**Sigma Chi verdict rendered**

**By Karin Driessen**

**MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER**

Two Sigma Chi members were found guilty of furnishing alcohol to a minor Friday. After two hours of jury deliberation, the criminal case against Chad McMills and Thomas Griffith ended with fines of $250 for each.

All having charges were dropped May 8, and two of the original four defendants, fraternity president C.T. Kain and pledge educator Jeffrey Partr, were removed from the May 15 hearing. McMills and Griffith each faced one charge of furnishing alcohol to a minor and began trial on Tuesday.

Wednesday, Friday’s proceedings consisted of about 45 minutes of witness testimony from University Police Investigator Ray Berrett and former Sigma Chi president Paul Davis.

After lunch, defense attorneys Ilan Finkle-Birn and Chris Casciato gave their closing arguments, followed by Deputy District Attorney Linda Luang’s closing statement.

Berrett testified primarily about the date of the fraternity’s trip to Santa Margarita Lake. He brought along a bottle of Southern Comfort and an empty beer keg to court similar to the ones witnesses testified were at the lake.

There was a lot of confusion as to the actual date of the trip. From what alleged victim and former Sigma Chi pledge Jason Stonebockler told police, the date of the retreat was Oct. 11. Since then, Berrett said, he has been decided that the actual date was Oct. 16, and receipts from a liquor store also show Oct. 16 as the date when alcohol was purchased.

Davis’ testimony described the relationship between the pledge educators, McMills and Griffith, and the pledger. He stressed the inability of the educators to control the pledger.

**Film sparks discussion of Mexican revolution**

**By Adam Jarman**

**MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER**

The uprising of the Mexican state Chiapas is the topic of tonight’s presentation of “Zapatista,” a film with an inside view of political revolution deep in the heart of Mexico.

“Zapatista” is playing today at 7 p.m., in Chumash Auditorium. Admission is free.

“Zapatista” examines how the Mayan peasants of the region in Southwestern Mexico have held back the Mexican army for more than five years in an attempt to maintain their culture.

“There’s essentially a revolution going on in the south of Mexico influenced by American policies,” said ecology senior Todd Schoenbaum, co-director and founder of PSA.

He said this film depicts the impact American policies have that many people don’t know about.

In response to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), the Zapatistas National Liberation Army (EZLN) set up several communities in Chiapas on Jan. 1, 1994. EZLN interprets NAFTA as further promoting the exploitation of their people.

By Jan. 12, 1994, the Zapatistas were forced into the jungles with a peace agreement with the ruling party, Party of Institutionalized Revolution (PRI).

Since then, however, the PRI has waged numerous, sporadic attacks on the Zapatistas.

**Temple throws festival to share culture with public**

**By Christian von Treskow**

**MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER**

Fifteen multi-colored bonsai plants sat perched on the San Luis Obispo Buddhist Temple’s upper deck. Giant’s emerging from martial arts demonstrations echoed through the tents, and children darted around Origami birds and Daruma Dolls. Saturday’s ninth annual Wisteria Festival definitely had something for the whole family to enjoy.

Festival organizer Shan McCarthy said the festival’s main goal was to raise the community’s awareness of the temple while holding an event where the whole family could experience a different culture.

“We just wanted to expose the community to Japanese culture,” McCarthy said. “We thought by offering various activities, it could be a more family-oriented event that would leave a lasting impression.”

The Wisteria Festival celebrates the birth of Shosan Shoin, founder of the Jodo Shinshu Sect of Buddhism. His family’s crest is the wisteria, and this has been the theme for the annual celebration for the past nine years.

Among one of the more popular demonstrations was the Santa Maria Buddhist Club’s display, featuring Japanese flower strolling. The San Saki azaleas ranged in age from 20 to 60 years old, and in Japan they are often considered family treasures to be passed down from one generation to the next.

Current member and former instructor at the club Judy Hines said the festival is a great chance to showcase the quickly growing art of bonsai.

“We do it as an expression of our creativity and learning,” Hines said. “It’s great to gain knowledge of plants, and we enjoy opportunities to share culture with the whole family.”

**Good neighbors spruce up yards for community members**

**By Kirsten Orsini-Meinhard**

**MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER**

In a world of chaos, a respectable, clean front yard can light up the neighborhood.

With this notion in mind, students tackled the yards of three rental houses in San Luis Obispo Friday in honor of Good Neighbor Day.

“Our goal is to dispel the stereotype that Cal Poly students don’t really care about the property values that they live in or the neighborhoods around them,” said Anne-Marie Devine, director of community relations.

Armed with shovels and good intentions, 15 to 20 students cleaned up the yards of three rental houses in need of yardwork. The purpose of Good Neighbor Day is to extend goodwill to the citizens of San Luis Obispo by improving the appearance of the neighborhood.

“THERE’S THIS THEORY CALLED THE BROKEN WINDOW THEORY. IF PROPERTY LOOKS RUN-DOWN, CRIME TENDS TO FOLLOW.”

Anne-Marie Devine, director of community relations

Directors, executive staff and students who were interested in helping at the event.

The day began early for the volunteers, who were recruited from Alpha Phi Omega, the local service fraternity. Other volunteers came from the ASI Board of Directors, executive staff and students who were interested in helping at the event.

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The Wisteria Festival celebrates
News

Tibetan supporters kick off awareness week

By Katherine Hays

Tibetan Independence Awareness Week begins today in the University Union and will culminate Thursday with a march through downtown San Luis Obispo and a candlelight vigil in the Mission plaza.

The Progressive Student Alliance of Cal Poly sponsors the week's events in an attempt to raise awareness of the plight of the people and land of Tibet.

"Tibet has suffered enormously under Chinese occupation," said Karen Maldovan, a Cal Poly student and member of the Progressive Student Alliance.

According to Maldovan, the Chinese government's policies threaten the existence of the Tibetan people and their culture.

"More than 1.2 million lives have been lost, 6,000 monasteries have been destroyed and an estimated 80 percent of Tibetan's ancient forests have been cleared cut since China invaded in 1949," Maldovan said.

NEIGHBOR

continued from page 1

One such attack involved the PIR of the business building rotunda. On Friday, the Tibetan monks and nuns will lead a march through downtown San Luis Obispo.

The film's footage was shot in Chiapas and was well-received in a screening and discussion at the Newman Catholic Center. The presentation is sponsored by the Newman Catholic Center, Progressive Student Alliance, MECHA, University Christian Community, Catholic Worker, Hope Dance and John the XXIII.

"Zapatista" is a documentary produced by three college students, two of whom are from the University of California, Santa Barbara, with the third from France.

"I was so touched that young people would get involved with such an issue when so many people are just trying to further their careers," Sister White said.

Ryan Trammell

Most likely the average Cal Poly student doesn't know what's going on, Trammell said.

"People may not agree but should come and become educated," Sister White said, "I want people to know what's going on and care...they (the Zapatistas) are no less our brothers and sisters."

The documentary features the music of Rage Against the Machine and narration by Daryl Hannah, Edward James Olmos and Mumia Abu-Jamal.

"Millionaire nightmares for CBS television executives"

NEW YORK (AP) — Cows jumping over the moon aren't the last thing Leslie Moonves sees before he drifts off to sleep. More likely, the top CBS executive plays an endless tape loop of Regis Philbin in his mind.

Final answer! Final answer! FINAL ANSWER?

A pleasant dream for ABC, a nightmare for Moonves and other networks' executives. "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire" thoroughly dominated the networks' planning for a new fall season. The schedules were announced last week to advertisers.

ABC had to decide how many times to air the game show each week, before settling on an unprecedented four hours. Rivals had to guess when it would air and how to combat it, knowing that direct competition was certain for all but the strongest shows.

"I lay awake at night thinking how to fight this thing," Moonves said, "and I don't have the answer yet. It's driving me crazy."

If anything, the schedules marked a victory for everyone except at ABC that the bubble burst and things get back to normal. Networks stuck to the traditional fare of scripted comedies and dramas. There were no "Millionaire" imitators, no "red zone" shows and fewer hours of newsmagazines.

No one expects Phyllis to disappear soon, but the past few weeks have proven "Millionaire" isn't unbeatable. The mini-series "Jehovah" and the season finale of "Fraiser" both outrated the game show.

With the average age of the "Millionaire" audience creeping past 50, NBC believes the best way to fight is with a show that appeals to a younger audience. That's partly why it is shifting "Will & Grace" to Thursday, replacing "Fraiser" with CBS is airing its most promising new comedy, starring Beth Middler, opposite "Millionaire" on Wednesday hoping curious viewers will tune in.

"The most difficult part was waiting to see whether they would pick "Millionaire,"" Moonves said. "It's a force of nature. Hopefully, they will put on so much of them that they will blow themselves out."

The networks have given up trying to ride the "Millionaire"'s coattails. Two game shows, "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?" and NBC's "Winning Lives" and NBC's "Twenty One" — have already come and gone. The lastest casualty: prime-time quiz, Fox's "Greed," was left off the full schedule.

NBC prefers to make traditional entertainment shows work with a script, said Steve Sternberg, a seniorpert at the advertising firm TN Media. "They have the money to produce these shows and the experience to do it."

With newsmagazine ratings weakening due to oversaturation, the networks are cutting back. There will be three "Dateline NBC" editions next season, instead of five, and ABC went from four to three newsmagazines.

For many of the new 16 comedies, networks are hoping one personality can carry the day: CBS has "The Bette Show," ABC has "Gema" with Gema Davis, former "Sanford" actor Michael Richards has an NBC sitcom, and Fox promises "Smichell" with standup comedian Robert Schimmel.

The networks' creative pendulum has swung largely to dramas; seven of Fox's nine new programs fit the hour-long drama format. Although the traditional police and medical dramas are represented, the genre is remarkably varied — there are shows about teachers, Wall Street executives and reporters, a remake of the classic series "The Fugitive," and edge horror and science fiction fare.

"When the cast of NBC's freshman "The West Wing" was introduced at a sales meeting last week, one of the actresses gave the actors a standing ovation."

"That's one of the things we liked about "The West Wing,"" said Mike Greco, of the advertising firm BBD Worldwide. "It offered viewers an hour format that was something different."
Complete the circle

Facilities Planning coordinator discusses the state of recycling at Cal Poly

By Katherine von Stein

Conservation is a constant conflict facing students and the community. As recycling coordinator for Facilities Planning, Ed Johnson’s job is to promote recycling, create and maintain environmental awareness programs to work towards meeting long-term goals for the university. Mustang Daily recently sat down with him to discuss recycling and conservation on campus.

Johnson majored in environmental studies and biology at the University of California, Santa Barbara. He wrote a grant and worked for 14 years at UCSB as recycling coordinator for Facilities Planning, and worked for 14 years at UCSB as recycling coordinator for Facilities Planning. The greatest thing about his job was being able to see the impact of his work, Johnson said.

“The most important thing is to get people interested,” Johnson said. “Once you get them interested and committed, then you want to work with them.”

Johnson said that many people do not understand what they can recycle. He suggested using glass jars as flower vases and plastic food containers for storing leftovers and other small items.

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Johnson discussed what Gil Pily, a student who studies environmental studies at Cal Poly, has done to promote recycling on campus.

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Johnson said that his biggest means of promoting recycling are through the Facilities Planning Web page, in the Mustang Daily, in brochures for new students and in newsletters.

Changes in how we work

One recent project was a recycling center for the Home Economics building, which the facilities department set up. When free printing at open-access computer labs was available, the computer labs on campus had a recycling center for the Home Economics building. The facilities department set up a recycling center for the Home Economics building.

Johnson said that his biggest means of promoting recycling are through the Facilities Planning Web page, in the Mustang Daily, in brochures for new students and in newsletters.

Facilities Planning coordinator discusses the state of recycling at Cal Poly

Johnson discussed what Cal Poly recycles.

“What we recycle here on campus is everything we can,” Johnson said.

Current waste hauler and recycler is BalCOO, based in Nipomo. The company takes plastic, cans, bottles, paper, cardboard, green waste and wood pallets.

Cal Poly has more than 300 recycling receptacles on campus in residence halls, in stores, such as confidential shredding.

Through the mill

Confidential shredding for faculty and staff is a boon for professors who currently destroy their exams themselves or throw them out. The environmental alternative is easy and involves a simple phone call to Johnson’s office. A staff member (not a student) picks up exams or other materials and takes them to a confidential site on campus. Cal Poly has hired an outside company to shred and recycle the paper.

Last year, 1961 lbs of paper were recycled. The big shredders on campus are Health Services, the Registrar’s Office and Academic Records. However, Johnson said, “It costs a lot of money to shred.”

The next big thing: Facilities Planning wants to offer this in a secure recycling program, which costs less and achieves the same goal. A staff member would be responsible for confidentially recycling exams and papers to ensure that none were released to anyone but the recyclers.

Recyclable materials

Styrofoam is a recyclable material with a bleak future.

“We can’t recycle it anymore because no one will take it. We try to get rid of it all,” Johnson said.

One of the recyclers in the United States will accept Styrofoam, and they will only take it if it is in pristine condition.

Cal Poly has more than 300 recycling receptacles on campus in residence halls, stores, such as confidential shredding.

The hummer of summer

There is no more enchanting animal than the hummingbird. He seems to never rest, and never fails in his flight through space. Delicate wings, a crown of feathers and a beak of iridescence.

Johnson is on the Central Coast and also prevalent in southern California. He is the Anna hummingbird. He eats nectar and sometimes even flower nectar.

Millions of people all over the world seek to collect this dainty creature to their windows and gardens. One of the best ways to attract "hummers" is to create a hummingbird garden filled with nectar; "FEEDER" marked on bottom of plastic containers. The closest recycler is in San Francisco, and the other is on the East Coast.

This means that every Styrofoam takes at least 500 years. "If you are ever fortunate enough to be in such a situation that you witness the sight of him tasting his chosen flower, you will be entranced, as was, by the ingenuity of the iridescent tongue as it flicks against the naked flower. Hummingbirds are renowned for their flight demonstrating movements and their ability to fly sideways and backwards (and to hover motionless) at will. Hummingbirds get their energy from nectar, and they need to maintain their astonishing metabolism from the nectar in flowers and the sugar water (adding the red dye is merely an attractant) that is provided in feeders.

There are some lovely pictures and articles on hummingbirds at www.hummingbirds.net and www.supplesauctions.com/W t hat I highly recommend. Happy humming!

The following is a poem by one of my favorite writers, Emily Dickinson.

Within My Garden, Rides a Bird

By Emily Dickinson

Within my garden, rides a bird
Upon a single wheel
Whose spokes a dizzy Music make
As twere a traveling Mill
He never stops, but skids
Above the Reap Rose
Pattake without alighting
And prances as he goes
Till every space is tatted
And then his Fairy Ring
Reflects in various spheres
And I spy on my Dog
And He and I peoples, us
O'er fence from the Garden in the Rain
This Country
But the best Legation,
Refers my claims now
To just stirring Blossoms!
An Exquisite Reply!

To make your own hummingbird feeder, mix 1 part white cane sugar for every three parts water. For protein, the birds eat soft-bodied insects and spiders, so the syrup must be a supplement.

Natalie Johnson, a freshman forestry major, will study the environment of Amherst, Mass., next year on a student exchange.
It may take alien abduction to know selves

I planned to use this column to gripe about the social unbreeding of Week of Welcome leaders and their lame week. Instead, aliens abducted me last Monday, and I went to give you a primer on that whole experience so you'll be ready when they come for you.

I know what you're thinking, but don't worry — they don't use anal prohe-s anymore. You can't blame them for trying, though; since we're so scared of nudity, they figured we must be hiding something pretty interesting.

The aliens are indeed here to probe us, but they get better results by stimulating the other set of cheeks. They asked me a bunch of questions about Milky Way cocktials and communism (last week they cruised Moscow, but, of course, they spoke English, not Russian, so they didn't understand anything Putin tried to tell them). I think they did eventually, you know, prove hangs.

It seems the aliens are having a little cross-planet tiff, and since Earth is home to three of the top 10 most violent species in the universe, they figure we are the best source of advice on how to resolve their dispute.

Their planet orbits an average sun in the third arm of the Milky Way. (I know, the third arm is the trailer park of the galaxy, but give them a break.) The ecosystem is water-based, and while the amino acids of their life-forms are remarkably similar to those on Earth, their proteins have evolved much differently. Therefore, the dominant intelligence factor (those abductees) are short, gospy and wear protective scale-like shells that come in various shades of pastel.

Actually, those variant shell colors happen to be the very cause of their conflict. The lavender-shell aliens invented calculus centuries before the yellow-shells, which allowed them to completely dominate the planet. Consuming vast quantities of the planet's natural energies to prevent stagnation. They decreed to generally spread their knowledge across the galaxy to other shells creatures wouldn't make any environment- or genetic mistakes while catching up.

My abductors (all yellow-shells) are cross-galaxy refugees from the forced development of the lavender-shells. They intend to borrow some nuclear warfare technology from Earth in order to reduce the lavender-shells to a more primitive civilization so the whole planet can re-develop as one alien race. It's really quite an admirable plan, you have to admit. It feels good to know you're helping another race pull their enemies down to equality.

Anyway, the yellow-shells planned to abduct some nuclear physicists from Los Alamos, but their plan leaked, so our government set fire to the same to prevent any findings. After all, the government loses tax revenue from abducted scientists who don't report for work. So the yellow-shells hovered around for a while till one of the aliens saw the rainbow-colored "P" above Cal Poly and landed nearby. You have to wonder if they have gay aliens.

If the universe is curved (it's probably not), it's theoretically possible for light to travel all the way around and back to its starting location. Luckily, though, we don't have to go to that much trouble to get a look at ourselves.

Etham Pratt is a mechanical engineering junior.
LAPD Chief says abuses are exaggerated

LOS ANGELES (AP) — In his first public statement since federal authorities threatened him with a lawsuit two weeks ago, Police Chief Bernard C. Parks said he doesn’t need the federal government to help him reform the Los Angeles Police Department.

Internal efforts to curb officer misconduct are in place and simply need time to succeed, Parks told the Daily News of Los Angeles in an interview published Sunday. He denied patterns of abuse and said problems on the police force have been overstated.

He criticized the U.S. Department of Justice for threatening to intervene with a federal lawsuit unless local leaders negotiate new ways to fix the police force.

The Justice Department action followed a four-year investigation that found the LAPD is plagued by rogue officers and poor supervision.

There are a variety of ways (offi­cers) have gotten in trouble, but many of them are isolated, where offi­cers made poor decisions," he said.

Parks also said the misconduct allegations against several officers in the Rampart division corruption scandal do not reflect the overall behavior of the department’s nearly 9,000 officers. The scandal centers on a group of anti-gang officers who allegedly beat, fraud and sometimes drug suspects.

The Rampart scandal has prompted criminal charges against three offi­cers and led to about 30 being fired.

"We’re not saying that no one could go into our files and find a use of force, an officer-involved shooting or a personnel matter with which they would disagree," Parks said. "But when you look at the totality — we don’t see the actions or activities citywide, or in the concentration of Rampart.”

Parks said problems of manage­ment oversight and training deficien­cies are already being reformed.

He urged federal officials to allow internal remedies time to work.

The Justice Department is seeking a consent decree that would give a monitor and federal judge oversight of the LAPD. But Parks said that would simply undermine his ability to run the department.

"I’d think that in order to have some real benefit from the chief of police, you’ve got to allow him to do his job," he added. "If you say you need another layer of involvement, then there’s no incentive for chiefs to be honest and forthright in their departments.”

GUILTY

continued from page 1

the pledges and prevent them from drinking. He also testified that pledge events are planned by the pledges themselves, not the active fraternity members.

Luong, however, stressed the guidelines in the pledge handbook that state that fraternity members can vote when to allow drinking.

"Just because it’s in the pledge handbook doesn’t mean it’s OK to break the law," Luong said.

After the trial, Stonebocker con­denated Luong on the verdict while fraternity members were visu­ally upset. Griffith spread the blame for the outcome in several areas.

"I don’t understand how 12 moral and conscious people can come to a guilty verdict without sufficient evi­dence and with a case stemming from, in my opinion, a pathological liar," Griffith said.

Griffith’s comment stems from a police report that contains evidence that Stonebocker lied about a fraternity trip to Mexico. That informa­tion caused Luong to drop all hazing charges.

Griffith said he and McMills had been cleared of wrongdoing from the craft booths for a sweet, generous portions of strawber­ry shortcake topped with a mountain of whipped cream were readily made.

For Santa Maria resident Rhonda Chambers, the festival offered her a chance to show her 3-year-old daugh­ter, Amber, another culture. Amber’s father is half-Japanese, so for her, the event had a special meaning.

"It’s part of her heritage," Chambers said. "The festival is really well-organized with lots of activities, and just a really tranquil environ­ment.”

WISTERIA

continued from page 1

share our work with the public.”

Not to be outdone by the Roman display, some of the nation’s top­art experts gave demonstrations on various foods, ranging from Kendu to Juda. Most impressive was Senator Hatsu Kyuma, the highest-ranking black belt in Dato Ryo Akiyujus in the United States.

With all the various activities to watch and participate in, a hungry stomach was something that had to be tended to, and there were no shortages of delicious solutions. The festival boasted reasonably priced dumplings and pork dumplings) to Haiumaki (spring festival boasted reasonably priced s»)lutiiM is. The event had a special meaning.

Shari McCarthy
guilty

festival organizer

Chambers’ daughter could not be pulled from the craft booths on such a clear day.

Attendance at the festival was esti­mated at 700 to 800 people, a mark higher than last year’s turnout. This pleased McCarthy, who said she believes there are people in the com­munity in search of something, and the answer could be found through such an event.

"When we have a festival like this, we’re just letting people know we’re here.”

WOODSTOCK’s Delivers A MasterPizza!

neighborhood event that would leave a lasting impression.”

"We thought by offering various activities, it could be a more family-oriented event that would leave a lasting impression.”

Shari McCarthy
festival organizer

Lunch Special!

ALL YOU CAN EAT SLICES $5.49 incl. tax
AND BOTTOMLESS SODA $2.00

Open Late
Sun-Thurs 1 am-1 am
Fri-Sat 1 am-2 am

Mon-Fri 11-3

SECTION EDITOR POSITIONS
News Editor
Opinion Editor
Sports Editor
Arts & Entertainment Editor
Features Editor

For these positions, please submit a resume, cover letter stating your ideas for the section and three clips of your work from the section you are interested in.

OTHER EDITORIAL POSITIONS
Managing Editor
Photo Editor
Copy Editors

For these positions, please submit a resume and cover letter stating your ideas for the position.

All materials are due TODAY by 5 pm to Adam Jarman,
graphic arts bldg 26, rm 226
The Winston stock car race was streaming across a pedestrian walkway when two loud cracks could be heard above the murmur of the crowd.

With the second crack, an 80-foot section of the 320-foot concrete-and-steel bridge snapped in half and fell onto the highway outside Lowe's Motor Speedway on Saturday night.

A total of 107 people received medical treatment, said track spokesman Jerry Gappens. Fifty-three were hospitalized for medical treatment, said track historian John Waterman.

It was an amazing sight, everyone disappeared," said Mike Aquino, 41, of Atlanta, who was treated for minor injuries. "There was a mass of people, and then they were all gone. For a split second, I was thinking I was going to die, and then I realized I was going to live.

Piercing screams filled the humid night air as adults and children slid and tumbled to the hard, broken concrete, coolers, sneakers and grills.

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Knicks Knock out Heat again

MIAMI (AP) — The New York Knicks did it to the Heat again, winning another do-or-die game on the road and ending Miami's season — this time with a new kind of stunning ending.

Getting the winning points from Patrick Ewing and the benefit of an official's call with 2.1 seconds left, the Knicks mobbed one another at midcourt, celebrating once again, winning another do-or-die game. The Heat's season came to a fiery end in Game 7 of the Eastern Conference finals against Indiana.

The Knicks knocked out another one at midcourt, celebrating once again, another Miami upset.

The Knicks mobbed one another at midcourt, celebrating once again, another Miami upset.

That was this vintage Knicks-Heat, another grueling chapter in a rivalry so strong, with games so intense, that it almost seemed predestined to go down to the final shot.

Tim Hardaway hit a 3-pointer with 1.32 left to give Miami an 82-81 lead, and Ewing slipped behind Alonzo Mourning for a dunk that made it 83-81 with 1.21 left.

The Heat ran off the court while the Knicks paraded to the free-throw line.

"It was heart-stopping," said Pat Riley, who had been shaken by the way they botched Game 6 and ended with New York's victory.

"I thought we had the foundation laid to make the NCAA Tournament next year. We won more series than any club in the Big West, including Fullerton. We have our best recruiting class ever coming in and we have an outstanding nucleus remaining," said coach Blasdell.

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Mustangs fold in final series

NCAA Regional hopes dashed with series loss to Santa Barbara

By Matt Sterling

For Cal Poly baseball, it was too little, too late.

The Mustangs dropped the final two games of their season-ending series against UC Santa Barbara, effectively eliminating themselves from consideration for an NCAA Regional at-large bid.

Cal Poly won an excellent position to receive a bid to the Regionals, which are handed out today, due to their excellent play late in the season. That position was lost in the series vs. Santa Barbara.

On Friday night, the Mustangs were pounded, 11-0. On Saturday, they lost again, 7-6. Cal Poly won on Sunday, 4-2 in dramatic fashion on Senior Day, closing out the Big West Conference season with an 18-12 record.

The team committed 12 errors over the three games, leading to nine unearned runs. "Obviously, four defense was still our Achilles' heel," head coach Ritch Price said. "We had trouble catching the ball at times, and some of the balls, in turned to my infielders, were lasers. But it's definitely been one of the things during this year."

Pitcher Joe Smith was hit early and often on Friday and was charged with nine runs, while Gauchos pitcher Gabe Neborak allowed only five hits on route to the shutout.

On Saturday, the Mustangs struck for an early 3-0 lead, but pitcher Tyler Pitch and the Mustang defense couldn't hold it. UCSB got a bases-loaded single in the eighth break the 6-6 tie and came away with the win.

This was the final series for seniors Kyle Albright, Brian Olesky, Mark Riddle, Joe Smith, Tanner Trooper and Steve Wood.

see BASEBALL, page 7

Sports Trivia

Yesterday's Answer:

Bob Cousy led the NBA in assists for eight consecutive seasons during the 1950s. Congrats Joel Bigelow!

Today's Question:

Who coached the 1980 gold medal-winning U.S. Olympic hockey team?

Scores

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Briefs

Giants end eight-game losing streak

MILWAUKEE (AP) - Eight days of offensive frustration were shorted in one inning by the San Francisco Giants.

J.T. Snow hit a grand slam to cap San Francisco's 11-run sixth inning as the Giants emphatically snapped an eight-game losing streak with a 16-10 victory over the Milwaukee Brewers on Sunday. Terrell Lowery had a career-high five hits and Armando Rios drove in four runs for the Giants, who finally won on the last day of a nine-game road trip. Eight starters drove in runs as San Francisco pounded out 20 hits in its biggest offensive day of the year.

"I haven't seen an explosion like that in a long time," San Francisco manager Dusty Baker said. "We had some guys who had huge days."

As the Giants headed home, they took comfort in the fact they only relinquished two games in the standings to NL West leader Arizona during their struggles.

The 11 runs tied Milwaukee's franchise record for runs allowed in an inning. They came in the ninth inning, with the Giants, who had 30 baserunners in the game, broke up just one day after they were shut out in the first time this season.

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‘Hack-a-Shaq’ defense didn’t work this time

"Hack-a-Shaq" is an effective way to play defense against Shaquille O'Neal, providing you can do one thing — make dots.

In Saturday's game against Shaq's Lakers, the Portland Trail Blazers chose to foul O'Neal on nearly every possession for a four-minute stretch in the fourth quarter.

It went a little like this: Portland would shoot and miss a jump shot, a member of the Lakers would rebound the ball. Whomever was guarding Shaq would then foul him. Shaq would make one of two free throws and then the entire process would start again.

O'Neal shattered the NBA record with 25 free throw attempts in the fourth quarter, making only 12 — but Portland couldn't capitalize.

When they started fouling, Shaq, the score was 92-88. The Lakers had scored the last four points and had gained some momentum back from their loss in the first quarter where they matched the Lakers point for point. Los Angeles had grown complacent with the 20-point lead they got in the second quarter, and the Blazers had forced back.

In the same four-minute stretch when Portland was hacking O'Neal, the Blazers missed seven shots, had two turnovers and scored only four points.

Portland had open looks at the basket, but just couldn't put the ball in.

The pace of the game slowed to an absolute crawl, causing time at the Staples Center to pass. What the Blazers were doing was completely within the rules of the game, but it did make the game excruciatingly boring.

But it should have worked.

Portland has the shooters who could have made the Lakers pay, with the likes of Steve Smith, Scottie Pippen, Bonzi Wells and Damon Stoudamire.

Above, Designated hitter Bryan Gant slaps a two-run single vs. UC Santa Barbara this weekend. Left, Mustang outfielder Jason Barringer dives back safely to first base.

Margaritaville/Mustang Daily

Matt Sterling