Husband-and-wife students hit the books

Many students at Cal Poly choose to tie the knot before graduating; for some, finding time for each another is not an easy task

Emily Rancer
MUSTANG DAILY

This is the first part of a two-part series about married couples that attend Cal Poly.

After a long day of classes, many Cal Poly students grime home to projects, favorite television shows and of course a roommate.

But for some Cal Poly students, that roommate is a husband or wife.

Many young couples tie the knot while still in college, not wishing to wait until after graduation.

“But in high school, I knew she was the woman I wanted to marry,” said communications junior Luke Llamas, 22, of his fiancé Emerald Gammlull, 20. The couple plans to wed in June.

“We never really thought it would wait until after college. It was just how long we would wait while in college,” he said.

Although marriage is often associated with an extra dose of adult responsibility, many married student couples already possess exactly that, even if they haven’t received their diploma yet.

Ornela, 24, and Chris Campbell, 26, married on August 13, 2002 after dating for two years. The couple, both seniors, felt they were mature enough to handle a marriage despite their young age.

“I just thought whenever it was the right time to do it,” said Ornela, a modern languages and literature senior. “And it seemed like the right time.”

Having a husband provides more consistency to her life than when she was just dating, Ornela said.

“For me, it provides more stability than being with roommates, because I know what he likes and he knows what I like so I’d rather live with him than anyone else.”

Anne Gorden, a counselor at Cal Poly’s counseling center who specializes in couples therapy noted that stability is a huge advantage to being married while still in college.

“They don’t need to think about socializing or meeting people,” Gorden said. “They’re able to focus on their studies better. They’re also less likely to be in the whole party scene or other social activities that can effect academic performance than students who aren’t married.”

History senior Amy Frasca and her husband John were married in July 2003. For Amy, marriage helped her focus more on school.

“Having a husband provides more consistency to her life than when she was just dating, Ornela said.

“We never really thought it would wait until after college. It was just how long we would wait while in college,” he said.

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see Ethnic, page 2

Ethnic studies major coming in fall

Major will be offered as a bachelor of arts degree and will require 76 major units

Amanda Strachan
MUSTANG DAILY

Beginning next fall, ethnic studies will be added as a major at Cal Poly. The subject has been a minor for years, but for the last two quarters officials in the department worked to get it added as an official major.

“The idea has been there for about 12 years, since the origination of the ethnic studies department,” said interim dean for the College of Liberal Arts Linda Halisky. “The major has passed the Academic Senate and will now be forwarded to the Chancellor’s office for approval there.”

“The major will start small, focusing on internal transfers and build from there.

“We are looking at possibly 12 students the first term (fall ’06), moving to 42 by year three and on

Business junior Amy Philippis reads her textbook for ES 300, a Chicano/a non-fiction literature class.

“arried, page 2

see Ethnic, page 2

Poly students to send books to Africa

Books for Africa was founded in 1988 and has distributed more than 10 million books

Jonathan Drake
MUSTANG DAILY

Throughout this week, students can donate books that will be sent to Africa to aid literacy and educational advancements.

A donation booth will be set up in the University Union plaza and will be collecting donated books from 11 a.m. to noon this week.

Originally part of PSY 351, called Group Dynamics, six students teamed up with the community center on campus to help the Books for Africa organization.

“Cal Poly has never done something like this before,” said journalism senior Ashley Wolf, who is part of the six-student group in charge of the book donations.

Books for Africa was founded in 1988 and has distributed more than 10 million books, according to their Web site.

Cal Poly will join ranks with 300 other campuses to donate textbooks to Africa.

The campus library donated several hundred books.

Dorm residents as well as Cerro Vista residents will have a chance to donate when volunteers visit the dorms.

The book drive was no small feat for the six psychology students in the Group Dynamics class.

“We only had a week to plan and a week to execute the project,” Wolf said. “We only have this week to make our flyers, to get in contact with people, send out e-mails to different departments and then collecting them this week.”

Microbiology junior Jeremy Hicks found out about the program and brought the idea to the group.

“We have a goal of 1,000 donated books,” psychology senior Kristal Protz said.

“The goal is not impossible but challenging, and we are trying to apply all the information we learned in the Group Dynamics class this quarter,” Wolf said.

Students can have their books picked up from their room by contacting Jeremy Hicks at 756-4359.

The coordinator of student development for student events said residence hall will also be able to provide further information.

Chicano food take-out boxes full of candy go to everyone that donates books.
Married
continued from page 1
For history senior Amy Frasca, marrying her husband John Frasca in July 2003 allowed her to focus more on her education. Before the couple transferred to Cal Poly in 2002, they attended different community colleges and had to keep their relationship afloat mostly by phone. "We live together so we're able to communicate face to face," Amy said of her life now.

For business and agricultural engineering senior Leslie Speer, 24, holding off on marrying her husband Matthew, 28, until after college was "too long to wait." The couple dated for 14 months after meeting during an internship and wed in August 2004. Although Matthew graduated four years ago, Leslie decided to finish her studies at Cal Poly and face the time crunch that marriage can impose. "Just like anything else, you just find the time to do it," Leslie said. "You just have to plan everything out so you have your weekends free." Finding time to include marriage in a daily schedule was said to be the most difficult aspect of being married as a student, according to nearly every couple interviewed. "Sometimes our dinner schedules are kind of crazy," Amy Frasca said. "Sometimes (John) has work until 9 p.m. so we have to wait until then."

Cal Poly psychology professor Basil Fiorito said that time constraints can add unexpected difficulties for many married students. "I think being a student is stressful in general," Fiorito said. "Then you layer over the commitments and responsibilities to another person and that makes it all the more difficult."

Ethnic
continued from page 1
The new position would be shared between the ethnic studies department and women's studies and would create only a few new classes. "It is more a shuffling of resources than a significant draw against new ones," Halinsky said. Many of the department's classes also meet the university's multicultural pluralism requirements and will still be available to non-major students.

Professor Wial Martinez, former member of the CLA curriculum committee said that the addition will benefit a large number of students. "As we now live in a global society, this major gives students the potential tools to better deal with issues of border, race, gender, different cultural backgrounds," Martinez said. "Students can investigate and develop their own strategies on how best to deal with these very important issues."

The accelerated proposal for the major was written during fall and winter quarters, a process that normally takes two years. If implemented, the major would be offered as a bachelor of arts degree and would require 76 major units. In the development of the major the department is also looking to add some new ethnic studies courses. Among the proposed additions would be "War, Peace and Migration," "Race Gender and Cultural Production," and "Frontiers and Borders."

The department listed six new classes they hope to add.

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CommUnity
continued from page 1
The event is from 3 to 5 p.m. in UU. The conference is free for students and will include keynote speakers Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon.

Martin and Lyon were the first lesbian couple married in San Francisco and founders of Daughters of Bilitis, the first national lesbian political and social organization in the United States.

Other speakers include Nancy Jean Tulips, director of the University of California at Riverside LGBT Center, Jason Davidson, professor of forensics and communications at USC and Erica Newport from LYRIC, a San Francisco-based center for LGBT youth under age 23.

Sunday: GLBU will hold a softball game at 2 p.m. at Cuesta Park.

UNDER FOUR? OR OVERINDULGING?

54% of students go to parties or bars once a week or less. The average CP student drinks less than 4 in a sitting.

Based on a survey collected by Cal Poly Reality of 517 randomly selected CalPoly students with an error margin of +/- 5%
BURBANK — Roy and Patricia Disney are donating $10 Million toward construction of a comprehensive cancer center at Providence Saint Joseph Medical Center.

The Roy and Patricia Disney Cancer Center will be a freestanding facility providing clinical, therapeutic, emotional and spiritual services adjacent to the San Fernando Valley hospital. Disney is the son of Walt Disney Co. founder, the late Roy O. Disney.

SAN FRANCISCO — A masked, shotgun-carrying man shot by an off-duty Oakland police officer during an attempted carjacking is recovering from his injuries, authorities said.

Carson Johnson, 19, of Oakland, remained hospitalized Tuesday at San Francisco General Hospital. He was arrested on suspicion of carjacking, attempted robbery and illegal possession of a shotgun.

Oakland police Officer Ted Jew just finished working Sunday when he stepped at a gas station to fuel his Mercedes Benz.

Police said Johnson, wearing a mask and carrying the shotgun, began walking toward Jew, who pulled a semiautomatic pistol he carries while off duty and fired at Johnson, hitting him several times.

Jew was placed on three days' administrative leave.

WASHINGTON — The White House said Tuesday that the United States' image abroad had suffered irreparable damage from a non-retracted Newsweek article alleging that American interrogators of suspected terrorists at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, desecrated the Quran, the Muslim holy book. The administration used the Newsweek incident to criticize other, unnamed news organizations.

"One of the concerns is that some media organizations have used anonymous sources that are hiding behind that anonymity in order to generate negative attacks," presidential spokesman Scott McClellan said.

But he said the administration's own use of anonymous sources was not a major problem.

WASHINGTON — British lawmaker George Galloway denounced U.S. senators on their home turf Tuesday, denying accusations that he profited from the U.N. oil-for-food program and accused them of unfairly tarnishing his name. Sen. Norms Coleman, R-Minn., questioned Galloway's honesty and told reporters, "If in fact he lied to this committee, there will have to be consequences."

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In ways large and small class of '05 is also class of Sept. 11

For many students graduating this spring, the 9/11 attacks deeply affected their freshman experience and academic careers.

Justin Pope
Associated Press

Four years ago, the class of 2005 arrived on campus like any other group of freshmen. Then, just a few days into their college careers, came the terrible job of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Some were shuffling in and out of morning classes when the news hit, followed by the realization they would have to forge a turning point not just in their academic careers but in their lives.

"My first two years of college, looking back I think the biggest thing I was lacking was some kind of direction, some kind of structure," Rasch said. He had dropped out of the University of Wisconsin and was working in a hotel at the time of the attacks.

Watching the World Trade Center towers inspire him to join the National Guard.

"I realized I wasn't doing what I should be doing," Rasch said. "My parents' generation had their opportunity to contribute and my grandparents' generation definitely had their opportunity to contribute. Here was mine.

Later, he returned to Wisconsin in the ROTC program. After finishing up some coursework this summer, he will graduate and receive his commission in August.

"It was a horrible tragedy, but I'm lucky I had something to redirect my life like that," he said. "Had Sept. 11 not happened, I probably would have gone back to college, but I wouldn't have been as motivated and as disciplined as I am."

For most students, the effects were less clear-cut, but still real.

Academically, many students signed up for courses in areas such as Middle Eastern studies and history. Enrollment in Arabic nearly doubled in 2002.

"Any time you go through that amount of pain, experiencing it as a group ties you together," she said. That was especially true for the students who were physically close to the disaster.

"It wasn't so much the events of Sept. 11 that shaped our class as how we responded," said Keith McGiffrey, a senior at Fordham University in New York who recalled watching the twin towers burn from his freshman-year residence hall. "We were new freshmen, but within minutes students were on the phone, trying to console friends, help them find parents."

University of Wisconsin Army ROTC student Clinton Rasch stands outside Bascom Hall on campus Friday, in Madison, Wis. Rasch says the 9/11 terrorist attacks were life-changing for him.

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Legislative interns watch, learn, flee the process

Work experience offers students an inside look at the political process — drafting bills, party lines, interest groups

Elizabeth White
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CARSON CITY, Nev. — Chris Ho, a registered Democrat, didn’t think he’d end up interning for a Republican senator during Nevada’s legislative session. Now that he has, the 25-year-old University of Nevada, Las Vegas student says he’d rather call himself a “Democrat.”

Ho, who is studying political science and plans to graduate in December, said interning for Sen. Barbara Cegavske, R-Las Vegas, provided a rude awakening to the reality of partisan politics.

“Unfortunately, I got to see what the American dream is all about: You scratch my back, I scratch yours,” said the Democrat.

“I’m always astounded by the level of access they get to the process that the rest of the state never sees,” Malkiewich said.

Over the years that access has resulted in many interns becoming jaded about the political process.

“For example, now says he’d never consider running for office. “This experience has opened my eyes to the fact that there’s no way on God’s green earth I will ever run for a position, ever.”

— CHRIS HO, student Senate intern

“I helped Mr. Hettrick write some letters to get sponsors for some bills. If you write a liberal bill it can get passed in the house, no problem. But it’s from a Republican...” Dunbar said, his voice trailing off to indicate the futility.

“Seeing lawmakers vote on dozens of bills sometimes on the same day — is a little disillusioning, he said. “There’s no way they can read all of the bills,” he said. “I wasn’t too comfortable with that.”

Though Dunbar, Ho and some others don’t plan to campaign for a low-paid, high-profile office in the Legislature after their experiences, lawmakers say they hope the internship program creates more political junkies.

“I’m always trying to build a bench,” Titus said.

“They certainly get their eyes opened, but it also whets their appetite,” he said.

Cegavske said she always jumps at the chance to have an intern.

“The more that we can teach and help young people learn about the process, I think the better it is,” Cegavske said.

“I personally don’t care what party you are,” he said.

He said he hasn’t been seduced enough by the process to contemplate any position in the state capital perhaps besides that of a lawmaker’s aide — but he is grateful for his legislative education.

“I’d love to be a teacher and educate high school students about the reality of government — not some fictional mumbo jumbo,” he said.

When You’re Old Enough to Know Better
Anyone who hasn’t been living in a cave for the past year probably knows about thefacebook. Maybe you’re addicted, maybe you’re boycotting, but rogaalless, you know.

The Web site describes itself as “an online directory that connects people through social networks at colleges and universities.” These social networks span across the country. Now thefacebook has a new feature: My Parties. Users can now send and receive invitations to parties from other students at their school.

“The idea came from our users, and we thought it was a good one,” said Chris Hughes, co-founder and spokesperson for thefacebook.com. “Thus, we implemented it. Students uses this method too. “I decided that sending out a party invite would be a good way to get people excited about a show, so I sent one out to our band’s group on thefacebook,” the band’s lead vocalist Michael Amuzzi said. “It was very effective. There were at least 20 people who attended just based on thefacebook party invitation alone, about 150 to 200 in all.”

Art Beat: So tell me how you guys got together.
Marc Eskenazi (guitar/vocals): Well, it’s basically the formation of two sets of childhood best friends, Franco and Brion and Mark and me.

Brion Isaacs (drums): Maybe Senior year of high school we formed and started playing. We all went to our prospective schools — Harvard, NYU, Skidmore, Hartford. …Then one of our guitar players went to Cornell (and left the band). So Franco and me, and Mark and Marc, went on a mission to find a cute-looking guy with long hair. We saw Casey eating pizza and said, “Well, I don’t know if he’s that good-looking. He’s kinda ugly. He’s disgusting.”

(Casey Smith [guitar/vocal] asks us) Franco (vocal): I said, “No, he’s beautiful.”
Marc: He’s an amazing guitar player, amazing musician and he performed for us when he auditioned.

Brion: I didn’t see him, but I heard he went around their living rooms just like, shredding. He’s a prodigy. He’s only 20.

Franco: Lemme tell you something — Casey’s eyes, in the morning, when you see him then, when you’re living in bed.

AB: So how do you guys write your songs?
Marc: Well, usually Franco will come in with an idea, guitar parts and then we’ll throw it back and forth, add parts and subtract parts. It’s like the genesis of the world. You’ve read Genesis, right?
AB: I have, yes.
Marc: So it’s like that.
Brion: Franco lies down the skeleton, and we all put on the meat, the skin …
AB: The tendons?
Brion: Yeah, and in my case, the hair on the chest.
Marc: The testicles … Actually, he usually has the testicles already.
AB: So what do you guys think of Coachella? Who do you really like here?
Brion: Well, we came here last year, almost the exact same crew. We rented a house, had an amazing time. It just became our dream, like we had to play here. And we worked all year, writing new songs.

Marc: Yeah, just walking around, talking to bands, it was just a feeling the whole time, where I’d like to spend the rest of my life. This is probably heaven.

Brion: Don’t you feel like when you’re here, you’re kinda on an island? Were you here last year?
AB: Yeah. And my goal for this year was to get a press pass, so I know what you guys are talking about.

Brion: Awesome. So we both reached our goal. High fives, everyone. (High fives exchanged all around — but Marc is not paying attention, so Brion just slaps him hard)
AB: What are your majors?
Marc: I was going to be an English major to be a writer. Now I’m probably gonna be a government major to graduate as soon as possible. Plus, I want to become a governor.
AB: Is that what they breed at Harvard?
Marc: Sometimes. Usually it’s economics.

Brion: I never know what I wanted to be until I noticed that every time I look at art, my mouth just drops. I know there’s nothing I can do with it — I may as well wipe my ass with it — but I am as well become an art historian more than anything that like I said, I’m not even sure it’s going to happen. It’s done and burnt. I don’t see how it’s going to help me do anything besides nothing.

Mark Sagner (bass/vocal): The school that Franco and I are at, NYU, was make up years ago. There’s a couple of our songs in Creepshow.
Marc: So we can do anything with our lives or nothing. I guess.
AB: Do you guys foresee being in a band for the rest of your lives?
Marc: Hell no.
Marc: Music for me is the only thing that has been self-fulfilling at every stage of the game. A lot of things are satisfying in the end, but even practicing, for me, is just an amazing experience. So the result of making a career out of

see Sexy Mags, page 7
**Kicking & Screaming’ thanks to caffeine**

Amanda Strachan

**MENTAL DIVER**

Will Ferrell's hilarious new movie, “Kicking & Screaming” is both a tribute and a lesson for psychotic sports parents.

While documenting the comical and sometimes erratic behavior of these strange individuals, the movie questions what causes these seemingly normal, fan-observing parents to lose the edge of normal social behavior.

Perhaps it stems from some early childhood inadequacies.

In the movie, Will Ferrell departs from his traditionally comic character to play Paul Weston, a man whose relationship with his father has always been a bit strained due to his inability to win at sports. Paul can't so much as bounce a soccer ball without injuring himself.

While this is humorous, it is also a serious issue.

Paul has no self esteem from his childhood experiences, so when he takes over as coach of his son's soccer team it's a disaster. Incidentally Paul's son, Sam (Dylan McLaughlin), is a star for most of the story line).

Though the movie shows that there is a humorous side to this addiction.

Amanda Strachan

**COURTESY PHOTO**

**The Will Ferrell comedy, 'Kicking & Screaming,' finished No. 2 at the box office last weekend grossing more than $18 million.**

Sure sneaking onto the field to push down an unsuspecting member of the opposite team is funny but there is a more important underlying issue: pent-up aggression.

In the end, no one may ever know if it was the childhood trauma or the coffee that pushed Paul Weston over the edge, but the important thing is there is a lesson to be learned. The movie's moral is to remember, anyone addicted to coffee or suffering from years of unrelieved rage should stay away from sports.
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Learning disabled students win fight over medical school exams

OAKLAND — (AP) California students with learning problems have won the first phase of a court battle to win more time to take the nationwide entrance exam for medical schools.

A lawsuit filed last July against the Association of American Medical Colleges falls under California's powerful disability law — not the weaker federal law, an Oakland judge ruled Thursday.

The ruling could give some California students an advantage over test-takers in other states, said Ronald Sabraw, Alameda County Superior Court Judge.

The class-action suit argues that students who have trouble reading are capable of practicing medicine, but need extra time to complete the admission exam.

The college association, which administers the entrance exam twice a year to a total of 37,500 students, sought to dismiss the suit without a trial, arguing that one state's law should not affect a national test.

Sabraw's ruling allows the suit to go to trial in the judge's court.

"We'll proceed to trial and prove that they ignore California law and illegally discriminate against students with disabilities," said attorney Stephen Tollafield of Disability Rights Advocates in Oakland. He said he hopes the trial will end with a ruling in time to affect next year's exams.

Forty California applicants a year are currently being denied disability accommodations on the exam, according to attorneys.

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ADAM! HAPPY {belated} 23rd!
OP/ED
10 Wednesday, May 18, 2005

Are you crusading for your principles?

Everyone on campus is talking about the guy in the University Union who held the sign that read, "These people make me sick. Lazy Christians, Jews from the synagogue of Satan." Many people expressed their anger for Jeremiah, but from my analysis, there was something much worse. The most unfortunate event last week was not Jeremiah's whole diatribe, but rather the fact that it was the coincidence that Jeremiah and Campus Crusade were in the Left Field at the same time.

As someone who enjoys these topics, I decided to take the survey. Unfortunately, the surveys seemed to provide a "convenient" way for crusaders to preach about Jesus. Numerous students approached me about their experience with the survey, and almost every person sat through a lecture on the "Son of God."

Not only is this misleading, but it is immoral. Tracking people's opinions about Jesus? Is it something they want? The fact of the matter is that students are more than willing to talk about religion. Why can't Crusade simply be straightforward about Jesus and not attempt to hide behind a survey? Jesus said many admirable statements that need no form of deception to get students talking.

In addition to their tactics of conducting a survey, Campus Crusade might want to change its club name. Just imagine the uproar that would ensue if the Muslim Students Association called themselves "Khuds for Allah." Crusade should also actively criticize people claiming to represent Christianity the way Jeremiah did.

The leadership of Crusade deserves a thank you for writing a letter to the editor Monday denouncing him, but on the other hand, club members still expressed their sympathies and agreement with this religious fanatic that should not go unnoticed.

My friend Dan Weiss and I watched Jeremiah speak and discuss his "war" with the Crusade. To our dismay, a few members of Crusade pointed out how Jeremiah did not "hate" these people, but they made him "sick." So I presented this question to the few Crusaders: "I'm Jewish, do I make you sick?" After they thought about it, they decided Dan and I made them "sad" and "sick" as we pointed out how we don't have Christ. One student expressed his respect for Jeremiah and how he wished he had the "courage" to hold that sign.

Although those statements may sound bad, the worst was a student who argued God caused the tsunami because the majority of the people living in the area happen to be Muslims and were "dead already." Obviously, these members of Crusade are most likely on the fringe of the club and definitely don't represent the club as a whole. Nonetheless, it was shocking to witness students agreeing with Jeremiah.

Last week showed the importance of freedom of speech and I would personally defend the Crusaders and Jeremiah in exercising that freedom. But some of the opinions espoused deserve to be countered and criticized relentlessly. Hopefully, reasonable people and students are measuring the fat in their fingers for an eating disorder as she complains to her friend about how she hasn't worked out in a few days and can see the fat building up on her waist.

I have a new appreciation for the gym, and am much less afraid. In the long run though, I would much rather spend my time in a pick-up game of soccer with real athletes and not working out next to guys who are looking for dates, "tall" girls so you can see the fat building up on their waist.

I think the Mustang Daily staff writer should consider an "incredible success story" fabricating a story between Iraq and terrorism (pretend war) and then partnering with that link with the war on terrorism. I think we should make a big show of freedom of the press. I am not sure Matt, research our human rights abuses in El Salvador, Chile and the Contras of Nicaragua and then preach about spreading democracy. Citing minimal gains amidst severe losses is the same logic that led to Madison. Albright's justification that the deaths of 500,000 Iraqi children due to U.S. sanctions were worth the cost.

Don't trade humanity for patriotism. Ryan Black Business junior

LETTERS

TO THE EDITOR

From Right Field Needs to get the facts right

It appears Matt Bushman's idea of "digging" for information entails salivating over and rehashing the same right-wing bluffs that pass as news on the "RedEye Face." Had he really done some research, he would see that it's not pessimism in covering Iraq but reality. A report from Iraq, Ministry of Planning and the United Nations revealed that people are suffering, not prospering. More than 29,000 people have died. Twelve percent of those are children under 18. Forty-three percent of insurgent attacks last 5 years old suffer from malnutrition. America has sent 1,622 caskets home. "Bush" said "there had been few terrorist attacks prior to 2001," but he fails to see that the United States has sponsored terrorism for decades, and it continues today (recall the United States gave Iraq chemical weapons to go war with Iran, the contra's billions and CIA training to fight the Soviet Union; and the United States continues to provide weapon to Israel to aid its slaughter of Palestinians). If you consider an eating disorder as she complains to her friend about how she hasn't worked out in a few days and can see the fat building up on her waist.

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Envisioning what's beyond

Garett Leight

MUSTANG DAILY

To say Garett Leight's junior season has been a success would be an understatement.

The Mustangs left-handed ace is pitching with confidence and it'srubbing off on his teammates.

When Olson steps on the mound, the team is practically oozing with confidence, and they should be: The Mustangs have won 13 of the 17 games Olson has pitched in.

Olson has a 10-4 record and an earned run average of 2.69 with 116 strikeouts in 120 1/3 innings. Possibly Olson's most impressive statistic is his opponent's batting average, which is at .232.

Pitching coach Jerry Weinstein said, "With a weekend you could probably talk about 60 or 70 points off that average," Weinstein said.

Olson accomplished all this while being the Friday night starter, which means he's pitching against the opposing team's best pitcher every time he goes out.

He is in position to be Cal Poly's all-time leader in career strikeouts and wins. He is third in career wins (22) as well as career strikeouts (275) and is fifth in wins for a season with 10, one short of the school record.

Although he will most likely break two of those records this year, he won't be able to be No. 1 in career wins unless he comes back for his senior season. Olson, however, said that statistics don't mean anything to him.

"It would be nice, but it's just icing on the cake," he said. "I just want to do whatever it takes for me to go out there and get outs."

Due to the recognition that the Mustangs have gotten this year and Olson's stellar season performance, Olson is expected to be one of the top draft picks in the 2005 MLB draft held June 7 to 8.

Weinstein expects Olson to be drafted somewhere in the first four rounds of the 50-round draft. Coach Larry Lee expects the same and that Olson won't be back for his senior year.

Neither Olson nor his parents has confirmed this. In fact, Olson says his education is important to him and he would like to graduate, but the opportunity to play professional baseball is his main goal.

"When I first came here I was more of a student-athlete, now I'm definitely more athlete-student," Olson said. "I'm not sure what my plans for next year are, but I think about that when the time comes."

For now, Olson says his team's performance is what matters most.

"It looks like we're going to get a shot at Regionals this year, and I think we have what it takes to go all the way," Olson said.

Gaining control

Weinstein said that what makes Olson so great is his control.

"He has a power breaking ball and a lively fastball," Weinstein said. "He's right there with the best guys I've been involved with."

Weinstein has coached for 40 years with organizations such as the Dodgers, Brewers, Cubs and Expos.

"Coming from him that's a big compliment," Olson said. "He's really taught me a lot and helped me become the pitcher I am today."

Weinstein compares Olson to Dodgers ace pitcher Odalis Perez.

"It's a huge compliment," Olson said. "He's an extremely accomplished pitcher."

As a kid, Olson tried to model himself after Greg Maddux and Tom Glavine. Olson said he would try to dissect the plate as they would. He would throw as many strikes as possible, but now with power pitches he has the ability to control batters.

"Weinstein"s senior catcher Kyle Blumenthal said that Olson is in more control of the game than any pitcher he has caught for.

"He knows what he is going to do for each hitter," Blumenthal said. "He's relaxed and confident with his stuff."

Blumenthal added that all of his pitches are good, but his curveball is his go-to pitch.

"It's his out pitch, when it's going good it's practically useless," Olson said.

Weinstein, however, said that there is room for improvement.

"MUSTANG DAILYGear Up!

MATT WECHTER

Top-level competition is not new for the Cal Poly men's golf team. But for two Mustangs, the opportunity to take part in this weekend's NCAA West Regional tournament provides two different perspectives.

Junior Travis Bertoni and sophomore Brycen Wagner's diverse tournament experiences offer a little insight as to why they feel differing levels of pressure. While Wagner expresses apprehension for the new tournament experience, Bertoni said he considers this just an other tournament with the exception that it's against the best teams.

Bertoni will lead the No. 19-ranked Mustangs into the 27-team field held at Stanford Golf Course. He is a two-time Big West Golfer of the Year, was this year's Big West Champion and is the No. 5-ranked golfer in the nation, according to the Golfstat.com standings.

Currently for the season, Bertoni holds a 70.66 shot per round average, has won three tournaments, coming in second in two and third in another. He was also selected to be a member of the 2005 USA Japan National Team.

Wagner will take his 75.1 strokes per round average and his one top 20 finish once more at the Stanford Golf Course in July for the Fiji Xerox USA vs. Japan Collegiate Golf Championship.

Wagner was once named the ACC Golfer of the Year while with Clemson University. He will be in his second year with the Stanford Golf Course.

Wagner will take his 75.1 strokes per round average and his one top 20 finish once more at the Stanford Golf Course when Cal Poly heads to West Regionals.

It will be Brycen Wagner's first time playing the Stanford Golf Course when Cal Poly heads to West Regionals.

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MUSTANG DAILY

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Two versions of the same West Regionals

Erick Smith

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