Web site targets downtown crowd

Patrick Barbieri
MUSTANG DAILY

For people who wake up after a late night of drinking at their favorite bar and are unable to recall exactly what happened, NiTES.com can help. The Web site specializes in documenting San Luis Obispo’s bustling nightlife. Those who frequent the local bar or club scene have probably already been approached by one of NiTES.com’s “photo angels.” These angels, usually attractive young ladies traveling in pairs, are actually employees who scour the bar scene looking for people having a good time. With permission, the angels take a photo of the bar patrons and post it on NiTES.com the next day, completely free of charge.

The idea is that people visit NiTES.com to see their pictures. This generates page views for the Web site, which in turn allows them to sell advertising to local businesses. The plan has worked surprisingly well, with NiTES.com receiving more than 90,000 hits during its first month of operation, and that number is increasing each month.

“We’re blown away with how rapidly successful NiTES.com has become,” said Dustin Ryen, CEO and one of four partners who own the site. “Last month, we had 120,000 hits, and we’re on track to beat that record.”

Inspired by similar Web sites in Sacramento, Ryen and his girlfriend, Cal Poly history senior Rachael Jones, brought the idea to San Luis Obispo.

“We thought it looked like a good business model for a small college town,” Ryen said. “There are always plenty of people out and about, and we thought it would be easy to get our foot into the market.”

Jones, who is also a co-owner, has been with NiTES.com since its official launch last New Year’s Eve. When not tending to the business or attending classes, she can be found at the bars as a photo angel.

see NiTES, page 2

ASI candidates debate

Donovan Aird
MUSTANG DAILY

A day after debating with Adam Hill, Jerry Lenthall reached out to Hill’s workplace.

Hill, an English lecturer at Cal Poly, is running for supervisor of San Luis Obispo County’s third district against the incumbent, Jerry Lenthall, who’s trying to earn a second term at the June 3 primary.

Lenthall, a 1972 industrial technology graduate of Cal Poly, greeted students Thursday morning in the University Union, where his campaign held a booth offering voter registration forms along with giveaways including hamburgers and soda and pro-Lenthall T-shirts, bumper stickers and campaign signs.

“It’s kind of like coming home for me,” Lenthall said. The Cal Poly College Republicans helped facilitate the hour-long effort through which 14 people registered to vote and more than 200 burgers were served, according to Amber Johnson, Lenthall’s campaign manager.

Connecting with students is “very important,” Lenthall said, as Cal Poly is a “big part of (the) local economy.”

While Hill may seem to have a built-in advantage with Cal Poly students, his working at Cal Poly had “no relationship” with holding the rally, Lenthall said, adding he’s visited the campus in the past, including four years ago during his initial campaign.

Still, his presence at Cal Poly could mean more this time given Hill’s stature.

“It’s really important he comes here and meets student so they get to know him on a political level,” said microbiology senior Jennifer Gilmore, a member of the Cal Poly College Republican board of directors. “Maybe then they’ll go back to Adam Hill and ask him important questions instead of just going into the booth and thinking, ‘I had him’ and filling in (Hill’s) bubble.”

Lenthall, who said he worked for more than three decades in law enforcement, touted his experience over Hill.

“Professor Hill is a part-time English lecturer,” he said. “I’ve been in public service and government all my life.”

Lentall makes presence felt at Cal Poly

Benjamin Rozak
MUSTANG DAILY

Fourteen register to vote at rally for incumbent being challenged by Cal Poly lecturer

Incumbent Jerry Lenthall visit with students Thursday in the UU.
Immigration reform marchers gather in L.A. one year later

Jacob Adelman

LOS ANGELES — Immigration reform advocates gathered Thursday for downtown demonstrations one year after peaceful marches on the issue ended violently when police officers used batons and fired so-called non-lethal rounds to clear people out of a park during the day's closing rally.

Police officials, who admitted significant command failures last year and retained officers in crowd control, promised things would be different for this May Day's march by as many as 100,000 people in Los Angeles.

Hundreds of people gathered at march starting points downtown and to the west at MacArthur Park, scene of last year's trouble. "WELCOME TO THE MARCH," said an electronic sign on a new police vehicle that is part of a new system called Phasedator for communicating with crowds in several languages.

Jose Antonio, 44, had come to the MacArthur Park rally to protect the separation of families stemming from immigration violations.

"Most Hispanic people are not terrorists," said Antonio, who wore a T-shirt bearing the words "Don't Take My 1addy" and a photograph of a man being handcuffed in front of a woman and little girl.

"They're working for their fami­lies," Antonio said. He did not expect a repeat of last year's violence.

"It's different this year. There's been talk between the community and police," said Antonio, who came from Mexico to the United States 20 years ago and works as a street vendor.

A pair of mounted police officers in dark cowboy hats rode along a path around the park at midday, greeting people.

Oscar Garcia, 37, said he wasn't worried about violence after the officers said hello to him and his wife, Sobedal, and trotted away.

"I'm not worried. It looks quiet and it looks like it's going to be all right," Garcia said.

Garcia said he came to the rally in hope of changing immigration policy to make it easier for him and other illegal immigrants to get green cards and to visit relatives in Mexico and return to the U.S.

"It's very difficult to come back and I have to come back. Every time I go to Mexico I cry to see my mother and after one day passes I cry to see my kids," he said.

Also on hand was Violeta Molina, who said she wanted to show her concern for illegal immigrants' access to health care and jobs to earn enough for increasingly expensive groceries.

People march at an immigration rally at the Fulton Mall in Fresno, Calif.

Jacob Adelman


CalPoly.com staff takes pride in delivering a daily newspaper for the Cal Poly campus and the neighboring community. We appreciate your readership and are grateful for your careful reading. Please send your corrections suggestions to mustangdaily@gmail.com.

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**Corrections**

- An article in Wednesday's edi­tion titled "Supermileage car gets 2,752 MPG" incorrectly stated that the club receives funding through Individual Retirement Accounts. The wrong acronym for IRA was printed; it is Instructionally Related Activities that helped fund the club.

- The Mustang Daily apologizes for the mistake.
**State**

**SANTTEE (AP) —** An attorney for Susan LeFever, a housewife arrested in California 32 years after escaping a Detroit prison, said Thursday he plans to petition Michigan's Democratic governor to commute the nine years remaining on her sentence.

LeFever, who married and raised three grown children in a post San Diego suburb as Marie Walsh, has agreed to be extradited back to Michigan to face the consequences of her 1975 guilty plea to drug trafficking charges. She served one year of her 10- to 20-year sentence before, climbing over a fence to meet her waiting grandfather in February 1976.

**SAN JOSE (AP) —** Apple Inc. said Thursday that new movies from a date of major studios will now be available for purchase over iTunes the same day they’re released on DVD.

The change will beef up the number of new titles available in the iTunes online store and help the service compete better against DVD retailers.

**LOS ANGELES (AP) —** West Coast cargo traffic came to a halt Thursday as port workers ditched work to commemorate May Day and call on the U.S. to end the war in Iraq.

Thousands of dockworkers at 29 ports across California, Oregon and Washington did not show up for the picketing, shutting down train and truck drivers idle at ports from Long Beach to Seattle, Pacific Maritime Association spokesman Steve Getzug said.

The longshore workers were expected to return to work for the start of the evening shift, Getzug said.

**FRESNO (AP) —** The Fresno City Council voted Thursday to approve $770 million in aid to the city's historic Federal Building — it's the only big, pink building in the midtown area.

Now the 1938 landmark needs a paint job, and the federal government has a question for the city's historic, Federal Building: it’s the only big, pink building in the midtown area.

Paint selection isn’t normally brought to the attention of the public, but officials thought it was important in the case of the five-story Federal Building, one of 2,300 federally owned structures on the National Register of Historic Places.

**WASHINGTON (AP) —** President Bush urged Congress Thursday to approve $770 million to help alleviate dramatically escalating food prices that threaten widespread hunger and increasing social unrest around the world.

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**National**

**NEW YORK (AP) —** After three decades of keeping mum, Barbara Walters disclosed a past affair with married U.S. Senator Edward Brooke, whom she remembers as "exciting" and "brilliant."

Appearing on "The Oprah Winfrey Show" scheduled to air Tuesday, Walters shared details of her relationship with Brooke that lasted several years in the 1970s, according to a transcript of the show provided to The Associated Press.

**TARPON SPRINGS, Fla. (AP) —** A woman convicted two weeks ago of being the "D.C. Madam" hanged herself Thursday, apparently making good on her vow never to go to prison for running a high-end Washington prostitution ring.

The body of Deborah Jean Palfrey was found in a shed near her mother's home about 20 miles northwest of Tampa. Police said the 52-year-old Palfrey left at least two suicide notes and other writings to her family in a notebook, but they did not disclose their contents.

Palfrey apparently hanged herself with nylon rope from the shed's ceiling. Her mother discovered the body.

**KETCHIKAN, Alaska (AP) —** It’s easy for tourists to find the city’s historic Federal Building — it’s the only big, pink building in the midtown area.

Now the 1938 landmark needs a paint job, and the federal government has a question for the city’s historic, Federal Building: it’s the only big, pink building in the midtown area.

Paint selection isn’t normally brought to the attention of the public, but officials thought it was important in the case of the five-story Federal Building, one of 2,300 federally owned structures on the National Register of Historic Places.

**International**

**CAIRO, Egypt (AP) —** Al-Jazeera cameraman Sami al-Haj was released from detention at Guantanamo Bay Thursday after more than six years in custody and was being repatriated to Sudan, his lawyer said.

Reprieve, the legal action charity that represents 35 Guantanamo prisoners including al-Haj, said the Sudanese cameraman was seized by Pakistani forces on December 15, 2001, apparently at the behest of the U.S. authorities who suspected he had interviewed Osama bin Laden. The group said that "supposed intelligence" turned out to be false.

**BAGHDAD (AP) —** Two suicide bombers attacked a wedding ceremony Thursday as it drove through a crowded market district past bystanders cheering the bride and groom, killing at least 35 people and wounding 65 in a town northeast of Baghdad, officials said.

In the capital, a bomb-rigged parked car exploded when a U.S. patrol went by in a crowded area earlier in the day leaving a U.S. soldier and at least nine Iraqis dead. The attack also wounded 26 Iraqis and two American soldiers.

The terror attacks came amid heightened worries that al-Qaeda in Iraq is regrouping despite recent security gains by U.S.-led forces, which freed themselves facing intensified fighting with Shiite extremists, particularly in Baghdad's militia stronghold of Sadr City.

**AMSTETTEN, Austria (AP) —** An unmistakable meatball sent from Thursday over the town where police said Josef Kretlil imprisoned his daughter for 24 years and fathered seven children with her in a windowless warren of cellars.

As the sheer monstrosity of his alleged atrocities sank in, anguished Austrian residents: keep it pink, or be kept private unless information, that should be kept private unless previously remedied legally.

**“I have a little trouble shopping online and using my credit card online because of the horror stories I’ve heard.”**

— Jesse Traub, mechanical engineering junior

**“Yeah I am. I’m afraid if I give too much information about myself online someone could know too much about me.”**

— Justine Palm, agricultural science freshman

**“Definitely. The idea of having your identity stolen is pretty unnerving.”**

— Josh Pike, business junior

**You deserve a break.**

mustangdaily.net

We've got plenty to distract you from those textbooks.
U.S. missile strike kills reputed al-Qaida leader in Somalia

Mohamed Olad Hassan

ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. missiles destroyed the house of the man identified by the U.S. military as the top al-Qaida commander in Somalia, killing him and 10 others Thursday in a pre-dawn attack that analysts said could tip the balance in the war against the militants.

The killing of Aden Hashi Ayro comes amid escalating fighting and a spiraling humanitarian crisis in the Horn of Africa nation. Islamic fighters have staged a series of attacks on the United States and headed al-Shabab militia in Somalia.

"The bodies were beyond recognition, some of them cut into pieces, and those wounded have been seriously burned," resident Nur Farah told The Associated Press.

Another U.S. defense official, who sought anonymity becau3e he was not authorized to speak on the record, confirmed the strike targeted Ayro.

The U.S. missiles left a smoldering hole where Ayro's home had stood in the central Somali town of Lower Shabelle.

"The killing of Aden Hashi Ayro comes amid a military campaign to pressure the Islamic fighters to surrender," said Kismay Abdi, an analyst at the International Crisis Group.

"However much the Americans claim the war on terror is one thing and the peace process is another, it's not that clear-cut," said Abdi. "This will definitely have political repercussions."
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>film</th>
<th>grade</th>
<th>cast &amp; crew</th>
<th>the big picture</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21 (PG-13)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jim Sturgess, Kate Bosworth, Laurence Fishburne, Kevin Spacey, Liza Lapina, Josh Gad, Aaron Yoo; directed by Robert Luketic</td>
<td>Summary: Needing to pay school tuition, shy MIT student Ben Campbell (Sturgess) joins a group of gambling-loving (and system-beating) peers as they head to Sin City every weekend to rake in the money. The Good: An excellent &quot;sick, exploitapfic fantasy&quot; (as per the Philadelphia Inquirer). The Bad: Its moralistic message is its downfall. (Metacritic.com)</td>
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<tr>
<td>88 minutes (R)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Al Pacino, Alicia Witt, Leelee Sobieski, Amy Brenneman, Deborah Kara Unger, Benigni McKenzie, and Neal McDonough; directed by Jon Avnet</td>
<td>Summary: College professor and forensic psychiatrist Jack Gram receives a threat telling him he has 86 minutes to live. Gram must find out who wants to kill him before his time runs out in this real-time thriller. The Good: Cool concept sees A-Pacino fighting for his life as the minutes tick away. The Bad: Absurdly cheeseey story is filled with too many plot twists. Not up to Pacino standards. (Metacritic.com)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baby Mama (PG-13)</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Tina Fey, Amy Poehler, Greg Kinnear, Dak Shepard, Romany Malco, Maura Tierney, Holland Taylor, Sigourney Weaver; directed by Michael McCullers</td>
<td>Summary: Unable to get pregnant, successful business woman Kate Holbrook can't wait any longer to have a baby. But when she hires a surrogate mother, she gets more than she bargained for. The Good: The Fey/ Poehler duo is dynamite, but the supporting actors make the film even stronger. The Bad: Unsurprisingly, a plausible main character in the company of completely unrealistic people. (Kristen Marschall)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deception (R)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Hugh Jackman, Ewan McGregor, Michelle Williams, Lisa Gay Hamilton, Maggie Q, Natasha Henstridge; directed by Marcel Langenegger</td>
<td>Summary: Jonathan (McGregor) lives a lonely, boring life until he becomes entangled in the exciting life of a lawyer (Jackman), which turns out to be much darker than he expects. The Good: Langenegger produces great visuals by keeping it simple with camera angles. The Bad: There's no deception when it comes to the predictable plot in this generic thriller. (RottenTomatoes.com)</td>
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<td>Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed (PG)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ben Stein, Jason Collett; directed by Nathan Frankowski</td>
<td>Summary: Ben Stein travels the world in search of scientists and scholars who are being discriminated against for their lack of faith in Darwinism, unveiling the misfortune encountered by these people. The Good: Addresses an interesting aspect of the evolution-vs-creation debate. The Bad: Strong bias and lack of factual evidence does little to further Stein's argument. (Metacritic.com)</td>
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<td>The Forbidden Kingdom</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jet Li, Jackie Chan, Michael Angarano, Collin Chou, Crystal Liu Yu Fei, and Li Bing Bing; directed by Rob Minkoff</td>
<td>Summary: Jason Tiptakis is hurtled back in time to ancient China, where he must free a fabled warrior held captive by an evil warlord. A wise kung fu master teaches him what he needs to get home. The Good: Impressive special effects and fight scenes, playful humor and a fresh take on an aged genre. The Bad: May not live up to the expectations of kung fu purists. (Metacritic.com)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Forgetting Sarah Marshall (R)</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Jason Segel, Kristen Bell, Mila Kunis, Bill Hader; Russell Brand, Jonah Hill, Paul Rudd, Lisa Clickowski; directed by Nicholas Stoller</td>
<td>Summary: After being dumped by his girlfriend of five-and-half years, Peter Bennett (Segel) escapes to Hawaii, but in a sick turn of fate, Sarah (Kunis) and her new beau happen to be staying at the same resort. The Good: Clever one-liners and awkward situational humor in this &quot;ultimate romantic disaster&quot; movie. The Bad: If you don't like full-frontal male nudity, be sure to close your eyes (four times). (Janelle Estrada)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harold &amp; Kumar Escape From Guantanamo Bay (R)</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>John Cho, Kal Penn, Rob Corddry, Roger Bart, Neil Patrick Harris, Kal Penn, Rob Corddry, and Roger Bart; directed by Jon Hurwitz and Hayden Schlossberg</td>
<td>Summary: After Kumar's bong is mistaken for a bomb on an international flight, he and Harold are thrown into and escape Guantamano Bay. Their subsequent life on the run yields random adventures. The Good: Running jokes from the first move, political mixed with pot humor, unicorns and NPH. The Bad: Don't see it if you're easily offended by anything. It pushes the R-rated envelope. (Giana Magno)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Iron Man (PG-13)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Robert Downey Jr., Terrence Howard, Jeff Bridges, Gwyneth Paltrow, Leslie Bibb, Shaun Toub, Faran Tahir; directed by Jon Favreau</td>
<td>Summary: Based on the popular comic, Tony Stark uses his intelligence to build a high-tech suit of armor and escape captivity. He then uses his armor to thwart a nefarious plot with global implications. The Good: Awesome special effects combined with a quality script make this comic-inspired movie worthy. The Bad: Not for the easily offended. It pushes the R-rated envelope. (Giana Magno)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leatherheads (PG-13)</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>George Clooney, Renée Zellweger, John Krasinski, Jonathan Pryce; directed by George Clooney</td>
<td>Summary: In an effort to save his second-rate football team, Dodge Connelly (Clooney) manages to sign on a war hero-turned-football star, only to fight him for the affections of a scheming reporter. The Good: The 1920s ads, clothing and culture make for an aesthetically pleasing period film. The Bad: 115 minutes, 85% banter. Not a rom-com or a man's movie, just an awkward intermezzo. (Kristen Marschall)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Made of Honor (PG-13)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Patrick Dempsey, Michelle Monaghan, Kevin McKidd, Kathleen Quinlan, Sydney Pollack; directed by Paul Weiland</td>
<td>Summary: For Tom, life is great. But then best friend Hannah, whom he's in love with, goes to Scotland for six weeks and comes back changed. Tom agrees to be her maid of honor, while also trying to win her over. The Good: Heart-warming romantic comedy that delivers cheese-cutter laughs. The Bad: Predictable and not very original. (Metacritic.com)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nim's Island (PG)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jodie Foster, Abigail Breslin, Gerard Butler, Alphonso McAuley; directed by Mark Levin</td>
<td>Summary: Nim (Breslin) enjoys a life on a utopian island, until her father goes missing. She writes to her favorite author for help in finding him. The Good: Flavorless animation and an enjoyable, family-friendly plot. The Bad: Slapstick comedy and too much interaction with CGI animals drag down acting performances. (Metacritic.com)</td>
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<td>Shine a Light (PG-13)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Keith Richards, Mick Jagger, Bill Clinton, Ron Wood, and Charlie Watts; directed by Martin Scorsese</td>
<td>Summary: This documentary captures the raw energy of a Rolling Stones concert in a way never before seen by the world using a legendary team of cinematographers. The Good: Perhaps the most well-crafted documentary of any live concert to date. The Bad: All about the Rolling Stones. If you don't like them, you won't like this film. (Metacritic.com)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Smart People (PG-13)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dennis Quaid, Sarah Jessica Parker, Ellen Page, Thomas Haden Church, Ashton Holmes, Christina Lahti; directed by Neam Muro</td>
<td>Summary: Lawrence Wetherhold (Quaid) is a widowed Victorian lit professor who has flawed relationships with his kids, falls in love with a former student and must deal with his slacker brother. The Good: The dialogue is sharp, witty and amusing. The Bad: Semi-interesting characters lie behind a thin veneer. (Metacritic.com)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Taxi to the Darkside (R)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Alex Gibney (director), Brian Keith Allen, Moazzam Begg, Wille Brand; directed by Alex Gibney</td>
<td>Summary: A stirring documentary about an innocent civilian taxi driver who was allegedly kidnapped, tortured and executed by the greatest democratic power on earth — the United States government. The Good: Well-researched and engaging film delivers thought-provoking evidence of a tragic event. The Bad: May leave viewers more disturbed and outraged than they'd like to be. (Metacritic.com)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Year My Parents Went on Vacation (PG)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Michael Joesaas, Daniella Pieszuk, Liliana Castro; directed by Cao Hamburger</td>
<td>Summary: In Brazil's 2007 Oscar contribution, a young boy is separated from his parents, who are forced to leave the country because of political turmoil, and moves to a new home in a Jewish neighborhood. The Good: Poignant and surprisingly tender at times. Plus, the film's climax is definitely worthwhile. The Bad: A film about a childhood trauma presented in a timid and sanitized manner. (RottenTomatoes.com)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Rats invade the library

In "Made of Honor," Patrick Dempsey plays a man who agrees to act as maid of honor for his best friend, Hannah. Played by Michelle Monaghan, Hannah is the most (Tltic-sounding) track on the list, with the lyrics: "Throw me to the dogs, man / Throw me to the dogs, man / Throw me to the dogs, man / Throw me to the dogs, man."

"Once Upon a Time" features a melodic duet with smooth vocals and flawless coordination between the singers. If you listen to one track on the album, this one should be it.

"Throw Me to the Dogs" is the least appealing track on the list, with the lyrics: "Throw me to the dogs, man/ Throw me to the dogs, man/ Where's that I belong?" Sorry, but that's a little too overdramatic and emo for such an otherwise well-thought-out album. So although the band is advertised as spreading across several diverse genres, the album could easily be classified as indie-rock with country feel. However, Neil's vocals change throughout. While his raspy voice seems legit at first, it's hard to reconcile it with the other songs where his voice takes on a very different sound elsewhere in the album. To check out Casey Neill and the Norway Rats for yourself, see them play live at the San Luis Obispo Jazz Festival, this Saturday night.

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Let me cut right to the chase for those who don’t already know: “Grand Theft Auto IV” is killer in more ways than one.

Everything that fans of the video game series have come to know and love — the violence, humor, superb dialogue and non-linear gameplay — has remained intact, but a plethora of new features have been added to the mix. It’s simply a great game for casual gamers and hardcore alike.

That said, here’s the skinny.

In case you just landed on Earth, this latest entry marks the monumental transition of the world’s most popular and highly controversial video game franchise into the present generation of gaming technology.

As most of us already know, “GTA” sets an anti-hero protagonist (you) loose within an urban environment to cause whatever havoc necessary to elevate your status in the underworld hierarchy. Basically, players perform various illegal acts to work their way up the criminal totem pole, eventually coming out on top; previous games in the series have set the standard for what free-roaming, open-ended style gameplay should be.

I cannot begin to explain the level of expectation this series has made for itself; due in part to its acclaimed legacy, but also because this latest installment took so long to grace our television sets.

I am proud to say it was worth the wait. Everything about this game screams polished. The attention to depth and detail, coupled with big-budget production values that put most Hollywood blockbusters to shame, combine to form a truly epic, interactive experience.

If you’re a fan of the series, you will crap your pants the first time you careen in your stolen dump truck through a busy intersection at 100 mph, smashing anything or anyone in the vicinity. You will laugh out loud when a hot-dog cart deflects off your hood, only as level a crowd of nearby pedestrians like bowling pins. Never before has this type of reckless catharsis been so shamefully rewarding.

But underneath the surface, “GTA” is so much more than that. To label the series, as Sen. Hillary Clinton has, “a major threat to morality” and “a silent epidemic of media desensitization” would be to deny the redeeming social value these games have to offer adults.

Any fan can attest to how saturated the “GTA” universe is with social commentary and cultural satire. As can be seen on every billboard and heard in every radio commercial within the games, the world in which you play is a mocking mirror of both the beautiful and the ugly of American society.

Following in the footsteps of classic lampoon staples like “Saturday Night Live,” “South Park” and Doonesbury, “GTA” poke fun at every stereotype found in American pop culture. From the fast food and firearms industries to religion and politics, all the elements of today’s society are targeted and exploited in an abundantly ridiculous yet deliriously well-done way. It’s the video game embodiment of free- amendment free speech in its finest, most hilarious and perhaps most controversial form.

In the past, the “GTA” series has raised the bar of what this medium can hope to achieve. It has transcended the world of mere video games and entered the realm of a true work of art — one that, besides having aesthetic and entertainment values, delivers a poignant and relevant message to those who take the time to look.

This latest entry is no exception, and further solidifies the “GTA” phenomenon as being as much an integral part of American mainstream culture as baseball, apple pie or even democracy — ironically the same culture it so successfully spoofs.

Even so, I don’t expect to see Clinton standing in line at Best Buy with a copy of “GTA IV” anytime soon. Share for her, since she’s missing out on one hell of a fun game.

As most of us already know, “GTA” sets an anti-hero protagonist (you) loose within an urban environment to cause whatever havoc necessary to elevate your status in the underworld hierarchy. Basically, players perform various illegal acts to work their way up the criminal totem pole, eventually coming out on top; previous games in the series have set the standard for what free-roaming, open-ended style gameplay should be.

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Following in the footsteps of classic lampoon staples like “Saturday Night Live,” “South Park” and Doonesbury, “GTA” poke fun at every stereotype found in American pop culture. From the fast food and firearms industries to religion and politics, all the elements of today’s society are targeted and exploited in an abundantly ridiculous yet deliriously well-done way. It’s the video game embodiment of free amendment free speech in its finest, most hilarious and perhaps most controversial form.

In the past, the “GTA” series has raised the bar of what this medium can hope to achieve. It has transcended the world of mere video games and entered the realm of a true work of art — one that, besides having aesthetic and entertainment values, delivers a poignant and relevant message to those who take the time to look.

This latest entry is no exception, and further solidifies the “GTA” phenomenon as being as much an integral part of American mainstream culture as baseball, apple pie or even democracy — ironically the same culture it so successfully spoofs.

Even so, I don’t expect to see Clinton standing in line at Best Buy with a copy of “GTA IV” anytime soon. Share for her, since she’s missing out on one hell of a fun game.

As most of us already know, “GTA” sets an anti-hero protagonist (you) loose within an urban environment to cause whatever havoc necessary to elevate your status in the underworld hierarchy. Basically, players perform various illegal acts to work their way up the criminal totem pole, eventually coming out on top; previous games in the series have set the standard for what free-roaming, open-ended style gameplay should be.

I cannot begin to explain the level of expectation this series has made for itself; due in part to its acclaimed legacy, but also because this latest installment took so long to grace our television sets.

I am proud to say it was worth the wait. Everything about this game screams polished. The attention to depth and detail, coupled with big-budget production values that put most Hollywood blockbusters to shame, combine to form a truly epic, interactive experience.

If you’re a fan of the series, you will crap your pants the first time you careen in your stolen dump truck through a busy intersection at 100 mph, smashing anything or anyone in the vicinity. You will laugh out loud when a hot-dog cart deflects off your hood, only as level a crowd of nearby pedestrians like bowling pins. Never before has this type of reckless catharsis been so shamefully rewarding.

But underneath the surface, “GTA” is so much more than that. To label the series, as Sen. Hillary Clinton has, “a major threat to morality” and “a silent epidemic of media desensitization” would be to deny the redeeming social value these games have to offer adults.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Miss Evans,

I would hope that you would have done some research of your own before you start accusing people of inadequacy of truth. To make up for your error, I did some investigation of my own and discovered that the club received financing from both the Irish Republican Army as well as the International Reading Association.

It is not that I am against freedom of speech — it's everyone's right to call Republicans warmongers — dingo-heads or Democrats weak, unpatriotic gory men — but I guess what is surprising is that the Mustang Daily continues to print this unsubstantiated excuse for political journalism. Anyone can fling a bunch of pseudo-intellectual, backhanded compliments, but that doesn't mean I, or any other Mustang Daily reader, should have to read it.

I would hope that you would have more than one copy of the paper every week. I understand that it is nice to have political columns weekly, but as my mother says, "If you don't have anything nice to say, you might as well not say anything at all.

I propose the Mustang Daily do one of two things: First, open up the political columns to any writer wishing to eloquently express his or her opinions on an issue (survival of the fittest article) or, secondly, if the writers of the Blueprint or the Right Way can't produce mature and reader-worthy columns, simply leave their articles out and save a bunch of keystrokes.

Luckily the political articles are conveniently buried in the middle section of the paper where they can't be of too much embarrassment, but maybe with a little healthy competition for the space, the Blueprint and Right Way could produce some front page-quality writing.

Isaac Safdie-Miller
Computer engineering freshman

The reason that the candidates — despite how much sense Mr. Bailey's article makes — use the word "right" is nothing more than class envy and class warfare in its purest form. The very point that he makes about 50 percent of the people paying 3 percent of the tax illustrates this. This focus on politics can punish success with high taxes on higher income earners and most of the time, the liberals, it is not about what is right but about what gets them the most votes.

Mike Rutledge
Response to "You have the right to...

Angela — after viewing all of the video responses, you are clearly the most qualified, intelligent, and charismatic of the candidates. You are very brave to take on the status quo of the current administration, and I admire you as a whole, including all of the clubs and groups of people. Unfortunately I just graduated and can't vote, but I wish you the best and hope you win by a landslide.

Steve Klicker
Response to "Kramer pushes for representation, sustainability"

You may take lightly Mr. Gilmore's article about the Rev. Wright by avoiding and completely ignoring the point with a lame attempt at humor, but you know your points are valid. Why would you not want to think about Obama attending the Rev. Wright's church for 20 years (listening to all that hate), entitling his book, "The Audacity of Hope" after discussions with him, selecting him to officiate his wedding, and baptizing both of his daughters? Obama also called the Rev. Wright his spiritual mentor. Like many of his followers, you can ignore this and many shortcomings because he's "the change" and the "future." Inspiring! People can easily be judged by what they do (not what they say) and who they choose to have as friends.

Wrenn
Response to "Don't vote Rev. Wright for president"

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; the only thing that ever has."

—Martin Luther King Jr.
American mathematician

Be the change
The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz  No. 0321

Across
1 They have many
stickers points
2 Falconi gri
3 "1976 cut off
with a mutant
child"
4 Gazetteer meas.
5 They have many
pens are found
6 "____ of three
names"
7 "____ of traitors!
"____ of traitors!
8 Meet
9 Roadside stand
units
10 Old sit-in org.
11 Land-Lease Act
provision
12 Architectural
subdiscipline
13 Hire
14 Simplest, in
math and logic
15 When doubled,
what a rat does
16 Architectural
instruments
17 They are in Peru
18 A human
character
19 One of four
principles
20 One of seven
characters
21 When awarded,
what a rat does
22 Sound of
explosions
23 Home to San
Francisco
24 Opening pair
25 Tidy up the lawn.
26 "____ of three
names"
27 "I've been better"
28 Where many
prizes are found
29 Corna sticker
30 Pessimist in a
relationship
31 Like some profs.
32 Cries for
help
33 Drop the ball
34 Letters between
M and L
35 "Stand and
Deliver" Oscar
nominee, 1988
36 "Fiddlers three
and a half"
37 Checkers,
e.g.
38 Uses as a bed
39 End of many a
word
40 It involves many
unknowns: Abbr.
41 Sched. maker,
often
42 One using soft
soap
43 Ban
44 Simplest, in
math and logic
45 Perfect Day
maker
46 "____ of traitors"
47 Gravy holders
48 Fogs
49 Summer cooler
50 It involves many
unknowns: Abbr.
51 Norwegian P.M.
Stoltenberg
52 Immoderate
indulgence
53 At any point
54 Choice for
intercontinental
travel
55 "They Like
____"
56 Endow
57 Student activity
58 It is in Peru
59 Dot that was
once a going
thing

Down
1 Credit report
damage, briefly
2 Prizes for top
athletes
3 Curer
4 Takken of
hockey
5 It's no longer
divided
6 Architectural
subdiscipline
7 "____ Lady"
(1971 hit song)
8 Meet
9 Roadside stand
units
10 Old sit-in org.
11 Land-Lease Act
provision
12 Architectural
subdiscipline
13 Hire
14 Simplest, in
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53 At any point
54 Choice for
intercontinental
travel
55 "They Like
____"
56 Endow
57 Student activity
58 It is in Peru
59 Dot that was
once a going
thing

You've been poked by
The Mustang Daily

Poke them back at
www.mustangdaily.net

Hey, we've got a real news feed too.
Lee
continued from page 12

because you get to experience a piece of their culture and understand how different societies are," says Lee, who was a summer sports camp counselor for kids ages 6 to 12.

Lee says his parents are always away on some adventure, which has helped shape his understanding of the world. "My family is my support system," the Saint Francis High alumna says. Lee plays mostly right field, and some left field, but loves playing in center. "I feel the most comfortable there because I can read the pitcher and the balls that come off the bat, so I can make my adjustments accordingly," he says. Lee points to his speed as his main strength, and believes the Mustangs have better camaraderie this season than in any other he's played in. "In the past, there have been players that get caught up with themselves and not thinking about what's best for the team," he explains. "But this year we are like a brotherhood -- there aren't any superstars.

Lee also plays summer baseball, and this summer will play in Eau Claire, Wis. A year ago, as a member of the only Canadian collegiate team, the Kelowna Falcons of British Columbia, he hoisted a team-best .303 batting average while stealing a league-record 27 of 30 bases.

"I want to play this game for a long time, and how I look at it is I just have to go out and play with no regrets," Lee says.

The West Coast Collegiate Baseball League All-Star was an all-league second team honoree. "Before every game, I visualize what I am going to do," Lee says. "A couple summers ago I thought to myself, 'OK, I will get at least one hit per game,' and it happened. Then I tried to visualize two hits per game, and that happened. I really believe in the mental aspect of baseball, and developing your own approach."

Fundraiser
continued from page 12

The NFCA started it five years ago. Participants will receive a pink T-shirt commemorating the day's events if they donate $20, and a raffle ticket if they donate $50. Raffle prizes will include softball shirts, clothes and gear from sponsors Under Armour and Easton Sports. The Cal Poly baseball team may donate prizes as well.

Fans have all of Saturday to donate, with the doubleheader starting at 4 p.m. Throwing out the ceremonial pitch will be Cal Poly shortstop Melissa Puras father, a cancer survivor.

Former Cal Poly athlete and cancer survivor Bailey Brown threw the first pitch last year. Puras, whose father has been in remission for about eight years, asked him to participate. "I'm really close with my dad, and he went through a lot when I was younger," she said. "He's always been at my games and feels honored that I asked him to throw out the first pitch. We're pretty excited that he gets to do something like this."

For more information or to make a donation, contact Condron at 756-1539 or Jaccondon@cal-poly.edu.

Howard homers, lifts Phillies over Padres

The San Diego Padres' Rabill Greene, left, tags out the Philadelphia Phillies' Carlos Ruiz (51) on a fielder's choice in the fourth inning Thursday night in Philadelphia. Philadelphia's Ryan Howard hit a tiebreaking, solo home run in the eighth inning to lift the Phillies to a 3-2 win.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Eric Masatung, junior, Ventura, CA

THIS WEEK IN CAL POLY ATHLETICS

BASEBALL @ Baggett Stadium

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 2</td>
<td>vs. UNLV</td>
<td>9 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 3</td>
<td>TONIGHT</td>
<td>6 p.m. **</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 4</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 5</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
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<td><strong>Country Western Day</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Doubleheader</strong></td>
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SOFTBALL @ Bob Janssen Field

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<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 3</td>
<td>vs. UC DAVIS</td>
<td>4 p.m. **</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 4</td>
<td>Saturday (DH)</td>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 5</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>12 p.m.</td>
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*Rohifii Koilrn, Senior, Valencia, CA

CAL POLY ATHLETICS
Wildflower
continued from page 12
live music from bands like Still Time, The Little Heroes, The Van, and Unknown. There will also be plenty of food, including burritos, tri-tip, pasta, smoothies and coffee, as well as innovative gear and equipment, race food, including burritos, tri-tip, pasta, and could purchase special equipment at
the official gel sponsor is PoweKiel, and energy bar sponsor is PowerBar, the official energy drink is Gatorade.

Kemp’s tiebreaking single helps L.A. complete sweep

Steven Wise
ASSOCIATED PRESS
MIAMI — If the Los Angeles Dodgers keep sweeping teams, they might find themselves atop the tough NL West in another week or two.

Matt Kemp was in the tiebreaking run with a ninth-inning single Thursday, and the Dodgers completed their second consecutive series sweep by beating the Florida Marlins 5-3.

The Dodgers have won six games in a row, their longest winning streak since taking seven straight to close the 2006 season. They’re still five games behind the Arizona Diamondbacks, whose 20-8 record is the best in baseball.

“You don’t get very many opportunities to sweep series,” manager Joe Torre said. “When you’re playing well and with a lot of confidence, you try to make it last as long as you can.”

The Dodgers, who open a weekend series Friday in snowy Colorado, are averaging nearly eight runs per game during their winning streak.

“It doesn’t have to stop,” outfielder pierre said. “It’s early, but like everyone says, you want to get it while you can get it. That takes pressure off in August and September.”

“You don’t get very many opportunities to keep the winning streak going. I wanted to keep the winning streak going. I wasn’t gonna be a part of that,” Kemp said.

Torre liked the way the Dodgers scratched out the tiebreaking run.

“Fundamentally sound baseball — it sounds simple and boring, but you put yourself in position to score runs,” he said.

Kemp then stole second, and after a walk, he scored when the Marlins made two throwing errors to the pitcher. Kemp threw high to second trying for a force out, and second baseman robert Andino made a wild relay throw to first.

Joe Beimel (0-1) threw one pitch, retiring Jeremy Hermida on a popup to end the eighth.

Takeya Saito pitched a perfect ninth for his second save.

“I knew with all the little kids in the crowd, I wasn’t going to get booed too bad,” said Badenhop, who pitched six innings for the first time.

Matt Torre became Florida’s first baseman who pitched six innings for the first time.

“Every time he plays, he’s always doing something to help the team win,” Kemp said.

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5-9 76 63 5 28

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6-8 54 31 9 72

1-9 72 5 6 3 6 4

3-2 48 7 9 1 5 6

7-5 96 6 8 2 1 3

8-1 23 9 7 4 6 5

4-3 65 1 2 8 9 9 7

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Lee’s love of the game leads, sets tone for Mustangs

Ryan Lee remembers playing catch with his dad, and being a batboy for his sister’s softball games. He was a secret team member, and knew he would play baseball forever.

His prowess at the plate hasn’t been so secret this season, as his .361 batting average is second for the Cal Poly baseball team, as are his .431 on-base percentage and 10 stolen bases.

“I love this game because it’s all about strategy and getting dirty,” says Lee, a 22-year-old junior outfielder who redshirted in 2(K)5 to extend his college career.

After graduation, Lee says, he would give anything to play professionally.

He’s attracted interest from the Minnesota Twins, but grew up rooting for the San Francisco Giants. Lee was raised in Los Altos, a small city near Stanford, in a very cultured family.

His parents have hosted more than 30 exchange students from 15 different countries over the years.

“T he more money we raise, the happier we’ll be,” Mustangs head coach Jenny Condon said. “Everyone’s been affected by cancer, so hopefully we’ll get some baseball fans donating, too.”

Last year, Cal Poly raised more than $2,400. Condon hopes next year the baseball team will co-sponsor the program.

see Fundraiser, page 10

Wildflower begins this weekend

Sara Wright

People have been partying at Wildflower for 26 years, but does everybody know what they’re celebrating?

As one of the largest triathlons worldwide, the Wildflower races, or Avia Wildflower Triathlons, held at Lake San Antonio, draw upward of 7,500 athletes and 30,000 spectators and volunteers annually — including 1,200 volunteers from Cal Poly, according to sponsorship coordinator Colleen Bousman.

“We’re excited to have the number back up to 1,200,” she said.

Wildflower consists of three races: the long course, which is at 8 a.m. Saturday and is comprised of a 1.2-mile swim (in 65- to 68-degree water), a 56-mile bike ride and a 13.1-mile run, the mountain bike, which is at 9:45 a.m. the same day and is a quarter-mile swim, a 9.7-mile bike ride and a 2-mile run, and the Olympic, which is at 9 a.m. Sunday and includes a 1.5-kilometer swim, a 40-kilometer bike ride and a 10-kilometer run.

The long course was expanded in the 1980s to the half-ironman distance it is now, while the other two were added later.

Currently, Terenzo Bozzone of New Zealand and Samantha McGlone of Canada hold the course records. Bozzone completed the long course in three hours, 53 minutes and 43 seconds in 2006, while McGlone finished in four hours, 31 minutes and eight seconds the same year.

According to Tri-California Events, Wildflower racers are of the average age of 40 and participate in a median of five races a year. Additionally, there are a number of unique stories, including this year’s “generation team,” which includes a woman, her mother and grandmother.

Between races, volunteers and spectators spend their time at Beach City, with activities including...