian Wilson hadn't lifted his dialing finger in the times Melinda Wilson claimed, but he certainly wouldn't be ringing now.

Afterwards, I started walking home, sobbing in exhaustion, guilt and helplessness. Ironically, after this confrontation with Brian Wilson's camp, I had begun to understand what it felt to be unhinged — and it was awful.

I dialed my parents' line, and vowed to repent — and once my dad answered, attempted to do so in a hysterical, monosyllabic wail. He sounded more than alarmed. But once he could discern that my situation wasn't fatal, he laughed. "I have a story for you," he said.

"No, I have a story for you!" I countered, and breathlessly began to recap Melinda's terse response. I was wailing unintelligibly once more when my dad cut in.

"But Brian Wilson just called!"

You'll never guess what Brian Wilson told Anderson's father. Read the dramatic conclusion, and an interview with Wilson, next Wednesday in *The Art Beat*.

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"There's a lot of activism going on. It's because of the nice weather."

MUSTANG DAILY
OPINION/EDITORIAL

Wednesday, May 17, 2006

Editor in chief: Dan Watson

Managing editor: Kristen Oato

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10

COMMENTARY

Potential to launch ahead on shuttle service

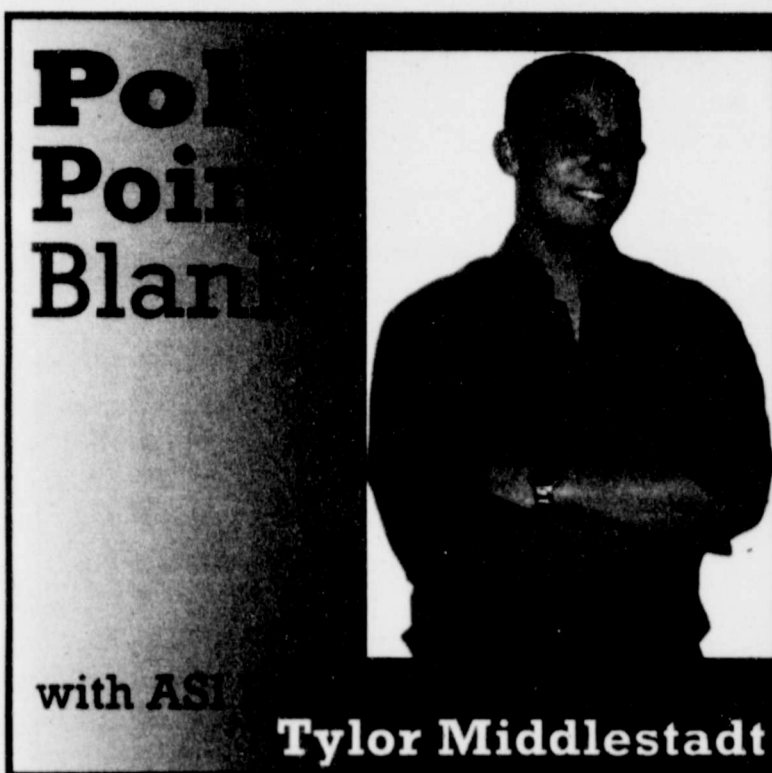
Starting tomorrow night, Cal Poly students will have a safe, affordable ride home from downtown. The College Shuttle by Beach Cities Cab Co., Inc. will offer students a convenient ride from downtown to neighborhoods near campus.

I admit, the program is not perfect and it does not meet everyone's needs, but I guarantee it is a step in the right direction.

Late night transportation has been a pressing issue at Cal Poly for many years. ASI has been searching for practical solutions since the beginning. As we all know, Safe-Ride shut its doors in mid-April. The headlines were everywhere proclaiming that the program was closed and challenging the community to propose an alternative.

Ironically, the development of this shuttle program was born out of an unexpected phone call I received from Beach Cities owner Jeff Goldenberg. He was irritated with the bad press he had received from my quotations in the media in the wake of the Safe-Ride closure. I was quoted saying that taxis are unreliable, too expensive and required extreme wait times.

He contacted me to set the record straight, and to hopefully gain my support in getting accu-



rate information to the public. Rather than jump to the defensive or apologize profusely, I sensed an opportunity.

You see, ASI and Beach Cities Cab Co. have some things in common: they want people to have convenient access to safe transportation late into the night, and they are in the business of providing services for people.

Here's the opportunity I sensed: ASI wants to solve the late night transportation challenge; Beach Cities Cab Co. wants to increase their business during late night hours. I asked Mr. Goldenberg what he thought about working together to solve

this problem and we immediately began developing a concept. It was a win-win from the start.

I called a stakeholder meeting with broad representation from the university, SLO city, downtown busi-

ness owners and the police department. We agreed there was potential to move ahead. Goldenberg and I began penciling out a program that we believe will evolve into a comprehensive solution to late night transportation challenges.

The good news is that the Beach Cities Cab Co. College Shuttle service launches tomorrow night. The bad news is that the only way we can guarantee the service will continue to expand is if Cal Poly students ride the shuttle frequently over the next four weeks and treat the service respectfully unlike those responsible for the closure of

Safe-Ride.

Here are the details:

- The shuttle will operate every Thursday to Saturday from 10 p.m. to 3 a.m.

- The shuttle will pick students up at Marsh/Chorro with drop-off locations at Campus Bottle, Santa Rosa/Foothill, Cuesta/Foothill, Patricia/Foothill and Ramona/Palomar

- The shuttle is guaranteed for a four-week pilot period, ending on June 10.

- The shuttle costs \$4 per ride, and is one-way only from downtown home.

- ASI is selling 500 \$3 promotional tickets at the ASI Epicenter.

While there is a temporary solution in place, the work isn't done. We need your feedback to help develop a more comprehensive service to launch next fall. We would like the College Shuttle to serve all areas of San Luis Obispo, but for now we're starting small.

It's up to you whether or not we can go big so you can get home.

Tylor Middlestadt is the ASI president and Mustang Daily columnist. He can be reached at 756-5828, tmiddlest@calpoly.edu, AIM: CPASI President

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Matt Hutton
Mechanical engineering junior

Thank God for prayer, parties and T.C.G.

So the other day I was busy burning pentacles and phallic symbols into my neighbor's lawn when a little birdie flew onto my shoulder and told me what's up. He was like, "Steve, you know what? Christians aren't really that bad, man, you should go easier on them." I was like, "Dude no way!" You see earlier in the week some inquisitioners had broken up a perfectly heathen crack/prostitute party I was holding, so I was a little miffed at Christians in general, but the birdie set me straight.

He told me that I should be more aware of these three things: Christians have great solutions to modern problems, they are going to throw the best party EVER in just a few years and best of all that Jesus is responsible for my own dual beacons of light, the Two Classy Gents.

First off, Christians have a powerful solution for all of our problems: the power of prayer. Nothing gets the job done like closing your eyes and saying words. Our troops in Iraq don't need more body armor or more effective leaders, they need people back here at home clasping their hands, bowing their heads and hoping for good things. Shoot, next time I get a life threatening disease I'm not going to the hospital, I'm going to hold hands

with my brothers in Christ and I'll wish that cancer away!

Secondly, it is a huge misconception that Christians are party poopers. They're actually just saving up for the most crackin' party ever! We know that a good party lasts until dawn, but what about a party that lasts all eternity? This is what we're gonna get from heaven. Plus nothing is more of a downer than killing a keg at 2:01 a.m. ... everyone knows that there will be no more booze for at least 4 hours. But when you're chillin' with a guy that turns water into wine, NO PROBLEM! Also, this guy on the street corner tells me that this party starts with the end of the world, which apparently is coming very, very soon.

Perhaps the greatest thing about Christianity is its creation of the Two Classy Gents. Word on the street is that Jesus and his deadbeat dad (Roman census results show he never once paid his child support) created everything. I would like to say that he was on a roll when he made those two crusaders of couthness. I bet he made them on the same fine Tuesday that he made lawndarts and psychedelic mushrooms. Word.

Stephen Knudsen
Soil science sophomore

Long on words, short on facts

I would like to respond to Mr. Coury's commentary concerning America, war and business.

Though seemingly palatable on the surface, one doesn't have to look very far into his arguments to find that he is not only lacking facts to back up his claims, he is lacking a cohesive argument. Sure, America's defense contractors make money during wartime, which should be obvious to anybody. This is no great surprise; would it surprise somebody that any other industry makes more money in its particular field than a business that does not specialize in that sector? Perhaps Coury should have attended a few more of those economics classes.

Quite rapidly, Coury leaves this argument behind to attack the president, compare Iraq to Vietnam and rehash a Los Angeles Times story about a wounded soldier. All this proves that he is trying to manipulate his audience to agree with his first point by drawing on negative emotions concerning other issues. As to facts provided, he cites not a reputable source, but a song by The Boss. If this is the measure of Cal Poly's journalism department, thank God there are other schools aspiring journalists can attend.

To finish my response, I will take what I have learned from Coury and say that he should listen to the Black Eyed Peas and "shut up, just shut up, shut up!"

Ryan Hunter
Mechanical engineering senior

Frankly

continued from page 12

record in Big West play.

It doesn't matter how many quality wins you have or what conference you play in, if you have a sub .500 conference record, you don't make it to post-season play. Call it the "Less-Than-Average Clause," if you can't beat the teams in your own conference more than half the times you play them, you're not a tournament-caliber team.

It doesn't matter if you are playing in the Big West, the Big East or the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference — if you can't take care of business in your conference, you do not deserve a chance to play for a national

championship.

And what about Cal Poly taking two-of-three games from UCSB? Shouldn't that tidbit of information play at least a semi-significant role in selection process? Why play conference games if they don't matter?

Common sense should prevail in these situations.

Unfortunately, this issue won't be resolved. Had it been USC jumping over UCLA for a tournament bid in men's basketball, people would have noticed.

However, a conflict in softball between Cal Poly and UCSB of the Big West Conference isn't soon going to find its way onto the front page of the Los Angeles Times. The world thinks less of softball and the regionally-recog-

nizable Big West.

The same scrutiny facing the selection process for men's basketball needs to be applied to all sports. Why does UCSB get the nod over Cal Poly? Why did Cal State Fullerton surpass the Mustangs in 2005?

Why even play conference games if they don't have value in the selection process? That's the message the NCAA selection committee is sending.

Get ready for the Go^NZO
Coming Tuesday, May 23

Water skiing

continued from page 12

Four of the qualifying athletes will be attending the competition in Iowa this weekend. Matt Bettencourt will compete in men's slalom, Patrick Wyatt in men's jump, Amanda Willson in women's slalom, trick and jump, and Liz Seman in women's trick and jump.

"They're all really good skiers," said water ski team president Colin Gibbs. "Liz is a first year, so it's pretty amazing that she's already getting to go; Amanda will be in all three events, which is pretty unusual."

The team is currently up to about 40 members and is looking

for more.

"The cool thing is the camaraderie in the sport," said Gibbs. "It's not necessarily a competitive atmosphere; it's really laid back."

"All the teams really connect together," he said, "you go to tournaments every weekend and see the same teams, it's a lot of fun and a good way to meet people."

The team practices a few times a week at Lake Nacimiento in Paso Robles and competes in the fall and spring quarters. There are skiers from a variety of skill levels, ranging from beginners to the more advanced that are comfortable competing.

In the end though, "we're all about going out on the lake and having fun," Gibbs said.

For more information, visit the team's Web site at www.calpolywaterski.com.

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

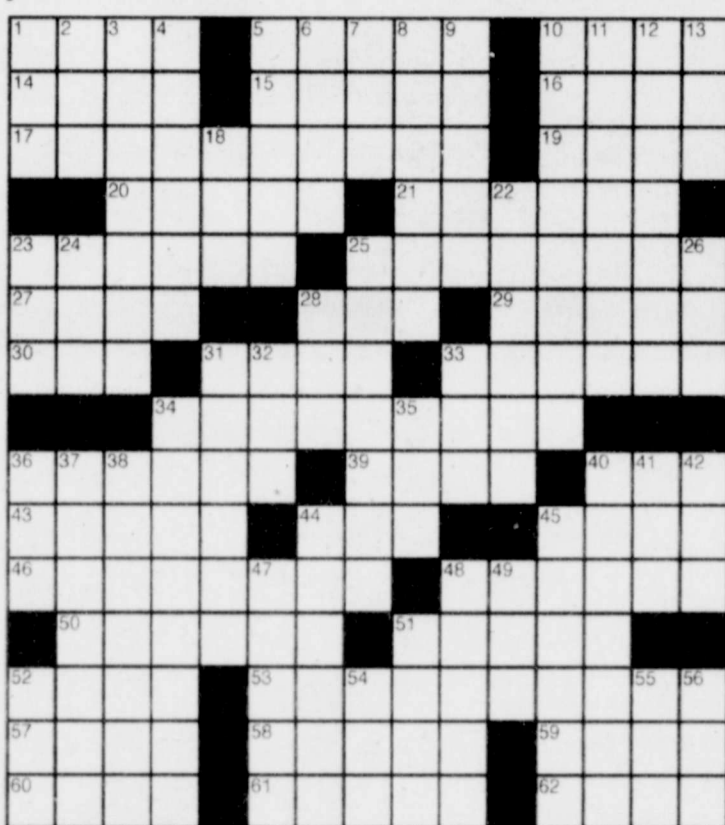
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- 5 Shooter
- 10 Fed
- 14 "See ya!"
- 15 Not so good
- 16 Half: Prefix
- 17 King of the road?
- 19 Lone Star State sch.
- 20 Front line in a game
- 21 Call
- 23 Standard quiz show material
- 25 Buttnsky
- 27 Ballyhoo
- 28 See 23-Down
- 29 Mount
- 30 Unusual shoe spec
- 31 ___ of Napoleon
- 33 Bart and Ringo
- 34 Cereal that's partly ground?
- 36 Snubs
- 39 OS X user, maybe
- 40 Org. with June finals
- 43 Hit Dreamworks character
- 44 Business magazine
- 45 Sleek, for short
- 46 Accompanier
- 48 Imp
- 50 Passover gatherings
- 51 Pretty smart
- 52 Col.'s superior
- 53 Bashful groom's wear?
- 57 ___ de gallo sauce
- 58 Keep ashore, due to cold weather
- 59 Swoosh maker

DOWN

- 1 First person in Germany
- 2 Early second-century year
- 3 Instrument played standing up
- 4 American desert
- 5 Tarzan, to natives
- 6 Word before and after "will be"
- 7 Warning sound
- 8 Exhausts
- 9 Link
- 10 Hitchhiker's duty?
- 11 Copycat
- 12 Bill of Rights writer, e.g.
- 13 Fall weather feature
- 18 It ended on Nov. 11
- 22 Swami, e.g.
- 23 With 28-Across, popular retailer
- 24 Alcohol grain
- 25 Treating very gently
- 26 Football meas.
- 28 Intl. standard
- 31 Little ring
- 32 Surgery sites, for short
- 33 Mme. across the Pyrenees
- 60 Black stone
- 61 Features on some 'Vettes
- 62 Ticked (off)



Puzzle by Patrick Merrell

- 34 Suffer from deli ichthyophobia?
- 35 Cable TV inits.
- 36 Travel option for about 30 yrs.
- 37 Start gradually, as a program
- 38 Matter of life and death
- 40 Bit of business wear
- 41 Sports ___
- 42 Time Warner company
- 44 Entomologist's interest
- 45 Rise
- 47 Rocket's course
- 48 Archaeological site
- 49 Order to a firing squad
- 51 Swab's name
- 52 Mail place: Abbr.
- 54 "In excelsis ___"
- 55 Hawaiian strings
- 56 Crossed (out)

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.20 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.

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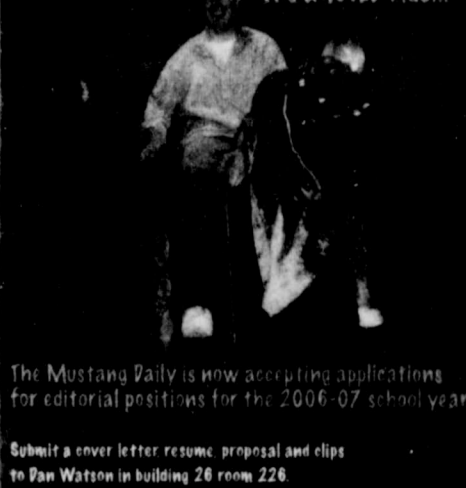
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BYTHETIME IGETTO
USE LILAS ANTON
MONTERO END
IVEGOTAGALIN
ABEL RARE ONO
BASEL UFO SANTO
ETA EINE LION
SHUFFLEOFFTO
ITE ARETHAS
SPENT APRON ERE
WAYDOWNYONDERIN
ACRE STRUT LOSS
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9	7	3	2	8	4	6	5	1
8	4	1	5	7	6	3	9	2
2	3	4	1	6	5	8	7	9
7	6	9	8	4	2	5	1	3
1	8	5	7	9	3	2	4	6
4	1	8	6	2	7	9	3	5
3	9	2	4	5	8	1	6	7
6	5	7	9	3	1	4	2	8

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A look into baseball's world of luck

Christina Casci
MUSTANG DAILY

Since its beginning, baseball has been full of superstition. Many players have practices they swear make them play better, and major leaguers are not the only ones with these strange beliefs.

Elementary school kids, high school all-stars and college players all have superstitions. Some common ones include not touching the foul line, talking to a bat or ball or not washing clothing after a win. Though they may seem crazy, players and coaches swear by their habits.

Former Cal Poly catcher Kyle Blumenthal had many superstitions, said Jimmy Van Ostrand, senior first baseman for the Cal Poly baseball team.

"Everything he did, he had to cancel," Van Ostrand said. "If he knocked over a bat, he would have to pick it up and knock it over again."

Baseball is a game of superstition, Cal Poly coach Larry Lee said.

"If they do something once and follow it up with a good game, they link it to that," he said.

There are many famous curses in baseball. The "Curse of the Bambino" is the most well-known of all curses. According to answers.com, when the Boston Red Sox owner Harry Frazee sold Babe Ruth's contract to the New York Yankees, he ruined any winning streak they had. The Boston Red Sox only went to four World Series between the curse and 2004. They lost every



Cal Poly outfielder Jimmy Van Ostrand (right) rubs teammate Adam Buschini's (left) red hair as part of his routine and superstition.

World Series in a Game Seven; that is until 2004, when the Red Sox topped the St. Louis Cardinals for their first pennant since 1918. The Yankees won 26 World Series after acquiring Ruth.

Some players have superstitions that most would find a little unusual. Pitcher Turk Wendell brushes his teeth and chews black licorice between every inning, and Wade Boggs only ate chicken

on game days, according to factmonster.com.

"Some players go a whole season without washing their clothes," Lee said. "Some pitchers have to walk up the back of the mound before they pitch."

"If players eat something and play well," Van Ostrand said. "They will eat it again."

It's bad luck to have a bat against the dugout, said Jimmy Gardiner, senior infielder for the Cal Poly base-

ball team. "If I see one leaning up against it, I have to kick it down," he said.

Van Ostrand says he always rubs Adam Buschini's hair.

"It's red, and I always do it," he said. "Some of this is superstition and some is just routine," Van Ostrand said.

Numerous players on the Cal Poly team refused to talk about their superstitions claiming, "they won't work!"

Frankly Speaking



Frank Stranzl
SPORTS EDITOR

The Cal Poly softball team got snubbed — again. Chelsea Green and Teresa Miller have played their final games in Mustang uniforms and coach Jenny Condon's team will again sit through the off-season wondering what went wrong.

Despite finishing third in the Big West and playing a brutal non-conference schedule, the NCAA selection committee found a way to slight the Mustangs — a recurring theme on the San Luis Obispo campus.

Last season the Mustangs finished in second place and were leapfrogged by third place Cal State Fullerton for a trip to the NCAA tournament. This year it was fourth place UC Santa Barbara skipping over the Mustangs for a tournament bid.

The culprit: It all comes down to a computer ranking system known as the RPI.

Think about the BCS, a computer-generated figure that determines which teams play for college football's national championship and you have got the gist of the RPI. The equation balances figures such as strength of schedule, road wins, bad losses and other intangibles.

Cal Poly's performance warranted a No. 70 RPI ranking at WarrenNolan.com. The Gauchos were just ahead at No. 59.

The NCAA won't reveal the exact method they use to select which teams dance and which teams ride the "left out" bench, but computers have increasingly found their way both into the selection process as well as the ensuing controversy.

Computers are smart, don't get me wrong here. They can process vast amount of information and whip out facts and figures at the click of a button, but they can't think.

We, as humans, have a responsibility to call out, "Erroneous!" when the computed statistics come out wrong.

The computer system gave UC Santa Barbara an edge over Cal Poly — presumably for its win over No. 10 Stanford. Cal Poly's best win came against No. 23 Fresno State.

Nevermind that Cal Poly defeated the Gauchos on two-of-three occasions; never mind that the Mustangs finished ahead of the Gauchos in the Big West standings; never mind that the Gauchos managed just an 8-10

see Frankly, page 11

Water skiing finishes strong in 'Paradise'

Jennifer Boudevin
MUSTANG DAILY

After being nearly shut down by dwindling participation five years ago, the Cal Poly Water Ski Team is back on the water and leaving the competition in its wake.

The team closed out its season last weekend, placing No. 2 at "Paradise Found," their home tournament held in Bakersfield. The team defeated 12 competitors from California, Washington, Oregon and Arizona.

Noteworthy performances were turned in by Amanda Willson, taking 4th place in women's slalom and 5th in women's overall; Jamie Hastings, 6th in men's slalom; and Patrick Wyatt, 7th in men's jump.

The Western Collegiate Water Ski Association's All Star Qualifiers were also held last weekend, where ten Cal Poly team members made the cut to compete in the National Collegiate Water Ski Association's All Stars competition.

see Water skiing, page 11

'Stangs win sixth title in a row

Amanda Retzer
SPECIAL TO THE MUSTANG DAILY

Lacrosse sticks all over the nation have once again crumbled to the Cal Poly women's lacrosse team after it won a sixth-straight national title in the Women's Division Intercollegiate Associates National Championship on Saturday.

The Mustangs blew away No. 4 Michigan 12-7 in the championship game Saturday. Both teams stepped out onto Tom Kimbrough Stadium with hot sticks. Michigan was coming off of a 15-6 upset against No. 1 Colorado State, while No. 2 Cal Poly had the upper hand with five previous national titles and a win against Colorado 10-6 the day before.

Cal Poly anticipated another championship game against Colorado State and when the underdog Michigan came from behind for the win, the Mustangs were a little thrown off.

"I think we were more worried just because we are more comfortable playing Colorado State. It seems like Michigan is kind of unpredictable and earlier this season we lost to them. We weren't

used to losing to anyone so it made us a little nervous," attacker Kaitlin Chandler said.

Without any hesitation, Mustang Janelle Jones scored two to start off the game. Michigan responded with one goal, and then brought on the heat with a four-goal streak, putting them up 5-2 with seven minutes left in the half. Jones scored once more, along with senior Meryl Rodgers. But it wasn't enough to put Cal Poly ahead in the half, as the Mustangs trailed 5-4 at the buzzer, their first time being down all season.

"We were kind of flustered and the officials were not doing a very good job. And Michigan has a different style play than us. But we knew if we played our style of game, and got over the whole referee thing then we could do it," said Chandler.

"Even though we were down, we ended (the second half) on a good note because we had come back from being down 5-2. This whole year we've been a second-half team," attacker Jackie Pugh said.

As the second half began, the thought of a championship title

hovered over the field as both teams were hungry for the win. Sisters Janelle and Brittany Jones dominated the Wolverines in the next 30 minutes as they posted one and three goals, respectively. Michigan tried to start a rally with three goals by senior Claire McTaggart and two more from freshman Alexis Pavle. But it wasn't enough for the Wolverines as five-time defending champion Cal Poly swept the field and the nation for their sixth win.

Janelle Jones led the game for the Mustangs with four goals, followed by Brittany Jones with three.

"I think Janelle is an amazing player and it's breathtaking to watch her. Brittany is definitely up there too and they're a great little team. They've got their sister connection I think," Chandler said.

Additionally, Rodgers posted a point in each half, while Julie Friesen and Chandler had second-half scores, with two and one respectively. Goalie Danielle Burchett grounded a firm defense with eight saves.