New student alcohol survey around to stay

Hayley Brabble
MUSTANG DAILY

Health and Counseling Services and the vice president of Student Affairs office joined forces to do a trial run of an alcohol outreach program for this year’s incoming freshmen.

Before moving into the residence halls, 700 randomly selected freshmen were requested to complete an online informational program that tested their knowledge of alcohol. Three different tests were used to determine which would work most efficiently for the program. The tests varied in length and slightly in content.

“A number of campuses across the country require freshmen to take a course like this,” said Martin Bragg, director of Health and Counseling Services.

In 2005, the University of California, Berkeley, started requiring all of its new students, not just freshmen, to take an online course called AlcoholEdu for College.

The AlcoholEdu program, one of programs Cal Poly students tried, takes students about two hours to complete the first section and about 10 minutes to complete the second section, according to the UC Berkeley instruction Web site.

Part one of the test includes a pre-survey, a pre-test of the student’s level of knowledge, an educational course, an exam and a post-survey. Students must score higher than 70 percent on the exam. Part two of the program includes updated information, a video and a final survey.

see Survey, page 2

Permits up and away

Taylor Moore
MUSTANG DAILY

State inspectors are to blame for the number of expired safety permits on the Cal Poly campus. According to an inspecting company, 20 percent of the California State University System’s safety permits have expired.

According to a recent study by the Intellectual Property Institute at the University of Richmond, more than 50 percent of college students download illegally. The study also showed that student use peer-to-peer file sharing programs like LimeWire more than anything else.

The RIAA recently announced a nationwide crackdown on college students illegally downloading music which included sending 400 letters to all the universities in the United States and Canada.

left: An outdated permit is displayed in an elevator of the Robert E. Kennedy Library. Below: Many students and faculty like English sophomore Susi Watanuki rely on elevators all over campus from the Cerro Vista residential apartments to the Administration building.

see Elevators, page 4

Recording industry targeting universities in music piracy

Jake Daggett
MUSTANG DAILY

CORVALLIS, Ore. — The Recording Industry Association of America is trying to stink student music piracy.

According to a recent study by the Intellectual Property Institute at the University of Richmond, more than 50 percent of college students download illegally. The study also showed that student use peer-to-peer file sharing programs like LimeWire more than anything else.

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Survey
continued from page 1
Mathematics freshman Matt Browning, who lives in the Sierra Madre residence halls, took the shortest of the three tests. Browning said he thought the program was a good idea, but he was skeptical of its effectiveness.
"I'm not sure if it would change much," he said.
Bragg said they had not yet received all the data to determine which test worked best, but they had found information about what parts of the tutorial programs were most helpful to students and which form of the test was best received.
"There was a substantial difference in completion rate," he said. "I think the biggest complaint students had was how long it was."
The test most completed was, of course, the shortest of the three. Bragg said they now have some idea about what the students like.
Bragg said the program was most informative for stu­dents in the "out-of-court" category because the music pirates by their computers were most helpful on the brain; alcohol metabolism and the dif­ference in metabolism between men and women; and how to help a person who is intoxicated.
Of the freshmen who completed the test, another random sample was taken and students were put into "focus groups" or talk about their reaction to the pro­gram and what information they found valuable. The focus groups, facilitated by students, have met over the past few weeks.
Bragg said he was unsure about the future of the pro­gram and that they were still considering coming up with their own program that would be more specific to Cal Poly.
"We have to look at the rest of that data and see if it's worthwhile," he said. "Whether it will be a purchase or one of our own tests remains to be seen."
"I think it's a good idea, but I didn't learn very much," said Liz Maurer, a wine and viticulture fresh­man. Maurer also took the shortest test and was inform­ed about the program by e-mail.
Cornell Morton, vice president of Student Affairs, said students responded differently to each test and con­­firmed they were thinking of creating a specific Cal Poly program.
"That option is still on the table," he said.
Morton said educating "students on responsible use of alcohol and responsible behavior" is his first priority. "I would like to see it be offered to every student," he said.
RIAA
continued from page 1
The RIAA, Web site says that piracy for personal use can earn $500 to $750 per CD.
"I think there is a pretty strong penalty," Simmons said. "We know that some audiences — party that has access to them can solve piracy. Our job is to provide an Internet provider, OSU isn't legally responsible for what its stu­dents do on the online. However, stu­dents agree to an Acceptable Use Policy to get their ONID e-mail account — which clearly forbids ille­gal downloading.
"There's a certain amount of due process that is being bypassed," Dolan said. "RIAA is trying to have us give them the log files that can serve as evidence our students legal advice. Which isn't acceptable high and undermines the philosophy of OSU, that is more proactive and figure out how to come to state schools more often to test," said Dale Parker, a psychology junior and former Cerro Vista resident.
Parker was unhappy with the elevators while living in Cerro Vista because of frequent messes left by other students and the machines' "unnatural" layout in the buildings. However, she rarely found the elevators out of order or having problems.
For disabled students, elevators provide different concerns. If a wheelchair lift or elevator is broken, students are unable to easily get around campus.
The number of elevators available on campus is also a concern. With 45 elevators accessible for wheelchair-users and those needing assistance with transport, many students must find alternative, more time-consuming routes around campus.
"Elevators are a problem, but the hills are also difficult for dis­abled students. The DRC (Disability Resource Center) helps through," Krehbiel said.
However, with new buildings and constant construction on campus, Cal Poly is becoming more wheelchair accessible.
You deserve a break.
You deserve a break.

NEWS

Elevators continued from page 1
RIAA, and soliciting network administra­tors to keep "IP logs," keeping track of the Internet activity of students receiving the John Doe subpoenas, a prospect which some students find unsettling.
"That's an invasion of privacy," Breidlove said.
This is a statement the Electronic Frontier Foundation, a nonprofit group that works to protect "digital rights," agrees with.
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Man seeks police help to break into church

STEVENS POINT, Wis. — If only all criminals were this helpful.

A 24-year-old man called police to tell them he was trying to break into a church, but he wasn’t having much luck.

Police said they found the man waiting at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church. The man told them he had hoped to get married in the church and was trying to use a metal shovel to break through the doors. He told them he figured they could help.

Officers search the man and found marijuana. He then invited them to his home, where he told them they would find more drugs.

They did. He showed them his stash of marijuana and stolen prescription drugs.

The man was arrested on charges of criminal damage to property, possession of drugs and paraphernalia, police said.

Town officials were astounded. "There aren’t many arrests like that," police Chief Jeff Morris said.

www.mustangdaily.com

SACRAMENTO — The California Legislature on Tuesday sought to give the nation’s most populous state a greater voice in the race for the White House by moving the state’s presidential primary from June to February.

The Assembly approved the bill 46-28, largely along party lines, and sent it to Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, who has said he supports the concept.

The effort to move the primary has been cast by its supporters as an attempt to force presidential candidates to campaign in California, rather than merely coming to the state to raise money.

“We need to do this because as long as I can remember California is basically an ATM for presidential candidates,” Assembly Charles M. Calderon, D-Whittier, said during the Assembly debate.

“California is an important state in this union, and we need to be involved in who the next president of the United States is,” The assemblyman’s brother, Sen. Ron Calderon, D-Monterey Park, wrote the early primary bill.

Opponents said moving the primary to February is merely a smoke screen for the personal agendas of lawmakers who want to extend their terms. A proposed measure that would go on a February ballot would allow legislators to serve longer in their respective houses.

“It’s about term-out legislators getting one more bite at the apple to extend their time here,” said Assemblyman Doug La Malfa, R-Willows.

Republicans, who are in the minority in the 80-seat chamber, opposed the measure because it does not guarantee funding for counties that would administer the additional election. A third election is expected to cost California taxpayers an additional $60 million to $90 million.

They tried to amend the bill to require reimbursement from the state, but the effort failed.

Even with the state’s presidential primary in February, elections for state and congressional candidates would continue to be held in June, with the general election in November.

Schwarzenegger, who is supportive of an early presidential primary, is waiting to see the final bill before deciding whether to sign it, his spokesman said.

“He supports moving the California primary up so we can be more relevant in the presidential primary,” Schwarzenegger spokesman Aaron McLeer said before Tuesday’s vote. “As it stands now, California is an afterthought. They come here just for our money.”

Feb. 5 is shaping into a new “Super Tuesday,” with more than a dozen states considering moving their primaries to that day. Primaries in New Hampshire and South Carolina, as well as caucuses in Iowa and Nevada are scheduled before Feb. 5.

Political experts say California’s influence could be diluted with so many other states considering moving their primaries to February next year.

But the move by California, the most populous state and the one with the greatest number of electoral votes, has concerned smaller states that fear candidates will pass them by.

Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez said the earlier primary will give California a more prominent platform among the candidates.

“Gone will be the days when California voters are sidelined,” said Nunez, D-Los Angeles. “Californiaans will have the opportunity to look at the candidates square in the eye and say, ‘Where do you stand on the issues that I, as a voter, care about?'”

The leading candidates already have begun campaigning in California, in a seemingly constant parade over the past two weeks.

Democratic candidates Hillary Rodham Clinton, Barack Obama and John Edwards have campaigned in Los Angeles, Fresno and Berkeley.

Republican Rudy Giuliani and John McCain have appeared alongside Schwarzenegger.

Democratic supporters of the bill noted that California receives just 79 cents from the federal government for every dollar it contributes in taxes. That equation could change if the state had a larger role in selecting the president, they said.

“Just the talk of changing the date of the primary has made a big difference,” Assemblywoman Karen Bass, D-Los Angeles, said before Tuesday’s vote. “They were always in Los Angeles, but only the rich had an opportunity to see them at all because of fundraisers.”

California has tried earlier primaries before, but each time — in 1996, 2000 and 2004 — the entire election was moved to March. The state did not hold three elections in those years.

A February election next year also could benefit lawmakers, most notably legislative leaders Nunez and state Sen. Don Perata, D-Oakland.

A proposed ballot initiative would enable lawmakers who are now scheduled to be termed out next year to run for one more four-year term in the Senate and up to three additional two-year terms in the Assembly.

If voters approve a modification of the state’s term-limit law next February, current lawmakers would be able to run again for their seats in June’s regularly scheduled primary.
Briefs

State

SACRAMENTO (AP) — California would join the health crusade against artery-clogging trans fats under legislation approved Tuesday by a state Assembly committee.

By a 9-4 vote, the Health Committee reported out a bill that would phase out the use of oils, margarine and shortening containing trans fats to prepare foods in restaurants, bakeries, delicatessens and other businesses classified as "food facilities" starting in 2009.

Violations could result in fines of $25 to $1,000.

SAN BERNARDINO

(AP) — Four suspects crashed a man and his girlfriend to the ground, pulled them naked on the side of a freeway, authorities said.

The couple, both in their early 20s, were found by officers who spotted them standing along Interstate 15 in California, a suburb about 45 miles southeast of Los Angeles.

International

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — A commercial jetliner carrying more than 100 people caught fire as it landed at an airport on Indonesia's Java island on Wednesday, an airline official and witnesses said.

At least 8 people were killed, an airport official said. The Boeing 737-400 was carrying an undetermined number of Australian journalists and diplomatic staff who were in Indonesia with the country's foreign minister, said Australian Treasurer Peter Costello.

The foreign minister was reportedly not on the plane.

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Two suicide bombers turned a procession of Shiites pilgrims into a blood-drenched stampede Tuesday, killing scores with a first blast and then claiming more lives among fleeing crowds.

At least 106 were killed amid a wave of deadly strikes against Shiites heading for a solemn religious ritual. Hours after the attack in Baghdad, the Shiite heartland south of Baghdad — boys used long-handled squeegees to push pools of blood off the road. The victims' shoes and sandals were gathered in haphazard piles.

Ernest Gallo, builder of winemaking empire, dies at 97

Ernest Gallo died Tuesday in Modesto, Calif. He founded E.&J. Gallo Winery in 1933, which grew to be the world's largest wine company.

Michelle Locke

BERKELEY, Calif. — Ernest Gallo, the marketing genius who patented $5,900 and a wine recipe from a public library into the world's largest winemaking empire, died Tuesday at his home in Modesto.

"He passed away peacefully this afternoon surrounded by his family," said Susan Hensley, vice president of public relations for E.&J. Gallo Winery.

Gallo, who would have been 98 on March 18, was born near Modesto, a then-sleepy San Joaquin Valley town about 80 miles east of San Francisco. He and his late brother and business partner, Julio, grew up working in the vineyard owned by their immigrant father who came to America from Italy's Piedmont region.

They founded the E.&J. Gallo Winery in 1933, at the end of Prohibition, when they were still mourning the murder-suicide deaths of their parents. Ernest and Julio rented a ramshackle building, and everybody in the family pitched in to make ordinary wine for 50 cents a gallon — half the going price. The Gallos made $30,000 in the first year.

It grew to become the world's largest wine company by volume, a title since taken by Constellation Brands of New York. But Gallo remains second, selling an estimated 75 million cases under more than 40 labels.

"My brother Julio and I worked to improve the quality of wines from California and to put fine wine on American dinner tables at a price people could afford," Mr. Gallo told The Modesto Bee on his 90th birthday. "We also worked to improve the reputation of California wines here and overseas."

Ernest directed sales, devised marketing strategies and kept a short leash on distribution. Julio, who died in 1993, made the wine. Gallo was no less tough on the people who worked for him as on those he battled for business. He also demanded total loyalty from his employees. In 1986, when he learned that two longtime Gallo executives were secretly planning to buy a winery of their own, he fired them on the spot.

Gallo was a courtside man who affected Old World manners. But in business he was tenacious, shrewd, aggressive, and secretive. He and others of the Gallo clan shunned publicity like a plague. The reason for the secretive ness, many of their former associates said, was the way his parents had died.

Fresno County records say their father, Joseph, shot his mother, Susie, to death in June 1933, then killed himself. That was two months before the founding of the Gallo winery.
WASHINGTON — Once the closest adviser to Vice President Dick Cheney, I. Lewis "Scooter" Libby was convicted Tuesday of lying and obstructing a leak investigation that shook the top levels of the Bush administration.

Four guilty verdicts ended a seven-week CIA leak trial that focused new attention on the Bush administration's much-criticized handling of intelligence reports about weapons of mass destruction in the run-up to the Iraq war.

In the end, jurors said they did not believe Libby's main defense: that he didn't lie but merely had a bad memory.

Their decisions made Libby the highest-ranking White House official convicted in a government scandal since National Security Adviser John Poindexter, who worked in the office of the Secretary of State Richard Armitage, was acquitted in a 1986 trial. Juror Jeff Whiting said he was saddened for Libby and his family.

"There were good managerial type people on this jury who took everything apart and put it in the right place," Collins said. "After that, it wasn't a matter of opinion. It was just there."

Libby, not only Cheney's chief of staff but also an assistant to Bush, was expressionless as the verdict was announced on the 19th day of deliberations. In the front row, his wife, Harriet Grant, choked out a sob and threw her head back. Libby could face up to 35 years in prison when sentenced June 5, but federal sentencing guidelines will probably prescribe far less, perhaps one to three years. Defense attorneys said they would ask for a retrial and that if that fails, appeal the conviction.

"We have every confidence Mr. Libby ultimately will be vindicated," defense attorney Theodore Wells said. Libby's trial followed three years of investigations of the leak.

Jurors deliberated for 20 days, beginning on May 27. They returned their guilty verdicts on obstruction of justice, lying to the FBI and perjury — in a case largely centered on seven CIA employees whose identities were leaked to reporters in 2003.

"There were good managerial type people on this jury who took everything apart and put it in the right place," Collins said. "After that, it wasn't a matter of opinion. It was just there."

Libby's main defense was that he was too busy to think about his conversations with reporters and his memory was not as accurate as others. "I'm less likely to forget it," Collins recalled Monday saying it. "If I myself tell it to someone else, I'm even less likely to forget it."

Libby is a free pending sentencing. His lawyers will ask that he remain so through any appeal.

The prospects of a presidential pardon remain unclear. Top Democrats called on Bush to pledge not to pardon Libby; the White House did not say what the president would do.

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**Scooter** Libby convicted in CIA leak case

Michael J. Sznifer
ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Harvard professor paints a vivid portrait of Mexican poverty in "By the Lake of Sleeping Children"

Luis Alberto Urrea was born in Tijuana to a Mexican father and American mother. "The border runs down the middle of me," he writes. "I have a barbed-wire fence neatly bisecting my heart."

With the appearance of a "gringo" and the spirit of a Mexican, Urrea represents both countries without fully belonging to either, making the Harvard professor the perfect travel guide to "the secret life of the Mexican border." In his book, "By the Lake of Sleeping Children," Urrea illustrates both the controversy and the stark reality of life directly south of the United States.

Urrea paints, in vivid detail, the lives of a group of people who spend their day sorting through the tons of litter at the Tijuana dump, where floods uproot graves from the nearby trash-strewn cemetery.

"By the Lake of Sleeping Children" provides a well-rounded narrative of many aspects of Urrea's Mexican experience. Each chapter seems to be written slightly differently — from factual articles to deeply descriptive accounts. This discrepancy in style stems from the fact that "By the Lake of Sleeping Children" is a compilation of several essays and articles that appeared in various publications.

These essays portray Urrea's personal encounters; a day in the life of a borderland family, Mexican orphanages, immigration, and even provide a lesson in Mexican slang (who knew the tune "Shave and a Haircut" is an obscenity south of the border?).

Urrea paints, in vivid detail, the lives of a group of people who spend their day sorting through the tons of litter at the Tijuana dump, where floods uproot graves from the nearby trash-strewn cemetery and mix remains with refuse.

In the same dump, orphaned children and wild dogs fight over turf and struggle to survive by any means necessary. It is obvious that at times, Urrea manipulates his audience's reaction by directing his focus on children. What hardened heart can read about starving, dying and abandoned children without a rush of sentiment?

His basic premise shows that these lives are beyond human help. The state of existence in the area has reached such a low that neither Mexico's own people nor busloads of well-intentioned Orange County youth groups can make a positive dent in its squalor. Urrea merely gives the reader a glimpse into the daily realities of a different way of life, and lets his audience come to its own conclusions.

Urrea's writing is often crude, even offensive, but his bleak honesty shows he is leaving no stone unturned in his portrayal.

Despite this fact, Urrea has a gift for showing beauty in unlikely places; like the mother nursing her baby after a day working at the dump, or the neglected boy who tenderly cares for the orphanage's chickens.

Urrea has published works of fiction, nonfiction and poetry. His background in creative writing is evident in his book — his descriptions are strewed with plush images.

In one scene, he writes about the sky above the dump, "Knots of clouds speed east, far above the gulls, and the gulls rise so high that they seem an optical illusion: from huge birds to nearly invisible specks in the sky, they seem to hang on wires, a mad museum display, held in place by the violent wind."

Although depressing, "By the Lake of Sleeping Children" is a unique and worthwhile read. Urrea's talent for stark but scenic language is the spoonful of sugar that helps readers swallow the medicine of the dismal state of human life portrayed, but still leaves an ominous chill.

Haley Stocking is an English senior with a minor in theater. E-mail any questions, comments or book recommendations to hstockin@calpoly.edu.
Bay Area's Zodiac killer comes to life in new biographical horror flick

Devan McClaine

The problem with making movies that are based on true events is that you have a fairly rigid path to follow. In order to keep the characters credible, there isn't much room to deviate from that path. What a great movie does is make you hope for a different outcome, despite already knowing what will happen.

Such is the case with David Fincher's "Seven," "Fight Club," "Seven" newest film, "Zodiac." The movie follows a cast of characters involved in the investigation of the mysterious killer who terrorized the Bay Area during the late '60s and early '70s.

The plot focuses on the film of San Francisco Chronicle cartoonist Robert Graysmith, who is played by Jake Gyllenhaal. Graysmith later penned the bestselling book on the movie is based.

The film begins with the random murder of a couple in the North Bay. The killer later taunts police and various newspapers around the area while detailing his crimes and boasting of more to come in a series of cryptic messages and phone calls.

From there, the audience is dragged into the frenzy that dominated the Bay Area press for the better part of two decades.

Graysmith starts as an innocent bystander — he happens to be in an editorial meeting when the first Zodiac letter is passed around. The case will eventually consume him, prompting the aforementioned book.

The case becomes an obsession for oddball Chronicle crime reporter Paul Avery, played brilliantly by Robert Downey Jr. ("Good Night and Good Luck," "Kim Ki Bang Bang"). When the Zodiac takes his act to San Francisco, inspector David Toschi (Mark Ruffalo) is drawn in.

As literally thousands of leads are exhausted, the case becomes a strain on everyone involved. Avery sinks deeper into a bottle, Toschi nearly loses his job and Graysmith suffers from a failed marriage due to his singular focus on the case.

As previously stated, it is difficult to stray, creatively or otherwise, from the given fact patterns, making the movie intriguing but also stifle the pace. That said, the performances of the aforementioned trio are impressive.

Gyllenhaal continues to cement his place as the best of America's young actors. He is almost loveably naive as Graysmith, the former Eagle Scout turned cartoonist. From there, the audience is dragged into the frenzy that dominated the Bay Area press for the better part of two decades.

"Zodiac," starring Jake Gyllenhaal and Brian Cox (above), is the latest in a slew of Hollywood horror movies based on real-life events.

Otherwise, Fincher presents an outstanding cast in a well-made film about one of the most intriguing murderers of this century. It may not be as fast as "Seven" or "The Game," but it doesn't need to be. The groundwork is laid and Fincher and company do an excellent job of fleshing out the final product.

Overall, the movie is aided by the available facts more than it is harmed by them. The fact that the case is still unsolved makes it all the more interesting. It's definitely worth catching in theaters.

A return to (Chemical) Romance

Kari Kramer

On the verge of becoming the biggest band of the mid-2000s subculture, My Chemical Romance's transition between anonymity and stardom was not one of their best moments.

In the winter of 2004, My Chemical Romance played a free show at the Best Buy parking lot in Orange County, Calif. Police at the event accused them of vulgarity, cursing and inciting a riot on the outdoor public stage. They vowed to meet all of their fans individually after the show, but this disturbance angered the cops, who threatened to arrest them if they didn't leave the property.

It was rumored that they'd never be welcome back in the city again.

The following weekend, My Chemical Romance returns to San Francisco to play a sold-out show at the MCA in the Tenderloin, formerly known as the Pond — one of the largest venues in the country. The band has come a long way and now, at an optimistic point in their careers, guitarist Frank Iero spoke truthfully about the band's beginnings, indicative of the tension and failure that characterized a case that was shrouded in misinformation and failure.

Ruffalo is solid as usual, although at times a little too stiff as the beleaguered detective in charge of catching the Zodiac. Eventually, Ruffalo's character becomes exhausted with the case, leaving Graysmith to go it alone, providing some precarious and thrilling situations for a cartoonist to be in.

Like most Fincher films, "Zodiac" is graphic and very raw. Fincher does an excellent job of showcasing San Francisco and the surrounding areas in the late '60s and early '70s.

Those who know nothing about the case will be enthralled instantly, Fincher makes no time jumping into the story. Even those who are familiar with the case will see something fresh, and more importantly, forget the inevitable climax.

There are a couple of minor problems with the film. "Zodiac" runs for 2 hours and 40 minutes, so plan on finding a comfortable place to watch it.

Also, you get the feeling that Fincher was as obsessed with the case as the characters he portrays. He seems intent on packing the movie with as much detail as possible.

There are some head-scratching scenes that appear to have no purpose, other than to provide the same sense of confusion that those investigating the crime did.

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An original "Rent" cast member discusses bringing the musical to life onstage and its inspiration.

David Guidi
THE ORANGE (SOUTH FLORIDA)

When Anthony Rapp initially gathered with the rest of the original "Rent" cast, the first thing they did was sing through the musical's most celebrated number, "Seasons of Love." At that moment, Rapp knew "Rent" had an energy and intensity unlike any other musical he had heard.

"It felt like a revelation," said Rapp, who played the documentary filmmaker Mark Cohen in the first production of "Rent," as well as the movie. "The simplicity in the lyric — the heart in the lyrics, the cascading harmonies and the context of the song — singing about life directly. It felt courageous somehow. We felt that something extraordinary was happening."

Rapp spoke to nearly 500 people, many of them so-called "Rentheads" at the University of South Florida, about "Rent" and my evolution: from creator Jonathan Larson's vision, to a small production gathering steam in the New York theater world, to one of the most popular musicals of all time. He said "Rent" filled a vacuum in the musical world, delivering entertainment with an edge not found in traditional musicals.

"I think it's great to be a part of things that are fun and entertaining," Rapp said. "But I would sacrifice all of that for being part of something that's not only entertaining but that's out to shake people up, that's out to change their minds and change their hearts."

He also talked about Larson, who Rapp said drew on his circle of friends to create the characters and the story of "Rent." "He was a part of this community of artists — gay people, cross-dressers, lesbians, straight people, people of color, black people, Latino people, all together — and the story of that kind of a group of people wasn't being told in the mainstream," Rapp said.

Rapp also spoke about the sudden death of Larson from an aortic aneurysm at age 35, the day of the "Rent" off-Broadway opening and just hours after the show's final dress rehearsal. The night of the premiere, the theater was full of Larson's family, friends and colleagues. Instead of a full show, the cast did a sing-through — no movement, just singing — in memory of Larson.

"Even in the face of this room full of people whose hearts were torn out of their chests, who were in such pain, who were devastated, even in the face of that ... all of the energy of the show and all of the comedy of the show communicated as powerfully as it ever could," Rapp said.

"That told me, among many things, something that I always believed and that evening just proved all the more — "Rent" sort of just tells the truth. And when people are presented with the truth, it's easy to respond no matter what you're going through," Rapp added. "Rapp also talked about a moment during the performance when they sang one of the musical's other signature songs, "La Vie Boheme.""

"We as a cast, we as characters, we as the audience were all going through the same things at the same time," Rapp said. "The characters we played were singing this uproarious joyful song in the face of the people who might not be there any more ... and so it was all one."

The cathartic experience of performing in "Rent" also helped Rapp deal with another difficult loss in his life — the death of his mother to adrenal cancer less than a year after the show's Broadway opening.

Rapp — who has written a book and spoken to audiences around the country about his experiences with "Rent" — said the powerful effect the musical has had on his life makes it hard to let go.

"Sometimes people wonder why I keep talking about this — well, it's the greatest thing that ever happened to me," Rapp said. "There are so many reasons I will never leave this behind."

**Rent** star reveals evolution of rock musical to fans

Singer and actor Anthony Rapp played Mark Cohen in the original Broadway production of Jonathan Larson's "Rent" and went on to reclaim his role in the movie version by the same name.

"These are great things, things that I always wanted," he said. "I wanted to make a mark on this world — something that was positive, and not just have it be the same place it was before I was here."

"Rent" — said the powerful effect the musical has had on his life — the death of his mother to adrenal cancer less than a year after the show's Broadway opening.

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POLITICAL COLUMN

America: the land of the dumb

The Right Way

Daniel Pipes not so controversial after all

A flyer went up on Facebook Monday, warning that a "liberal duplicitous traitor and hate monger, who is inciting war criminal" is coming to Cal Poly.

Wow, isn't that nice. Turns out that this hatemongerer is Daniel Pipes, a conservative Jewish man who is one of the most respected terrorism analysts this country has to offer. Of course, since he is a Caucasian, male and America-loving Jew, Muslims on campus are up in arms and ready to protest.

Wake up, Cal Poly! Other students school choice are hypocritical. Take the Clintons as an example. In 1995, Bill Clinton vetoed a bill that would have allowed low-income kids in Washington, D.C., to use public funds to send their kids to public schools. However, at the same time, guess who went to Chelsea to school? No, not a public school in Washington, D.C., but rather the elite and private Suddef friends school.

What about Democratic president hopeful Michael Dukakis? The Edwards, who proclaimed, "America has two school systems - one for the affluent and one for everyone else" but is against school vouchers? That's funny, because guess who. Edwards must be part of the first system; he sends his kids to a religious school, not a public one. The list of hypocritical Democrats goes on and on in the same way. Gore opposes school vouchers, but sends his kids to private school.

These Democrats may be hypocrites, but they're no fools. Their position on school vouchers and education gives them the underground support of the all-powerful teachers unions. These Democrats are willing to pour dollar after dollar into education without any accountability, while students in America suffer. By denying school choice, the Democratic politicians who oppose school vouchers must be part of the first system; he sends his child to a religious school, while students in America suffer.

Second, whether hate speech is protected or not, it should be the same for all. As he finds this hate speech, there are countless posters, statements, speeches, films, culture nights, classes and references about the Jews and Israelis on this campus that are equally hate speech, and I believe that he should protest those too.

Portraying the U.S. forces and the Israeli defense forces the way they are portrayed in our classes and in our textbooks is important. The Muslim moral and cultural values should be protected if he were to go around and post Nazi posters defaming Jews.

I hope that he will be a nuclei for students who support our educational system and want to change our education system for the better.

Brian Eller is a matsgrad engineering junior and Mustang Daily political columnist.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Brian Eller is a matsgrad engineering junior and Mustang Daily political columnist.
Frankly

continued from page 12

intimidate anybody, but that doesn't mean Cal Poly can't play. Cal Poly will open Big West Conference Tournament play Friday as the No. 2 seed in the semifinal round. If the Mustangs win Friday at 9 p.m. on ESPNU, it will play for a trip to the NCAA Tournament on Saturday at 8 p.m. on ESPN2.

Let's not get ahead of ourselves just yet. The NCAA Tournament is a long way away.

The Mustangs are hardly guaranteed a spot in the title game. First, they'll likely have to get past No. 3 seed Cal State Fullerton (assuming they'll likely have to get past No. 3 seed Cal State Fullerton (assuming the quarterfinals go according to plan). The Titans have an NBA-bound point guard in senior Bobby Brown who will surely look to make his last games in a Cal State Fullerton uniform memorable.

Waiting for the Mustangs (should they win in the semi-finals) would likely be regular-season champions Long Beach State, which is ranked 18th in CollegeInsider.com's Mid-Major Poll.

Even though the 49ers beat Cal Poly twice, they trailed by as many as 14 in the second half at Cal Poly on Feb 8 before coming back to win the game 80-77. The Mustangs can play with Long Beach State. They just need to play an entire 40 minutes. For the Mustangs to be successful, they're going to need to focus on five things:

1. Let it rain from 3-point land - The Mustangs are ninth in Division 1 in 3-pointers made with 263 this season. If the shots are falling, it's tough to beat any team that can connect on 15 3-pointers in a given night.

2. Get a grip on the defensive boards - Cal Poly gives up more than 12 offensive rebounds per game. Every extra possession counts come tournament time. Part of the problem is Cal Poly's small lineup, but another part is the increased use of a zone defense this season. It's harder to find a body to box out in a zone, but the Mustangs will have to find a way to fill the gaps and minimize extra possessions for opposing teams.

3. D-D-D-DEFENSE - Cal Poly has been scoring in bunches over the last 10 games, but it hasn't pulled away for big-time wins in many of those contests. The Mustangs are allowing 71.8 points per game and opponents are shooting a scary 43.6 percent from the field. Scoring 91 points is all well and good, but if you allow 99, as the Mustangs did in a 99-91 home loss to Cal State Fullerton on Dec. 28, you can't expect to win too many games.

4. Take advantage of the charity stripe - The free throw is meant to be an easy shot, a penalty against the other team for either fouling in the act of shooting or going over the limit in fouls for a half. Unfortunately, the free-throw line has been anything but charitable to the Mustangs this season. Cal Poly shoots 63.2 percent from the line. To the Mustangs' credit, the number has steadily risen over the last dozen or so games.

5. Protect the basketball - The Mustangs turn the ball over 13 times per game, nothing to worry too much about. However, the team can go through spurts of careless mistakes. Avoid those hazardous spurts of negligence and the Mustangs might be able to close out opponents more regularly.

A few weeks back, Stockalper commented that the Mustangs could make a run for the Big West title. It seemed unfathomable that the team could turn the season around following a 1-3 conference start, but this group of "miffed" players who can drain 3s from all corners of the court are on fire — and they're poised to put their dancing shoes on.

T"Wolves beat Lakers in 2OT

Kobe Bryant's 40 points, 13 rebounds and eight assists were not enough for Los Angeles.

jon Krawczynski

MINNEAPOLIS — Mark Blount's improbable 3-point prowess couldn't have come at a better time for Minnesota.

Basketball

continued from page 12

uncertain if Fields, who averages 8.5 points and 5.5 rebounds in only 18.2 minutes, will play in Anaheim. Munnaha said she had "no doubt" that Fields would have been named Big West Freshman of the Year if she had been healthy for more than 19 regular-season games.

Wells said not just the freshmen crop, but the whole team, has been working most defensively on its perimeter.

"Defensively, we've always been preaching hands-up and being active," Wells said. "Now we have to go to a zone, which we weren't planning on at the beginning of the year. After losing Sparkle (Anderson), we noticed we didn't have the speed and a couple other people got injured, so we played smart and went back to a zone."

Anderson, who began the season as the team's starting point guard for the fourth consecutive year, suffered an ACL injury in November. She will return with a medical redshirt next season.

But since losing seven straight following Anderson's injury, the Mustangs have gelled and found a rotation that works — particularly on defense.

Cal Poly leads the Big West in steals per game (11.1) — including the individual leader in junior shooting guard Toni Newman (3.0 spg) — and 3-point percentage defense (.256).

The Mustangs struggle, however, on the offensive end with both turnovers per game (21.6) and field-goal percentage (.389).

But the formula of canceling out those numbers with lock-down defense on their own part has worked recently for the Mustangs. And that's just fine by Eggleton.

"Our long-term goal is to win a championship," she said. "We're not looking forward to the Saturday game. We're taking it one game at a time because we know anything can happen any day. We know we can make it to the championship and win it."
**The New York Times**

**Crossword**

**By Willy Short**

No. 0124

**ACROSS**
1. Mecca hrs.
9. Easy mark in cards
5. In the garden
13. Like the verb 'to be'
18. Story starter
20. Done for
17. Pittsburgh Hall-of-Fame third baseman
19. Old, older player
20. Number before a new
21. Butterfly, briefly
22. Perfect rating
24. Let go
26. Burk sacrificed to a common sight
7. Button on a remote
8. Buck left of T.C.L.E.
21. Turn-of-the-century year

**DOWN**
1. In the groove
2. 'Exodus' hero
3. 'Flip to Dr. '
4. Old, older TV show
5. Four-time Indy winner
6. High spot
7. Look down on
8. Contractual adverb
9. Workable wood
10. Indubitably.
11. Starving
12. Blood-related
14. Fare for Oliver Twist
15. With 53-Down, officer's partner
16. Life round dance
17. Like some close to
18. Dance violently
19. Intergalactic Abby
20. One with oner
21. Make up
22. 1976 best seller that opens four steps up smart from the coast of The Gambol
23. Site of a notable battle
24. Brett Bailey's tormentor
25. China's Chang
26. More likely
27. Like some close to
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62. 1976 best seller that opens four steps up smart from the coast of The Gambol

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**HELP WANTED**

**Coastal Medical Research Group**, Inc. is conducting a clinical research trial for participants with Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. Are you 18 years of age or older? Do you have vaginal itching, burning or any other symptoms? Are you willing to participate in this research study? Qualified participants will receive study medications, investigative medical evaluation and reimbursement for time and travel. Call for more information: Coastal Medical Research Group, Inc. (805) 549-7570

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**LOST AND FOUND**

**FOUND ring in Bag 26 on Feb. 15. Punjab and Highland Ave.**

**FOUND scarf in University Cashier** Call Betty: 756-2310

**FOUND stainless steel band** Call Joe at (805) 469-4019

**FOUND in University Cashier** Call Betty: 756-2310

**FOUND watch on truck yard**

**FOUND in University Cashier** Call Betty: 756-2310

**FOUND watch on truck yard**

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**Oral Roberts wins Mid-Con tournament, automatic trip to NCAA Tournament**

Caleb Green had 28 points and nine rebounds for the Golden Eagles.

**Jeff Latzke**

**ASSOCIATED PRESS**

TULSA, Okla. — Oral Roberts coach Scott Sutton couldn't help but have flashbacks to Oakland had a chance to steal another Mid-Con Conference championship with a 3-pointer in the final minute.

When your team's NCAA tournament hopes hang on a single game, it's bad enough. A single shot makes it even worse.

"It was solid nerves until the clock struck zero," Sutton said. Instead, Ken Tutt's banked-in jumper with 3.6 seconds left went down as the game-winner as Oral Roberts beat Oakland 71-67 on Tuesday night to win the Mid-Con title and automatic NCAA bid for the second straight year.

Erik Kangas, who hit six first-half 3-pointers to stake the No. 2 Golden Eagles (25-6) to an 11-point halftime lead, missed a 3 from the right wing that would've given ORU the lead after Tutt's jumper from just to the right of the paint.

"I thought Kangas' shot was in," Sutton said. "I was shocked that it didn't go in, but fortunately it didn't."

Adam Liberty added two free throws to ice the game for Oral Roberts.

Three-time conference player of the year Caleb Green scored 28 points to become the Mid-Con's career scoring leader, and Tutt had 20 points for the top-seeded Golden Eagles (23-10).

Two years ago, it was a seventh-seeded Oral Roberts team that denied the top-seeded Golden Eagles a trip to the NCAA tournament. This time, Dukes' off-balance 3 with 1.3 seconds left in a 61-60 win. Oral Roberts bounced back to win the Mid-Con final against Chicago State last season and then had to work a similar fete against the Golden Grizzlies this time.

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**CLASSIFIED**

**HELP WANTED**

**RESEARCH CANDIDATES**

Coastal Medical Research Group, Inc. is conducting a clinical research trial for participants with Candidiasis. Are you 18 years of age or older? Do you have vaginal itching, burning or any other symptoms? Are you willing to participate in this research study? Qualified participants will receive study medications, investigative medical evaluation and reimbursement for time and travel.

Call for more information:
Coastal Medical Research Group, Inc. (805) 549-7570
The Mustangs are one win away from clinching their first winning season since 1991-92.

Tristan Aird

The Cal Poly women's basketball team departed for Anaheim on Tuesday night and will have the luxury of not playing until Thursday afternoon. As the No. 3 seed among eight teams, the Mustangs will play at noon Thursday in the quarterfinals of the Big West Conference Tournament at the Anaheim Convention Center. Because its game is the first Thursday, Cal Poly (14-13, 9-5 Big West) will get an extra 30 minutes to start up more than the traditional 30 minutes teams get.

Cal Poly senior forward and two-time All-Big West first-team selection Jessica Eggleston said Monday that the bye the Mustangs earned — largely by winning nine of their last 10 games — is a "huge benefit."

"It's really hard playing on a new court and playing for a long stretch of time," Eggleston said. "It gets harder and harder each day comes. We'll have an advantage whoever we play because we'll have more time to make ourselves better. It plays in our favor. I wish we could have gotten the second seed."

The Nos. 1 and 2 seeds, UC Irvine and UC Santa Barbara need only win two games this weekend to reach the NCAA Tournament. Cal Poly head coach Faith Mimnaugh said Monday that the Mustangs had to face sixth-seeded Long Beach State or seventh-seeded UC Irvine in the quarterfinals.

"They're all different," Mimnaugh said. "(No. 8 seed) Pacific is definitely a 3-point-oriented team. That would be our main focus. We play man-to-man (defense) against them. We have great respect for their 3-point shooting. As far as Irvine goes, they're probably the scrappiest team in the conference, a little bit under-stressed in the post. Long Beach State, when we played them, they absolutely killed us off the boards. They're huge. If I had to place my bets. I'd say that we're either going to play Long Beach or Irvine."

Cal Poly freshman guard Tamara Welsh said Monday that the Mustangs' recent hot streak had as much to do with hard-nosed practices as it did players returning from injuries that contributed to a 5-12 start.

"Our run came from constant competition in practice," Welsh said. "That's what really helped us win eight games in a row. The games really weren't that hard because the practices were much harder."

Welsh said the eight-game winning streak changed the team's identity in the eyes of conference opponents.

"Anybody on our team will tell you we're the team to beat," Welsh said. "After an eight-game winning streak, we have the target on our back."

Welsh said the team focuses on one game at a time, but does consider the possibility of reaching the NCAA Tournament.

"We're definitely always talking about it," Welsh said. "We're here, we've got the opportunity. We want to seize the moment. We want to win the moment. We know it's a big deal."

Welsh is part of a deep, talented freshman class featuring six players who combined to average 14.4 points per game during the regular season. At the forefront of that group, though, was power forward Bria Fields, who has been out recently with an injury. It is see Basketball, page 10

NICK CAMACHO DAILY PHOTO
Cal Poly senior point guard Ardia Kelker passes the ball during the Mustangs' 75-64 Senior Day win over Cal State Fullerton in MGM on Feb. 24. Kelker had six points and three rebounds in 12 minutes.

BY THE NUMBERS

+0.7 Cal Poly's rebounding margin per game — 40.3 to 39.6

1 Big West Tournament win for the Mustangs since the 2001-02 season

14 Points per game this season for senior forward Jessica Eggleston

Mustang men's golf team third at SCU's Callaway invite

SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT

RANCHO SANTA FE — Freshman Geoff Gonzalez shot a final-round 71 to help Cal Poly move up one position to a third-place finish in the Callaway Golf Collegiate Invitational, which completed a two-day run Tuesday at The Farms Golf Club.

Gonzalez finished with a 54-hole 220 total and a share of 21st place with five other golfers, including Mustang teammate Mike O'Brien. O'Brien carded a 73 Tuesday.

Cal Poly finished with an 875 total, eight strokes behind team champion San Diego State. The University of San Diego, which hosted the event, finished second, one stroke ahead of Cal Poly. There were 16 schools in the three-round tournament.

Shelton named Big West Defensive Player of Year

SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT

The 2006-07 Big West Conference Men's Basketball All-Specialty Team was announced Tuesday, with Cal Poly sophomore Timmy Shelton earning Defensive Player of the Year.

The awards were voted on by the conference's eight head coaches. Shelton, a 6-foot-7 post player, ranked second in the Big West in blocked shots (1.88 bpg) with 25 in 25 games. He set a career high and tied a school record with six blocks Dec. 28 against Cal State Fullerton and posted five rejections in a game on two other occasions. He tallied five against Oregon State on Nov. 12 and again on Dec. 19 against Northern Arizona.

Shelton also ranks fifth on the team in scoring (8.9 ppg) and second in rebounding (4.5 rpg).

For up-to-the-minute results from the Big West Conference Tournaments in Anaheim, visit www.mustangdaily.com