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MUSTANG DAILY

CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY



The Cal Poly baseball team achieved its highest ranking this week.

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Thousands of students gather together to protest coal in Washington, D.C.

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Club profile: Students for Justice and Peace in the Middle East.

IN ARTS, 6



Volume LXXII, Number 103

Tuesday, March 3, 2009

www.mustangdaily.net

Service programs' enrollment rises as U.S. hiring rates drop

OFF THE BEATEN PATH:
ALTERNATIVE JOB OPTIONS

1 of a 2 PART SERIES



COURTESY ILLUSTRATION

This image from the official Defense Department 1950s poster "Standing Tall for Armed Forces Day" encouraged young people to join the Armed Forces as an alternative to immediately getting into the job market.

Cassandra Keyse
MUSTANG DAILY

With hiring at a record low, the odds of finding a steady job straight out of college seem increasingly slim. More and more college students are seeking different ways to pass the time between walking at graduation and finding that dream job

with a steady salary.

"The job market is definitely going to impact students," said Carole Moore, program coordinator and career counselor at Cal Poly Career Services.

According to Moore, Cal Poly students are handling the poor situation well and taking advantage of the options available to them.

"Students are actually not panicking," she said. "They're coming and using their resources. They are talking to counselors more than ever, coming to our events, coming to job fairs and just trying to figure out what their strategies are."

One of the strategies Moore offered was for students to accept that they may have to pursue different job options as a precursor to starting their career. She mentioned jobs in nonprofit groups, government and education, among other options.

"We are trying to get students to cast a wider net," she explained. "Getting that good opportunity, whatever it might be, might take a little longer, but you don't have to have the dream job straight out of school."

If students desire to find an alternative career path in a structured environment, a federal program might be a perfect fit. And luckily for Cal Poly students, the Central Coast and the Cal Poly campus have numerous resources for students to find a program right for them.

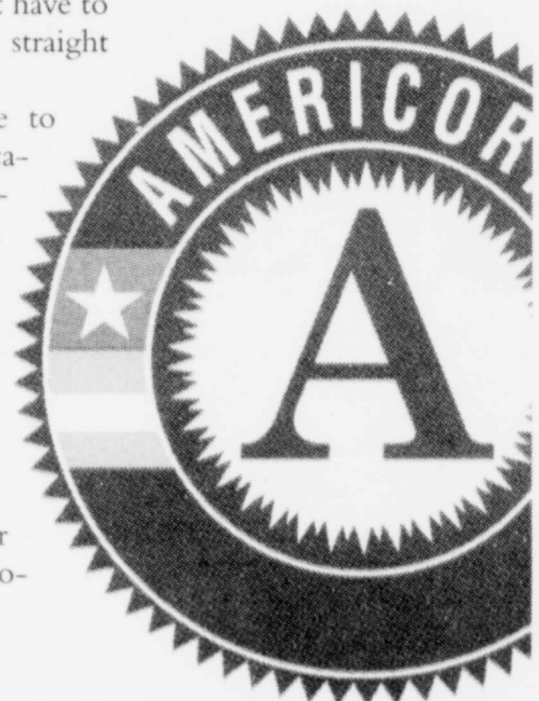
Americorps

Located in the University Union's Student Life and Leadership Office is an opportunity to work for various nonprofit companies in San Luis Obispo County through Americorps, the federal service program started by the Clinton Administration in 1993.

Americorps participants dedicate one year of service in exchange for a living allowance and eligibility

for an education award to be paid at the end of their term.

"It's a great opportunity to do something, get really



good marketable skills, be in the work force and do good work, then to have a chunk of money waiting for you at the end to pay for continued schooling or repay student loans," Americorps Program Coordinator Jesse Torrey said.

The program that Cal Poly students and graduates

see Jobs, page 2

New engineering lab aims to develop technology in prosthetics

Matt Fountain
MUSTANG DAILY

Beginning this fall, Cal Poly College of Engineering students will have the opportunity to use their knowledge to directly improve the lives of disabled veterans, thanks to a sizeable donation from one alumnus.

Jon Monett, a 1964 industrial engineering graduate, recently donated \$500,000 to found the Quality of Life Plus laboratory, a multidisciplinary facility that will employ anaplastology technologies, with the aim of helping those who were injured in the line of service.

"I'd like to see this program grow and innovation come out of it for those that need it," Monett said. "And hopefully, it will expand to a major program for the university."

Monett, a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and the C.I.A., said he was inspired to help

develop the lab after seeing the soon-to-be-released Terry Sanders documentary, "Fighting for Life", which chronicles the daily activities of military doctors, nurses and medics on the front lines in Balad, Iraq and at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

"The movie inspired me to do it. As I saw them treat these people, I felt that Cal Poly has such a good engineering program and students, that I thought it would be great to put them to use to help these people," Monett said.

Senior Associate Dean of Academic Programs and Administration Dan Walsh praised Monett for his donation.

"Jon Monett is a gentleman who has lived a career of life in public service," Walsh said. "He is part of the Cal Poly Cosa Nostra. He saw a terrible need and he felt he could help with some of the resources available to him

after he successfully sold his company (Tel-emus Solutions, a global security consulting and intelligence advisory services provider)."

"It's not just a gift of money for him," Walsh said. "It's a gift of his time, a gift of his effort. I think he bleeds green and gold, I really do."

According to Walsh, the scope of the project is not limited to injured military personnel, but is intended to include government employees at all levels.

"Quality of Life Plus is focused on providing help to civil servants - federal, military, state, county, city - folks that have been injured in the line of their duty," Walsh said. "This laboratory will take the capabilities that we have here at the university and bring

those talents to bear on the needs of those folks who have been disfigured, or in some

see Lab, page 2



COURTESY PHOTO

Cal Poly's new engineering lab hopes to create prosthetics similar to this screenshot of an ear made through rapid prototyping from Japan.

Jobs

continued from page 1

participate in is the Central Coast Volunteer Corps, in which participants work in a variety of fields within the nonprofit sector. There are opportunities to work in the arts, education, environment or with children, seniors and the homeless, among others.

Torrey has noticed an increase in interest from Cal Poly students in the past few months since the economy has slowed down.

"I just finished up recruitment and I interviewed a lot of wonderful candidates, but we didn't have room for all of them," Torrey explained. "We've had a lot of recent graduates that are having trouble finding jobs who want to stay in this area or who are from this area and want to come back to live here. We have people from all ages in here and I've definitely heard from quite a lot of people that they have been constantly looking for work."

Peace Corps

Another, more international op-

portunity students have taken advantage of for years is the Peace Corps. The on-campus information office, located on the first floor of Kennedy Library, is the place to go for information on how to become a service volunteer overseas. This federal agency sends volunteers abroad for 27-month periods to help native communities with specific issues.

According to Kate Kuykendall, public affairs specialist of the Los Angeles branch of the U.S. Peace

Corps, the skills that volunteers gain from experience with the organization are valuable to future prospective employers.

"I think that employers are looking for leadership and they're looking for people that can problem solve, especially in unstructured situations," she said. "(Volunteers) go into a community and, along with the local people, evaluate the needs of that community. Then they have to put a plan of strategy together to

try to problem solve in order to address those needs. I think that's a very transferable skill that they will have upon coming back to the U.S."

Kuykendall said that overall there has been a 16 percent increase in applications from the 2007 to the 2008 fiscal year. Along with the slow economy, she attributed the increase to two other factors: Obama's mentioning of the organization in speeches leading up to his inauguration and the global-mindedness of the current generation of college students has both prompted greater Peace Corps interest.

The Armed Forces

Joining the Armed Forces is yet another option students can look into. Although there has not been a significant increase in R.O.T.C. participation since the economic downturn, this does not mean that there is a lack of interest overall.

"We have seen an increase nationally in recruitment across the board for all branches of the military," military science Department Chair Lieutenant Colonel Gary Sargent said.

Military experience on a résumé is helpful because of the many lead-

ership and management skills that it provides, Second Lieutenant Dustin Duncan said.

"For a lot of companies, (the Armed Forces) it will actually help you get a job," he said. "We produce officers here and officers in the military are like the management in charge of a lot of troops in a leadership role. So in any job you're applying for as far as a management position, you will have experience."

Duncan explained that almost any civilian job could be done in the military. There are jobs for people from engineers to medical professionals.

The military science department on campus trains cadets to become either active in the Army, National Guard or Army Reserve. An individual's choice on the direction they take after graduation will determine the level of commitment they make to the Army.

Choosing to become an active soldier without any scholarship requires three years of active service and five years of inactive service. The National Guard and the Army Reserve both require eight years of active service that involves one weekend each month of training.



RACHEL GLAS MUSTANG DAILY

Poly's Peace Corps office provides information about the service program.

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Lab

continued from page 1

way hurt, in the line of their duties as government employees."

Initially, the lab will focus on anaplastology, the prosthetic rehabilitation of absent or disfigured parts of the human anatomy; and materials selection, such as creating smarter materials that mimic actual human tissue using microfluidics to replicate the circulatory system.

"The lab serves a real basic need," Walsh continued. "It's an outlet for the basic human need to design, the universal human need to create things and most importantly, I think, to improve the lot of your colleagues."

Walsh said there has been a strong initial response from engineering students who are anxious to take part in such an ambitious program.

"We're hoping to have (the laboratory) up by the end of spring and students

are knocking the doors down. They are very interested and if you get a chance to see "Fighting for Life", you'd know why. It's just a very positive outlet for the talents that the students have developed."

Some of the technologies put to use in this program will include haptics, involving laser-scanning systems as a way to capture 3-D objects — a body part such as an ear or finger — and digitally code it for transfer to a manufacturing machine.

These manufacturing machines will use rapid pro-

totyping, a technology that creates 3-D objects, in this case for orthopedic replacement. Rapid prototyping is currently the best way to custom design prostheses for the human body.

Industrial and manufacturing engineering lecturer Martin Koch, who will be one of the lab's instructors, said the work students will do has the potential to innovate the anaplastology field.

"The class is designed to get a group of students to take an idea to the prototype stage where they can then present it to venture capital people," Koch said.

In addition, Robert Barron, a former senior C.I.A. disguise specialist who runs Custom Prosthetic Designs, Inc. in Virginia, will play an advisory role in the program.

"The idea is," Koch explained, "if you've lost a body part and you have the other version of it — let's say you lost an ear — what (Barron) does is cast a mold out of your existing ear and use that negative mold to develop a positive, then hand-sculpts, out of clay, a mirror

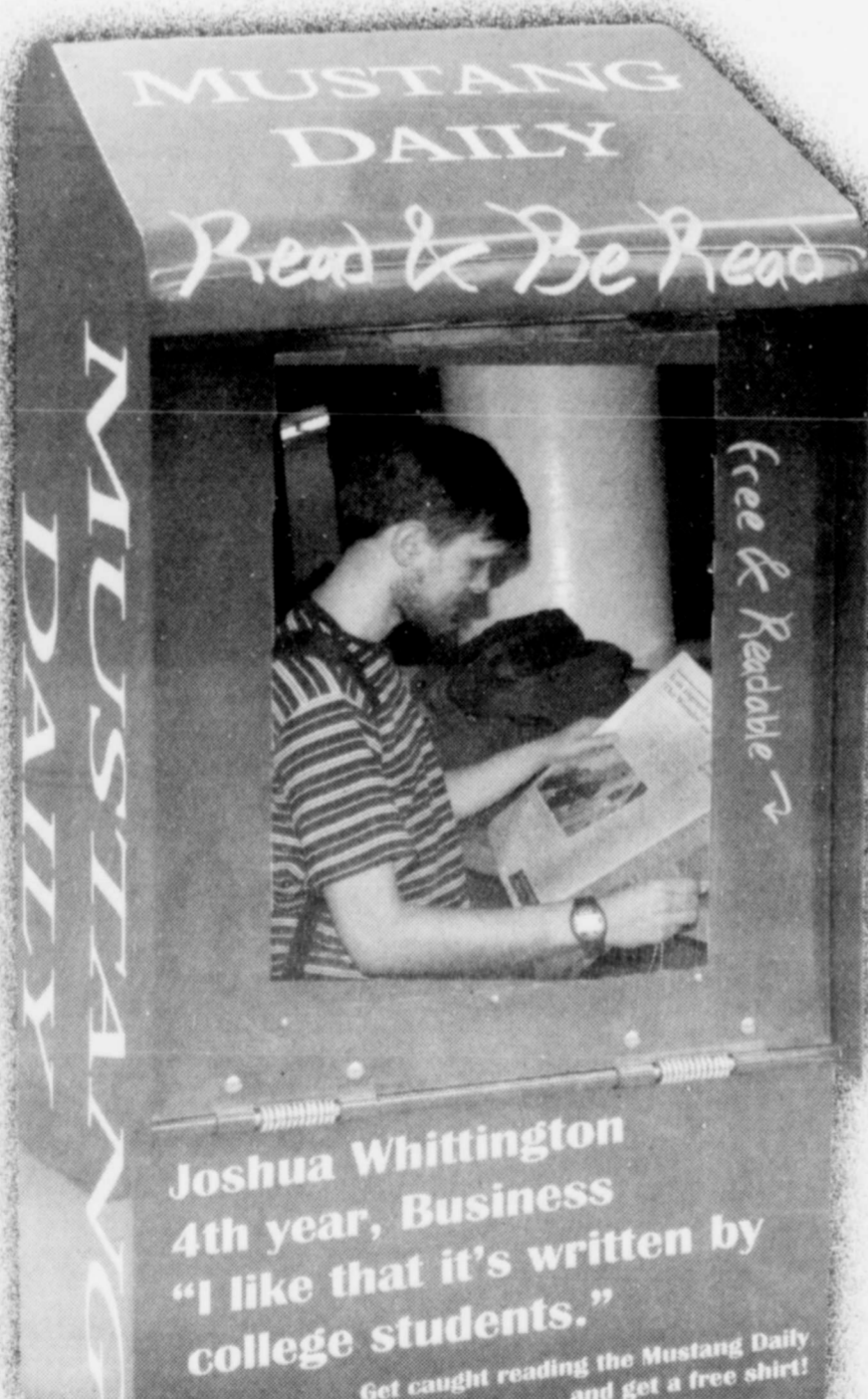
The class is designed to get a group of students to take an idea to the prototype stage where they can then present it to venture capital people.

—Martin Koch

Industrial and manufacturing engineering lecturer

image of it... Part of what we're trying to look at is ways of facilitating this activity that he's currently using, and see if there aren't technologies existing or developing that can remove some of the steps he takes."

Though the Quality of Life Plus lab is still in development, the college will begin introducing students to these concepts next quarter. According to Koch, classes such as Biomedical Engineering 212, in which he expects an enrollment of roughly 100 students, will Barron's example, starting with finger prosthesis.



Joshua Whittington
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Thousands rally for climate change



JACQUELYN MARTIN ASSOCIATED PRESS

Robbie Reaves, 22, left, and Dominique Piccino, 23, both of Chico, Calif., march by the Capitol building during an environmental rally on the Capitol Power Plant in Washington, D.C. on Monday.

Brian Westly

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Several thousand demonstrators on Monday urged Congress to pass legislation to reduce greenhouse gases, and they targeted the government's own Capitol power plant as a symbol of the problem.

An enthusiastic crowd of mostly young people marched from a park near the Capitol to the small power plant several blocks away, chanting "We don't want the world to boil, no coal, no oil!"

Some demonstrators peacefully stood in front of the power plant's gated entrances while police stood by. There were no arrests, said Sgt. Kimberly Schneider, a Capitol Police spokeswoman.

Despite attempts by lawmakers to clean up the power plant in southeast Washington, it still burns coal and accounts for a third of the legislative branch's greenhouse gas emissions.

"We need to move rapidly for a clean energy future," said Charlie Garlow, of Silver Spring, Md., who was dressed as a smokestack. Asked about what he hoped the rally would accomplish, he replied, "We want to make sure a good bill gets passed, not a watered down one."

Ahjani Yepa-Sprague, an American Indian who lives in Michigan, said coal is destroying her community's way of life.

"Every inland lake in Michigan is contaminated with mercury," she said. "This is the first generation in the history of our people that our children cannot eat fish given to us by the cre-

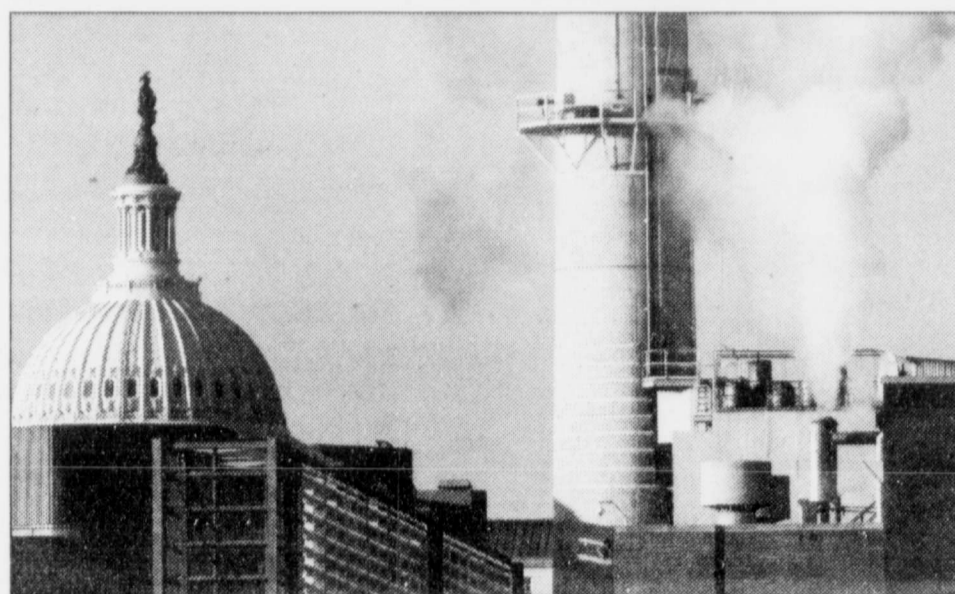
ator."

The group met about a dozen counter-demonstrators who held signs reading: "Our economy runs on coal." The counter-demonstrators argued that coal is affordable and that renewable alternatives to coal-fired power plants won't meet a growing demand for electricity.

The Capitol power plant hasn't generated electricity since 1952, but it does provide steam for heating and chilled water for cooling buildings within the Capitol complex.

Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton, the city's nonvoting member of Congress, said she's been fighting against the power plant since taking office nearly two decades ago.

"It has poisoned untold numbers of people who live in the District of Columbia," she said. **see Protest, page 4**



JACQUELYN MARTIN ASSOCIATED PRESS

As Congress prepares to tackle the gases blamed for global warming and to clean up the nation's energy sources, it wrestles to do the same in its own backyard. Despite repeated attempts to clean up the 99-year-old facility near the capitol building, it still burns coal and accounts for a third of the greenhouse gas emissions of the Legislative branch.

Capitol Power Plant dims clean energy hopes

Dina Cappiello

ASSOCIATED PRESS

As Congress tries to clean up the nation's energy sources and cut gases blamed for global warming, it is struggling to do so in its own backyard.

The Capitol Power Plant, a 99-year-old facility that heats and cools the hallowed halls of Congress, still burns coal and accounts for one-third of the legislative branch's greenhouse gas emissions. For a decade, lawmakers have attempted to clean it up.

In recent years, Congress has reduced its energy consumption. The steam and chilled-water power plant has become more efficient. It now burns more natural gas and only 35

percent coal, compared with 49 percent in 2007.

But Congress is running out of options to make the plant fully green. On Friday the House announced that it was abandoning its goal to be carbon neutral and would no longer buy offsets to make sure it was removing as much carbon dioxide from the atmosphere as it releases. Those offsets were key to zeroing out the remaining emissions at the power plant that could not be reduced by other means.

There are also questions about whether Congress can afford to pay for more natural gas, which burns cleaner than coal.

The plant's story is one that is likely to play out across the United States. **see Legislators, page 4**

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JACQUELYN MARTIN ASSOCIATED PRESS
Alex Lotorto, 22, left, of Milford, Pa., and Dustin Seher, 22, of Grand Forks, N. D., rally in front of the Capitol Power Plant.

Protest

continued from page 3

Columbia," she said.

Norton and others at the rally said they were encouraged by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid who last week called for converting the plant entirely to natural gas in a letter to the Architect of the Capitol, which over-

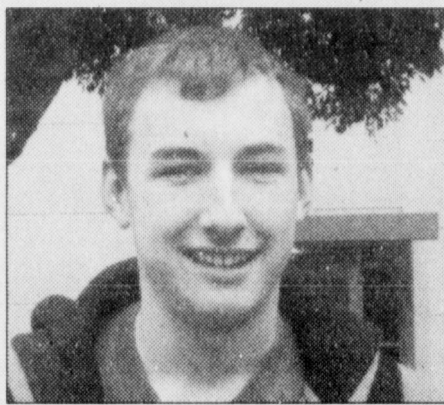
sees the maintenance and operation of the Capitol Complex.

The protest on energy and climate came as Washington began digging out from its largest snowfall of the season. Organizers noted that climate change causes more extreme weather, and they said the issue is important enough that people were willing to brave the cold.

"God has a sense of humor," said protester Rhody Streeter, of Louisville, Ky., referring to the weather.

WORD ON THE STREET

"Is coal a 'clean' form of energy?"



"I think with the proper research and development I could see it but it will take a lot of spending."

-Bryan Podzius, political science freshman

"It can be but it's just not economically feasible."

-Danny Shaw, psychology senior

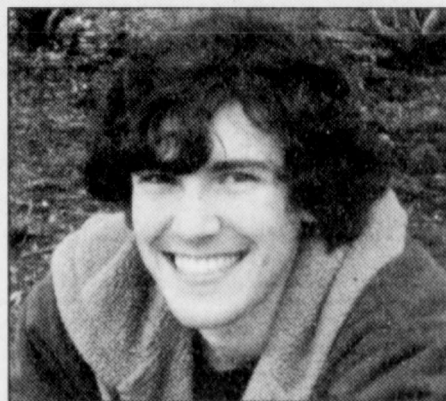


"No; I think it's just a marketing scheme to make people think it's clean. It seems like a waste of infrastructure investment to me."

-Kevin Heinichen, construction management senior

"No, because I think there's a lot of better alternatives. There's way too many pollutants in it to make it clean and it's not reusable."

-Brett Armstrong, computer engineering sophomore



COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY MATT FOUNTAIN

Legislators

continued from page 3

States as Congress looks to limit greenhouse gases and require more of the country's energy to come from wind, solar and other renewable sources.

The issues hampering the clean-up — politics, cost and technological barriers — could trip up similar efforts elsewhere. The United States counts on coal-fired power plants for about half of its electricity; the plants are also the biggest source of heat-trapping gases.

So if Congress cannot act locally, as the environmental slogan goes, how can it begin to think globally?

In 2007, the facility released 118,851 tons of carbon dioxide, according to the Energy Department. That's a fraction of the amount released by the roughly 600 coal-fired power plants nationwide that produce electricity, and the emissions created at other plants from which Congress buys power.

"We are holding it up as a symbol for how we can and must do better," said Mike Tidwell, director of the Chesapeake Climate Action Network. It is among 40 environmental organizations planning a protest Monday that is expected to draw about 2,500 people to the plant a few blocks south of the Capitol.

Among them will be James Hansen, the NASA scientist who first testified in 1988 about the perils of global warming. He has called for halting construction of new coal-fired power plants without technology to capture and store carbon dioxide, the most prevalent greenhouse gas.

"They need to start by getting the coal out of Congress," Hansen said.

While carbon dioxide from the facility could be reduced 60 percent using carbon sequestration technology, the Energy Department in April 2008 ruled that out. The \$112 million cost was too high. There is no place nearby to dispose of the gas and the extra coal burned to run the carbon-trapping equipment would increase other types of air pollution.

Offsetting the power plant's emissions by investing in projects that reduce carbon elsewhere also doesn't look like a viable option. The House spent \$89,000 in 2007 and 2008 in part to cancel out the remaining portion of its carbon dioxide emissions at the plant. But on Friday the House said it would no longer purchase offsets because there is no way to verify whether the investment actually results in carbon neutrality.

Recognizing these dead ends, just last week House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., wrote the Architect of the Capitol, which oversees the maintenance and operation of the Capitol Complex, including the Capitol Power Plant, with another recycled idea: convert the plant entirely to natural gas.

While four times more expensive than coal, natural gas produces about half as much carbon dioxide.

Referring to the facility as a shadow hanging over efforts to make Congress more environmentally friendly, the leaders said the conversion would demonstrate Congress' willingness to deal with global warming, energy independence and the use of finite fossil fuels.

An effort in 2000 to rid the plant of coal and oil was blocked by two senators from coal-producing states. Sens. Robert Byrd, D-W.Va., and Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., argued at the time that the continued use of coal would save taxpayers money because it is cheaper than natural gas.

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sex column

Don't let Facebook do the dirty work: do your dumping in person



Sex Ed with Denise Nilan

When I was a naive freshman I started dating an older man, a wise and mature sophomore. There was something about his Quick-silver attire and hiked up socks that made him relatable to my post high school years. A month went by and there were cute texts and dates. I thought things were really going well until I logged onto Facebook one afternoon and saw a message with the subject titled "News."

"Hey, I hate to tell you this. I am getting back with an ex-girlfriend of mine. I owe it to her to give our relationship another go, long

story. I'm sorry for all this and hope that we can still be friends. I just had to come out and tell you as it wouldn't be fair if I didn't. So yeah, that's my story as of now."

I have to admit I totally didn't see that coming. I got Facebook dumped from a quasi-relationship. "Still be friends?" What the hell does that mean? I didn't even get a phone call or a text. That's not very friendly.

In a fury, I went to my friend's dorm room, read her the message and spent hours jotting down vicious rebuttals and witty jabs to send his way. Ultimately I didn't write him back. He didn't deserve to know how I felt and I wasn't going to give him that satisfaction.

My resolve worked for a while. Refusing to write back turned out to be one of the smartest things I've done in a relationship. After a few days, though, he freaked out that I didn't respond and wrote me again with a message titled "ewwwwwww-wwwww."

"hahahahahaha fine dont write back to my message BITCHhhh effing mutt.....=-OOOO"

I defiantly stood my ground and didn't write back to that message either. However, my self-control was waning. Every sip of alcohol I took with my friends that weekend only hampered my commitment to no communication. It was after drinking too much plastic handle vodka that I did one of the dumbest things I've ever done in a relationship: I drunk dialed the guy who Facebook dumped me from a hook-up and called me a bitch. The late night call didn't get answered and to this day I still wonder what I would have said. I had no plan but I imagine I would have stammered out 'Hey my Internet's down. What's up?' or 'How are you and the girlfriend?'

The next day I realized to my disappointment that my missed call hadn't gone unnoticed. I was greeted with another friendly Facebook message. It was obvious at this point that it was his preferred medium of communication:

"so did you call me saturday just to yell at me or did you actually have something to say?"

Again, I didn't write back, this time more because of my embarrassment rather than my stubborn will. The whole fiasco ended with him de-friending me only to have him immediately try to re-friend me. His friend request stayed unacknowledged for almost a year until he deleted his Facebook account.

Unfortunately, my first year drama isn't all that uncommon. Hopefully my story isn't happening to a lot of people, but the Internet and cell phones are affecting how everyone interacts. Our tech savvy generation faces new challenges in dating etiquette. Of all the mediums to break-up with someone, face-to-face is the most preferred, a phone call is second and all other forms of communication teeter on rude. Facebook is only for recognizing interest in someone and text messages are

Text messages are strictly for getting to know you or for booty calls.

strictly for getting to know you or for booty calls. Of course it depends on the situation, but I feel that under most circumstances, people deserve the respect of a more honorable mode of communication than Facebook.

Denise Nilan is a journalism senior and the Mustang Daily's sex and relationship columnist.

Poetry to inspire for Women's History Month

Ashley Ciullo
MUSTANG DAILY

Kat McGill, better known in the poetry world as Simply Kat, will bring her emotionally-charged brand of poetry to center stage just in time for Women's History Month.

McGill, performing at this month's Another Type of Groove: Spoken Word Poetry, will be the first featured poet at Cal Poly to kick off the celebration of women's history this month.

Simply Kat introduced herself to the microphone at age 17. She is a member of A Mic in Dim Lights which meets in Pomona, Calif. Performing for colleges across the country, group homes, festivals and summer camps based on the arts of dance and writing, McGill seeks to educate while entertaining audiences of all ages. She also aims to help improve creative expression and literacy rates in young people in the workshops she conducts.

Josue Urrutia of the Multi-Cultural Center said McGill intrigued him because she is a female poet and that corresponds well with women's history month and that he also appreciated that fact that she hails from Los Angeles.

"We try to find many points of view when looking for poets. Last (month's poet) was from the East Coast. We want to have every poet be from a different place so the school can be exposed to diverse backgrounds and perspectives," Urrutia said.

McGill showcased her talents on HBO's "Def Poetry Jam" and has also appeared in "Spit," an independent movie about the connections between hip-hop and poetry. She was a member of the 2005 and 2006 Hollywood Slam team and the 2007 Los Angeles Slam Team. She has won the title of Slam Champion of the Highways Theatre Poetry Slam and released her first solo album in 2007. She is currently working on a play, "Corner Sweet" and "Noahlani the Dancing Lion," a children's book.

One hour prior to the show, ARTS Obispo will present the third year of "Poetry Out Loud," an adaptation of a national recitation contest that will host students from Nipomo, Paso Robles, Arroyo Grande, Lopez, Mission College Preparatory, San Luis Obispo and Morro Bay high schools. Students will recite poems by

see Kat, page 6

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club profile

Students For Justice and Peace in the Middle East brings controversial politics to the forefront

Genevieve Loggins

MUSTANG DAILY

Recent events in the Middle East have raised concern for one group on campus, Students For Justice and Peace in the Middle East (SJPME), who are making their cause heard beyond the Cal Poly campus.

SJPME focuses on the Middle East in general, engaging in political activism and education to advance their cause, which often counters pro-Israel groups and clubs.

Club Co-President Grace Kirschner said its the club's mission to increase understanding of the recent events in Palestine.

"Lately, we had a vigil to

remember the victims from the violence in Gaza," Kirschner said. "And we held a protest on Israel's violation of international law."

Kirschner joined the club after SJPME sponsored a campus speaker who discussed the recent violence and turmoil throughout the Middle East, she said.

"I think it's important to know many of us aren't from the Middle East, but what we all have in common is raising awareness on human rights concerns," she said.

All 10 members of SJPME access mainstream news to get clued in on occurrences throughout the Middle East. Kirschner listens to Democracy Now, and

alternative news sources like Al Jazeera and the BBC to get more accurate information, since she believes that American media offers a limited view on the world.

Haroun Idris started participating in SJPME activities to raise concern for parts of the world where violence occurs almost every day. His participation has earned him the respect and admiration from members of the community.

"I started to become a very active member this past year, and I organized the protest that was held at Mission Plaza regarding the events in Pakistan, and the video protest on campus," Idris said. "I also helped with the vig-

il that was held concerning the Gaza Strip."

These two events were successful in the community as SJPME had the chance to expand outside of Cal Poly, Idris said.

SJPME is looking to increase its membership and is ramping up its freshmen recruiting in an effort to keep members longer.

"We welcome people with different political view points, and we want to change the discourse of the subject," Kirschner said.

The group claims that it is focused on presenting the most accurate information in an unbiased way to students and the community, strictly to raise concern, she said.

The club recently showed the controversial 2004 documentary "Peace Propaganda in the Promised Land" that, according to the film's Web site, "analyzes and explains how — through the use of language, framing and context — the Israeli occupation of the West

Bank and Gaza remains hidden in the news media."

The documentary argues that the influence of pro-Israel media has led to distorted public perceptions of the conflict.

"We're showing this film because we don't want people to forget what is occurring in Palestine, and occupation continues to exist," Kirschner said.

The club will hold a week long event in May, focusing on a different country each day to further expose the culture and new issues each country faces, Kirschner said.

SJPME meets every Thursday from 11 a.m. to noon in the Frank E. Pilling Computer Science building, room 251 and is open to anyone interested in learning more about events in the Middle East or what direction the club should take.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the first in a series of club profiles the Mustang Daily will be featuring this year. Check back for features on Hillel and other on-campus clubs.



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Crazy Jays Downtown SLO

Kat

continued from page 5

etry, competing to represent the county at the California championship where winners will win scholarships.

"They've been chosen from

their respective schools and now they're competing to represent the Central Coast," Gonzales said.

Another Type of Groove will be held from 7:30 to 10 p.m. March 4 at Chumash Auditorium.

It is free to the public. There will be an open mic for students, staff and community members.

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March 3, 2009
Volume LXXII, No. 103 ©2009
Mustang Daily

"Crowbars are really underrated.
When's the last time you heard about
people using a crowbar?"

Women don't dunk

Society wants testosterone in its sports

The Cal Poly women's basketball team is 18-8 (10-4 Big West Conference) and the men's basketball team is 7-18 (3-10 Big West), yet the men's team is averaging over 2,000 fans per game while the women's team has just over 500. Fans usually prefer winning teams over losing teams, so why is there such a big difference between the attendance numbers for the Mustang basketball teams?

I did a little bit of research and also asked some friends to see what sorts of answers were out there and, surprisingly, found some similar ones.

First, most people seem to find the majority of women's sports "boring," a word I saw across Web posts and heard from friends, both male and female. Besides three main exceptions (tennis, figure skating and gymnastics) people seem to think of women's sports as unexciting. Even female friends who participate in sports said they didn't like watching women's sports (with the exception of those three already stated).

Title IX in 1972 paved the way for gender equality in sports and as a result women are competing and participating in more and more sports. But the number of women who actually watch sports, either on TV or in person,

is not large. The audiences watching women's sports like basketball and soccer are mostly made up of men.

A columnist for ESPN.com, Stacey Pressman, was quoted in a New York Times article "Ideas & Trends: Why Don't Women Watch Women's Sports?" as saying, "I'm bored out of my skull at women's basketball games. I prefer a few women's events, like tennis, but I refuse to be politically correct about basketball. I'm sorry, but 40 minutes of underhanded lay-ups is not entertaining."

I'm all for equality for men and women in every field, but there must be a reason that men's sports are more exciting, and therefore more appealing to audiences. Biologically, there are some factors that would seem to contribute to the "excitement" theory.

Part of it seems to come down to testosterone. According to a second New York Times article, "Men, Women and Speed. 2 Words: Got Testosterone?" the hormone affects the amount of Type 2 muscle fibers (used to create speed and strength), the number of red blood cells produced (more red

blood cells lead to more hemoglobin, which leads to the muscles' ability to obtain oxygen while exercising), the amount of body fat a person has and the size and strength of the muscles and heart. In having more testosterone, men have the advantage over women because they have more Type 2 fibers, produce more red blood cells, have less body fat and larger muscles, including the heart.

When you hear people discussing sports the day after a game, what are they talking about? The seemingly impossible catch by Larry Fitzgerald, the throw down tackle by Ray Lewis, Kobe Bryant's one-on-one battle that still resulted in a perfect shot and Lebron James blocking a shot into the tenth row of the stands. That's what people want to see. That's why they watch sports.

Unfortunately, in a lot of women's sports, their bodies are just not made for these "insane" catches, throws and tackles. That's not to say there aren't women out there who are capable of dunking a basketball, it's just that the majority are not. Maybe it's like some people have been saying for years now: women simply need time to catch up because they've been discriminated against for so long. But maybe it has to do more with women's bodies and men's bodies and the fact that they are very different.

I don't want these facts to discourage women from playing sports, because I definitely support female athletes. I just want to look into

why men's sports seem to get more coverage by both the media and fans. I think testosterone affects performance level, thus affecting the excitement and number of fans watching. In today's world, where movie stunts are becoming crazier and crazier and the pressure is always on for that next explosive clip, men's dunks in basketball and intense throws and tackles in football are going to attract attention.

Another factor is that many people, men and women, grow up watching men's sports not women's. I grew up rooting for football and basketball teams my dad liked, and even my mom only watched men's sports. To this day I will not sit down to watch an entire women's team compete in any sport unless it's for the Olympics, and it could be because of how I was raised.

Growing up watching men's sports might also mean we have higher standards when it comes to

the action part of sports (dunking, catches, throws, etc.) and so when we watch women's sports we become bored because they cannot, or do not, do the same things. Our vision is skewed towards men's sports and their level of competition.

Unfortunately, our society is also obsessed with the idea that sex sells and women should be sexy all the time. So sports like volley-

ball (especially beach volleyball), gymnastics and tennis, where women either wear almost nothing or the

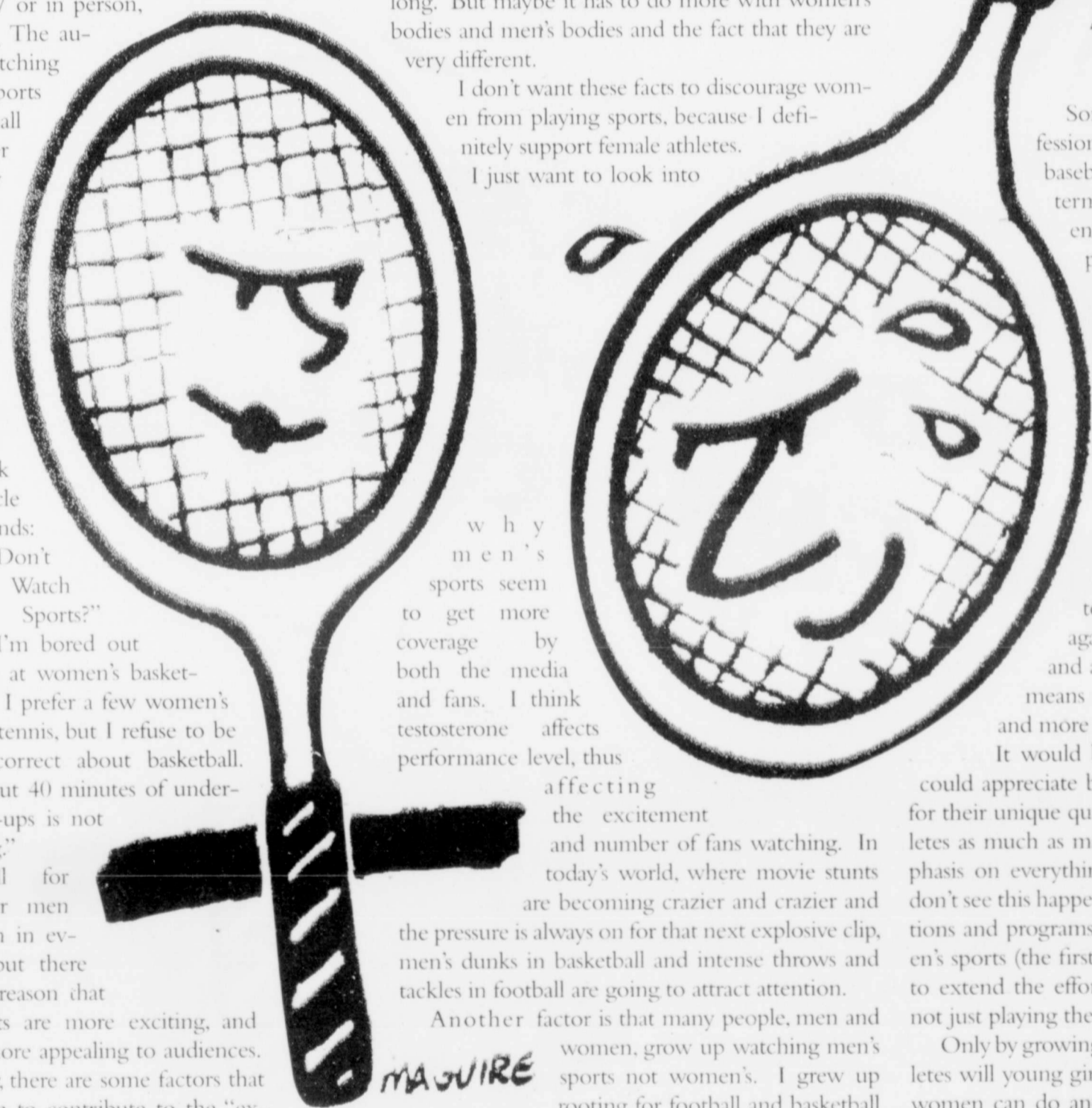
clothing they wear is tight and short, get more attention than other sports and not necessarily for the right reasons.

Some of the most popular professional sports right now (football, baseball, basketball and hockey in terms of drawing television audiences) don't even have counterpart women's teams (with the exception of the WNBA). If people can't watch you on television it's hard to promote your team or sport and you won't pull in advertisers or money. The U.S. women's soccer team was doing well for a while, but Americans in general don't watch much soccer (the low scores surely have something to do with this), so women are again at a disadvantage. Sponsors and advertisers mean money, which means more TV time, more exposure and more popularity.

It would be nice, of course, if everyone could appreciate both women's and men's sports for their unique qualities and celebrate female athletes as much as male athletes. But with the emphasis on everything being "bigger and better" I don't see this happening anytime soon. If organizations and programs really want to promote women's sports (the first step being Title IX) they need to extend the effort to watching women's sports, not just playing them.

Only by growing up watching strong female athletes will young girls become accustomed to what women can do and hopefully continue watching as they grow older. This might be the only way to ensure a long lasting audience for women's sports and guarantee that women's sports continue to exist at a professional level.

Alisha Axsom is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily reporter.



Write a letter to the editor!

Please include your name, year and major!

The '60s are back: students march for environmental change

Radicalism, student power and nonviolent direct action spark images of the 1960s protests against the war, the free speech movement and the civil rights movement. Student activists lobbied the U.S. Congress, marched the White House, staged boycotts, strikes and sit-ins and participated in civil disobedience. This was a time marked by such overt societal decay that people, especially young people, became sick of the powers that led the country. Young people raised their voices and refused to be an accomplice to what they believed to be wrong.

The 1960s movement was limited by its ability to create widespread engagement and change. Rallying and protesting prevented people's ability to interact and get involved. Now we have entered a time in history fraught with such moral, environmental and economic uncertainty that people from all disciplines are coming together to find solutions to eminent challenges: ending the use of coal power, creating green jobs and building a clean energy infrastructure.

It seems like today's movement is shaped by constantly evolving sustainability conferences, energy town hall meetings, interactive environmental justice workshops, ecological literacy outings and local food parties. These gatherings emphasized the cultural, entertainment and lifestyle aspects that create a positive energy and vision.

This weekend, thousands of students from across the United States gathered in Washington, D.C., to attend Power Shift 2009, a historic youth summit and lobby day aimed at pressuring congress to take aggressive action on the climate crisis. The summit, organized by the Energy Action Coalition, featured workshops, a green job fair, music and fun. "The workshops, lectures and panels covered just about the whole spectrum...from environmental justice, to the nation's energy policy, to transportation," explains Donald Nielsen a Cal Poly student and Power Shift attendee. Events frame the way we perceive the world, connect us to quality people and create a community around our efforts.

Some of the speakers included House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, the Environmental Protection Agency's Carol Browner and the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights Director Van Jones. "The result of Power Shift isn't in the conference itself, but rather the energy that will translate back into

the college communities across the country,"

said Tyler Hartrich, ASI Environmental Affairs Officer and attendee of the conference. Events become a cultural experience with great leaders, and a site for renewed strength.

The Power Shift events were followed by yesterday's rally to the Capitol's very own coal-fired power plant. Members of Congress promise to close the Capitol Power Plant from coal power. "We strongly encourage you to move forward aggressively with us on a comprehensive set of policies for the

entire Capitol complex and the entire Legislative Branch to quickly reduce emissions

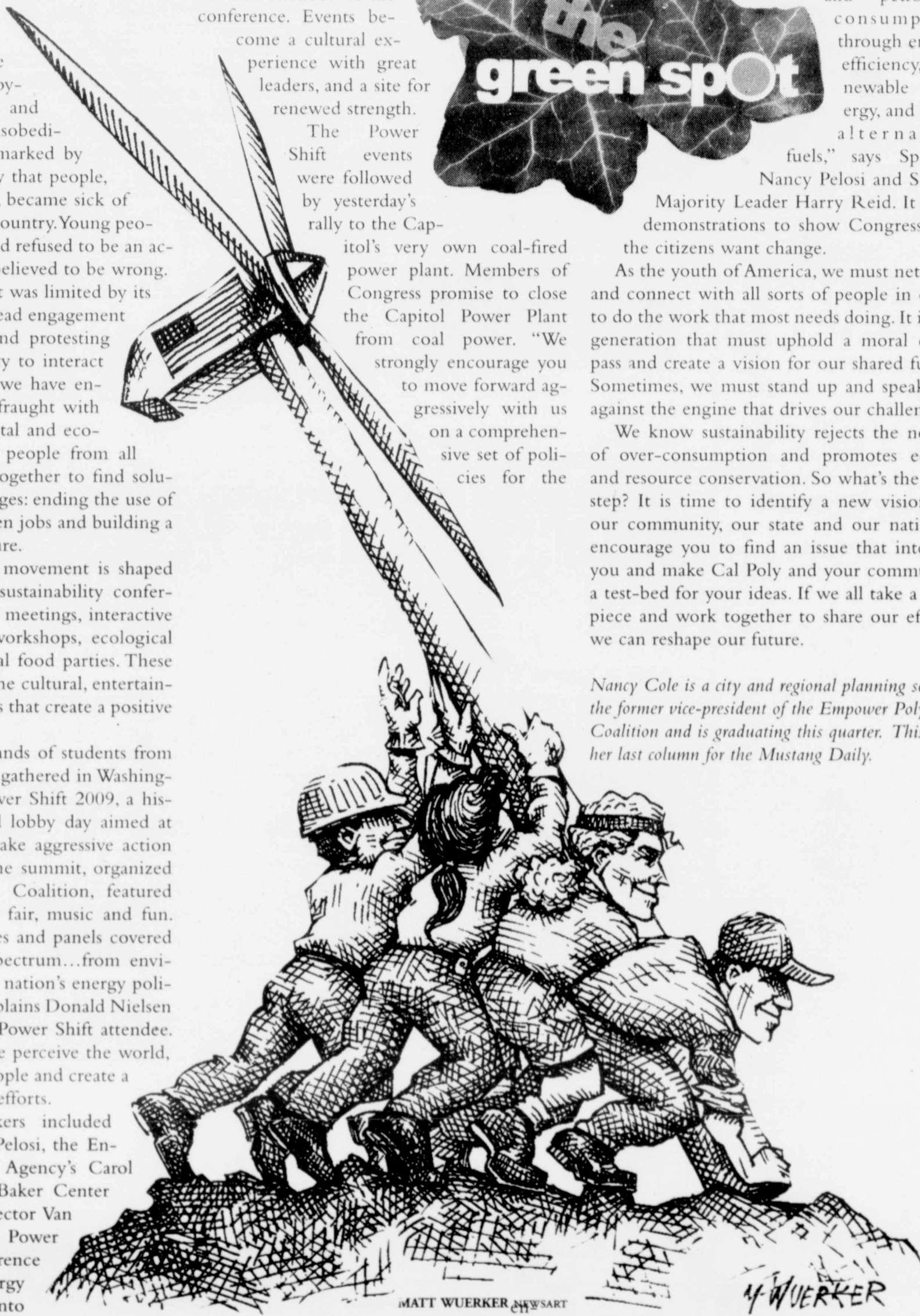
and petroleum consumption through energy efficiency, renewable energy, and clean alternative fuels," says Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate

Majority Leader Harry Reid. It takes demonstrations to show Congress that the citizens want change.

As the youth of America, we must network and connect with all sorts of people in order to do the work that most needs doing. It is our generation that must uphold a moral compass and create a vision for our shared future. Sometimes, we must stand up and speak out against the engine that drives our challenges.

We know sustainability rejects the notion of over-consumption and promotes equity and resource conservation. So what's the next step? It is time to identify a new vision for our community, our state and our nation. I encourage you to find an issue that interests you and make Cal Poly and your community a test-bed for your ideas. If we all take a little piece and work together to share our efforts, we can reshape our future.

Nancy Cole is a city and regional planning senior, the former vice-president of the Empower Poly Coalition and is graduating this quarter. This is her last column for the Mustang Daily.



Omar, I just don't see what you are arguing here. You sound like a socialist, trying to cap the salaries of people in business. These coaches bring revenue to the schools. This revenue is used to upgrade the schools technology and infrastructure. The comparison of these coaches to governors is ridiculous. You are putting governors on a pedestal, as if they are performing a job that is helping us citizens immensely.

Let's take a look at what our own governor has done for us. Forty-eight billion dollars in debt, new taxes and IOUs (instead of tax refunds). Politicians and businessmen should never be put in the same sentence. One of them is paid to spend our money, the other is paid to perform a service to generate money. Politicians don't generate money, they take it (by taxation). College sports is a business. People pay to go to games, they are televised, there are advertisements, etc. The only difference is that students are not paid (directly) in college sports. I suggest you take a basic class on capitalism and economics, and then present a new argument.

— Jason Carian

Response to "Coaches keep fat paychecks despite nationwide university budget issues"

I confess, I too, deep down, want to be a hipster. They're so cool and funky and goddamn hip. They seem to pull off everything too. Dammit.

I confess again: I'll wear the occasional V and have purchased at least two items of clothing at "AmerApper."

Alas... that is neither here nor there. Loving the Handsome Furs immediately. They're one of those hipster bands I'd heard of, but not heard. Beast, !!! and Sebastien Teller are my latest obsessions... but if you've heard of them, they're probably not hip enough. Right?

— Dan

Response to "Face Control" provides pleasant mix of instruments and styles"

winter 2009 columnist schedule

mondays
bi-weekly



That's What She Said
by Rachel Newman

tuesdays



by members of the Empower Poly Coalition

wednesdays



Don't Tread on Me
by Jeremy Hicks

thursdays



The Liberal Lens
by Stephanie England



The Conservative Constitutionalist
by Colin McKim

fridays



Marci's Word of the Week
by Marci Palla

Classifieds comics and games

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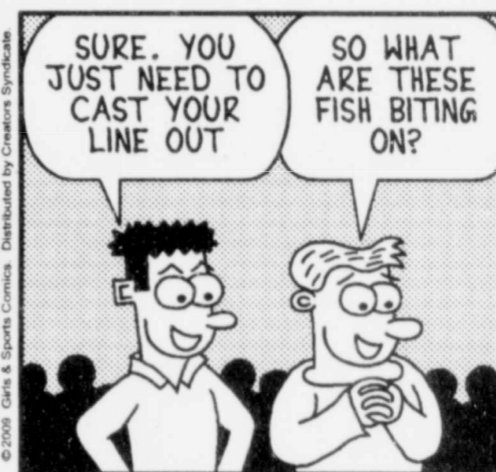
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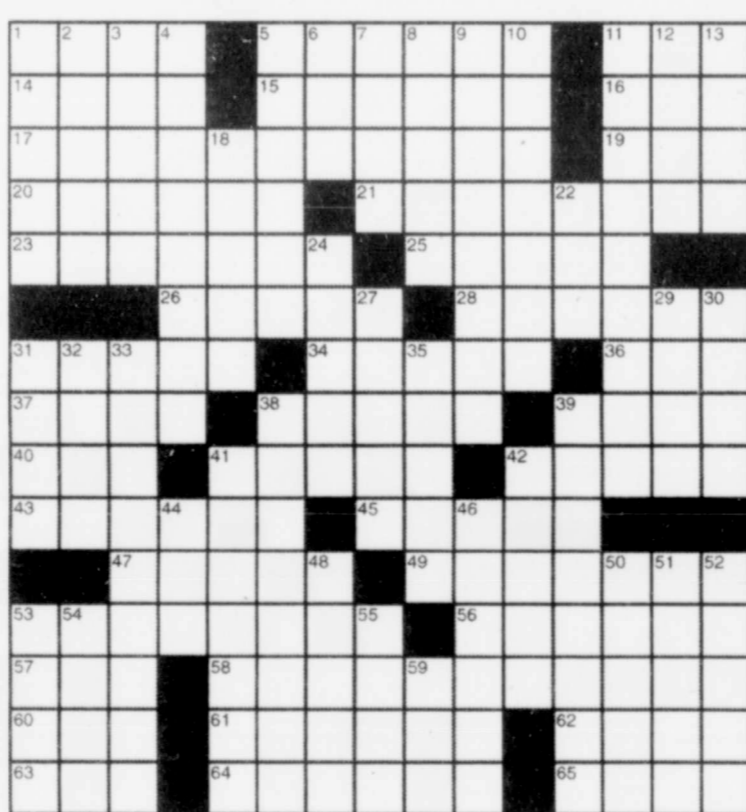
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Girls & Sports by Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



- Across**
- 1 Li'l Abner creator
 - 5 China shop purchase
 - 11 Seminoles' sch.
 - 14 Baseball's Moises or Felipe
 - 15 Play starter
 - 16 "___ only money!"
 - 17 Game with "Out of Gas" cards
 - 19 Certain whiskey
 - 20 Spots for spats
 - 21 High-voltage weapon
 - 23 Had a yen
 - 25 Word with double or free
 - 26 Furrier John Jacob ___
 - 28 Classic Isaac Asimov short-story collection
 - 31 Popular fabric softener
 - 34 Big name in retail jewelry
 - 36 Gives the thumbs-up
 - 37 Composer Satie
 - 38 Some mailings to record execs
 - 39 Go sprawling
 - 40 AOL alternative
 - 41 Nation once known as Dahomey
 - 42 Horses' locks
 - 43 Like newly laid lawns
 - 45 Alternative to a station wagon or convertible
 - 47 Contradict
 - 49 Convertibles, informally
 - 53 Cop's cruiser
 - 56 Check out of a library, e.g.
 - 57 Place for a plug
 - 58 Robert Ludlum protagonist
 - 60 Ugly as ___
 - 61 Former British P.M. Clement ___
 - 62 Larry who won the 1987 Masters
 - 63 Poem of Sappho
 - 64 Start over with, as a lawn
 - 65 Salon sound
- Down**
- 1 Bar soap brand
 - 2 Flared dress
 - 3 Compah band tune
 - 4 Exert one's superiority
 - 5 Typewriter formatting feature
 - 6 Prefix with system or sphere
 - 7 Gillette razor
 - 8 Braga of film
 - 9 Vigorous feelings
 - 10 Lab personnel
 - 11 Heir to a throne, typically
 - 12 Eyelid woe
 - 13 Tech's customer
 - 18 ___-weensy
 - 22 "I'll take that as ___"
 - 24 Dunkin' Donuts order
 - 27 Harold of "Ghostbusters"
 - 29 Depression-era migrant



Puzzle by Jim Hyres

- 30 Recipe amts.
- 31 G.O.P. rivals
- 32 Guesstimate phrase
- 33 Like the dust in a dust storm
- 35 Asocial sort
- 38 Devote wholly
- 39 Rugrats' outbursts
- 41 Sylvia Plath novel, with "The"
- 42 Myopic Mr.
- 44 Mountain ___ (soda)
- 46 Applied gently
- 48 Some bridge seats
- 50 Sen. Hatch of Utah
- 51 ___ scheme (investment scam)
- 52 Remove dust bunnies
- 53 Colombian cash
- 54 Drug bust, e.g.
- 55 58-Across, for Matt Damon
- 59 Bridal bio word

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DIOR HOAX OATES
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Music

continued from page 12

and slow to get hyped up.

"I warm up two hours before," she said. "As I do that I'm listening to R&B: John Legend, Anthony Hamilton, R. Kelly or something like that."

The tempo in their music preferences seems to pick up with the speed the athletes run.

Junior sprinter Shane Cunningham favors bands like AC/DC.

"It gets my heart pumping," Cunningham said. "After, I like a little Bob Marley and Coldplay, just to throw some names out there, to help me sleep."

It gets faster; sophomore long sprinter Tony Hodges likes his pre-game music a bit more "screamy."

"A little 'As I Lay Dying,' it helps me get into my zone and focus and not think about things going on around me," he said.

However, a trip back to Mott Gym reveals hip-hop as the crown of Cal Poly athletics.

Men's basketball senior guard Chaz Thomas said it's mostly rap he enjoys listening to before a game, especially T.I. because of the motivational lyrics he relates to.

And the pattern continues with the wrestling team. Andy Wagner walks out to "Ooh ahh" by the Grits. On the other hand, the team's top wrestler, Chase Pami, enjoys the melody of Christian worship music.

"I like Jason Upton for spiritual reasons," Pami said. "My faith in God is important to me and I think the music I listen to influences my thought process and my positive thinking. So I like listening to Christian worship to keep positive things coming through my mind."

Pami chose "Meant to live" by Switchfoot as his walkout song for duals "because it's a bit more upbeat, it gets my adrenaline going. It's also soothing and enjoyable for the crowd to hear something that they know."

Another hip-hop fan and someone who most Mustangs sports fans know well is former football standout Ramses Barden, who especially likes Royce Da 5'9", AZ and Nas.

So Nas, if hip-hop is dead, then the Mustangs are in hip-hop heaven.

Baseball

continued from page 12

road," Lee said. "We're playing well, we're playing with confidence. We tell our players that you have to win on the road to be a quality college baseball program."

Prior to last weekend's series against Sacramento State over the weekend, Lee told his team that a dominant performance would put them on the bubble for a slot in the polls.

The Mustangs would go on to sweep the Hornets. The sweep coupled with a series win against then-No. 3 Rice and a midweek win against defending national champion Fresno State put Cal Poly over the top.

"It's something that is important for Cal Poly to get that name recognition out there and you never know what non-conference wins early in the season are going to get you that extra vote to get you into postseason competition," Lee said.

If anyone knows the importance of earning extra votes to

get into the postseason, it's Lee's Mustangs.

Despite several strong showings, including a second-place Big West finish in 2005, the Mustangs have yet to reach regional competition at the Division I level.

If the early season success is any indication, Cal Poly should be well on its way.

The Spartans provide another early season test for the Mustangs with a pitching staff that carries a stingy 2.83 ERA into tonight's contest.

Cal Poly will spend the majority of the next two weeks on the road. After San Jose State, the Mustangs will spend the weekend in Texas to take on Houston, followed by a weekday game against Pepperdine and a three-game set against Cal next weekend.

Still, Lee said that being on the road will have its positives and that his team is up for the task.

"There's less distractions on the road," he said. "It's a good atmosphere for us. It's something we're looking forward to."

Warner

continued from page 12

Warner mouthed the words "I'm not talking" through the window to reporters as they drove through a security gate.

The Warners were expected to fly home Monday night, but McCloughan and owner Jed York indicated they might have dinner plans or further discussions before he returned to Phoenix.

Last season Warner proved he's still at the top of his talents. After claiming the Cardinals' starting job from Matt Leinart, Warner passed for 4,583 yards and 30 touchdowns, leading the franchise to its first division title since 1975. He also starred in four playoff games, completing 68 percent of his passes for 1,147 yards and 11 TDs.

Singletary has been unwilling to designate veteran Shaun Hill as his starter for next season even after Hill led San Francisco to five wins in its final seven games and a 7-9 record that knocked the interim tag off Singletary's title. Hill has been an effective quarterback over the past two seasons, going 7-3 as a starter, but he doesn't have the arm strength or pedigree that

wows coaches.

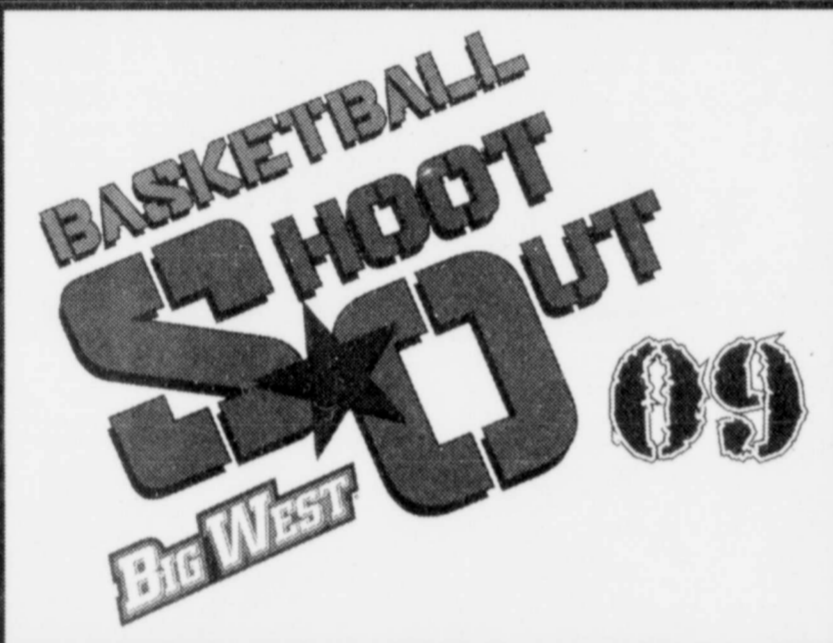
Alex Smith, the injury-plagued former No. 1 draft pick, is working on restructuring his contract to stay with the 49ers, who'll release him if they can't reach a deal with a much lower base salary than the \$9 million in his current contract.

The 49ers might not be the ideal football fit for Warner, who would leave a lineup with star receivers Larry Fitzgerald and Anquan Boldin to join a run-based offense with no proven pass-catchers — although Warner's arrival might persuade longtime Rams teammate Isaac Bruce to put off retirement for another season.

San Francisco's biggest signing Monday also pointed to another reason Warner might not be perfectly suited for the Niners. Fullback Moran Norris signed a three-year contract to return to the 49ers, who have repeatedly said they plan to build a run-first offense around running back Frank Gore and new coordinator Jimmy Raye.

But Warner met with Raye and quarterbacks coach Mike Johnson on Monday afternoon, talking football and weighing his options.

"We just said hello," York said of his interaction with Warner. "He's a great guy, class act, great person."



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1	4	9	7	8	6	2	3	5
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8	9	4	1	2	7	5	6	3
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Music serves as inspiration for many Poly athletes

Omar Sanchez
MUSTANG DAILY

Who says hip-hop is dead? Nas might think so, but it's alive and well in Cal Poly athletics. From the baseball fields to the wrestling room, the upbeat sound of hip-hop dominates athletes' playlists.

Cal Poly's No. 1 singles tennis player Andre Dome credited Lupe Fiasco as his motivation before matches, mirroring the women's team which also prefers hip-hop.

But Dome might be alone in his taste if women's senior tennis player Shannon Brady's assumption is correct in that "The guy's team likes listening to techno."

Nonetheless, it seems every great athlete has a certain genre or artist they prefer before competition.

Twelve-time Olympic gold medalist Michael Phelps had Lil' Wayne rhyming in his ear during the 2008 Beijing Olympics, and Michael Jordan found motivation in Anita Baker's slow R&B tunes before taking to the court.

“My faith in God is important to me and the music I listen to influences my thought process and my positive thinking.”

— Chase Pami
Cal Poly wrestler

On campus, it isn't hard to figure out what athletes are listening to; a walk through the hallways of Mott Gym gives a good hint. Stirred in with the clinks and clamors of the weight room are jams from the local hip-hop station.

Across campus where the baseball team practices, Lil' Wayne has come to rule the diamond.

"A lot (of) guys like his flow, he comes out with good

stuff," said senior catcher Justin Hensley.

"It's something to relax and get pumped up to at the same time," Hensley added.

Teammate senior outfielder Phil Ortez agreed that the team is a hip-hop bunch, but said he personally enjoys reggae because of what it does for him prior to a game.

His personal favorite is "Runnin' with a gun" by Slightly Stoopid.

"It's reggae with a little upbeat, helps me feel good about myself," Ortez said. "When that happens, good things happen."

In fact, he likes the song so much that it's his walk-up song during at-bats this season.

"The lyrics, the melody, it has it all. It gets me pumped up and calm at the same time, good balance," Ortez explained.

There certainly is no balance on what athletes listen to, but perhaps the most genre diverse bunch has to be the track and field team.

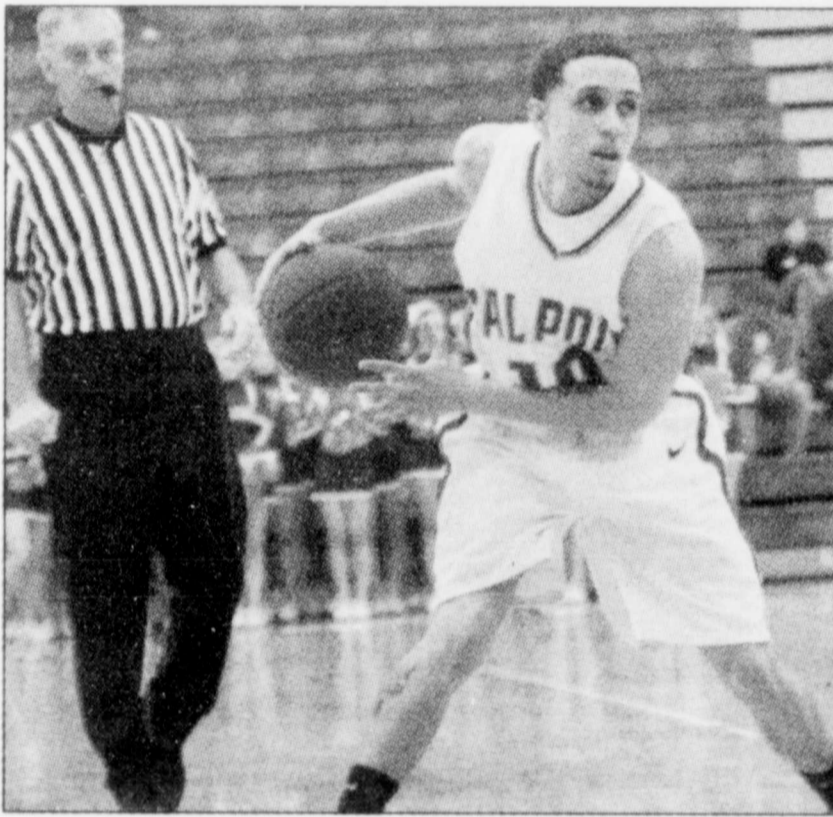
Sophomore middle distance runner Blake McDowall falls in with the majority when he listens to "Stuff like Andre Nickatina because it gets my blood flowing and

smooth rock afterwards to calm me down."

Hip-hop is the most popular for its upbeat rhythm, but not every athlete takes pleasure in the lyrics of emcees and sampled beats. There are exceptions on every team.

Sophomore hurdler Jerree Byrd prefers her music soft

see Music, page 11



Cal Poly senior guard Chaz Thomas, shown above, says that he listens to hip-hop music before games to help motivate himself to play better.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rapper T.I., shown above, has inspired a number of Cal Poly athletes with lyrics they say hold a more real world feeling than much of the music of today.

baseball

Cal Poly achieves its highest ranking ever

Scott Silvey
MUSTANG DAILY

The Cal Poly baseball team is no stranger to being in a conference with multiple teams ranked in the top 25.

What the Mustangs aren't accustomed to is being among those teams themselves. But that is exactly where Cal Poly (6-1) finds itself after being ranked No. 17 in the Collegiate Baseball Newspaper Top 25 poll.

Cal Poly joins Big West powers Cal State Fullerton (sixth) and UC Irvine (eighth) in the polls, giving the conference three of the top 20 teams in the nation.

The ranking is the highest Cal Poly has ever obtained at the Division I level. Head coach Larry Lee said he is happy the team is being recognized, but that they have a long way to go this season.

"We don't want to read too much into it," Lee said. "We like the limelight but we don't want to feel like we're any better than we are."

Cal Poly will step back into the spotlight tonight when they take on San Jose State (6-0), a team that has had early season success akin to the Mustangs, in the first game of an eight-game road trip.

"It's a good time to go on the

see Baseball, page 11



NICK CAMACHO MUSTANG DAILY

Cal Poly freshman second basemen Matt Jensen bunts at a ball during the Mustangs' 6-2 win over Sacramento State on Saturday afternoon.

Kurt Warner visits 49ers headquarters

Greg Beacham
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — Kurt Warner is being courted by an eager division rival of the Arizona Cardinals.

The San Francisco 49ers sent a private jet Monday for the two-time MVP quarterback, who traveled from Phoenix to the 49ers' Silicon Valley training complex. He underwent a physical exam and had a meeting with their top brass.

Warner led the Cardinals to the Super Bowl last season, but became a free agent when he didn't re-sign with the club. Arizona has offered a two-year, \$20 million contract to Warner, but he's apparently seeking a deal worth at least \$14 million per season.

For the right offer, the former St. Louis Rams star seems willing to leave Arizona, his home for the past four seasons. The 49ers have a new coach and a decent amount of talent, but no proven starting quarterback — so they rolled out the red-and-gold carpet for Warner.

"It's still up in the air," San Francis-

co general manager Scot McCloughan said while leaving the complex about 30 minutes before Warner departed in a stretch Range Rover limousine. "We're very excited he's willing to come visit us and possibly be a 49er. ... He's a very classy guy, and you can see why he's been so successful in his career, the way he carries himself."

NFC West rival San Francisco finished just two games behind the Cardinals in second place last season, and the club has enough cap room to accommodate Warner's salary wishes. Among the Niners' many obstacles would be enticing Warner, who will be 38 years old by training camp, to uproot his large family again.

After flying into San Jose, Warner and his wife, Brenda, arrived at the 49ers' training complex shortly before lunchtime. He had lunch and a meeting with McCloughan and coach Mike Singletary before traveling to Stanford Hospital for his exam.

Warner returned to the complex in a Cadillac driven by 49ers athletic trainer Jeff Ferguson at about 4 p.m.

see Warner, page 11