Kramer wins ASI presidency

Political science junior captures 47.6 percent of initial votes, 57.2 percent of runoff votes

Patrick Barbieri
MUSTANG DAILY

After what seemed like an agonizing half-hour delay, Associated Students Inc. representatives announced to an anxious crowd in the University Union Plaza that Angela Kramer had been elected ASI president for the 2008-09 school year.

Since none of the candidates obtained 51 percent of the initial votes, there was a runoff election between the top two candidates, Kramer and Melissa Lema, to determine the outcome.

Kramer came out ahead with 2,906 first- and second-choice votes, which accounted for 57.2 percent of the runoff votes.

"It's amazing; it feels so perfect," said an ecstatic, teary-eyed Kramer while receiving hugs from friends, family and supporters. Lema was close behind with 2,152 runoff votes.

"I'm very proud of how many students voted this year," Lema said. "I congratulate Angela for her victory. I have a lot of hope for Cal Poly and feel we're in good hands with her." 

The third candidate, Arvand Sabtian, received 1,274, or 24 percent, of the initial votes, thereby not allowing him a place in the runoff category. This is Sabtian's second-consecutive unsuccessful campaign.

"It felt worse last year," Sabtian said. "Seeing as how I know many of the people who were elected on the Board of Directors, it's unfortunate that I will not be able to work with them.

For students who voted in this year's election, key issues were sustainability, experience and reshaping ASI for the year ahead.

Biomedical engineering freshman Ben Ireri voted for Kramer based on the fact that he was "receptive" and a "good liberal."

Computer engineering sophomore Estevan Whittfield, on the other hand, said he connected with Lema's student services-oriented campaign.

"The other candidates had big ideas, but didn't really have anything to offer students here and now," Whittfield said.

Some students were shocked at the results.

Economics senior Jenn Kent felt that Sabtian had the election in the bag. For her, issues like attacking the CSU budget crisis and alleviating the economic burden on students were key in her decision.

"I voted for Arvand because I don't want the funding cut-backs to trickle down and cramp my ability to afford my education," Kent said.

"Deciding on the election results, Kramer was optimistic. "We did everything we could with this campaign, and stayed true to our ideals," she said. "Everything happens for a reason, so I'm fine with any outcome."

Sabtian shared similar optimism before hearing the results.

"It's hard to really know what's going on outside of your own campaign, but I'll be happy either way," he said.

San Diego State students facing lengthy sentences

Allison Hoffman
ASSOCIATE PRESS

SAN DIEGO — An honors student pleaded not guilty Thursday to charges that he sold cocaine in an undercover operation that culminated in massive drug busts at San Diego State University.

Kenneth Ciaccio, the suspected leader of a cocaine trafficking ring at the 34,000-student campus, is accused of selling cocaine twice to government agents.

He faces up to six years and four months in prison if he is convicted.

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San Diego State students facing lengthy sentences
## BOARD OF DIRECTORS RESULTS

### COLLEGE OF AG, FOOD AND ENV. SCIENCE
- **3,846 VOTES**
  - Kelsey Rugani
  - Shawn Cooper
  - Megan Brownell
  - Nate Sandler
  - Wes Carlson

### COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
- **2,381 VOTES**
  - Jessica Patton
  - Kendra Searle
  - Kayvan Chinichian
  - Kelly Griggs
  - Sara Hunt

### COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
- **2,019 VOTES**
  - Laura Gunderson
  - Ashley Singer
  - Nima Salke
  - Jesse Schwartz

### COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
- **3,773 VOTES**
  - Alyssa Habling
  - Matt Agnitch
  - Kaitlin Spak
  - Russell Taylor
  - Kelley Wighton

### COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE
- **792 VOTES**
  - Katie Groth
  - Theresa Swen
  - Sean Christy

### COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS
- **993 VOTES**
  - Adam Marre
  - Josh Lazarus
  - Sunil Patel

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**Drugs**  
*continued from page 1*

years and eight months, said Deputy District Attorney Damon Mosler.

Lawyers for two students who pleaded not guilty to marijuana charges Wednesday said their clients should not have been lumped in with those involved in trafficking.

"It seems a little heavy handed to go into a college campus with DEA agents to ferret out students who are selling small amounts of marijuana," said attorney Gretchen Von Helms. Her client, 19-year-old Joshua Matsuda, faces up to 3 years and eight months in jail if convicted on charges of possessing marijuana for sale.

His roommate, Jarrod Skippon, faces similar charges after agents allegedly found marijuana and 30 vials of hash oil at their apartment. Skippon's lawyer, Marc Cicilors, said a female undercover agent asked his client to sell her pot after they met at a party.

"We're talking about a 19-year-old," Carlos said. "So they're caught in the sting, and they're being asked to put agents in touch with sellers."

The students, both freshmen, have each been released on $10,000 bail.

Other colleges in the San Diego area have also been targeted by authorities investigating drug sales.

The San Diego Sheriff's Department said about a dozen San Diego gang members set up shop in a luxury apartment building next to the Cal State San Marcos campus, about 40 miles north of San Diego. Sheriff's Sgt. Gary Flood said the group sells marijuana, methamphetamine and Ecstasy.

Deputies have made seven arrests since late February, but the sergeant says the gang is still active.

The gang members are believed to be part of a southeastern San Diego gang forced out of town by an injunction.

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**CORRECTIONS**

The Mustang Daily staff takes pride in publishing a daily newspaper for the Cal Poly campus and the neighboring community. We appreciate your readership and are thankful for your careful reading.

Please send your correction suggestions to mustangdaily@gmail.com.

- The guide to the 2008-09 Board of Directors published in Thursday's paper incorrectly referred to College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Science candidate Shawn Cooper as a man. Cooper is a woman.

The Mustang Daily apologizes for this mistake.
MATCHBOX TWENTY
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Vanessa Carlton

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Briefs

State

ALTDENA (AP) — Authorities say an elderly woman was found dead in a burning home in Altadena, but most of her injuries were unrelated to the blaze.

Los Angeles County Fire Department spokesman Sam Padilla says the body was found on the kitchen floor of the home, lying in a substantial pool of blood. He said she had suffered significant physical trauma.

Padilla says the fire was reported around 10 a.m. Thursday. It burned two rooms of the home in the foothills northeast of Los Angeles.

Investigators are looking into the cause of the blaze and trying to determine why the woman died.

GUALALA (AP) — Another alligator diver is dead after suffering a medical emergency while pursuing the mollusk off the North Coast of California.

The Sonoma County Sheriff's Department responded to a call for help Thursday after friends of the unidentified man observed his medical distress near the Sea Ranch. The man was dead by the time firefighters arrived. Officials believe the cause of death was a heat attack or other medical emergency.

Earlier this week, a 39-year-old man from San Leandro drowned while alligator hunting just north of Mendocino.

LANCASTER (AP) — A 61-year-old man was sentenced to six years in prison for killing a preteen boy in an Antelope Valley elementary school restroom.

Jorge Aparicio pleaded no contest to one count of voluntary manslaughter in the May 2004 shooting death of 13-year-old David Sigala.

Aparicio was a volunteer coach for the Antelope Valley High School baseball and football teams. He was sentenced to six years in prison.

International

CRAWFORD, Texas (AP) — President Bush stuck out his right elbow Thursday, demonstrating how he’ll escort his daughter down the aisle at her wedding this weekend.

He made the gesture at Andrews Air Force Base before boarding Force One for the flight to Texas, where Jenna Bush will be married Saturday before about 200 guests at her family’s 1,600-acre, secluded ranch. Asked if he was excited, the president smiled and gave a thumbs-up.

“His looking forward to it,” White House spokesman Gordon Johndroe told reporters aboard the plane as it flew from rainy Washington to sunny Tex.

“It’s excited like any proud father is to see one of his daughter’s get married.”

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — A rare international alert seeking a man shown in dozens of child porn images quickly led to the arrest of a small-time actor who painted faces at children’s parties and performed as “the best Santa Claus anyone has ever seen.”

Wayne Nelson Curtiss told authorities he had sex with three boys in Thailand six years ago, an experience he described as “euphoria,” a prosecutor said Thursday at Curtiss’ first court appearance.

Chicago (AP) — There’s a grim, overly talked-about twist to all that medical know-how doctors learn to save lives: It makes them especially good at killing their patients.

An estimated 300 to 400 U.S. doctors kill themselves each year — a suicide rate thought to be higher than in the general population, although exact figures are hard to come by.

Some doctors believe the stigma of mental illness is magnified in a profession that prides itself on stoicism and bravado. Many fear admitting psychiatric problems could be fatal to their careers, so they suffer in silence.


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WORD ON THE STREET

"How much does your vote count in the ASI elections?"

Compiled and photographed by Donovan Ard

"Every voice makes a difference — it's definitely important to vote.

— Julia Reid, art and design junior

"I don’t really think it counts for much. Other people’s votes might be more important and passionate about politics.

— Alpna Rodriguez, business freshman

"I think it plays a big part. On the national level, there are so many votes out there it may not make a huge difference, but at this level, there’s an influential impact.

— Ross Majewski, architecture freshman

“Some of our decisions are based on what our superdelegates think. If they think one candidate is better, they’ll support that candidate.

— Brian Kwa, general engineering senior

“Obama gets big welcome in Capitol

Nedra Pickler

Sen. Barack Obama got a front-row welcome on Capitol Hill Thursday, pressing congressional “superdelegates” to support him in a visit to the House in search of bolstering his lagging campaign. He can't go to the floor, but he’s still trying to make sure his backers aren’t distracted.

Obama’s challenge is to persuade the superdelegates, who are not part of the Democratic nomination but are sent to Congress by the parties to choose the nominee, that he is the best person to represent the party and nation in the White House.

Obama’s visit to the Capitol came on the heels of a visit to the Republican National Convention in St. Paul, Minn.

Obama said he expected to win other states.

“Every.Bum wants to win. We’re fighting tooth and nail in the states we have contests remaining, and so in no way am I taking this for granted. We’re going to have to keep on working.”

About a third of the undeclared superdelegates are members of Congress, who is why Obama spent the day away from the campaign trail on Capitol Hill.

“Every voice makes a difference — it’s definitely important to vote.

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"Our goal is going to be to try to be the party together as soon as possible,” Obama said as he walked through the Capitol after his visit to the House and a swarm of reporters pesting to question him. “But we still have contests remaining, and so in no way am I taking this for granted. We’re going to have to keep on working.”

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Movie guide

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<th>cast &amp; crew</th>
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<tr>
<td>Baby Mama (PG-13)</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Tina Fey, Amy Poehler, Greg Kinnear, Dave Sheridan, 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 dynamic, 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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed (PG)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Ben Stein, Jason Collett; directed by Nathan Frankowski</td>
<td>Summary: In this documentary Ben Stein travels the world in search of scientists and scholars being discriminated against for their lack of faith in Darwinism, revealing the misfortunes they encounter. 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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Forbidden Kingdom (PG-13)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Jet Li, Jackie Chan, Michael Angarano, Collin Chou, Crystal Liu Yi Fei, and Li Bing Bing; directed by Rob Minkoff</td>
<td>Summary: Jason Tripikas 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 age-old genre. The Bad: May not live up to the expectations of kung fu purists. (Metacritic.com)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forgetting Sarah Marshall (R)</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>Jason Segel, Kristen Bell, Mia Kirshen, Bill Hader, Russell Brand, Jonah Hill, Paul Rudd, Liz Cackowski; directed by Nicholas Stoller</td>
<td>Summary: After being dumped by his girlfriend of five-and-a-half years, Peter Bretter (Segel) escapes to Hawaii. But in a sick turn of fate, Sarah (Bell) 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 Eastridge)</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 Guantanamo 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. (Gina Magnoli)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iron Man (PG-13)</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>Robert Downey Jr., Terrence Howard, Jeff Bridges, Gwyneth Paltrow, Leslie Bibb, Shaun Taub, Faran Tahir; directed by Jon Favreau</td>
<td>Summary: Robert Downey Jr. portrays Tony Stark, a brilliant head of a large weapons company who creates a suit of metal to get out of the desert after being taken hostage. Gwyneth Paltrow plays hisassy assistant. The Good: The acting and special effects are stellar. The Bad: The plot lacks much forward movement. (Christina Casal)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Made of Honor (PG-13)</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Patrick Dempsey, Michelle Monaghan, Kevin McKidd, Kathleen Quinlan, Sydney Pollack; directed by Paul Weiland</td>
<td>Summary: Tom and Hannah have been best friends since an awkward college encounter. Ten years later, Tom realizes he's in love with Hannah when she leaves for Scotland—and returns engaged. The Good: Full of cliches and very predictable. Plus, Dempsey plays a very convincing man's man. (Kristen Marschall)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Bell (R)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Chiwetel Ejiofor, Naomie Harris, Kofi Siriboe, Andrew Carter, James Thiéry, David Oyelowo, Robert Pattinson; directed by David Mamet</td>
<td>Summary: Set in the fight and crime-ridden world of L.A.'s west side. Mike Terry is a jitsu teacher who avoids the prizefighting circuit for years but must now enter the ring to pay off debts and regain his honor. The Good: Ejiofor shines, bringing his calm magnetism and beatific serenity to the big screen. The Bad: Unveiling at the end isn't a simple thing, the film leaves many questions unanswered. (Metacritic.com)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shine a Light (Pu-13)</td>
<td>B+</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-documented film of any band to date. The Bad: All about the Rolling Stones. If you don't like them, you won't like this film. (Metacritic.com)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speed Racer (PG)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Emile Hirsch, Christina Ricci, JoJo, Kevin McHale, Kristen Connolly, Walt Goggins, Frank Gehry; directed by Andy and Larry Wachowski</td>
<td>Summary: A natural behind the wheel, Speed Racer turns down an offer to join Royalton Industries, which wants to increase its profits. He participates in the racing world's pinnacle event against stiff competition. The Good: At its best, the film is buoyant pop entertainment focused on speed, racing and cool colors. The Bad: A so-so storyline with minimal character development. (Metacritic.com)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Visitor (PG-13)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Richard Jenkins, Oliver Bokelberg, Hiam Abbass, Maggie Moore; directed by Thomas McCarthy</td>
<td>Summary: The film follows Walter Vale, a disillusioned Connecticut econ professor, as he is transformed by a chance encounter and newfound connections in New York City. The Good: The film moves more or less where you think it will, but still manages to surprise. The Bad: Avoid to take a political stand, the film seems to avoid hard-hitting questions. (Metacritic.com)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What Happens in Vegas (PG-13) (99 min.)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Cameron Diaz, Ashton Kutcher, Rob Corddry, Treat Williams, Dennis Farina; directed by Tom Vaughan</td>
<td>Summary: After a rowdy weekend in Las Vegas, strangers Jack Fuller (Kutcher) and Jo McInally (Diaz) find themselves hitched, then must try to survive six months of &quot;wedding bliss&quot; to keep their Vegas earnings. The Good: An exceedingly bright comedy with smart lines and superb comic acting. The Bad: The stars lack the classic starring but meant-for-each-other mentality. (Metacritic.com)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Year My Parents Went on Vacation (PG)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Michael Joesias, Daniela Pieszysz, 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 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>
<tr>
<td>Young@Heart (PG)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>The Young@Heart vocal group; directed by Stephen Walker</td>
<td>Summary: A documentary tracking the progress of the Young@Heart vocal group, comprised of elderly men and women who sing covers of songs by Bob Dylan, The Clash and others, as they prepare for a major gig. The Good: An enjoyable film with a built-in cute factor (70 and 80-somethings singing good music...). The Bad: Some claim it &quot;reeks of commercial calculation;' lack a grit of the group it follows. (RottenTomatoes.com)</td>
</tr>
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</table>

FRIDAY SHOWTIMES

**Fremont Theatre**

- **Speed Racer (PG)** 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30
- Forgetting Sarah Marshall 2:10, 4:45, 7:15, 10:00
- Harold & Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay 2:25, 4:50, 7:10, 9:45
- The Forbidden Kingdom 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:55

- **Downtown Centre Cinema**
- **Iron Man (PG-13)** 3:00, 4:15, 5:45, 7:15, 9:00, 10:15
- **What Happens In Vegas (PG-13)** 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
- **Made of Honor (PG)** 10:20, 3:45, 6:30, 9:45
- **Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed (PG)** 1:45, 4:45, 7:45, 10:30
- **Red Bell (R)** 2:50, 5:20, 8:00, 10:30
- **Baby Mama (PG-13)** 2:45, 5:15, 7:50, 10:20
- **Sunset Drive-In**
- **Iron Man (PG-13)** 8:00
- **Drillbit Taylor** 10:20

**Palm Theatre**

- **Shine a Life**
- **6:45, 9:15**
- **The Visitor**
- **4:15, 7:00, 9:15**
- **The Year My Parents Went on Vacation**
- **4:15**
- **Young@Heart**
- **4:15, 7:00, 9:15**

(METACRITIC.COM)
Starring Robert Downey Jr., "Iron Man" proves to be visually stunning but lacks full character development and any sort of resolution.

Christina Casci
MUSTANG DAILY

Superhero movies tend to either impress their audiences or let them down completely. Too much technology or far-fetched plot lines are the factors that make comic book creations Hop in theaters. Then there are those movies that get all the hype, the recently released "Iron Man" being one of them. It has dazzled audiences nationwide, but does it really deserve it?

Robert Downey Jr. plays child prodigy Tony Stark, who has taken over his father's multimillion-dollar weapons company. When visiting a Middle Eastern country to promote a new powerful weapon, his car blows up. To save him, a doctor must put a magnetic device in his chest to keep the shrapnel from his heart. He creates a metal suit to escape the cave the Middle Eastern extremists are keeping him in.

To be completely honest, Downey Jr. has come out of nowhere and played a riveting role. The character is complicated and simple at the same time. He seems like one of those cocky businessmen who gets whatever he wants, but proves he actually cares about important issues later in the movie. He is smoking hot with a phenomenal body, and he's 43 years old.

Downey Jr.'s co-star is Stark's funny and sassy red-headed assistant Pepper Potts, played by Gwyneth Paltrow. I don't know where Paltrow has been, but thank you "Iron Man" casters for bringing her back. She does an awesome and impressive job in the role.

The plot is what lacked in the end. It started off pretty good with the character development, but once the story got to the cave, it started to get slow. It's not that it dragged, it just didn't move forward. The whole movie seemed to be character development with one really cool battle scene at the end.

Those who have read the comic book say that it stayed true to the story, and that's why it went slowly. Another argument for its static nature is that it was setting up for a sequel, which is why they are superior. The latter argument is just confusing. Just because there is going to be a sequel does not mean there can't be an ending. The movie needed some closure — the main aspect "Iron Man" was missing.

The cinematography was impressive, and the special effects were super. There are a few scenes that keep viewers on the edge of their seats. All of the technology is super advanced, and every boy in the audience probably wanted to steal it.

In general, the movie was entertaining. There were cool objects being built and relationships forming, but when it started to get near the end, it was a bit lacking. If the characters had some forward movement in their relationship, it would have been satisfactory, but there was almost none. Plus, the last line Stark says kind of ruins the superhero thing.

However, the stellar casting and eye-catching graphics overshadowed the lack of momentum the plot offered, creating a superhero movie that's not necessarily great but is still one of the better ones to come out of Hollywood.

CORRECTIONS

The Mustang Daily staff takes pride in publishing a daily newspaper for the Cal Poly campus and the neighboring community. We appreciate your readership and are thankful for your careful reading. Please send your correction suggestions to mustangdaily@gmail.com.

- An article in Thursday's arts section incorrectly reported in the subhead that the Cal Poly Symphony and the San Luis Obispo Youth Symphony would be performing together in a concert Thursday night.
- The concert will actually take place tonight at the Christopher Cohan Center.
Elizabeth Berg’s “The Day I Ate Whatever I Wanted” is a collection of short stories that manage to explore the complexities of weight and self-perception while still remaining light-hearted and fun.

The book begins with the nameless narrator arriving at a Weight Watchers meeting, only to find a blind woman and a thin, elderly woman who could barely walk — both with “no visible blubber” — weighing and critiquing themselves. The main character thought it was too ridiculous to witness and decided to take the day off from her weight-loss regimen, opting instead to eat anything and everything she wanted. She started at Dunkin’ Donuts, ordering her coffee with heavy cream.

The book would be clearer if the original title was kept: “The Day I Ate Whatever I Fucking Wanted.” However, Berg’s characters speak their minds and commit their own little acts of defiance nonetheless.

For instance, the main character in the title story commented in detail about the woman behind the counter at Dunkin’ Donuts being fat. “Anyway, Sigrid’s fat looked good, truly. Every now and then you see a person who wears fat well,” the character explained. “It is that tight fat and just really looks kind of delicious, and also their attitude is just great, like in your face: I’m fat, so fucking what? Get over your sanctimonious self.”

The bravado it takes to confess these little observations makes the stories entertaining. Berg’s style is light, comfortable and conversational, and she manages to portray the lives of women from pre-teens worried about breasts and bras to elderly women wistful about teenage loves.

Berg is an award-winning author and has been on The New York Times best-sellers list multiple times. Even more to her credit, she has met Oprah three times. Oprah even chose Berg’s novel “Open House” in 2000 as a selection for Oprah’s Book Club.

While packed with themes of weight, children, love and growing up, “The Day I Ate Whatever I Wanted” manages to stay light-hearted and fun. Berg explained that she likes the easy-to-read format of short stories that allows a busy reader to feel like they actually finished something without too much effort. But don’t be deceived by the casual style because the language is loaded, its underside exposing subtle critiques about everyday life.
Raising environmental awareness: the time is ripe

By Mulltun Daily editorial board

More than ever, the time is ripe — ripe for the campus community of Cal Poly to promote the environmental stewardship, protection, enhancement and sustaiinability of our natural resources of Poly Canyon and Brizzolara Creek, as suggested in Cal Poly's Master Plan 2003.

The time is ripe for several reasons:

First, Cal Poly has a great opportunity with Poly Canyon Village (PCV) coming into fruition fall 2008. PCV is a student housing project with 2,700 apartment spaces for students, and is situated on the banks of Brizzolara Creek north of Poly Canyon. Will the new village increase human interaction with Brizzolara Creek? The answer is inherently yes. Conversely, these students will walk Brizzolara Creek every trip to campus and back, and although we may recognize there will be an increase in human interaction with the creek, we fail to recognize “how will the students interact with the creek?” Determining how Cal Poly wants to promote student interaction with Brizzolara Creek is the BIG question.

So how do we want students to interact with the creek? The creek’s accessibility and proximity poses a great opportunity in providing an aesthetically valuable environment for students and campus community members to enjoy intrinsically, recreationally, as a wildlife habitat and as a “living laboratory” learning facility. On the flip side, 2,700 students interacting with the creek poses a potential threat by raising exposure to unprecedented numbers. Will they interact with the creek in a fashion that could detract from the aesthetic value or the wildlife habitat? The failure to instate a program to guide the desired outcome decided by Cal Poly could lead to the degradation of one of the valuable “living laboratory” resources Cal Poly prides itself on.

Secondly, it would behoove us to provide a polytechnic university to provide the student community not only a living experience, but an educational experience away from the classroom. We can provide a living environment that is healthy and beautiful, a place to study and walk trails, a place where they are provided opportunities to understand their local environment in a way that empowers them to take personal responsibility.

We can also provide a responsibility for some­thing greater than themselves, an ecosystem they never knew existed, an ecosystem they never understood how they and their peers affect, an ecosystem that relies heavily on the protection of us, and society. To provide these opportunities would allow growth in understanding that they are a small but integral part to the health of the local environment.

Lastly, there is interest in the environment has prompted a flood of student groups, faculty and Cal Poly administrators to become more environmentally conscientious in several ways. To help boot these ef­fors, a program should be drafted to promote the master plan guidelines in order to fulfill the need for Cal Poly to lead the charge in preparing students to make informed decisions regarding our environment, how we interact with it, and how we can preserve it. Environmental philoso­pher Andrew Light suggests our relationship to nature is shaped locally. As our generation inherits a world of pollution damage, resource deple­tion and an ever-growing population, the way we face these issues is de­pendent on how well-educated we are. How well do we know our local environment? Poly Canyon Village provides a great chance to educate students who will be living in a natural resource rich area. Will we take advantage of this educational outreach opportunity?

In an effort to bolster positive interaction between the campus community and Brizzolara Creek, Cal Poly’s first annual Creek Day will be held May 15. Cal Poly Creek Day provides a forum for faculty and student participation in environmental restoration and rehabilitation projects.

Kevin Waldlous is city and regional planning senior and a guest columnist for the Green Spot.

As stated in the “Make-Out and Peace Out” article a few weeks ago, “In a college environment the sexes are naturally being thrown into a non-educational act that carries little thought of what happens the next morning,” and I agree. I also think it extends further to actually dating someone, whether or not “l CIVILIZED” is involved. It seems that the dating world has become a free­for-all in which one or both partners are likely to come down with a case of what I affectionately call “Sudden Asshole Syndrome,” a plague of sorts that seems to be sweeping the current generation.

This new dimension surrounding mis­communication seems to be a growing phenomenon, one that I will henceforward refer to as S.A.S. Just didn’t seem to cut it. This syndrome, as the name implies, occurs suddenly and with­out cause, when someone we date just seems to drop off the face of the earth. I mean, come on! At least have the decency to say, “I’m sorry, it’s just not working out.” I was run over by a tractor and broke all the bones in my body, and don’t want you to see me in this state.

Instead, men, and (admittedly, some women) just seem to disappear without a trace, like they never existed (although the pictures may prove otherwise). For example, a close friend of mine dated a guy for a little more than a month. She was really into him, and said “exclusive” only once. Then, one night, my friend called say guy hung out, as per routine (they hung out on dates two or three times per week), and he never responded. After hearing nothing for two weeks, she sent her a cowardly and ridiculous text message that read something to the effect of “Sorry I haven’t gone back to you because with finals I’ve been really unaware that finals at Cal Poly lasted for two weeks and left no time for a text or phone call — my mistake.” After responding in a courte­ous fashion, she literally never heard from him again.

OK, you think, so it was one instance. Surely this isn’t some sort of epidemic. Witness Exhibit B: I recently dated a guy for almost two months. Things were going fine. We saw each other a lot, did something every time Poly Royal weekend and he acted really odd, as in “a what are you doing here on the campus you attend?” kind of odd, and I didn’t hear from him for several days afterward. I called him, merely wondering what was up, and he brushed me off, saying he would call back later (mind you, he had always kept his word every time before). That was a couple of weeks ago.

In my mind, this boy took his leg off his legs and ran for the border of S.A.D. ville. I was positively befuddled that he had just canned our relationship (I really wasn’t sure, but by the third day that’s what I was and/or called). Well, fine. I’m a big girl. I can handle something like that. The relationship had “ended” (and by “ended,” I meant it didn’t really had I to make my own closure by writing this article). Thus, I would like to bring to attention the potentially idiotic and cowardly problem of Sudden Asshole Syndrome: … daters beware!

Don’t try to play it cool. And to those suffering from Sudden Asshole Syndrome: Grow a pair and have the courage to tell some­one you want to see them again. If you think you’re letting women off easy by being non-confrontational, you’re wrong. Oh, and P.S., if you think you’ll never account for your ac­tions, think again. For instance, the guy that my friend was dating? Well, let’s just say that in­hall runs are long over and unerannous. Still not convinced? The guy I was dating is going into a field that requires attention at a certain age. Here’s the real good news: I stepped call­ing, which much, as I mistakenly took to mean he was busy. However, I ran into him a couple of times during Poly Royal weekend and he act­ed really odd, as in “a what are you doing here on the campus you attend?” kind of odd, and I didn’t hear from him for several days afterward. I called him, merely wondering what was up, and he brushed me off, saying he would call back later (mind you, he had always kept his word before). That was a couple of weeks ago.

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Think about the young mothers this Mother’s Day

Mother’s Day is different this year. For me, the Hallmark holiday used to be about going home to have brunch with my mom, or at least sending her a card.

I used to see motherhood as this distant thing, something that was a way off for my friends and me.

On Sept. 5, 2007, one of my best friends back home gave birth — at 19 years old — to a baby boy and Mother’s Day will never be the same.

Kayla’s pregnancy wasn’t typical. On the first day of her sophomore year in college, she found out she was pregnant. When she went to her family’s physician for a second opinion, she was told that she was pregnant.

Kayla had no signs of being pregnant other than gaining weight in her mid-section. When she saw her mid-section, she knew something was wrong.

She moved home — boyfriend and baby in tow — finished the semester and carried on with her college career, plus one.

Kayla’s story is by all means bizarre, but college-aged mothers are not very uncommon. We have at least one here at Cal Poly.

It seems that society still ostracizes teenage or young mothers, assuming they promiscuous or irresponsible. However, it’s not 1952; there really is no scandal to be had and it’s not much of a secret that college students have sex.

The reality is that romance happens, condoms break, birth control fails and babies are born. Whether it be in a delivery room or a dormitory bathroom — it happens and it just could as easily happen to you.

Kayla doesn’t fit the stereotype of teen mothers. In high school, she was a straight-A honor student, three-sport athlete and a homecoming queen nominee. She’s been with her boyfriend since 10th grade, and worked part-time while majoring in engineering during her freshman year. If anything, becoming a teen mother has made her resume more impressive.

There is no college course that teaches how to be a good parent, but if there were, my buddy would have aced it.

Being a full-time student is difficult within itself. Kayla’s studying is now interfaced with diapers, bottles, tears and teething. How many “Poly dollsies” can imagine that?

College life isn’t exactly conducive to being a mom or dad. Aside from day care services offered on campus, having a child and deciding to raise it comes with a lot of sacrifice. Parties and Pampers don’t exactly go hand in hand.

Kayla and her boyfriend have embraced parenthood as that boys embrace naïve freshmen. When I’ve gone home to visit, I’m in awe of her as she is two years younger than me and handling more that I could ever imagine.

When I complain about being tired from studying or partying I think to myself, “Bridge, you don’t even know what tired is.”

The judgmental looks my friend receives when she runs errands with her son irritate me. I wish people could see how well she’s done and how hard she works.

In all honesty, she deserves a round of applause, not a dirty look.

For most students, having a baby in college isn’t ideal, but it isn’t the end of the world.

So this Mother’s Day, when you’re out to brunch with your mom or putting the stamp on her card, acknowledge and appreciate the fact that some of your peers are parents, and someday that you might be too.

And to the young woman that gave birth on campus, know that wherever you are, you are not alone.

Happy Mother’s Day.

Budget Vitriis is a journalism junior and a guest columnist for the Mustang Daily.

From my understanding, with current agricultural practices (i.e. even with biofuel production), there is enough food produced globally to feed the world’s population (6.8 billion give or take) more than 2,400 calories per day. I can agree with you on the detrimental impacts of corn production and its chemical runoff, and I agree that ethanol production from corn isn’t the most environmentally sound idea. I think you are wrong, however, in criticizing politicians of a particular party when nearly all U.S. politicians, both left and right, as well as American consumers (like you Miss Chiappe) are key components in the dysfunctional system of global food distribution and resource allocation that is fueling world hunger and regional food shortages.

— J

Response to "Look who’s eating now"

I — agree with you. We are all most definitely responsible. It is quite frustrating, however, when politicians state the obvious about this problem and simply saying that nothing is being done about it. I’m glad that there at least is discussion occurring, but if there are certain politicians now out recognizing the negative impacts of it to the media, they should also be doing something about it. Also, part of my point in mentioning politicians at all is that many environmental groups and politicians of certain parties were heard about post-biofuel, and now we are seeing the repercussions. However, it seems that all politicians got on board with it because ethanol has universal appeal. I encourage you to read another article from the Associated Press on the matter at http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/E/ETHANOL_FOOD/ODDSITE=NMAIL&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT. My article was about the shortage that IS occurring in supermarkets to the consumers globally, and the ties that biofuel production has to that shortage. Your point brings up another great discussion — if there is enough to feed the world, why is even our own country experiencing food rationing? There is a wheat shortage, however as far as other crops go. One example is in a recent article written by a Canadian news source. The Star, addressing the fact that some of Canada’s farmers are paid to cut down fruit trees and destroy swine basically to ensure that they don’t get sold. Government officials are making it more beneficial financially for farmers to destroy their crops than to sell them. Check out www.thestar.com/Canada/Columnist/article/418590.

— Christina Chiappe

Response to "Look who’s eating now"

What a waste of a term. So he brought us Starbucks? Please.

— Evident

Response to "A platform in progress"

LETTERS

TO THE EDITOR

Shawn Cooper ... a man?

I was sitting on the throne and reading the guide of the 2008-2009 ASI Board of Directors. I thought I was reading valuable information until I stumbled upon an article about my good friend, Shawn Cooper.

Shawn Cooper is a very sweet girl; that’s right, he is actually a she. I was very displeased to see that Shawn was referred to as a male. I think a little more research should have been done on your end.

The fact that it seems like whoever it was at the Daily actually spoke to Shawn in person was the icing on the cake. This is yet another prime example of the first-class effort being performed at the Mustang Daily.

Alex Holland

BRAE major

EDITOR’S NOTE: The Mustang Daily apologizes for this grievous mistake. A correction has been issued on page 2 of this issue of the paper.
I WANT YOU TO TELL ME YOU LOVE ME EVERY DAY
I LOVE YOU. I LOVE YOU. I LOVE YOU. I LOVE YOU.
THERE, THAT'S A WHOLE WEEK'S WORTH
I THINK YOU'RE MISING THE POINT

Girls & Sports by Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein

Be Our GUEST!
The Mustang Daily* is now accepting guest commentaries
Submit an article, limited to 550 words, by e-mail to mustangdaily@gmail.com. Subject: Guest Commentary.

*Editors reserve the right to edit for grammar, proficiency and length.
Diaz lifts Braves over Padres in ninth inning

ATLANTA — The Braves finally won a one-run game when Matt Diaz hit a bases-loaded single in the ninth inning.

Atlanta, which beat San Diego 5-4, was the first team since the 2000 Houston Astros to lose in first nine-run one games. The Braves were the only team to lose a major league game without a run being scored.

Atlanta (18-15), which trailed 4-1 after five innings, has won six straight games.

The Padres (12-23), who lost their fourth straight, committed three errors that led to four unearned runs. Joe Thatcher (6-4) was charged with the loss.

Maury Acosta (1-1) recorded one out to get the win. — Associated Press

Giants continued from page 12

hit. 174 in April, then lined a single to right just past the outer-stretched arm of a leaping Eugenio Velez.

"I'm just kind of getting to where I'm confident against left-handers again," said Lohse, who has six

This year, the top-seeded Gauchos have been the Mustangs' biggest rival, said senior defender and

"We're a good team, but we're not the best," Chandor also voiced confidence in the Mustangs' chances.

"They have always been a rival over the years, but in the past, we've beaten them when it counts at

Chandler said the Mustangs' strategy will remain much the same throughout the tournament.

"We just like to play our style no matter the opponent because we know that we can beat them," she

"Our zone defense is really strong because no other team plays

The Mustangs-Gauchos 2:30 p.m. match-up will take on the winner of the first semifinal, played two hours earlier between No. 2 seed Colorado State and No. 3 seed Cal Poly. Saturday's championship

Help Wanted

Summer Kids' Camp

The City of Morro Bay is hiring Counselors for their Kids' Summer Camp program. This is a part-time position, 20-40 hr/ wk, beginning June 16th and running through August 15th. $8.76-9.12/hr. Staff is expected to work a minimum of 30 hours per week.

For more information, contact Navid Saidnia at (510)856-7486. www.mustangdaily.net/classifieds

SPORTS

Lacrosse continued from page 12

The Padres (12-23), who lost their fourth straight, committed three errors that led to four unearned runs. Joe Thatcher (6-4) was charged with the loss.

Maury Acosta (1-1) recorded one out to get the win.

"I'm confident against left-handers again," said Lohse, who has six hitting streak but was hitting

I Diaz hit a bases-loaded single in the ninth inning.

Sanchez had three hits and scored

the loss.

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Sanchez had three hits and scored
LaRoche single propels Pirates to sweep of Giants

**ASSOCIATED PRESS**

PITTSBURGH — San Francisco was fading in its latest loss to the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Adam LaRoche hit a go-ahead single in a three-run seventh inning, and the Pirates rallied for a 5-4 victory Thursday and a three-game sweep.

The rally started when pinch-hitter Nyjer Morgan bunted down the third-base line and was ruled safe at first by umpire Ron Kulpa for a single.

Replays appeared to show Morgan did not beat the throw.

"I had a great view of it and there was no doubt in my mind that he was out," Giants manager Bruce Bochy said. "It's a huge call. Instead of getting the first out there, now they have a rally going."

The Pirates trailed 4-2 against Matt Cain (1-3) when Morgan — who was optioned to Triple-A after the game — reached against Matt Cain (1-3).

"When we watched the replay, it looked like he was out to us," Cain said.

Freddy Sanchez, 7-for-13 after being moved to the leadoff slot for the first time this week, followed with a ground-rule double and Nate McLouth optioned to Triple-A after the game — reached against Matt Cain (1-3).

"When we watched the replay, it looked like he was out to us," Cain said.

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