Gambling: An unstable lifestyle

Problem signs include increased wager size and betting more than you can afford

Melissa L. Dorsch

"Out of all the forms of gambling, poker is the only one that has a real skill element. But what it really is, is a bunch of guys sitting around trying to trip each other off," said Eric Geoffray, a clinical psychologist in Los Angeles who specializes in compulsive gambling.

"It's a complex phenomenon," he said. "People think if I study and learn the strategies of poker I can be good at it. It's that fundamental belief that it's a viable form of income that causes someone to be hooked."

Most students play poker as a hobby, either with a group of friends or casually online.

"I just play online a few times every couple weeks or occasionally with friends. I don't take it that seriously, though," business senior Sunny Tong said.

Even Cal Poly entertains a poker scene. The poker club started more than a year ago.

"I kept meeting people who were interested in poker and there was no centralized community," said John Dell'Anno, Cal Poly's card club co-founder and mechanical engineering sensor.

Cal Poly students gather for a friendly game of Texas hold'em. Clubs and fraternities on campus organize poker tournaments. The only restriction is that cash prizes are not allowed. Instead, prizes like televisions and computers are awarded in the form of gift certificates.

One problem the poker club faces is the stigma of the game's gambling aspect. "We want to educate people it's not as bad as it appears to be. We want to get away from gambling and focus more on the skill aspect (of poker)," Dell'Anno said.

Some people think poker is harmless.

See Gambling, page 2

Suicidal man triggers Glendale train crash

Daisy Nguyen

GLENDALE — A commuter train smashed into an SUV driven onto its tracks by a suicidal man early Wednesday, derailed and crashed into another Metrolink train, killing 10 people and injuring about 200, authorities said.

The injured were reported in critical condition.

"For me this is the worst train accident that I have ever seen. I've never seen anything like it," said Chief Randy Adams of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

"This whole incident was started by a deranged individual that was suicidal," the chief told a press conference at the scene of mangled double-decker railcars north of downtown Los Angeles.

"His act involved," he added.

The small white box everyone’s best friend

iPODS!
The small white box that has become everyone’s best friend

IN ARTS & CULTURE, 7

IN SPORTS, 12

EVENTS CALENDAR

What: Bone Marrow Drive. Nu Alpha Kappa fraternity is sponsoring a bone marrow drive for the fourth year.

Where: Today, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

What: Multicultural Center

More Info: Call the Multicultural Center at 756-1405

What: Heart Lecture Series. "Women in Architecture & Design." 2 continues this winter quarter with Topher Delaney, a leading Bay Area landscape architect. She will discuss her work in the context of a lecture titled, "Narrative within the Text of the Terrain."

When: Friday, 3 p.m.

Where: Bldg. 3, Room 213

More Info: Call the CAED office at 756-1131

What: Orchesis Dance Company performs. "Choreos and Accents." the 35th annual Orchesis Dance Company Concert, will showcase the talent of Cal Poly students plus new work from guest choreographers in a variety of dance styles, including ballet, modern, jazz, tap and hip-hop.

When: Jan. 28 and Jan. 29 at 8 p.m., Jan. 30 at 2 p.m., Feb. 5 at 8 p.m. and Feb. 6 at 2 p.m.

Where: Alex and Faye Spanos Theatre

More Info: Call Maria Janco in the theatre and dance department at 756-1465.

What: Dinner with the Dean. Free 50 Dinner. Some will include prime rib, bone in ham, stuffed portabello mushrooms, Baja marinated shrimp, chocolate fondu fountain, exotic fruit and more. Why are we having this dinner? SWE won Most Outstanding Student Section for the third year in a row.

When: Wednesday 6 p.m.

Where: ATPI, Bldg. 7

More Info: Check out www.swe.calpoly.edu or drop by the see Calendar, page 2

COMING FRIDAY

Television poker has brought the game into the limelight

RECAP

Online poker sparks interest with college students

An emergency worker stands in front of the wreckage from a train derailment in Glendale; 10 people were killed and 200 injured.

Suicidal man triggers Glendale train crash

Lee Baca, announcing that one of his deputies aboard a Metrolink train was among the dead, said that the tragedy raised questions about safety of rail passengers.

"The citizenry deserve better," Baca said.

The disaster struck shortly after 6 a.m. as one Metrolink train was heading to downtown Los Angeles from western suburbs and the other train was outbound from downtown. The wreckage smashed into a freight engine parked on a siding.

Employees of a nearby store and other train passengers rushed to pull the injured from the wreckage as firefighters converged on the scene.

Firefighters picked through twisted wreckage scattered across the tracks and carried wounded passengers from the trains to a triage center set up in a nearby parking lot.

One commuter train was headed from Los Angeles' Union Station to downtown Burbank, and the other was bound to Union Station from see Train, page 2

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Gambling
continued from page 1
"It starts off as a harmless pastime; for most (students) it won't progress, but about 15 to 20 percent of college-age adults will develop a problem," Geffner said.

Problem signs include increased wager size over time, gambling on a regular basis, and the biggest red flag is wagering money you can't afford to lose.

"This is something that would happen very quickly with college stu-
dents," Geffner said. He said he has heard stories of college students bet-
ing tuition money and selling back books to gamble.

"One major problem with Internet gambling is that your money comes from a credit card or a checking account, something Geffner said you should never do. He also said that players can easily use someone else's money, like a parent's credit card.

Smyth does not gamble with his parents' money, but he said they are not pleased with his source of income. Smyth said that he is too cautious to lose control of his gambling habit.

On a good night, he will bring in $2,000 and on a bad night he will be down $200 or so. However, the good nights outweigh the bad nights.

"I quit when I lose over $200," His online account has never reached zero and the only time he deposited money was when he set up the account.

But not all college students, or any-
one for that matter, will be as in con- 

continued from page 1
Moorpark, Metrolink officials said. Passengers were sent tumbling down the sides as the train derailed.

"I heard a noise. It got louder and louder," said passenger Diane Brady, 56, of Simi Valley. "And next thing I knew the train tilted, everyone was screaming and I held onto a pole for dear life. I held on for what seemed like a week and a half it seemed. It was a complete nightmare."

After the train headed to Union Station struck the SLV, one of the trains was propelled into a Union Pacific locomotive parked on a side track, said Kathryn Blackwell, a spokesperson for Union Pacific in Omaha, Neb.

In a light rain, more than 300 fire-fighters climbed ladders into windows of a derailed train tipped onto its side. Los Angeles fire spokesman Brian Humphrey said fire-fighters freed about six people from the wreckage and no others were trapped.

Sheriff's Deputy James Tutino, on his way into work from his home in Simi Valley, was killed in the crash.

Tutino had been with the department for more than 23 years.

Dazed passengers, some limping, gathered at tables in a nearby steakhouse while the injured sprawled on mats before being whisked away to hospita-

les by more than 35 ambulances.

"For me this is the worst train acci-
dent that I have ever seen. I've never seen anything like it," Los Angeles fire Capt. Rex Vilahn told KNBC-TV.

One Metrolink car was sent twist-

ing backward by the force of the crash, which occurred after 6 a.m. near the intersection of San Fernando Road and Chevy Chase Boulevard. A small fire that erupted in the crash was quickly extinguished by firefighters, Humphrey said.

Passenger Paul Konkirati, 28, of Burbank, said he was in a front car that broke in two.

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les by more than 35 ambulances.

Metrolink begins service in 1992 and operates seven lines, part of a multimillion-dollar transportation net-

work aimed at reducing pollution and congestion in Southern California.

Calendar
continued from page 1
SWE office in Bldg. 40, room 120.

What: Poly Escapes rock climbing trip. Poly Escapes will be taking a group of 30 to 40 students on a trip to Joshua Tree National Park. 100 miles east of Los Angeles. The group will be car camping in a

group campsite. No experience is needed because they will set up routes for all levels of experience. The cost is $13 plus the cost of gas.

Where: Joshua Tree National Park

More Info: Call Sarah Flanders at the Escape Route at 756-2743

What: Open House Clubs Representatives meeting. This meet-

ing is mandatory for all clubs plan-

ning to run a booth during Open House. Please come prepared to take notes and report back to your club. Attendance is taken and a raffle is held for all those in attendance.

When: Thursday Feb. 17, 11am

Where: Bldg. 3 Room 213

More Info: Call the Open House office at 756-7576 or visit the Web site: orientation.calpoly.edu/openhouse

FOR THE POLY CAMPUS COMMUNITY: This is your one and only chance to experience the Poly campus scene. The Open House is an opportunity for you to meet students who share your academic interests and to have fun while learning about Poly life.

Attendance is free although parking on campus will cost $7.

Under Four?
OR Hitting the Floor?

69% of students never injure themselves due to drinking. The average CP student drinks less than 4 in a sitting.
STATE NEWS
RIVERSIDE — An investigation into an alleged white supremacist group led to 19 arrests over four months in rural Riverside County, authorities said.
The investigation began with the arrest of Howard Michael Marshall of Menifee, a volunteer assistant football coach at Paloma Valley High School who allegedly tried to recruit teenagers into an armed white supremacist group, authorities said. Marshall, 44, was arrested in August and November on drugs and weapons charges, and police recovered ammunition from his home, as well as 45 guns, body armor and steroids, which he was suspected of giving to athletes.

SACRAMENTO — The office of California’s top elections official used the “spoils system” in a number of hearings, including rigging the application process to ensure a job for the son of a financial backer, according to a new state report.
The report also suggested Secretary of State Kevin Shelley created a hostile working environment with frequent outbursts and excessive demands on staff, and couldn’t produce copies of a sexual harassment complaint filed by an ex-staffer against him.

LOS ANGELES — Equipping every U.S. airliner with anti-missile systems would be a costly and impractical defense against terrorists armed with shoulder-fired rockets, according to a study by the Rand Corp., the Santa Monica-based think tank.
Researchers said it could cost $40 billion over 20 years to deploy such defense technology on the country’s 6,800 passenger jets. The federal government currently spends about $4.4 billion a year on all transportation security.

NATIONAL NEWS
CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — The two space station astronauts who allegedly install an experimental robotic arm in the hands of ground controllers left their orbiting home in the Valley High School who allegedly tried to recruit teenagers into an armed white supremacist group, authorities said. Marshall, 44, was arrested in August and November on drugs and weapons charges, and police recovered ammunition from his home, as well as 45 guns, body armor and steroids, which he was suspected of giving to athletes.

WASHINGTON — The Senate override Democratic critics of the Iraq war Wednesday and handily confirmed Condeliza Rice, a chief architect of U.S. policy, to be secretary of state.

WASHINGTON — President Bush urged Iraqis to defy terrorism and vote in Sunday’s election, and sought patience from anxious Americans as a Marine helicopter crash on Wednesday pushed the U.S. death toll above 1,400.

WASHINGTON — The Senate override Democratic criticism of the Iraq war Wednesday and handily confirmed Condeliza Rice, a chief architect of U.S. policy, to be secretary of state.

The vote was 85-13. Rice will move quickly to take charge as the first black woman to hold the job of top U.S. diplomat.
A swearing-in was planned for Wednesday night, and she intends to take over Colin Powell’s office Thursday.

WASHINGTON — President Bush urged Iraqis to defy terrorists and vote in Sunday’s election, and sought patience from anxious Americans as a Marine helicopter crash on Wednesday pushed the U.S. death toll above 1,400.

“The story today is going to be very discouraging to the American people,” Bush said on the deadliest day for U.S. forces since the Iraq war began.

“I understand that. It is the long-term objective that is vital — that is to spread freedom,” Bush said.

IN OTHER NEWS
JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — When five dozen roses didn’t work, an estranged husband took out a full-page newspaper ad to ask his wife for forgiveness.

“The please believe the words in my letter, they are true and from my heart,” read the ad in Tuesday’s edition of The Florida Times-Union. “I can only hope you will give me the chance to prove my undying love for you.”

Larry, who declined to give his last name, sent the $17,000 apology to Marianne, his wife of 17 years. She left him almost two weeks ago, he said.

“I am desperately trying to save our marriage,” he told the newspaper.

Larry said his wife is staying with her parents. But they blocked him from entering their gated community and she changed her cell phone number so he can’t contact her. A relative told him that Marianne saw the advertisement.

“She said my wife read the ad and started crying. But so far I’ve had no response from her,” Larry said.

But the ad drew the attention of many other readers, who contacted the paper.

“They want to know if she has responded and if they have worked things out,” said Jay Weimar, director of display advertising. “We tell them we are pulling for him.”

— Associated Press

BRIEFS
Thursday, January 27, 2005

IN OTHER NEWS

Want Free Sex Tips? We Got ‘em.

Monday, January 31st
8 p.m. Chumosh Auditorium

www.jaytalki.com

KCPR

91.3 fm

Cal Poly Radio

SUNDAY JANUARY 30

WITH JOHN BOWMAN

LEWIS BLACK

RULES OF ENGAGEMENT TOUR

WWW.JAYTALKI.COM

3

 Thursday, January 27, 2005

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— Associated Press

BRIEFS
Thursday, January 27, 2005
One month after tsunami tragedy, schools reopen in Indonesia

Yeoh En-lai

BANDA ACEH, Indonesia — One month after an epic tsunami ravaged southern Asia, children and teachers in Indonesia's worst-hit Aceh province on Wednesday made an emotional return to school, where thousands of classmates and colleagues' desks sat empty.

Alqausar, a 6-year-old boy with neatly parted hair, arrived at school with his mother and wondered where his best friend Andi was. But reality soon dawned on him.

"I don't think he's coming," whimpered the boy, one of six in his class of 43 who showed up at a primary school. Off the school's enrollment of 600, only 260 came Wednesday. The others are presumed dead.

Mourners along a road on Sri Lanka's shattered coastline lit candles and set colored flags in silent memory of at least 30,957 people who died there Dec. 26.

"In memory of that day, for the missing and dead in all the countries, we are praying that a tsunami will never return," said L. Chandaransi, head monk at the Ariyakara Viharaya temple near the southern Sri Lankan city of Galle.

Up to 147,000 people are still missing across South Asia, and differing government tallies put the overall death toll between 144,000 and 178,000. But workers continued to find bodies under mud-caked rubble, and the toll was expected to rise.

Children returning to schools for their first official day of class since the tsunami in Indonesia found buildings filled with mud and debris. Books were soggy, new microscopes were ruined.

English teacher Rodinia Ramli — who lost her four children to the tsunami — was the first of 25 teachers to show up.

"There were 75 teachers here before," she said, wiping tears with a tissue.

The government estimates that 700 to 1,200 schools in the province were destroyed by the tsunami and that 1,750 primary school teachers are dead or missing. Nearly 180,000 students have no schools to go to, Welfare Minister Alwi Shihab said.

In one classroom, workers doing last-minute clean-up found a body Wednesday while shoveling out thick mud.

At least 96,232 people died in the province, the government says.

In Thailand, where at least 3,384 people were killed and more than 3,100 are missing, two residents of the Island of Koh Lanta were to mark the anniversary of that day, for the missing and dead in all the countries, we are praying that a tsunami will never return," said L. Chandaransi, head monk at the Ariyakara Viharaya temple near the southern Sri Lankan city of Galle.

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"I will go through all the evidence and if I am not satisfied, I will order a DNA test," said Judge M.P. Mohedden.

The U.S. military, meanwhile, said it is scaling back its tsunami relief efforts in Indonesia after nearly a month of airlifting food and medicine.

"Our role was important at first. Now that the other forces are coming in, the need for the helicopters is less important," said Rear Adm. William Crowder, who commands the Lincoln's battle group.

The aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln, which was diverted to Sumatra within four days of the Dec. 26 disaster with 17 SH-60 Seahawk helicopters aboard, is preparing to sail home to Everett, Wash., the military officials said. The United Nations, Australia and other countries have begun flying their own helicopters.

"We have not received any assis-
tance yet," read a banner strung between plastic torn housing sur-

Romi Saputra, 10, right, looks through his school books during class, Wednesday, in Sibeh, near Banda Aceh, Indonesia. Saputra, who now lives in a refugee camp, lost his mother and two sisters in the Dec. 26 tsunami. Wednesday was the first day of the new school term in Aceh and many schools were still engulfed in mud and debris.

The international Red Cross said Wednesday it was winding down fund-raising efforts because it had raised enough money — $1.17 billion — to sustain long-term aid.

Behind Wednesday's commemorations and public grieving was a deepening sense of frustration among some survivors over the slowness of recovery efforts.

"We have not received any assis-
tance yet," read a banner strung between plastic torn housing sur-

The Party Is Over.

It's simple: Mardi Gras weekend in SLO will be different this year. Violence and property damage will not be tolerated. Out-of-town visitors are not welcome. Gatherings on streets, sidewalks and parking lots near campus and downtown will not be allowed.

Count on:

- Nearly 400 law enforcement officers on duty on the weekend of February 4th
- DUI check points throughout San Luis Obispo
- Violation costs tripled citywide
- Jail time & big fines for lawbreaking
- Possible expulsion for student violators

www.MardiGrasSLO.com
A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMUNITY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
What's in a name? Lots, find businesses called 'Tsunami'

Some companies want to distance themselves from the word ‘tsunami,’ other firms find the association helps business.

Jim Murez | FRESNO-BY-NATURE

EUGENE, Ore. — in the weeks since the catastrophe, Indian Ocean tsunami, Scott Landfield has seen his bookseller's online sales quadruple.

But he doesn't carry a special selection on earthquakes or natural disasters. The spike in business appears related solely to the store's name: Tsunami Books.

The progressive, independent store on Eugene's south Willamette Street has used the name since opening nine years ago. It meaning "harbor wave" and the added annuity appears related solely to the word tsunami are reflecting on the pronunciation of the Japanese word.

Toyota Canada is abandoning plans to name one of its most popular models of sports cars — the Celica Tsunami.

In Scotland, a brand management company called Tsunami is overhauling its corporate identity.

In South Africa, a restaurant chain will rename its spicy tsunami chicken burger.

And a Wisconsin water park announced it will change the name of its Great Tsunami outdoor wave pool.

Other firms that use their Web sites jammed with traffic in the days after the disaster steered visitors to organizations such as the Red Cross and UNICEF Tsunami Research, a St. Louis, Mo., software company, posted a message saying it "wishes to express our condolences to the victims, families and communities impacted by the Indian Ocean tsunami."

Manchester-based Tsunami Computing, owner of the tsunami.com Web site, organized a charity drive to help victims and filled the site's front page with links for disaster-relief donations and international aid organizations.


"We took a stance of being proactive," General Manager Donn Brouhard said, adding that sales of the microbrew are up.

Hundreds of businesses incorporate tsunami into their names or the name of products, from women's fashion fleeces to men's body spray to a watch by Swatch and restaurants in San Francisco and Memphis, Tenn.

Entrepreneurs are drawn to the word for different reasons. To some it expresses power and speed. To others, it sounds exotic, even graceful.

But now that the word tsunami evokes death and destruction on an unimaginable scale, will it taint those commercial enterprises that continue to use the term?

Kit Chan, owner of Kowloon to capitalize on the public's interest in the tragedy. "We paid no attention to it," he said.

The store's founders chose to use tsunami as a play on the term tidal wave — "a nightly wave of titles," a sign out front proclaims — and because nearby Spencer Bute sometimes looks like a big wave when clouds roll over it on stormy days, Landfield said.

As for the wave mural and the company's logo — Mark Twain surfing on his book "A Tramp Abroad" — the images aren't cause to wince, he said.

"To have those faces in a wave in front of our building here, that's worth thinking about a little,'" Landfield said.

The spike in business appears solely related to the store's name.

Landfield, the co-owner of Tsunami Books, said a couple of customers have suggested a name change.

In response, he explained that the term describes a part of nature, and nature is not inherently evil or wrong.

One fellow tried to advise him how to capitalize on the public's interest in the tragedy. "We paid no attention to it," he said.

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"To have those faces in a wave in front of our building here, that's worth thinking about a little,'" Landfield said.

Since the disaster, a lot of people know what that means now. That name sticks in your head."

—Kit Chan

owner of 'Club Tsunami' nightclub

ARCOSITY dancecompany

Tickets: PAC TICKET OFFICE 805.756.2787
Admission: Students $9.00 General $12.00
Sponsors: Theatre & Dance Department, College of Liberal Arts & IRA

 Alic AnD aFEY spansou theatre

Fri. Jan 28 8:00 pm
Sat. Jan 29 8:00 pm
Sun. Jan 30 2:00 pm
Thu. Feb 4 8:00 pm
Sat. Feb 5 8:00 pm

Parking:
You've got OPTIONS.
BIKE • WALK • CARPOOL • VANPOOL • BUS

I ride my bike to work...It's the environmental thing to do, plus, when I get a late start in the morning and arrive after 8am, parking places are hard to find.

Not to mention, my husband makes me feel guilty if I take the car.

Angela Borin, Cal Poly Staff

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Call Mustang Daily Advertising at 756-1143

YOUR AD HERE

NEWS
Thursday, January 27, 2005 5
Rock Savants a local, musical gem

Native San Luis Obispo band, Dominic Castillo and the Rock Savants, will release their second LP, "The Lost Album" on Friday at The Dwelling. The album is a follow-up to its first disc, "5 Hidalgo Love Songs Plus 2."

Christina Joslin
Local Music

They're a local rock band with a sincere desire to express their music genuinely, unfiltered talent.

Gathering an enormous fan base in San Luis Obispo, Dominic Castillo and the Rock Savants are soon to release "The Lost Album," the follow-up sequel to their first CD, "5 Hidalgo Love Songs Plus 2."

With emotional songs that range from a commanding piano-driven serenade to eccentric, head-snarling rock melodies, Castillo and the Rock Savants present a variety of tunes that nevertheless fit together like puzzle pieces. Often compared to Phantom Planet, the Beatles and Elliot Smith, the band draws in a variety of different inspirations.

"The Lost Album" is a referendum of poetry, flowing from every song.

"Emotion, sincerity, with a dash of wit and harmonic sophistication - these are the elements I want in my songwriting," Castillo said.

"According to Freud, I'm just sublimating, creating music and defending my fragile psyche in an unforgiving world. I also like impressing girls."

The album's current lineup is composed of four talents: Castillo (lead vocals, guitar), his twin brother Damon Castillo (bass), Nathan Syectl (guitar) and Phillip Batio (drums).

"Nate (Syectl) plays on the CD and also helped produce some tracks. Phillip (Batio) didn't join the band until after the project was finished," said Dominic Castillo.

The instrumentally-heavy first song, "29," sets the tone for the rest of the album with dominant guitar riff and the distinctive organ echo in the background.

The guitar-driven piece "Fate" is one of Castillo's most elegant songs. He stop about letting fate take over and just waiting for things to happen. "Good morning and good night/If greatness is just to steal the show/Then I'm completely taken in."

"Trying Too Hard" undoubtedly the album's catchiest track, stars with a small hint of guitar and bass. He expresses loss, regret and confusion, singing, "There are your eyes/And I am broken/Could take a knife and cut this pain right out. But when you're here its all wide open."

By the end of the album, listeners will have experienced a long journey through the thoughts and emotions of a gifted singer.

With this new LP, the band shows a newfound maturity and depth. The title of the CD simply "refers to one of the most obscurely horrific events of my life," said Dominic Castillo. "One that started with a small, quirky clicking emanating from something called a hard drive."

"The funny thing about losing the album was how long it took me to realize it was gone," said Dominic Castillo. "Maybe I was in shock, but it occurs to me that after spending so much time laboring over small details you become incapable of the big picture, the album as a whole."

Not only has this rock band produced a beautiful collection of songs that should easily invade any stereo, its live performances are one-hundred times better. Dominic Castillo and the Rock Savants is one of those bands that has an amazing recorded sound and is able to transfer that sound to the stage.

Finally, "The Lost Album" will be released Friday at The Dwelling in San Luis Obispo. The concert starts at 9:30 p.m.
From the Rec Center to the dorms, from the library to the UU, the dangling white earphones are everywhere, indicating that the iPod has made itself at home on campus. This new experience allows users to access their entire music collection with the slide of the thumb. The iPod has quickly ingrained itself into the lives of its users while becoming a pop culture icon, a status indicator and a fashion statement. A short walk through campus proves that hundreds of Cal Poly students have joined the 3 million-plus owners in contributing to the ubiquity of the iPod.

While Apple was not the originator of the digital music player, it did change consumer expectations. Before the iPod entered the market, mp3 players were low-capacity and bulky with obscure controls.

"Old mp3 players can only hold like 25 songs, but iPods can hold 10,000. It's not that much more expensive and it's definitely worth it," business junior Brian Watt said.

The iPod changed the market by featuring an easy-to-use and powerful digital music player with style.

see iPod, page 8
said Hudson, sales manager at the Mac Superstore in San Luis Obispo. "Its become stylish. People are walking around with iPods all over the place, almost like it's fashionable to have one."

The iPod is in a category all its own, deserving of its own store. A couple of months ago, the Mac Superstore opened the first iPod Shop in San Luis Obispo dedicated to the iPod. The store has more than 100 different iPod products and has a custom back bar continuously returns to buy new accessories.

The characteristics that make the iPod so successful in adaptability to each individual. The neutral white and silver design is simple on the outside, but is a complex on the inside as the Podster is using it. The iPod comes with varying storage capacities of 1,000 to 10,000 songs, fitting the need of all music enthusiasts. It can also be used as a flash drive for file storage. Even audiobooks can be stored on the iPod.

The iPod is also versatile in where it can go. Accessory manufacturers create iPod usage available in the car and through a home stereo system. For working out, the iPod offers a 25-minute skip protection. "I have my iPod and I take it everywhere I go," Hudson said. "With quick access, people can take music with them while in their car." No bigger than the size of a cigarette box, this digital music player is transforming the music industry completely.

"I got the Trip so I can listen to my iPod through the radio. You don't have to listen to lame radio stations or commercials," Watt said. "It's also much better than having to constantly change CDs.

"That's what's so appealing about the iPod and in creating playlists for grading, reading and driving. Besides news radio, all she listens to is her iPod."

"Back when I was driving 70 miles a week, the iPod was essential for sanity." Herdi Armstrong, liberal studies junior, got her green iPod Mini during the summer. She was drawn to the smaller size because she could easily take it with her running. She also uses it while on campus.

"I use it mostly when I am studying at school to tune everything out," she said. "It helps me to focus in a crowded area."

The iPod deserves credit for changing the face of portable music. It entered a bland market of digital player industry while iPodsters included the concept of plugging in audio and computer monitor headphones.

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Student fees put to (mis)use by colleges

A "frustrated" graduate student wrote to the Mustang Daily upon discovering that student fee committees spend all of their money on instruction, then they would qualify for "some mysterious pot of money" from the dean of the College of Engineering. But if they use their funds for "what we need," then they should be held accountable for (lab materials and such) that they would be ineligible. The student also alleged that the department placed money directly into the general budget without student consent.

By these claims, it's highly tempting to superimpose a scandal in which the administration is trying to rob the students of their hard-earned money in the process. After investigating the issue, what's happening in the aerospace engineering department is reflective of a university-wide trend in which students are being asked to backfill budgets.

Within the past three years, budget cuts to the California State University system drastically impacted Cal Poly and its colleges, said Amy Hewes, the student fee committee. "But I feel like we have to cooperate with the administration, but understand the necessity to do so.

"We are in a bad situation, and people are frustrated," said Jim Young, aerospace engineering senior and president of the aerospace engineering student fee committee. "But I feel like we have to cooperate with the administration. The main reason we're here is for instruction."

And in fact, when the College of Engineering passed a proposal to add student fee money to the college's budget, it was met with the intent that it would "pay for additional course offerings, lab upgrades and equipment purchases."

Yet, dealing out the majority of the funds for instruction is troubling to some students who feel that the administration is "using the student fee money as a way to bail themselves out," said Steve Kubik, aerospace engineering senior and vice president of his department's fee committee.

"Student fee money brought beautiful projects to work," Kubik said. "If you were in an airplane and all five engineers on board told you the wing was about to break off, would you listen to them?"

"The right-wing is very compelling," Kubik said. "It's as though student fee committees are being forced to decide what is important to students."

But both Kubik and Young say they agree that it is an important priority to offer additional course sections that will allow students to progress in their field. Currently, most of the $250,000 from aerospace engineering student fees is being used to pay for lecturers, and the rest is given to student projects on an "as needed basis," Young said.

So what is this "mysterious pot of money" that is being used to advocate responsible use of the student fees? According to Hewes, the legislature from the CSU gave the college of engineering $300,000, which came from an unforeseen fluctuation in the budget. Dean Peter Y. Lee will decide who gets the money, and will favor those departments that spent their money wisely to meet their immediate needs (such as instruction).

It's as though student fee committees are being forced to decide what to eat first: dinner or dessert? They can fulfill their department's most important needs first, like instruction and lab courses, and sustain their programs; or they can delight in a shiny new piece of equipment, and forfeit the quality of their academic career.

Fortunately, these college students are wise enough to know what's good for them. But just wonder — what would happen if we were able to step up and look after students' well-being when allegations start flying? Sanctity aside, we, the students, are on our own.

" Mustang Daily editorial staff
80's Night
On Wednesday Night
MISSION GRILL
STEAKS • SEAFOOD • PASTAS • PRIME RIB
805.547.5544
This week:
Auggie Garriod

Cobian continued from page 12
Cobian said he uses his size to intimidate only on the field.

With glasses, blue eyes and a huge heart, "Big Ben" is more like a teddy bear than a line-backer.

He loves his mother and she is the most inspirational person in his life.

"I look up to my mom because there was a long time where it was just her and I," Cobian said. "My parents were divorced when I was three and (my mom) didn't get remarried until I was about 12. We went through a lot of tough times. She put her life on hold for me."

Cobian will graduate with a degree in journalism this year. He hopes to play in the NFL and become a football coach after college.

Golden continued from page 12
marketers) it’d be unjust to fire Bromley. The man deserves a full roster not a pink slip, and certainly not dirty jockstrap doodle.

People may remember that the day Bromley inked a five-year, $255,000 contract extension or the time there was such a positive Mustang buzz was all barely a year ago. Furthermore, there had to be something that Mustang athletic administrators saw in Bromley to make him the highest-paid coach at Cal Poly.

Even if a worthy replacement lurked nearby, I wouldn’t advocate firing Bromley. Never mind that Bromley’s contract would cost a lot to be bought out or that it’s actually kind of a bargain, relative to other college basketball coaches. This is an issue of loyalty and fairness.

Anyhow, another guy whose team is in far more dire straits will probably be sticking around. There was little Steve Schickl could do to keep the women’s volleyball team from going 5-24. The Mustangs have been in a two-year tail-spin that’s seen at least five players leave the program before the end of their eligibility.

Still, Schickl seems to have a lot of loyalty within the athletic department. He also benefits from coming across as a nice-enough guy, often available to media stiffs like me. Additionally, the argument could be made that a rash of injuries caused this most recent spell of mediocrity.

Between line, Schickl and Bromley will be around at least one more year apiece. Hopefully, their teams will rebound. After all, no one can be allowed to keep losing forever.

Graham Hickox is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily assistant sports editor. E-mail him at ghickox@mustangdaily.net.

Friday
FLAShBACK

The New York Times
Crossword
Edited by Will Shortz
No. 1216

Support Cal Poly sports. Go to the games!

Women’s basketball: Thursday vs. Fullerton (Mott Gym), 7 p.m.

English Club Meeting
Thursday 11-12 in 22-220
Free Pizza
Everyone is welcome!

Golden State Warriors
Eating dinner in the open air and enjoying the sea breeze. A scene from the Warriors’ season opener.

Support Cal Poly sports. Go to the games!

Women’s basketball: Thursday vs. Fullerton (Mott Gym), 7 p.m.

CMRG is currently conducting a clinical research trial for vaginal yeast infection. If you’re female, age 12 or older, and are currently experiencing the symptoms of a vaginal yeast infection, you may qualify to participate. Please call 805-549-7570 for more information about this research study. If eligible, you will be reimbursed for your time and travel.
COMMENTARY

Mustang coaches are here to stay

GOLDEN GRAHAM

It's funny what can be found online: weather reports from Fiji, Spice Girls songs and the occasional speculation that certain Cal Poly coaches will be fired. The speculation I speak of comes from a message board devoted to Mustangs. Over the past few months, there's been talk about whether men's basketball coach Kevin Bromley and women's volleyball coach Steve Om en's would be fired. It seems the team still hasn't won on the road. A seven-game losing streak. The claim that a radio report said a blowout loss in Santa Barbara, the other. Following the most recent another upset of UC's in the Big C'al Poly hasn't knocked off the team's charter plane. Harden endured five subsequent losing seasons, the team, and compiled a 17-42 record. "I think part of that is because LeRoy Hughes was so good at his job," said Om in the 1967 to become the coach. "I'm just a fit guy and a not very nice

Big Ben on dancing, girls and the NFL

Recently returned from the Las Vegas All-American Classic, Musial an offensive lineman Ben Cobian shows another side

Samanda Samonte Morton Daily

What weights 310 pounds, makes girls cry and plays the recorder? It's C'al Poly offensive lineman Ben Cobian. Cobian returned from playing in the All American Classic in Las Vegas last week, where he was watched by more than 150 NFL scouts. The Miami Dolphins, Kansas City Chiefs, New York Giants, Oakland Raiders and the Houston Texans have conveyed him so far this year. Though Cobian was playing in the biggest game of his life, he wasn't nervous and said he thinks that the transition from Cal Poly to the NFL will not be difficult. "There have been a lot of great players in the NFL that have come from small schools, like Jerry Rice. If I'm good enough to make it, I don't think that it would be that big of an adjustment because they are not going to sign someone for no reason," Cobian said. Sunday was his twenty-third birthday and he had a good ting drinking and gambling after the games in Las Vegas. Cobian is aware that the NFL is an entirely new setting then what he's accustomed to. "I'm not that shy about sharing my life," Cobian said. "Another mortifying moment for me was when he sneered during his big reg. 1967, and remained a San Luis Obispo resident for the remainder of his life. He had a personality that allowed him to crack jokes until a half hour before his death, his son noted, and also to remain a Cal Poly fixture in the area. After Om became coach in 2001, Harden attended an open house where he educated the new coaches about Mustang history. "You could tell he wanted the best for us," Om said. "He was really hoping we'd be successful." C'al Poly athletics administration has set up the "Sheldon Memorial Scholarship Fund," which Harden's family is requesting. That donations be made to in lieu of flowers. Funeral services will take place on Saturday at noon at the Nativity of Our Lady Catholic Church, 221 Daly Ave., San Luis Obispo.

Harden at a Glance
Six years at head football coach.
14 years as assistant football coach.
14 years wrestling coach.

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