Warning: Alcohol, drugs decrease safety, education

Date rape drugs appear frequently at Cal Poly parties

By Whitney Phaneuf
Mustang Daily

Jennifer*, a Cal Poly junior, knew something was wrong the morning she woke up with the worst hangover ever. At a party the night before, she consumed only a beer and a half on a full stomach, yet she couldn't remember how she got home or understand why her head was pounding.

Then she realized she was drugged.

see DRUGS, page 2
Jennifer couldn't figure out why she felt so vulnerable when they were alone. "I was too sick to care," Jennifer said. "I think half of the beer and started feeling really weird." A tasteless, odorless pill is a street drug used recreationally as well as a tool for sexual assault. The colorless, odorless drug comes in a liquid or powder form. Unlike Rohypnol, it leaves a salty taste in a drink which is often masked in sweet alcoholic beverage. GHB is especially dangerous since it is usually made in people's homes and therefore uncontrolled.

"It helps to increase your personal awareness of what's going on in the community and know that we are all at risk," she said. "Speculation about the disappearance of Cal Poly students Rachel Newhouse and Kristin Smart has resurfaced awareness about the impact of alcohol. It's hard to think about how vulnerable they were when someone took their power away."

Jennifer feels extremely lucky that she was not sexually assaulted or worse that evening. "My friend said she found me walking alone down California Street," Jennifer said. "Sensing something wasn't right, she called for help."

According to Jerolyn Peery, educational services coordinator for San Luis Obispo's Rape Crisis Center, she began receiving reports of the drug in the county in 1996. People became fully aware of the drug's local presence when three men were arrested in 1997 for allegedly manufacturing GHB in their San Luis Obispo home. The men faced felony charges for making the illegal drug, possession and possession with intent to sell.

There have been many sexual assault cases reported to the Rape Crisis Center where the client was drugged, Peery said. These incidents of dosing have often taken place at local bars and parties. So far though, no case has been substantiated in San Luis Obispo County. Peery said that due to the short amount of time the drug is in the system, it is very hard to prove they were used. Rohypnol stays in the system anywhere from 24 to 72 hours. The drug causes drowsiness, disorientation, and impaired judgment. It can also produce a complete or partial amnesia, especially when combined with alcohol.

"It's hard to think about how vulnerable they were when someone took their power away. The reality is that it could have been any of us."

— Jerolyn Peery  
educational services coordinator for San Luis Obispo's Rape Crisis Center

Taking care of yourself

■ Don't drink beverages that you did not open yourself.
■ Don't share or exchange drinks with anyone.
■ Don't take drink from a punch bowl.
■ Don't drink from a container that is being passed around.
■ If possible, bring your own drinks to parties.
■ If someone offers you a drink from the bar or a club or a party, accompany the person to the bar or order your drink, watch the drink being poured, and carry the drink yourself.
■ If you realize that your drink has been left unattended, discard it.
■ Don't drink anything that has an unusual taste or appearance (e.g. salty taste, excessive foam, unexplained residue).

Watching over our friends

■ Appoint a designated "sober" person when you go to parties, clubs or bars. Have a plan to periodically check up on each other.

■ If one of your friends appears very intoxicated gets sick after drinking a beverage, passes out and is difficult to awaken, seems to be having difficulty breathing, or is behaving in an uncharacteristic way, take steps to ensure your friend's safety. If necessary, call 911 for emergency medical assistance.

■ If you see or hear that someone is "dosing" a drink or a punch bowl intervene. Confront the person, warn potential victims, discard the drink, and/or get help.

■ Warn friends about high-risk situations, such as clubs where "dosing" is known to have occurred.

Signs that you may have been drugged

■ You feel a lot more intoxicated than your usual response to the amount of alcohol you consumed

■ If you wake up very hung over, feeling "fuzzy," experiencing memory lapse, and can't account for a period of time

■ If you remember taking a drink but cannot recall what happened for a period of time after you consumed the drink

■ You feel as though someone had sex with you but you can't remember any or all of the incident

Information from Rape Treatment Center, Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center.

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A series of posters depicting alcohol poisoning, sexual assault, impaired judgment, and failure in class are designed for the VIP by graphic design student BJ Behler with photographs by art senior Cole Bebee.

The study of Cal Poly students also showed that students who drink more often have a lower average GPA, according to Dominguez, who also noted that about half the binge drinkers, one in five students overall, binged frequently - at least three times in a two-week period.

"Alcohol is one of our main concerns," said Jennifer Estelle, a Cal Poly police officer. "Binge drinking is a problem."

Estelle, who patrols the residence halls, said her main focus regarding alcohol is education. Every year, Estelle does a number of presentations in the residence halls about drinking, informing students about the law, how alcohol affects the body and driving drunk.

Estelle said there has been a great turnout this quarter for the presentations, but doesn't know exactly how many people went out and got in trouble, Maniar said.

According to Dominguez, the survey showed that binge drinking is common among Cal Poly students, and that excessive use of alcohol often leads to physical, sexual, and emotional violence and other types of crime. On a positive note, more than half of the students reported drinking only about one day per week, even though students predicted the average would be closer to 2.5 days per week.

"The purpose of violence intervention, and of these posters, is to get people to look at the choices they make," Dominguez said. "VIP is just telling students, 'if you choose to drink, then drink responsibly.'"

"If you let people know the rules from the beginning, then they decide if they want to play. All I try to do is establish the rules," — Jennifer Estelle

Cal Poly police officer

But residents continue to bring and keep alcohol in their rooms.

Robert Rangel, a music freshman, lives in Yosmite Hall. He said residents, including miners, keep their alcohol in the mini-refrigerators in their rooms. He has seen residents drinking both beer and hard alcohol, and most of the drinkers are men.

Rangel said most residents drink in the halls when they have nothing due in their classes the next day or when they don't have to be up early the next morning, but there are some exceptions.

"I've seen people doing shots while doing their homework," he said. "They take a shot if they get a question right."

On the weekends, Rangel said most students will go to parties to drink instead of staying in their rooms, but they'll sometimes have a "pre-party" in their rooms, drinking a little before going out.

"I'd say most people just get buzzed in the dorms," Rangel said.

While Rangel said he wouldn't classify the drinking he's seen as a problem, he said most people know that if they choose to drink, there are consequences. He said so far this year he's seen the resident adviser give written warnings to a few people. He said his RA told the residents to go straight to their rooms if they come home drunk, but if they make noise or pass out on the floor, they'll be written up.

"If they have an empty beer bottle (in the room), residents can be written up. If we get word there is drinking — see DRINKING, page 6
America, the Aborted Renaissance

I have noticed an increase in holiday nostalgia and an increase in pro-conservative media from the (Mustang Daily included), an increase in drama in the White House, and in the presence of the Christian Right, and an increase in Y2K paranoia. These are not indications of controlling organizations falling apart.

I believe the structure of a controlling organization cannot be altered by: 1) Confronting its members; 2) Controlling information that gets to its members; 3) Perpetuating (if not increasing) the amount of control over its members; 4) Protecting its assets, and 5) Controlling actions of its members. A revolution (something that Americans profess to have been nostalgic about at one time) obviously goes against the grain of most of the above components. When the Renaissance, individualism, and democracy became more and more desired in the 15th and 16th centuries, one could easily predict high casualties. These were a necessary result of attempting to wrestle power from a controlling organization.

The French Revolution and the Renaissance are revolutions that we are proud of. People were inspired by ideals and fought for those ideals.

What we must ask ourselves is if those ideals have been met. We must ask if the common man has achieved any significant freedom from the controlling organizations. I believe the answer to both of those questions is no.

The Roman Catholic Church lost a lot of its power, we do own a monarchy, and we are not slaves to landowners. That seems like an improvement. I think the industries are superficial. I think that it is like trying to push down a bubble on wallpaper. It just pops up somewhere else. In the place of monarchy we have capitalism. We must play this ridiculous game of supply and demand. We are prevented from becoming Renaissance men and women by being forced to specialize in some obscure trade to make a living. By allowing our government to regulate capitalism, we allow the government to control an incredible amount of our lives. Of course, Ayn Rand has always been wrong.

But it's no land of opportunity full of riches and stories. And as the global unfairness is balanced out, we will be knocked off our federal Democracy. Is an increasingly hypocritical institution. It was brought about by revolution and yet is extremely difficult to make any significant change within the system of checks and balances.

I'm not the first person to point this out. This is a large part of what the 60s movements were all about, it was a non-Renaissance. People realized they were living in a system full of hypocracies and lies and death and violence. So the weary soldiers of individuality turned in their guns and they thought for those ideals.

Letters to the Editor

Cal Poly does not condone any discrimination

Editor:

Last month at a statewide youth conference, hosted by the student organization MEC(2hA, anti-Semitic and other discriminatory language was included in the event's program and in remarks by the keynote speaker. This incident has challenged both Cal Poly's commitment to sustain a campus climate supportive of all its members and university policy to provide an open environment for the exchange of diverse ideas and opinions.

MEChA has issued a letter of apology that states the incident "in no way reflects" the group's philosophy. While not all MEC(2hA members were involved in the writing of the program, and while the invited speaker may have breached his contract by his comments, this type of occurrence is not, in any way, acceptable at Cal Poly. We strongly reject and disavow all discriminatory statements and actions. They violate and undermine the standards of civility required to sustain the reasoned discourse at the heart of our university community. Moreover, it is the responsibility of each and every sponsor of a campus event or speaker to ensure that the campus policy of nondiscrimination and civility is upheld.

Discrimination or intolerance of any kind, through any expression, is unacceptable to the fundamental values of the university. Hateful rhetoric and abusive behavior undermine Cal Poly's responsibility to foster free speech and dialogue in an atmosphere that is open and respectful.

It is the university's obligation to enlighten our students as to how discrimination affects many different people in society. Anti-Semitic remarks are particularly harmful and hateful because of the long history of persecution the Jewish people have endured. It is a history that everyone should remember so that such events are never repeated against any person or group of people.

Cal Poly has an obligation to be a community of trust, respect, and civility. We ask you to join with us in this endeavor by reaffirming our policy of non-discrimination at all times and working toward an environment in which diversity is valued and respected.

Warren J. Baker is the President of Cal Poly, Myron Hood is the Chair of the Academic Senate, and Amy Luker is the Chair of the A/S board of Directors.

MEChA offers an apology

Editor:

We are writing this letter to address the unfortunate circumstances surrounding MEC(2hA's Statewide Conference, held November 6-8, 1998. We understand that a number of groups and individuals were disturbed with several aspects of the conference, including the program and some comments made by the keynote speaker. We do not seek to excuse or condone these incidents. However, we hope that those entries who contributed time, money, and materials, as well as anyone else who was offended will accept our apology and understand that the negativity expressed in the program and speech in no way reflect the philosophy of MEChA.

The theme of the MEChA Statewide Conference was, "Rediscovering the Heart of the Movement: La Juventud (The Youth)." MEChA does not advocate anti-Semitism or violence, and we are saddened by the fact that certain individuals within MEChA took it upon themselves to alter the contents of the original program. There was a delay in the printing process, which resulted in the late arrival of the program and did not allow us time to proofread them. The statements printed in the program were not brought to our attention until after they were distributed to conference attendees. We understand that this oversight on our part is unacceptable, and we are deeply sorry for it. We would also like to state that the individuals responsible for altering the program have been stripped of their positions within MEC(2hA, and will not be allowed to use MEChA's name or resources, effective immediately.

The keynote speaker was informed of the theme of the conference and was instructed to focus his address on the importance of the youth to traditional indigenous societies. We regret the fact that the speaker chose to ignore the theme of the conference and instead discussed other issues. As a result of his failure to comply with the instructions of the MEChA Statewide Organizing Committee, the speaker was not paid for his services. We felt that he breached his contract and was not entitled to payment. In addition, he will not be invited back to speak at any future MEChA event.

Please do not misinterpret this letter as an attempt to justify the actions taken by certain individuals to undermine the integrity of MEChA. In MEChA's thirty-year history, it has been demonstrated that our main goal and philosophy is the empowerment of our youth and our people through higher education. We are truly sorry to the university, contributors, the community, and any individuals who were offended by the program or by comments made by the keynote speaker.

Christina Alvizco is the President of MEChA, and Marcos Rios is the statewide chair of MEChA.
Cal Poly has not lost its sense of community

Editor:

Those who claim San Luis has lost its sense of community or that Cal Poly students can't see past their textbooks or the keg must have been absent from Woodstock's on Wednesday, December 2nd.

The people in the community pulled together and exhibited their generosity in support of my cousin, Lori Dias. For those of you who don't know who I am referring to, Brandi Dias is a sixteen year old resident of Arroyo Grande and also the current Miss Teen Pismo Beach, who is suffering from Leukemia. All day long, $2.00 from every pizza was donated to Woodstock's on Wednesday, December 2nd.

The people in the community recognize the efforts made by the students to reach out to one another in times of crisis or need. Once again, thank you very much for your support.

Lori Dias is a political science junior.

Is monogamy really that difficult for men?

Editor:

What drives people to cheat? For years I've baffled at why men and woman are made so intrinsically different when it comes to love and sex.

Now, I'm not one of those left-wing feminist man-haters. I am just the opposite. I love men and what they have to offer, physically and mentally. But sometimes I wonder if men were made with a heart. I am sure nine out of ten men have had a past experience in which they can relate.

It's the typical scenario: Boy meets girl, boy pursues girl, girl falls in love with boy, and boy cheats on girl. Why do men bother having a girlfriend if they cannot have a monogamous relationship? Relationships are built on a mutual trust, respect for one another, and the actions to prove it. Cheating on your significant other is a blatant blow in the face. It is an all too common example of the sexually oriented society we live in. It is degrading to both sexes, and shows the disrespect for those humans who actually feel intense love in such a shallow world.

In today's world, we are conditioned to fulfill our internal drives by any means. It is prevalent not only in this superficial love, but also in the internal drives by any means. It is prevalent not only in this superficial love, but also in the world of the global economy and overall lack of respect for humanitiy. Even our nation's leader can't keep his pants on.

Whatever the reason, whether one is a product of their dysfunctional parents or a socially conditioned being, it is time to realize there is no excuse for this type of behavior.

Sex in a monogamous relationship is the ultimate, intimate, expression of love for a woman. Is it that difficult to keep the monogamous? Furthermore, sex is not a game to see how many times one can score. In today's world there are too many repercussions. Sex just would not be as much fun once you realize your "significant other" has given you a permanent or even deadly sexual transmitted disease.

I am not asking for a wave of born again virgins, but an enlightened effort for the respect of people in general. Many people may not internalize this, but for the few who do, especially women, do not make yourself a victim and be selective of the men you choose to commit to.

If you are faced with these circumstances, stand up for yourself! If he can not have respect for you, then you need to have respect for yourself!

Teresa Romano is a political science senior.

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Late Thanksgiving turns to multiple murder

DALTON TOWNSHIP, Mich. (AP) — Early Sunday afternoon at Seth Privacky's house, near time for the family's delayed Thanksgiving. His mother is taking a shower. His brother's watching TV. His father should arrive with granddad anytime.

His brother's girlfriend will be there soon.

Upstairs, Seth, 18, is loading his father's 22-caliber Roger. Instead of a warm family gathering, five people are gunned down in bloody succession.

Seth has confessed, authorities say, to systematically shooting each victim point-blank in the head, then calling best friend Steven Wallace, also 18, to help him move bodies around the split-level house, even ligging one out to the driveway, to make it look like a robbery.

Seth got rid of the shells; Steve owns up to tossing the gun into a pond before dropping off a video and attending a meeting of a church youth group, police say.

"Seth says he was too angry because his father had threatened to kick him out of the house. Four days later, both suspects stood charged on five counts of open murder and face life in prison if convicted. The prosecutor describes them as "extremely dangerous."

"These were good families," says Randy Allen, whose son Shane attended high school with Seth and Steve in the western Michigan city of Muskegon.

"Their families were no different from any other. They offered a father and mother who were very professional, and the kids were good."

"As far as I know, they were a Beaver Cleaver family," adds Shane, 17.

Not entirely.

More than a year ago, after two arrests for shoplifting beer and a compact disc, Seth Privacky was prescribed anti-depressant medication, sentenced to 10 days in the county youth home and required to get counseling.

Authorities don't know if Seth was taking the medication, W.B., but says no consideration was given to amending the charges because of his mental history.

Stephen Privacky, 50, taught fifth grade. His superintendent, Glorrie Lewey, described him as a dedicated teacher who had told her "Seth was a fine young man ... and he was very proud of him."

Linda Privacky, 49, was a receptionist at a medical office. Her father-in-law, John Privacky, was 78 and lived on his own nearby.

Jedidiah Privacky and April Boss, both 19, were studying at Muskegon Community College to be teachers. Jed apparently was the first to die.

Seth "took his father's 22-Ruger, loaded it and shot his brother in the back of his head while he watched TV," says Muskegon County Detective Sgt. Dennis Edwards.

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DRINKING
continued from page 3

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Mustang Daily
Sleep often a dangerous afterthought during finals

STANFORD (UPI) — As finals week approaches, many Stanford students may be packing their bags for that quarterly trek to the 24-hour study room. Although the threat of these power students may be threatening to the less intense scholar, students who are staying home and sleeping may get the last laugh.

Research on sleep — why we need it, how much we need it and why we can't get it — has exploded in recent years, and the findings have some disturbing implications for the average college student.

According to a recent article in Current Health 2, people who sleep better may become better learners in general, but many college students do not get nearly enough sleep.

"Senior Pascale Gerspich was asked how much sleep she gets per night, on average. Probably five hours - six hours maybe," she said. "Not enough," she said.

Lack of sleep or improper sleeping habits can result in reduced productivity, increased car accidents and even increased heart troubles, according to a recent study published in Vibrant Life. A recent New Hampshire study found that two out of three high school students claimed they suffered from lack of sleep, while one out of five reported they had fallen asleep while driving.

The same story is true for adults too. While adults need to sleep seven to eight hours a night, some may need more. A recent study showed that those who only slept six hours a night on average experienced more frequent health problems, and even a shorter lifespan.

An understanding of how the body sleeps — a subject that is a mystery to many — may illustrate why lack of sleep can be so harmful and help pinpoint what one can do remedially.

A person's sleep cycle is subject to biological patterns called circadian rhythms. These internal rhythms are linked to the day-night cycle, responding to the fluctuation of light.

Melatonin — the hormone most closely related to circadian rhythms — is secreted upon exposure to darkness. As darkness falls, messages are sent from eyes to the brain via nerve pathways. These end in the pineal gland, located deep in the cerebral hemispheres, which releases the hormone melatonin. Researchers suspect that melatonin is the major inducer of sleep in the circadian cycle.

Other sleep triggers may arise from the internal cycles of body chemicals or may be related to the immune system, which may trigger sleep as a natural defense against disease.

Although researchers are undecided on the exact nature of these sleep triggers, the end result is the targeting of small clusters of brain cells called raphe nuclei. These nuclei send nerve impulses that turn off wakefulness centers in the brain.

The cycle of sleep is made up of many different stages which fluctuate during sleep. Most dreams are experienced during rapid eye movement sleep, or REM. Brain activity actually increases by about 20 percent during this sleep phase. REM is required to make sleep restful and refreshing.

Subject to the normal cycles of sleep, the body switches between REM and non-REM sleep every 90 to 110 minutes on average, with REM sleep taking up five to 10 minutes of each cycle.

Your body's rhythms may strike during the daytime also. Although afternoon sleepiness is often attributed to too large a meal, it is actually just a typical result of the fluctuation of the sleep cycle.

In order to maintain the most consistent sleep patterns possible, researchers suggest avoiding chemicals which can wreak havoc on these normal cycles.

Alcohol can disrupt REM sleep, and sleeping pills can harmfully adjust normal sleep patterns. Smoking can also inhibit good sleeping, because nicotine is a stimulant.

Good sleep is known to allow effective memory integration, helps restore the body and helps rejuvenate the mind and body.

For more information on MTV's Campus Invasion check out MTV Online at www.mtv.com or keyword:MTV on AOL

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Boy says teacher initiated sex acts

Teacher touched teenager during school camping trip, boy says

(AP) — A 17-year-old boy says he began having sex with a middle-aged teacher when he was 14, after she touched him in an inappropriate way during a camping trip, according to court documents.

Over the next 13 months, the two began having nightly sexual activities, including intercourse, at the woman's home, the boy told a Placer County sheriff's detective.

The interview was transcribed in court documents.

Asked whose idea it was to have sex, the boy said, "Hers. I never liked it."

Cynthia Mary Wickes, a fifth-grade teacher from Loomis who is now 50 years old, is accused of having sex with the boy. She is free on $10,000 bail, but the hearing was postponed until Wednesday.

Wickes said several times on the tape that she believed the phone conversation with the boy that was taped was "Baby Doll," was charged with killing Horst Fietze, 50, as he strolled with his wife and another couple near the Loews Santa Monica Beach Hotel on Oct. 12, district attorney's office spokeswoman Sandi Gibbons said.

She was allegedly with three men who confronted the tourists.

Fietze, 50, could not understand what happened and you could just say you were upset with me," Wickes said, according to a transcript of the conversation that was reviewed by The Sacramento Bee.

In a telephone conversation with the boy that was taped by sheriff's officers, Wickes repeatedly denied having sex with the boy. Wickes said several times on the tape that she believed the phone conversation with the boy was taped. Asked whose idea it was to have sex, the boy said, "Hers. I never liked it."

All 1 can say is you can deny what happened and you could just say you were bragging or you can just say you were upset with me," Wickes said, according to a transcript of the conversation that was reviewed by The Sacramento Bee.

Boy says teacher initiated sex acts

Teacher touched teenager during school camping trip, boy says

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Here is one of the first movies to graphically depict a murder. While the camera cut from Janet Leigh's face to her stomach to the hacking knife held by the unknown figure on the other side of the shower curtain, the scene felt like it split the horror with each cut. And because the editing was so adept, the camera never paused long on any one aspect of the killing.

The film can boast other distinctions: It was Hitchcock's only horror movie and his biggest moneymaker, and it is the only film in history to be nominated for every奥斯卡 category. It tells the story of Marion Crane (played by Janet Leigh with (Christopher Nickens, she earned $200 to be a silent police guard at the film's end. Hitchcock splurged only once during the filming. The shower scene involved 71 or 78 setups, according to different sources, and consumed seven days.

"My mother never asked me to do the scene. The only thing Miss Leigh wrote in her book. She pointed out that the industry's strict self-censorship allowed no nudity. She added: "Doing the scene nude would have cheated Hitch and millions of movie fans, because all would have missed my mastery of intimating situations and conditions.""'PATCHES of melodramatic covered revealing areas. A nude male model acted as a stand-in for planning camera angles.

The director's missionary evoked terror without any view of the knife striking the body. It created a sense of killing the star in the first third of the picture," Hitchcock told Truffaut. "I purposely designed the star to make the killing even more unexpected."

"That's why I insisted that audience be kept out of the theater once the picture had started, because the latecomers would have been waiting to see Janet Leigh after she had disappeared from the screen action."

"Psycho" opened on March 8, 1960, to shrieks from audiences and catcalls by critics.

"Psycho" is plainly a gaudy movie whose suspense depends on a single, specific twist," grumbled Newsweek.

"I think the film is a reflection of one of the least understood minds, a mean, sadistic little mind," sniffed Dwight McDonald.

"A shot on an honorable career," scorned The New York Times. But the movie also received favorable reviews, and raised the profile of Hitchcock as an industry as well. Said filmmaker Peter Bogdanovich ("The Last Picture Show"): "Probably the most visual, most cinematic picture he ever made."

The opening box-office also was poignant: 15 million. That's small change by today's standards, but in 1960, when the average ticket price was 75 cents, "Psycho" was a blockbuster. "Rear Window," "To Catch a Thief," "North by Northwest" and other Hitchcock hits may have grossed more, but "Psycho" was more profitable because of the low production costs.

Hitchcock, Miss Leigh, cinematographer John L. Russell and art directors Joseph Harley and Robert Clowsworthy were nominated for Academy Awards. Anthony Perkins was not. Hitchcock hired him: "I am ashamed of your fellow actors."

Van Sant, the film's nominees won Oscars. Paramount's sub of "Psycho" prompted Hitchcock's move to Universal, where he became very rich with television as well as features. Universal acquired the rights to "Psycho," resulting in three sequels starring Perkins and now the cop riot version.

In his 1966 conversations, Truffaut suggested that audiences responded to "Psycho" not only because of the story or the performances. "They were amused by pun film," he said.

Hitchcock responded: "That's why I take pride in the fact that "Psycho" is more than any other of my films, is a film that belongs to filmmakers, to you and me."

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<th>CAL POLY COURSE</th>
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There are MANY MORE courses available - check with your counselor for details.

Check out the complete list of equivalent courses available on our website at www.sbc.eduastic/index.html.
Frame used to teach the freshman time management skills, but Welsh feels this is unnecessary. Study groups are discouraged by Welsh. He said, "Everybody knows that you never get anything done in a study group. You just end up socializing." Ludwig disagrees that Welsh would do anything to threaten any student-athlete's academic career. "(Larry) is going to put the football program and it's players in the best position to succeed academically, socially and athletically," said Ludwig. "He would not do anything to jeopardize anything to the program or anybody that is associated with the program." The 11 assistant coaches leaving was one of the grievances that was part of the communication aspect of the outlines. Some other issues the players questioned surrounding the way Welsh communicated with his players were:

- Position coach telling players to forget about what Welsh just told them and run the play (another)
- Using threats as his means of communication. For example, he would tell a player they would be benched if they didn't run a play right and then he would change his mind on how he wanted it run and leave players with their jobs on the line.
- Coaches never tell players who is starting and who is not.

On Thursday, McCutcheon said that because of his open door policy he wouldn't comment on the outline provided by the players nor divulge anything a player said during the meetings. However, he did comment on the legitimacy of their overall concerns. "There's some merit to considering many of the comments they made and learning from those comments," said McCutcheon. "Others, perhaps, don't have quite as much merit." He also expressed his frustration with the whole process being public knowledge. "I'm somewhat disappointed it got into a public debate before players came to see me. I don't think there's a necessity for it," said McCutcheon. "If their concerns are genuine for the program then I thought they would come and share those thoughts with me. I don't understand the potential benefit of having a public discussion."

Four senior players, all starters, spoke in detail about all the points in the outline as well as their experiences during the season and where they see the football program heading.

According to wide receiver Ben Winter, players would stand around during practice for a long time without doing anything. "I coached the receivers more than anybody else, except when Welsh would come in," Winter said.

Lombardi said coaches would argue on the sidelines during games while staff from opposing schools would laugh. He also mentioned that during one bus ride up to the San Francisco Airport, defensive coordinator Sam DeRose was trying to insert a new defensive play that had never been practiced.

"They are all good kids and players. I'm sure if they are saying something it's legitimate." — Bill Tripp

former offensive line coach

“We’re not saying that we don’t like coach Welsh and we want him to be fired," said free safety Harry Hole. "We just feel there were some changes made so that our younger brothers (teammates) can have a better season. We are all big brothers (team mates) and I don’t want to come back here and have the same old program. I want to be the one that stands up and makes that change." Bill Tripp and Craig Monopolous, who were recently released of their coaching duties by Welsh, commented about the players' allegations regarding the coaching staff. Both didn’t want to comment or "move on" the outline. However, both did agree to talk about the character of the players that have talked up to this point.

"The integrity, the academics and the quality of these students are unquestionable," said Monopolous. "They would not say anything spur of the moment. They are not the kind that would act on emotion."

Tripp, who had been coaching at Cal Poly for 16 seasons before being dismissed, echoed Monopolous. "They are all good kids and players. I’m sure if they are saying something it’s legitimate," said Tripp.

DeRose is one of the current coaches on staff who has known Welsh the longest. He has played for him and also has coached with Welsh for 12 years. After Welsh accepted the job at Cal Poly, DeRose followed since the coaching duo had a successful run at Atascadero High School.

DeRose became aware that some football players were attempting to talk to McCutcheon after the football game against Liberty. Like Welsh, DeRose was unavailable for comment since he is also recruiting.

DeRose did comment on the caliber of coach and the type of person Welsh is after the Liberty game, Nov. 2.

"He's a father, he's a counselor, he's a friend and he looks out for the best interest of his players," said DeRose. "He maybe one of the last leaders that demands things out of his kids and makes them accountable. He asks two things from his players: To conduct themselves as gentlemen at all times and be responsible for their actions." McCutcheon will finish listening to any other players that come to his office and then sit down with coach Welsh to go over what the players have said.

"If there is something I could learn from that, I’ll listen," Welsh said. "My door has always been open. When Mr. McCutcheon and I get together we are going to talk about everything. I’m not going to accept everything (in the players’ outline)."

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Jordan rejoins labor talks with season in jeopardy

NEW YORK (AP) — Late in the lockout talks, Michael Jordan checked back in.

Jordan made a surprise appearance at the NBA labor talks Thursday, but whether his magic touch can save the season remains to be seen.

His presence was prominent, however, since his agent had said he wouldn't get involved again until discussions reached the district attorney's office.

"He said, 'You mean nobody's interested? I'm going to come back,'" agent David Falk said. "You can read into it that he's continuing to be involved and supportive of the team, I guess you could say that."

After about six hours of talks, however, neither side had put anything new on the table.

Jordan left early in the evening, and it was unclear if he would return. He did not comment as he entered a hotel across from NBA headquarters, where the league and union were huddled in a conference room trying to end the five-month dispute that threatens to wipe out the entire season.

The sides spent the first two hours merely "feeling each other out," commissioner David Stern said, then went back to work after breaking for lunch. The bargaining session was the first in 13 days with both full negotiating committees in attendance.

If the owners and players can't come up with a solution in the next couple of weeks, the entire 1998-99 season will be canceled Stern has steadfastly refused to reveal on what date it will be too late to save the season.

Jordan's arrival marked the first time he had joined the talks since Oct. 28, when he spent about 80 minutes at the bargaining table and helped try to broker a deal.

The sides met one other time since then, on Nov. 20, and called it their most productive session so far.

In the next couple of days, however, things unraveled. The union said it proposed changes to free agency terms that would be "deal-killers," and the owners then said the union reneged on its acceptance of a complicated tax formula.

Pressure for a settlement and panic over the fate of the season increased in recent days, with former union president Isiah Thomas going as far as to suggest that the union could replace Billy Hunter and Patrick Ewing as its lead negotiators.

"The one message I know (Jordan) is delivering emphatically is that people like Isiah can sit on the sidelines and criticize, but when you are in the game it's harder," Falk said.

The first order of major business Thursday was to decide whether to continue negotiating under the framework that the sides had discussed in previous sessions — a six-or seven-year agreement with a complicated "escape tax" system in the final three or four years.

The proposals put on the table Nov. 20 would include players having 10 or 15 percent of their paychecks withheld if spending on overall player salaries exceeds a targeted percentage of revenues.

The owners have asked for a 50- 50 split, while the players have said many of their concessions to receiving 60 percent.

The owners moved to 52 and 53 percent on Nov. 20 and the players dropped to 52 percent, but those concessions became void under the ground rules that have been set for the new talks.

"If the owners get wound up and are also get wound up and are unhappy and get wound up and are unhappy, then it's time for us to dig our heels into the ground and make a stand. It's time for them to meet us halfway, and I don't think they've done that at all," Mourning said.

Hunter said he was hoping to continue working within the same proposed framework, but deputy commissioner Russ Granik, the owners' lead negotiator, has suggested it may be time to throw it out and start from scratch.

"Maybe something has changed, but right now I can't be very optimistic," Granik said upon his arrival. "We've taken a few steps (back) since our last meeting, so we'll see."

"There's a sense of urgency, but the owners have said they won't operate our business in a way that makes no financial sense," he said.

So far, the first two months of the season have been scrapped as the sides have fought over how to divide about $2 billion in projected annual revenues.

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PROBATION REPORT

report could lead to jail for Tyson

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Mike Tyson, the boxing icon who once had the FBI looking for him, will be back in jail after all.

County, Md., prosecutor wants jail time for the former heavyweight champion returning to prison.

George Walker, the chief probation officer for Marion Superior Court, said Thursday he appears Tyson violated terms of his probation as a result of his no-contest plea to misdemeanor assault charges in Maryland on Thanksgiving weekend.

Tyson served three years on a 10- year sentence in Indiana for raping a beauty pageant contestant. He was convicted in 1992, and his probation expires in March.

Judge Patrick Gilford, who presided at Tyson's trial and will decide if Tyson violated his probation, was out of her office Thursday and unavailable for comment.

"The judge can do everything from nothing at all the way to imposing the originally suspended sentence, and anything in between," Walker said. The judge also could modify the sentence or place new conditions on Tyson's probation.

The prospect of Tyson going to prison again comes as he nears a return to the ring. He has a fight scheduled for Jan. 16 in Las Vegas, his first bout since losing his license in 1997. The first fight he was reinstated by Nevada authorities in October.

Walker said Tulsa had never had a problem with Tyson, but noted he had not joined the talks since his last meeting, so we'll see.

"I think we've given up way more than enough and we've compromised way more than enough. It's time for us to dig our heels into the ground and make a stand. It's time for them to meet us halfway, and I don't think they've done that at all," Mourning said.

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Adrian Axtman
Seniors criticize Welsh's policies

One of the seniors main concerns is coach’s lack of academic support

By Jose Garcia

Throughout the week, a group of senior football players have voiced grievances regarding head coach Larry Welsh to athletic director John McCutcheon.

The seniors have expressed specific concerns about their coach and the direction of the program in a four-page outline (title “Cal Poly Seniors Address Concerns”) and have met with McCutcheon individually. As of Thursday afternoon, five players have talked with the athletic director.

The point-by-point outline critiques Welsh on such issues as organizational, academic support, discipline, communication, lack of support and recruiting.

“If next season is just as embarrassing as this last year and everything looks just as confusing out on the field with people running around and looking like they don’t know what to do, then at least maybe some people will understand a little bit more of what’s going on within the program.”

—James Lombardi

Senior strong safety

Lombardi said he doesn’t want the meetings with McCutcheon to be about just complaints of coach Welsh but to point out certain areas where he and other players believe Welsh needs to improve on.

“Our main concern is for the future of the program and for the players that are still playing,” Lombardi said. He doesn’t want the meetings to accomplish telling all the things that are going on in the program, but that nobody else knows about, which we feel shouldn’t be kept a secret.”

SENIORS

SUBJECT OF CONCERN: Head coach Larry Welsh led the Cal Poly to a 3-11 season this year. Many senior football players are critical of his coaching techniques, especially his communication with players.

Welsh, the program’s 14th head football coach, seemed to squelch all the criticism after a successful 10-2 year in 1997 as the team finished ranked 17th in the nation. However, the controversy regarding Welsh’s ability to handle the team has resurfaced during recent meetings between McCutcheon and seniors after the Program’s first three-win season since 1967.

Andy Ludwig, Cal Poly’s offensive coordinator in 1997, doesn’t agree with what the players have to say after hearing every point made.

“That doesn’t sound like a Larry Welsh coached team. Nothing like that ever went on while I was there,” Ludwig said. “It must be frustrating for the seniors after a bad year. They’re searching for answers, instead of looking for people to blame.”

We wanted to do something to improve the situation and we felt this was our opportunity. If next season is just as embarrassing as this last year and everything looks just as confusing out on the field with people running around and looking like they don’t know what to do, then at least maybe some people will understand a little bit more of what’s going on within the program.”

The hiring of Welsh brought immediate questions as to whether the fifth winningest head coach in California could continue to build a program that jumped up to Division I-AA ball in 1994.

Welsh also had the distraction of replacing a very popular coach, Andre Patterson, who left for the NFL and is currently the Minnesota Vikings defensive line coach.

Sign-stealing scheme could lead to ban for Japanese baseball legend

TOKYO (AP) — Say it ain’t so, Oh. An elaborate sign-stealing scheme has Sabahara Oh in the middle of an investigation that could result in a lifetime ban for the all-time home run king. Oh, who hit a record 686 home runs in Japanese baseball, now manages the Daiichi Hawks. Three accused Hawks players have denied any part in the scam, and Oh was suspended by the reports.

“I can’t believe it. I’d like to believe my players,” he said Thursday.

While Oh has not been directly implicated in the allegations, he could be banned for life if the investigation finds that the team was behind the scam. Japanese custom often requires those in leadership positions to step down after a scandal, even if they are not directly involved.

According to the charges, which surfaced Wednesday, a Daiichi team employee monitored TV cameras around Fukuoka Dome that were focused on the opposing catcher. Japanese media reports said the employee picked up the pitches and relayed them to walkie-talkie to a youngsters in the stands who then related information to the batter by using a megaphone.

Holding the megaphone in front of his face meant a fastball. Holding it to the right meant a curve or a slider, and to the left a forkball.

The three players questioned — infieldeis Koichiro Yoshinaga and Shikato Yamaage and outieilder Noriyoshi Onishi — all denied the allegations, according to Japanese media.

“There is no factual evidence to suggest that I’m involved. I told the team that I didn’t do it,” Yamaage told the Kyodo News agency.

The Pacific League will convene a special meeting of its board of directors Dec. 9 to discuss the results of Daiichi’s internal investigation and decide what measures to take, news reports said.