Amount of money given back to students at buyback last year:

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Amount of money given back to the University over the last five years:

**Over $2.5 million**

Number of students employed over the last five years:

**Over 3500**

Sales taxes paid to support schools, social services, and public agencies last year:

**Over $1 million**

Amount of money given back to students at buyback last year:

**$0**

Amount of money given back to the University over the last five years:

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Number of students employed over the last five years:

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Sales taxes paid to support schools, social services, and public agencies last year:

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The dead zone off the coast of Louisiana has grown to its largest size at 20,500 square kilometers, according to a July 2007 report by Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium.

Dead zones are places in aquatic environments that cannot sustain life because of oxygen levels. Low oxygen areas, or hypoxia, in the Gulf of Mexico were first seen in 1972.

Nan Walker, oceanography and coastal sciences professor, said hypoxia is prompted by the over-blooming of phytoplankton, which is caused by certain chemicals and nutrients brought into the Gulf of Mexico by the Mississippi River. The bacteria that breaks down the phytoplankton is forced to use more oxygen in the process, reducing the amount needed by marine animals.

Terry Remaire, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries biologist, said much blame has been placed on increased agricultural activity along the Mississippi River basin. Certain fertilizers used agriculturally in the Midwest contain nitrogen, a nutrient that decreases oxygen in water.

"If you look at the broad picture, though, the real culprit is the increased population along the Mississippi River," Remaire said. "Now, just about everyone has some measure of guilt."

Walker said the hypoxia has severe consequences on marine life. "Small animals that live here die," Walker said. "Fish can get away from these areas, but crabs and other bottom-dwelling creatures can't. They're forced to swim to the surface and try to survive."

The report issued by LUMCON indicated shrimp fishing in the Gulf of Mexico will see a decline because of the area's lack of oxygen.

Remaire said environmentalists and researchers have put pressure on private agricultural and petrochemical companies to address the problem in the past 10 years.

The Environmental Protection Agency created the Hypoxia Task Force to reduce the size of the dead zone in the Gulf of Mexico by 50 percent by the year 2015.

The agency has put mandatory limits on the amount of specific chemicals — such as nitrogen, potassium and phosphate — found in other bodies of water that feed into the Mississippi River.

Remaire said while this is a step in the right direction, the dead zone will most likely increase in size, hindering these efforts.

"It's possible at the end of 15 years we could see a drop in the effect, but the problem is of such magnitude that it will probably take a long time to see any result," Remaire said.
Iraq's security forces will be unable to take control of the country in the next 18 months, and Baghdad's national police force is so rife with corruption it should be scrapped entirely, according to a new independent assessment. The study, led by retired Marine Corps Gen. James Jones, is a sweeping and detailed look at Iraq's security forces that will factor heavily into Congress' upcoming debate on the war. Republicans see success by the Iraqi forces as critical to bringing U.S. troops home, while an increasing number of Democrats say the U.S. should stop training and equipping such units altogether.

The 20-member panel of mostly retired senior military and police officers concludes that Iraq's military, in particular its Army, shows the most promise of becoming a viable, independent security force with time. But the group predicts an adequate logistics system to support these ground forces is at least another two years away.

The report also offers a scathing assessment of Baghdad's Ministry of Interior and recommends scrapping Iraq's national police force, which it describes as dysfunctional and infiltrated by militias.

These units "have the potential to help reduce sectarian violence, but ultimately the Iraq Security Force will reflect the society from which they are drawn," according to the report, a copy of which was obtained by The Associated Press.

"Political reconciliation is the key to ending sectarian violence in Iraq." The United States has spent $19.2 billion on developing Iraq's forces, and plans to spend another $5.5 billion next year. According to Jones' study, the military comprises more than 152,000 service members operating under the Ministry of Defense, while the Ministry of Interior oversees some 194,000 civilian security personnel, including police and border control.

The review is one of several studies that Congress commissioned in May, when it agreed to fund the war for several more months but demanded that the Bush administration assess U.S. progress in the four-year war.

Jones, a former commander of U.S. troops in Europe and former Marine Corps commandant, is scheduled to testify before Congress on Thursday. Defense Secretary Robert Gates and other officials have already been briefed on the study, officials said last week.

A senior Pentagon official said Wednesday that the military does not believe the Iraqi national police should be disbanded, but acknowledges that getting the Iraqi army up
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Opportunities available for local student volunteers

Laura Kasavan

Laura Kasavan When Kelsey Chirrier isn’t busy serving in the community service program AmeriCorps, she volunteers at the Avila Marine Institute. She has worked as a feeder there, taught children about the ocean and marine life during the institute’s summer program, and has accompanied classes on boat rides around Port San Luis. The UCLA graduate is also the program coordinator for VolunteerSLO, a volunteer program based on the Cal Poly campus that hosts a Web site database of volunteer options in San Luis Obispo County. VolunteerSLO matches interested volunteers with nonprofit agencies in more than 20 areas of service. “VolunteerSLO made me more service-minded and opened my eyes to how much can be done,” Chirrier said. “I volunteer at the Avila Marine Institute because I saw their listing and it sparked my interest.” Possible areas of service include animal welfare, education, human services and recreation.

Chirrier said that interested volunteers can also utilize the Web site’s events calendar, or search for a specific volunteer position of interest by using a keyword search.

Chirrier said that the Web site is user-friendly. Another advantage is that nonprofits list available opportunities. “VolunteerSLO is the only county specific volunteer program in the area, and that the program is a way to broaden the college experience.” Chirrier said that VolunteerSLO lets participants get a feel for the community and make connections with nonprofits that could turn into jobs,” Chirrier said. “It’s a good way to see what’s out there. Nonprofits and other organizations are doing wonderful things but they need help.” Chirrier said that there are so many opportunities for anyone interested in volunteering on the Web site that nonprofits compete for the available volunteers. The program was started with grant funding more than three years ago, and VolunteerSLO has evolved from a strictly on-campus volunteer program to a completely revamped.

see Volunteers, page 16

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Online dating sees popularity increase

Danielle Novy

**Daily News (1980)**

Forgot the bar scene — increasing numbers of college students now are searching for love in the same place they do their shopping, check their e-mail and chat with friends: the World Wide Web. To meet young adults’ demands, more and more online-dating Web sites are catering specifically to college students and offering free-of-charge services.

“College students comprise a group that has a natural affinity toward being online,” said Gail Laguna, a spokesperson for Spark Network, a company that created a variety of dating Web sites targeting different demographics. One such site under Spark Network’s umbrella is www.collegeluv.com, a romance venue bearing the tag line “Sign Up, Look Up, Hook Up.”

Laguna said www.collegeluv.com was launched in 2002 to accommodate what was viewed as a “growing market.” While the those in the 25- to 35-year-old age bracket still comprise the core demographic of online daters, collegians are becoming more open to the idea of looking for romance online, Laguna said.

Furthermore, unlike their older counterparts, college students tend to seek companionship rather than life partners.

“At this point, the social aspect plays more of a role than the marriage aspect,” said of young adults.

Joe Tracy, publisher of Online Dating Magazine, said he also has observed a trend of more and more college students turning to both dating Web sites and social networking sites, such as www.sparknetwork.com and www.myspace.com.

“The popularity of online dating continues to go up,” he said. “It hasn’t yet reached its peak.”

Laguna said college students gravitate toward the Internet for romance because of the Web’s combined simplicity and convenience.

“Dating Web sites are easy to fit into students’ schedules,” he said. “Plus, most college students are tech-savvy.”

Tracy said online dating is a safe alternative to yesteryear’s dating methods as long as participants follow basic safety tips.

The dating Web site www.sparknetwork.com offers potential lovebirds a string of simple tips for online dating, including: Guarding one’s identity, using third-party, anonymous e-mail addresses and blocking anyone who behaves in an abusive manner.

David Bernal, a Texas Tech senior general studies major, said he still is dating a person he met through an online dating site. Online dating can be appealing to college students because it’s easier than going to bars to meet potential partners, he said. Still, he added:

see Dating, page 12
Iraq
continued from page 7
to speed will take a while.
"We've always recognized that
this was a long-term project," Pen­
tagon press secretary Geoff Morrell
said Wednesday. "Getting the Iraqi
army on its feet and capable of de­
defending the borders of the coun­
y independently is not an overnight
project." He added, "It is our belief
that this will come to fruition. It's
going to take some time to hap­
pen."
Several lawmakers —  many of
whom face tough elections next
year —  said they would be un­
swayed by the Jones report and
other independent assessments.
Congress would fare better by find­
ing a bipartisan solution that would
bring troops home, they say.
"It's wise to be cautious when enter­
ting the online dating pool.
"You have to be kind of careful
because there are some crazy people
out there," Bernal said.
"Still, online dating is not a bad
thing to try; you never know until
you actually do it.
Laura Cunningham, a graduate
student, said although she has not
tried online dating herself, she has a
handful of friends and family mem­
bers who have sampled it.
"I think it is a tool mostly for men
rather than for women," she said.
"Often the women are waiting for
the men to take initiative.
"Cunningham said her male friends
have had quite a different experience
than her female friends in the realm
of online romance.
"My male friends have not had
as much success —  they've dated a
lot, but they enjoyed the anonymity
(online dating provides)," she said.
On the other hand, Cunningham
said the overwhelming sentiment felt
by her female friends is that online
dating can be both discouraging and
disappointing.
The Web sites www.okcupid.
com and www.plentyoffish.com are
among the free online dating venues
available to college students.
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Major popcorn makers dropping chemical linked to serious lung ailment

Josh Funk
CHICAGO (AP) —

Four of the nation's biggest microwave popcorn makers are working to remove a controversial chemical from their products linked to a lung ailment in popcorn plant workers while reassuring consumers about the safety of the food.

Several of the companies divulged their plans after a leading lung research hospital warned that consumers also could be in danger from the battery-flavoring diacetyl.

The three companies that sell Orville Redenbacher's Act II Pop Secret and Jolly Time microwave popcorn said they planned to change their recipes for their butter-flavored microwave popcorn to remove diacetyl.

The chemical diacetyl has been linked to cases of bronchiolitis obliterans, a rare life-threatening disease often called popcorn lung.

ConAgra Foods Inc., General Mills Inc. and the American Pop Corn Company all promised to make the change because of safety concerns. Together those companies accounted for more than 90 percent of the market for microwave popcorn over the past 12 months, according to the research firm Information Resources Inc.

Last week, another popcorn manufacturer, Weaver Popcorn Co. of Indiana, said it would replace the butter-flavoring ingredient because of consumer concern.

The Center for Science in the Public Interest, a consumer advocacy group, said the change is significant for workers who handle diacetyl and welcome it for consumers even though the butter flavor may not present a significant risk for them.

"If the industry can get rid of the diacetyl, great. Why have any risk at all?" said Michael Jacobson, the non-profit's executive director in Washington. "The real risk, the much bigger risk to consumers is the trans fat in popcorn."

The popcorn makers said consumers worried about diacetyl can buy varieties of microwave popcorn that are not butter flavored because those products don't contain diacetyl.

Diacetyl occurs naturally in foods such as butter, cheese and fruits, and the FDA has approved its use as a flavoring ingredient.

A pulmonary specialist at Denver's National Jewish Medical and Research Center had written to federal agencies to say doctors there believe they have the first case of a consumer who developed lung disease from the fumes of microwaving popcorn several times a day for years, according to reports Tuesday.

see Popcorn, page 17

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Scientists investigate Beethoven’s death

Jovanni Colisao
SOPHIE SUTHERLAND JOSIE DIAZ

When students think of Beethoven, the first thing that comes to mind is “Beethoven’s Fifth Symphony,” said Alexandra Megia, a fourth-year San Jose State University student.

Having written nine symphonies, 16 string quartets and 32 piano sonatas, Ludwig van Beethoven suffered from many illnesses throughout his 57 years of life, which included primarily abdominal problems, according to the Ira Brilliant Center’s Web site.

Recently, in Vienna, the Vienna Beethoven Society published a German article that discusses a forensic scientist who is investigating whether Beethoven’s death might have been triggered by lead poisoning from his physician, Dr. Andreas Woiwodch.

Christian Reiter, a professor in the Medical University of Vienna, has been examining Ludwig van Beethoven’s strands of hair that possibly could contain lead poisoning.

Once William Meredith heard about the article in Vienna, he asked Reiter if he could publish an English version of his article in this summer’s 2007 issue of Beethoven’s Journal.

“We knew from earlier tests, that Beethoven was exposed to lead, at least by the end of his life,” Meredith said, “because the lead was also in the bone fragments.”

Reiter’s findings may or may not be true, but Megia was sure: “I think it’s pretty valid because you know back in the day, not a lot of people knew about what certain poisons did,” Megia said. “I wouldn’t be surprised if that’s what really killed him.”

According to the article, Beethoven suffered from pneumonia, which Woiwodch recorded in his notes that he treated Beethoven with an “infection dissolving medication.” However the medication’s side effects involved a large accumulation of fluid in the abdominal cavity, which would force Woiwodch to puncture Beethoven’s abdomen four times in order to drain the excessive fluid.

This procedure caused Beethoven’s bloodstream to spike every time his abdomen was punctured. “Reiter’s theory is that after they punctured the stomach, they used a sile, which is a type of medicine used on the area where they had cut Beethoven open,” Meredith said. “And that medicine used may have had lead in it.”

Meredith discussed the concept of Reiter’s investigation, and by simply analyzing a strand of hair, scientists can tell whether or not somebody has ingested cocaine, and if so on what day.

“Your hair grows at a certain rate and when you ingest a poison then your body tries to get rid of it. And one of the ways it gets rid of it is through your hair,” Meredith said.

According to the Ira Brilliant Center’s Web site, the study of Beethoven’s lock of hair was originally bought at a Sotheby’s auction in 1994 by four members of the American Beethoven Society who agreed to hold the majority of the hair strands at San Jose State’s Beethoven Center.
Iraq
continued from page 12

taking over an increasing amount of
day-to-day combat responsibilities,
but that the military and police force
would still be unable to take control
and operate independently in such a
short time frame.
"They are gaining size and strength," the
report states, "and will increasingly be capable of as-
suming greater responsibility for Iraq's
security," the report states, adding that
special forces in particular are "highly
capable and extremely effective."
The report is much more posi-
tive about Baghdad's police units.
It describes those units as fragile, ill-
equipped and infiltrated by militia
forces. And they are led by the Minis-
try of Interior, which is "a ministry in
name only" that is "widely regarded as being dysfunctional and sectarian," and
suffer from ineffective leadership. Accord-
ingly, the study recom-

mends disbanding the national police
and starting over.

"In ability to be effective is crippled
by significant challenges, including
public dissent, sectarianism (both real
and perceived), and a lack of clarity
about its identity — specifically wheth-
er it is a military or a police force," the
report states.

A group of liberal Democrats said
Wednesday the U.S. should stop sup-
porting those forces entirely and with-
draw U.S. troops.

"How can we be sure we are not
putting guns into the hands of a fu-
ture enemy and empowering them for
generations to come?" said Rep. Max-
Murray, D-N.Y., a member of the House
panel that oversees the military budget,
said an option being considered is a bill
that funds the troops, but in three- or
four-month installments, and directs
the money pay only to bring them
home.

The approach would guarantee an-
other showdown with Bush on the war
before year's end, putting Republicans
squarely in the middle of the debate.

With Democrats lacking the mo-
thed majority needed to override a
presidential veto, they need GOP votes to force legislation ending the war.

GOP leaders say they are waiting to
hear from Gen. David Petraeus, the top
military commander in Iraq. But that
they aren't so sure they'll lose members
to the Democrats' anti-war push.

"The success our troops have had
put some oxygen back in the room,
both for the party and the American
public," said Rep. Adam Putnam, R-
Fla., the No. 3 House Republican.

Volunteers
continued from page 9

program available to serve all of San
Luis Obispo County.
VolunteerSLO plans to begin a
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fice in the UU.
Bus, library hours extended

Mollie Helmuth
MUSTANG DAILY

Life will be a bit more convenient for students in the 2006-07 academic year with extensions being placed on both Kennedy Library's hours and SLO Transit's bus schedules. The new hours for both programs are largely aimed at facilitating effective student life at Cal Poly.

Kennedy Library, previously closed at 1 a.m. and the reading room will be converted to a 24-hour study room. "Students have repeatedly asked for longer hours," said Professor Tracy Boever, spokesman for the library. "We agree and will do everything possible to make this happen."

All of the library facilities, including the Mac lab on the second floor, will be open through 2 a.m., with some possible exceptions including the reference desk. Miller hopes that by extending the hours it will relieve some pressure students feel from their already busy schedules.

SLO Transit, the local bus system that is free to anyone with a PolyCard, is planning to extend its hours and add stops every 15 minutes instead of every half-hour.

SLO Transit, the local bus system that is free to anyone with a PolyCard, is planning to extend its hours and add stops every 15 minutes instead of every half-hour.

"If we have good numbers (of riders) and a high demand, we'll extend to Friday through Sunday," the futures of both the Kennedy Library and SLO Transit are optimistic, with more changes on the horizon.

"We have just begun working with architects to do a complete renovation and expansion of Kennedy Library," Miller said. "The emerging plan includes a 24-hour study space, more group project rooms and expanded access to technology."

SLO Transit is also hoping to improve their availability, possibly adding stops every 15 minutes (as opposed to every 30 to reduce waiting. Webster encourages students to get involved with their local government to create the changes they want to see.

"Your community can make the difference. Get active in state politics and write to your local representative to get money for transportation," he said.

"Students not reading their textbooks

Kiera Manion-Fischer
DAILY MUSTANG (KENT STATE U.)

When Nicole Proveno, Kent State University junior molecular biology major, sits down to study for a test, it's usually the first time she opens her textbooks.

"Basically, I only use them to study off of," she said. "If we're not going to have a test, I don't just read chapters in my book."

According to a recent study, students are more likely to read textbooks if they have good visuals and if lectures and class work relate to the books. The study was presented by Regan A. R. Gurung and Ryan C. Martin at the American Psychological Association's annual meeting.

Marti Hake, sophomore food and nutrition major, said she doesn't always read her textbooks. She said the words sometimes make her fall asleep and one thing that might make textbooks better is pictures that explain the text.

Hake said she took general psychology with professor Benjamin Newberry. She said the tests were

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Acceptance rates result in tripled room lottery

The diagram shown above demonstrates the new living arrangements and furnishings for the tripled residence hall rooms, which are located in the North Mountain and South Mountain dorms.

Jared Cleaver

In recent years, large freshmen classes have given incoming students the option of living in "triples" or "quads" rooms at a discounted rate. This year, the number of incoming students resulted in a random lottery, which determined which incoming freshmen will live in the tripled residence hall rooms.

In a June 20 e-mail sent to incoming freshmen, Preston Allen, the executive director of Housing and Residential Life, wrote: "Acceptance to the University for this coming academic year is at an all-time high, as is the demand for on-campus housing. For 'Regular Fall Admitted' freshmen, we were only able to keep the housing application system open for two days and the amount of students who did secure housing during this short time quickly exceeded our design capacity."

As a result, the e-mail stated that a "random lottery process" will be implemented to determine the living situations of the remaining students. According to Cal Poly's housing Web site, students living in these converted rooms will save $747 on rent annually.

Evan Razor, a city and regional planning sophomore, lived in a triple room in the North Mountain dorms last year.

"There were three of us in a room, and honestly, it wasn't bad at all," Razor said.

"It was a tighter space, which made it a little more difficult, and we didn't have a TV, so I guess you could consider those to be cons. There's just less privacy in general, but rent was cheaper and, I mean, it worked. We didn't really have any problem at all."

Despite the downsides to the situation, Razor said that the good outweighed the bad, and he wouldn't change anything if he could.

"I definitely thought it was worth the cheaper rent," he said. "It wasn't a big deal at all. We all got along, so maybe we were lucky. I would definitely do it again; it's not that big of a complication. We were in North Mountain so our rooms were a little bigger, but I don't think that it would be much of a problem in the red bricks either."

Allen says that new living arrangements will maximize the number of incoming students who can utilize the benefits provided by on-campus life.

"We have been asked by the university to provide as many first-year students as we can the opportunity to benefit from the whole campus experience," Allen said in an e-mail interview.

"With so many of our first-time students living on and off campus, a special focus of mine will be to work with the campus, as well as the off-campus community, to do more than house our students, but to work with us to integrate them fully into the campus life so they can experience the full sense of connection."

New furniture has been purchased to accommodate the triple rooms in the red-brick dorms. To efficiently utilize the limited space, the rooms will contain a loft bed with two desks underneath. In addition, there will also be a bunk bed, a wardrobe and a third desk.

According to the housing Web site, selected double rooms in North Mountain and South Mountain Halls have been reconfigured for three residents, and rooms have been converted on the first floor of each tower in Yosemite and Redwood Halls.

The Web site also says that students who would rather opt out of the triple or quad rooms will be placed on a waiting list, and moved into a double room as spaces become available.
Facebook shows students lack global knowledge

Kevin Kovancich

Facebook applications are intended to entertain and enhance an average user's page. However, one application is challenging American knowledge — or lack thereof — of world geography.

The "Travel R Quiz Challenge" is a game where users are tested on their knowledge of world geography. Users are provided with a map and a city or monument. The player then must place a flag in the area where they think the named location is. The score is based on how close the guess was to the actual position of the city.

With more than 65,000 people participating, the United States has the most Facebook users of any nation. However, the United States is ranked 17th of 193 countries in terms of accuracy and knowledge of other nations.

In the application, the United States currently trails New Zealand, Norway, Scotland, Ireland, Sweden and France, among many other countries.

Ethnocentrism, explains Sarah A. Blue of the Northern Illinois University Department of Geography, is the reason many Americans opt not to learn about other nations.

"The US being a political and economical superpower, we don't need to look beyond our borders," Blue said. "Because the US is so big, we tend to travel within the country."

Blue said many Americans find learning geography unappealing.

It's just one of the subjects that people find boring," Blue said.

In some cases, students are not given the opportunity to learn geography in school. Gina Colonna, a Northern Illinois University sophomore, said she was never taught geography in elementary school or high school. She doesn't even think her high school had a geography class.

Tyler Swanson, a NIU senior, said people believe many Americans just don't care enough about the rest of the world to learn about it.

"I think a lot of it has to do with how closed-minded and egocentric the general American public is," Swanson said. "As a whole, we don't care about what is going on in other parts of the world, as long as it doesn't affect us or our gas prices, direct costs.


The report also states that only 37 percent of Americans could find Iraq on a map, despite American troops having been stationed there since 2003. Furthermore, 20 percent of young Americans believe Sudan is in Asia.

However, Sudan is the largest country in Africa.

Berkeley gets grant to improve nuclear defense

Angélica Dongallo

University of California-Berkeley researchers will be working on a new project to improve nuclear defense technology, using a $1.4 million grant the campus received from the Department of Homeland Security and the National Science Foundation in August.

The grant, called the Academic Research Initiative, is one of the first academic initiatives by the department's Domestic Nuclear Detection Office aimed at eliminating the threat of nuclear terrorism, said Nick Prim, deputy assistant director for the office.

The UC-Berkeley interdisciplinary group, led by nuclear engineer professor Edward Morse, could potentially renew the grant for up to $7.1 million over five years.

"We've had a long tradition of doing our part for the government when we have the right people and the right expertise," Morse said, citing his team of researchers based in different fields.

UC-Berkeley, along with Texas A&M University, received the most funding from the initiative, based on "intellectual merit" and "broader impact" components, said Bruce Hamilton, program director for the National Science Foundation.

"Out of 133 proposals, it was one set of good ideas, and the combination of those good ideas plus the integration of students in the research plan was a big plus," Hamilton said.

Morse's team includes professor Eric Nordheim and associate professor of nuclear engineering Brian Worsh, business and industrial engineering and operations research professor Don Hochbraum and physics professor James Negretti.

Besides developing nuclear detection technology that will enhance homeland security, part of the grant will be used for scholarships and fellowships to recruit the next generation of nuclear engineers, Morse said.

"That's our product here, students," he said. "We try to do smart things ourselves, but the students are probably big part of it."

This is the largest grant the department of nuclear engineering has received in at least 20 years to support the growing field of nuclear technology and security, said the chair of the department, professor Jasmina Vojcic.
The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) has been undergoing changes to become more comprehensive, effective in 2008, including changing the computer-adaptive test and adding on experimental questions.

The exams were computer-adaptive last year and will remain that way this year, where the computer picked the route the test-taker would take based on his or her answers to the questions, according to Duane Larick, senior associate dean of the North Carolina State University graduate school and member of the council of the graduate schools.

In 2008, Larick said the exam will still be computer-based, but all users will be able to take the same route in answering questions and will be able to go back and review their answers.

"Since (the Educational Testing Service Advisory Committee) has changed to the computer-based test one of the problems ... or complaints was that if you have a question response that you want to come back to, you couldn't go back to it," he said.

Larick said the GRE's only change dramatically when the committee feels those changes are necessary.

"If the revised format you would have the opportunity to go back whereas you wouldn't have that before ... the test will be virtually the same for grad students until 2008," he said.

Alice Ballenger, a graduate student in international studies, said she thinks the educational testing service should have variations of the format similar to the ACT and SAT for undergrads.

"The format of the GRE should appeal to different types of learners ... I thought that the (current) test, being on the computer was very difficult and could be revised," she said.

According to Ballenger, the people who wrote the GRE should have addressed these concerns.

Ballenger suggested that a more effective means of examining graduate students on their knowledge base is to test students based upon more than the typical verbal, quantitative and written format.

She said different formats of the GREs should be taken into consideration.

"Colleges take both SAT and ACT scores. Maybe they should change the entire format of the GRE and come up with an entirely new one just like the ACT (in regards to the SAT)," Larick said the computer adaptive system is for the sake of the administrators, and therefore, further measures are being made to make the test more comprehensive for students.

He also said there have been proposals to alter the point scale and better evaluate student performance on the GRE.

In November, the GREs will incorporate a few experimental test questions, complete and numeric entry questions, to eliminate guessing and better evaluate students on the materials.
Families search for survivors in Nicaragua after Felix hits

Ariel Leon
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PUERTO CABEZAS, Nicaragua — Desperate families searched through the early morning hours Thursday for scores of missing Nicaraguans on the Caribbean coast where Hurricane Felix blew away villages, flooded rivers and killed at least 18 people.

Some 150 Miskito Indians who were adrift on the ocean clinging to buoys, canoes and slabs of wood were rescued by authorities, said Honduran federal Congresswoman Carolina Echeverria, who represents the northeastern province of Gracias a Dios, on the Nicaraguan border.

Nine of those rescued were in serious condition and were being attended by five Honduran doctors, Echeverria said.

"We believe there are many others out there floating on the sea," she said.

Far to the northwest, meanwhile, Henriette plowed into Mexico for the second time in two days, making landfall shortly before 9 p.m. EDT near the port city of Guaymas in Sonora, said Jack Beven, a specialist with the Miami-based National Hurricane Center in west of El Paso, Texas, according to meteorologists.

"I felt horrible," he said. "I was going to die." David Serato, 42, left. "Life is more important than personal belongings," he said. "If I stayed, I would die."

Many had feared a repeat of the 1998 nightmare of Hurricane Mitch, which stalled over Central America for days, causing floods and mudslides that killed nearly 11,000 people and left more than 8,000 missing.

On Mexico's western coast, Henriette moved across the Gulf of California after Felix downgraded to a tropical depression before dumping a few inches of rain Thursday on New Mexico.

There wasn't enough fuel after the storm for boats to make long trips, and Felix snapped steel cables that guided a small ferry carrying people and cars from Puerto Cabezas to the village of Warahuitum.

Felix, also wiped out crops and damaged most of the 70 tons of food and emergency goods that had been flown in before the storm.

On Wednesday, it was hard to find a building that wasn't damaged. Police rode bulldozers to evacuate hillside slums and swollen rivers.

In San Pedro Sula, in northern Honduras, one shantytown filled with water after a river burst its banks. Police made bulldozers to evacuate shantytown dwellers from water that was waist-deep and rising, but many refused to leave, fearing their remaining possessions would be stolen.

David Serato, 42, left. "Life is more important than personal belongings," he said. "If I stayed, I would die."

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Schools and ports were closed and people evacuated from low-lying areas, but the storm was expected to weaken quickly over the desert before dumping a few inches of rain Thursday on New Mexico.

Residents stand in rubble of their home after Hurricane Felix hits.

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The state of beer through a beermaker’s experience

J.M. Hirsch

BOSTON — Fat boys and babies in bars are out, and you can thank the rise of Thai, Moroccan and Ethiopian foods.

That’s not a connection often made, but Jim Koch thinks the beer industry — and especially the flourishing niche of craft brewers he inhabits — owes a lot to increasingly refined image in part to the growing popularity of ethnic cuisines.

“The one common element of all these new cuisines is, they are beer connoisseurs. Wine is very challenged,” says Koch, founder of The Boston Beer Company and Samuel Adams beer.

“Wine doesn’t pair well with those big, bold, spicy flavors.”

That created an opportunity that brewers such as Koch haven’t wasted. During the past decade, beer has regained a respectability once lost to wine, and Koch recently sat down with The Associated Press to talk about the state of his industry.

Koch is a driven innovator who describes himself and select fellow craft brewers as skilled lunatics, people pushing beer to extremes because they can. That’s the lunatic part. The skill is in taking what they learn and turning it into great beer.

Take Koch’s recent Imperial Pilsner, a beer jammed with 110 times more hops than the standard American brew. With pleasantly assertive notes of grapefruit and eucalyptus, it’s nothing like a conventional beer.

Not so long ago, pushing something like Imperial Pilsner onto the market was all but unthinkable. But the more than $100 billion beer industry has undergone a transformation, prompting Koch to say without irony that beer has become the new wine.

“It’s where wine was 20 years ago,” he says. “It’s at the very beginning of appreciation and enjoyment of beer in a different way. It’s not just for refreshment. It deserves a place at the table alongside great food and good wine.”

For a healthy dose of cognitive dissonance, think about whole re-calling the used-up television ads that not long ago ruled beer’s image in the U.S., relegating it to the drink of the erudite palate (not to mention college party场景).

Which isn’t to say Joe Six-Pack has necessarily traded in his Bud So-called craft brews — the beer world’s answer to artisanal cheeses — still account for less than 4 percent of the overall beer market (Sam Adams is less than 1 percent).

Still, Koch and his fellow crafters appear to be on to something. Sales of craft beers have increased nearly 32 percent during the past three years, according to the Brewers Association, an industry trade group.

Beer as a sophisticated drink is not a new concept. Until the ‘60s it was beer, not wine, that was the alcohol of moderation — what Koch calls a country club drink that respectable adults drank after attending the symphony.

That changed when the California wine industry began producing vintages that demanded respect.

“Wow, guess what? Twenty years ago a handful of small American brewers started making world-class beer … and have created that transformation in understanding and appreciation in enjoyment of beer,” Koch says.

He attributes a combination of aggressive education and an evolving American palate with making that possible.

Few people knew, for example, that beer has a short lifespan, usually no more than four or five months. Getting across that message posed challenges for getting its products to market. For years, Koch refused to sell anywhere he wasn’t confident of fast turnover, he didn’t want consumers drinking old beer.

“I love beer businesses ‘cause they’re great pop art,” he says. “But nobody was really educating beer drinkers about the dignity of beer, the history of the beer, the brewing process, the nature and the quality of the ingredients.”

Meanwhile, Americans were increasingly fascinated by the flavors of Asia and Africa, flavors that challenged conventional thinking about wine pairings. Wine connoisseurs would argue the point, but Koch says good craft beer can stand up to the heat and the spice.

“It doesn’t have the malt body to stand up to the heat and the spice,” he says. “It has relatively narrow range of flavors that are really best suited to more elegant, delicate, you know, Corden Bleu and northern Italian type dishes.”

Restaurateurs seem to agree (or at least cater to those who do). Beer lists have become as formidable as wine lists, and the suggestion of careful pairings of beer and food is long beyond garnering stickers.

And Koch believes there’s still room for innovation, such as his Utopias, a true beer in only the scientific sense. It sells for $120 a bottle and has the body and nose of cognac, with deep caramel flavors.

“You define your beer and your expectations for beer are nice too,” he says. “We brewers have not really elevated your expectations for what beer can be. But this now opens your expectations of what beer can be.”

The Student Pack offers the following for Cal Poly students:

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Bush unlikely to make significant cut in troops

Matthew Lee
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Bush's senior advisers on Iraq have recommended he stand by his current war strategy, and he is unlikely to order more than a symbolic cut in troops before the end of the year, administration officials told The Associated Press on Tuesday.

The recommendations from the military commander in Iraq, Gen. David Petraeus, and U.S. Ambassador Ryan Crocker come despite independent government findings Tuesday that Baghdad has not met most of the political, military and economic markers set by Congress. Bush appears set on maintaining the central elements of the policy he laid out in January, one senior administration official said, after discussions with participants in Bush's briefings during his surprise visit to an air base in Iraq on Monday.

Although the addition of 30,000 troops and the focus on increasing security in Baghdad would not be permanent, Bush is inclined to give it more time in hopes of extending military gains in Baghdad and the formerly restive Anbar province, officials said. They spoke on condition of anonymity to describe decisions coming as part of the White House report on Iraq due to Congress next week.

The plan they described is fraught with political risk. While Republican leaders on Tuesday suggested the GOP may be willing to support keeping troops in the region through spring, it is unclear whether Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., had here in the homeland or on military gains in recent months, one official said. If adopted, that change would not come before the spring.

Speaking to reporters Wednesday during a trip to Australia, Bush reiterated his view that decisions about troop levels should be based on recommendations from military commanders and noted that Petraeus and Crocker would be delivering reports soon enough.

"Whether or not that's part of the policy I announce to the nation of if military successes continue, but he gave no timeline or specific numbers. Options beyond a symbolic cut this year include cutting the tour of duty for troops in Iraq from 15 months back to the traditional 12 months, one official said. If adopted, that change would not come before the spring.

"Your calculations are about right," Petraeus suggested a drawdown next spring would be needed to avoid further strain on the military. Asked if March would be that time, he said, "You're calculations are about right." Republican support could hinge on Petraeus's testimony next week. If he can convince lawmakers that the security gains won in recent months are substantial and point toward a bigger trend, GOP members might be more likely to hold out until next spring. They also might be more easily persuaded if Bush makes other changes to hold the number steady.

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Troops
continued from page 23

Troop withdrawals might be the ticket to forcing political progress in Iraq. The position was a new one for the senator, who faces a tough election year.

"I think the unmistakable message has to be sent to the Shiite leadership that there is no blank check for Iraq," Coleman told reporters on a conference call.

Also Tuesday, the Government Accountability Office, Congress' investigative and auditing arm, reported that Iraq has failed to meet 11 of its 18 political and security goals.

The study was slightly more upbeat than initially planned. After receiving substantial resistance from the White House, the GAO determined that four benchmarks — instead of two — had been partially met.

But the GAO stuck with its original contention that only three goals out of the 18 had been fully achieved. The goals met include establishing joint security stations in Baghdad, ensuring minority rights in the Iraqi legislature and creating support committees for the Baghdad security plan.

U.S. Comptroller David Walker said the GAO did not soften its report due to pressure from the administration and reached its conclusions on its own. Walker said Congress should ask itself what it wants to achieve in Iraq and can do so realistically.

"After we answer that, we can reassess what the appropriate goal is of U.S. forces," he said in an interview Tuesday.

Democrats said the GAO report showed that Bush's decision to send more troops to Iraq was failing because Baghdad was not making the political progress needed to tamp down sectarian violence.

"No matter what spin we may hear in the coming days, this independent assessment is a failing grade for a policy that simply isn't working," said Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass.

The report does not make any substantial policy recommendations, but says future administration reports "would be more useful to the Congress" if they provided more detailed information.

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Fashion
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in keeping with the lower profile that she’s adopted for her fashion career. She is still involved in the business and at Secretive, Fashion 5 company, but not much in design.
Stefani, however, thinks fashion is literally a growing part of her life. “This is so in my heart,” she told the Associated Press in a telephone interview. “I make the clothes for myself, clothes I’d want to wear. I want clothes that have quality and style."
But even if the look is her own, inspired by a combination of Jamaican traditions, English school girls, and Chechen culture, California, Stefani says L.A.M.B. couldn’t happen without a larger team, especially a new fashion designer, whom Stefani met on the set of an Eve video years ago.
“They just clicked. I found someone who got me. She grew up in New York and knew fashion. I went to the tail end when I was young. She filled in my gaps,” Stefani said.

And they’ve come a long way since that Fashion Week show two years ago when they were scaring for heels and shoes at the last minute. L.A.M.B. now makes its own accessories and the signature fragrance is rolling out. (In the interim she also has staged some smaller collection previews.)

“We’re still learning, but we also have accomplished staff that checks me. I don’t want to brag, but I’m really proud of this,” Stefani said.

Finally Hughes, the former TV soap star who has become a fixture at Fashion Week for the Style network and currently hosts ot “How Do I Look?”, likes Stefani’s rock ‘n roll perspective.

“I actually think she’s got a fantastic eye. Her clothing is well made and fits brilliantly,” Hughes said. “She’s got great taste informed by Venice, Westwood, Jean Paul Gaultier, some really good designers. And she’s heavy into tailoring and detail.”

Hughes says she owns some L.A.M.B. skirts and pants, and her favorite is a black suit with an intricate satin-sleeve detail.

As for the upcoming spring looks, Stefani says she was influenced by the rah-rah life she has led over the past year as a new mother traveling the globe. “Fashion is art. It’s always affected by circumstance,” she said.

The first collection when she was pregnant, I was totally affected by my body.”

In general, the fall clothes on the runway last February and in stores now have a very polished look, which Hughes would like to see even more of. “I like that we’re looking forward,” she said.

She probably will.

For example, designer Tracy Reese’s spring collection continues the more fitted styles that are longer and leaner. The earlier trend of billowy, bell-bottomed jeans won’t be a trend for her because he seems to like the close-to-the-body silhouette making a lasting impression. “It’s nice to see the same again, but it seems to be so polished and chic. If there’ll be biker shorts, it’s a 1970s meets the ’70s, ’80s,” Reese said.

Rugby as art? Paris says yes!

Angela Doland
globe reporter

PARIS — There’s no question that great athletes take their sports to the level of art.

But as the French host the Rugby World Cup, they’re pushing that concept a step further by bringing rugby into an art museum. It’s a gesture Parisian touch a sport more often associated with muscle, body-crunching tackles or even incidents of ear-biting.

To coincide with the Sept. 7-Oct. 20 tournament, the Quai Branly museum is hosting rugby-related exhibits, visas and roundtables with archaeologists, historians, sociologists and former players. The museum also covered its roof with a close-up view of the Eiffel Tower.

The first event of “La Mêlée des Arts” ("Soccer of Cultures") comes Saturday, with a day of conferences on rugby culture and how it affects the world of rugby at a sports field with a close-up view of the Eiffel Tower.

If that seems like a stretch, he adds, “We can’t kid ourselves. It’s also the celebration of the spirit of giving in people who never come to museums, because they find museums boring.”

The first event of “La Mêlée des Cultures” ("Soccer of Cultures") comes Saturday, with a day of conferences on rugby and culture and how the world of rugby at a sports field with a close-up view of the Eiffel Tower.

A highlight throughout the program are workshops on the ritual tattooing of cultures in the Pacific. Other workshops will teach the haka, the traditional Maori war dance that New Zealand’s All Blacks perform. The All Blacks, the World Cup favorites, do the haka before the kickoff, chanting and stomping on the field.

The museum commissioned artist-in-residence Greg Semu, who is of Samoan heritage and grew up in New Zealand, to create an original artwork for the series. He took inspiration from a team photo of the All Blacks doing the haka in a dark forest in their Adidas uniforms — a photo rife with themes to explore, such as the appropriation and commercialization of traditional culture.

Semu’s own photo — huge and breathtaking — hangs in the museum’s entryway. It shows Maori warriors clashing in a forest clearing. Some wear British uniform, others wear loincloths or armor. Many have traditional tattoos over their faces. It’s a reflection on colonization, war and modern sports.

Those themes were not immediately apparent to Arthur Bogosian, a 90-year-old visitor, who suggested another message. “The All Blacks will destroy all the teams on their way. The artist didn’t mind that interpretation. “The more people look at it, the more they’ll think about it,” Semu said.

It’s a slow-burner piece.”

The Quai Branly series is not the only Parisian cultural event timed for the World Cup. An exhibit at Paris City Hall, called “Rugby, a World of Emotions,” explores a day in the life of a rugby team. For the Festival in Paris, in Saint Denis, north of Paris, artists from 12 countries will perform in 30 acts concerts.

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Jared Cleaver

When Cal Poly graduate Laurie Tossy started stone sculpting, she didn’t know that it would eventually become her livelihood. After overcoming a bout with carpel tunnel syndrome that sidelined her for more than a decade, she is back in the studio doing what she loves to do.

“I actually started when I was in college. I have a bachelor’s degree in fine arts from before I went to Cal Poly,” Tossy said. “I went to a small school in France, and that’s where I really developed my interest. It’s a like a really repetitive disorder. There’s a lot of vibration involved with sculpting, and I do my sculpting mostly by hand with old fashioned chisels and hammers. Mostly because a lot of the power equipment produces so much vibration, it would be too hard on me. So, between doing my exercises and limiting my time on the machine, that’s really the only solution. I’ve really been working on with other artists, learning some tips on how to survive, because it’s a really repetitive disorder.”

As a result of the surgery, Tossy has had to learn new techniques and exercises to make the sculpting tolerable. “I have learned how to do certain exercises to help. And that’s one thing I’ve really been working on with other artists, learning some tips on how to survive, because it’s a really repetitive disorder. There’s a lot of vibration involved with sculpting, and I do my sculpting mostly by hand with old fashioned chisels and hammers. Mostly because a lot of the power equipment produces so much vibration, it would be too hard on me. So, between doing my exercises and limiting my time on the machine, it seems to be working okay.”

Whereas many people would assume that stone sculptors create art based on some sketch or idea beforehand, Tossy says that the individual stone usually dictates what she chooses to sculpt. “Typically the stone tells me what it wants to do. I really view myself as more of a translator than a dictator.”

Tossy has found that each of the pieces she creates is unique. “The stone itself, and what’s in it already. Sometimes, even with the cubed quarry stone, there will be a flaw or something about it that makes me change my idea about the piece. So, they’re always evolving. Even if I have a sketch beforehand, it’s more like an idea. Kind of like an outline for a story, the storyline might change a little bit along the way.”

After graduating from Cal Poly, Tossy took a job in Colorado, Idaho. She has since worked in the printing industry as well as local government. She converted her basement into a studio, and now spends most of her time sculpting and attending various shows. “I was recruited from Cal Poly to go to a company in Colorado, and I just love it there, and so I’ve stayed,” she said. "My studio is there, in my basement, so that’s kind of being the space that I can work on because I have to be able to carry the stones up and down the stairs.”

Tossy was recently involved with the Sixteenth Annual Loveland Sculpture Invitational Show & Sale, in her hometown. According to the show’s Web site, “over 340 artists from across the nation display over 3,000 sculptures.” Tossy included three of her own sculptures in the show. “I had a variety of pieces in various stones. One was a green marble from Utah and it’s actually got a lot of white in it, with green striping. That piece is called ‘I Know Dogs Go to Heaven Because I See Them in the Clouds.’ It had this white and green dog face, actually there were multiple dogs, and it was sort of red and pressed onto a green piece that was shaped like a mountain. So, it was like looking at the clouds over the mountain.”

The Loveland Invitational isn’t technically a competition, but artisans display their pieces in an attempt to attract potential buyers and showcase their artwork. “It’s not a competition. There were about 350 artists and there were eight different huge tents, you have many different artists in each tent showing their sculptures,” Tossy said. “Plus, there’s a see Sculpt, page 28.
Clive Owen and Monica Bellucci star in the new action flick parody "Shoot 'Em Up" which landed in theaters Sept. 7.

"Shoot 'Em Up" clever, but mostly mind-numbing

Christy Lemire
ASSOCIATE PRESS

Certain people are certainly going to be offended by the intentionally over-the-top action flick "Shoot 'Em Up," with its objectification of women and its juxtaposition of sex and violence.

Clive Owen, as sharpshooter Mr. Smith, helps a woman deliver her baby with one hand (to the tune of Nirvana's "Bleak") while fending off a bevy of bad guys with the other; later, he rolls around naked with Monica Bellucci (in the film's obligatory hooker with a heart of gold) while firing bullets at an onslaught of attackers, followed by a pun that you can probably figure out for yourselves.

"Shoot 'Em Up" is a gritty visual feast. And much of the choreography can be inventive, with Smith sliding under tables, across conveyor belts of carnage.

"Shoot 'Em Up" is an example of subtlety.

"You can put a silencer on a gun." No one ever bothers to use the silencer in "Shoot 'Em Up." That would be a parody of a genre that wasn't all that deserving of parody. The mindless, John Woo-style cornucopia of carnage.

"Shoot 'Em Up" clever, but mostly mind-numbing
CASTORO CELLARS is one of many wineries located in Paso Robles' wine country.

Jennifer Ingan

Suitable for its ideal microclimate and distinct soil, and soothed by moist air flowing directly from the Pacific Ocean, wine grape vineyards flourish in San Luis Obispo County. Experienced or not, wine tasting in San Luis Obispo County is a great place for beginners and wine aficionados alike. With more than 26,000 vineyard acres and 170 wineries, 100 of which offer tastings, the Paso Robles wine country is the fastest-growing wine country in the state of California, behind Napa and Sonoma.

Situated just north of San Luis Obispo along U.S. Highway 101, turn off at Highway 46 and make a right or left. Either way you will hit an array of wineries that offer wine tasting. "Paso Robles wine country is gaining notoriety among the wine press and critics for quality wines," said Chris Taranto, communications manager at the Paso Robles Wine Country Alliance. "We have diverse and distinct terroirs because we don't specialize in a single type of wine, which offers a great variety. This region is fun and explorative, and is welcoming for first-timers. The wineries still hold traditional values and have a welcoming atmosphere."

There are more than 40 wine grape varieties grown in Paso Robles, ranging from Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot to Syrah, Viognier and Zinfandel. Some also feature the amel's heritage and specialty wine varieties. Paso Robles and the Greater San Luis Obispo County Wine Country internationally distribute about 3.2 million cases containing a dozen 9-liter bottles per case.

Niece Uden, a Cal Poly agribusiness alumnus, along with his wife, Bimmer Uden, established Castoro Cellars with the same Gold Medal winemaking team for more than 20 years. Castoro's wine tasting room is located off Highway 46 West toward Cambria. Their flagship wine is Zinfandel, and they produce a custom wine for Trader Joe's called "J1 Coastal." They also offer Cabernet, Chardonnay, Merlot, Pinot Noir, special blends and dessert wines, to name a few.

Castoro Cellars produce about 60,000 to 65,000 cases of wine a year, and are well represented locally and throughout California, the U.S., Japan and some countries in Europe. The tasting room employee at Castoro for five years.

"Wine tasting is fairly inexpensive, even for a 21-year-old college student on a budget. At Castoro, you get seven tastings for only $3 or seven tests for $3 if you want to keep the wine glass. But, if you buy any wine, you get a free tasting."

"This is a fun atmosphere and a fun way to become knowledgeable about wine," Pfifer said. "We're not stuffy. We make the experience fun for first-timers so they want to come back again."

"We have high quality and affordable wines," Pfifer said. "Castoro Cellars is family-owned by husband and wife for 24 years, and the same winemaker for 10 years, which offers a consistency in the wines and winemaking."

Castoro also has picnic grounds and holds concerts up to twice a month. Summit and fall are the busiest times of the year for wine tasters to get their sip on in Paso Robles wine country. Taranto said, October marks the beginning of the vintage, and wineries celebrate during the Harvest Wine Tour from Oct. 19-21 this year. At the weekend event, wineries hold open houses and feature grape stomps, music, art and barbecues. "The Harvest Wine Tour is great for first-timers," Taranto said. "It's a good chance to experience Paso Robles wine country for the first time."

Along the back roads from San Luis Obispo to Arroyo Grande, you will uncover vineyards on Orcutt Road and Highway 227. Located in the heart of Paso Robles, the region's wine tasting rooms are spread out on the back roads, which are on Orcutt Road and Highway 227, in the quaint wine tasting room of Saucelito Canyon. "We're very friendly, casual and our craftman-style tasting room is charming and smaller in size for intimacy, and highlights the taster's experience," said Nancy Greenough, co-owner of Saucelito Canyon. "We're family-owned, and we live next door, so we're always at the tasting room."

Nancy co-owns Saucelito Canyon with her husband, Bill. The Greanoughs possess a 125-year-old vineyard in Arroyo Grande near Lopez Lake. Their flagship wine is Zinfandel, and they also offer a specialty of red blend wine such as a Hill Mountain, and other varieties such as Cabernet, Tempranillo and Sauvignon Blanc. They are also affiliated with the Oertman Family Vineyard and offer tasting of their wines, including Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Sangiovese.

Saucelito Canyon offers six tastings for $5. They produce about 3,000 cases of wine a year, and distribute their wines in California, nationally, and export to countries such as Japan and Switzerland.

On Sept. 19, Saucelito Canyon will be a participant at A Taste of San Luis Obispo, which will be held at Mission San Luis Obispo de Tolosa, featuring the best wineries and restaurants in San Luis Obispo. This year marks Saucelito Canyon's 25th harvest, and on the weekend of Nov. 3-4 they will celebrate the Vintners Harvest Celebration in Avila Beach on Saturday, and will hold an open house on Sunday at the vineyard, which will feature music, Ray Catanesi, Bros. savage and more. At the tasting room, they will commemorate the Oertman Family for their 40th year in the industry.

Tickets for the 17th annual Harvest Celebration in Avila Beach are $75 per person and can be purchased online at www.slowine.com. A map of San Luis Obispo tasting rooms is also available on the Web site.

Wine tasting for the experienced and newcomers can be fun if taken with precautions. "First you want to identify what it is you're attempting to do," Taranto said. "Always have a designated driver, and don't be afraid to spit. Some people feel they will look stupid if they spit, but wine tasting is not about looks, it's about the experience."

For first-timers, it's helpful to join a structured tour with someone to guide you. Taranto said, Taranto suggests having a small group of four to six people. With larger groups you may feel disconnected, so it's best to be in a smaller group and talk about the wine.

But if you don't want to join a tour and would rather travel with your buddies, first designate a driver. Taranto said. Get a map of the wineries, plot your course and try to work a meal into your tasting. There are a number of companies offering tours of the Paso Robles wine country, which can be viewed on www.pasowine.com, along with a printable map of the wine country and profiles of wineries in the area.

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Promoting a culture of sound

KCPR music directors balance school, work and a social life while ensuring culture prevails on Central Coast airwaves.

Brooke Robertson
AUGUST 30

Posters, stickers and other music memorabilia congest the four white walls of the cramped office, wedging onto the ceiling, CDs waiting to be listened to, categorized, timed or replaced explode out of narrow wooden shelves. Amidst the organized chaos of boxes and packaging at two men listening to albums and making notes on an aged computer.

For the next year, architecture junior Paul Cambon and English senior Brian Cassidy will spend approximately 20 hours a week in this cramped office, sorting through mail, listening to albums, talking to promoters and record labels, keeping everything organized and holding music meetings for the 100+ DJs who make up KCPR, San Luis Obispo 91.3 FM. They are the music directors for the radio station, and they come with a mantra: “Make KCPR the best station we can,” Cassidy said.

What started as a senior project in 1968 has morphed into one of the most widely respected college radio stations in the country. KCPR is one of 40 stations in the United States and Canada hand-picked to compile the album charts of Dusted Magazine, an online publication devoted to independent radio and new sources of alternative music.

This is in part due to KCPR’s diverse programming, which boasts a varied mix of mad jazz, sweet pop, underground hip-hop, dance break-beats and lots of indie-alternative music.

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This is in part due to KCPR’s diverse programming, which boasts a varied mix of mad j
Music has always been a large part of my life," said.

that his work as music director trumps class work. to

their roles as music directors? "No social life," Cassidy

be added to KCDM's new music rotation, which will

more of a way of looking at things or understanding," Cassidy and Ciambon sort through approximately 200 CDs per week, listening to each song, recording it on KCPR's database, and writing a brief review of the recording. From these 200 albums, only 10 to 15 "20 on a good week," Ciambon said, are chosen to be added to KCPR's new music notation, which will eventually be filtered into the greater music library.

What makes Ciambon and Cassidy write off approximately 185 new albums each week as "bad" is what makes KCPR a respected radio station among aficionados of all musical categories. However, this willingness to chuck out bands is also what gives the station a bad reputation among record label promoters.

"We're a very difficult station to get an add with," Cassidy said. "Promoters generally think we're Asholes and difficult to deal with."

As Cassidy explained, KCPR is one of the only college radio stations in the country where DJs could have a debate over whether to add the newest album from Interpol, a band with a major label and a reputation for producing hits glorified on popular television shows such as "The OC.":

At most other college radio stations, the CD was an automatic add. "We have a high standard," Cassidy said. "We don't just add everything they tell us is good." (For the record, they added the album.)

"If you think about how much time and how much of their lives it takes to make an album, it's crazy," Cassidy said. "It gets put in a pile and it gets a minute of our time, we put it on the computer, write a note about what we think, and send it to Boo Boo." He described the rejection process. Boo Boo Records generally takes and sells albums not worthy of KCPR's stamp of approval.

So what makes an album addable in Ciambon and Cassidy's eyes?

"There's no template," Cassidy described. "What's great about one album is what's terrible about the next." For example, he said the quality that made recent albums from New Young Pony Club and The Klaxons great was how catchy they were; yet that's exactly what drove Ciambon and Cassidy to dismiss other albums.

They described an addable album as one that does something different, has interesting influences (usually older than 10 years), challenges listeners and has a lot of interesting things going on.

"Good or bad isn't really our job," Cassidy said. "We deal more with relevance, pertinence and progressiveness."

Ciambon said, "The most challenging part of the job is determining what's good and interesting compared to what music you like."

When Ciambon listens to music he focuses more on the "sound of everything," not necessarily on the song aspect. "What I think is a beautiful CD may not be that interesting and could be a tool for the average San Luis Obispo listener to listen to," he said. "A lot of it doesn't have a place in regular format radio," which he emphasized could do more harm than good if added by scaring away potential listeners.

Ciambon described Ciambon's preferred genre of music as electronic, himself favoring blues and experimental. "You couldn't get two people coming from two (more) different spectrums," Cassidy said.

But adding music isn't about their personal tastes.

"We can't just add everything we want; that's not our job," Cassidy emphasized. "It's not about making Paul and Brian's playlist dream every week."

While going through their pile of albums each week, Cassidy will often say, "I don't like it. But, it's good. We should add it."

Although they have no qualms about turning down bad music, it seems to be harder for them when the artist is DIY.

"Sometimes people call and want to know what we thought of their album, and you can't tell them the truth," Cassidy said. "You just tell them it's not for us."

"If you think about how much time and how much of their lives it takes to make an album, it's crazy," Cassidy said. "It gets put in a pile and it gets a minute of our time, we put it on the computer, write a note about what we think, and send it to Boo Boo," he described the rejection process. Boo Boo Records generally takes and sells albums not worthy of KCPR's stamp of approval.

But not everyone always agrees with Ciambon and Cassidy about what's worthy and what's not.

So far there have been several DJs that have criticized what we add or like on an album that we don't think see Directors, page 32
Directors

continued from page 31

would fit into the station's programming,” Cambon said. “With programming diverse as KCPR, it’s bound to happen. That’s one of the drawbacks of having a diverse station.”

But even though Cambon and Cassidy have the final say on what gets added, Cambon said there’s still a sense of equality between DJs and music directors. If someone wants them to add an album, they’ll take that suggestion into account. “We definitely give it another listen, and sometimes we think there are good qualities to it and maybe we didn’t spend as much time on it as we should have,” Cambon said. “Other times it reaffirms our initial opinion of the CD.”

The pair has added albums they initially rejected at the requests of DJs. “If you’re in a bad mood and listen to 30 CDs a day, you might make a bad judgment,” Cassidy said. “The whole idea is to be open-minded about every CD you put in the CD player.”

But sometimes questioning DJs can get annoying. “It’s easier to deal with people questioning why we didn’t add something than questioning why we did,” Cassidy said.

Cassidy compared his job as music director to that of an art director at a museum. “I like art, but I don’t know what art is good for me,” he explained. DJs and listeners alike may like or even love music, but may have trouble knowing where to begin when tackling the huge array of new, available music. “I hope they trust we know what we’re doing,” Cassidy said. “Critics be damned.”

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Love,

Your son/daughter JIM

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Love,

Your son/daughter JIM
**Risqué read covers taboo topics of adolescence**

Christina Stritzinger
THE DAILY GAMECOCK (COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA)

Motivated by Julia Cameron's "The Artist's Way" and a midlife crisis-esque drive to express himself through his first novel, columnist Marc Acito tackles his story with every bit of humor, wit and charm as he does in his columns. Acito never hesitates to say anything and leaves no taboo topic untouched, from white-collar crime to spontaneous three-ways.

"How I Paid for College: A Novel of Sex, Theft, Friendship, & Musical Theater" is exactly what it sounds like — a humorous account of a high school senior on a mission to follow his dreams. The book tells the story of determined Edward Zanni, his quest to attend Julliard and his wrestle with every obstacle in the way. Any college student will be able to relate to Edward's frustration with his father, who doesn't approve of his desire to pursue acting as a career and refuses to let him study anything but the one field he considers practical; business.

Having to cope with a transient, free-spirited mother who seems to be on a permanent pilgrimage to her inner-self, and a father who would rather spend his money at his European girlfriend than fund Edward's dreams, this main character has enough drama in his life to make even the most emo teen feel a bit better.

Follow Edward as he auditions at Julliard, blackmails a politician, sings at a piano bar, skips school, questions his sexuality, spends a drunken night in New York City, falls in love and just about discovers the meaning of life. Despite the rollercoaster plot that makes even the craziest nightlife seem boring, Acito's gift as a writer allows him to explore the adolescent intellect in a way that's every bit as light-hearted as it is risqué. Acito's lighthearted, first-person narrative starts out like a classic coming-of-age novel, but Edward's adventures with criminal activity and experimentation with bisexuality make it hardly a "safe" choice for your traditional high school summer reading list.

However, Edward's encounters with these interesting things are hardly distasteful and are actually quite inspiring. Perhaps even more striking is the amount of intellectual fodder for thought that is wound into this novel. In no way boring or cynical, Acito often includes some interesting and quite profound references to music, drama and even classic literature.

If you're really well informed, you might even catch the parallel between Edward Zanni and Oedipus or notice the subtle references to another would-be outlawed book, Salingers' "The Catcher in the Rye." Edward Zanni's dramatic, over-the-top personality will certainly win your heart. Don't miss this rare, intelligent, emotional and hilarious novel — you won't be disappointed.
The campus wouldn’t be complete without the imaginative touch presented year-round by the Cal Poly Arts program.

With arts, plays and performances in just about every genre you can think of, the performing arts world comes alive inside the Cal Poly Performing Arts Center.

So what shows are creating the buzz around campus this year?

“I would suggest that students check their calendars for Weird Al Yankovic, comedians Caroline Rhea, Tom Papa and Marc Maron,” marketing coordinator Lisa Wolfe said.

“ Weird Al” Yankovic, a Cal Poly alumnus who gained notoriety from spoofing popular songs, will be performing Oct. 9. As students better make sure to reserve their spots fast. His first single, “My Bologna,” was recorded in the men’s bathroom on the second floor of the graphic arts building.

Rhea, known for her role on “Sabrina, The Teenage Witch,” and for appearances on other comedic television shows and movies, will be performing Oct. 13. Papa, known for multiple appearances on late-night talk shows and for starring in the NBC sitcom “Come to Papa,” will be performing the first week in winter quarter.

Also, singer and Broadway star Sam Harris, known for appearances on other comedians’ television shows, will also be performing. Harris, known for his role as “Romeo,” in the Broadway musical based on the popular story, “Romeo & Juliet,” will also be performing.

However, before seats can be filled, there is a tremendous amount of hard work that goes into the production of Cal Poly’s arts programs. Interim Director Peter Wilt attends three booking conferences a year where he gets the chance to scout out available talent and watch short fifteen-minute artist showcases.

“We look for a good balance between music, dance, theater, Broadway, comedy and so forth,” Wilt said. “We also consider what artists have the most and what the faculty might like, and we seek their input.”

When it comes to the creative aspect, the arts department surprises expectations. “Every year we try and add something new and different,” Wilt said. “Generally, we have at least three or four Broadway musicals, two or three dance companies, a symphony orchestra, some world music, dance and traditional theater.”

However, the professors and arts staff can’t be given all the credit. There is a student who serves on the board of directors whose input is always taken into account.

“Whenever we have a small staff for a big program we do almost as many events as UCSB and they have double our staff,” Wilt said.

No matter who is responsible for picking the events and performances,
Comedian Caroline Rhea, Michael Fladey's "Lord of the Dance," "This past season we sold more rush tickets than every season before, partly due to the fact that we were able to offer them for 'Hairspray,'" Wilt said. "It was the first time we had been able to offer rush tickets to a Broadway musical."

Another perk that Cal Poly Arts offers to students is the chance to become a subscriber. To be a subscriber, you have to purchase tickets to at least four of the 40 events that Cal Poly Arts offers. Students receive a discounted price already and then can get an additional 10 percent off by purchasing the package.

"This past season we also had more student subscribers than ever before," Wilt said.

There are five different ways you can go to see if rush tickets are available for particular events. To see all five ways you can get about ordering your tickets, go to www.calpolyarts.org/tickets/ordering.php.
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Mustang Daily
ENTERTAINMENT

"Flight of the Conchords," which debuted on HBO in June, stars Jermaine Clement (left) and Bret McKenzie (right) as members of a two-man band trying to find success in New York City.

‘Conchords’ soar

Fernando Dutra
(DAILY CAMPS (SCN

Placed conspicuously after "Entourage," "Flight of the Conchords" has amassed a substantial cult following since its HBO debut June 17 due to its awkward humor and the performance of satirical songs. The show follows the mundane lives of Bret McKenzie and Jermaine Clement, as they try to make their New Zealand band a household name in the United States.

With direction from their manager, Murray (Rhys Darby), Bret and Jermaine have lo-fi video shoots, gigs and band meetings. None of these are of the grandeur they expected, as they are always comparing their expectations to those of other musicians, including Daft Punk and David Bowie. These three characters take Flight of the Conchords seriously, leading to humorous dialogue between themselves regarding how to save the band from going under.

Other characters include Mel (Kristen Schaal), an obsessive fan who stalks Bret and Jermaine, and Dave (Arj Barker), Jermaine and Bret's instructor on vulgar subjects.

Throughout each episode, Bret and Jermaine break sporadically into songs, which the episodes are written around and for which trite dialogue or a hackneyed plot can be forgiven. While episodes like "Bowie" strive to be overly awkward, most are rooted in reality.

see Conchords, page 42

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ARAB MUSIC ENSEMBLE
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Streaming videos are not down­loaded to a viewer's computer, but the viewer must get a streaming Web site and watch the video online. This format appeals to the producers of streaming videos by making the content less vulnerable to piracy and illegal distribution.

As watching videos online grew in popularity, some complaints arose. The picture can be shaky, and load times are occasionally lengthy. "Computer screens don't have a good of quality, and it hurts my eyes," said Trent Houghton, a junior bio­logic and television radiotelevision major at Syracuse.

But with computers getting faster and being equipped with improved technology, the troubles of streaming videos online have diminished.

With the rise of enhanced online technology, companies are already making a move to gain a larger audience with the Internet.

"Watching streamed shows would probably be useful for people with laptops," Kruse said. "If networks started streaming to put their shows online, I would probably lose interest.

The major networks are already taking advantage of streaming video. ABC, put up entire episodes of its hit shows, such as "Lost" and "Grey's Anatomy," online for streaming. The catch is only that the user must download ABC's media player.

"Broadcast and cable networks need to use a lot of different platforms that are available to them," said Bud Carey, a television, radio and film professor at Newhouse. "The Internet offers a way for networks to promote current shows and to get the word out about new shows."

"I think watching shows online will appeal to die-hard fans," Houghton said. "But if you're just a channel flipper, then it probably wouldn't be very useful."

"I like that movies and shows are available both online and on television," said Alex Ferro, an intended freshman in the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications.

"I'd like it if it stayed that way because sometimes I just like watching TV and being comfortable, and sometimes I like the convenience of watching things on line."

Though watching movies online has become increasingly popular, television shows have been gaining momentum.

Three Ips added more television networks to their library with hundreds of TV shows available to download at $1.99 for a single show. Web sites like peekvideo.com give users links to sites where other users have ripped, uploaded and stored episodes of television shows.

Furnet.com is one of the first Web sites to offer streaming video for a niche audience. The site hosts a myriad of horror films and programs available for free to registered users.

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iDon't like this computer

Jon Gold

We are a divided nation, a people split by unremitting strife and bitter rivalry. Our wars of words have turned brothers against brother, daughter against father, and everyone against Mom. It's not a convivial family dinner in imaginary America, especially when Mom wields the barbecue fork.

I speak, of course, of the Mac/PC divide.

While ephemera such as disastrous war and congressional subpoenas conveniently distracts the public, the Mac/PC insurrection's latest setback has passed with relatively little notice. Its devastating secret weapon, the i-phone, has been compromised by a heroic teenager named George Hotz. My ruin finds his foes!

Seriously, though, I've been a partisan of PCs since I was old enough to wield a mouse. Initially, my allegiance was due mostly to the fact that all the good computer games took forever to come out for Mac, and I needed to play them right then. However, I find more reasons to dislike the white-plastic machines as I age. For one thing, their commercials are annoying as hell: "Hi, I'm a Mac! I look like a guy who cries during sex!"

"And I'm a PC! I look like a guy who's never had sex!

Unfair, I know. John Hodgman (the PC guy) is really funny.

Apple has a long history of keeping its code and technology under strict private control, which, while effectively making its computers more secure than Windows machines, with the ability of users to customize the functions and performance of their computers. The extra money you pay for your Mac goes toward cool design and user interface, not performance.

As another example, take the iPod. While it is undoubtedly a dandy little gadget, with its clean lines and intuitive user interface, it has some serious issues, as you iPod users out there will know. Music you buy from the Mac online store can't be played on non-iPod digital players. Some models had problems with battery life and reliability. And so on and so on. From them, we arrive at the iPhone, which is the same sort of beast but of really cool features hamstring by Apple's curious version to playing with others in that it only works with one service provider, AT&T. Though Hotz's successful hack means that the iPhone can be reconfigured to work with any network, the fact that Apple opted for such a blatantly anticompetitive deal with AT&T defies logic.

The increasingly prominent role that computers play in our society will produce a widespread surge in the average person's understanding of how they work. I'd bet anything that, along with that increased knowledge, people will be more willing to forgive a lot of the "user-friendliness" in favor of more computing bang for their bucks. Why buy the bells and whistles when you know how to make them yourself?

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Take a walk on the wild side

Explore seven different spots in San Luis Obispo County

Megan Priley

The last word anyone would use to describe the gorgeous scenery and quaint life of San Luis Obispo County is unusual. However, if we venture out and look hard enough, unusual places do indeed exist.

For our first adventure, we take a journey out to Mission San Antonio de Padua. The mission itself is nothing peculiar, but the drive there makes it unique.

Easily the most off-the-beaten-track of the 21 missions, Mission San Antonio de Padua sits on the middle of the Fort Hunter Liggett Military Reservation, about halfway between U.S. Highway 101 and California Highway 1.

In order to reach your destination, you must endure something of an Indiana Jones adventure as unexpected obstacles such as winding country roads, military units, road blocks and delays due to road closures tend to pop out of nowhere.

Drivers are expected to show a valid driver’s license, vehicle registration and proof of insurance in order to enter the fort and see the mission.

Once parked, you will step out of your vehicle and set your eyes on William Hannon’s statue of Blessed Serra.

According to personnel, the unusual tradition is to rub the statue’s toe for good luck. Once you have done so, there are extensive grounds to cover around the mission. Just be careful. Precautions are posted on the door just in case you have an encounter with a rattlesnake!

Those who seek a different type of adventure with a little twist may find it at Pirate’s Cove in Avila Beach.

Only the bravest and those willing to bare it all should attempt this quest.

Pirate’s Cove was once a secret spot where cargo was diverted from Harford Pier in Port San Luis. Smugglers brought large quantities of liquor ashore from cargo ships.

Just as they did then, locals today pay no mind to the activity formed around Pirate’s Cove as it has developed into a “naturist beach,” or in modern terms, a “nude beach.”

Despite no rules existing as to how much clothing to bring, the single most important rule asks of all guests do not stare.

If the rather free spirit of the beach doesn’t fit your taste, don’t worry. A lavish hiking path runs from a rocky hill that will lead you to a sandy cove.

You can also enjoy the sights from tall cliffs that overlook Pismo Beach and the Guadalupe Dunes. Feel free to bring along fishing gear or simply enjoy watching the seals resting on the rocks.

The next site will entice those with a desire to shop and gain a little history lesson at the same time — there’s nothing like a mix of fashion and education to make the most unusual blend of sightseeing.

The Ah Louis Store is a two-story brick rectangular building that can be found on the corner of Palm and Chorro streets. The entrance is painted white, has two windows and a door on both the first and second floors.

To make the scene appear even less like a place made for entering, the windows have iron shutters and the windows and door on the first floor are larger than those on the second floor.

To make the scene appear even less like a place made for entering, the windows have iron shutters and the windows and door on the first floor are larger than those on the second floor.

As the first Chinese-American store in San Luis Obispo County, the Ah Louis Store was founded in 1874 by On Wong, see County, page 41
who was known as “Ah Louis.” He was a labor contractor who also sold dry goods, tea, sugar, rice and Chinese goods.

Today, the store is rarely open. But if you’re lucky enough to enter, you can browse the clutter of Asian merchandise. The property is currently listed as a California State Historical Landmark.

For the true nature-lover at heart and perhaps even hopeless romantics, Shell Creek Road in San Luis Obispo is the ultimate getaway.

Among the vast fields, you will see gorgeous wildflowers, such as baby blue eyes, tidy tips and goldfields. This breathtaking scenery will have you yearning to get out your hiking shoes and take a stroll through the wildflowers.

If outdoor activities and nature are not your calling, Fremont Theatre in San Luis Obispo can offer an old flare asserted with modern times.

This venue on Monterey Street has earned its historic honor. Built in 1940, the vintage-style architecture takes us back in time.

Don’t let the exterior fool you. When you enter, a more modern-day touch has transformed the interior. However, the painted inside of the large main theater helps retain its vintage touch.

“It’s a fun experience where you get to feel as if you are back in the olden days,” Ryan Torres, 20, said. “I like how you get to see modern movies in a historic atmosphere.”

According to locals, in the mid-’70s the Fremont began to show more independent, artistic films on a one-night basis to attract the college crowd. Those who experienced the theater’s essence back then are glad to see that the theater has not been changed architecturally.

Even today, the theater is still used as a location for the International Film Festival. Fox, National General, Mann and the Edwards Cinemas have operated it at different times.

Haven’t found the location that properly quenches your sense for adventure? Perhaps you need more of a spook than anything else. Mission San Miguel will send chills down your spine with just one glimpse.

According to the Mission San Miguel Historic Web site, John Reed bought this mission from the Mexican government and turned it into an Inn for travelers in the mid-nineteenth century.

One night in 1948, a band of English pirates broke into the Inn looking for rumored gold. When they were unable to locate the gold, they went mad and brutally murdered everyone present.

The bodies were so badly cut up that all the bloody remains were buried in one mass grave behind the church. The 13 ghosts of John Reed, his family and guests are said to still be wandering restlessly around the mission grounds.

You can witness firsthand the eerie sensation of walking along the mission’s graveyard, which still remains intact today.

Finally, in order to lighten the mood after that last location, there is a place for those who appreciate a good laugh and don’t mind sticky situations.

Located in downtown San Luis Obispo, “Bubblegum Alley” might be a tight space that is hard to find, but don’t underestimate just how many people have left a token behind in the alley.

With both walls covered from top to bottom with gum, you will want to watch your step and keep hands close at all times. Gum started appearing on the walls of this alleyway in 1960.

“I went to ‘Bubblegum Alley’ when I first moved here last year,” 22-year-old Laura Martinez said. “My first reaction was that it was kind of gross, and I didn’t want to walk through it. Once I started looking at the gum in detail, I noticed that people actually made things out of their gum.”

Locals complained about the less-than-appealing site, but the gum kept on coming. If you want to contribute to “Bubblegum Alley,” a few shops near the alley have gumball machines. Just chew and stick.

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Nintendo trumps Sony in new releases

Bill Rix
THE DAILY STAR (OAXACAS STAFF)

It's a good time to be a console gamer. "BioShock," 2K Games' X-Box and PC first-person shooter powerhouse, garnered high praise from nearly all corners of the reviewing world and Nintendo's "Metroid 3 Prime: Corruption," for the Wii, only a few days old, has been hailed as one of the best games for the console.

For those owners of Sony's PlayStation 3, however, the outlook isn't so sunny. Few worthwhile games have come out and the system is lacking a killer title. "Lair" looks promising, but it's been shown off well before the PS3 landed in stores, so at this point, it may as well be regarded as a tech demo with some gameplay shoveling it.

The recent price drop of the PlayStation3 might spur sales, but for the time being, the console can readily be found in stores across the nation.

Meanwhile, those looking for Nintendo's offering are still having problems locating a Wii almost a year after release.

It's not as if Sony isn't trying, though. Price cuts aside, the PlayStation Network — Sony's foray into the world of downloadable games — updates often in an effort to keep pace with Nintendo's Virtual Console and Microsoft's Xbox LIVE Arcade. It will have to constantly and aggressively change its marketing in order to catch the elusive online gamer. However, it's evident a viable online multiplayer presence is finally becoming a feature important to many gamers.

This is a facet of the gaming experience Nintendo — for lack of better phrasing — just gets. It was evident when the Nintendo DS first came out. The DS operating system allows for voice chat as well as traditional text messaging via Wi-Fi. This usability has transferred well to the Wii, which allows players to send messages to friends and store address book information. It's a giant cell phone-in-a-wa, something the PS3 isn't.

It's been said the PlayStation 3 is a hardcore system for hardcore gamers, but even the hardest players need games with mettle, not just fines graphics. Such amazing heights of gaming could be accomplished with the PS3's Blue-Ray drive — imagine the depth of gameplay a traditional, sprite-based role-playing game could achieve given the right team.

Or, consider the ramifications of emerging software, such as John Carmack's newest masterpiece, the megateture, a texture-streaming method able to render massive environments based on a single texture map with relatively small file size.

With the right developers and producers, the PlayStation 3 could prove to be a gaming revolution in and of itself, or it could go the way of the 3D Interactive Multiplayer 13 years before it — intensely powerful, but not marketed or priced correctly and so doomed.

As it stands, the PS3 isn't firing as well as its Nintendo and Microsoft brothers, a shame considering the potential. With any luck, a stellar team will come together and breathe life into the still-fledgling console.

Conchords

continued from page 36

randomly dealing with issues of love, race and band relationships.

The shows become increasingly more predictable throughout the season, with a basic premise that is something along the lines of "Bret and Jemaine have a problem, talk about it a little with Murray, bust into song, have Mel obsew or Ar4 protest, and then confront the problem."

While this is fine, hopefully the second season will see "Flight of the Conchords" experiment more with different ways of delivering a story line.

Overall, the show delivers a "Napoleon Dynamite"-meets-Terminator D style that is worth checking out, regardless of whether Bret and Jemaine have a cult following or become household names.

You'd better like being the center of attention.

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American Gangster

From director Ridley Scott, the man responsible for such blockbusters as "Hannibal," "Black Hawk Down," and "Gladiator," comes "American Gangster," a film that will only need the names of Denzel Washington and Russell Crowe to get an Oscar.

Based on a true story, Washington plays a drug lord who smuggles heroin into Harlem by hiding it inside American coffins coming back from Vietnam. In other words, he gets to be the ultimate badass (as if he wasn't already). Crowe attempts to stop him.

Great director, great actors, great story. What more do you need?

Beowulf

It’s on. You were still in high school, you’d not only get to read the poem, but watch what looks to be a great, innovative film to go with it.

Director Robert Zemeckis brings his digital enhancements to "Beowulf," much like he did with "The Polar Express." This time, however, it has a frighteningly amazing look to it.

Not only is it entirely digital (and possibly ahead of its time), but it sports an impressive cast: Angelina Jolie, Anthony Hopkins and John Malkovich. And did I mention Neil Gaiman, the legendary fantasy writer whose recent film work includes "Stardust" and "MirrorMask," co-wrote the screenplay? Hopefully, "Beowulf" delivers.

I Am Legend

On Earth, Will Smith is another fantastic film about the end of the world. Or is it?

In "I Am Legend," a man-made virus takes over the world, and Smith is the only non-mutant human left alive. The plot is adapted from a novel by Richard Matheson.

"I Am Legend," even with Smith as the only real actor involved, has potential in its current stage. No trailer has shown what these mutants look like, but judging by the CGI in the current trailer, there is a good chance that they won’t ruin the already painfully uncomfortable mood that the film sets.

Whether Smith can carry the entire film on his own is yet to be seen.
An album not to miss...

Trembling Blue Stars — "The Last Holy Writer"

Jesse Bo Widmark
ON THE BLOODY EDGE

View this record as the latest chapter in an epic starting in southern England in 1980, when Robert Wratten and Michael Hiscock started a band with a drum machine. This band, The Field Mice, released a seven-inch single on Sarah Records called "Emma’s House" that would, years later, be considered a landmark piece for the seemingly contradictory sound of what was eventually dubbed indie pop — what I'd describe as jubilantly remorseful music. Postmortem, The Field Mice were mythologized as lost heroes of the genre (well, to a extremely small group of music geeks anyway). But Bobby Wratten never really stopped making music.

"The Last Holy Writer" is the seventh release from Wratten’s current vehicle, Trembling Blue Stars, and seems to have more in common with "Emma’s House" than with the prior TBS discography. The common architecture is this: consistently gorgeous melodic arrangements surrounding some seriously downtrodden lyrical content. Sourcing the feel of this beautifully depressing legacy is the breathtaking second track, "Idylwyld," which engages in a nearly celebratory indulgence of disappointment: a parade of crucified friendships, shattered dreams, wasted lives and the inevitability of growing old alone but for your own agonizing, ever-present regret (mandatory listening for all my fellow Cal Poly seniors). But the best thing about this string — what really sells it — is Beth Arzy.

Formerly of Californian indie-pop outfit Aberdeen, Arzy provides backing vocals on nearly all present tracks, and lead vocals for a total of three songs on "Holy Writer" — all of which are definite high points. Though her voice is of the breathy variety, her delivery is powerful and clear, soaring above the instrumentation in a kind of distant, angelic perfection. This trait is particularly notable on the near-eight minute "A Statue to Wilde." You’ll have to decide on your own whether to smile or cringe at the Oscar Wilde shout out.

This isn’t to say that the Wratten-voiced numbers are to be skipped. The record actually holds its momentum even at its most predictable points, namely the requisite break-up song, titled indicatively, "The Coldest Sky." Remember that Wratten doesn’t only write break-up songs (just like Volvo doesn’t only build station wagons) but the first couple of TBS records were composed of little else. The counterpart to this is "November Starlings," which is somewhat of an oddity in its relatively happy, optimistic lyrics and reminded me of one of my favorite old Field Mice songs, "Coach Station Reunion." This record is the best executed recording TBS has made to date and the first to equal any of the old Field Mice releases.

On that note of nostalgia, I’ll mention that the production is handled by Ian Catt of Saint Etienne. (Catt has produced the majority of Wratten’s work, starting with the "Emma’s House" demo back in ’90, working out of his parents’ spare bedroom.) Whether or not you’ve heard any earlier records, I’d recommend "Holy Writer" to anyone who’s a fan of pretty songs. Or sad songs. Or music.

Jesse Bo Widmark is an architectural engineer and a business director at KCFR. San Luis Obispo, 91.3 FM.
Turnovers prove costly in Idaho game

Cal Poly Jon Hall rushes to a season-high 114 but the Mustangs drop their second straight to the Vandals 20-13.

SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT

MOSCOW, Idaho — Cal Poly lost four of its seven fumbles and Idaho turned three of them into scores — a touchdown and two field goals — en route to a 20-13 victory over the Mustangs in a non-conference football game Sept. 8 in the Kibbie Dome.

Cal Poly, playing its first two games on the road for the first time since the 2000 season, fell to 0-2 on the year.

The Mustangs were ranked No. 17 in the Football Championship Subdivision Coaches Poll and No. 22 in The Sports Network Poll coming into the game.

Idaho, a Football Bowl Subdivision team from the Western Athletic Conference, improved to 1-1.

Cal Poly closed a 14-point deficit to seven at 20-13 with 4:31 to play when Jonathan Dally hooked up with Tredale Tolver on a 69-yard touchdown pass and Andrew Gardiner kicked the extra point.

The drive was kept alive on an Idaho five-yard face mask penalty on fourth down.

The Vandals were able to drive 63 yards in time plays and run out the clock to clinch the victory in the second half.

Moscovitch kicked a 51-yard field goal for the Vandals.

Nathan Enderle hooked up with Max Komar on a 36-yard touchdown pass and Tino Amencio kicked a 31-yard field goal for the Vandals.

Gardner kicked a 29-yard field goal for Cal Poly early in the second quarter and the 10-3 score stood up until halftime.

Amencio kicked a 25-yard field goal for Idaho in the third quarter and Gardner answered with a 30-yard three-pointer six seconds into the fourth quarter.

Drone' Jackson ran 11 yards for what proved to be the clinching score with 8:31 to play following a Cal Poly fumble.

The Mustang offensive line offers Jonathan Dally time to throw in Cal Poly's 20-13 loss to Idaho on Sept. 8.

Jackson finished with 214 yards on 30 carries while Enderle completed seven of 22 passes for 101 yards. He was sacked once by Carlton Gillespie, for Cal Poly's first sack of the season.

Lee Smith caught four passes for 41 yards for Idaho.

Cal Poly's offensive leaders were fullback Jon Hall with 114 yards on 20 carries, Tolver with five catches for 129 yards and Kames Harden, had 207 yards receiving the week before, had four receptions for 46 yards.

Hall entered the game with nine carries for 25 yards in his Mustang career.

Dally completed 10 of 24 passes for 175 yards and the one score to Tolver.

Neither quarterback threw an interception.

Defensive leaders for the Mustangs were linebacker Mark Restelli with 11 tackles (eight solo) and linebacker Marty Mohamed with 10 (seven solo).

see Idaho, page 54

Josh Ayers

Being cut at any level in athletics is a tough situation to handle. The athlete may suffer from depression, participate in risky behavior or make excuses about what went wrong and what could have been.

Then there's the Kyle Shotwell approach.

The former Cal Poly linebacker and Buck Buchanan Award recipient received a call from the Oakland Raiders on Sept. 2 that informed him that he would not be on the team's eight-man practice roster. But despite the disappointing news, the humble and confident Shotwell is already taking what he has learned from the experience and looking ahead to a future away from football.

"It was a good experience," Shotwell said. "It was a really challenging experience but I think I learned a lot about football in that short amount of time. I learned a lot about myself and I learned a lot about the differences between, you know, college and professional football (of) which there are many."

Displaying no animosity toward his experience, Shotwell said that student athletes at a smaller school like Cal Poly rarely, if ever, see the business elements of the game such as television contracts. However, at the NFL level, Shotwell said he saw business decisions about the team and its players being made every day.

"That's really what a lot of the cuts come down to is that a lot of them are just business decisions and when you're talking about that much money ... at the end of the day it's all about the bottom line," Shotwell said. "I realize that that's how it is. I didn't necessarily hear it from you when you first start going but I got to see it first hand and it made me realize what's important about football."

Before the phone call, Shotwell played in four NFL preseason games for the Raiders and participated in their training camp. In the four games played, he made 15 tackles — eight of them solo. Seven of the tackles came in the Raiders' 19-14 preseason finale loss to Seattle. He had five solo tackles in the game.

Though Shotwell hasn't completely given up on football, he's not banking on it either. See Shotwell, page 55.

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AP revises poll process to include FCS teams

Schools in the Football Championship Subdivision such as Cal Poly could potentially make the AP’s top 25.

Paul Newberry
Associated Press

After pulling off one of the greatest upsets in college football history, Appalachian State is still shaking things up.

The Associated Press said Sept. 6 that lower-division schools are now eligible for its 71-year-old poll. “It’s great they opened the door,” Appalachian State coach Jerry Moore said from his office in Boone, N.C. “Certainly we’re not going to be the No. 1 team in the country. We know that. We’re not even going to be in the top 10. But if you have a win over a nice football team, I like that it’s not out of the realm of possibility for a school like us to be one of the top 20 or 25 teams in the country.”

Several AP voters expressed interest in putting Appalachian State on their ballots after a shocking 34-32 upset at then-No. 5 Michigan on Sept. 1. But the poll guidelines, which mirrored the coaches’ rankings conducted by USA Today, limited eligibility to teams competing in the former NCAA Division I-A, now known as the Football Bowl Subdivisions.

The Mountaineers compete in the Football Championship Subdivision, known before this season as Division I-AA.

The AP decided to make the change because schools that show they can compete with big-time teams on the field should have a chance to be recognized with them in the top 25, AP Sports Editor Terry Taylor said. “Why not? The poll was always intended to measure teams that compete against each other regardless of division...”

—Terry Taylor
Associated Press sports editor
Poly wrestling hires former Olympian

Olympic silver medalist and two-time national champion, Sammie Henson joins the Cal Poly wrestling staff.

Henson, the latest addition to the Mustang coaching staff, comes to Cal Poly after serving as a volunteer assistant coach at the University of Nebraska.

Sammie Henson

Henson brings a wealth of national and international experience to Cal Poly. The 1995 graduate of Missouri received a bronze medal in 2000 and 2005 at the Yarijan International Tournament; he was the 2003 Dave Schultz International champion, and the 2001 Poland International champion. Henson won the Year Dogus Championship in 1997 and 1999 and the 1988 Junior World Team Trials.

Henson was a member of the U.S. Olympic Wrestling Team in 2000 where he took home a silver medal in Sydney, Australia. Henson won the World Championship in 1998 for the U.S. in the Islamic Republic of Iran. During the 90's, Henson placed at multiple U.S. Open and World Team Trials. Henson competed for Gil Sanchez while attending college at Clemson University in 1995 and 1994. During those years, Henson was a two-time NCAA National champion at 199lbs and was undefeated with a record of 71-0 in 1993. In 1994 he was the ACC Conference champion. Before attending Clemson Uni-

see Henson, page 54
Women's soccer has rough start

Mustangs open season 0-3 for the first time since 2004 before picking up their first win against Providence on Sept. 9.

Rachel Gellman

The Cal Poly women’s soccer team kicked off its season with a lead foot in a non-conference match against Dayton University Friday evening as they lost 2-0.

The Mustangs kept control of the ball early on in the match and seemed to be on their way to a victory. A hand ball 10 minutes into the game diminished Poly’s momentum.

The lady Flyers were awarded a free kick for the Poly error.

Midfielder Kristen Persichini faked a kick seconds before midfielder Jerica DeWolfe blasted the ball from five yards beyond the top of the penalty box past Poly goalkeeper Alii Tramel into the lower right corner of the net.

Action stood at a standstill for the rest of the first half. Poly midfielder Erica Zum- turbalen had two shots on goal while midfielder Kaleena Andruss and forwards Sharon Day and Ashle Vallis each had one. Poly had eight fouls at the end of the half while Day­ ton had four.

Seven minutes into the second half, Day­

ton cut into Poly morale again as forward Mandi Back scored off of a Tramel deflec­
tion.

Poly head coach Alex Crozier said his team did not pick it up until they were down and beforehand the Mustangs were too ten­
tative in their attack.

Day had three shots on goal in the second half to no prevail. Dayton goalkeeper Niki Reid had to get down and dirty to keep Poly attempts from hitting net, but she was suc­

cessful with 11 total saves.

“ ‘We have a lot of potential and a lot to work on also,’ ” said Day after the loss.

Along with her increased shot attempts, Day also picked up a yellow card at the 80­ minute mark.

Crozier said “The result is disappointing.”

The Mustangs met the following day to discuss areas of their game which need im­

provement.

“We need to do a better job taking care of the ball... we still have some work to do,” Crozier said.

Sharon Day attempts to head the ball toward the goal in Cal Poly’s game against Arizona. The Mustangs lost 4-3 in overtime.

Dartmouth Tournament

Sept. 7.
Dartmouth 1, Cal Poly 0
Sept. 9.
Cal Poly 1, Providence 0

Coverage of the women’s games at San Diego State and the University of San Diego will appear in the Sept. 18 edition.
Facebook, athletes like oil and water

Zach Berman

The best-kept secret in college football was going to be revealed last Saturday. Then Facebook got in the way.

The secret was Notre Dame's starting quarterback job, which went to sophomore Demetrius Jones. Three quarterbacks competed for the job and head coach Charlie Weis guarded the new starter like it was his ATM pin number. Weis responded with a sly smirk on his face as reporters pestered him for the starter, maintaining his best Phil Hellmuth impersonation.

Jones' friends, however, wrote congratulatory notes on his Facebook wall. Paired with his high school coach saying Jones will start, the news leaked and the Facebook profile was used in stories around the country.

In college football, online sites like Facebook and MySpace allow reporters — or better said, bloggers — to stay informed.

It's important to note that because of restrictions on viewing profiles outside of a given network, the information about these Facebook profiles come from second-hand sources. Screenshots are often taken and posted online, although the cynic can answer that one who is computer savvy — which most bloggers are — can recreate a Facebook profile.

Regardless, these profiles have been used as evidence in respected publications.

Even Syracuse's opponent this weekend, Iowa, has run into its own Facebook problems. Hawkeyes receivers Dominique Douglas and Anthony Bowman allegedly used a stolen credit card for online shopping. Then someone went lurking around Facebook, and it was discovered that Douglas and Bowman had photos with backup quarterback Arvell Nelson — who was also fighting legal problems — that included the players hashing a few hundred dollars with liquor in hand.

Naturally, this created intrigue for Iowa reporters. The Iowa City Press-Citizen reported 20 underage Iowa football players having Facebook photos involving alcohol — everything from holding a bottle to slugging beer. The Des Moines Register went on to name five starters under age 21 holding alcoholic beverages — and that was only among the starters with available Facebook profiles.

"It's a sign of the times first and foremost," Iowa coach Kirk Ferentz said Tuesday. "Coaching is no different than being a parent. You can't take it for granted."

Ferentz labeled the situation as players who exercised poor judgment. He said the irony is the football team has had two presentations in almost the past year — one last August and one in May — with social Web sites as the topic.

Yet if you picked up the student directory, selected a random student and went to the Facebook profile, it wouldn't be a shock if that student had photos featuring activities that aren't rare for college students.

Essentially, the players on the football team are just that — college students.

The difference is there are no blogs devoted to history classes and those who visit message boards multiple times a day don't discuss Chemistry 301. Instead, they care about a football program's bowl history and team chemistry.

Legendary Alabama coach Bear Bryant said it best: "It's hard to rally around a math class."

The rules are different depending on sports, too. The curiosity isn't as prevalent for volleyball and rowing as it is for football and basketball.

There are thousands of people who care about the quarterback and the point guard. If photos of players standing on the sideline draws excitement, it can explain why the obsession transcends to something substantive — like a provocative photo. That's simply the double-see Facebook, page 54
MUSTANG Daily
SPORTS

Men's cross-country off to strong start

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

The Cal Poly men's cross-country team took the top two spots at the UCSB Open on Sept. 1 in Goleta, leading the team to a 20-43 season-opening win over the Gauchos.

Cal Poly senior Phillip Reid finished first in the 8k race with a time of 24:50. He was followed closely by junior Troy Swier, who took second with a time of 24:52.

Evan Anderson finished fourth with a time of 24:59, edging out UCSB's Scott Smith, who also had a 24:59.

Anderson followed up on Sept. 5 with a first-place finish at the UC Irvine Recreation Center, in which the Cal Poly men's team took first.

Anderson bettered his time to 24:34 and teammate Leif Anderson finished about five seconds later with a 24:39 to take second place.

Kim Donarolli finished in seventh place in the women's 5k race with a time of 18:28.

The Gauchos women won the meet 18-5.

The Mustangs took third in the UC Irvine Invitational with Bridget Magee being the top Cal Poly finisher in eighth place with a time of 18:26 for the 5k event.

The cross-country team will send runners to Bill Dellinger Invitational in Eugene, Ore., and the Stanford Invitational on Sept. 29.

Mustangs go 2-2 in exhibition down under

The Cal Poly men's basketball team lost the first two games of its four-game exhibition tour in Australia but came back to win its final two games.

The Mustangs lost their first game to the West Sydney Razorbacks 88-69 on Sept. 3, and then followed up with a 123-91 loss to the Razorbacks on Sept. 5.

Dawin White and Chaz Thomas each scored 18 points in the second game and Must Hannon chipped in with 18 points.

The Mustangs defeated the Gold Coast All-Stars 127-97 on Sept. 6, and then followed up with a 119-102 win over the Logan Thunder on Sept. 7.

White led the Mustangs in scoring against the Thunder with 26 points and Trac Clark had 17 points and six assists.

The team was scheduled to return on Sept. 11.

Volleyball goes 2-1 at Stanford Invitational

Cal Poly senior libero Kristen Jackson surprised Michelle Hanson's all-time career dig record by contributing 17 in Cal Poly's 30-24, 28-30, 30-10, 30-26 win over St. Mary's on Sept. 8 at the Stanford Invitational.

Hanson's digs record stood at 1,094 prior to the game and Jackson was only six short of tying the record the second after the Mustangs were swept by No. 2 Stanford, 30-20, 30-18 and 30-28 on Sept. 7.

The then-No. 17 Cal Poly volleyball team recorded its first upset of the 2007 season with a 22-30, 30-26, 30-21, 30-14 win over No. 9 BYU on Sept. 6.

Junior Kyle Atherton recorded 17 kills and 17 digs in the match while junior outside hitter Ali Waller added 16 kills and 10 digs.

Senior setter Chelsea Hayes made 53 assists in the match.

Wagner wins Ventura County championship

BYU was unbeaten prior to the match.

Fifth-year Cal Poly senior Brycen Wagner won the Ventura County Golf Championship on Sept. 3, finishing the event with a 12-under par.

Wagner finished five-under with a 67 in the final round.

The men's team opens its season at the 2007 Water Chase Invitational at the Waterchase Golf Course in Fort Worth, Texas on Oct. 1.

Cal Poly women's soccer gets first win of 2007

The Cal Poly women's soccer team defeated Providence 1-0 on Sept. 9 at the Dartmouth Tournament in Hanover, N.H. to pick up its first win of the season.

Julianne Grinstead accounted for the game's only goal by putting a header into the net in the eighth minute following a Kadence Andrews corner kick.

Ali Tranell made three saves in the game.

The Mustangs lost to tournament-host Dartmouth 1-0 on Sept. 7.

Cal Poly had eight shots on goal during the game but couldn't get past Dartmouth goalkeeper Laurel Piek.

Tranell had four saves.

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Mustangs swept by ‘Huskers, went 1-3 at Nebraska tourney

Junior opposite Kylie Atherstone and senior libero Kristin Jackson named to the all-tournament team.

SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT

LINCOLN, Neb. — No. 1 Nebraska limited 17th-ranked Cal Poly to a 1-2 team hitting percentage on the afternoon of Sept. 3 as the Mustangs fell to the defending-national-champion in the finale of the Holiday Inn Downtown Classic, 30-20, 30-19, 30-18, at the NU Coliseum.

Recognizing Big West Conference Player of the Week and junior opposite Kylie Atherstone paced Cal Poly (3-3) with nine kills while junior Jaclyn Houston recorded a match-high three blocks and hit .444. The Cornhuskers (5-0), who led wire-to-wire, received a match-best 17 kills from 2006 AVCA National Player of the Year Sarah Pavan.

The Cornhuskers raced out to a 4-1 advantage in the opening game. The Mustangs were able to whittle the Nebraska lead to 16-13, but the Cornhuskers earned nine of the ensuing 15 points to oustdate Cal Poly.

The Mustangs held Nebraska from taking a quick lead in the second game, but the Cornhuskers steadily pulled away during the set. A Pavan attack error shortened Nebraska’s advantage to 22-17, but the Mustangs pulled no closer.

Cal Poly fell behind in the third game, 9-3, before posting an 8-5 run to halve the deficit.

The Cornhuskers, however, compiled a 7-2 run en route to eliminating Cal Poly.

A day after an NCAA-record 13,081 spectators saw Cal Poly sweep Creighton as part of doubleheader at the Qwest Center in Omaha, 4,068 fans packed the NU Coliseum for Monday’s match. The ticket allotment for Nebraska’s 14 regular-season home matches sold out in 45 minutes when released Aug. 1.

Cal Poly finished the Holiday Inn Downtown Classic with a 1-2 mark. The Mustangs began the competition Aug. 31 with a five-game loss to No. 3 Penn State, a match in which Cal Poly dropped the initial two sets before rallying to push the Nittany Lions to the limit.

Atherstone, who averaged 4.64 kills per game during the competition, was named to the all-tournament team, along with senior libero Kristin Jackson, who compiled 4.82 digs per game.

Atherstone player of the week

SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT

SAN LUIS OBISPO — A stellar offensive week in which she led the No. 17 Cal Poly volleyball team in five statistical categories and established a new single-match high of six aces helped Mustang junior opposite Kylie Atherstone earn Big West Conference Player of the Week honors Sept. 3.

Against Penn State, Atherstone recorded 25 kills — one shy of her career high — and compiled 11 digs as Cal Poly, which dropped its first two games against the Nittany Lions, rallied to tie the match before falling short of an upset.

Two days later, Atherstone landed a career-best six aces, produced a match-high 17 kills and recorded 16 digs to help the Mustangs sweep Creighton and improve to 3-2.

Atherstone was the lone Mustang to produce consecutive double-doubles (kills and digs) and paced all Cal Poly hitters in kills (42), kills per game, attempts (101), aces (eight) and aces per game.

Among Big West players this season, Atherstone ranks fourth with 0.53 aces per game, sixth with 3.89 kills per game and ninth with 3.16 digs per game.

Atherstone, who averaged 4.64 kills per game during the competition, was named to the all-tournament team, along with senior libero Kristin Jackson, who compiled 4.82 digs per game.

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Gillespie recovered an Idaho fumble.
Despite the loss, Cal Poly had the edge in first downs, 20-19, and in total offensive yards, 346-336.

The Mustangs, seeking their fourth win over an FBS school since moving from Division II in 1994, are now 3-17 against FBS schools since 1986. Cal Poly beat New Mexico State in 1997, UTEP in 2003 and San Diego State last year.

He attended French-Howell High School in St. Charles, Missouri and wrestled for Roger Hod­ app and Jud Hoffman from 1987–1989. During his high school career he was a three times Missouri State champion (A) and a three times District champion.
Henson was born January 1, 1971 in St. Louis, Missouri. Henson and his wife, Stephanie, have three boys, Jackson, Wyatt and Ruby.

Slocum didn’t exactly endear himself to fans with his answers. I lore is an example, according to the popular college football blog Every­ 1 dayShouldBeSaturday.com:
"Do you own any pets, and if so what do you have?"

"I got a (expletive) lion now. Unfortunately for Slocum and Michigan, none of the questions asked how to contain Appalachian State. Although if that was a ques­tion, Slocum could have answered with his response to the question of his most memorable past:
"I could'nt tell you because I don’t know"
Men's soccer opens 2-0

After defeating No. 7 California 3-1 in an exhibition match on Aug. 21, the Cal Poly men’s soccer team followed up with a pair of shutouts to start the season 2-0.

The Mustangs opened up their regular season against Loyola Marymount on Sept. 1.

“I was very impressed with our preparation and the maturity of the players,” head coach Paul Holocher said of the Loyola Marymount game on Sept. 6. “You could get a sense in our travel down there that they were very focused.”

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After scoring two goals for the Mustangs, Zamora was the only person to score in the Sept. 9 game.

The Mustangs opened up their season opener against Loyola Marymount by scoring two second-period goals from the bench and taking the game 3-1 in an exhibition match on Aug. 25, 2007.

As of Sept. 9, Daniel Cumming has been the only person to score goals for the Mustangs.

In the season opener against Loyola Marymount he scored two second-period goals off the bench to help shut out the Lions and then on Sept. 9, Cumming scored Cal Poly’s only goal in the 1-0 win over Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Kyle Montgomery had the assist on the goal in the Wisconsin-Milwaukee game.

Even with the team winning, Holocher is still looking for improvement from the team.

“I think it’s real important that we start scoring from more positions on the field,” Holocher said on Sept. 6. “Getting midfielders into more advanced positions, getting them into the 18-yard box, getting them in on crosses and scoring goals.”

Last weekend, the Mustangs worked the crosses well in the game against Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

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immediate future is still somewhat unknown but he expressed a thorough interest in pursuing a master’s degree and possibly a teaching credential.

“I would like to come back and do it at Cal Poly if I could,” Shotwell said. “I love San Luis (Obispo). I love Cal Poly athletics and I love the school. And, I have two younger brothers who are here right now so it would be fun to be back here with them.”

As for the long term, Shotwell said he would eventually like to move in the direction of becoming an athletic director at the university level but he’s open to other opportunities as well.

“1 could very easily see myself getting into coaching too,” Shotwell said. “I feel really fortunate because football has opened a lot of doors for me, so far in the connections and people I’ve been able to meet. I’m going to try to exercise some of my opportunities.”

Shotwell hasn’t ruled out football camps, but he’s not banking on it either. He feels fortunate to have reached the level of play that he did.

“For a lot of my friends, it ended in high school,” Shotwell said. “I got to go on to college and play. I got to do some cool stuff like play in a cool All-Star game, move up to a new area and go through an NFL mini-camp and OTA’s (organized team activities) and training camp and play in four NFL preseason games.”

“It’s been almost a year since I finished playing for Cal Poly but I’m still going. I got to do it a lot longer than most people do it,” Shotwell added.

The Oakland coaching staff told him to “stay ready because you never know what can happen in the season.” Though he’s not sure whether he will get a call, Shotwell said he plans to stay in shape not so much for football but primarily to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

“There’s going to come a point where I’m going to have to close the door on football,” Shotwell said. “Football is going to have to come back to me. I’m not going to keep barging on the door but I’m going to keep myself available and ready.”

Shotwell is Cal Poly’s all-time record-holder for tackles in a season with 158 in 2005 and he is second all-time in career tackles (392) behind Jordan Heck. In addition to the Buck Buchanan Award, Shotwell played in the 82nd Annual East-West Shrine Game where he picked up seven tackles, five of which were solo, and the Pat Tillman Award.

“I feel my body of work that I’ve compiled in college, then the All-Star game (East-West Shrine Game) and Pro Day, and at training camps and my games that I’ve played, I think it speaks the fact that I can play football,” Shotwell said. “Whether people are going to want to give me a chance is up to them.”

Handout photo of Daniel Cumming moving through two Wisconsin-Milwaukee defenders to take a shot. He scored the only goal in the Sept. 9 game.

The Mustangs opened up their UNLV Tournament will appear in the Sept. 14 edition of the Mustang Daily.

Coverage of the Cal Poly men’s soccer team’s games against UNLV and Cleveland State at the UNLV Tournament will appear in the Sept. 14 edition of the Mustang Daily.
Soccer

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Wisconsin-Milwaukee but couldn't pick up a second goal.

"We made the game a little bit too difficult on ourselves by not putting away a second goal — and we had numerous chances," Holocher said following the game with Wisconsin-Milwaukee. "We've got to do a better job of controlling the game when we have a lead."

Holocher was pleased with the chances that the midfielders created in the Wisconsin-Milwaukee game, but he would have liked to have seen a goal scored from the midfield.

"Julian Alvarez did a good job of getting behind," Holocher said after the Wisconsin-Milwaukee game. "We had two or three good opportunities, but we weren't good enough in the final third and in the box to really put that second goal away."

In spite of the lack of goal production from the midfield, Holocher remains optimistic.

"Every game we learn, we learn a lot," Holocher said. "We learned a lot from this for sure about our defense, shape and compactness and every game I think our relationships are getting a little bit better on the field."

Cal Poly controlled the ball the best in the final ten minutes according to Holocher.

On Sept. 4 the NSCAA/Adidas West regional poll ranked the Mustangs in a three-way tie with San Jose State and Stanford for the No. 1 spot.

The Mustangs traveled to Las Vegas for the UNLV Tournament where they squared up against UNLV on Sept. 14 and Cleveland State on Sept. 16.
Web site gives fans a say in football rankings

Josh Dubow

SAN MATEO, Calif. — From the weekly media and coaches polls to the preseason rankings in a bevy of magazines to the annual end-of-season debate about the Bowl Championship Series, no sport is tied to polling as much as college football.

Now there's a Web site that is giving fans a chance to have their say in a virtual futures market for college football teams.

ProTrade.com recently added college football to its roster of sports this season, giving fans a chance to predict how well teams will do this season.

While there predictably are many similarities between the major polls and ProTrade's rankings — Southern California and LSU are the top two teams in all three — there are also some major differences.

ProTrade users are more bullish than the pollsters on teams like Wake Forest and Hawaii and more bearish on UCLA and Nebraska.

The most notable difference for now is that of Michigan. The Wolverines fell out of the major polls after losing its opener to Appalachian State, the first time a ranked team has ever lost to a team from the Championship Subdivision (formerly Division 1-AA).

But Michigan fell from only fifth to 13th in ProTrade's rankings as of early Friday, Sept. 7 — unlike the traditional polls, ProTrade's rankings can change every minute.

Many traders apparently believe the Wolverines can recover from that historic loss and still have a successful season.

"The biggest difference is the AP poll is more about how a team has done up until now, while our market predicts how Michigan will be until the end of the year," said ProTrade co-founder Jeffrey Ma.

Launched in 2005, San Mateo-based ProTrade treats professional athletes and teams like stocks to be bought and sold in a theoretical currency that can be redeemed for prizes.

After the value of teams or players are set by ProTrade in an IPO of sorts, the price then changes constantly depending on whether the community of traders are looking to buy or sell that stock.

The scoring on ProTrade is simple. Each regular season win, including conference championship games, is worth 15 points. Teams get an additional five points for beating a team in the AP Top 25 and another five if the team is in the Top 10.

A win in a bowl game is worth 20 points and teams that qualify for a BCS bowl get 15 points. Making the BCS title game is worth another 15, and winning it all is worth 30.

The price of a team was set before the season as the company predicted over all sorts of data to determine a starting point. After that, it's up to the traders — and how a team performs — to determine which direction the price goes.

"It's like an IPO. We set the price and never touch it again," Ma said.

For example, USC opened at $205.02, peaked at more than $200 — which meant the Trojans likely would have had to go undefeated and win the national championship to earn a profit — before falling back to just more than $220 on Friday.

ProTrade users are more bullish than the pollsters on teams like Wake Forest and Hawaii and more bearish on UCLA and Nebraska.
ProTrade
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Ma and co-founder Mike Kerns said interest in the college football has been high, with some users trading teams possession by possession if they were short-selling stocks. One user learned that the price of teams usually falls when they're on defense and rises when they're on offense.

ProTrade also offers markets for the NFL, Major League Baseball, the NBA, the PGA Tour, NASCAR, and college basketball. The site originally relied on new-age statistics inspired by Michael Lewis' best-selling book "Moneyball" to determine values of players and teams.

But when that proved to be too confusing to the average fan, the site switched last year to traditional fantasy sports stats. That helped increase traffic to the site fifteenfold and ProTrade now generates more than 20 million page views a month from its more than 100,000 registered users.

Because of regulatory issues, ProTrade can only use virtual dollars instead of real money. But users can redeem those ProTrade dollars for various prizes, including gift cards, signed memorabilia or the opportunity to play a game of H-O-R-S-E with Phoenix Suns guard Steve Nash.

Ma became famous while in college at MIT when and his buddies became so proficient at counting cards in blackjack that they carted away millions of dollars from Las Vegas casinos. Their feats inspired the best-selling book "Bringing Down the House." (Ma is Kevin Lewis in the book).

Kerns, who is the CEO of the company, came to ProTrade after working for noted sports agents Leigh Steinberg and Jeff Moorad.

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