The slashed programs represent what might have happened at Cal Poly had fees not been approved.

Stacey Anderson  WEDNESDAY  MAY  19

Parallel to Cal Poly's recent athletic fee increase, budget cuts forced San Francisco State University to pare some of their sports on the chopping block. The California State University eliminated five sports and cut funded seven of the remaining 11 teams after a proposed referendum was rejected by the student body.

Men's track and field, men's and women's swimming, women's volleyball and women's tennis were axed when the athletics referendum failed by 233 votes. The other fee increase proposals, which focused on the career center, academic instruction and student health services, passed with strong majorities.

"Our students were asked to take on some heavy financial burden," said SFPSU public affairs interim director Christina Holmes. "Students come to our school for an education and lost of them went to the health center and career center. They made priorities."

The slashed sports program represents what might have occurred at Cal Poly if the recent fee increase had been rejected. Student support prevented a similar scenario for Mustang athletics.

"The same decision here to cut some sports would have been a definite possibility had the referendum not passed," said assistant media relations director for athletics Eric Burdick. "We said before the increase was voted on that some sports might have to be cut, and scholarships would have been greatly reduced."

The San Francisco State athletics decision was made in part because it is largely a commuter campus. Of the approximately 27,000 students enrolled, only about 1,000 participate in competitive and intramural athletics.

"Students asked themselves what they'd need most in the future," Holmes said. "The decision wasn't a surprise to us."

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**Students monitor, help care for foaling mares**

Equine enterprise project provides an opportunity for students to be responsible for assisting with the birth of horses on campus. They often spend the night in a converted stall to monitor the horses.

**Crystal Phend**

MUSTANG DAILY

The horse was listless. She refused food, went inside the stable and laid down. Made to Play, better known as Player, was feeling the effects of foaling season. The baby inside her shifted and kicked, visibly writhing in distress.

"Once it is born, there are certain things we look for," animal science junior Findley said. "The baby has to stand and nurse and the placenta has to pass."

There is a one- to two-hour observation period after the baby is born. Neonatal care immediately begins.

"It's a lot of sleepless nights," Findley said. "You feel like a mom."
Horses continued from page 1
out any problems. Not all mares are so fortunate; there are many things that can go wrong, which necessitates all the watching and waiting.

"It is a huge investment," Findley said. "Horses can only have one foal a year."
Player will likely be returned to breeding while the foal is still nursing. Krimsley said her other mare was sent just 17 days after giving birth.

"It is their job to be moms," Krimsley said.
To get around the one-year gestation period for a show horse or to increase the productivity of a mare with superior blood lines, an additional, more expensive method is used: embryo transfer. After normal in vitro fertilization and six weeks of development in the mother, the embryo is transplanted into a surrogate mare.

Regardless of either beginning, the foals are involved in student projects from the time they are weaned. Findley said, "They are halter broken and trained by students and then sold 2-year-olds." Students reap 10 percent of the profit, if there is one, but the real reward is the satisfaction it brings.

"It is a way Cal Poly can get hands-on experience for students," Findley said. "We learn this stuff in class but it's a whole another thing in real world application."

One of the breeding managers, it is an intense experience. Findley and Wilson said they spend at least 45 hours a week working on the project. They have less than ideal living conditions, are constantly on call and college courses are given their lives for a year, they said.

However, both agree that it is an experience like no other.

"The opportunity to learn up close here is incredible," Findley said.
"We do things that anywhere else only a vet is allowed to do."  

Fees continued from page 1
years as well.
Next fall, a UC student under-graduate would pay about $6,500 annually while the fee at CSU would climb to about $2,300.
Other aspects of the six-year agreement, including a return to enrollment increases in 2005, must be approved by the Legislature, which has until June 30 to adopt a state budget.
The deal has been praised by administrators as a promise of financial stability but disparaged by critics as a shortfall that will mean many students are not able to enroll.
It's especially unpopular at commuter schools like CSU, Fullerton, where students often live off-campus and squeeze academics into full-time work schedules.
"It was eye-opening being exposed to an organization that provides services to the community," said Ruggles. "It was both a positive and a negative experience."

"It was great and a really wonderful thing for them to do," Ruggles said of the students who were involved with the foster care projects. "They did a wonderful job."
The Board of Supervisors also recognized all foster parents and foster family agencies for their efforts on behalf of children in San Luis Obispo foster care, and designated 2004 Foster Care Awareness Month in San Luis Obispo County.
SACRAMENTO — State senators voted Tuesday to ban random drug testing of California students, agreeing that schools should have “reasonable suspicion” before checking for drug or alcohol use.

The bill, by Sen. John Vasconcellos, D-Santa Clara, would bar testing unless school officials had reasonable suspicion that a student had illegally used drugs or alcohol “in the school environment.”

It would require that such suspicion be based on “articulable facts” and “rational inferences” instead of curiosity, rumor, lu twitch, race, national origin, gender, socio-economic status, sexual orientation or suspicion or evidence of drug use among the student’s family or friends.

The legislation also would require the school to try to obtain written consent from a parent or guardian before ordering a student to have a drug test and to refer students who test positive to someone for counseling.

WEST COVINA — A 57-count criminal complaint was filed Tuesday against the former general manager of a new Hooters restaurant for allegedly secretly taping 14 applicants as they changed into waitress uniforms during job interviews.

Joan Martin Aposte, 32, faces up to 19 years in state prison if convicted of the 23 felonies and 32 misdeme­nor s, said Los Angeles County Deputy District Attorney Gary Hearnsberger.

Defense attorney Brian Michaels said earlier during the investigation that his client would plead innocent to any possible charges.

The digital taping allegedly occurred between November and February in a trailer outside a West Covina restaurant that is being renovated to become a new Hooters.

Fehony charges were possible because four of the appli­cants were under age 18 at the time and because the digi­tal recording also contained audio, Hearnsberger said.

The felonies include eight counts of using a minor for a sex act and 17 counts of elder abuse.

SACRAMENTO — A majority of Senate Democrats vowed Tuesday to block prison guards’ lucrative pay raises this year, forcing the union to renegotiate what senators said is an unaffordable contract.

Republican Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger last week called for trimming $300 million from the guards’ contract, the bulk of the $465 million he wants to shave from all contracts negotiated by his predecessor.

The 31,000-member California Correctional Peace Officers Association has long been a political powerhouse, helping to elect former governors Pete Wilson and Gray Davis. About 350 of its members now earn more than $100,000 a year, though that’s less than 2 percent of its membership.

Associated Press

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STATE BRIEFS

BOSTON — More than 1,000 gay couples sought applications for marriage licenses on the first day Massachusetts became the first state to allow same-sex couples to legally wed, a survey of the largest cities and towns in the state by The Associated Press showed.

Separately, a survey by The Boston Globe found that two thirds of gay couples who applied for the licenses Monday were women, and 40 percent of those female couples said they had children in their households, the newspaper reported Tuesday.

WASHINGTON — President Bush nominated Alan Greenpeace as chairman of the Federal Reserve on Tuesday, praising his leadership and sending a strong signal of stability to financial markets.

The nomination was announced as Greenpeace met at the White House with the president.

“Sound fiscal and monetary policies have helped unleash the potential of American workers and entrepreneurs, and America’s economy is now growing at the fastest rate in two decades,” Bush said in a statement.

WASHINGTON — Starting next week, millions of people in small cities and rural areas will be able to take advantage of federal rules allowing cellular users to keep their phone numbers when switching to new wireless carriers.

The rules were put into effect last November in the 100 most populous metropolitan areas. By May 24, the Federal Communications Commission will expand in “number portability” rules to the rest of the country.

Consumers also can transfer a number from a traditional landline phone to a cell phone if the exchange falls within the reprogramming area.

The extension of the rules is not expected to be met with an enormous surge in requests for transfers since most of the country has already had the opportunity to switch.

The FCC estimates the rules covered about 70 percent of the population when implemented Nov. 24 in the top markets.

WASHINGTON — As many as 17,000 people each year are brought to the United States by human traf­fickers who trap them in slavery-like conditions for forced sex, sweatshop labor and domestic servitude, the Justice Department reported Tuesday.

“In the United States, where slavery was outlawed nationally more than 150 years ago, this tragic phenomenon should no longer exist. Yet it does,” the Justice Department said in a report to Congress.

In separate testimony on Capitol Hill, a top Homeland Security Department official estimated that human smugg­ling and trafficking generate some $9.5 billion each year for criminal organizations that also deal in illicit drugs, weapons and money laundering.

Associated Press

SECOND LATEST

WASHINGTON — A draft of the fiscal 2005 budget would restore some $100 billion in tax cuts passed during the Bush administration but would increase military spending by about $40 billion.

President Bush and Congress agreed on the $1.35 trillion, 3.8% growth for the federal budget, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office said Tuesday.

“The budget shows that the Bush administration continues to prioritize the defense budget, while refusing to adequately fund health care, education or retirement security of the American people,” said Senate Majority Leader Sen. Harry Reid, D-Nev.

In separate testimony before the House Budget Committee, the chairman, Rep. J. Royce Parkinson, R-Calif., did not address the budget, saying that he wants to focus on a bill to make the tax cuts permanent.

The White House with the president.

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World Briefs

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Iraq's most influential Shiite cleric on Tuesday demanded that all armed groups withdraw from the embattled holy cities of Najaf and Karbala, where nine militias loyal to a rebel cler­ic were killed in heavy fighting with U.S. forces.

The statement by Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Husseini al­katai came after the U.S. administration announced it was poised to continue the transfer of sovereignty to Iraqis as scheduled despite Monday's killing of the head of the U.S.-appoint­ed Iraqi Governing Council.

"Terrorists are trying to stop Iraq's march to sovereign­ty and peace," U.S. administrator L. Paul Bremer said at a memorial service in Baghdad on Tuesday for Tillman Snelson, who was killed by a suicide bomber Monday at a checkpoint near coalition headquarters. "They will not succeed."

NEW DELHI — Sonia Gandhi said she would "humbly decline" to be the next prime minister of India, a decision that followed Hindu nationalist outrage over the prospect of a foreign-born woman at the helm of the nation.

Gandhi, an Italian native who became an Indian citizen 21 years ago, did not say whom she would nominate for the post, but the favorite appeared to be Mmshohas Singh, the architect of India's economic liberalization program during the last Congress party-led government from 1991 to 1996.

Gandhi's Congress party and allies-trounced the Hindu­nationalist party of caretaker Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee and his Democratic National Alliance in nation­al elections that ended last week.

RAFAH, Gaza Strip — Under heavy cover fire from helicopters, Israeli troops combed this refugee camp for weapons and gunmen Tuesday in the latest Gaza offensive.

Twenty Palestinians were killed, including two teenagers shot as they gathered laundry. International condemnation of the operation mounted, and the United States said it was "deeply disturbed" by the killing.

"I am determined to bring the centuries-old songs of the Silk Road to the world stage," said the tall, twentysomething songstress has been drawing international acclaim with her melodies of love and despair, sharing a mournful message even though the words are from a far-off place and time.

Her success could almost be one of the ancient stories of people who passed down in the oral traditions of her Uzbek ancestors.
Crackdown on file-sharing continues

Theresa Smith
Spartan Daily (San Jose State University)

SAN JOSE — At the end of each semester, students at San Jose State University participate in teacher evaluations. A new rating form with clearer questions and an additional opinion sheet has been added to the form to give students the opportunity to include their personal thoughts.

Steve Aquino, survey research and evaluation associate in the Institutional Planning & Academic Services, said the ratings will be collected May 5 through May 18 from white boxes located on campus.

"There are nine white boxes throughout the campus for student proctors to drop off completed evaluation packets," Aquino said. "Packets are picked up each day from the boxes."

Aquino's department has student volunteers who sort the forms by department to be processed and recorded. The "Student Opinion of Teaching Effectiveness" and the "Student Opinion of Laboratory and Activity Teaching Effectiveness" forms are distributed to students based on lecture or lab courses.

"The students (volunteers) go through an unpacking, sorting and processing (method)," Aquino said. "(Then) reports are generated and faculty receive official and personal reports."

At the beginning of each semester, instructors choose which courses they want to be evaluated for, and the results are later put together in an official report. Although all courses are evaluated, those not selected by the instructor will be put together in a personal report.

"For the original report, one copy goes to the department file and one goes to the instructor," Aquino said. "The personal report goes only to the instructor; no copies are made for the department."

"A machine can be used for any modification," Aquino added.

"For an institute of higher education to overlook copyright infringement would not be a proper standpoint and would not be appropriate," said Chris Coon, the Office of Residential Life judicial affairs coordinator and assistant dean of students.

"The restricted access policy was an attempt to remain within the law and to preserve students' academic ability online," Coon added.

"With the Internet, there are just so many information and transfer possibilities," said freshman computer science student Angie Yen. "There's nothing stopping people from doing it."

In response to the growing number of online copyright infringements, the University of California, Los Angeles residence halls have reframed their approach to alleged file-sharing violations.

Previously, all potential copyright infringement cases were monitored by an individual from UCLA Information Technology. The new system is now partially automated.

When UCLA receives a complaint from an outside party, such as the Universal Music Group or the Motion Picture Association of America, they will investigate and inform the violating computer. Internet access to non-UCLA Web sites is then cut off faster than with the manual response.

"For an institute of higher education to overlook copyright infringement would not be a proper standpoint and would not be appropriate," said Chris Coon, the Office of Residential Life judicial affairs coordinator and assistant dean of students.

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Gay rights program brought to BSU

Tiffani Isaacson
The Arbiter (Boise State University)

BOISE, Idaho — Diane Neu, Driscoll Hall resident adviser, and Stephanie Frank, Morrison Hall resident adviser, cast new light on gay rights for some Boise State University residents last month. Frank and Neu presented a program called “lesbian wedding.” The title was initially used to draw attention, but didn’t attract what the advisers expected.

“We decided to do this program last December when we started talking about how many people are misinformed on the subject,” Neu said. “It is a topic Stephanie and I feel very strongly about, and we wanted to be able to present the information to people in a way that would hopefully open up their minds a little.”

Frank and Neu originally had scheduled the program for early February, but due to the media attention gay rights was receiving they pushed back the date to include the new information.

“When it comes to gay rights, there are so many things that one could cover, but we know that we had to keep it narrow,” Neu said. “Same-sex marriage rights was the original topic we wanted to cover; plus, it is one that we both feel strongly about.”

Neu said they worked hard to design a program that would open minds, not attack people.

“We had no problem getting the program approved by the resident director. Everyone was supportive and saw the need for a program like this,” she said.

Even though Neu and Frank’s program was well received among most of their peers, some of their residents weren’t so supportive.

Posters that read “lesbian wedding” were vandalized with writing such as “XXX” and “hot, hot, hot.” The posters were taken down because of the vandalism. Frank removed posters from Morrison Hall, a 21-and-older dorm, because some residents complained that the subject matter was offensive.

“Once the individuals were talked to and the posters were rehung, no further problems were encountered,” Neu said.

Resident adviser Kelsey Ruiz said, “I think that it was a fine program and that it was advertised in an entirely appropriate fashion. The goal of the advertising was to catch people off guard so that they would be more likely to attend. The reason that the posters were ripped down is that there are still people who are not ready to be open to the idea of homosexuality. Prejudice was the downfall, not the poster content, and based on the nature of the program, I don’t see that there were many other efficient ways to promote it.”
Less than 20 minutes into my attempt to eat a gigantic pizza, reality set in. Like a novice river-ratter battling heavy rapids, I struggled to handle the sprawling canvas of cheese and pepperoni. Although I was working on my eighth slice, I still had 26 remaining, and my pace had slowed enough for my official scribbler, mechanical engineering junior Russell Prentice, to take note.

"6:42," Russ wrote. "Ciraham realizes he was working on his eighth slice, but he still hadn't finished his 26 remaining."

It wasn't supposed to be like this. I listed seven months ago over initial field reports of the challenge at New York Style Giant Pizza, an independent pizzeria at the corner of Foothill Boulevard and Santa Rosa Street. Storeowner Kenny Danou promised the giant pizza free along with a complimentary month of slices to anyone who could finish the 26-inch pizza in an hour.

My qualifications were impeccable. Last May, I devoured the biggest hamburger known to man, a two-and-a-half pounder from Sylvester's in Los Osos. Chronicled in the May 29, 2003 Mustang Daily, my accomplishment won me fame, a Polaroid on the restaurant's wall and a T-shirt that read, "I ate the big one." Unstoppable triumph only comes so often, though. I should've humbly entered this challenge. Since New York's opening last Labor Day weekend, no competitors had come forward. In fact, in Danou's time owning two other pizzerias, only a female in Santa Clara tried — and almost puked.

"I want to see you barf!" Danou's wife Delilah chirped, not long before I signed a waiver in case of illness. It was dizzying enough just to ponder the pizza's ingredients — two and a half pounds of cheese, five pounds of dough, 67 pieces of pepperoni and two ladles of sauce. I could've stretched the uncooked dough out to make bed sheets and used the shredded cheese to stuff a pillow.

Instead, I watched Danou struggle to hoist the giant into the oven. A little more than 20 minutes later, at 6:25 in front of curious onlookers, I ripped into my 600 square-inch pizza. Initially my chances looked bright, as I roared through seven slices in the first 15 minutes.

Even then, however, Russ and fellow comrades industrial engineering junior Matt Sanders and kinesiology junior Kyle Gillette echoed doubts that I'd been hearing since reaching the pizzeria.

"6:36," Russ wrote. "His associates begin taking bets as to how far he gets — I say he pukes at slice No. 31."

I didn't even make it that far. Over the next 10 minutes, I suffered a fate known to athletes as "hitting the wall." I tried in vain to use my remaining strength, but stuffing food became arduous. I tried in vain to use the restroom halfway through the hour, but it was useless.

"7:07," Russ wrote. "Graham admits that the feat is impossible — at least he gave it a noble try."

Danou offered me 15 minutes overtime, but instead, I ate until 7:25 to fulfill my initial challenge. The end of the hour couldn't come soon enough. My pizza was a cold remnant of its former delicious self by the time I put it down.

Overall, out of 34 slices, I only finished 12, the equivalent of a 16-inch pizza I later deduced, but far from a superhuman effort. I still don't know how I gained six pounds over the course of my ordeal. Kyle did praise me for eating for an hour, but I admit I was beaten — yep, beaten by a pizza.

History is chock full of failures, particularly from battle — Napoleon lost big at Waterloo, Hitler could never take Stalingrad and Robert E. Lee suffered heavy casualties at Gettysburg.

Still, on the bright side, none of those guys got to take home more than 20 slices of pizza after their defeat.
Bands, bikes and more come together for free show this weekend

Second annual event showcases local acts, feats of courage

Christina Joslin  
OSCAR DAILY

Bands and bikes don’t normally congregate in parking lots, but that’s exactly what they’ll do this weekend at ASI’s second annual BMX and Hand Blowout.

The event, put on by ASI Events, will be held from noon to 5 p.m. in parking lot H-6 (just north of Campus Market). Admission is free and open to Cal Poly students and the general public.

“This is going to be a really cool event with extreme sport bikers and lots of different music,” event coordinator Angela Schacatano said. “Our goal is to make this the big end-of-year event for the students.”

Last year, the blowout attracted a crowd of about 1,500 people throughout the day’s events. This year, ASI Events is planning on having a larger number of people in attendance.

“Last year, we only marketed to Cal Poly students,” Schacatano said. “We are now marketing to the entire San Luis Obispo community as well.”

The event will revolve around the crazy and courageous Giant Bicycle Stunt Team, the world’s No. 1 traveling bicycle stunt show. The team has performed shows at the NBA playoffs, ESPN X-Games, Long Beach Grand Prix, Kentucky State Fair, Hawaii State Fair, NBC Sports Gravity Games and many other venues.

The three-man team entertains their audience with choreographed stunts, both in the air and on the ground. This includes the riders reaching higher than 25 feet above the ground (with the help of a giant vertical ramp), spinning 360 degrees in mid-air and doing gravity-defying back flips.

The riders will be accompanied by the musical abilities of local bands Habermas, Josue and JDJ and out-of-towners The Expendables.

Habermas, winner of the residence hall Battle of the Bands, will perform onstage from 12:30 to 1 p.m.

see Blowout, page 8

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ARTS & CULTURE

Wednesday, May 19, 2004
Band breakups: The music industry's version of divorce

Jacoby Tootall
THE CALIFORNIA AGGIE (UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA-DAVIS)

BMWS To record companies, music consumers are like children. They have to be spoon-fed the Top 40, and they don't know how to share properly.

After all, both kids and music enthusiasts are the real victims of a problem that plagues both families and the recording industry — divorce.

No one is safe from a past last week, the season finale of MTV's "Making the Band" featured P-Diddy announcing his disbandment of Da Band. But as priceless as the irony of the gang-tot-ing rap mogul playing father figure was, few had grown attached to Diddy's League of Extraordinary Warlocks.

However, when the intensity of mainstream success leads to the dissolution of a popular group, faithful listeners can't help but wonder if it was their fault. Since parents have to explain the meaning of their divorce to their children, it would be helpful if musicians did the same.

"Well, you see, son, Mommy and Daddy have been fighting a lot because Daddy is too busy hanging out with his groupies and doing coke to focus on the music. Now, just because we don't love each other any more doesn't mean that we don't love you. So, remember to go out and buy Mommy's solo album when it comes out this summer."

As helpful as that sounds, it probably would do little to take the edge off what is usually an ugly affair. Just like drug overdoses for rock stars and guns violence for politicians, inexcusable differences can spell the end for even the greatest bands.

For example, the 1970s disbandment of the cultural phenomenon that was the Beatles left their faithful fans appalled. Instead of blaming themselves, though, they pointed the finger at the wicked system. As John Lennon's wife, Yoko Ono was an easy target for the angst-ridden fan base. Though the Fab Four remained somewhat amiable, that hasn't been the case in other musical separations.

After forgoing the gangster rap revolution of the late '80s and early '90s, NWA's personal conflicts tore the union apart. The result was a lyrical rivalry between Easy-E and Dr. Dre that produced some of the most obscenely poetic ex-bashing in history. Despite the trauma that can be associated with the initial breakup, the musicians involved often embrace unmarried life. Splashing on a little more Old Spice and sporting the gold chain in the chest hair, these newly liberated bachelors are ready to hit the singles scene again.

Unfortunately, some of these guys learn a harsh lesson about their solo prospects. The technical term for such a musician is the Garfunkel. It is derived from the second half of the folk duo Simon and Garfunkel, whose single career, in spite of his talent, suffered due to both his name and his receding hair.

Still, the aftermath of a band breakup isn't always bleak. Some of Paul McCartney and John Lennon's best work can be found in their post-Beatles albums. As far as NWA's disbandment, Dr. Dre went on to found the hip-hop dynasty that includes Snoop Dogg, Eminem and 50 Cent. And even if solo projects don't work out, former bandmates often reunite. In fact, the reunion, like the post-marital tryst, has become a common event.

VH1 has even created a show devoted to reliving the former romances with its "Bands Reunited!"

Ultimately, for every Yoko subbing for the creative process, Dre starting a lyrical war or Garfunkel axiomatically keeping the team together, there will always be a group like Da Band that music fans don't give a damn whether they break up.
Community garbage heap solves crisis

as trash bins, landfill, garbage dumps and recycling centers overflow with unusable waste, something needs to be done. Something drastic, something immediate. The solution to this crisis is to be found in a new and profound way that no one has dared, yet. We must create a gigantic garbage heap in the center of town to freely fly through it, taking what they want. This massive expanse of goods will keep valuables from being tossed and resources from being wasted.

You have heard the adage by wise parents: "One man's garbage is another man's treasure" and "other people would love to have nice things like that."

It is time we put these to use. Consider the benefits: free furniture, free dressers, free clothing for everyone. No more permanent landfill polluting our water supply. Think of the revenue that would be saved from the city garbage heap. It could be used for our children's education.

The only drawbacks are that early pioneers of this system will be labeled "dumpster divers" unfairly, and rioting is a possibility — a good bed rest full of tears, for example could build the crowd to violence. But, a security guard (run by the students), has had to raise it. Towels for example, could push the valuables from being tossed and resources from being wasted.

Phil Corwin is an electrical engineering student.

Congratulations to the Cal Poly rugby club

Recently the Cal Poly rugby club competed in the Division I National Championship for the first time in their 40 year history. They took second place in the nation after a hard-fought match with the Air Force Academy to get them to the final with University of California, Berkeley. As an alumna I cannot begin to tell you how proud I am of the morale of the whole Cal Poly rugby club.

Considering there are 440 men's rugby clubs in the United States, this was no easy feat. To get into the rugby club (run by the students), had to raise funds (yes, the alumni do contribute a fair amount), coordinate their own travel and lodging, pay players dues and have the fortune to be coached by an excellent volunteer coaching staff. The team has an uphill battle from the start of every season.

The accolades for the team this year include two players being selected to represent their country and play for the national team, the Eagles, and winning the Southern California Division I League undefeated. The 2005 season looks promising as well. I encourage your continued support. When you scream "Rugby!" you can hear him tell you, "Good job, lad."

Rob Fraser is a history alumni.

Key points regarding tobacco funding

I am a member of the community and campus tobacco coalitions, I am writing in response to Jake Ashley's May 12 article about the issues surrounding the United States Smokes' Tobacco (USST) Company's sponsorship of the Cal Poly Rodeo ("Rodeo, tobacco butt heads") because I feel that many key points were left out.

Currently, rodeo is the only sport that accepts money from tobacco at Cal Poly. Student involvement in athletic activities is healthy and active lifestyles. Thus, taking money from tobacco is a conflict of interest for any sporting event. In the mid-1980s, USST began sponsoring college rodeos to provide an introduction to the world of tobacco through advertising and place at a classroom level in a primary market. Create brand awareness, reinforce the USST brand and introduce the world to new products and continue our association with the western lifestyle (www.tobaccoadvertising.com) or (560) 96-5510 (image number). Therefore, it is hard for me to agree with Jesse Segura's statement that, "USST is not out there pushing (their product) to us; tobacco companies need more users and they are using colleges as venues to do so."

Coach Bret Black said students would be screaming, "Where's our scholarship money?" The Buck Tobacco Project offered the rodes $30,000 to say no to USST's money, and we have also begun working to establish a community endowment to serve as an ongoing scholarship fund. Hopefully, current Cal Poly Rodeo sponsors will contribute as well as the Cal Poly Rodeo Boosters, who said in a recent newsletter that as a result of a September fundraiser, Rodeo Boosters is in a position to fund scholarships for rodeo contestants for another three years.

Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable deaths in the United States, accounting for more than 400,000 deaths each year. How can anyone justify taking USST's money? USST, like many other industries that produce and market a product that kills?

Andrea Kroeker is a kinesiology graduate student.

Supporting the U.S. soldiers is bi-partisan

Somewhere among the concerned messages and ideologies spewed forth regarding Iraq, and somewhere aside the masses of critics and supporters of George W. Bush's mission to liberate the supposed suffering grounds of terror, lies the thoughts, fears, emotions, motives and feelings of American soldiers stationed there. I would imagine the political agendas of average U.S. soldiers to be as diverse as the Cal Poly student body. Some of them those to be there, and others had an economic situation that left them few opportunities beyond that afforded to men and women in uniform.

My point is that, for whatever reason, many brave men and women, most of whom are our peers, are living every day in uncertain and life-threatening territory. They may or may not have gotten what they bargained for when joining for the military, but they are there nonetheless. And at the very least, they deserve our recognition and respect. Whether you think this war is about freedom and liberty or oil and power, our troops are there fighting for their lives. This is why I am urging you, the students, to attend the "Support the Troops" rally Thursday on Dexter Lawn during UU Hour, because it is not about what you think, it is about showing our troops we appreciate their sacrifice in the name of your freedom. Please don't let the actions of a handful of enraged freaks affect your opinion of the many honest and good-hearted soldiers.

ClearPlay gives parents the power to censor

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The pepper packet exploded.

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Cle a rP l a y  g i v e s  p a r e n t s  t h e  p o w e r  t o  c e n s o r

For those who want to ruin a good R-rated movie, a Salt Lake City software company has a new product for this purpose.

Utah-based ClearPlay Inc. has developed new software that enables children to watch R-rated movies without their parents' knowledge. The technology gives parents several options to eliminate inappropriate content from DVDs.

Viewers can fine-tune their DVD players to edit up to four degrees of sex content and three degrees of violence. Aside from some unanswered questions (like who would want to watch an edited movie and why would children want to watch a movie they probably wouldn't understand), there doesn't seem to be anything inherently wrong with the technology's intent.

Seven motion picture studios and several big-time Hollywood directors, including Steven Spielberg and Martin Scorsese, are reportedly looking to take the ClearPlay product off the market, which is being sold in some RCA DVD players. These opponents claim that, despite the actual DVDs remaining unaltered, the players can potentially distort the intent of a movie.

Residents of Utah, however, seems to see no problem with chopping up movies. Two years ago a Wall Street movie rental company acknowledged editing DVDs for content and renting them without the permission of the filmmakers.

The difference in the case of ClearPlay is that the movies have not been physically altered. Instead, the DVD players have an index of about 100 films with points of reference to questionable material. If a matching DVD is loaded in the machine, the player will skip those reference points. If one chooses, they may watch the entire, unedited movie.

Certainly ClearPlay intends this new technology to be a convenience for parents concerned about what their children view in the media. Imagine, no more fast-forwarding, rewinding or muting just because they can't watch a movie.

Certainly ClearPlay intends this new technology to be a convenience for parents concerned about what their children view in the media. Imagine, no more fast-forwarding, rewinding or muting just because they can't watch a movie.

But if convenience is the issue, the new DVD players might be more trouble than they are worth. Since ClearPlay employees decide what content is marked as inappropriate, those standards might not jibe with certain families. And while the machines have several options for deciding what level of sex and violence you prefer, it might take some experimenting to leave in the content one would want, since content varies from film to film.

With all these options amidst the gray area of what is and isn't appropriate, it seems the most convenient way to edit content for children is the old way. Leave the movie off until the kids go to bed.

Jake Ashley is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily staff writer.
As treasurer, my first priority is to protect our economy today and build our economy for tomorrow. The governor's budget proposals for our public colleges and universities take California in the wrong direction.

I have the chance to tour some of California's very great UC, CSU and community college campuses. While I have always believed that public higher education is an important investment in our state's economic strength, I came away from this tour more convinced than ever of the importance of these institutions and their role in providing the economic, but also for the opportunity and promise they offer the next generation of Californians. We should be debating how we can invest more in our public colleges and universities, not less.

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Justin Popov

Individual athletes are now focusing on their respective disciplines. The women’s team finished third, indicating strong performance at the Big West Track and Field Championship, where the men’s team finished second and the women’s team placed first. Matt Lawicki said he had scouted Michigan because he knew that they would be ready for anything. Many of the women said if they could play in those conditions, they would be ready for anything. Michigan was their next competition and they proved that statement true. Last year the Mustangs beat the Wolverines 13-4, but coach Matt Lawicki said he had scouted Michigan because he knew that they would be tough competition. "Michigan was our championship game," Lawicki said. "The women’s response was awesome. With 15 minutes to go, Michigan tied and our women related and played great offense to close it out. Kanewischer said the game against Michigan was very emotional. With players crying and fans cheering, they got all the support they needed to win 8-7 in the last two minutes. After No. 8 Santa Clara beat No. 1 Navy in a sloppy game, the final came down to two West Coast teams, which no one expected, Kanewischer said. "Santa Clara broke fast and had lots of turnovers with their game against Navy," she said. "But we don’t play with fast breaks. We make other teams play our style and they need to have their defense ready. That game was great not only for our team but for our fans as well."

In the second half Santa Clara scored their last goal on a penalty shot. Cal Poly would go on to win 9-3. "Senior midfielder attack Bridget Mulhern credited strong goalkeeping for their victory. "Our goalie, Danielle Burchett, is a sophomore, and this was her second year being a goalie ever," Mulhern said. "Last year she was on the "B" team and we moved her up for nationals. She helped our team become poetry in motion; she really stood out and stopped Santa Clara’s goals."

After the championship, women’s lacrosse did not stand out as a nationally recognized team, but individual players won awards as well. Liz Mejia, Kim Lutz, Mulhern and Lindsay Kanewischer were named first team All-American, while Shannon Keane-Miller won the "B" team and we moved her up for nationals. She helped our team become poetry in motion; she really stood out and stopped Santa Clara’s goals."

After a successful weekend at the Big West Track and Field Championships, where the men’s team finished second and the women’s team finished third, individual athletes are now focusing on the forthcoming regional and national championships. Coaches were happy with the results of last weekend’s meet, which took place in Irvine. "We are very pleased with both teams," assistant coach Pete Corkery said. "We could not have predicted the second and third place finishes."

High jumper Kaylene Wagner was the biggest standout for the Mustangs. She placed first in women’s high jump with a meet record of 6-3 1/4. Team captain Lauren Martin broke a school record in the 400-meter hurdles and finished second in the 100-meter hurdles. Willimena Cisco placed first in the 100-meter hurdles while breaking the school record. Junior Ryan Moncrieff was named Big West Athlete of the Year after finishing the 1,500-meter event with a school record-setting time of 4:45.32. Athletes who surpassed the minimum standards during the season will attend the West Regionals in two weeks at Cal State Northridge. There they can qualify for the NCAA Finals to be held at the University of Texas. "I am excited," head coach Terry Crawford said. "We have 21 people (who have) qualified for regionals in two weeks. It is more than last year, which shows we have a higher number of quality athletes. Of those 21 athletes we are optimistic we will have a very good team for NCAA Championships in Austin, Texas. Some Cal Poly athletes are practically guaranteed a spot in NCAAs because of their national rankings. Others will have a chance to qualify by placing in the top five in their event at Northridge. Overall athletes are pleased with the results of last weekend’s meet and are looking forward to regionals and nationals."

The team did incredible," senior pole vaulter Jen Takahashi said. "I did not think that we were going to place too high. We had some mishaps but we also had some people who did really well. We did what we always do. We almost won, but didn’t. I have been here four years and we have been top three each time but never won. We did have a lot of people (set personal records). The sprinters impressed me and the