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Megan Priley
MUSIAdC DAIIY
Haw you always had a deep desire to discover the unknown world beyond our own? Well if you take a deeper look into what Cal Poly State University has to offer, you will find endless possibilities within International Education and Programs, otherwise known as Cal Poly Study Abroad.

John D. Battenburg, director of International Education and Programs and professor of English, says there are three common misconceptions about studying abroad.

"First, that fluency in another language is required; second, that it is expensive; and third, that it lengthens the time to graduation," he said. However, if planned accordingly, study abroad can help you stay on track to graduation and fulfill all your requirements, he said.

Students interested in study abroad must fill out an application before they can go any further. "Students are suggested to have about a 2.6 accumulative grade point average along with interviews and faculty recommendations," International Education and Programs associate director Monica Schechter said.

"Of course, some are more competitive than others, such as the CSU International, which is a yearlong program that requires a 2.7 to 3.0 grade point average since there are limited spaces with the more popular trips."

Students interested in study abroad may be lured into the fascinating cultures and grab at the chance to travel to unknown worlds, but most won’t realize just how much these programs have to offer until they have completed one themselves.

"All fields have become a more global society and (especially) students going into an international career will benefit," Schechter said.

"Study Abroad offers the knowledge of a second language, adaptability, personal awareness, problem solving, independence and flexibility."

There is an ongoing amount of International Education programs offered at Cal Poly. Everything you could think of, from exchange programs, CSU system-wide study abroad programs, affiliate programs, to Cal Poly faculty-led quarter abroad programs, are available for students.

Once student decide which program is the right one, how can they possibly choose which location they want to venture to first? There are 36 countries and 140 program sites to choose from, but the five programs offered through International Education and Programs (IEP) all have their own

see Abroad, page 15
Abroad
continued from page 14

special alluring power.
Well, if students find themselves lucky enough to travel abroad longer it is highly recommended. "I would like to see every student go abroad for an entire year," Battenberg said. "We believe there is a program for every student."

The first trip to take into consideration is the Australia Study Program. This program takes 35 to 45 students and 2 to 3 faculty members to Australia during the winter quarter.

Cal Poly faculty at the University of Adelaide in Adelaide, Australia will teach students for one quarter. Students may obtain 12 to 16 units of Cal Poly credit.

"Students may obtain 12 to 16 units of Cal Poly credit," Battenberg said. "This program is offered in conjunction with the California at Sea? This program is offered in conjunction with the California Study Program."

Seventy percent of students prefer sea voyages because they sound like a huge adventure to you. At the Australia Study Program, you can check out http://www.atsea.calpoly.edu.

I would like to see every student go abroad for an entire year. We believe there is a program for every student.

John Battenberg
Director of International Education and Programs

Cal Poly students and faculty will travel around the world and the South American Cruise, which makes stops in each of its destinations. Each cruise, which makes stops in each of its destinations. Each cruise rotates in a three-year cycle. Each year, its destination is a different region in the Pacific.

Each destination is a different region in the Pacific. Destinations that have been sought after in previous years include: Ile aux Cerfs, Mauritius Islands, France; Tahiti, French Polynesia; and the Philippines. Each destination has its own unique charms.

From Sydney, Australia to Wellington, New Zealand, students will have the opportunity to explore Australia on their own. It is highly recommended. "I would like to see every student go abroad for an entire year," Battenberg said.

The second program that students must consider is the Australia Study Abroad program. The program takes 35 to 45 students and 2 to 3 faculty members to Australia during the winter quarter.

It is almost as cheap to attend the Cal Poly Study Abroad program as it is to attend a quarter at Cal Poly. In other words, if you can obtain your education at Cal Poly, you can do so abroad as well.

"Our overall goal in Study Abroad is to access a variety of quality international experiences, such as internships and project-based learning," Schechter said. "Even if you are just curious about what Study Abroad has to offer, don't miss the Study Abroad Fair that will be held on Friday, Oct. 5 on Dexter Lawn from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Students will get the opportunity to talk to more than 40 on-campus and off-campus representatives within the Study Abroad, internship and travel programs.

If you would like to obtain information on the event, go to the Web site at http://arp.calpoly.edu.

Looking for more Study Abroad information, such as the variety of programs offered, rates, application deadlines and fees? Check out the Cal Poly Study Abroad homepage at http://www.calpoly.edu/~iep or head to the Study Abroad office in the Mathematics and Science building, room 145.

By The Numbers
812
Number of Cal Poly students in the 2005-06 school year that studied abroad.

140
Number of Study Abroad program sites to choose from in 36 different countries.

2.6
The minimum suggested cumulative GPA for students applying to study abroad.
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The guide to Poly computer labs

Ryan Chartrand  MUSTANG DAILY

Finding an open computer lab on campus can be difficult as a freshman when you’re still trying to remember how to get back to your dorm. The first fact you should know about computer labs on campus is that they all require you to be a certain major to use them. For example, math majors use the labs in Building 38 (the math building) while computer science majors use the labs in Building 14 (the computer science building). The only labs available to everyone, including the public, are those found in the library and Building 3 (the business building).

Use the chart below to find the lab that best suits your needs, major and preference (i.e. Mac vs. PC). Be sure to visit the lab you plan to use to find the posted open lab hours for each quarter.

Which laptop is right for you?

Ryan Chartrand  MUSTANG DAILY

So you have your dorm room, textbooks and the greatest roommate ever, but your empty desk is telling you that you need a laptop. First, it’s certainly possible to survive at Cal Poly without a laptop by using computer labs scattered across campus. If, however, your parents feel like paying $750-and-up for a shiny new laptop to help decorate your room, then let this be a guide to help you match your needs with the best laptop on the market for the best price. Many students choose Mac because of their ease of use and reliability. Be aware, however, that the majority of the computer labs on campus contain PCs (mostly Hewlett-Packard and Dell).

If you decide to go with a Dell or a Mac, be sure to check out the student discounts available at El Corral Bookstore to save a couple hundred dollars.
Lowest SAT reading scores in 13 years; average ACT scores rise slightly

Margaret Miceli
Daily Californian (Penn State)

The release of the average SAT and ACT scores for the class of 2007 shows a mixed review for recent high school graduates.

While ACT scores rose slightly, the average national SAT scores in critical reading were the lowest in 15 years, and in math they were the lowest in 13 years.

The average SAT scores in mathematics and writing declined three points each since last year. The scores declined to 515 and 494, respectively, out of a possible 800 each, according to the College Board, which is the organization that administers the SAT.

This year’s average score in critical reading was 502 out of a possible 800, a one-point decline from last year, according to the release.

However, the average national ACT composite score for the class of 2007 was 21.2 out of a possible 36 points, up from 21.1 in 2006, according to ACT spokesman Ed Colby.

Scores improved on all four required subject-area tests in comparison to last year, according to Penn State’s Admissions Office.

The SAT and ACT are two very different tests, Colby added.

“The ACT is a curriculum-based test, measuring what students have learned, while the SAT is a test of reasoning skills and is not directly tied to a curriculum,” he said.

Penn State’s Admissions Office does not prefer one test over the other. “We can appropriately judge our applicants’ scores,” Colby said.

“We do not see any noticeable increase or decrease in our applicants’ scores,” Kuskowski said.

The Admissions Office receives the SAT writing scores but will not begin factoring those scores into admissions decisions until the class of 2009 applies, he said.

“We’re evaluating how the writing section correlates with success at Penn State,” he said.

According to the Penn State Admissions Web site, the middle 50-percent range of ACT scores for students admitted to University Park in 2006 was 26 to 30.

The middle 50-percent range of SAT scores for University Park students admitted in 2006 was 1160 to 1350.

About 90 percent of freshmen applicants in 2006 submitted SAT scores.

About 8 percent submitted ACT scores, according to the Common Data Set, which can be accessed through the university’s budget Web site, at www.budget.psu.edu.

The average scores for Pennsylvanians on the ACT were above the national average. The average composite score of Pennsylvania residents is 22.

Pennsylvania’s average for the SAT was below the national average on all three sections: 499 in math, 482 in writing and 493 in critical reading.

Sources on Wikipedia no longer entirely anonymous

Nicholas Kelly
The Daily Iowan (Iowa)

If people on the University of Iowa campus have recently edited a Wikipedia page, their changes may not be as anonymous as they think.

Wikipedia, the world’s largest online encyclopedia, which is updated continuously by numerous, and usually anonymous, volunteer writers and editors across the globe, has long contained a wealth of knowledge. It is also the focus of much controversy and often a target of Internet vandalism.

“Some people do it just to get laughs. They use it as a forum,” UI senior Joe Reischel said.

Recently, California Institute of Technology graduate student Virgil Griffith reported discovering a way to undo some of the anonymity that may have made Wikipedia a prime target for vandalism in the past.

This is accomplished through WikiScanner, a data-mining service that compares the IP addresses of Wikipedia edits to the IP addresses of major corporations, political organizations, and universities.

One of the networks identified on WikiScanner’s database is the UI. As such, according to the service, any edit to Wikipedia made since February 2002 is logged and not off the Wikis, see Wikipedia, page 19.

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- Taco Bell
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- Services
  - Aquamassage of SLO
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The names behind the buildings

Laura Kasavan

If you look at a map of Cal Poly, or simply take a stroll around campus, it's likely that you will see a building or two with a name attached to it.

Orfalea College of Business, Robert E. Kennedy Library and Alex G. Spanos Stadium are only a handful of these named buildings. Who are the people behind the names, and what did they do to earn a spot on the campus map?

Let's take a look...

Cal Poly's theater was renamed the Alex and Faye Spanos Theatre in 2004. The affluent alumnus began his study of aeronautical engineering in 1941 and was also the drum major of the marching band.

Spanos donated $1.5 million in 2003 to help remodel the H.P. Davidson Music Center and the Cal Poly Theater, and gave another $100,000 to endow a music scholarship named after music professor and Mustang Band leader Harold P. Davidson.

The theater was not the only building named after Spanos. Cal Poly's stadium opened in 1935, but the 10,000-seat multipurpose facility, was renamed Alex G. Spanos Stadium on Nov. 18, 2006.

Spanos, owner of the San Diego Chargers, gave the largest single gift in the history of Cal Poly athletics.

Baggett Stadium is home to the baseball team and was named after former head of physical education. Baggett was a catcher at Cal Poly from 1968 to 1971. The stadium opened in 2001, and Cal Poly played Stanford University in the first game. The Mustangs won 6-5 in 12 innings.

The softball team plays at Bob Janssen Field, the sister facility to Baggett Stadium. The field opened in 2003 and was named after local patron and sports enthusiast Bob Janssen. Cal Poly played UC Riverside in the first game on the NCAA regulation field and won 8-0.

Christopher Cohan lived in San Luis Obispo from the 1970s until 1982 and was the president of Sonic Communications. He also owns the NBA's Golden State Warriors.

In 1990, Cohan made a gift of $2.1 million on the eve of the inauguration of the capital campaign for the performing arts center construction. His gift was the largest single gift to any individual California State University campus, and he was recognized when the new center was named the Christopher Cohan Performing Arts Center in 1996.

Clyde P. Fisher Science Hall was named for Clyde P. Fisher, the former dean of the College of Science and Math. He was a teacher and administrator at Cal Poly from 1947 to 1975.

In 2004, trial attorney Joseph Cotchett and his wife, Victoria, pledged $7 million to Cal Poly to launch a program to put more math and science teachers in classrooms in low-income neighborhoods. To honor the gift from the alumni who studied engineering, Cal Poly renamed the education building the Cotchett Education Building.

Many knew Julian A. McPhee as the father of the California Polytechnic State University system. While president of Cal Poly from 1933 to 1966, he oversaw the Pomona and San Diego campuses. The Julian A. McPhee University Union was named in his honor.

Orfalea College of Business was named after Paul J. Orfalea on Jan. 24, 2001. The founder of Kinko's donated a gift of securities worth $15 million designated to enhance the quality and scope of business education at Cal Poly.

Robert E. Kennedy Library opened in 1981. The building was named after Robert E. Kennedy, who was president of Cal Poly from 1967 to 1979.

During his tenure, curriculum was reorganized into units to create the School of Agriculture, School of Engineering, School of Applied Arts, School of Applied Sciences and the School of Architecture. Another highlight happened in 1971 when Cal Poly's official name was changed to California Polytechnic State University by the state legislature.

Some Mustang athletic fans refer to the gym as "The Asylum" or "The Big Ugly," but Robert A. Mott Gymnasium is named after its former head of physical education. Mott came to Cal Poly in 1946, and also served as head baseball coach. He implemented a coaching and physical education workshop that has been held annually ever since. He died on April 15, 1990.

The Walter F. Dexter Building originally opened as a library and now is used to house various colleges. It was named for Walter F. Dexter, who helped McPhee gain approval and state funding for a new library building.
Fall quarter is approaching and the excitement of new friendships, sporting events and campus life mixed with the nervous feelings about unknown faculty and classes has everyone on their toes.

The textbooks have been purchased, the classrooms have been located and living arrangements have been carefully planned out. However, one major detail students are likely to overlook this year is how to maintain a healthy lifestyle while balancing everything else on their plate.

College is filled with exhilarating events and opens up the door of opportunity, yet college will also be home to some of the most stressful times in a student's life.

We've all heard the terrifying myths of the "freshmen fifteen" and how so many sleepless nights are spent peering at an open textbook. Nevertheless, what many newcomers are about to find out is that these warnings are not just myths. Lack of sleep won't be uncommon due to strenuous study hours and ongoing exams. The majority of students will most likely grab junk food on the run between their jam-packed class schedule and study breaks.

Healthy eating habits are most often compromised during the weeks of midterms and finals when there just doesn't seem to be any time to stop moving, let alone eat a balanced meal.

Many students on the go will find themselves searching their pockets for loose change in order to purchase a quick snack from the campus vending machines.

Sure, a little energy boost such as sweets sounds like an easy fix, but staying away from foods with sugar will help you function a lot easier throughout the day.

"The worst thing someone can do is grab a sugar fix to keep themselves awake," said Cory Dawson, certified personal trainer at Kennedy Club Multiplex in San Luis Obispo.

"It will help you gain energy for a few hours but suddenly you'll feel tired and crash.”

When it comes to your meal plan it seems that mom and dad really did know best and all those years of lecturing us to eat all of breakfast before running off to school wasn't such bad advice.

"Foods like oatmeal, anything whole grain, fruits and juices are some quick fixes that you can grab on your way to class," Dawson said. "Make sure to pack healthy snacks like protein bars, for example, to have when you don't have time to pick up anything during breaks.

Food isn't the only fuel your body needs. Maintaining a regular sleep schedule and a healthy lifestyle are crucial as well.

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Food isn't the only fuel your body needs. Maintaining a regular sleep schedule and a healthy lifestyle are crucial as well.
Health
continued from page 15

workout schedule will keep your energy level high and your body healthy.

"On average most people should exercise at least 30 to 45 minutes a
day, but if schedules keep them from doing that much I would say no less
than 3 to 4 days a week," Dawson said.

"Maintaining a good cardio routine with some added weightlifting a few
times a week is a great way to stay on top of health problems."

If maintaining your schedule isn't your issue but instead you find that
the hole boring the bottom of your pocket is more of a problem, then Cal
Poly's campus has all the answers.

There are many ways to stay healthy within

For instance, you can walk into Poly Canyon by following the dirt
road adjacent to the new Cerro Vista
residence halls. Or for a more de-
manding workout, hike to the P on
top of the hill. There are several hiking
trails located on and off campus.

Once you try all this and still feel
you want a little something more, you
can challenge yourself by joining a
campus club or team sport. Cal Poly
offers everything from soccer and swing
dancing to cross country.

Of course, keeping up with your
day-to-day workout routine would be
almost impossible without the right
amount of rest. Getting a quality amount of rest 7 hours of sleep a
night has been the common recommend-
ation given by health officials.

Stress, lack of sleep, poor eating habits and the inability to keep up a

The worst thing
someone can do
is grab a sugar fix
to keep themselves
awake ... suddenly
you'll feel tired
and crash.
---Cory Dawson
Personal trainer

In addition to using the Rec Center (top), students can stay healthy by
choosing healthy foods, bars, fruit and juice over sugary options.

Wikipedia
continued from page 14

able for view across the Internet.

Included in the thousands of edits, Wikiscanner attributes to the
UI are a variety of anecdotes.

One such post included the phrase, "Howeys Rule" on a
Wikipedia entry about Kansas
Stadium. Other entries may sim-
ply be acts of Internet vandalism, such as claims that an alias of for-
ter university President Donald
Skorton was an "eater of monkey
brains."

"I don't think it's a big deal, but I think that's why Wikipe-
dia isn't considered credible," UI
sophomore Karen Santee said.

In order to identify which posts
come from the UI's computer
system, the program matches IP
addresses in Wikipedia's history of
edits to the range of IP addresses
that are known to originate from
the university's network.

According to Microsoft's on-
line support page, each computer
logged into a network connected
to the Internet receives a unique
IP address. Internet sites such as
Wikipedia can log this IP number
when a user posts or edits infor-

This number can be divided
into two parts; the first part of the
number identifies the individual computer that is
connected to the network access-
ing the Internet.
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California dream of free college wilts under fiscal pressure

Michelle Locke

BERKELEY, Calif. — It was 1:16 a.m. at Berkeley and the campus crackled with possibilities for freshman John Garzamendi, football player, business major, future lieutenant governor. Annual cost: About $1,450.

In 1993, freshman and budding journalist Jetf Chang strode onto California's redwood-shaded acres. Issues of the day were diversity, how to handle it, and apartheid, how to stop it. Average annual cost: About $1,300.

Cut to this fall and poli sci major Dyana Mardon who works a few jobs and is trying hard not to dig herself into debt. Cost: About $7,300.

California's promise of free public higher education began as a way to deal with Baby Boomers headed for college. Under the state's Master Plan for Higher Education, U.C. draws from the top 12.5 percent of high school graduates; the 23-campus California State University draws from the top one-third; and everyone with a high school diploma can attend the huge network of community colleges.

At the time, it was a revolution; plan architect Clark Kerr made the cover of Time magazine.

"It was viewed as a model for the rest of the nation to emulate. It was the most systematic attempt at social engineering insofar as higher education was concerned, certainly," says Bar­nabas Nassirian, associate executive director of the Washington, D.C.-based American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers.

But the promise wilted under the pressure of other expenses, especially prisons and health care, and the 1978 voter-approved property tax revolt of Proposition 13.

By the numbers: In 1964, California put 7 percent of its general fund into the University of California. Today, the percentage is 3.5 percent.

"The Master Plan is still out there," says Nassirian, "but it's..."
Most first-time community college students who intend to transfer to a four-year school abandon this goal after their first semester at community college, according to a study published this month by a University of California educational policy research center, released the study last week, called "Beyond Access: How the First Semester Matters for Community College Students’ Aspirations and Persistence."

Researchers used information collected by the California Community College System from 1998 through 2004 to follow young adults aged 17 to 20 who entered a community college with a high school diploma and the intention to transfer to a four-year school.

According to the study, only 41.3 percent of those students transferred to a four-year school within the six-year period studied, and persistence was largely determined by success and progress within their first semester at community college.

The study also found that, of young adults with high school diplomas intending to transfer to a four-year university, one fourth did not return for the spring semester, and only slightly more than half of the students who did return still wanted to transfer after finishing their first semester, according to David N. Plank, executive director of the research center.

"The first semester is really a critical moment in the careers of these students," he said.

Researchers found that students who took more transfer-eligible courses and got better grades during their first semester were more likely to transfer after leaving their community colleges.

In addition to students’ academic performance, the study found differences in the success rates between different races.

"White and Asian students are more likely to take heavy course loads and push through to transfer (than their African American and Latino counterparts)," Plank said.

The study goes on to recommend an increase in services and support for community college students as they work through their first semester, in addition to what researchers said were already-high amounts of money and time currently spent on just getting students into higher education.

"Once you get them there, there is still work to be done to make sure they achieve their goals," said Anne Driscoll, a senior researcher at UC-Davis who authored the report.

The study notes that in the state of California, where jobs increasingly call for their employees to have college diplomas, it is more and more important to focus resources on getting students to persist in their educations.

"This is a group that we need to pay attention to if we want a successful workforce in the future," Driscoll said.

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Poll: 1 in 4 adults read no books last year

Reading habits vary across the nation

Residents in the Midwest topped the list of people who have read a book in the past year, a recent poll found.

Have you read any books in the past year?

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Percent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midwest</td>
<td>80%</td>
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<tr>
<td>West</td>
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<td>South</td>
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<td>Rural</td>
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<td>Whites</td>
<td>74%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minorities</td>
<td>68%</td>
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NOTE: Poll of 1,003 adults taken Aug. 6-8, 2007; margin of error ± 3 percent.

WASHINGTON — There it sits on your night stand, that book you’ve meant to read for who knows how long but hasn’t yet cracked open. Tonight, as you feel its stare from beneath that towering pile of magazines, know one thing — you are not alone.

One in four adults read no books at all in the past year, according to an Associated Press poll released Tuesday. Of those who did read, women and older people were most avid, and religious works and popular fiction were the top choices.

The survey reveals a nation whose book readers, on the whole, can hardly be called voracious. The typical person claimed to have read four books in the last year — half read more and half read fewer. Excluding those who hadn’t read any, the usual number read was seven.

“I just get sleepy when I read,” said Richard Bustos of Dallas, a habit with which millions of Americans can doubtless identify. Bustos, a 34-year-old project manager for a telecommunications company, said he had not read any books in the last year and would rather spend time in his backyard pool.

That choice by Bustos and others is reflected in book sales, which have been at or near all-time highs in recent years and are expected to stay that way indefinitely. Analysts attribute thekedness to competition from the Internet and other media, the unsteady economy and a well-established industry with limited opportunities for expansion.

When the Gallup Poll asked in 2005 how many books people had read at least once, 27 percent of people said they had read just one book in the past year due to an illness and worries that once she started the book, “I know I’d have to finish it.”

Among those who said they had read books, the median figure — with half reading more, half fewer — was nine books for women and five for men. The figures also indicated that those with college degrees read the most, and people aged 50 and up read more than those who are younger.

Pollyann Baird, 84, a retired school librarian in Loveland, Colo., says J.K. Rowling’s Harry Potter fantasy series is her favorite. But she has forced herself to not read the latest and final installment, “Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows,” because she has yet to file her income taxes this year due to an illness and worries that once she started the book, “I know I’ll have to finish it.”

People from the West and Midwest are more likely to have read at least one book in the past year. Southerners who do read, however, tend to read more books, mostly religious books and romance novels, than people from other regions. Whites read more than blacks and Hispanics, and those who said they never attend religious services read the fewest books, with nearly twice as many as those who attend frequently.

The Bible and religious works are read by two-thirds of adults. The survey found that 37 percent of Americans read the Bible in the last year, a four percentage point drop in a decade. The study faulted television, movies and the Internet.

Who are the 27 percent of people the AP-Ipsos poll found had not read a single book this year? Nearly a third of men and a quarter of women fit that category. They tend to be older, less educated, lower income, minorities, from rural areas and less religious.

At the same time, book enthusiasts abound. Many in the survey reported reading dozens of books and said they couldn’t do without them.

“I go into another world when I read,” said Charlotte Fuller, 64, a retired nurse from Seminole, Fla., who said she read 70 books in the last year. “I read so many sometimes I get the stories mixed up.”

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Colleges rant and rail against rankings, but find it hard to quit

Justin Pope
ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. News & World Report releases its annual college rankings Friday in the face of the loudest and best-organized criticism from educators the magazine has ever encountered.

For all the complaints that the rankings warp college admissions and distract colleges from educating students, U.S. News still has the upper hand. Colleges are having a hard time quitting the magazine's annual beauty contest.

Sixty-two colleges have enlisted in an anti-rankings campaign led by education activist Lloyd Thacker. But a quick Web search shows even some of those schools haven't fulfilled a pledge to stop using their rankings to advertise themselves. And none of the highest-ranked schools have formally signed on.

Interviews by The Associated Press with top officials at about a dozen elite colleges confirm a fault line in the rankings debate that's more than coincidence: It irks educators everywhere to see colleges ranked like basketball teams. But it irks educators at the top-ranked colleges a lot less.

"The list isn't perfect but it isn't totally evil either," said David Oxtoby, the president of Pomona College in California, the No. 7 liberal arts college on last year's list. The popular rankings are a way for students and parents to get information, he said, and most know better than to take a college's specific placement too seriously.

The debate has been raging since the magazine began ranking colleges in the 1980s. But the focus this year is on Thacker, a longtime admissions counselor who has made it his mission to restore educational values to what he calls an over-commercialized college selection process. Thacker has been circulating a letter calling on colleges to boycott a portion of the rankings, to swear off using them for self-promotion, and to develop an alternative — something he also is pursuing.

He's received lots of attention and encouragement from the top schools. But so far no liberal arts colleges ranked higher than No. 30 on last year's list has signed the letter, nor have any of the top 100 universities.

Thacker and other rankings opponents acknowledge he'll eventually need to enlist the big names. The fight against rankings "must be led by the beneficiaries," Leon Hotstein, the president of Bard College in upstate New York, wrote in a recent letter to U.S. News and to fellow college presidents, saying he would sign on to the protest if schools like Harvard, Princeton and Williams do so first.

"To end a corrupt and misleading game, the winners, not the losers, have to call it quits." At some of the highest-ranked colleges, officials declined to comment. Some that did said they are sympathetic to Thacker's case (many already refrain from advertising their rankings, at least in their own publications). And some are cooperating, at least partially.

Yale will host a major gathering next month for Thacker's effort to develop a rankings alternative. Lee Stetson, dean of admissions at the University of Pennsylvania, said he expects his university and its Ivy League peers will eventually work with Thacker in some form.

They also say the rankings are a fact of life. "In some respects, colleges and universities may have been too immune in the past to any kind of accountability for our practices, and students and families deserve to know as much as possible about the educational investment that they are about to make," said...
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Some coping tips for parents sending a child off to college for the first time:

- Be prepared to go through a period of reevaluation of your marriage, friendships, and relationships with children will at home.
- Give yourself time to adjust. Accept that it won’t happen overnight and may be painful.
- Take up activities and interests that seem fulfilling, but don’t try to come up with “busy work” to fill the void. This is a time for developing, refocusing and growing.
- Keep it light. If you cry when dropping your child off at college, also try to laugh at yourself a bit. Don’t lay the burden of your unhappiness and anxieties on your child.
- Avoid offering last-minute advice on everything you think you didn’t cover sufficiently. Your child is preoccupied with the coming adventure and not listening.
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What can ASI do for you?

I still remember that day four years ago, standing on the front steps of Fremont Hall. My dad gave me a firm handshake and my mom, my dad, and I turned back to look at the building I would call home for the next year, a sense of excitement came over me because I realized that a whole new chapter in my life was starting to take shape.

And now here I am, 23 years old and student body president of one of the top ranked universities in America. As I look back on my tenure here at Cal Poly, I'm amazed at how much I've grown as an individual and my hope is that you will also take time here at Poly to discover yourself and your potential in ways you never imagined.

To you who may have seen signs all over campus that display three distinct lowercase letters: associ­ated Students, Inc. is your ticket to the ultimate college experience.

Much more than your typical ASI or student government in high school, ASI is a $1.2 million nonprofit that gets its funding from you the students and is run by students just like yourself.

ASI's day-to-day operations include running the Recreation Center, University Union, Sports Com­plex and the Children's Center, as well as helping to manage Cal Poly's 325-plus student clubs and bringing impressive programming to the students of Cal Poly — such as intermural sports, Concerts in the Pla­za, the Craft Center, Poly Escapes and so much more!

ASI also employs 425 students; if you're interested in a job, check out asi.calpoly.edu/hr.

Most importantly ASI is here for YOU! Students are the heart and soul of any university and as a stu­dent at Cal Poly, you have the opportunity to make your school the best that it can be.

Last year student had some major concerns and ASI was work­ing to address them:

Transportation: ASI worked last year to help extend the bus routes for students who stay on campus later, so forget the hassle of driving in SLO and take the bus for free! Check out sbcity.org/visit.asp for a bus sched­ule.

Recreation Center: If you haven't noticed already, the Rec Center can get a little crowded. As the year progresses, you'll be asked to give feedback about what you want to see in an expanded facility...be on the lookout.

Student safety: While Cal Poly and the City of San Luis Obispo pride ourselves on providing a safe community for our residents, it's always a good idea to be prepared. People come to Poly to ensure student safety remains a top priority.

Sustainability: ASI is a big advocate for sustainability and looks forward to collaborating with campus groups to make the university green as can be!

...and the list goes on! ASI, we're only as good as the feedback we get from the students and we welcome your comments. If you feel that you need something on your mind, want to learn more about ASI or are looking to get involved, drop me an e-mail at asipresidentfr@calpoly.edu.

Good luck in all your endeavors and go Mustangs!

Brandon Sonza
ASI PRESIDENT

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California
continued from page 28
not a concept that is finding particular relevance in the political decisions that the state seems to be making.”
Ur officials point out that they have a significant financial aid program that covers increases for needy students and even with the hikes, UC fees are lower than more comparable public schools.
Still, footing in California’s expensive housing, the average cost of attending UC was just over $2,000 last year, about the same or slightly higher than comparable schools such as the University of Illinois.
“I’ve argued for most of my career for low fees and the state providing adequate support, but what happens if they can’t do that?” says Larry Hendman, UCI’s longtime budget director. “This is part of a bigger problem in how the state does in budgeting and all of the constitutional and statutory requirements that are built into the state budgetary process and the very minimal amount of credibility that the governor and the state legislature have.”
When Garamendi attended Cal, he kept busy playing varsity football to some success and working various jobs, he remembers cleaning the stadium on Sundays.
Big changes were sweeping across campus — the 1964 Free Speech Movement is considered a bellwether for the decade of campus protests that followed. “Everybody in Berkeley was involved in politics during those days,” recalls Garamendi.
Chang, author of “Can’t Stop Won’t Stop; A History of the Hip-Hop Generation,” began his Berkeley adventures as an 11-year-old visiting Northern California with his family from their home in Hawaii.
“I was just awe-struck,” he said. “There was so much activity, the vibe was great. I remember telling my parents at that time, ‘I’m going to come to this school’.”
In 1975 when he did, college was becoming a serious investment. His parents took out a second mortgage and he worked 20 hours a week, cleaning jobs like washing dishes in the cafeteria and cleaning windows on the campus stairs.
He also got involved in student government, becoming president his senior year, and working on issues of fairness in admissions.
He graduated in 1989, just before the chill economic winds of the early ’90s sent fees skyrocket. In 1989, average annual fees were about $3,800. By 1995 they had doubled to $7,400.
“The period that we’ve been up against has been one of massive retrenchment where people have been talking about how to cut government, how to scale back on any kind of ambition on the part of state government,” says Chang. “What that means is that we’re in a constant spiral to the bottom.”
Now a parent of a 19-year-old Chang already thinking about college costs, as well as his concern about the high-stakes race to get into elite schools like Berkeley.
“And the thought of trying to get your kid into college is sort of a middle-class fear of failing,” says Chang, who still lives in Berkeley and is working on a history of American multiculturalism. “We’ve already started stressing about this. I just feel like these days the kids are so much more pressured.”
Nancy Blued, class of ’77 and now director of the California Alumni Association, agrees.
“I had a fabulous time at Cal. I worked hard and I got good grades, but I’m around a lot of students now and I see them and they look like they’re under more pressure.
No one’s predicting a return to the days of free college. After some years of huge budget cuts, UC and CSU leaders made a deal with Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger that provides for small but steady increases in state funding along with fee increases of up to 10 percent.
If the state economy picks up, fees may stay at for a while; if finances take another tumble, they could rise, says Hendman. He’s expecting a middle course of fee hikes of 5-to-10 percent.
Garamendi opposes any more hikes, saying that even with grants and financial aid, many lower-income families can’t contemplate the idea of incurring $40,000 in debt.
Debt is certainly something Mardon, a junior this fall, would like to avoid.
Her parents, both professionals, make too much money to qualify for financial aid, but not so much they can easily part with thousands a year. So, she’s made it work with her own part-time jobs and scraping into a two-bedroom apartment with two other people for $500 a month.
Her younger brother starts at Berkeley soon, and that will raise the financial bar. It’s frustrating,” says Mardon, “because I feel like it’s a public institution and it should be here so that most of the public can attend it.”
Remember those adventure books in which you were given a small snake, a match and a battery, and had to choose between climbing a tree to hide from an army of Bjuubuti natives armed with spears and hot tar, or making a bomb using these handy items to blow them up? Well, your past is back to haunt you ... with sharks.

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Welcome to Cal Poly. Remember, only you can choose your fate. But choose wisely because if you rely on “learn by doing” tactics, you may be dead before you can correct a vital mistake (though turning back a page is always an option).

Your adventure begins here:

Your family left a couple of hours ago, and suddenly you hear a faint rumbling. You check to see if the “P” is crumbling down the hill toward your dorm room. But no. Your roommate informs you it’s only your stomach. You have two choices: head across campus for your first experience of classy on-campus dining (turn to pg. 46), or brave the concrete jungle of downtown San Luis Obispo in search of an eating establishment (turn to pg. 34).
Rilo Kiley
“Under the Black Light”

Critics have given Rilo Kiley’s new album the” black light test,” and it has passed. Los Angeles alternative rock band Rilo Kiley released its fourth studio album, “Under the Black Light,” Aug. 21 through Warner Bros. Records.

This is the band’s first album since “More Adventurous,” which came out in 2004. The new album is energetic, fun, creative and a worthy follow-up to the group’s previous works.

Lewis’ lyrics and vocals are strong as usual throughout the entire album. The album reflects the California style of the group and encourages clapping and dancing with its upbeat tracks. “Close Call” shows off Lewis’ beautiful vocal range and style.

The album’s title track, “Under the Black Light,” is one of the strongest tracks on the disc. “Dreamer” is a little corny, but features nice vocals from Blake Stenson. “Deja” and “Money-maker” are a little funkier, but definitely enjoyable.

To promote the new album, Rilo Kiley has started their fall tour in Europe and Canada. The band visits the U.S. and Canada on Sept. 19.

— Valerie Bishop, The Battalion (Texas A&M)

Ben Harper
“Lifeline”

Perhaps as exhausted by the political process as much of the country now finds itself, Harper largely shuns politics on this album, addressing notions of a corrupt power structure in the opener “Fight Outs You” and touching on the contentiousness and polarization of the country in the sip-up tempo “Put It On Me.”

Meanwhile, he concerns himself with universal themes of love and loss, with quiet romantic serenades and ruminations found in a four-song block early in the album. Not until the breezy and desperately needed “Say You Will” — utilizing that most Butterly-friendly of percussion instruments, the bongos — do we get a blast of cool air.

Of the remaining songs, only on the superb “Put It On Me” will listeners find much in the way of toe-tapping. The remainder of the songs are more mellow, folksy outing you, a more mellow, folksy outing.

— Patrick Caldwell, Daily Texan (U.Texas)

The New Pornographers
“Challengers”

For the legions of early adopters who gorged on the New Pornographers’ debut albums and sang their praises in countless music blogs and adoring band profiles, “Challengers” is no doubt bittersweet.

With this, their fourth album and the follow-up to 2005’s widely praised “Twilight,” the Canadian indie pop group finally grows up, reaching new levels of thoughtfulness and tentative maturity.

The result is the versatile definition of an album that grows on you, a more mellow, folky outing focused on mid-tempo ballads instead of lightning-quick power pop. Whether listeners will appreciate this new direction depends solely on their ability to divorce their expectations from the sugar highs the band has been known for until now.

“Challengers” knows what it’s doing from the get-go, establishing the album’s focus on building crescendos and acoustic guitar-driven tunes. While this fourth effort retains the quality of previous New Pornographers records — as well as their utilization of multiple instruments and obtuse, fundamentally unimportant lyrics — it channels that quality in very new directions.

— Patrick Caldwell, Daily Texan (U.Texas)
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"Superbad" is summer's superhit

MOVIE REVIEW

Rick Passmore
THE INDEPENDENT COLLEGIATE CO.-TOLEDO

TOLEDO, Ohio — It was the time of raging hormones, drunken mishaps and wavering minds. That's right, it was senior year of high school, the backdrop for the newest film to come from the minds of "The 40-Year-OldVirgin" and "Knocked Up" creators.

"Superbad" is a super-fun, sex-and-booze comedy about three socially awkward 18-year-old friends Evan (Michael Cera), Seth (Jonah Hill) and Fogell (newcomer Christopher Mintz-Plasse) who try to get alcohol for a party so they can get with girls they've been pursuing for years.

With graduation and the separation of college upon them, Seth sees this as a final chance to lose his virginity, so they can go to college sexually experienced.

For Seth, a porn-addicted pervert, trying to attract hotte Jules (Emma Stone) is all he can think about. The only way he thinks he can attract her is at her party, for which he asked her to provide the liquor. However, his sheepish best friend Evan, although prepared to, doesn't really want to sleep with his secret sweetheart Becca (Martha MacIsaac) but instead wants to woo her and make her his — at least for the summer.

So, what do they rely on for the daunting task of underage alcohol purchase?

They rely on the biggest outcast, Fogell, because he looks innocent and is the only one that seems like it would work in real life.

"Superbad" wasn't something Hollywood expected from a comedic yet ultimately heart-warming tale of three nerdy high school buddies who set out to lose their virginity to the girls in their fantasy.

As for the story of this film, that is about it. It's the quintessential story to every teen sex comedy you've ever seen, but what makes it unique is the writing, the characters and the performances.

Cera, from the television hit "Arrested Development," and Hill, famous for his roles in "Knocked Up" and "Grandma's Boy," have such a great chemistry and play off each other so well, you'll swear you knew these guys in high school, if you weren't already there. These tight amigos got into separate schools, and the tension around it grows throughout the picture, and the two use it to the advantage of pity for their characters.

However, rookie performer Mintz-Plasse is the scene-stealer, as he not only plays Fogell, but is also Fogell, and eventually McLovin. He reck with the police, who were just going to give him a lift to his destination, turns into a wild night of homeless bar nuts, abuse of power and eventually an inadvertent meeting with Evan and Seth, all of which Fogell seems to become more baby with every scene.

Each character has their own bit of odd, social moments, such as Seth's drydaymns in the grocery store and Fogell's different marijuana smokes with his cop buddies, and they definitely have their memorable lines, which are so persuasive and grotesquely funny, I would be heavily censored if I repeated them.

While there's an overload of cursing and sex jokes, there is the heart that seems to be in everything producer Judd Apatow has a hand in. You begin to feel for these poor saps, no matter how disgusting they may be.

Yet, like the 1980s classic "Revenge of the Nerds," the boys of "Superbad" are the stars of the movie. The guys in high school, if you weren't already them. These characters and the performances.

Cera, from the television hit "Arrested Development," and Hill, famous for his roles in "Knocked Up" and "Grandma's Boy," have such a great chemistry and play off each other so well, you'll swear you knew these guys in high school, if you weren't already there.

"Superbad" made me laugh harder than any other comedy I've seen this year, and it also gave me a little bit of high school nostalgia that is perfect for these late summer woes about beginning school once more.

Theatrical release: Aug. 17 Release: besting first week earnings for "Knocked Up" by more than a million dollars.

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"Superbad" made me laugh harder than any other comedy I've seen this year, and it also gave me a little bit of high school nostalgia that is perfect for these late summer woes about beginning school once more.
After successfully navigating the concrete jungle, your stomach wants one thing only; the sweet, sweet nectar of burning animal flesh. Upon further investigation, your nose leads you to Firestone's, a bar and grill known for its tri-tip sandwiches with two options; walk (turn to pg. 48) or run (turn to pg. 42).

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Most of the contemporary exhibit's works are vibrant, big color blocks evoking Andy Warhol and Austin Powers in equal parts.

Southern California art exhibit proves to be controversy-prone

By Linda Chang
Drew Brees (USC)

LOS ANGELES — You know you're at a modern art exhibit when the woman staring at a piece of ordinary-looking red plywood mounted before you whispers with a bemused grin, "So I have this at my apartment. I bought it from Home Depot, and I use it as my door." This was just one of many vocal reactions to the Los Angeles County Museum of Art's SoCal-Southern California Art of the 1960s and '70s" exhibit, which may be the most interactive and communion-causing art show in Los Angeles this year.

The SoCal collection, which will run through March 30, features a broad range of work, from light and space installations, geometric art, and a small devotional to the politically conscious artists of the day — artists who no doubt had Vietnam, abortion rights, the Kennedy assassinations and the Civil Rights Movement in mind.

Every piece is also ripe with Southern California influence, whether it's the acrylic sunset that greets you at the entrance or the undulating wave reflections of a glittery yellow square panel nearby.

Most of the contemporary exhibit's works are vibrant, big color blocks evoking Andy Warhol and Austin Powers in equal parts. These pieces are appropriately tagged "Untitled," as it is nearly impossible to describe them coherently in words. But it soon becomes hard to distinguish the first "Untitled" resin square sculpture from the Kith. Suitably, appropriately tagged "Untitled," as it is nearly impossible to describe them coherently in words.

Another highlight is "Cube," by Larry Bell, a transparent square made of vacuum-coated glass that sits at chest level and allows you to look at it — and your own reflection — from every perspective, making the viewer a working, breathing part of the art.

Meanwhile, the works of the more realistic artists of the period are often, quite literally, trash. In a memorable assemblage work, an inebriated male teenager, made of chicken wire, feels up a girl in the backseat of a rusting '35 Dodge.

But some works are able to convey the innovations of the period, which were partly due to advancements in aerospace and high-tech industries in the '60s and '70s. New materials developed during that time helped light and space artists explore new ways of integrating their art with the environment. An untitled installation by renowned space artist Doug Wheeler features a claustrophobic, dark space with a single light source: a dimly lit screen in the center of a wall that washes the entire enclosure in an eerie gray haze. Walking closer to this ethereal floating plane, you feel absolutely hypnotized, as if you're wandering through a dream rather than looking at an over-sized light fixture.

The exhibit's combination of both the glamor and grime, the nonsensical and symmetric will leave visitors with their own strong reactions to one of California's most volatile time periods.

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Cartel deals sweet sonic highs

Janelle Eastridge  
ENTERTAINMENT

Powerpop/punk rock band Cartel, whose self-titled sophomore album was released Aug. 21, will be playing Friday night with Test Yourself at the WOW closing concert.  

Wyclef Jean to remix Pugh’s beloved “Wasted,” a song that has been a “tabor of love” for two years in the making for the lead singer and one that he never intended to be Cartel-worthy until it was complete.

The result of Wyclef’s remixing was a complete surprise to Pugh and the rest of the band; the reggae-influenced remake of the original turned out to be more “summer jam 2007” than hip-hop, the genre Cartel expected from the former Fugees member.

“Pretty sure we’re the only white band who has Wyclef rapping on their album,” Pugh chuckled. “Being from Atlanta, that adds a lot of credit to us.”

Wyclef was really easy to work with — he likes to work with songs, splicing them and putting them back together. “You really don’t mess with Wyclef; I was like, ‘You’ve sold millions of records, and I’ve sold a (couple hundred thousand). You win.”

Pugh also credits the hip-hop artist with one of the best pieces of advice he’s received about the music industry: “He told me, ‘I didn’t get to where I am right now by listening to what other people have told me!’ And I was like, ‘That’s poignant.’ That piece of advice was a big deal for me,” Pugh said.

Now released, the second album is something Pugh said he and the band’s other members are very proud of.

“We feel like this record says more about our band and what we are more than the previous two,” he said. “With ‘Chroma’ we never realized our potential in the studio. We were rushed and didn’t have time to think about the songs like we did on this one. We didn’t even know what to think about.”

“With the second one, we had a choice between going in there and writing, redoing, working songs or we could have done what we usually did: completely finishing a song that we really like with good music on it,” he said.

“Meanwhile, on the road for a week and a half, Pugh said the others were looking forward to having scenes like Cal Poly later in the year. “A snack due to touring after big-time tours such as the Warped Tour and shows that have translated to lesser-than-expected crowds so far.”

Because of the high-profile position the bubble afforded them, the album Pugh and the rest of the band worked “coudln’t be released if we had to do things more perfect,” he said.

Whipping out the credit card, the lead singer asked, “That’s been a downer behind us.”

“We put on a pretty good show, I think. We just like to get up there, have a good time, and hang out with people who like our music,” Pugh said. “Come with the idea that you are going to have a kick-ass time.”

For more information regarding Cartel and to hear songs from their newly released self-titled album, visit www.cartelrocks.com or www.myspace.com/cartel.

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KCPR, San Luis Obispo’s Cal Poly’s very own radio station, listeners from Santa Maria to Morro Bay can tune in to 91.3 FM for a daily dose of alternative music and independent programming. From Dixie melodies to French pop, from underground hip-hop to indie-disco, and from dance-break-bots to mid-jazz, KCPR’s got it covered.

Comprised of an all-volunteer staff of more than 100 students, faculty, and community members, KCPR broadcasts 24 hours a day. DJs jockey run two- and one-hour shows, which follow either a regular format or shows that showcase new music or played by most mainstream radio stations, or a special format shows that devote themselves to a particular style, genre, or theme.

Here’s a glimpse into the motivations and priorities of some of the executives who run the station and make KCPR what it is.

For more information or to listen online, visit www.kcpr.org.

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KCPR Executive
Music Director
Paul Gambon
architecture junior
Joined because: "I was looking for a creative outlet on campus, and radio stations automatically fit into that category... KCPR is one of the most open-minded in terms of music and DJs running it."
Any regrets in joining? "No. It's a hobby so I'd probably spend as much time with music anyway. Plus it's a positive extracurricular activity that looks good on a resume."
Favorite album this year so far: 
"I was thrown out and banned for life listening to music outside of the most open-minded in terms of music and DJs running it.
 KCPR Executive
Program Director
Michele Tondreau
theatre arts senior
Joined because: "I wanted to learn more about music and DJs."
KCPR in five words: "KCPR separates dorks from hipsters."

KCPR Executive
Music Director
Brian Cassidy
english senior
Joined because: "My brother went to college here, and he told me to look into it."
Any regrets in joining? "No. It's a hobby so I'd probably spend as much time with music anyway. Plus it's a positive extracurricular activity that looks good on a resume."
Worst KCPR experience: His Monday morning graveyard shift from 4 to 7 am, but that was fun too.
Favorite album this year so far: Burial — "Burial"

KCPR Executive
Production Director and RPM Director
Paul Sittig
art and regional planning alums
Any regrets in joining? Only from his parents. "When I was music director, it was completely a full-time job. I ended up taking a full-time job, but that was fun too."
Best KCPR experience: Receiving calls from listeners who enjoy the music being played, people who give "random accolades for the station" when "cool when people are really happy to give money to the station."
Favorite album this year so far: "The Last Holy Writer"

KCPR Executive
Stacks Director
Diego Baptista
architecture and chemistry senior
Joined because: "I met this girl on Livejournal who told me I should go in."
Best KCPR experience: "When the only girls (the KCPR softball team) got out of the dairy team, I went to the dairy store and I saw the girl who talked about the dairy team."
Any regrets in joining? "I guess I could spend more time on school. But fuck school."
Favorite album this year so far: "I want to learn more about music and DJs."

KCPR Executive
Stacks Director
Graham Cullberston
journalism senior
Any regrets in joining? "Not really. It's probably been one of the best things I've done on campus."
Best KCPR experience: A road trip to Folk Yeah Festival in Big Sur, which was "three days with your friends partying and listening to music... That's what the station is about."
Worst KCPR experience: Getting diagnosed with pneumonia after staying out until 4 am at an afterparty where Dead Science performed Prine covers.
Favorite album this year so far: "unique, eccentric, crazy, hipstery, wild"

KCPR Executive
Business Director
Jesse Bo Widmark
architectural engineering senior
Any regrets in joining? "No, especially on campus. There's a lot of other extracurricular things I'm in."
Favorite album this year so far: "The Last Holy Writer"

KCPR Executive
Program Director
Josh "The Wookie" Matthews
electrical engineering alums
Best KCPR experience: "Dealing with people who don't want to be mature about stuff." Best KCPR experience: "When all of the microphones disappeared."
KCPR in five words: "a pox on the city"

KCPR Executive
Internet Director
Matt Zenick
chemistry sophomore
Worst KCPR experience: "Dealing with people who don't want to be mature about stuff."
KCPR in five words: "really cool bros and breezies" OR "hot chicks and cool dudes"

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‘Funky Junk’: turning trash to treasure for art’s sake


Laura Kasavan

What do skateboard, newspaper clipping, beer cans and metal trash cans have in common? At first glance, nothing ties these items together. Yet all of these objects and more are currently on display at the San Luis Obispo Art Center, located at 1010 Broad St., in “Funky Junk: The Art of Recycling.” The exhibit, which will be on display through Sept. 24, includes everything from simple pieces that add interest with textures, to abstract and thought-provoking commentaries on religion and war.

Korin Kile, executive director at the art center, said the exhibit is important for art because it reveals the awareness the artists have of their environment and surroundings while making statements about society.

“It’s been a trend for artists to reuse recycled materials for a number of years,” Kile said. “Exhibits like this attract people nationwide, with the passion to use castoff materials in their creations.”

Sixty-two participating artists, hailing from San Luis Obispo to New York, contributed unique and unusual pieces created from recyclable materials. Though some of the artwork does make use of beer cans and plastic bottles, overall the exhibit does not scream “recycling!”

In her creation “Spoonerism 2008,” Robin Bell used 2,008 plastic spoons produced by Solo. She cut each spoon, separating the bowls used in her sculpture from the handles. A side-black spoon at the end of a curving spiral stands against the otherwise striking white plastic. The structure of Bell’s piece is reminiscent of a hunk of white coral mounted on a wooden pedestal for display.

Arnie David Edgar designed the “Blue tail Reef Cruiser.” The fish and funky fish was constructed out of brightly colored plastic materials that included Smuggle and Pares laundry detergent bottles.

Howard Kline used 72 pairs of designer sunglasses in his vivid piece “Looking for Adventure.” He mounted the sunglasses on canvas and then painted over them with bright acrylics for a modern effect on the dimensional piece.

Another artist created his piece out of glass from a broken bottle. Christopher Watt found the bottle in the street near a statue of Jesus and was inspired to create “The Green Jesus,” a sculpture whose face and hands appear to be coming through the wall.

“You have to remember, it’s worth checking out, especially if you have ever wondered how to create something intriguing out of seemingly useless items,” Kile said that recycling has a long history of being well respected in the art field, and that the exhibit has drawn many people in from off the street.

“The exhibit has been both entertaining and educational for people,” Kile said. “People are walking away with, ‘Gee, why didn’t I think of that?’ or with ‘Wow, smart, how witty. What a statement that person was making.’”

For more information, go to www.slocacenter.org.

Wrong choice. Grandpa can’t see too well, and you’ve been hit.
When it comes to affordable microwaveable meals, the options are endless. Everything from pizzas to hamburgers to soups is available in a variety of forms. You can purchase these shrewdly priced delicacies at your local grocery store, 7-Eleven, or even Costco. However, without further delay, let’s get to the good stuff.

It would be unforgivable for me to approach the topic without mentioning Easy Mac. In about five minutes, you can have a hot bowl of mac and cheese without touching a pot or a stove.

I never thought that a frozen cheeseburger could be cooked in the microwave and come out edible, but then I was introduced to one of the biggest life savers of my college experience. In about a minute, you can have two White Castle mini-cheeseburgers cooked and ready to eat. They even come with grilled onions! Sure, it’s no In-N-Out Burgers, but then again, you don’t have to drive all the way to Atascadero or Santa Maria to get a great burger.

Another of my favorite microwaveable treats is never farther than the nearest liquor store. I can’t tell you how many times I have come home from a grueling Saturday night downtown and raced straight to my freezer for a Potbelly Sandwich Shop cheeseburger. This hot dog and cheese sandwich is made by Marie Callender’s. Per­haps you can learn from my mistakes and believe me when I say: Cheaper is NOT always better.

There’s a kind of Hot Pocket to suit everybody’s tastes, and they even make Lean Pockets for those who are more health conscious. However, I have always been partial to the Philly Steak Cheese pocket, but you can’t go wrong with Ham and Cheese, Pepperoni Pizza, or Cheesburger flavors.

Personally, I have never been a big fan of the all-inclusive microwaveable arsenal. However, there is a hierarchy when it comes to the stuff. Without a doubt, the best meals in the category are made by Marie Callender’s. Personally, I stick with the chicken enchiladas, try the microwaveable cheeseburger, and order the frozen steak burritos and taquitos. These meals are upgraded with this custoni­mable condiment. It may sound like a cliché, but don’t knock it until you try it.

One of the most important things to understand about microwaveable foods is that you can always add your own unique twist. My personal favorite creation is a mix of the chicken enchiladas hot sauce that I add to a huge range of foods. Chicken wings, taquitos, burritos and even chicken nuggets are upgraded with this custom­made condiment. It may sound like a little weird, but don’t knock it until you try it.

Mac and cheese can benefit from some chopped-up hot dogs or sausages, which are also micro­waveable. For most Mexican foods, try sprinkling some grated cheese on top before throwing it into the microwave. Like I said, the possibilities are endless. Be creative and see what works.

I’m sure you have heard the saying, “time is money.” Fortunately, if you’re short on either of the two, putting your microwave to good use will help with the problem. Take a trip to your local frozen food section and give that energy-wasting store a rest. When you’re able to make a delicious three-course meal during a single timeout of Monday Night Football, you’ll know what all the fuss is about.

Don’t thank me, just spread the word.
**Mustang Daily**

**ENTERTAINMENT**

**Friday, September 7, 2007**

**Oh, he’s on his way alright:**

**Mustang Daily:** On your newest CD you play every instrument. Was that kind of a backlash to “On My Way,” which I believe you said that you made in part to showcase your backing band?

**Ben Kweller:** “On My Way” was that, you know, it was like I wanted to document the band that I was touring with and I wanted to make a real spontaneous album; something really raw and just live-sounding. I planned on doing that with the new album as well, but while meeting with the producer Gil Norton, he found out that I can play different instruments and drums and everything and he said, “Well, let’s just go in one-on-one and nail a record like that.” And it was his idea. So I thought about it for a day or two and decided that it sounded like a lot of fun and so we decided to do that. So it was kind of like a last minute change, really.

**MD:** How would you describe the difference between the sounds of your albums? You already said that your last one was more raw and live, how would you describe the sound of this one and the progression from “Shi Shi”?

**BK:** Well, I would say this one is more orchestrated and there’s more attention towards the detail. It’s a little more meticulous. I think, it’s very big-sounding, and it’s still a fun album. It got a good sort of summery energy to it, but also there’s some serious songs on there. It’s really autobiographical, I feel like with this one you’re really inviting me into your living room soon when you press play, where “On My Way” is more like, a rock band in a dingy night club you know. And “Shi Shi” is really cool because that one’s just a real mixture of different things. That was my debut and so I put a little bit of folk in there and punk rock and a little bit of piano ballads; that one just runs the border of what I do and it has more of a naive sound to it.

**MD:** Most of your bands and albums have featured up-close pictures of yourself. What’s the thought behind doing that versus doing artwork or something else... or is there one?

**BK:** I’ve never really thought much about that. I’m into artwork; I’ve just never thought that could do.

**In an effort to avoid puddles of urine and the festering bacteria of gum from bygone eras, you decide to make a run for it. Halfway down the alley of death, you begin to roll. Unknownst to you, a gumball was in the path of your speeding feet. You slam into one of the spit-coated walls, and you stick. You’ve hit the giant web of a gum spider! You’re spider food now, sucka.**

**Coastal Pool Center & House Plants**

**Choose Your Own Adventure** (cont. from pg. 34)

**Welcome Back!**

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Indie folk-rocker and music marvel Ben Kweller spills on life, love and his creative musical ventures

good artwork, really. I'm an indie label,ATO Records, and they don't have an art department, so we've never really been able to have any cool artwork. I'd love to think that's something I'd be involved in - you know? But I don't think my next album will have a picture of me on it because I'm kind of sick of that.

MD: OK. Will you mostly be playing your last album on tour or will you throw in some songs from "Sho Sho" and "On My Way"?

BK: I play songs from all three albums. I run it up and down. I don't do the same set twice. I take requests if somebody throws out a song I try to play it. I'm all about variety. There's some songs that I don't play very much, but I try to play every song at least once a tour.

MD: Cool. So you started playing instruments at a very young age - what drew you to music?

BK: My dad really was the biggest influence growing up. He used to have a band and taught me how to play drums when I was 7. I learned everything especially different from the norm. I wouldn't change a thing. I feel very lucky that I got to do so much from an early age. I feel like I had a head start. I knew really early on what I wanted to do and so I could really just focus all of my energy onto that instead of trying to figure it out through my high school years and college years. Most of my friends didn't know what they wanted to do until they were in college and still switch majors.

MD: Very cool. You've done so much in the first 20 years of your life - what do you see happening in the future?

BK: There's a lot I want to do artistically. There's a lot of music I want to make. There's a lot of countries I want to travel to and tour and bring my music to people all over the world. I've started to develop a fan base in a lot of different places like Japan and Australia and Europe. I want to go to South America and Asia. I want to make music that I feel like I had a head start. I knew really early on what I wanted to do and so I could really just focus all of my energy onto that instead of trying to figure it out through my high school years and college years. Most of my friends didn't know what they wanted to do until they were in college and still switch majors.

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Temporary lapse in judgment: reality not so real

Hamilton Hedrick
ARKANSAS TIMES

FAYETTEVILLE: Ask — Is it just me or has reality TV completely taken over the airwaves? It seems like I can’t channel surf without coming across another reality show, but more like 10 or 15.

I’ll admit it, I like reality TV as much as the next person, but at what point does reality become fiction again?

I mean, at least 90 percent of what we are told is reality is really a producer feeding the fire if you will, by telling the reality star what to say or do. Now, I’m not saying everything that is said to be reality is fake, but I mean come on.

Take MTV’s overnight success “The Hills.” Do you really think Lauren Conrad’s life is as real as Nicole Richie’s? No, Lauren is just as guilty as the next person of shopping at Walmart with her 80 rolls of toilet paper, but unfortunately we don’t get to see this part of her glamorous Los Angeles life.

Take FOX’s multiple-seasoned “The Simple Life.” Talk about sheer TV genius. Those girls were so hilarious they could take that show on the road … wait, they did (season two). I have a hard time believing that half of what came out of Nicole Richie’s mouth was actually her and not studio writers whispering catch phrases into her ear between takes.

So you watch this show, it’s clear that this guy is not stumping through the Swiss Alps by himself. I mean you can basically see the boom mic hanging over his head. Yet here he is, running through the woods on some fat cameraman shoes after eating a sandwich and breathing hard, which you can hear during the show.

However, that’s not even my favorite part of the show. I find it incredibly interesting to watch this guy run through the wilderness, pick up a log and eat the bug he finds underneath it. You heard me right? He eats it.

Take note next time this show comes on. The next day, he looks cleaner and more refreshed than he did when the show started.

Another facet to reality TV I really find interesting is that no matter the topic, these shows are almost always hosted by washed-up television stars from years past. Enter David Hasselhoff from “America’s Got Talent.” Please tell me you saw this — he sang on the finale. Has it really come to the point where there are no new ideas, so we just have Hasselhoff sing a little ditty?

I don’t have to remind you that one of his co-hosts is Shanna O’Brien, who is famous for what exactly? Being married to Ozzy or that fantastic talk show she had for a season? But none of these shows can hold a candle to what I consider to be the best reality TV show ever: Paula Abdul on her own show, “Hey Paula.” If that is supposed to be the story of a middle-aged pop star, I am almost positive in every single episode she is proving she’s not even a middle-aged pop star.

I’m pretty sure she was laughing so hard almost every single episode she has a moment in which she cries, and not just a tear here and there, but a full-blown 2-year-old-type fit in which she is hysterical and makes sense. This show has since been cancelled. Oh and did I mention she was the executive producer of this show?

What’s next? “America’s Next Top President?” America will watch potential candidates perform specific tasks only to then text votes to $555 in hopes their favorite will become the new leader of the free world.

At this rate, I don’t see reality TV letting up anytime soon, and with the downward spiral it’s in, it’s only going to get better.
Johansson talks about movies, music and being young in Hollywood

Sandy Cohen
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Life is good for Scarlett Johansson. The actress and aspiring singer just recorded her debut album and has a calendar full of film projects that will keep her busy for months.

At just 22, Johansson has already taken direction from Robert Redford, Brian DePalma, Christopher Nolan and Woody Allen, with whom she's currently working for the third time. She's shared the screen with John Travolta, Bill Murray, Steve Buscemi and Hilary Swank in roles that have seen her as an outcast, action star and little girl lost.

In her latest project, "The Nanny Diaries," opening Friday, Johansson stars opposite Oscar nominees Laura Linney and Paul Giamatti. Set in her hometown of New York City, the film tells the story of a 21-year-old college grad who learns what money can and can't buy when she takes a job as a live-in nanny for a super-wealthy couple and their son.

Speaking by phone from Barcelona, where she's shooting Allen's latest film, Johansson talked with The Associated Press about music, her movie career and how she avoids the pitfalls and paparazzi that plague her Hollywood contemporaries.

AP: Are you Woody Allen's new muse?
Johansson: We both kind of think that term is so bizarre. You know, it's not like I come bring him inspiration when he's got writer's block at 3 in the morning. We like to work together. It's an easy working relationship.

AP: Do you have any insight into Allen's work?
Johansson: I think people come to see his movies are because of curiosity. They want to know what he's going to do, and they're never disappointed. He always comes up with something new and interesting.

AP: Do you have any advice for Hollywood stars who are young and starting out?
Johansson: It's about staying true to yourself and trusting your instincts. It's important to stay grounded and remember where you came from.

AP: What's your next project?
Johansson: I have a few projects in the works, but I can't talk about them just yet. I'm always looking for new challenges and opportunities to grow as an actress.

AP: How do you stay away from the paparazzi?
Johansson: I try to avoid them as much as possible. I don't like being followed around all the time. It's important to have some privacy and to be able to enjoy your life without constant scrutiny.

AP: What's the biggest challenge you've faced so far in your career?
Johansson: I think the biggest challenge has been finding a balance between my personal life and my professional life. It's not easy to be a working actress and a young woman at the same time.

AP: What advice do you have for other young actresses who are starting out?
Johansson: I think it's important to be persistent and not give up. It's a tough industry, but if you have the drive and determination, you can make it happen.

AP: What's next for Scarlett Johansson?
Johansson: I'm excited about my upcoming projects and the music I'm working on. I'm also looking forward to spending some time with my friends and family.

AP: Thanks for talking with the AP.
Johansson: You're welcome. It was nice to speak with you.

see Johansson, page 46
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Johansson continued from page 45

Johansson: New York is such a great city to shoot in... It's been a long time since I've been able to shoot at home and it's just so much fun. It's wonderful to be able to just see your friends after work, to be able to go home and sleep in your own bed. It's just such a pleasure.

AP: How did you like working in your hometown?
Johansson: I've always been a huge fan of Tom Waits and I had this kind of golden opportunity to make an album however I wanted and it's kind of a dream chance. Originally I thought that I would do an album of standards and I wanted to include a Tom Waits song. And I don't know, I thought maybe everybody does standards, and so I see Tom Waits as being kind of a composer of modern standards and so it seemed appropriate that I could interpret his songs. Obviously, it's not an album where I'm trying to please him. It would be impossible. He writes such beautiful songs, and incredible melodies, and there's so cinematic and kind of open-ended so I felt like it would be something that I could be inspired by.

AP: Has music always been an interest of yours?
Johansson: I actually started acting because I wanted to be in musicals when I was a little girl. That's where my dream career was going to be when I was 8 years old like the young Cosette in "Les Miserables." Then I started making films and I've never ended up doing musical theater. Of course, by the time I turned 15, I kind of lost that part of myself. You know, it's always been there. I've always loved to sing and I've always loved music and listened to lots of music and all kinds of music.

AP: Unlike some of your contemporaries, you're not a famous puppy and haven't been arrested for drunk driving. How do you stay on track?
Johansson: I don't think necessarily that there's trouble looming around the corner for everyone involved in this industry. I have a really wonderful family that's very supportive. Luckily, I never really struggled with any kind of, I don't know, image problems or addictions. You know, I think it's not just people in Hollywood... It's kind of part of just growing up and growing up in the world that we live in today where everything is so available and so first-class. It's hard I think for a lot of youth to avoid these pitfalls. Obviously the availability of whatever it may be, whether it's drugs or alcohol or partying or whatever, is dangerous for people who are prone to addiction or that kind of lifestyle. I'm just fortunate enough to never have had that inclination. I think it's an attribute that I owe to my parents and friends and the way I was raised.

AP: What about this album you're releasing? It's all Tom Waits covers?
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AP: What attracted you to "The Nanny Diaries"?
Johansson: Waris (Nagin Hernman) and Bob (Patino) were attracted to it... I had written the script, and I was a big fan of "American Splendor." So I just... I just... and we just got along incredibly well. The three of us spent hours talking about everything, and we have sort of similar upbringings, and we're all from New York. That is what attracted me to the project to begin with. Of course, also just the opportunity to play somebody who was a girl who I very easily could have been friends with or known. I felt like I'd never really had the opportunity to play someone that I could so easily relate to some­one I'd never met. I just really loved the script. I thought it was clever and funny and a nice opportunity to do kind of a broad comedy. It was all very attractive.

AP: What do you like about working in your hometown?
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Kristen Marschall

The topic of genetically modified organisms is in no way foreign to San Luis Obispo County. In the November 2004 election, almost 59 percent of county voters turned down a measure that would prohibit the use of genetically engineered organisms. Now, three years later, the county will have another chance to analyze the same subject after reading the newest PREFACE book.

"There are so many unknowns about advancement and crop technology. We want to plant the seed that this is something in our future," said Patricia Ponce, the program coordinator for PREFACE: The Shared Cal Poly Reading Program.

Following in the steps of 2005's "The Kite Runner" and 2006's "The Lovely Bones," a committee comprised of faculty, students and staff selected "All Over Creation" by Ruth Ozeki to be read by the incoming freshman class, transfer students and the county at-large.

"All Over Creation" tells the story of Yumi, who was brought up on a traditional Ainu potato farm and ran away at the age of 14. When she returns 25 years later with her three illegitimate children, she is forced to confront not only the past she left behind but also what is best for her family's farm in a culture debating the use of genetically engineered crops.

"It's a controversial and personal issue for our community," Ponce said, adding that the book will speak to new students who have just left home as well.

Though the PREFACE book is typically discovered through nearly 2,300 student recommendations, this year's book was found on a list of recommended first-year reading titles for sustainability.

"It covers a lot of current issues: Sustainability, aged parents, corporate life in big-time agriculture — a lot of issues that a lot of readers can relate to," said Theresa Kaiser, the marketing manager for El Corral Bookstore and a PREFACE committee member.

Other books that were strongly considered this year included "The Highest Tide" by...
Jim Lynch and "The Glass Castle" by Jeannette Walls. Though students frequently recommend books like "Harry Potter," or "The Da Vinci Code," Ponce said the committee looks for something with more literary value.

The program's main criteria are that it is readable and accessible, between 200 and 400 pages, and that the author is alive and able to speak at Cal Poly. Following three weeks of countywide discussion of the reading, Ozeki will visit Cal Poly on Oct. 10 at 7 p.m. to discuss her novel, answer questions and sign books in the Performing Arts Center's Harrisson Hall.

To this day, the most popular PREFACE book thus far remains Khaled Hosseini's bestseller, "The Kite Runner." Ponce said 70 percent of PREFACE readers finished the entire book, while 80 percent read about 75 percent of the book or more.

"You could walk downtown and see coffee shops and everyone was reading it," Ponce said, adding that the author event drew out thousands of people. "We had 1,600 people in the PAC and there are 1,200 seats. We had people in the lower lobby watching TV monitors and we had to turn people away.”

However, some books did not go over so well with PREFACE readers. 2004's "Ciranny: You're Never Too Old to Raise a Little Hell" proved difficult for students to relate to a 90-year-old woman.

"The (discussion) facilitators loved this book, but there was a clear generational difference between the facilitators and the students," Ponce said.

Though PREFACE originally started out in 2002 as a pilot reading program for Cal Poly's honors students, it is now in its second year of serving the entire county. And for now, Ponce has no intentions of ever taking it to a statewide level.

An Aug. 5 article published in the New York Times stated that of 100 surveyed summer reading programs, most began within the last four years, though a few have been in existence for decades.

The program started at Cal Poly in order to create an intellectual environment for students, Ponce said, pointing at Cal Poly's curriculum which provides a variety of General Education courses, but no shared text between them.

"There was no common intellectual experience and the idea of one book is trying to bridge that gap," she said.

Kevin Elliott, a leader for the Week of Welcome, also noted that it has benefits for incoming students who aren't used to college-level expectations.

"It's a great little segue into what they should expect from the college lecture — it's a little different than high school," he said.

The El Corral Bookstore ordered approximately 4,200 copies of the book to sell in the store and online to new students, and for distribution among PREFACE volunteers who will lead discussion groups during WOW and the following weeks throughout the county.

In an effort to avoid puddles of urine and the festering bacteria of gum from bygone eras, you decide to carefully avoid these dangerous obstacles and bravely endure the stench. You come out alive. Now it is time to return to your car, parked directly across the street. What do you do?

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How to stay entertained on campus

Jennifer Ingan

New to campus or don't have a car? Don't know where to go or what to do? Places to go for entertainment and social networking are closer than you think.

The first stop is the heart of campus, the University Union, located on S. Perimeter Road. There, students can take hobby classes at the Taft Center, go bowling and play billiards at Mustang Lanes and rock climb at Poly Escapes.

Looking to go on an outdoor adventure? Poly Escapes, located on the bottom floor, involves everything outdoors, including hiking, backpacking, rock climbing, surfing, kayaking and more.

"Poly Escapes gives students the chance to experience things most students don't get to do," journalism junior Stephanie Evans said. "How often can you propel down a waterfall and go on an awesome adventure? It's an escape from normal school life."

Evans is the supervisor at Poly Escapes, which is managed by Associated Students Inc. Most outings are in California, and can range from day to weekend trips and longer trips during school breaks. This past spring break, Poly Escapes went caving and backpacking in Utah. Trips will include some meals, a ride and rental gear. And you won't need cash for lodging because you will be camping outdoors.

If you don't want to stay too far from campus, you could try out the rock climbing wall outside Poly Escapes, rock climb at Bishop Peak or join one of their night hikes.

Trips are announced weekly at Poly Escapes meetings every Tuesday, 7 to 8 p.m. in UU room 220. The cost of the outings varies, depending on the distance and duration of the trip.

Across from Poly Escapes is the Taft Center. The Craft Center provides a number of classes and services such as the Bike Room, which is equipped with five bike stations. Each station has its own tools to repair your bike, or the Bike Room can provide service to repair your bike for you.

"It is a different education," nutrition senior Maeve Blessing said. "It teaches you different skills and the classes are small. It gives you a chance to get to know students, and is a fun atmosphere."

Blessing works at the front desk at the Taft Center and has taken stained glass, ceramics and smithing classes.

Quarter-use cards for students range from $10 to $150, and day-use cards are $2. You can register for classes online through the ASI Connect Web site, or at the Craft Center. Classes start on the third week of the quarter for six weeks and are all taught by fellow students.

Just down the way from Poly Escapes and the Craft Center is Mustang Lanes. It features a variety of entertainment including 10 bowling lanes with automatic scoring, four lanes of bumper bowling, a collection of arcade games, a billiard room with five full-size pool tables, and a full bowling and billiard pro shop.

Upstairs you will find study lounges and televisions, and the UU Epicenter, which is your one-stop area to find and join student clubs and organizations.

There is plenty to eat on campus, too. Just outside the UU is Backstage Pizza, which also offers on-campus deliveries for no extra charge. If you're not feeling pizza, keep walking across the quad and down the steps, and you will find The Avenue. There you will find a variety of grub from Chick-Fil-A, Tapango's, Nathan's Famous Hot Dogs, Red Dragon Wok, City Deli and an array of drinks and snacks.

The Avenue is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner on
There are plenty of activities to do around the University Union, such as (clockwise from the top) bowling at Mustang Lanes, creating a surfboard in the Craft Center’s surfboard shaping class, or taking on the Poly Escapes climbing wall.

Campus

weekdays.
Other restaurants on campus include the Veranda Café, Garden Grille and the Sandwich Factory, all located near the UCLA. Also in the area is Julian’s for your caffeine fix, and Luke’s Juice for fresh fruit smoothies.
Located near the entrance to Cal Poly on Grand Avenue, across from the Christopher Cohen Performing Arts Center is VG’s Café and The Vista Grande Restaurant, which is a full-service dining room.

If you need to go grocery shopping, the Campus Market is located behind the Ag Science building, and is open seven days a week.
Want to stay active in sports or get in shape? Head down to the Rec Center on S. Perimeter Road. You could use the gym equipment for free just as long as you have your PolyCard, or take a dip in the huge outdoor pool and play some basketball or outdoor volleyball in a beach-like setting. You could also join the aquatic, instructional, exercise and personal training programs, or sign up for an intramural sport.
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Volunteers needed for Coastal Cleanup Day

Mollie Holmuth
MUSTANG DAILY

As a busy tourist season comes to a close, local beaches will recover with a well-needed facelift from the community. The 23rd annual California Coastal Clean-Up Day on Sept. 15 is recruiting volunteers to pick up marine debris (trash) for the protection and beauty of the coast.

In San Luis Obispo County the event is organized by ECOSLO, an environmental non-profit organization that promotes sustainability. "We have three basic aims," said Caitlin Madden, volunteer coordinator for ECOSLO and psychology senior. "To clean up the beach, to educate people and to prevent future problems."

Last year in San Luis Obispo County more than 1,400 people showed up to help. They were sent out in groups of four with plastic bags in pursuit of anything that did not belong on the beach, and came back with more than 6,000 pounds of trash.

"This year we are hoping to get 1,600 volunteers or more, especially with lots of students already back in town."

Marine debris is anything that is not naturally found on a beach and is most likely harmful to the environment. Every piece of collected trash is documented in an effort to collect hard data on what is polluting the local beaches.

Recently, California has seen its local governments instituting new policies to prevent hazardous materials from ever ending up on beaches. For example, smoking bars have drastically reduced the number of cigarette butts the CCC collects each year, and polystyrene has been banned in both Malibu and Berkeley.

"Marine life can get entangled in the trash that ends up in the ocean," Madden said. "Since plastic doesn’t break down completely, it ends up as little pellets that look like food and end up killing marine animals."

Last year, an estimated 1 million sea birds died as a result of marine debris.

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In 2006, approximately 1 million sea birds died as a result of marine debris. Local government policies have helped reduce the presence of hazardous materials on beaches.

Anza Pacific University senior Rosanne Baker is visiting friends in San Luis Obispo the weekend of the cleanup. "The beaches up there (in San Luis Obispo) are so freaking gorgeous. You guys are all so lucky to go to school in San Luis Obispo, I hope you know," said Baker, who plans on participating in the beach cleanup day with friends.

The organizers of the event will also be raffling off an "Electric eGo-Scooter" on the day of the cleanup. Tickets are $10 each and will be sold until either Sept. 15 or until 2000 have been bought. Tickets can be purchased at the ECOSLO office on the corner of Nipomo and Marsh streets.

"We hope everyone who is able to come of their own devices will be able to come of their own devices to help out during the day."

Students, however, are encouraged to come of their own devices to help out during the day. There are more than 25 separate beach sites this year in San Luis Obispo County, all of which can be found on the organization’s Web site, www.ecoslo.org. There is no sign-up necessary, just a timely appearance and comfortable clothing on the day of the cleanup.

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Potter, Transformers came, but Hollywood isn’t done

David Germain
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOUISIANA (AP) — Hollywood may not have a Harry Potter, Spider-Man, Sheriff or Cap. Jack Sparrow on its upcoming lineup. Yet the fall and holiday schedule does offer filmmakers a chance to catch up with some familiar characters, stories and movie-making teams.

It’ll be reunion season for actors and filmmakers such as Russell Crowe and Ridley Scott (“American Gangster”), Cate Blanchett and Shailene Woodley (“Elizabeth: The Golden Age”); Nicolas Cage and Jon Turteltaub (“National Treasure: Book of Secrets”); Johnny Depp, Helen Boorm Carter and Tim Burton (“Sweeney Todd”); and Ben Stiller and the Farrelly brothers (“The Hairball Kid”).

There’s even the return of a venerable genre, the Western, which has fallen on hard times in modern Hollywood. Crowe and Christian Bale star in the remake “3:10 to Yuma,” about a poor rancher helping to escort a captured gang leader, while a second Old West tale comes close on its heels with the remake of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford.”

David Scott, 15 minutes.

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‘Madden’ finally scores a touchdown on next-gen systems

Justin Hill

Finally! A great football game for the Xbox 360 and PlayStation 3 for us all.

How is “Madden” great? First, “Madden NFL 08” opens up the game with an introduction, one that is confident and gets gamers pumped for big hits, open-field tackles, bursts of speed, interceptions, and finally, touchdowns.

EA Sports has finally listened to the “Madden” community and delivered one of the most realistic and entertaining football games. The introduction is a warm-up speech by Philadelphia Eagles safety Brian Dawkins, a player who has shown tremendous heart and entertaining football games.

The introduction is a warm-up to the “Madden” coinnuinity and entertainment. One of the most realistic and entertaining football games. The introduction is a warm-up speech by Philadelphia Eagles safety Brian Dawkins, a player who has shown tremendous heart and entertaining football games.

“Madden NFL 08” fails to live up to “Madden 08” that can be worked on. But overall, “Madden 08” is by far the best football game in a long time for its challenge, confidence, old-school game-play, and a more in-depth presentation with the different game modes. I would like to thank EA Sports for giving us this treat before going back to school.

You’d better like being the center of attention.

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(After two attempts at making a good football game for the next-generation systems, EA Sports finally got it right with “Madden NFL 08.” This year’s installment focuses on an on-field identification system to show the strengths and weaknesses of the players to help you read your opponent.

In the end zone for a touchdown every time in the entire game, which is what happens. Also, there is a lack of fumbles from using hit stick 2.0, the supposedly hard-hitting hits ever programmed into a game. In “NCAA 08,” hard hits cause fumbles a decent number of times in a game. “Madden 08” fails to live up to what some players can do in the game. If Tom Brady is accurate, why does he throw interceptions when his feet are planted all the time, or why does LaDainian Tomlinson stumble the ball at all? These are some of the parts of “Madden 08” that can be worked on.

But overall, “Madden 08” is by far the best football game in a long time for its challenge, confidence, old-school game-play, and a more in-depth presentation with the different game modes. I would like to thank EA Sports for giving us this treat before going back to school.

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Weighing the ratings of sex and violence

THURSDAY VOTES (BESIDES SEX & I)

NORMAL, Ill. — Ang Lee, director of the controversial film "Brokeback Mountain," recently submitted his new movie "Lust, Caution" to the Motion Picture Association of America. The film follows a woman in Japanese-occupied Shanghai who seduces a Japanese officer in order to kill him. Because of the film's pervasive sexuality, the MPAA branded it with an NC-17 rating.

Ang Lee was handed the Best Director Oscar for "Brokeback Mountain," but not without controversy. Because the film portrayed a gay relationship, it was given an R rating, even though during a sex scene, Heath Ledger and Jake Gyllenhaal are fully clothed.

It's not a new phenomenon. Attitudes toward sex in the United States have always been particularly puritan. Sexual education programs in many of our schools teach that abstinence is the only see MPAA, page 57
MPAA
continued from page 56

acceptable method of birth control. Homosexuality is seen as something to be laughed at, such as in the recent film "I Now Pronounce You Chuck and Larry." The audience identifies with the characters because they're disgusted by their situations, and aren't we all disgusted by sex? What is perhaps more disturbing is the fact that "Lost, Caution" was given an NC-17 rating while films like "Saw" and "Turistas," which contained incredible levels of violence, were given an R rating. Films like these portray extremely grotesque situations of torture, and are some of the most popular films in the country. We're disgusted by sexuality, but enthralled by violence.

It's frightening to think that something as natural as sex, something everyone on the planet does, is a subject so taboo that we feel we cannot depict it in films, but something as unnatural as torturing fellow beings is "cool" and "awesome." We don't think twice before watching a horror film, and although we may cover our eyes, we still find the extreme violence fascinating. But sex is "gross" and "perverted." In fact, "Lost, Caution"’s NC-17 rating was given for its depiction of "unconventional" sexual positions and male-on-female oral sex. The film contains no male full-frontal nudity, the most common reason for an NC-17 rating. This also represents the sexist view that female nudity is an OK thing while male nudity is not.

America's puritan view of sexuality is potentially very damaging. If we continue to close our eyes to sex, we'll teach the next generation and generations to come that sex is something to be feared, not celebrated. And the MPAA's message that sex is far dirtier than extreme violence may contribute to rising levels of violence in schools, the workplace and society. "Lost, Caution," with its NC-17 rating, probably won't see any showings in the area. However, you can check it out on DVD when it's released.

Is it really as bad as the MPAA says? Decide for yourself.

"Lust, Caution," with its NC-17 rating, probably won't see any showings in the area. However, you can check it out on DVD when it's released.

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Is it really as bad as the MPAA says? Decide for yourself.
In 'The Kingdom' (Sept. 28), Jamie Foxx plays a counterterrorism agent sent to investigate the bombing of an American facility in Saudi Arabia.

MOVIES

• Tom Hanks and Julia Roberts masterminded American strategy to counter the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in "Charlie Wilson's War."
• Jack Nicholson and Morgan Freeman are terminal patients who take a final road trip in "The Bucket List."
• "I Am Legend," adapted from the same novel as "The Omega Man," takes place after a plague that wipes out most of humanity and transforms others into bloodthirsty, nocturnal creatures. Will Smith stars as a survivor — and possibly the last human on Earth.
• Jodie Foster stars in "The Brave One," a thriller about a Manhattan woman who becomes a gun-toting vigilante after recovering from an attack that killed her fiancee and left her near death.

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Back to School!
Movie Trivia: Where’s it from?

"Every minute I stay in this room, I get weaker, and every minute Charlie squats in the bush, he gets stronger."

A. Apocalypse Now
B. The Deer Hunter
C. Full Metal Jacket
D. Charlie Chan in Shanghai
The legal options for music downloading

Subscription: $14.99/month, unlimited music downloads to PCs with Windows and portable devices; $1 per song to burn to CD
Song pool: 3 million songs
Catch: Once you stop the subscription, you can't listen to any of your songs

Store: Songs cost $1 and are yours forever; albums usually no more than $9.99, compatible on both Macs and PCs
Song pool: 5 million songs
Catch: Songs have protection (DRM) and can only be listened to on iPods and up to 5 computers
Subscription: $14.99/month, unlimited music downloads to PCs with Windows and portable devices; 89 cents per song to burn to CD
Song pool: 3 million songs
Catch: Once you stop the subscription, you can't listen to any of your songs

I know what you're thinking: What's the point of Napster, which allows unlimited downloads for $15/year? For anything but music, the catch is that Napster's DRM is that once you can download a song, you can't listen to it anymore. What you need to keep in mind is everyone gets caught eventually. While you might not have been caught yet, don't think you're invincible. Whether it's Napster's internal policies or the RIAA, you'd better believe they have your address.

Thankfully, in the year 2007, saying the words "download songs" can finally have a legal side to it. Not only legal, but finally affordable.

In June/Times, a program for both PCs and Macs that sells songs digitally, was ranked as the third largest music retailer next to Best Buy and Walmart, according to the NPD Group. Not only that, but Americans are using it almost as much as they are file sharing programs like LimeWire.

In other words, the industry is changing, and while your brain may still think that illegal downloading is the only way to get music, record labels are working with companies like Apple to help bring you back into a more affordable music market.

Take for example Kelly Clarkson's new album "My December." Best Buy is listing it for $12.99, whereas iTunes is selling it for $14.99; whereas iTunes is selling it for $14.99, whereas iTunes is selling it for $12.99; whereas iTunes is selling it for $14.99.

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'Stangs bounce back following season-opening loss in Wichita

After losing to unranked Kansas State, Cal Poly responded with sweeps of North Texas and Wichita State.

Rachel Gillman

The No. 14 Cal Poly volleyball squad (2-1) opened its 2007 season at the Shockers Volleyball Classic, hosted by Wichita State on the weekend of Aug. 24-26.

The Mustangs faced unranked Kansas State and could not bring home a victory in their season opener for just the seventh time in 29 seasons, as they fell 3-2, 30-28, 30-30, 25-30 and 15-11 on Friday Aug. 24.

"They were the Big 12 newcomers of the year who dominated that match... that's why the pre-season polls don't mean anything," head coach Jon Stevenson said of the Wildcats.

Junior outside hitter Ali Waller led the pack with 10 kills and eight blocks while opposite Kyhe Atherstone added 13 kills. Middle blocker Jaclyn Houston smashed 10 kills, posted eight blocks and hit .342, a match-high. Cheyse Hayes, setter, assisted 37 times and had 19 digs while libero Kristin Jackson contributed with a team-high 20 digs. Despite these valiant efforts, the Wildcats prevailed in five close games.

Stevenson said his team "failed their first test," in their opening match. He made some personnel changes before the following two matches and was rewarded with victorious results.

The Mustangs trumped North Texas 30-10, 30-18 and 30-14 on Saturday, Aug. 25th at Koch Arena. The victory was the second time since 2001 that the squad defeated a team by 20 points in a single set.

Waller threw down a match-high 13 kills and Atherstone added 10 digs and eight of the team's 23 blocks. Hayes choreographed 31 assists.

"We understood what we were doing and played harder," said Stevenson of the second game.

Waller and outside hitter Ashley Bertoni manufactured 13 kills each. Houston blocked 10 Shocker attempts and Bertoni hit a match-high .367 to help Cal Poly finish the tournament with its second straight sweep as they knocked out host Wichita State, 30-25, 30-23 and 30-24 on Saturday, Aug. 26.

The Mustangs never trailed by more than three points at any point of the match. Sophomore reserve setter Hailey Fitlnan was just three assists shy of her career high as she posted 23 in the match.

Stevenson said this tournament will definitely prepare his squad for conference play and he believes they will have to play "error-free volleyball" from here on out.

The Mustangs took a mandatory rest day, according to NCAA regulations on Monday, Aug. 27 and will be back on the court Aug. 31-Sept. 3 at No. 1 Nebraska's Holiday Inn Downtown Classic.

Wichita State sophomore Emily Stockman (left) senior Sara Langren (middle left) join Cal Poly juniors Jaclyn Houston (middle right) and Ali Waller following the two teams' match on Aug. 26. All four players were selected to the All-Tournament team.

a match-high .367 to help Cal Poly finish the tournament with its second straight sweep as they knocked out host Wichita State, 30-25, 30-23 and 30-24 on Monday, Aug. 27 and will be back on the court Aug. 31-Sept. 3 at No. 1 Nebraska's Holiday Inn Downtown Classic.

Holiday Inn Downtown Classic - Update

Aug. 31
No. 18 Cal Poly dropped its match with No. 3 Penn State 30-24, 30-27, 26-30, 30-27, 15-7
They squared off against Creighton on Sept. 2.

Editor's note - Complete coverage of this event will be available on Sept. 17 in the Back to School issue.
**Mustangs squad first-half lead at Texas State to drop opener 38-35**

Cal Poly junior Ramses Barden had a career-high 205 yards on eight receptions and two touchdowns in the game.

**ESPN 1280 to air Mustang football**

Multiple Cal Poly sports will all share coverage on the same radio network.

Jared Cleaver

As of Sept. 1, Cal Poly sports fans were able to listen to games on ESPN Radio 1280, with the football team's season opener at Texas State.

“We have been on the radio (in recent years),” Athletic Director Alison Cone said. “They've been on the air, and they’ve had pretty good coverage. But we’ve gone out of the AGM network, and now we’ve with ESPN.”

The Cal Poly Athletics Department recently announced that they inked a two-year deal with ESPN, with an option for a possible third year.

“They’re going to cover football, men’s basketball, baseball and some select women's basketball, volleyball and softball,” Cone said.

In addition, there will be a weekly radio show featuring Mustang head coaches and other special guests.

“We are excited about our agreement with ESPN Radio and look forward to a good working relationship,” Associate Athletics Director Chris Baker said in a press release. "To have all our sports on the same network is great for our fans. They will always know where to find Cal Poly sports.”

For Mustang fans no longer living in the Central Coast, games will also be made available online. Games will be streamed live at www.espnradio1280.com in addition to the live radio broadcasts. Downloadable podcasts of the games will also be available for fans that are unable to listen to the live action.

According to the press release, “ESPN 1280 will air extended pregame shows with a College Game Day type atmosphere before many home events starting with the football team's home opener against Weber State on Sept. 15.”

Having games available online could presumably increase listenership and fan base, although that will remain unseen until the sports season kicks off in September.

“That would be great if it did, but I don’t have the details,” Cone said. "I don't know if this will really increase the listeners, so I don’t want to say that unless I know it to be true.”

**Texas State zone has a 21-1 advantage in its series against Cal Poly. The two teams met in San Luis Obispo in 2004 — a 38-21 Mustang win — as well as in the quarterfinal round of the 2005 NCAA Football Championship Division playoffs in San Marcos — a 14-7 Bobcat victory.

Texas State jumped to a 14-3 lead in the first 12 minutes. Zwinggi ran 92 and three yards for Bobcat touchdowns sandwiched around a 27-yard field goal by Cal Poly's Andrew Gardner.

The Mustangs scored 17 unanswered points for a 20-14 halftime advantage.

Junior quarterback Jonathan Daily ran four yards for a touchdown with 17 seconds to play on the first play after senior linebacker Mark Restelli recovered a Texas State fumble and ran 33 yards.

Sophomore Treendale Toliver returned a Texas State punt 89 yards for another Mustang score 24 seconds into the second quarter. It was Cal Poly's first punt return for a touchdown since Darrell Jones accomplished the feat in 2004.

Gardner completed the first-half scoring with a 36-yard field goal 2:46 before the break.

Texas State went on a 24-7 run to close the half scoring with a 36-yard field goal 2:46 before the break.

_**COTTON MILLER COURTESY OF THE UNIVERSITY STAR**_ Cal Poly sophomores Treendale Toliver returns a Texas State punt 89 yards for a touchdown during the second quarter of the Mustangs' season-opening game. Toliver is the first Mustang to return a punt for a touchdown since Darrell Jones in 2004.

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Dog fighting goes far beyond Vick

Donovan Aird
MUSTANG DAILY

Eighteen of the dogs were already euthanized, and more than 50 others also allegedly overseen by the former football star appeared on the verge of being put to death. They had to be, authorities said.

"They're just too dangerous," a spokesman for the state's bureau of narcotics and dangerous drugs control said to the Associated Press of the pit bull terriers.

It wasn't their fault, though. "They will be euthanized," the executive director of the state's veterinary board told the Associated Press.

"All of these dogs have been bred to fight. There's no way they can be adopted," she said.

A former All-American who went on to play several years in the NFL, the man who was ordered to stand trial on charges of cruelty to animals, keeping a dog for fighting and keeping a place or equipment for dog fighting in this case might not be who people think.

Believe it or not, this was not the story of Atlanta Falcons quarterback Michael Vick, but rather LeShan Johnson, a running back who in 1993 finished sixth in Heisman Trophy voting at Northern Illinois before a lackluster NFL career he spent with three teams spanning from 1994 to 1999, and a final effort with the XFL's famed Chicago Enforcers in 2001. He was sentenced in December 2005 to five years of probation after pleading guilty to those charges in Oklahoma. While Johnson couldn't boast Vick's stardom, neither can the 40,000 people in the country estimated by the Humane Society of the U.S. to be involved in "professional" dog fighting, taking advantage of an estimated 250,000 dogs.

Every so often, actual sports passions grow from an ear of corn on the cob. They go from being buried on the inside of the newspaper, and 25 minutes into the broadcast, to the forefront of our days' most cutting discussions and issues. They can provide a lens into the good, bad and ugly of societies in a way that not much else can.

The fans of football — to a greater extent than those of its "Big Three" counterparts, basketball and baseball — cross a sweeping spectrum of race, age and region in this country.

For example, on April 28, the first day of the NFL Draft, ESPN filmed dozens of fans — nearly all of them black — filling to their knees in celebration at a barber shop in Mobile, Ala., for the selection of Marcus Russell, a local product. The same day, they captured the Minnesota Vikings' official draft party at Eden Prairie, Minn., where a sea of sandboxers — nearly all of them white — likewise deliriously applauded their team's selection.

These passions grow from an early age. The 10-year-old who has already memorized every player's rating in "Madden '07" glances at eight different fantasy football magazines while being dragged through the grocery store, as the 45-year-old peruses the chip aisle in search of the perfect complement to his "Sunday NFL Ticket" package he bought to keep in touch with his hometown team far away. And the constellation of pigskin-crazed towns ranges far wide, from LA to Miami to London to Chicago.

No other sport in this part of the world captivates us with such a blanket of fervor. Vince Lombardi was right when he said that while baseball maybe this country's pastime, football is its passion. And if there is a silver lining to the Vick ordeal, it's that dog fighting is being brought to light because of it. Or at least, it should be.

The sports community, from the millionaire playboys put on a pedestal dictating the action to the average couch-bound thrill-seeker tuning in to a game, is now faced with one of those non-niters moments, especially in light of this particular concern — dog fighting — being seen and heard, page 66.

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SAN FRANCISCO, NOVEMBER 2007
Jennifer Ingan
www.mustangdaily.net

Stay in shape

Are you looking to join a sports team on campus but don’t think you could dedicate the time or make it in any of Cal Poly’s intercollegiate sports? If so, then ASI’s Intramural Sports Program may be the right fit for you.

“Intramural Sports is a great outlet for a social experience and physical activity,” said Greg Avakian, the intramural sports coordinator at Cal Poly. “It’s great for mental and physical well-being, and keeps you sane during the quarter. It’s competitive and fun and a good way to meet people.”

The purpose of the Intramural Sports Program is to offer a variety of structured leagues, sports, and tournaments in a safe environment. The program is open to all Cal Poly students, alumni, faculty and staff who are currently members of the Rec Center. A variety of sports are offered during each quarter.

Each team is self-coached and each sport is divided into divisions and gender leagues. The program is open to all Cal Poly students, alumni, faculty and staff who are currently members of the Rec Center. A variety of sports are offered during each quarter.

The program lets you keep playing sports with organization and a decent amount of competition,” said aerospace engineering senior Andre Ourthiague. “When you’re just playing with your friends for fun you don’t really care if you win or lose, but in intramural sports it’s nice to care when you play and being attached to whether you lose or win.”

Ourthiague has been active in intramural sports since his freshman year at Poly. He was involved in intramural softball, basketball and soccer. He played soccer and baseball in high school and wanted to keep playing sports. He said that he may have had a shot at Poly’s intercollegiate soccer, but couldn’t give the time commitment.

“It’s a great way to meet friends, great exercise, and a way to relieve stress from school,” said Cal Poly civil engineering alumnus Allen Lao in an e-mail interview. “It will create other avenues for people. People who want to create networks can easily connect with other players.”

Lao, 23, played with the MSG Unit basketball team for his last three years at Poly during the fall and spring quarters.

So how do you register for a team? The most convenient way is through the ASI Connect Web site at http://connect.asi.calpoly.edu, or at the Rec Center. Team registration begins on the first Thursday of every quarter.

Already have a team composed? The team captain or manager can use the ASI Connect Web site to register his or her team.

During registration, the team captain provides the contact information and other information such as when they want to play and their team name. The rest of the team can register via the ASI Connect Web site, and the team can be Intramural, page 68.

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purported to be a sport by its perpetrators.

We have an opportunity, now, through the virtue of our sports-oriented society to redirect some of that passion to conduct dog fighting. We might have to change our thinking, which in some cases (and which commentators discussed how Vick's "absence" would affect fantasy drafts and leagues)

You'd think Johnson, for once, might've learned his lesson after his property was raided in early 2005 for alleged dogfights, resulting in 14 citations being written upon observance of bloody, wounded dogs and people fleeing into the woods outside Johnson's property. But telling

from some of the reactions Vick's more high-profile case has drawn, misconceptions about dog fighting still abound in our society.

"I don't know if he was fighting dogs or not, but it's his property, it's his dog if that's what he wants to do, do it," Washington Redskins running back Clinton Portis told WAVY-TV in Virginia.

Portis hasn't been the only prominent athlete to sound off on the case. New York Knicks guard Stephon Marbury, a two-time NBA All-Star, told reporters, "You know, from what I hear, dog fighting is a sport. It's just behind closed doors." It's conceivable that Marbury could've heard that from Quentin Woods, a teammate of his in New York during the 2005-06 season. Woods was sentenced in 2005 to 12 months probation and 90 hours of community service after pleading guilty to first-degree misdemeanor animal abuse in Oregon, where he

ran his small-time pit bull "Dog Pit: From to Select, Breed, Train and Manage Fighting Dogs." Customers who bought that item also bought the documentary "Off the Chain," whose purchaser further shelled out for the movie "Ghetto Dawg" and its riveting sequel, "Ghetto Dawg 2: Out of the Pits." As Californians, we may tend to think of dog fighting as being centralized in distant parts of the country, but it takes place much closer to home than we may realize.

Eleven pit bulls were seized Aug. 8 in an area of Fresno local police reportedly refer to as "Dog Pound Territory," at a scene where authorities found six graphic videos depicting men training their dogs to maul

...(figurative, fighting dogs are typically euthanized due to their aggressive nature and unsuitability for adoption; Simmons wrote.

"In some states, the dogs are required to be held at an animal shelter until the court date, forcing shelters to euthanize healthy animals to make room for fighting dogs that will be euthanized at a later date," said Simmons.

As for Vick's dogs, 49 of the pit bulls seized from his property on April are now scheduled to undergo a behavior assessment from the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, according to the Daily Press of Newport News, Va. Vick's attorneys have said that the lot sold for $7,400, and several similar fundraisers followed.

But perhaps the most insightful, important response to the Vick storm was offered by Pro Football Hall-of-Famer Jim Brown. "This is not a tragedy," Brown told a TV interviewer of the sudden detour in Vick's life. "This is a new beginning." For not only Vick, but also the subculture of dog fighting to which he used to belong and a society at large finally able to see illuminated a vicious underworld previously in the dark that it has condemned, we can only hope.

After all, Johnson never appeared on the cover of the Washington "Mad" (as Vick did in 2004) nor did anyone ever take him in a fantasy league, although the odds are both Vick's and Johnson's dogs wouldn't the difference.

Indeed, it's entirely likely that had Johnson's cards -- or would-be memories from a trading card set numbered to 40,000, in honor of this country's estimated pro dog fighting league -- similarly been given to dog loving great, man's best friend would have been happy to oblige. But no one has ever given the dogs that chance. Of course, there's still time to find out, even with Vick's dogs themselves. Better hurry, though. They, too, appear likely to be euthanized.
Chicks With Balls

Balls to the Wall(er)

Rachel Goldmann
December 2007

As a former female competitive, I recognize that women are often underestimated in the world of athletics. We may not have the same size, but we can run and ask a coach with intelligence, determination, and our favorite characteristic of female athletes: passion. This year, I will explore the lives of female Cal Poly athletes on and off the court, in academics and beyond. Readers should learn that female athletes, like their male counterparts, are a significant yet serious force.

Jon Stevenson, head coach for the volleyball team, says, "We're outside hitters. We're not just about one. We have ball." Stevenson said about the ball.

Waller expects a large turnout at games this year due to her success. "We have long, exciting rallies and we're very passionate about our games. Women's volleyball is just as competitive as men's volleyball," Waller said.

In third grade, Waller was one of her neighbors' partner. A volleyball was just the right size. "It was a great, great time," Waller said. Middle school and started playing competitively in ninth grade.

Waller's club coach in high school was a major inspiration in her life and his advice continues to help her today. "He has always been a great athlete who works hard at what she does and she just awesome," Waller said of May.

Last year, just as Waller was establishing herself as an outside hitter, she fractured her foot and was sidelined for the remainder of the season.

"It was a bummer, but you have to roll with the punches," Waller said.

Training and strengthening in the off-season combined with her desire for the game has re-established the name Waller was making for herself last year as she greatly contributed in the final tournament of the 2007 season at Wichita State.

"She was one of our best hitters last season before her injury and she is our best hitter again this season," Stevenson said.

Senior libero Kristen Jackson says that Waller's comeback is a result of her work ethic.

"All is a really hard worker. She is always pushing herself 100 percent at practice," Jackson said.

Waller is a liberal studies major yet hopes to transfer into history. She has contemplated a career in junior high education.

I asked Waller if she believed she got the respect she deserves as a female athlete and she said, "Anyone can respect any athlete because they know how much time goes into what we do."

Waller admires the fact that female athletes "are just as good as men and we should get the respect we deserve." She said. "I was one of the best hitters last season before her injury and she is our best hitter again this season," Stevenson said.

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Gellman

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Jackson noted that Waller has a kind heart and no patience for animosity amongst her teammates. Waller’s attitude is good for team morale and keeps her fellow players focused on the game.

“I’m really glad that I’ve had her as a teammate,” Jackson said.

Waller enjoys the sense of community that exists between her and other athletes. She loves her teammates and the game and although she says balancing school and volleyball “can definitely be stressful,” she can’t imagine what she would do with her time were she not a student-athlete.

When Waller is not on the court or in the classroom, she says you can find her “lounging around and soaking up the free time.”

Waller believes that her team can make the final four this year. She said she is going to “work as hard as I can and put forth my best effort” to make it to that height of the season.

Jackson believes that Waller has a lot of potential to really shine this season.

In terms of volleyball after college, Waller plans to take things “one year at a time.”

This year, she urges Cal Poly students to “come out and support girls volleyball and come cheer us on.”

Intramural

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League sports offered this fall quarter are 5.5 basketball, dodgeball, flag football, 6:1 speed soccer, softball and volleyball. Tournament sports are a one-day event only, and offered in the fall are Mark Reading volleyball, ultimate frisbee and racquetball.

The cost varies depending on the sport, and ranges from $100 to $150 per team in the leagues, and $5 to $40 for tournaments. Game date range from one to three games per week at the Rec Center.

Registration for fall quarter intramural sports will begin on Thursday, Sept. 20, and will close on Sunday, Sept. 25 for leagues, and registration for tournaments will remain open until two days prior to the scheduled event.

Starting Sept. 1, you could view the program information and schedule for fall quarter on the ASI Connect Web site. Game times will be posted during WTR.

More than 300 teams registered last spring quarter, which consists of more than 4,000 students, according to Avakian. Of the students, more than a 1,000 were women and about 3,000 were men, and the majority of the teams were co-ed. The most popular sports were softball, soccer and basketball.

The Intramural Sports Program office is located in the Student Recreation Center, and can be contacted at 543-2122. Anyone can sign up to compete in intramural sports, regardless of skill level.

Students interested in Intramural Sports can sign up for games through the online registration system, or in person at the Recreation Center. For more information, visit www.asicslo.com or call 543-2122.

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