To our readers:

We asked for your votes, so here it is, the Best of Cal Poly. Our annual readers poll asked readers to vote in 24 categories ranging from best professor to best campus food.

In all categories, we are offering a little insight into the winner and in some cases, we have a second place listing as well. Many categories simply had too many second place winners to list them all.

Without further ado, here is the Best of Cal Poly...

Best Professor

TIE — CHARISE CHENEY AND JAMES MUELLER

Every Friday, Professor James Mueller tells Cal Tech stories in his math classes.

Students love this break from the class and it gives Mueller a chance to tell his craziest stories from college days at California Institute of Technology.

"It’s fun and, at the same time, it’s very serious," said Christopher Penn, math junior.

Penn, along with many other students, thinks Mueller is the best professor at Cal Poly. Penn said Mueller's generally good attitude and his lecture style are reasons for Penn's high opinion of him.

"He’s really kind-hearted about it... he’s humble when it comes to turning in homework," Penn said.

On Tuesday, Mueller brought a fiddle to his Math 418, partial differential equations class, Penn said. He played the fiddle because the class is studying the mathematics of music.

"We’re tangeniting off just for fun to an area of math that says why certain music sounds like music," Penn said.

Professor Charise Cheney wasn’t just surprised that she was recognized for best professor, she was also amazed that she was recognized for her style of dress.

"It’s definitely a surprise," she said. "You know you’ve taught a student... you realize that you’ve made some sort of influence."

Cheney finds the award especially surprising considering the subject matter of her course. Ethnic Studies 110.

"It’s great especially considering the topic that I teach being that it’s controversial," she said.

It was her excessive energy and her ability to relate to students that makes Cheney a sure fire winner for best professor, said graduate student Amy Lobinger.

"By the end of the quarter we all loved her," she said. "She takes you around in some roundabout way to make you understand what she is saying."

see BEST OF CAL POLY, page 2
Best Dressed Professor
CHARISE CHENEY
2nd - Kevin Sites

Best Course
TIE — MUSIC OF THE '605 AND HUMAN SEXUALITY
Students like to learn about interesting things. It's fairly simple. And apparently, sex and rock 'n' roll are just what the student body asked for.
Music of the '60s is popular for both its content and instructor. Business junior Sam Dependahl said Professor Craig Russell is probably one of the greatest teachers at Cal Poly. "It's always interesting to see music that I like in the context of the culture it arose out of," Dependahl said. "And the teacher makes the class.
Another class that's always full is human sexuality, or PSY 205. "It's a good slacker class because you don't even really have to go," said Ashley Ericksson, nutrition freshman. "All you have to do is go and sit there. I never even met the teacher. But you get to meet people. It taught me the skills of bowling. I then became the best female bowler."

Best Slacker Course
BOWLING
For one unit a quarter and two hours a week, students show up, put on teams and bowl. Roll is taken through the computer when they sign in.
"It's a good slacker class because you don't even really have to go," said Ashley Ericksson, nutrition freshman. "All you have to do is go and sit there. I never even met the teacher. But you get to meet people. It taught me the skills of bowling. I then became the best female bowler."

Best Place to Study
LIBRARY
With historic documents, encyclopedias and reference books lining the walls, the library is a perfect place to study. It brings computers and research materials to a place easily accessible to students, at most any hour of the day (especially during finals week).
"It's so quiet," said architectural engineering sophomore Erin Callaghan. "I come here because it's close to all of my classes. And I like to sit by the windows to get the view.
There are also people that appreciate the comfort of the library environment. Biology senior Wes Van Blair lounges in between bookshelves to appreciate the contents of a good book.
"I can concentrate (in here)." he said. "If I need to do a paper, it's good, and I like the solitude."

2nd place - University Union

Best Sport Team
WOMEN'S SOCCER
The women's soccer team isn't like other sports teams at Cal Poly.
"There's something about our chemistry, that's just how we're different from other teams," said Megan Munday, a player who finished her fourth season in the fall.
The team of approximately 22 girls and 10 redshirt players won conference in their last season and went to playoffs for the second year in a row. Even though they lost to Santa Clara University, the team still managed to have a good season.
"We're very driven and we are very self-motivated and our coach reinforces it," she said. The team is lead by head coach Croix Courier and assistant coach PJ Woolridge.
Next year, the team will be young with three or four seniors and a large freshman class. Munday said.

Best Livestock
SHEEP
Who doesn't like sheep? Right now these animals are quite visible to students. Lambs and ewes that are still nursing are currently grazing in the pasture by the farm shop and practice irrigation field, between Campus Marker and the parking lot on Via Carta.
In total, there are about 130 of the mature females and 75 head of lambs. This week, 85 were sent to market.
Students are heavily involved in management of the animals. They monitor their health, and are heavily involved in lambing time in January with identification of the lambs, making sure they are nursing and administering any health care that is necessary. Students also take care of sorting, grading and packaging of wool, which will be sold.
R Bob Rutherford, animal science professor, said, "Mostly, the sheep are working in conjunction with nature in terms of grazing the grass. We're using the sheep to enhance the riparian, or beneficial grazing along Steamer Creek. The cute ones are all in the pasture by the farm shop, though."

2nd place - Cow with window

Best Food
TIE — Pizza twists and pizza
Backstage Pizza offers everything from peppers to vegetable to pesto chicken. Located in the University Union next to McPhoe's Bowling, Backstage is a popular alternative to the other campus dining facilities.
"I like the combination as opposed to one topping because there's more variety, more flavor," said Jodi Colli, industrial engineering freshman.
Campus Market offers pizzas such as broccoli cheese stromboli, chicken cheese stromboli, southwestern chicken and traditional pepperoni.
Pizza twists tied with pizza for first place. They are served at Campus Market and come as "three seasoned and fried pizza" and "thick crust with ranch dressing."
"It's fast and it tastes pretty good. It's nice and unique," said Mark Wong, electrical engineering junior.

Best Vending Machine
FRENCH FRY MACHINE
The Ore Ida "Real French Fried Potatoes" machine is nestled between the Mountain Dew and revolving displays of apples and Diana Moore products. French fries are heated in 45 seconds. A red paper cup on the left side of the machine drops down and is filled with the fries. On the right, there is a window with a free ketchup and salt packs. French fries cost $1. There is even a chart with nutritional values posted next to the machine. According to the label a 97-gram serving size contains 290 calories and 19 percent daily-recommended fat.
"I remember one day I was there and I wanted something hot to eat and there they were," said Garrett Higdon, civil engineering sophomore. "I remember they just hit the spot. They were so perfect."
Best Club to Party With

TRIATHLON CLUB

While the triathlon team may have strenuous practices and lengthy competitions, they definitely know how to party.

“When we’re not training, we get crazy,” said Nicole Baggett, president of the 70-member club.

Baggett said the team knows how to have a good time, especially at events like the recent Wild-Water triathlon.

Usually, the team parties the hardest after the really bananas. Last week, the team held their banquet and Baggett said that many members of the team were not able to wake up early for their classes the next morning.

But the team is not selective, they will party with anyone, even students who are not team members.

“All of our members are decent, fun people... all-around friends that we'll have for a lifetime,” she said.

2nd place - Ski Club

Best Building for Rappelling

ARCHITECTURE BUILDING

Many people think the only climbing or rappelling on campus is at the climbing wall by the LUS. The truth is quite the contrary.

Mike Busch, materials engineering student, said he has rappelled in the architecture building four or five times. He explained that he tried on the railing and goes down the center of the building. It's not so much the rappelling that he enjoys, though.

“Basically, the whole point of doing it there is just for the fun of it. We went off the architecture building,” he said.

And, there is the whole thrill of evading the police.

“You are going down inside of the building so you can't get caught and there are a lot of ways out of there if you do,” Busch said.

2nd place - The Wall

Best R.A.

JOEL CHAPIN

Joel Chapin, architecture junior, said he became a Resident Adviser because he wanted to help incoming students get a good start at Cal Poly.

Chapin supervises roughly 50 students in Yosemite Tower 3 and said, “I have no clue, honestly,” when asked why he thinks he was voted R.A.

He might not know, but Heath Morrison, one of Chapin's residents and mechanical engineering sophomore said, "He's a really great guy, always there for us."

Morrison said he is deserving because of the way he approaches his job.

"It seems like he's more relaxed. He goes by the rules, but doesn't revolve in punishing people. He's one of my good friends, and I will miss having with him."

Chapin said that even though being an R.A. takes up a lot of his time, he is glad he did it and will miss his residents.

Best Cal Poly Band

JESTER’S DEAD

It's only been four years since Jester's Dead entered the Cal Poly music scene, and they're quickly becoming one of San Luis Obispo's most popular bands.

"We have kind of a unique sound, it's a ska kind of metal," said Dan Ferster who plays the trombone.

"We play to have a lot of fun."

The seven-member band is comprised of Cal Poly students, Brent Kelly, on guitar; singer Randy Olden; base player Max Mahoney; drummer Austin Guzman; Joel Rolfe, on the saxophone and trumpet player Matk Wedin.

They play a wide variety of music, including ska, jazz, and metal, and they take requests from live audiences.

W restfer said that fans comment on how they like to rock out to the band's music and dance to it. The band also has good chemistry.

"We're all pretty good friends and we're pretty lucky we're not rock stars so we don't fight about being famous," Ferster said.

2nd place - Parking structure

Best Classroom

BUSINESS ROTUNDA

It goes by many names, the Rotunda, the 50s, business lecture hall, and added to his list of identifiers for building 3, room 213 is Cal Poly's best classroom.

With a maximum capacity of 230, the circular auditorium is home to courses ranging from architecture history to survey of economics as well as countless evening guest lectures.

Joni Nagast, food science junior, said the audio visual media in the room helped earn it this distinction.

"They have all the technology in there, and everyone was able to see the teacher," he said.

2nd place - Bidg. 10, room 126

Best Parking Lot

SLEET STREET

While the newly built parking structure may boast a plethora of parking spaces, it's the Sleet St. parking lot that has students coming back for more.

"It's the most convenient to get everywhere," said Dana Richardson, graphic communications senior.

The lot, which has about 220 parking spaces, is located behind the Davidson Music Bldg, next to the track.

"Quite often, other lots at Cal Poly, the Slack Street parking lot is usually full, but this doesn't stop Richardson who usually tries to park there first.

One of the reasons for this is easy access, the parking lot is close to the Rec Center and the University Union.

"It's easier to get into and out of," Richardson said.

2nd place - Parking structure
Biased research tries to straighten homosexuality

Much has been made recently of a new "study" by Dr. Robert Spitzer, a psychiatrist who claims gay and lesbian people can change their sexual orientation. Spitzer purported that 66 percent of gay men and 44 percent of lesbian women could attain "full heterosexual functioning" through therapy. This study, of course, was unscientific and politically motivated.

First, Spitzer did not use a random sample when choosing participants. According to The Associated Press, 66 percent of his subjects were referred from "ex-gay" ministries—organizations that claim to change the sexual orientation of homosexuals being a mental disorder. As any statistician will tell you, research is useless unless the sample has been randomly selected to construct an unbiased population.

Also in question is the methodology used by Spitzer in gathering experimental data. His research consisted of a single telephone interview with each subject, lasting less than an hour. This is in stark contrast to separate research done by Dr. Ariel Shils and Mike Sullivan

Dr. Michael Scherer, who conducted multiple phone and in-person interviews with each of their subjects over a period of five years.

Consider that the Shils-Schroeder study revealed a conversion failure rate of 88 percent, with only 1 percent of participants claiming full conversion to heterosexuality (9 percent became asexual or confirmed). It is reasonable to ascertain that even the successful 1 percent may have been biased to begin with, and are now simply denying themselves the same-sex component of their sexuality.

"Just imagine a drug company putting a product on the market that had an 88 percent failure rate and only a 3 percent 'success' rate," said Tim McFeeley, political director of the Family - two very active, anti-gay political groups.

The rush is to now promote this study as a way to protect children. The Raphel Sholom Day School, which educates kids from age 2 through sixth grade, decided to ban the holidays because families in our society are now diverse and varied, according to a letter written by school director Cindy Samson. The school is affiliated with a Reform Jewish synagogue.

True, our society is becoming more diverse every day, but excuse me if I fail to see the connection to Mother's Day. There are other ways to protect the feelings of children raised by same-sex couples than by banning a holiday that has long been an American tradition. We can see how Mother's Day might remotely prevent sentiment of a quandary for the same-sex parents at the school, one group of which was reportedly responsible for the school ban of the holidays. However, the banning of Mother's Day won't solve this problem.

Chances are children in these difficult situations will sooner or later need to know why their family situation isn't the norm, most families have a woman and a man and not two men. Banning the holiday is a only short-term solution that will ultimately hurt the kids who are kept under the illusion that their situation is normal. The responsibility lies with the couples to let their children know the truth, not with the school to keep the kids in a bubble.

I hope everyone had a great Mother's Day. Some kids in New York weren't quite so lucky.

A private school in Manhattan has banned student celebrations of Mother's Day and Father's Day, too, in the interest of fairness. The Raphel Sholom Day School, which educates kids from age 2 through sixth grade, decided to ban the holidays because families in our society are now diverse and varied, according to a letter written by school director Cindy Samson. The school is affiliated with a Reform Jewish synagogue.

True, our society is becoming more diverse every day, but excuse me if I fail to see the connection to Mother's Day. There are other ways to protect the feelings of children raised by same-sex couples than by banning a holiday that has long been an American tradition. We can see how Mother's Day might remotely prevent sentiment of a quandary for the same-sex parents at the school, one group of which was reportedly responsible for the school ban of the holidays. However, the banning of Mother's Day won't solve this problem.

Chances are children in these difficult situations will sooner or later need to know why their family situation isn't the norm, most families have a woman and a man and not two men. Banning the holiday is only a short-term solution that will ultimately hurt the kids who are kept under the illusion that their situation is normal. The responsibility lies with the couples to let their children know the truth, not with the school to keep the kids in a bubble.

The larger issue, however, is that the school is forgetting that traditional families have rights, too. When I was little, I made a macaroni-covered pencil box for my mom, and I was so proud to give it to her. Similarly, when I called my mom this past Sunday, it was a good opportunity for her to give everything she's done for me. But it seems this school director would tell me I was just participating in a dangerous activity, as if I was raising same-sex parents for their lack of a mother figure. I should have every right to celebrate Mother's Day, as should kids at school who choose to make an act for their mothers. The premise behind Mother's Day is to honor your parents, which can just as easily be done by children of same-sex parents. It isn't worth it to rob mothers of their hard-earned pleasure just so that same-sex couples can continue to act irresponsibly by lying to the kids they're raising.

The Manhattan school also made the argument that there is no educational need for holidays at school in the first place. This point is much more valid, yet I still disagree. If the job of a school is truly to educate, students need to be educated on every topic— including holidays—unless we want our children to not be proud of our American culture. One of the things I liked most about elementary school was making Christmas ornaments. This was not an attempt by my school to shove Christianity down my throat; it was just a fun activity. Making things for Mother's Day should be treated the same way, not banned altogether.

The banning of Mother's Day by the Raphel Sholom Day School hides intolerance for traditional families by calling it tolerance for non-traditional families. Mothers everywhere should be offended.

Matt Szabo is a journalism sophomore and Mustang Daily staff writer.
Environmental problems outlasted 1980s hype

It seems that our environment is in peril again, but has it ever really been on the safe side?

Monday night, movie star Woody Harrelson gave a presentation on living eco-friendly. He related a message that I haven’t heard in a long time: our world is getting more polluted and there is an alternative way of living.

I hope his message got across to the people who attended.

Everyone remembers that in the late 1980s and early 1990s, environmental issues were in the headlines all the time. If it wasn’t the potential problem of global warming, it was water pollution or overpopulation. By the end of the ’90s, those headlines began to fade and were replaced with the scare of a recession and the marvels of the Internet, but the problems didn’t fade.

Our forgetfulness is evident in the increase in sport utility vehicles on the streets today. In the late ’80s and early ’90s, the streets were filled with Progres and Cabrioles. Now everything is an Explorer, Navigator or eight-pla-seater Excursion. No one really needs to move that many people on one trip, but still, people buy them, saying, “Out of sight, out of mind.” to environmental issues. Unfortunately, like many times when we exercise this thing, the problem just grows.

Recently, the environment has been in the news again. This increase in air time devoted to eco-issues can partly be attributed to the new president. George W. Bush’s statement that he wanted to look into drilling in the Arctic National Park Refuge sparked controversy that many environmentalists were waiting to hear.

Don’t have a false sense of security. As long as people are not aware of the problems, our environment is in danger of being destroyed.

Our role in global warming is still being debated; it would be great to hear the results of the 1-degree increase in world temperature, but what if we were? We should reduce our carbon dioxide production, or at least be concerned about it. People underestimate the impact of simple things like carpooling and recycling.

We, as a population, should be more motivated in issues as big as the environment. These issues are not just “tree huggers.”

You supposedly had allergies at one time in your life so you should know how it feels. Next time save yourself the trouble by wearing a mask and keep your nose out of the smoke. This is a bad idea for everyone’s sake. It can make you allergic to a lot of things. It’s not fun at all.

I think I speak for all allergy sufferers when I say that we are offended by the color blue that is in Mustang Daily. You supposedly had allergies at one time in your life so you should know how it feels. Next time save yourself the humiliation and find out the real truth about the issue before writing such a ridiculous article.

Mark Edgington is a business administration sophomore.
Strange positions

Actor and activist Woody Harrelson spoke at the Rec Center Monday night as part of his Simple Organic Living tour. Tuesday morning, he lead a group of students in yoga on the business lawn.
须马日报

体育

棒球

继续从第8页

她说：“我很难理解，我试着将球停在原地。这些事情很容易忘记，但有时候我得停下来，重新审视一下自己。”她补充道。“我试着将球停在原地。”

比赛继续从第8页

赢得高中

在第八局中，我们领先。我们做出了一次好的防守换位，并设了局上本垒打。这句话被裁判判为二垒手的失误，但二垒手表示他会继续努力。”

马斯特斯说：“当斯巴达队在关键时刻犯了一个错误时，我们就需要把握住这个机会。”

球在第八局中被击中，威尔逊在第二局中被击出了第七局的反击。他以0比7领先。马斯特斯说：“我试着将球停在原地。”

比赛继续从第8页

赢得高中

在第八局中，我们领先。我们做出了一次好的防守换位，并设了局上本垒打。这句话被裁判判为二垒手的失误，但二垒手表示他会继续努力。”

马斯特斯说：“当斯巴达队在关键时刻犯了一个错误时，我们就需要把握住这个机会。”

球在第八局中被击中，威尔逊在第二局中被击出了第七局的反击。他以0比7领先。马斯特斯说：“我试着将球停在原地。”
Sports

Baseball loses nail-biter in tenth

By Ryan Ballard
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

For seven innings, the Mustangs played brilliant baseball Tuesday night at Baggett Stadium. Unfortunately for them, a regulation baseball game spans nine innings.

Shaky late-inning relief pitching allowed San Jose State to come from behind to steal a 9-8 victory in the tenth inning from Cal Poly.

The Mustangs (28-25) took a 6-1 lead after seven innings against San Jose State (36-22-1) before seeing the lead dissipate as the Spartans scored seven runs in the top of the eighth inning. The Mustangs scored two in the bottom of the ninth to send the game into extra innings, but San Jose State responded with a run in the top of the tenth to win the game.

The Mustangs scored two runs in the second and third innings and one each in the fifth and sixth to snap up a five-run lead. Pitching in the early innings was solid, with starter Greg Rockly and relievers Quinn McGinnis and Kevin Correa combining to hold the Spartans to only one run in the first seven innings.

But things fell apart for Cal Poly in the eighth. For the third consecutive game the Mustangs would never regain.

 rubbish .

COLIN HESTER/MUSTANG DAILY

Third baseman Kyle Wilson was the offensive star of Tuesday's game. He hit two home runs, a double and a single. However, he also committed a crucial error in the eighth inning.

Night of the Mustang honors athletes

By Evan Gaskardo
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

After a year of kicking, bartending, wrestling, volleyball, raking, dunking and running, Cal Poly athletes will be rewarded for their efforts tonight at Night of the Mustang, Cal Poly Athletics' 19th annual awards banquet.

Instead of each team having their own awards banquet, they are all combined into one, said Jason Sullivan, assistant director of Sports Information.

Frank Nolan, speech communications professor, will emcee the event.

The male and female Athlete of the Year will be named, as well as the male and female Scholar Athlete of the Year.

Other accomplishments will also be recognized during the night.

Club sports, since they do not compete at the Division I level, are not included in the event.

"It is (recognizing) and highlighting some accomplishments by the team and by individuals," Sullivan said.

The announcement of the Athlete of the Year awards is the climax of the night, Sullivan said. Each coach nominates one member of his or her team for Athlete of the Year. A panel of coaches and administrators then chooses the two recipients.

"It rewards individuals who have gone above and beyond and excelled during this past year," Sullivan said.

It's hard to single out individuals in a team sport, so it's very difficult.

This year's banquet will have a hard time topping last year's, he added.

One of last year's two male Athletes of the Year, Karson Conwright, posed to his girlfriend onstage while accepting his award.

"It blew everyone away," Sullivan said. "There's no way we can top that." Scholar athlete awards are a way to recognize individuals who have done well in the classroom as well as in their sport.

Each year, the Big West Conference selects a male and female Scholar Athlete of the Year for each school in the conference.

In addition, Academic All-Conference selections will be presented. These athletes are selected from the entire district, not just the Big West Conference.

This year, one of the Scholar Athletes of the Year awards will be presented by the dean of the recipient's college, said Alison Cone, senior associate athletic director.

"It's very neat to have (the dean) give the award," she said.

Awarding scholarly athletes is important because it shows the many qualities that a successful Cal Poly athlete must have, Cone said.

"To be a student at Cal Poly you have to be smart, organized and goal oriented," Sullivan said.

"Iverson named MVP over Duncan, O'Neal

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Allen Iverson, who led the overlooked Philadelphia 76ers to the best record in the East, was picked as the NBA's Most Valuable Player on Tuesday.

Iverson got 1,371 points to beat out San Antonio's Tim Duncan (1,367 points) and Los Angeles' Shaquille O'Neal, last year's winner, who had 578 points from the panel of sportswriters and broadcasters in the United States and Canada.

"It's special because of everything I went through last summer," Iverson said. "I had to look in the mirror and see things I didn't do right as a person or a player. I promised myself when I look in the mirror after this season and know I did everything right."