

Generation: Technology



Mustang

July 19 - July 25, 2001

The downside of MP3 use untouched by Napster's fall

By Kat DeBakker

SUMMER MUSTANG STAFF WRITER

Like many students living in the dorms, computer science freshman and Sierra Madre resident Sean Rees used Napster every day until court orders left it on shaky ground. However, Napster's demise did not mean the end of music downloading for Rees.

"Now I use Gnutella every day," he said.

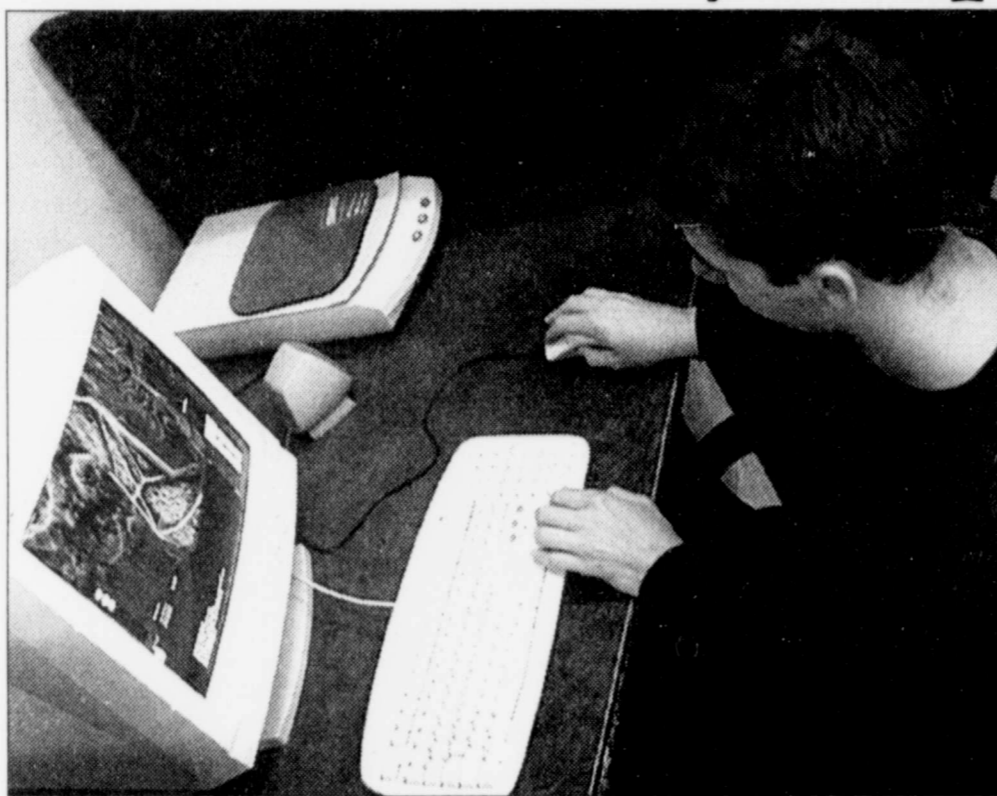
Rees' situation has not gone unnoticed by Cal Poly network administrators, who have recently installed a new reservation system to help cope with the increased network traffic.

"We had been getting a great deal of traffic going from the dorms late at night, at a time when most students were not traditionally doing academically related activities," said Jerry Hanley, Information Technology Services Chief Information Officer.

"We could tell that most of the traffic was going out onto the net from campus," Hanley said. "We can tell which direction the traffic is going and whether it is coming from the library or the dorms."

When the traffic gets heavy to a certain point, network administrators are forced to cut down the amount of bandwidth available to students in order to reserve capacity, which is done by installing a reservation system, Hanley said. He described the network as a pipe through which information flows, and the reservation system as a way to close off part of the pipe, limiting how much traffic flows through.

"We still have it, and we plan to modify it with more sophisticated equipment in the fall to make it more



CRYSTAL MYERS/SUMMER MUSTANG

A new trend of Internet cafes, such as World Cafe in San Luis Obispo, provide users, who don't have their own equipment at home, with fast and easy ways to download music and create their own CDs.

"Napster ... created such a problem for networks that use of the program was banned at 34 percent of U.S. colleges and universities."

Industry Standard

flexible," Hanley said.

An article from the Industry Standard reported that Napster had created such a problem for networks that use of the program was banned at 34 percent of U.S. colleges and universities. However, Hanley insisted that the network administrators do not monitor actual content messages.

"We are really careful not to accuse the students of being Napster users," Hanley said. "The legality of Napster was kind of a gray area for a long time, so we actually counseled

people not to go around and blame students. Unless it's an unusual or critical issue, we don't interpret the message — we just watch what it does to our traffic. It's a content agnostic approach; we only observed the patterns."

Hanley said he hasn't noticed the traffic decreasing after the lawsuit and Napster's decline.

"The Napster traffic has helped us learn about ways to handle new traffic in the future," he said. "It hasn't been an entirely bad thing."

According to a news article from

Excite, Napster shut down last week to fix glitches related to its newest upgrade, which was designed to prevent copyrighted material from being downloaded. According to the article, Napster users have long since moved on to other programs such as WinMX, LimeWire, BearShare and Audiogalaxy.

"I might download the new version (of Napster) just to see how it is," said David McFadyen, a mechanical engineering freshman and dorm resident. "I usually like to download concerts and recordings where the legality really isn't an issue."

An Associated Press article reported that Napster plans to begin a subscription service some time this summer although details were unavailable at press time.

"If Napster were to return with a subscription service that offered the same level of download quality that it used to, I would gladly pay," Rees said. "But I've heard that you won't be able to burn (the songs) to CD."

Napster was started in May 1999 by Shawn Fanning, a student at Boston's Northeastern University. Napster faced its first lawsuit in December of the same year, brought on by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA). In May 2000, heavy metal band Metallica asked Napster to block users from downloading their songs. A judge ruled in favor of the RIAA in July 2000, ordering Napster to shut down. However, an appeals court issued a stay that kept Napster running. On Feb. 12, 2001, the court issued its opinion that Napster violates copyright law. Napster's Web site stated that it is now in the process of creating upgrades to "comply with the court's orders."

E-mails; unsafe for users' privacy

By Jason Brennan

SUMMER MUSTANG STAFF WRITER

Society has reached a point where postal services has almost become extinct and e-mail have become the most common form of correspondence. For most, it is a safe, convenient, and private means of communication. But specialists have said, e-mail accounts can be invaded either by viruses or by hackers who break the privacy of others.

These attackers can be filtered out by certain anti-virus software, said Chris Rendon, Computer Technician Engineer for Verio.com and former Cal Poly student. "Most universities run their students e-mail accounts through web mail, which is pretty safe and a huge convenience for students."

This system works for viruses sent via e-mail, but it cannot stop a possible "hacker" from manipulating the system and receiving access to someone's e-mails.

"There are no real programs to prevent hackers," said Rendon. "People create anti-virus software so in turn people can also break through this software. The best way to prevent (hackers) is to basically know where your e-mail attachments are coming from. Do not open a document that is sent from an unknown person."

Markus Wherman, a Cal Poly senior has experienced faulty e-mails through his Cal Poly account in the past.

"A couple of years ago I had an attached message that I opened," said Wherman. "I opened it and it turned out to be a virus. This sort of threw the whole system off."

According to Open Mail's official Web site, one way to prevent break-ins while using Cal Poly mail is by not saving the client's password within Messenger.

"If a user chooses to configure Messenger to save their password, there is a security risk that (it) can be decoded The problem effects all versions of Netscape," according to the Web site.

In general, experts said encrypting or signing messages, using software programs such as GnuPG, is the best way to reduce outside access to private information. And according to information recently released by the European Parliament committee, formed by members of the European Union, privacy is being threatened by more than just isolated hackers.

According to the committee report, Echelon, an electronic intelligence system run by the United States, Britain, Australia and New Zealand, has the capability of eavesdropping on all e-mails, faxes and telephone calls made around the world.

"In reality it is likely to be rather more limited in its capabilities," the report said. "But accusations made within Europe suggest that it exists mainly to monitor personal and business communications and that it has been used to spy on European companies."

In turn, the European Parliament committee urged users to encrypt all routine communications for protection.

But encrypting can also open up problems. While it provides privacy and proof that e-mails haven't been tampered with, encrypted e-mails cannot be checked for content and the user could be sending viruses or offensive files.

CSU's new PeopleSoft isn't user friendly

By Anne Guilford

SUMMER MUSTANG STAFF WRITER

This summer Cal Poly has converted to a new on-line Human Resources and Financial system, along with 10 other California State University campuses. The remaining campuses will convert to the system, referred to as Common Management Systems, by February 2002.

The software system used for CMS is PeopleSoft. The portion of the system that many students are dealing with allows employees to use on-line timecards.

Rosie Gomez, a computer engineering junior and Robert E. Kennedy Library Circulation desk assistant, said she isn't very impressed with the new system.

One of her problems is she has multiple jobs on campus that add up to more than 40 hours a week. The software system won't let her sign-in for that many hours despite the fact that they are for different jobs. She has more than one job because she needs the money. If she is not allowed to work more than 40 hours a week, she may have difficulty paying her bills.

Gomez expressed other concerns about the program.

"I find it disturbing that people can sign-in from home," she said.



CRYSTAL MYERS/SUMMER MUSTANG

On Wednesday, Karen Stubberfield and others take part in a lab to learn the ropes of the CSU's new PeopleSoft software.

"We gain efficiencies in some places. But (we) have lost efficiencies in other places."

Karen Stubberfield

Cal Poly Institutional Information Analyst

"Other programs allow people to do it only from one location."

Gomez said that this may tempt students to sign-in for hours that they weren't actually at work for.

But Karen Stubberfield, the Cal Poly Institutional Information Analyst, said she thinks that the on-

line sign-in is an asset. Students and their supervisors can access the system using their social security number and Cal Poly PIN number, much like POWER, the on-line class registration system. The Web site is located at www.studentpay.calpoly.edu.

Stubberfield said that she does not

think hacking will be a problem because "we have a very secure infrastructure."

According to www.cms.calpoly.edu, the systems Cal Poly previously was using for Human Resource Management, Financial and Student Administration were out of date and vendor support for the system was diminishing. But this is not the main reason for the adoption of the new system.

"The reason that we're changing is that the chancellor's office needed to replace their (Human Resources) system," Stubberfield said.

The move to the new system was caused by a statewide CSU initiative. All campuses will soon be using the "CSU baseline" version of the PeopleSoft modules," according to the Web site.

According to another Web site, www.cms.calstate.edu, CSUs will be using PeopleSoft version 8.0, which is the newest version available. Since the system is so new, no one is quite sure what the benefits or drawbacks will be.

"We gain efficiencies in some places," Stubberfield said.

But they have lost efficiencies in other places.

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technology

Internet service helps UC teachers detect plagiarism

By Robert Salonga

DAILY BRUIN (U. CALIFORNIA-LOS ANGELES)

Several University of California campuses have embraced software developed at UC Berkeley that allows faculty to detect Internet plagiarism.

The most widespread detection software available is www.TurnItIn.com, an Internet service that cross-references the paper in question with other Web sites and papers in its on-line database — which increases in size with each paper submitted. Whereas faculty members used to type a lengthy passage into a search engine to detect suspected cheating, the service can find a case of plagiarism based on a few words.

"We want to put in measures that prevent students from feeling at a disadvantage for not plagiarizing," said Arlene Russell, a senior UCLA lecturer in education, chemistry and biochemistry.

Several UCs have licenses with TurnItIn.com, including Berkeley, Davis, Los Angeles, San Diego and Santa Cruz, all of which are in trial phases. Other national campuses are currently in the contracting process.

According to UC officials, at Davis, plagiarism cases doubled between 1994 and 2000 from 70 to 142, and cases at Berkeley increased between 1999 and 2001 from 32 to 44.

At UC Irvine, there were about 100 cases during the 2000-2001 academic year. Additionally, the percentage of Internet-related plagiarism has been on the rise in recent years.

"I've even seen plagiarism in ethics courses," Russell said.

TurnItIn.com was originally known as Plagiarism.org in 1995. It was created by John Barrie, a doctoral student at UC Berkeley, who found that students were plagiarizing from papers posted on the class Web site.

Barrie created a program that would match papers with those previously submitted, and eventually expanded it to on-line term paper sites, which sell other students' works.

Jeanne Wilson, director of student judicial affairs at Davis, said the huge database of TurnItIn.com makes it less economical for term paper sites to do business, since their material is eventually found by or added to the detection database.

To use TurnItIn.com, students must upload papers directly to the Web site, at which point the papers undergo the detection process. The service then creates an originality report, which highlights instances of possible plagiarism or incorrect citing.

Students can revise their papers for a period of 24 hours following the initial submission. After this point, it is considered a final draft ready for crit-

ical review by the professor, who is the only one with access to the papers.

Before the inception of Web-related detection services, faculty members used their intuition to suspect plagiarism, according to Wayne Creager, a case administrator at UC-Berkeley who handles plagiarism issues for the university.

Professors often looked for unique language and terms that seem out of place.

"If a student doing C-level work suddenly turns in a brilliant A paper, it's an indication that something suspect is possibly going on," Creager said.

Despite the benefits of the service in detecting possible plagiarism, whether or not the student is accused has always rested in the hands of the professor.

"Professors have the final discretion," said Creager. "The service isn't telling us what to do."

Robert Newsome, associate dean of undergraduate education at Irvine, emphasized the service's value as being more preventative than anything else.

"Our goal is not to catch people, but to dissuade students that this is not the right thing to do," Newsome said. "If students are aware that a program is in place, they're much less likely to do it."

Poly Briefs

By Anne Guilford

Hundreds celebrate diversity and pride

Several hundred people showed up Sunday for San Luis Obispo's fifth annual Pride in the Plaza Festival. The festival was sponsored by the Gay and Lesbian Alliance (GALA) of the Central Coast and was held in the Mission Plaza.

It included a petting zoo, bounce house, singing, dancing and impersonations, much like any number of festivals held in the Mission Plaza. Rosemary Coville, president of GALA, said that the effect was intentional because they wanted to give homosexuals the opportunity to celebrate their pride and diversity while allowing the community to join in the festivities and better understand those in the homosexual community.

Organizers of the event said that attendance was up from last year's festival, and observers noted that there were a number of families and children present.

Doug Heumann, former president of GALA, said that while organizing the first festival in 1997 he was worried about approaching the church for permission to use the plaza for the event. But Heumann said that the church didn't hesitate in welcoming the idea.

New technology detects phone lies

There will soon be a new, high-tech way to detect liars over the telephone. It's creator is Cal Poly student Tim Cutting, who is currently working on a master's degree in business administration.

The service uses voice stress analysis and gives users instant results of the tests on computer screens. There is some dispute from polygraph examiners who say that voice stress is not a very good indicator of deception. But the product comes with a disclaimer that says that people should not make decisions based solely on the product. Cutting is also working on an on-line product that would do the same thing for users who have computers with telephone capabilities.

Cutting has had 500 potential customers sign-up over his web-site, www.nondeceptions.com. Subscribers pay \$5 a month and those who wish to use it less regularly can pay a couple dollars per usage. He plans on marketing the product to high school and college students to help them get better "reading" on people.

An Israeli firm is already in negotiations with Cutting. The firm manufactures a lie-detecting software program that is intended for Internet use.

The project is being developed through the Sun Campus Incubator Program at Cal Poly which was furnished by Sun Microsystems.

National

U.S. tests missile defense

The Pentagon launched a missile defense system test from Vandenberg Air Force Base on Saturday. The rocket payloads collided over the Pacific Ocean at a combined speed of 16,000 mph.

The test was viewed as successful, but it was acknowledged by some officials that there is still a lot of work to do before the missile defense system is reliable. The Pentagon plans on running between six and 12 tests per year. The next one has been scheduled for October. Two previous tests were not successful. Tests cost \$100 million each.

This will be possible only if Congress approves of an \$8.3 billion infusion from President Bush's first defense budget request.

The Bush administration may push to open a limited missile defense base in Alaska by 2005.

Other missile defense weapons under development include airborne lasers, space-based lasers and ship-borne interceptor rockets.

Some are worried that the defense system threatens international nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation treaties. The Russians view the system as a threat, but Bush said that the system is only effective against countries like North Korea, Iran and Iraq that are trying to develop small missile arsenals, and would be useless against countries like Russia that have thousands of nuclear warheads.

Critics said that this may begin another arms race between the United States and Russia. The Bush administration's warning that it may reject the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty, which restricts the development of missile defenses, may compound the situation. Bush and President Vladimir Putin of Russia are expected to discuss the missile defense system next Sunday at the G-8 summit of industrialized nations in Genoa, Italy.

The target rocket was carrying one dummy warhead and one inflatable decoy. Later tests will be more difficult because they will use more decoys. The interceptor was launched 4,800 miles southwest from the base in the Kwajalein Atoll.

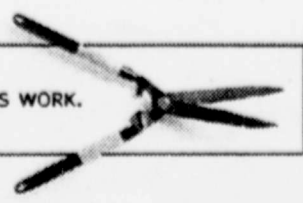
On Sunday, 16 Greenpeace activists were held in custody at Vandenberg due to a suspicion of domestic terrorism, which followed an attempt to halt the defense system test. There were 18 total arrests and they caused a two-minute delay to the launch. Carol Gregory, a Greenpeace spokeswoman, said that they are trying to put an end to Star Wars.

HOW TO BE A BETTER NEIGHBOR — STEP #1:

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SLO Mozart Festival adds modern flavor to traditional music line-up

By Erica Tower

SUMMER MUSTANG ARTS AND FEATURES EDITOR

A 31-year-old Central Coast tradition breaks new ground Friday when the San Luis Obispo Mozart Festival begins its 17-day concert series that will showcase an eclectic mix of musical talent that defies its usual line-up. And at a time when Ticketmaster has hiked the price of an average concert ticket to ridiculous proportions, the Mozart Festival, which offers many free and discounted performances to Cal Poly students, could not ring sweeter in the ears of music enthusiasts looking to save a little money during the summer months.

This year's theme, "gentle wind," takes its inspiration from the renowned musical composer who may have had the best feel for wind instruments, but surprisingly never played a wind instrument himself: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. In concordance with the theme, this year's festival does feature many wind musicians, specifically on flutes and horns, but this is not the only style of music the event has to offer.

Diverse musical styles from African and Celtic to classical will all be highlighted throughout the festival, and with the inclusion of a hip-hop violinist and a band that combines jazz with sounds of the Middle East and India, the event puts a twist on the music a traditional Mozart festival would likely offer.

"There's something for everyone," said Cal Poly music professor and festival music director and conductor Clifton Swanson, who helped create the San Luis Obispo Mozart Festival in 1971 with the intention of bringing rich musical tradition to the Central Coast.

"My wife and I played in several music festivals, specifically the Peter Britt Festival in Oregon, before we moved to San Luis

Obispo," Swanson said. "When we arrived here I began talking with friends and colleagues, and we thought that (San Luis Obispo County) would be a great place to start a music festival. Back then, there were three of us on the Cal Poly staff that were a part of the nucleus that formed a board and got the festival started."

Swanson added that he was completely overwhelmed by the success of the first Mozart Festival, which drew an "overflowing crowd." Since then, the festival has grown each year to become the spectacular showcase that it is today.

Festival marketing manager Kelly Crisman said that each year the Mozart Festival draws about 10,000 people with about 25 percent coming from out of town.

"It tends to get a little bigger each year as people discover the great variety of artists the festival has to offer," she said.

Crisman noted that, this year, the festival's organizers were excited to have the group "Ancient Future" performing at the festival for the first time.

Ancient Future will appear in a concert featuring rhythms of Africa, Bali, India and the Middle East at Martin & Weyrich Winery on Aug. 4. The group combines contemporary jazz and improvisation with the traditional melodies of Africa, the Middle East, South America, Asia and Europe, using instruments that cover a wide range of sounds including the scalloped fret-board guitar, North African drumming and Arabic violin.

"Ancient Future is an amazing fusion of cultural sounds all the way from Asia to Russia," Crisman said. "They have performed all over the United States in venues including Carnegie Hall and the Brooklyn Academy of Music's 'Next Wave' festival in New York City."



COURTESY PHOTO/MOZART FESTIVAL

Jazz and hip-hop violinist Miri Ben-Ari, above, is a new performer at the San Luis Obispo Mozart Festival this year. Below, festival music director and Cal Poly music professor Clifton Swanson conducts an orchestra at the festival.

Also new to the festival this year is young jazz and hip-hop violinist Miri Ben-Ari, who has performed with jazz greats Wynton Marsalis and Betty Carter. Marsalis, a nine-time Grammy-winning musician, heads the famous Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra, while Carter, whose talent is compared to that of Ella Fitzgerald and Billie Holiday, is regarded by jazz insiders as the "consummate jazz vocalist of the late 20th century."

"(Ben-Ari) has a unique sound," Crisman said. "She was classically trained, but she has even played alongside (rap) artists such as Wyclef Jean."

Though there is a charge to see the two aforementioned artists, the Mozart Festival offers many free concerts under what is known as "The Fringe Series." This year, the series will highlight five

different musical groups — The Mighty Tubadours, San Francisco Saxophone Quartet, Meliora Winds, Theophilus Brass, and The Elastic Band — that will play at different locations in the county throughout the extent of the festival.

The Mozart Festival goes even further to help college students on a strict budget. This year, Cal Poly students will be able to attend any festival concert performed at the Performing Arts Center (PAC) at a heavily discounted price. Called the "rush" system, students may purchase concert tickets with a valid Cal Poly I.D. at the PAC one half hour before the show begins for only \$7.50.

"It's a great deal because tickets usually run between \$20 and \$45," Crisman said.

Aside from the talent it draws and the low prices it offers, the picturesque settings of many of the festival's performances also explain the festival's enduring appeal. Beyond the PAC, concerts are held at unique venues countywide, including Chapel Hill in Shandon, Mission San Luis Obispo, the Atascadero Lake Pavillion, Martin & Weyrich Winery in Paso Robles and Laetitia Winery in Arroyo Grande.

The San Luis Obispo Mozart Festival is a not-for-profit organization. Each year the event is funded by ticket sales (which account for 40 percent of total revenues), personal and business donations, and grants. For a complete concert schedule please visit www.mozartfestival.com or call 781-3001. Tickets for any performance may be purchased at the PAC Box Office at 756-2787.



COURTESY PHOTO/MOZART FESTIVAL

Cutting-edge animation makes 'fantasy' real

By Kat DeBakker

SUMMER MUSTANG STAFF WRITER

Video game enthusiast or not, "Final Fantasy: The Spirits Within," which is based on the video game with the same name, is worth seeing only for its animation. The film is completely 3-D rendered, and at times the characters seem so lifelike that it's easy to forget that they are not real people.

The film's director, Hironobu Sakaguchi, not surprisingly, is also the director of the entire series of Final Fantasy video games. Sakaguchi also wrote the script along with Americans Al

Reinert ("Apollo 13") and Jeff

Vintar. The movie was designed with a U.S. release in

mind, according to the Gaming Intelligence Agency (GIA); therefore, the voices are in English and must be dubbed for Japanese release.

The movie does not feature any characters from previous games, according to the GIA, and has a completely original story line.

The story takes place sometime in the future after alien phantoms have taken over the earth. There are a lot of explosions and a lot of phantoms, or spirits as they are later called — most of which look like mutant radioactive dust mites. The main character, Dr. Aki Ross (Ming-Na

Wen), had a harmful spirit enter her body though Dr. Sid (Donald Sutherland) was able to put some sort of membrane around it so it could not harm her. In order for Aki to be "cured," she must find seven other spirits that when combined with the eighth spirit inside her body, will not only heal her, but the entire grief-stricken civilization.

The search for one of these spirits brings her into contact with an old friend, Gray Edwards (Alec Baldwin), who bears a strong animated resemblance to actor Ben Affleck. Gray's crew of two men (Ving Rhames and Steve Buscemi) and one woman (Peri

Gilpin) were minor, two-dimensional characters. Buscemi's character, Neil, attempted, at times, to add

humor to an otherwise depressing plot. However, the jokes were far too strained and generic to break through the doom and gloom.

There was a lot of talk about "gaia," which seemed to be some euphemistic, science fiction term for heaven. This seemed to be a major element within the plot — however it was a confusing idea.

On the other hand, if the plot is ignored, the animation is easy to appreciate. While it is not perfect (often the characters' mouths appear too computerized, while Aki's hair

often seemed too stringy), it is the most lifelike computer rendering or animation seen thus far in any movie.

Mark Caro from the Chicago Tribune had an interesting point about this movie and other animated films involving the blurred line between real and generated people and emotion: "The humans aren't intended to be anything more than human — and thus are drained of humanity. The most effective animated characters aren't those that are most realistic, but the most expressive, which helps explain why so few classic cartoon characters are people. (The ones that are, like Elmer Fudd, Fred Flintstone and Charlie Brown, don't really look like people.)"

This observation has a real element of truth to it, only bolstering the conclusion that the only thing "Final Fantasy: The Spirits Within" has going for it is that it is a pioneer in the medium of 3-D rendering.



COURTESY PHOTO/WWW.MOVIEWEB.COM

Ming Na Wen provides the voice for Dr. Aki Ross, above, a computer-generated character in the movie 'Final Fantasy: The Spirits within.'

Pismo dance teacher offers something new for women

By April Pack

SUMMER MUSTANG STAFF WRITER

Vicki Ann Richardson (also known as Alessandra), a resident of Pismo Beach, never would've guessed that one day she would be a dancer. For more than 20 years, Richardson worked as a seamstress, making bridal gowns and dance costumes. After making the costumes and watching the dancers perform, Richardson developed a love for the pastime, even though she never had any formal training. This new interest also came at a time when Richardson was growing weary of sewing and looking for a new direction in life.

This is when she thought of "The Sacred Dance For Women" — a dance group that meets on Monday nights at Gloria's Dance Studio in Pismo Beach — a class available to women of all ages.

Richardson knew she wanted her dance group to be different from others. She craved spontaneity and free form. With this goal in mind, each person in the group does their own dance without one person leading. The dance is accompanied by what Richardson called, "spiritually uplifting music." This can range from traditional Hawaiian rhythms to Sarah McLachlan.

Dancers are also encouraged to bring their own music. Richardson said since the dancing is in a form of celebration, people from all denominations are welcome, while the music comes from all cultures — whether the person be a Buddhist or a nun.

Richardson said that she prefers working with women because they often do not get the chance to come together and be who they really are.

"I like to work with women because they are the healers of the world, and they are the ones who have the children," Richardson said.

She said it is important for women to never stop dancing

because it can help with their self-esteem.

"I provide a safe and secure place for women to move freely," Richardson said.

She explained that women often do not have a place to do freelance dancing. Richardson said that many women she knows do not want to go to the local clubs, but they want to dance to "beautiful music in a beautiful place."

Richardson said she thinks people come to her group because they want a chance to be creative.

"A lot of women don't have those ballerina bodies, and they can't dance anymore," Richardson said. "This is a chance for them to get out with other women and have fun, celebrating the love of life."

Doris Goodill, an Avila Beach resident and a member of the group, said since she has grown older, she has become more spiritual. Goodill said that dance has always been a part of her life since she has taken both tap and ballet, but she was ready for a more expressive type of movement, and one that was more meditative and spiritual. This is why Goodill joined the "Sacred Dance" group.

"We dance our feelings and share in the joy of this expression," Goodill said.

She described the dance as being similar to yoga, but it is a different type of meditating. It allows her to come in contact with nature and her surroundings and communicate with others on a different level through music and movement.

"Some people can sit in the weird positions and others like to move," Goodill said.

Richardson's class is small, with only four members, but it is still only three months into its existence. "Sacred Dance for Women" is offered Monday nights from 7 to 8 p.m. at Gloria's Dance Studio in Pismo Beach. The cost is \$20 a month. For more information, call the studio at 773-1227.

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Stem-cell research; invaluable to society

"Bush must do what is right for the rest of the citizens of the country, not simply appease those who oppose the research the loudest"

The debate on using embryonic stem cells for research has been a point of contention for a number of years now, but it just got a bit more interesting. President George W. Bush is now in the unenviable position of having to decide whether to allow federal funding for research using stem cells from human embryos.

Editorial

The idea comes from a Clinton-era decision that permitted federal funding for research using stem cells from discarded human embryos. Now President G-Dub is receiving a considerable amount of pressure from both sides of the debate about what he should do.

Social conservatives are telling Bush he must change policy because it is immoral. Stem cells are obtained from the cells of destroyed embryos.

On the other hand, many feel if Bush does not acknowledge the "compassionate" side of his "compassionate conservatism," his actions could have serious repercussions. Embryonic stem cells have the potential to grow into any cell or tissue and could help to find a way to repair and replace damaged organs.

That fact has put many, including some anti-abortion Republicans, on the side of using the stem cells for research. Former Florida Sen. Connie Mack — who is Catholic, pro-life and a cancer survivor — supports the plan. Also, Utah Sen. Orrin Hatch, former sponsor of a constitutional amendment allowing states to ban abortion, wrote the administration a 10-page letter, urging Bush to leave Bill Clinton's policy in place.

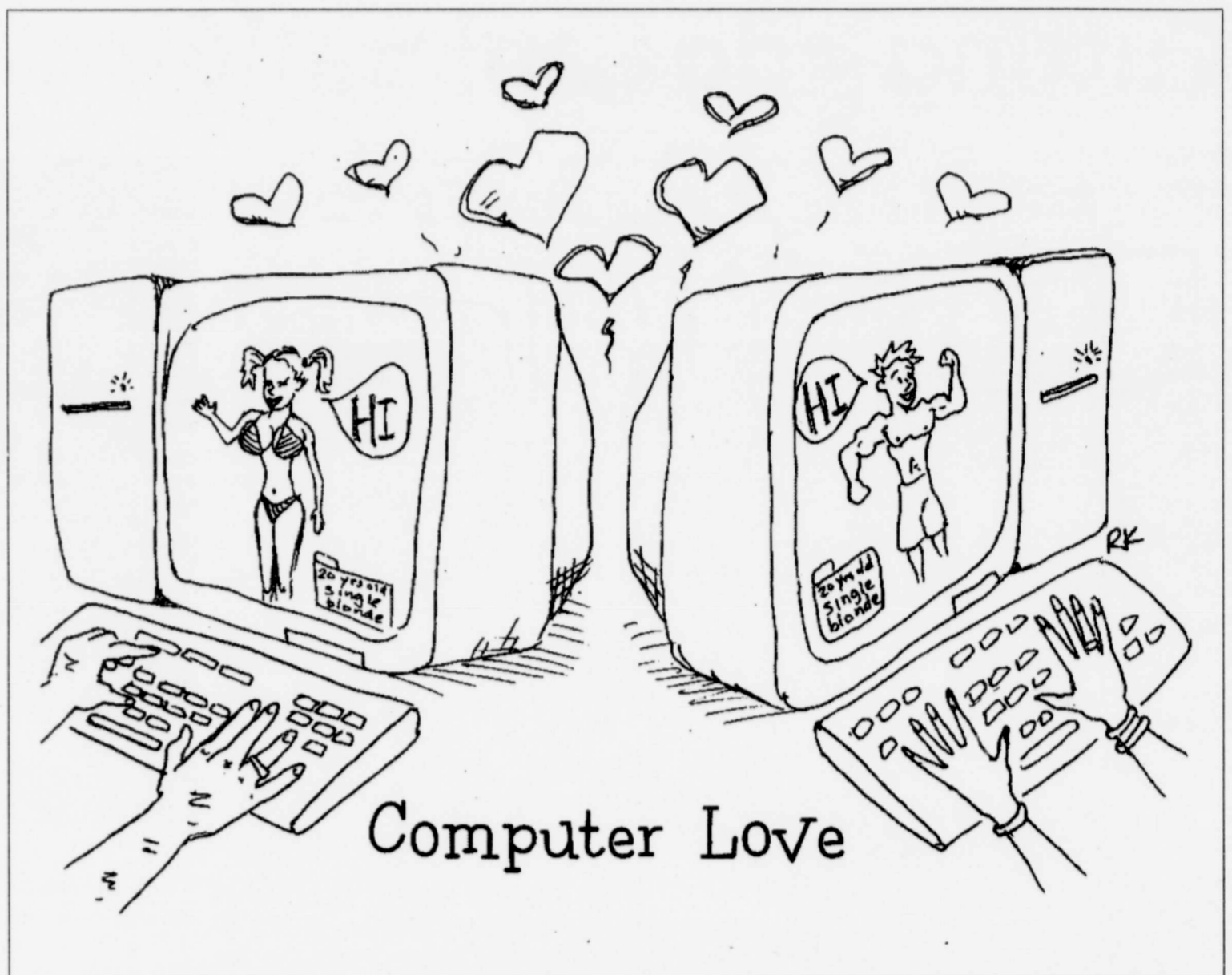
Clearly, the policy has merit and should be kept around.

Unfortunately, if recent history tells us anything, any type of policy that has any slant to it other than conservative does not stand much of a chance with this administration in control.

Even though the research that could be done using the embryonic stem cells may prove invaluable to the plight of people everywhere, the urgings of ultra-conservative pundits could make it impossible for that research to continue.

This cannot happen.

President Bush must not take away federal funding to this type of research simply because a few closed-minded people refuse to accept the fact that the world does not rotate



around their own personal moral sensibilities.

Bush must do what is right for the rest of the citizens of the country, not simply appease those who oppose the research the loudest.

Apparently, the president is completely preoccupied with this issue. He has mulled over the issue and talked to many people, including representatives of various disease organizations, anti-abortion groups and leading bioethicists.

A man who, as the governor of Texas, took 15 minutes to review a scheduled execution is putting a lot of time, effort and, dare we say, thought into this matter. And while the thought of G-Dub using all his mental abilities to try to solve a problem is a bit scary, at least it shows he is not simply going to open up the GOP handbook and do what it says.

Science, in this case, is more important than the moral objections of a portion of the country's population.

The medical advances that may come about from the research done on these cells will hopefully open doors that were, until now, locked tight.

Bush has the key to unlock the door separating us from possible cures to diseases like Parkinson's and Alzheimer's.

We just hope he uses it.

(U-Wire) Staff Editorial by Independent Florida Alligator (U. Florida)

Today's technology comes with a hefty price tag

Technology and the consumer have a simple understanding for one another - technology produces something new and the consumer buys it.

Although, how much longer will we, the consumers, have to consistently keep buying these new products? How much more money will be wasted on technology because we bought something that was considered obsolete, to later find out a newer, faster, and bigger model has been created?

From the advent of the Internet, to the cellular phone, one can see how much technology of today is effecting the way we live and the way we spend money. The notion of new today, old tomorrow is a very common phrase used when talking about technology, and is one that is making everyone more broke.

Many questions I have asked myself involving technologies knock for reproducing bigger and better things quickly are: will this cell phone I just bought be out of dated in two months? Will the computer I buy become useless in a year, and should I really buy that DVD player or just wait until virtual reality takes off?

These questions have puzzled me for years, yet I continue to buy the latest and greatest on the market.

Other consumers like myself, find themselves asking some of the same questions. Cal Poly students Lori Narahara and Kelli Dugan (my sister) just recently purchased the newest Dell desktop computer. After seeing and using this machine, it seems to me that it has everything you could ever want and more.

"I have to admit, I am not very computer literate, so to have the newest computer Dell has to offer is a little intimidating, especially considering how expensive it was," Dugan said. She added that she is mainly using the computer for word processing and Internet use.

Narahara, a masters student at Cal Poly, who is a lot more familiar with computers than my sister, said she hopes that all the money she put out for a top of the line computer pays off.

"Hopefully Dell won't come out with something faster and with more memory by next month," she said.

With the newest technology out on the market costing so much, it is forcing people without money to

burn to question what they buy. Why should anyone buy a new computer or laptop, if it is just going to be old news in a month? The problem with that is the people making these machines are creating new material at such a fast rate, the consumer would have to spend millions of dollars to stay up with the trends. So what is the broke college student to do? If it is so important for educated people to have the best of what technology has to offer, why is it costing so much? The answer is simple, unfortunately, in the past; manufacturing companies who make these machines were not targeting college students for their future buyers. The companies were targeting corporations and highly paid businessmen and women with lots of money to burn. Luckily for these companies, they figured out this lost market quick enough and now realize what a vital resource college students are to the technology world.

"We have the opportunity to allow students to make payments on their computer, so it doesn't seem like such a huge amount to spend all at once," Dell correspondent Phil McKenley said. "We understand what it was like

to be a poor college student and want to make it as easy as possible for our college customers."

So as college students, we are not completely out of the technology loop. Companies have caught onto this idea of the "payment plan," which can work just like a car payment. Dell correspondents have said that each month the student will pay as low as \$30 a month for as long as it takes to pay off the computer.

This sounds like a great plan for any college student looking to save money and interested in new technology, but for me, I'm still not sold. I do think that a payment plan is a good idea, but let's say you pay off your computer in a year, but you're not happy with it because the company you bought it from has made three others in that year that are faster and you're stuck with a slow computer.

For me I am going to stop right now. It's time to take a stance - no more new cell phones and no new Palm Pilot. Luckily for me, I have friends with new technological devices to get me by. I think for now I am just going to utilize my friends and my sister's new computers until I have

enough faith in technology to buy myself one. Unfortunately for my friends I think this might be awhile.

Cory Dugan is a journalism senior and a Summer Mustang staff writer.

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Summer Mustang

July 19 - July 25, 2001
Volume LXVI, No. 5
© 2001 Summer Mustang

GRAPHIC ARTS BUILDING, SUITE 226

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Printed by University Graphic Systems

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"Gotta love those 5 week courses."

Side effects: technology not all it's cracked up to be

By Erica Tower
SUMMER MUSTANG ARTS AND FEATURES EDITOR

Digital phones declared unsafe by European committee

Cell phone users may soon have a reason not to celebrate. Nokia, Motorola and Ericsson, the largest mobile phone makers in the world announced Monday that they will begin publishing information later this year about the level of radiation emitted by their cell phones in response to growing health concerns by consumers.

The announcement comes after these top companies agreed with the European committee for Electrotechnical Standardization (CENELEC) on a way to measure radiation absorption on cell phones, and after years of lobbying from consumer organizations that want a global standard for measuring radiation emitted from handsets.

Many medical reports allege that radio waves from mobile phones adversely affect the human brain. Last year, a report from a United Kingdom government-sponsored scientific inquiry warned children to avoid excessive use of cell phones because their underdeveloped skulls may make them prone to absorbing radiation. But the radiation reportedly affects more than just children. U.S. neurologist Christopher Newman filed a lawsuit against Motorola last year, claiming that the use of his mobile phone caused a malignant brain tumor. This is only one in a string of similar lawsuits filed in recent years.

At the end of March this year, there were 770 million mobile phone users globally and Nokia expects that figure to rise to 1 billion in the first six months of 2002.

Once the study is conducted and the findings are published, the mobile phone companies will still not make it easy for customers to be informed about radiation emission. Rather than label the phones with the actual level of radiation, called specific absorption rate (SAR), or put this number on phone packages, the SAR will only be found in fine print in user manuals.

For cell phone junkies who fear for their health and cannot wait for the findings to be published, such information is currently available through the FCC.

Internet users keep surfing, unfaced by failing dotcoms

Though the collapse of many dot-com companies has jolted the local and national unemployment rate to higher levels in the last six months, Internet usage has held steady.

According to a study published by Pew Internet and American Life Project, more than half of Internet users surveyed said that they were online the same amount of time as they were six months ago. Twenty-nine percent used it more, while 17 percent used it less.

The survey also found that only 8 percent of users have seen their favorite sites go out of business.

So why are so many start-up dot-com companies miserably failing in a time that Internet interest seems to be an upward trend? The problem is monotony. So many sites online offer nearly the exact same information and services as other existing sites that several are bound to fail.

"Consumers are easily able to find other things online to substitute for what they lost if a site closes," said project director Lee Rainie in an MSNBC article.

The problem may also be linked to the closing of many free Internet service providers, but this decrease was almost made up by increases in cable modem subscribers and other users, which the study also uncovered.

The moral of this tale — when creating a new dot.com company, be creative.

Wachdog points finger at deceiving search engines

With more than 2 billion pages and more than 14 billion hyperlinks on the web, search requests rank as the second most popular online activity after e-mail. But your favorite search engine could be deceiving you.

At least that is the accusation posed by Commercial Alert, a 3-year-old watchdog group founded by consumer activist Ralph Nader, that asked the FTC to investigate whether or not eight of the Web's largest search engines are violating federal laws against decep-

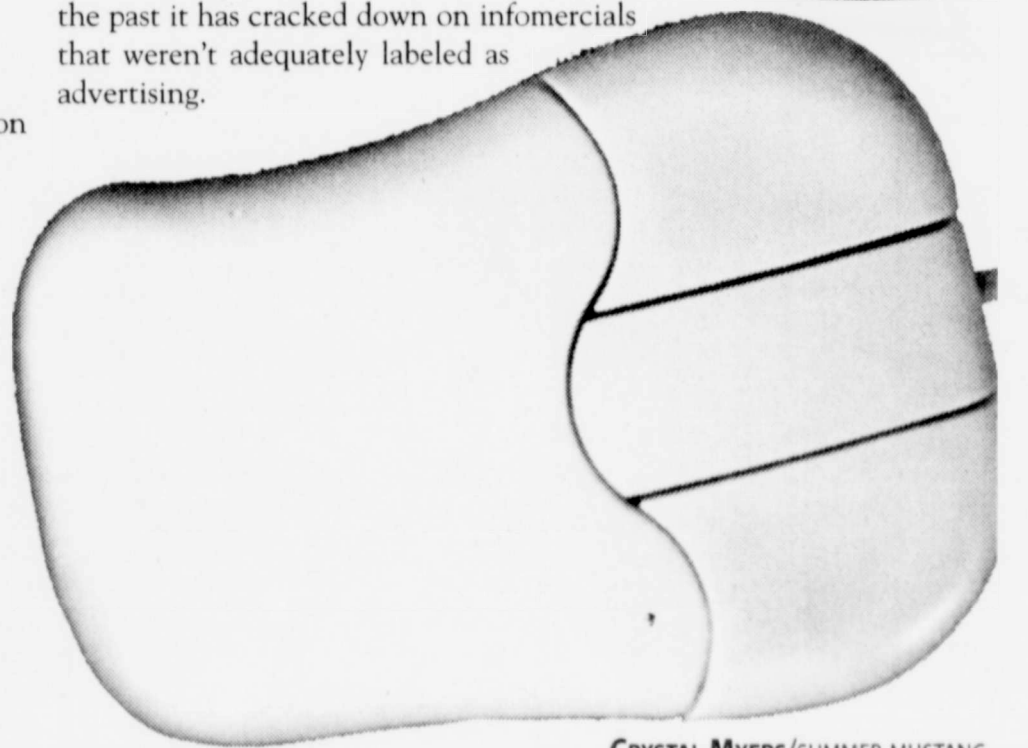
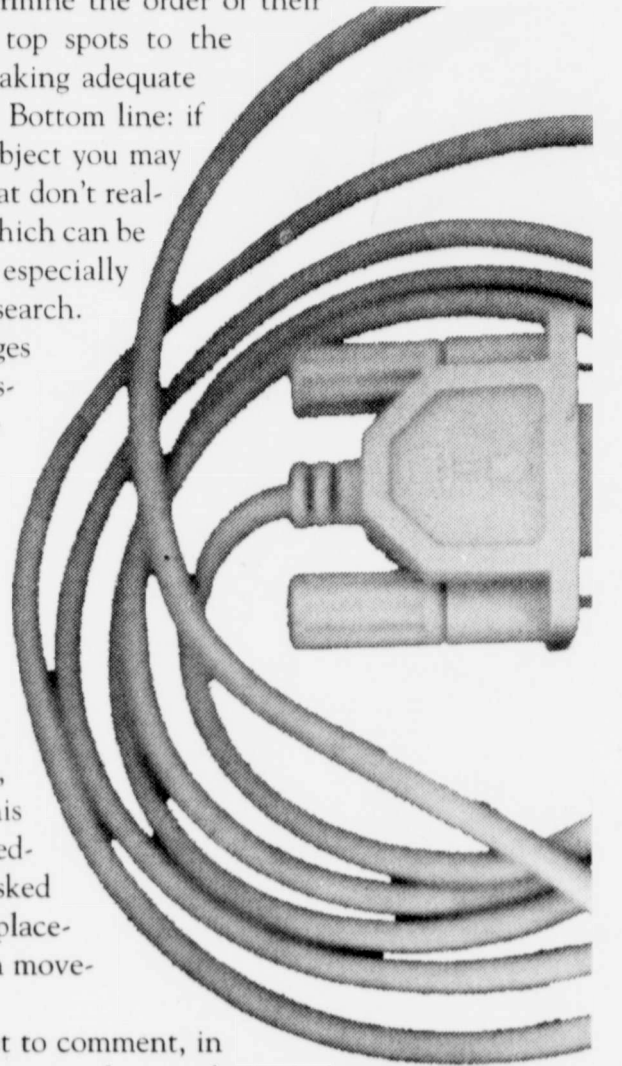
tive advertising.

The group claims that search engines are "abandoning objective formulas to determine the order of their listed results, selling the top spots to the highest bidders without making adequate disclosures to Web surfers. Bottom line: if you type in a word or a subject you may get high-ranking results that don't really pertain to your search, which can be tremendously frustrating especially for students trying to do research.

Commercial Alert alleges that the search engines' misleading paid listings are equivalent to TV infomercials masquerading as independent programming.

The eight search engines named in the complaint are MSN, Netscape, Directhit, HotBot, Lycos, Altavista, Looksmart and iWon. This marks the first time that federal regulators have been asked to look into the pay-for-placement and pay-for-inclusion movement.

Though the FTC has yet to comment, in the past it has cracked down on infomercials that weren't adequately labeled as advertising.



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SYSTEM

continued from page 2

"Hopefully it will be much more efficient in the future," she added.

The switch did provide a cost for Cal Pol, but Stubberfield said it is hard to calculate because many of the software installers were pulled away from their other duties — "it definitely did cost the campus money."

But Cal Poly did not bear the cost alone.

"It was a CSU initiative, so they bought the software," Stubberfield said.

In addition to the online sign-in feature, the new software has other luxuries. The program automatically calculates and displays how many hours a student has worked and much a student has earned during that pay period before taxes. The system is not purely electronic though. Students must print out a final copy of their timesheet off of the Web site, sign it and turn it in to their supervisor by the last day of the pay period.

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LOCAL FLAVOR

Homegrown products bring a taste of championship football to Cal Poly

By Cory Dugan

SUMMER MUSTANG STAFF WRITER

Cal Poly isn't known for its outstanding football program, but this season could be different with a new coach, some local talent and a winning attitude.

Along with the addition of first-year head coach Rich Ellerson, Cal Poly will acquire some fresh local flavor with junior transfer Darik Stollmeyer and incoming freshmen Jason Holmes and Adam Martinez.

If nothing else, these players bring winning traditions to Cal Poly.

Stollmeyer, the most notable of the local trio, has always had high expectations for himself and his athletic ability, which is why just after graduating from Morro Bay High School he took off for Oregon University to fulfill a lifelong dream of playing college football. He was not recruited

to play at Oregon, but decided he would give it a shot, counting on his hard work ethic and determination to win him a spot. Unfortunately

Stollmeyer didn't make the team. Devastated, he returned home to enroll at Allan Hancock Community College. Coming home turned out to be the right thing to do for Stollmeyer's career.

"I am thankful for what I have learned under coach (Barney) Eames at Hancock and look forward to taking what I learned there to Cal Poly," said Stollmeyer, who has been working out as a defensive back.

Stollmeyer is transferring to Cal Poly from Hancock where he was a part of a short-lived legacy. In just two years, the football team went to the state finals his first year and went to league finals the next. The Bulldogs finished each season with impressive 9-2 records. And with two league titles under his belt and the opportunity of going to state, Stollmeyer said he hopes his winning ways will continue with the

Mustangs.

"I want to bring a winning attitude to Cal Poly," Stollmeyer said. "I know the coach is putting a lot of pressure on me to perform, but I know I can step up. I didn't come to Cal Poly to lose. I hate losing, and I hope some of my determination and hard work rubs off on the other players."

Stollmeyer said he is confident in this year's team and feels they have a strong, hard-hitting defense to complement an already potent offense.

He also said winning won't come easy, after three straight 3-8 seasons.

"I just want to contribute and do my best out there," he said. "That's all I can do and that's all I can ask of my teammates."

"I want to bring a winning attitude to Cal Poly."

Darik Stollmeyer
Cal Poly football player

North County additions

Other additions to the new and improved Cal Poly football team include former Paso Robles High School standouts Holmes and Martinez.

"Those two guys come from a great program," Ellerson said. "We can go out there and

Familiar Faces

Name	Pos.	Yr.	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown
Darik Stollmeyer	DB	Jr.	5-10	185	Morro Bay
Jason Holmes	WR	Fr.	6-2	195	Paso Robles
Adam Martinez	RB/LB	Fr.	6-1	217	Paso Robles

knock the socks off people and they won't be happy unless we get a championship. Their expectations are high and we'll use that capacity and hopefully it will help our winning."

Holmes was an all-CIF-Southern Section selection and was named Division X co-offensive player of the year as a senior after catching



KRAIG ERICKSON /SUMMER MUSTANG

Free safety Darik Stollmeyer, of Morro Bay, will protect the Mustang end zone this fall.

48 passes for 928 yards and 20 touchdowns.

Martinez, a 217-pound running back-line-backer, could be a factor in the Mustang rushing attack, which mustered just 118.9 yards a game last season.

Ellerson added Martinez could see time on the defensive side of the ball because of his intensity and toughness.

"At Arizona, we lived and died with people like him," said Ellerson, who was the defensive coordinator at Arizona for the past four seasons.

"One of the guys (in this recruiting class) will help the running game," Ellerson said. "(Martinez) can be a lot of things. Within our system there's six positions he can play with his physical attributes."

Martinez was a first team all-CIF selection last season, rushing for 1,272 yards and 25 touchdowns for the three-time defending champion Bearcats.

"The thing that captured me in this whole (recruiting) process was his toughness," Ellerson added. "He had some long runs last season. But he did most of his damage running right through the middle and banging people around."

Incoming freshmen will join the team Aug. 8 when the team opens camp at The Sports Complex. Returning players join the squad on Aug. 10.

Sports editor Brian Milne contributed to this story. He can be reached at bmilne@calpoly.edu.

NBA's future stars have a lot of growing up to do

This year's 2001 NBA Draft was highlighted by the many high school basketball prodigies that entered without receiving a single game of experience on the college level.

Three of those were chosen in the top five of this year's draft.

Jason Brennan

These athletes will soon find out if they

have what it takes to compete with the best in the world. If they can't, then they'll have to go to school like the rest of us.

Many people think that turning to the professional ranks before getting a college degree is a bad choice. What they fail to realize is that some of these kids are mature enough to handle the responsibilities that NBA players deal with.

For most, the fame and money have a tendency to get the best of the individual. For players such as Kobe Bryant and Kevin Garnett, this was not the case.

Some of these high school "superstars" feel the pressure to provide for themselves and their

poverty stricken families. They decide to turn professional in hopes of a quick fix to their financial status. They reduce their chances of a serious and possible career-ending injury that could take place in college. What they don't realize is the possibility of a short and unsuccessful career that may lead to an early dismissal from the NBA. Now they are left without a college degree to fall back on.

Once a professional team drafts an athlete he or she can no longer go back and play at the college level. Those athletes who did not go to college because of financial struggles now find themselves without the opportunity to receive an athletic scholarship. This is a harsh reality that some have faced before.

For Kwame Brown, Tyson Chandler, Eddie Curry and others, their lives are now changed forever. If their skills, maturity and character are good enough to match their opponents in the NBA, they may be able to make the transition a smooth one. The best thing for these athletes at this point is to receive all the advice

they can get, stay true to themselves, work hard and hang on to the coattails of cagey veterans.

Brown was drafted by Wizards. It is in Washington where he will be under the tutelage of first-year coach Doug Collins. Collins left the broadcast booth to return to coaching where he made an impact in previous years. Brown will also be under the watchful eye of arguably the greatest basketball player ever in Michael Jordan, who is the Wizards' general manager. The existence of Jordan and Collins will help make Brown's stay in the NBA a long one.

As for Chandler, who was taken second by the Los Angeles Clippers and immediately traded to the Chicago Bulls, the transition may be a bit more difficult. Chandler was traded from his hometown to Chicago in a matter of minutes. Immediately, he is forced to show his maturity while being placed on an emotional roller coaster.

Playing in his hometown would have been ideal for Chandler, but now he is forced to set-

tle in a city that he has never been exposed to. But there is one comforting aspect to Chandler's trade — he will be teammates with another high school draftee in Curry, who was picked up fourth by the Bulls.

These two talented prospects will be allowed to grow together under the same system. Many agree that Chandler needs to develop more on the court, which doesn't go well with the fact that he will suddenly have to do this away from home. This will be even harder due to the fact that Chicago is in a rebuilding year and doesn't have many veterans for him to follow on the team.

The futures of these young stars remain uncertain. Some may have bitten off more than they can handle. Others may make the jump with a lot more ease. The maturity, character, work ethic, and influences of those around them will determine their success.

Jason Brennan is a journalism senior and a Summer Mustang staff writer.