Students may get vote in Senate

Kimberly Tahsuda
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

California Polytechnic State University's Academic Senate voted 27-12 to approve student representatives to the board of directors, according to Associated Students Inc. Board of Directors, the power to vote in the Senate on Tuesday.

"This is a huge leap," ASI Vice President Ron DeFerrari said. "This will give voting representation where Cal Poly students have not had it before."

The resolution will be brought before the general faculty for a second vote. A two-thirds vote in favor of the resolution is required for the resolution to pass.

"We want to begin to share the governance of the university," DeFerrari said. "The Senate also voted to reden the definition of the "U" grade as currently appears in the Cal Poly catalog.

"We are trying to find a balance between two things," Doug Keefer, curriculum committee chair, said. "We oppose the mandate that requires every Cal Poly student to do community-service learning. However, we want to show we respect and support students and faculty who are currently involved in doing community-service learning."

Community service is usually in the form of a class. Students perform various acts of community service related to the curriculum of the class and receive a grade for it. If community service is mandated, service learning courses will need to be created in every major.

The state Academic Senate is collecting resolutions from campuses across the state.

see SENATE, page 3

Deciphering California's seven political parties

By Kimberly Tahsuda
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

California has seven official political parties. In order to win a major seat in what each candidate stands for, it is first important to understand the fundamental ideals of each party.

The Democratic Party sees the role of government as educating the citizens while protecting their rights. They support affordable health care, a women's right to choose and a cleaner environment.

The American Independent Party stands for the rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, and looks to provide a strong national defense. Top priorities include ending the federal income tax and the Federal Reserve system and bringing back local control to education. The Web site is www.aipca.org.

The Green Party stands behind the 10 key values of see PARTIES, page 3
ASI rules out 'C-' prerequisites despite Senate's decision

By Adam Jarman
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

"It means, do the majority of the
...rules are unnecessary," ASI Vice
President Antonio DeFerrari said.

Some departments require that a
C- grade be earned in order for a
student to advance to the next course in
a series, and ASI's resolution does not
change regulations but does voice its
disapproval of the current policy.

DeFerrari said this conflicts with
the catalog's description of a D, indi-
cating that the student passed the
course.

"The catalog is the student's con-
tract with the university," DeFerrari
said.

The Academic Senate passed a res-
olution on the same issue last spring
stating that C- prerequisites are acceptable when deemed so by
the department.

"If a course is a prerequisite for a
subsequent course, the department
can require a C- grade before going
on," Academic Senate Chair Myron
Hood said.

President Warren Baker signed the
Academic Senate's resolution August
30 indicating departments can allow
the higher standard of C- and are
responsible for enforcing them.

"This is in absolute conflict with what
the Academic Senate has passed," Hood said.

DeFerrari said it is an issue of stu-
dent freedom. The policy could stand-
out in the way of a student's graduation,
which he said, takes long enough.

ASI board member Brian Consue,
who represents the College of
Architecture, opposed the resolution.

"It is an excellent way to set base
standards... you should have a better
understanding before taking the next
course," Hood said. the policy allows depar-
tments to place standards along the
spectrum similar to the credits credit-
gND drug policy.

"Credit is only credit for a C," he said. "Students should not have to work and deserve no cred-
It."

Hood said it is an issue of the level
of mastery students should be expect-
ed to have. He believed this was "the
best we can do."

"This gives me the feeling that
many students think D is a good
enough grade to go on." Consue said.

Search continues for bus funding

By Melissa McFarland
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

With bus ridership consistently on the
tick, the question remains how long
will it stay free for students and faculty?

Since 1985, Cal Poly has reaped the
benefits from the free-fare service.
Now, the search for funding continues.

"We have to come up with the
funding somehow," which bothers
me, because I have no clue where
we're going to get it," said Jacquie
Tor, ASI board member.

"We're going to get it," said Jaque-
i Paulsen, commuter services coordin-
ator. "I don't know what the
Associates are going to come up with.

Cal Poly needs $62,910 to keep the
service free.

"The sad thing is, I don't think our
students and faculty will pay any
attention that we've already given the
city over $2 million (from 1985 to 1999)
for this service," Paulsen said.

"We will be the bad guys, no matter
what we do."

If students and faculty are forced to
pay for bus rides, Paulsen said she isn't
very concerned.

"No, it's a change for the bus — and
if we did it would be such a small
amount, anyway — I truly believe
people will not go back to their cars," she said. "Especially if they realize every time they get in
their cars they're spending 30 cents a
mile.

Professor will discuss decade in race of
colin

By Kelly Hendricks
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

The celebration of Black History
Month will continue tonight with a
film entitled "Racism 101" and a dis-
cussion led by Ethnic Studies profes-
sor Charise Cheney following the
presentation.

"Racism 101" is a program from the
PBS "Frontline" series. It recounts
experiences with race and racism at
American universities during the
mid-to late 1980s.

"With it being Black History Month
I wanted to consider the bal-
ance of topics," Cheney said. "One of
the options was showing a film de-
aling with black history and culture to
familiarize students with the meaning
of Black History Month. (However.)
I felt that a film dealing with the larger
issues of race and racism in the
United States."

Cal Poly has hired the Associates to help find funding for the bus sys-
tem in order to keep it free for students. Cal Poly needs to come up with
$62,910.

"The catalog is the student's con-
tract with the university," DeFerrari
said.

"This film is relevant to all stu-
dents and faculty of any color," Cheney said. "Issues of race and
races are not just black and white
issues, especially in California."

Cheney, a fire-line professor at Cal Poly, received her Ph.D. in histo-
ry from the University of Illinois last
year, where she also taught African American studies. In addition,
Cheney conducted a research project, "African Americans and the Bible;"
and an American studies lecture series in New York.

"Racism 101," organized by the
Black Student Union, will be shown
at 7 p.m. in the Fisher Science build-
ing, room 286. The event is open to
all students and faculty.

Some students said they might
consider other forms of transporta-
tion if the free service doesn't continu-
e.

"I use the bus to go downtown on
weekends," said Rosita Sanchez, a
mechanical engineering junior. "But
if students and faculty are forced to
pay for bus rides, Paulsen said she isn't
very concerned.

"It allows us to have the bus for the
people who need it," she said. "If we
cut it, we'll just have to offer a
 substitute service, which will be a
lot more expensive for the university."
A request for the change was made on behalf of the freshman summer advising program. The advising sessions were scheduled to end after CAPTURE began, meaning that some freshmen would have to register before they attended summer advising.

The senate also voted to modify the definition of the "U" grade in the Cal Poly catalog.

When a student receives "U's" in all classes, it usually means the student has unofficially withdrawn from the university. Students who withdraw, officially or not, can be required by law to return some portion of federal financial aid received.

"The financial auditors requested CSUs make the definition of the 'U' grade clear in order to identify students who unofficially withdraw from the university," Hood said.

Some members of the faculty argue the "U" grade, Hood said. Some give "U"s instead of "F's" and vice versa.

"This change is not a big deal and has a minimal effect on students," Hood said. "The catalog change is so faculty understand more clearly the distinction between a 'U' and 'F' grade."

"The 'U' grade change will be made in the 2000-2001 catalog."

**PRIMARY continued from page 1**

Filling out the sample ballot ahead of time and bringing it with you to the polls will make voting once in the booth easier and much quicker.

The Voter Information Guide contains explanations of each proposition and candidate. It supplies pro and con arguments for each item on the ballot and proves to be very useful if you are unsure of an issue. One of these guides is mailed to each registered voter by the Secretary of State. If you have not yet received one, extra copies are available at the County Clerk/Recorders Election Office.

Voting at the polling place will be a lot more like filling out a Scantron this year. San Luis Obispo County has adopted the Accu-Vote system that scans the votes of each ballot as they are fed into the ballot box. These machines then send the results to the county's central office using a modem after the polls are closed. With this new method, results can be made available much sooner than using the traditional system of tallying all votes after polls close.

Polling places are open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Absentee ballots allow voters to vote without going to the polling place. Until 1975, only persons with a disability and a relative caretaker could qualify for this vote-by-mail service.

Now, however, any registered voter can request an absentee ballot.

Requests for an absentee ballot must be received by the elections office by Feb. 29. A ballot will then be mailed to your home and needs to be returned to the County Clerk by 8 p.m. on election day. It is suggested that the ballot is mailed by the Friday prior to election day.

When voting on partisan officials, the candidates' party is listed by each name. Non-partisan office candidates, such as Superior Court Judge or members of the Board of Supervisors, do not run under the guise of a specific party.

California has seven official political parties.

**SENATE continued from page 1**

Many Academic Senate members voiced that the resolution should be passed so the vote would go on to the general faculty as a whole. "The main reason I support this is because I feel this is an issue that should be brought before the entire faculty," chemistry professor Ralph Jacobson said. "I do not see any reason at all why the entire faculty should not have a say whether or not the constitution should be amended."

Environmental horticulture professor Dave Hannings said the appropriate thing is for the general faculty to vote on the resolution. However, some Academic Senate members said amending the constitution to include student-voting representatives will change the definition of faculty.

"I speak against this resolution mostly due to the fact that the request for this resolution requires a change in the constitution by adding students to the definition of faculty," engineering professor Amy Kieswetter said. "It's the request of the changing the definition of the faculty on this campus, I have serious concerns about this resolution."

Only five California State University student bodies, including Cal Poly, do not have the privilege of a vote in the respective faculty constitution. The request has provided you with an introduction to your own election decisions.

"This is a big step forward for ASI. I think students should follow this closely and encourage their teachers to vote for an ASI member on the Academic Senate with voting status."

Aron DeFerrari
ASI vice president

Academic Senate. Granting voting status to student representatives will make students co-creators of their academic environment. "This decision takes students from second-class to first-class status on the Academic Senate," DeFerrari said. "It empowers students and gives us some measure of parliamentary control."

The faculty constitution states a proposed change must be voted on within 45 days of the proposal being made. The faculty will vote on the resolution before March 31.

I feel the general faculty at Cal Poly trusts the students," DeFerrari said. "I think they will entrust us with two votes in the Academic Senate."

"This is a big step forward for ASI," DeFerrari said. "I think students should follow this closely and encourage their teachers to vote for an ASI member on the Academic Senate with voting status."
Don't just sit there, speak up during class

Ever since I was in elementary school, one of the favorite murals of the vast majority of my teachers has been, "Speak up! Don't just sit there!" How do Cal Poly instructors seem similarly enthusiastic about having students interact with them in real-time, rather than just take notes like court reporters or robots. Yet I have experienced vivid glances and comments from my classmates when I've spoken up — it has even been explained to me that in engineering classes especially, people "just don't talk." I noticed this on the first day of class. The teachers were asking questions, and I presumed they were expecting answers, so when I knew the answer or had an idea, I responded. The instructors didn't seem to think it strange that I answered a question they had asked, but the students did.

People have suggested that I go to the teacher's office hours if I have something to say to the instructor. That's fine if I want the instructor to explain an entire problem to me, but it seems a bit excessive to attend office hours for the sake of one little question that can be answered in 10 seconds in the classroom.

Anne Cowin is an electrical engineering junior.

Opinion

Execution doesn't have to be electric issue

After seeing the gruesome depictions of electrocution in the movie "The Green Mile," I, a supporter of the death penalty, had to think twice about the fairness of execution methods. There is the constant argument about whether or not capital punishment is "cruel and unusual," but I believe that the death penalty is a fair punishment for violent crimes. The real issue, it seems, is deciding what methods of execution are cruel and unusual.

Recently in Alabama, convicted murderer Robert Lee Tarver was about to be put to death by electrocution when the court ordered the state not to proceed. The order may have been based on an appeal that said electrocution was cruel and unusual. The question may go to the Supreme Court.

President Clinton may also look into the fair application of capital punishment and could suspend executions while the issue is being investigated. Illinois Gov. George Ryan has already done this in his state. So how does one decide what is cruel and unusual? Some people might already disagree with me on the topic of the death penalty, but for those who do support it, which is the fairest punishment? Life is a sacred thing and should only be taken away as punishment for serious offenses. The death penalty is a fair consequence for murder, but there is no need to inflict cruel and unusual punishment. Who are we to decide how far we can go in causing pain in an execution? There is no need to make a long, drawn-out and painful process out of an execution. The point of the execution is to remove the criminal from society, not to give victims the satisfaction of a torturous revenge.

Anyone with half a conscience who saw "The Green Mile" probably would not want to be the person pushing the buttons. Just watching the horrific convulsions of the electrocuted criminals in the movie was enough to make me sick. Why anyone would justify doing that in real life is beyond me.

Now, I don't know how realistic the depictions of electrocutions in the movie were, but if it really is anything like that, I don't think it's necessary. Lethal injection seems like a much more acceptable method — it should be extremely simple and painless.

There is no reason to choose electrocution, where the person is literally tried to death, over an injection. People seldom think twice about the fairness of execution methods. Capital punishment is one of them, but we should not practice methods that are not necessary.

Karin Driesen is a journalism sophomore and a Mustang Daily staff writer.

Letter policy

Columns, cartoons and letters reflect the views of their authors. Letters should be typewritten and no more than 350 words.

Mustang Daily encourages comments on editorial policy and university affairs. Letters should be typewritten and signed with major and class standing. Preference is given to e-mailed letters. They may be mailed, faxed, delivered or e-mailed to opinion@mustangdaily.calpoly.edu

It's that time again ...

If you've ever wanted to be a columnist or cartoonist for the Mustang Daily, now is your chance.

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"Are you playing cricket with the deadline paddle?"
A new graphic design exhibit brings the work of five top female designers to Cal Poly, offering students an in-depth look at contemporary design and showing the impact these successful women have in our society.

The University Art Gallery's exhibition, entitled "L.A. Big Wigs: Legendary Women in Graphic Design," is the first ever completely female graphic design show at Cal Poly. In the past, the gallery has exhibited the works of predominantly male designers. The show, open Feb. 12 to March 8, aims to expose San Luis Obispo to groundbreaking female artists who display the diverse creativity of graphic design.

"These are women who have very different styles of design but who are all extremely accomplished in their field," said Carrie Schaefer, art and design senior and co-curator of the exhibition.

Schaefer and co-curator Lori Jackson began working on the project about a year ago. They traveled to Los Angeles, meeting with artists, looking through portfolios and finally choosing five women from the area to present their work in the exhibition. The artists chosen — Kim Baer, Margo Chase, April Greiman, Rebecca Meender and Deborah Sussman — represent all facets of graphic design, Schaefer said. Their work includes designs for the Web, logos, products, packaging and film, to name a few.

"People look to Los Angeles for what's going to happen in design during the year; it's representative of our culture and the world's culture," Schaefer said.

The idea stemmed from obstacles Cal Poly design students have confronted while trying to study this ever-changing field in a small town like San Luis Obispo.

"Design has to filter through a lot to get to a place like San Luis Obispo; with no large museums or big-city influences, we have limited access to what's happening right now," Schaefer said.

see EXHIBIT, page 8
By Danielle Samaniego  
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

William Golding knew a thing or two about what life would be like without authority's rule as he so well expressed in "Lord of the Flies." The tale of stranded children on a desolate island without the guidance of anyone ultimately climaxes into a huge ball of flames (literally) after the ideology of paradise fades. Point of the story? Freedom can soon turn into chaos as one of the destructive hands of man.

Unlike the boys of Golding's novel, DiCaprio stars as Richard, a single American traveler who finds himself in Bangkok in search of the ultimate vacation. After settling down in a less-than-five-star motel, he finds himself disillusioned with tourists who travel thousands of miles only to do the same things they did back in the states.

Richard soon encounters an eccentric man (Robert Carlyle, in one of his smaller roles to date) who happens to know the way to a secret island of paradise, known simply as "the beach." While the two men get acquainted within the span of a cigarette break, the next day Richard discovers a note on his door, which is the map to the beach.

Still not sure what he is getting into, Richard, with the door still open, decides to invite the beautiful French couple, Étienne (Guillaume Canet) and Françoise (Virginie Ledoyen), in the next room over to join him on his journey. It is irrelevant (as the director sees it) whether Richard knows these people (he has never even shared the slightest conversation with them), just as long as they're down for the ride.

Soon, the three travelers find themselves swimming across an estimated 5 miles (or 2 kilometers, according to the couple) to reach the beach, and when they get there, they not only encounter a given haven of marijuana but also the angry farmers of the illegal crops. As the trio escapes the scene, they reach a waterfall where the only way down is to jump.

"Once they hit the bottom of the water (DiCaprio can't seem to get away from the staff lately), a young man notices them, and they are soon on their way to the heart of a commune where the beach is located." What is emerging from this point is basically a group of hippies, or travelers, like themselves who have created a secret village out in the middle of nowhere, and the head of it all is the flower girl, cops, I mean lead, Sal (Tilda Swinton).

What Richard and the gang discover, however, is that life without guidance, technology, or reality is not all it's cracked up to be, and sooner or later, people start to suffer because of it.

DiCaprio is once again water-logged in this film, as Richard is a man of the water, spearing fish like a pro, killing sharks with his bare hands (and knife) and swimming across huge masses of water, but it's the character itself that has the problems. It's not necessarily that DiCaprio's acting is bad, but rather, it sort of feels like watching the real Leonardo being the "end" of the beach as teenagers and television news magazines everywhere consistently had him as. It isn't enthralling so much as it is a cockiness that only DiCaprio can exude at this point.

Supporting performances by Ledoyen and Swinton are strong, but as for the rest of the beach dwellers, I began to wonder whether I was watching "The Beach" or a production of "Jesus Christ Superstar."

The whole getting-to-know-you-within-minutes pace is an integral part of the entire film, as Richard becomes familiar with everyone and everything in the smallest amount of time. What is odd about this (besides the obvious) is that it isn't like the movie doesn't have enough time to get into it as the two-and-a-half hour length indicates.

This actually has a lot to do with the direction of Danny Boyle, whose last two major films were "Trainspotting" and "A Life Less Ordinary," both rich with fast-paced sequences intertwined with a "rave-stylish" soundtrack adding to the tempo.

"The Beach" also has that distinct blend of sound and action but never really steps up to the plate of Boyle's last film ventures. The plot is thin, and the point is even shallower. Highlights of the film include the beautiful cinematography and some camera-shot highlights. Other than that, "The Beach" is missing some of that adventure that Richard so wants to find. Maybe if they took a pig's head and put it on a stick ...
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Look for ads and information in the February 24th issue of the Mustang Daily.
EXHIBIT
continued from page 5

By Larissa Van Beurden
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

The Cal Poly wind orchestra, composed of some of the best wind ensembles on the West Coast, has been invited to perform in Sydney, Australia for the 11th International Music Festival.

The students will participate in world-class concerts such as the Sydney Opera House and Sydney Town Hall. The orchestra has also been invited to participate in the New Zealand Concert Band Association to perform several concerts in some of New Zealand’s most prestigious concert halls.

The trip is the largest department in the history of the school, with the 135 students who auditioned for the trip, 64 were chosen and are now raising funds for the high cost of performing in Australia.

The orchestra will perform a free chamber concert for the community on Saturday. "A Night at the Mission" will feature four ensembles playing numerous traditional and contemporary works. All proceeds from the concert will go toward the trip.

"It will be the largest department in the history of the school," said Lon Jackson, art and design senior major.

"The show is unique because we are inspired by the work they are building," said Chris Cusano, fine arts senior major.

"We want to learn about obstacles from the women, to learn about their experiences and understand their vision," said Jackson. "We need to ask questions, you would ask someone you look up to and respect."

The exhibit was kicked off Thursday evening when four of the five women spoke to students, faculty and community members, sharing stories about the adversities they have faced and their success. The lecture also gave audience members the unusual opportunity to ask the designers questions and create open discussion.

"I think it’s a really great opportunity," said Jackson. "We don’t get the chance to play in small ensembles so much, very much so, this will be great."

"A Night at the Mission" will be held Saturday at 8 p.m. Tickets are $7 for students, $9 for senior citizens and $12 for the public. Tickets can be purchased through the Performing Arts Center, either online, by phone, by mail or in person. For more information, call 756-2875.

The Cure surely didn’t need to compromise at this stage in their career and "Bloodflowers" didn’t have to compromise at this stage in their career and "Bloodflowers" didn’t need to do so many dangerous moves and get paid more? Sounds logical to me."

"We yet to yo back to our roots," said Jackson. "I think it’s a really great opportunity," he said. "This community was scared to jump if I
**Letters to the editor**

**Proposition 22 is simple**


draft, I am writing about the current campaign to pass Proposition 22, the protection of marriage initiative.

**Opponents of Proposition 22 keep trying to make it seem like this initiative will take away rights from gays and lesbians. This is dishonest and unfair scare-tactic campaigning at its worst. Let's be very clear: Proposition 22 is not hatred or discrimination toward any person or their family, and it doesn't affect any of the gay rights laws currently in the books in California. It has no impact whatsoever on domestic partnership benefits, hospital visitation rights, child custody battles or any of the laws passed for the benefit of the gay and lesbian community.**

Proposition 22 is not hard to understand. It is straightforward and just 14 words long: "Only marriage to a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California." That's all it says, and that's all it means. There's nothing "anti-gay," "hateful" or "extremist" about Proposition 22, or the millions of honest and committed Californians who support it. All Proposition 22 does is clarify existing California law. I would resent being called a bigoted extremist just because I want to keep the definition of marriage as between a man and a woman.

Tim Riley is a civil engineering senior.

**Affirmative action is not color blind enough**

The last Mustang Daily I read contained a letter that expressed a strong opinion against affirmative action. This is something that people need to think and talk about. It's a very big issue in this country and will probably remain a big issue for years to come. It's also an issue that brings up a lot of emotions and really brings both sides of the debate. I'm against the current state of affirmative action, especially in college admissions. These are my reasons:

First, the college gives up a beautiful opportunity to be completely colorblind and fair. When you send in a college application it has no race assigned to it. It is merely a record of your accomplishments. Some will argue that minorities deserve preferential treatment because many come from lower-income households and under funded schools. It is very hard to get into a high school in an under-funded high school. It's very hard to maintain a good high school grade point average if you have to work after school to help support your family. It's also very hard to do well on standardized tests such as the SAT and ACT test. It's not your native language and your parents have a limited education. But, to say that all minorities have faced such hardships is just not true. By the same token, it is also not true to say that no one she has faced such hardships. A system that would give special consideration for such things could be completely colorblind and would still do the job of getting those in the lower economic classes into college.

Another reason why I am against affirmative action is it starts a dangerous chain of logic. If women and minorities are given special treatment to get a job or be admitted to school, then they must need it. If they need special treatment to compete with white males, then they must be inferior. This is obviously not true. It is more than one white male has come to the conclusion, probably after not being accepted to a college or passed over for a promotion. Next thing you know, they're sending a campaign contribution to David Duke. Affirmative action seems to do a lot of harm, real or imagined, to poor white males with little education, a similar demographic is found in most racist organizations. I'm not saying one case is the other, but surely it doesn't help the situation. True equality in America is going to take time. There are people on this campus who can still remember a time when schools were segregated and "separate but equal" was the rule. To think that we are going to overcome such a drastic social change in only 5 years is idealistic. It's going to take longer than that. I hope I live to see it.

Lyle J. Stone is a civil engineering junior and a liberal white male.

**Christians weren't accurately portrayed**

As a Christian, I feel it is my duty to speak up when we are misrepresented. In Nancy Kapp's recent editorial, "If you profess Christianity, look deeper," (Feb. 16), Christians are said to be hypocritical and not truly following Jesus' teachings. This may be true of the Christians represented in the columns, but that's not how the vast majority of Christians really are. Kapp says that Christians exclude outsiders. If we really wanted to exclude people, we wouldn't be handing out fliers and trying to get people to come to church and Bible studies. Christians don't try to force anyone, and real Christians make it their duty to invite (not force) others to be a part of it.

Kapp says that Christians try to force others on others in public schools. I've prayed in public schools for as long as I've been a Christian. I already have the right to, and see no reason to make it mandatory for every one. The majority of real Christians don't want to be forced on non-Christians.

Kapp says that Christians condemn the poor and use their money only to cater to racists and rich people. I can't tell you how many Christian ministers I know of that help less-fortunate people here in the United States and all around the world. I know dozens of Christians who have spent their spring breaks and summers in Romanian orphanages, Indian slums, Russian prisons and Guatemalan villages, helping the poor and oppressed instead of getting internships that will help them make more money in the future.

Real Christians do follow the example Jesus set. Jesus practiced "love the neighbor," means Christ-like. The picture of Christians portrayed by Kapp does not show the real picture of who Christians are. Joe Demers is an architectural engineering sophomore.

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**Opinion**

**Thursday, February 17, 2000 9**
Editor,

We, as a whole, are here to get an education. Recalled that fact it is a nice thing to have a group identity among us, which is the true purpose of having athletic competitions, to build spirit. As a student organization, Mustang Thunder does its best to support the students, which means supporting the student-athletes. The athletic department here at Cal Poly has forgotten what good sportsmanship is all about because they have forgotten the very basis of what they were created for, the students. The administration is using athletics for purposes that were never intended: namely, making money and furthering the careers of certain administrators.

In the athletic department has disallowed, whether directly or indirectly, student halftime shows because they are not as good as the Dance Squad’s performance will cut into the valuable advertising time of the athletes sponsors. I guess the $87 per student from fees is not enough. Why are we here, to make money off our athletics or to create student unity and spirit?

Over the last four years, I have watched as the amount of paid seating has grown from approximately 17,000 in the old sports arena to approximately 22,000. Athletics has worked hard to bring the community and children to the games, perhaps to foster community relations but more likely for the $36 a game that they get to get in. The students have invited the fact that the community has not invited the students. Why are we here, to make money off our athletics or to create student unity and spirit?

Recently, there has been a kernel of spirit developing here at the games, however, the administration has decided this is a bad thing because students’ ideas of fun and entertainment run contrary to the ideas of parents with children, who have been invited in to our domain and in truth should have no rights to complain. That is a family must be absolutely important to the athletic department if they are willing to crush the budding spirit which is the foundation of intercollegiate sports. Why are we here, to make money off our athletics or to create student unity and spirit?

Perhaps absolute power is the computer, perhaps it is money. Put students first!

Eric Peabody is an architecture senior.

Dan Marino defense

Editor,

First off, I have to say, I enjoyed Joe Nolan’s satirical article about our athletes or to create student unity and spirit.

It’s true that he has gone way down hill, and should probably retire. But come on, in his day Marino did have some game.

Jesse Munoz is a journalism freshman.

Kurt Warner’s wife

Editor,

What is up with the wife shots (i.e. I have heard them dubbed, “wife-cam”) that have recently dominated sports TV broadcasts? They’ve always been around, but it has gotten ridiculous. The most glaring example was the Super Bowl where players’ wives (most especially the perorously coifed Brenda Warner, Kurt Warner’s wife) got more on-camera time than most of the players. It seems that sports broadcasts, particularly those for the NFL, like to manufacture human interest. When they seize on something of substance, like AICR did with the Warners and the tragic loss of their parents, they milk it for all it’s worth.

People don’t like being force-fed sentimentality and when they are, the story loses its meaning. Hopefully, the focus will return to football, which is what true fans watch for anyway. And what is up with that hands?

Jon Hughes is a journalism senior.

Sports

Maybe Shaq can shoot free throws

CHICAGO (AP) — Shaquille O’Neal can’t shoot free throws. Never has, never will.

It’s the lone blemish on his otherwise imposing game, and one opponents take advantage of with glee. Hack-a-Shaq isn’t just a neat-sounding phrase, it’s practically an art form for teams desperate to stop the big man.

Well, well, look who went 11-for-12 from the free throw line Tuesday night in the Los Angeles Lakers’ victory over the Chicago Bulls.

“Once I develop some consistency, I’ll be all over,” O’Neal said.

Yet all of these men have high-level sportswriter disappointment. Perhaps it’s why it’s so refreshing and surprising to hear. As a student or journalism major, it’s the lone blemish on his otherwise imposing game, and one opponents take advantage of with glee. Hack-a-Shaq isn’t just a neat-sounding phrase, it’s practically an art form for teams desperate to stop the big man.

Well, well, look who went 11-for-12 from the free throw line Tuesday night in the Los Angeles Lakers’ victory over the Chicago Bulls.

“Once I develop some consistency, I’ll be all over,” O’Neal said.

“I do everything else so well, they have to find something to criticize,” he said. “Once I shoot 38 percent, they’re going to talk about something else. He has too many cars. He’s not married yet.” It’s this or that.

But that doesn’t mean he doesn’t want to get better. Every day after practice, he spends time with Lakers assistant Tex Winter, who transformed Rodman from a bricklayer into a semi-respectable free throw shooter.

“I’ve got that dubious honor.”

Winter, who is averaging 93 percent for teams desperate to stop the big man.

It’s true that he has gone way down hill, and should probably retire. But come on, in his day Marino did have some game.

Munoz doesn’t say who should retire. But for sure he wishes the focus would return to football, which is what true fans watch for anyway.

“The story loses its meaning. Hopefully, the focus will return to football, which is what true fans watch for anyway. And what is up with that hands?”

Jon Hughes is a journalism senior.

Evaluating Arizona State’s offense

Eric Peabody is an architecture senior.

Dan Marino defense

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opportunities resulting from Irvine's double coverage on center Chris Bjorkland down low. "Last game they had two, sometimes three (players) on Chris," Schneider said. "We have to be able to do a good job of reading that and give him enough room to go down low." 

Bjorkland is having a stellar season and is second in the conference in rebounding. In last weekend's game, Irvine held the junior to 5-9 shooting and just 1-3 points. The third double double of the season also relies on the play of guard Mike Weisant. The senior has been red-hot lately, averaging 23-4 pg in the last four games. His 36 points against UC Santa Barbara Feb 3 were the most by any player in the Big West this season. Weisant is currently 12th all time in career scoring in the Big West.

Following Thursday's game, the Mustangs will travel to San Luis Obispo. The Titans currently sit tied for fourth in the Western Division with a 3-4 record.

Cal Poly is coming off Saturday's 108-79 win against the Titans. The win broke a six-game losing skid for the Mustangs.

Shannon Sharpe headed to Baltimore

Denver (AP) — Shannon Sharpe, whose 552 receptions make him one of the most prolific tight ends in NFL history, has left the Denver Broncos after 10 seasons, SportsLine has learned. Sharpe, 31, has agreed to contract terms with the Baltimore Ravens, sources confirmed Wednesday night.

The Ravens have signed a four-year contract worth about $13 million. His acquisition provides the Ravens the presence in the middle of the field that coach Brian Billick's offense has been missing. Although he lacks classic tight end size and is a willing blocker, Sharpe still has enough good speed and is adept at splitting the safeties deep up the field or finding the open spaces in a zone defense. A factored countback limited him to only five faults in '99 and he caught 23 passes for 224 yards and no touchdowns. It snapped a streak of seven consecutive seasons with at least 50 receptions, a record for a tight end. Sharpe played in seven Pro Bowl games and three times went over the 1,000-yard mark. For his career, he has 552 catches for 6,983 yards and 44 touchdowns.

Point guard Jason King had a season-high 22 points against Fullerton.

The Mustangs renewed hopes of a tournament birth. The Mustangs recorded 18 3-pointers and had five players score in double-digits. Mustang guard Jason King, who had a game-high 22 points in the win, said he believes his team will try to do the same thing: "We are going to go down there and try to do the same thing."

"Our guards are going to match the intensity shown by their guards when they came down here," King said. "We are going to go down there and try to do the same thing."
**Revenge can be sweet for men’s basketball**

By Christian von Treskow  
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Cal Poly has a chance at revenge tonight against the UC Irvine Anteaters at Irvine. Irvine embarrassed the Mustangs last Thursday with a 90-67 thrashing in Mott Gym.

Cal Poly enters the game 2-8 in the Big West Conference and 7-15 overall. A win by the Mustangs would catapult them into a dead heat with the Anteaters for fourth place in the conference’s Western Division.

A major factor to Cal Poly’s success will be its ability to limit Irvine’s backcourt. Despite their lackluster record, the Anteaters boast one of the conference’s most talented players in guard Jerry Green.

Green, last season’s Big West Freshman of the Year, is currently seventh in the league in scoring with 17.5 points per game. In last week’s win at Cal Poly, he had a career-high 29 points. Together with backcourt teammates Sean Jackson and Malachi Edmunds, the trio combined for 68 points on 25-39 shooting. Mustang head coach Jeff Schneider believes the Mustangs must exploit Irvine’s backcourt. He said: “That’s going to be a main focus for us. We have to do a strong defensive job on Irvine’s guards for a win to be possible.”

“We have to do a better job of closing their guards down,” Schneider said. “That’s going to be a main focus for us. We have to do a strong defensive job on their guards.”

Schneider believes the Mustangs must exploit Irvine’s backcourt. He said: “That’s going to be a main focus for us. We have to do a better job of closing their guards down.”

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**Warriors trade Starks in three-way deal**

**PHILADELPHIA (AP) —** Tony Kuko, the last key player from the Chicago Bulls’ championship dynasty, was traded to the Philadelphia 76ers on Wednesday in a three-team deal involving the Golden State Warriors.

The 76ers sent Larry Hughes and Jerry Green, last season’s Big West Player of the Year, to the Golden State Warriors for Jamal Mashburn and the draft rights to Charlie Bell.

The deal mustered the last gasp in a run of trades marking the end of the Bulls dynasty. The trio combined for 68 points on 25-39 shooting. Mustang head coach Jeff Schneider believes the Mustangs must exploit Irvine’s backcourt. He said: “That’s going to be a main focus for us. We have to do a stronger defensive job on their guards.”

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**Rugby: team of tough guys**

Last weekend, the Mustang rugby team spent three days in Arizona playing big-name rivals University of Arizona and Arizona State. Both schools are consistently ranked nationally, boasting large and substantial rugby programs. Yet the Mustangs, the same team that practices on the little dirt patch behind the tennis courts, beat both universities in decisive style. Arizona fell 22-18, and ASU lost by a whopping 36-5.

Let me introduce some of the unusual and unknown heroes of the team.

Of the five starters, John Kennard is the only foreigner. He’s fast, he’s quick, he’s got more moves than a stick of hot butter, and he’s about as slippery as one too.

For someone who’s never played rugby before this year, Kennard has demonstrated intelligence mixed with good old-fashioned work ethic in picking up the game in an amazing short time.

Last year’s captain and the emotional heart of the team is Dennis Yee, a Southern California all-star. Yee has played rugby for five years at Cal Poly and for two years at his high school in San Jose. He knows the game inside and out better than anyone on the team. When I asked him how he played last weekend, he cautiously mentioned that he knocked out an opposing player, giving him a concussion. Considering the fact that he stands 5-10 and weighs over 230 pounds, it’s not hard to imagine.

“Dennis is often compared to a bullkeeper on a mission,” fellow starter Mike Hamilton said.

Hamilton is another player who has a reputation for making his presence known. Standing 6-5 and weighing 225 pounds with bleached blond hair, he definitely has an intimidation factor. He too gave another player a concussion and was named see ARNS, page 10.