Library computer eases book search

New Polycat system gives status of materials at the touch of a button

By Marianne Biasotti

Imagine banishing forever those endless card catalogs and with them the wasted hours before a single book can be found.

Consider it done — those paper dinosaurs are finally becoming extinct at Cal Poly.

Hours can be compressed into minutes, enough time to read the simple instructions for Polycat, the computer catalog system now available in the library.

Cal Poly and five other California State University campuses were offered the computerized system by the CSU Chancellor's Office, which wants all campuses to have a similar one on line.

The Chancellor's Office gave $500,000 to Cal Poly for the new system. The remaining 100,000 came from the library budget.

The system, which has been planned for the past two years, opened Jan. 3 and is being introduced to students in two phases. Phase I is called “Browsing.” It acts as a card catalog. Phase II, or “Keyword,” aids students in advanced research.

In Phase I, the computer lists all the books on a chosen subject as they appear on the shelf, including titles of each book and a call number for finding the book in the library.

After the user picks one from the list, the screen gives information on the book, its location in the library and whether it's checked out or not.

“Most students have taken to it pretty quickly,” said Paul Adalian, head of the reference room. He said if students ever get stuck, they just need to look at the bottom of the screen.

“The user simply types in the book title or author's name,” said Tim Misner, a senior natural resources management major.

“This is a great tool. I'll feel a lot more comfortable going to the library. It's usually such a hassle,” Misner said.

Adalian said that once students are comfortable with the browsing phase, Polycat will go to Phase II. “Keyword” will begin at the end of winter quarter allowing the user to “browse” the data system is complete. It will allow advanced searching techniques.

By J. L. Green

POLYCAT, page 7

Historical hovering ...

Da Vinci copter flies; misses $25,000 prize

By Leslie Morris

Is it really exciting the first time the Da Vinci flew. The second time it was nice. But the third time it was a great relief,” he said, because there were so many important people who had come to the event. The flight was covered by the New York Times, L.A. Times, major television networks including CNN, and People Magazine. Also present were Calif. Poly President Warren Baker and Thomas Stuelman, former chief engineer of Hughes Aircraft.

Even though Leonardo Da Vinci’s 1500-year-old dream of muscle-powered helicopter has been realized, it was a big release,” said Project Manager Neil Salk named as Sports Illustrated’s small college player of the week.

Unable to find housing, Green, a transfer from Hartnell College in Salinas, lived in the canyon for almost eight weeks — from the middle of the third week of fall quarter until finals.

“My education was worth it,” said Green, a materials engineering major. “It was kind of hard to date, sleep came easier.”

Green’s campsite was roughly a quarter mile into the canyon. He lived in a brown two-man tent placed against a large tree, 40 feet up on a hill, 100 feet south of the canyon road. He covered the tent with camouflage netting so it was invisible from the road. Tex-tbooks, computer disks and cassette tapes were piled on the floor of the tent next to his sleeping bag.

Where there’s smoke ...

The City of San Luis Obispo is getting tough on residents who do not have working smoke detectors in their homes.

By J. L. Green

Where there’s smoke, there’s fire. The City of San Luis Obispo is getting tough on residents who do not have working smoke detectors in their homes.

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Living on state property a no-no

James Green’s fear that he would be forced out of Poly Canyon if caught living there was well-founded.

Sgt. Steve Schroeder of Public Safety said someone caught living on state property could be arrested for trespassing, a misdemeanor, if he or she refused to leave.

“Normally we don’t arrest unless the person fails to comply,” Schroeder said.

Four people were arrested in the last year for camping in the canyon. Schroeder said, but he didn’t think any were seniors.

3

National recognition ...

Poly basketball player Stuart Thomas was named as Sports Illustrated’s small college player of the week.

King’s day

“Controlling a Positive Destiny” is this year’s Martin Luther King birthday celebration theme. Many activities are planned.
The turn of the new year brings reminiscences of the year past. When the decade changes, we look back over 10 years. The last 10 years brought us in volcanic eruptions at Mt. St. Helens and volcanic political changes in Eastern Europe. Of course, one could go on and on about the ‘80s, but that has already been done.

The month of December was filled with insightful reports that slogged the entire decade into a frothy highlight show—Cliff’s Notes for the ‘80s, if you will. Looking back is easy, but what lies ahead? The Cliff’s Notes for the ‘90s will not be available for another 10 years, but we need not proceed completely blindly.

The political map of the world is bound to change. 1989 saw the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe. The 90s will bear the brunt of this change. The Warsaw Pact could lose these members, which would result in an even greater reduction in NATO troops. The European Economic Community is planning to eliminate trade barriers among member countries in 1992. How these changes in Eastern Europe will affect this is something big is bound to happen in the Soviet Union. People there want change, as is evident by the recent declaration of an independent Lithuanian state. The ‘90s could bring great reform in the USSR. On the other hand, Gorbachev’s power is not without challenge. He might have to do battle for the presidency with conservatives who feel his reforms are out of control.

In other parts of the world, it is even harder to guess what could happen. South Africa, the Middle East, China and Central America are all very volatile. The book on the ‘90s will include a chapter on the changes that have occurred in these places. It is hoped these pages will not contain pictures of the dead from great battles, but rather pictures of celebration from peaceful and positive changes.

One of the events for the 1990s are already planned. The National Football League will continue, but the United States will get real football back in 1994 when it hosts soccer’s World Cup. Spain will host the 1992 summer Olympic Games as well as the World’s Fair. If that’s not enough for Spain, it will also join the United States in celebrating the 500th anniversary of Columbus’ journey.

The drug war will go on, and the question of legalization will be debated more seriously. Legalization is already supported by such figures as former Secretary of State George Shultz, columnist William F. Buckley and economist Milton Friedman. The argument for legalization is that it would reduce drug-related crime. The fear is that it would increase drug use. The debate over the constitutionality of drug testing will continue as well.

The ‘90s made us aware that racism is alive and well in this country from Howard Beach to the election of former Ku Klux Klan Grand Wizard David Duke to the Louisiana state legislature. Although most people now agree with the concept of racial and sexual equality, many are reluctant to carry out these principles when it comes to the workplace and social interaction. If enough people stand up for true equality in the 1990s, the “dream” can come true.

A stopgap society by the year 2000 looks a little doubtful, but improvement is possible. The future is ours to make. The 1990s will hold much excitement, there is danger. Let’s hope the Cliff’s Notes on the ‘90s tell of a great adventure and not a tragedy.

Brian Annis is an economics sophomore.
Four recent fires prompt officials to crack down on residents who disconnect their smoke detectors

By Kim Jarrard

The property owner of a home that caught fire Sunday will be cited for violating a San Luis Obispo ordinance that requires the use of smoke detectors.

The ordinance, requiring smoke detectors in all homes, has been in effect since 1983, said Gayle Rosenberger, the fire department's sales representative.

The San Luis Obispo Fire Department began stricter enforcement of the ordinance Jan. 1, she said. The stricter enforcement is a result of four recent fires where no working smoke detectors were present.

Sunday's fire occurred at a three-bedroom home at 2115 King St., and caused major damage to the kitchen. The fire department did not contain a smoke detector at the time of the fire.

The property owner, but after a visit the fire had been sleeping shortly before it occurred, said Rosenberger.

"If the resident had been asleep there may have also been a fatality," she said. "Our main concern is to save lives and prevent injuries" as well as alerting the public to the problem.

Chances of surviving a fire increase 50 percent with the use of a smoke detector, said Rosenberger.

"(A smoke detector) gives you a few added seconds to escape," she added.

Rosenberger said the home, with a few added seconds to escape before fumes or fire can overtake you," she said.

Although property owners must provide residents with a smoke detector, Rosenberger said Cal Poly students and other tenants are responsible for notifying landlords if detectors are not working properly.

Disconnecting a smoke detector is also a violation of the ordinance, said Rosenberger.

However, smoke detectors are disconnected often, according to J. Yeyna, manager of the Mustang Village apartments.

"Kitchen smoke or shower steam is also a violation of the ordinance," she said. Rosenberger.

The resident who reported the fire, Bostrom said, added, "We've already rented the place," so many people just unhook them.

Every apartment at Mustang Village has a smoke detector, Yeyna said, but it is difficult to tell who disconnects their detectors.

"Both the tenant and landlord should work as a team," said Thomas Swem of Real Property Investments. Swem said he also has had a problem with people disconnecting their detectors.

Violation of the ordinance is a misdemeanor and is punishable by a fine of up to $500 for each offense.

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From page 1

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SKIS 50%
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Women's Basketball

Women start fast, fade to 7-8 mark in December

By Adrian Hodt

With a 5-1 start, the Cal Poly women's basketball team had a rough time in December before getting its feet back on the ground.

The Mustangs lost seven consecutive games last month, finishing their skid on New Year's Eve when they beat Chico State in Chico.

Cal Poly stayed on the winning track Jan. 4, when they beat Arizona Pacific 83-62 in Moti Gym.

Mustang Head Coach Jill Orrock said the pre-season was frustrating, but her team played "really well against some tough teams."

The Mustangs battled but lost to UC Santa Barbara and Fresno State, both on Jan. 1, then to North Dakota State, a team ranked as high as third in Division II last season.

"I hope we're back on the winning track," Orrock said. "As long as we can stay motivated, we're okay. We have the potential to do very well (in league play)."

Perry's defense surrounds a Sacramento State player in Saturday's game.

By Jason Foster

Las Vegas Invitational tournament and losing on the road to CSU Bakersfield, Oregon and Oregon State, Cal Poly turned around to take fourth at the Southern California Invitational at CSU Fullerton on December 31, and beat 12th-ranked Notre Dame in the Mustangs' first win in non-conference play.

"I didn't play a hell of a lot," Thomas said. "I got some decent time, but not what I thought I should get at all."

So Thomas transferred to Cal Poly, where he gets more playing time and more recognition — a lot more.

Sports

Wrestling

Youthful wrestling squad endures rollercoaster year

By Jason Foster

With the wrestling season nearing the halfway point, the Mustangs are already well on their way to a rollercoaster year.

After a slow start in December that included placing 12th at the Southern California Invitational and losing on the road to CSU Bakersfield, Oregon and Oregon State, Cal Poly turned around to take fourth at the Southern California Invitational at CSU Fullerton on December 31, and beat 12th-ranked Notre Dame in the Mustangs' first win in non-conference play.

"I don't know how they (SI) do anything that in-

Wrestling Results

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Men's Basketball

Mansfield (PA) 92-78

By By Jay Garner

With three coaches who patrol the court side dressed and gloomed like they just stepped off the cover of GQ magazine, it's fitting that the Cal Poly men's basketball team is stringing together an impressive season.

Head Coach Steve Beason and assistants Gary Howard and Doug Weber have guided the Mustangs to a 10-3 record in non-conference play.

"We've played a lot of decent, but not great, opponents," Beason said. "I'm pleased."

Mustangs begin NCAA play Friday.

"We're capable of beating anyone in the league if we play well," Beason said, adding that Cal State Bakersfield, 12-1, is the strongest team in the conference.

Junior center Stuart Thomas leads the team in rebounds (7 per game) and is second in scoring (15.7 points per game). And senior James Gama is showing an impressive .519 from the floor in January.

Senior forward Kurt Colvin is second on the team in rebounding, with a 5.8 average.

"He appears to be a lot more relaxed and confident," Beason said. "He's playing the best basketball of his career."

Junior forward Coby Naess, the team's leading scorer (14.3 points per game), has a slight tear in his Achilles tendon. He will take time to heal." Beason added that Naess should play Friday.

The Mustangs will try to extend their four-game winning streak Friday in Moti Gym against Cal State Northridge.

Men's Basketball Results

Dane's defense surrounds a Sacramento State player in Saturday's game.

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Poly's defense surrounds a Sacramento State player in Saturday's game.

By Jay Garner

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Mustangs begin NCAA play Friday.

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Junior center Stuart Thomas leads the team in rebounds (7 per game) and is second in scoring (15.7 points per game). And senior James Gama is showing an impressive .519 from the floor in January.

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WRESTLING

From page 5

"When I call Mom, she either wants to talk art or football. Usually football?"

SANTA CLARA (AP) — The San Francisco 49ers' oft-overlooked offensive line deftly calls itself the “No-Respect Club.”

No. 1-ranked T.J. Sewell of Oklahoma earlier this season at the Las Vegas tournament.

"He's good on his feet, excellent technique-wise, and physically tough," said Cowell. "If he stays healthy, with a little luck, he's got the talent to be a national champion."

Other wrestlers Cowell said to watch this season include junior Aaron Campbell at 190 pounds (13-5), freshman Terry Watts at 150 pounds (13-6), and sophomore Kordell Baker at 142 pounds (9-4).

Despite his team's talent, however, Cowell knows the rest of the season looks to be a bumpy ride. With a starting team that has six freshmen and no seniors, only three home matches remaining, and opponents such as Division I powers Oklahoma State, Ohio State and BYU, Cowell is careful not to set his sights too high.

"We realize we won't be a big-time force this season, but we're getting ready to be really able to compete at the Division I level," he said. "The kids have a great work ethic and are doing all the right things to become great wrestlers."

"It's going to be hard for us to be 300 this year," he added. "We've taken the approach to do as well as we can, to get our guys better, and to try and stay healthy."

Cowell added that he'd like Cal Poly to get in the Pac-10 Tournament, as well as qualify as a regional host as possible for the national championship.

Even with all the ups and downs, Cowell is still happy with his team's performance so far this season.

"I feel really good about our record," he said. "We’re fighting through some things, and it's going to be hard for us to reckon with down the road."

Cal Poly will go up against CSU Bakersfield tonight in Most Gym at 7:30 p.m.

49er offensive line ready for Ram defense

their teammates, in holding Minnesota's league-leading pass rush without a sack in the 49ers' 41-13 NFL playoff rout. Now the 49ers' oft-overlooked line faces another unprejudiced unit, the Los Angeles Rams' 21st-ranked defense, in Sunday's NFC championship game.

It won't be as easy as the statistics make it sound, as the Philadelphia Eagles and New York Giants learned in scoring only 20 points against the Rams the last two weeks.

"It's the soundest defense," San Francisco's offensive line coach, Bobb McKinnick, said. "They don't make mistakes. I think they're the best-coached defensive team in the NFL. (Defensive coordinator) Fritz Shurmur doesn't have the best personnel ... but I think he's done the finest coaching job since he's been there."

The 49ers returned to practice Tuesday after taking Monday off. They'll be given a game plan that is markedly different from the one that worked so well against Minnesota. A reason for the different offensive plan is the Rams' innovative "Eagle" defense, which calls for five linebackers to crowd the line of scrimmage.

Against the Vikings, the 49ers' undoubted offensive line deftly calls itself the "No-Respect Club."

Its title became suspect on Saturday.

The linemen got plenty of credit, and even bonus pay from

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San Francisco's 49ers' oft-overlooked offensive line deftly calls itself the "No-Respect Club."

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Speaker, march to be among King celebration activities

By Cyndi Smith

White people don't need to suppress blacks in order to get ahead, said a senior mechanical engineering student scheduled to speak Thursday in celebration of Martin Luther King's birthday.

Finley, a regional board member of the Black Engineering Club, will speak during the activity hour on the recurrence of racial tension and the different cycles of the civil rights movement.

"People often think if whites want to excel, blacks must be suppressed, and vice versa," he said. "My message will be that all groups can succeed without others being suppressed."

This year's scheduled activities — based on the theme, "Controlling a Positive Destiny" — include a march from Dexter Lawn to the University Union Plaza, speeches and a performance by the Trumpets of Zion, a Cal Poly student choir.

"We were looking for a theme incorporating the 'keeping the dream alive' philosophy," said Mont Parham, coordinator of this year's program and a member of the Afro-American Student Union, the club sponsoring the program. "We wanted to present a positive theme that would build on King's dream. In this case, we're saying 'Use the dream to control a positive destiny.'"

Parham expects between 300 and 500 people to participate in the march, and even more will likely listen to Finley and Lockshey Geoghagen, Cal Poly's associate director of Student Life and Activities.

The program is being held on Thursday rather than on King's birthday — Monday, Jan. 15 — because Monday is a school holiday and not as many students would be around to participate, said Parham.

POLYCAT

From page 1

niques, where users can search for two or more combined subjects at the same time or limit the search to a specific year, language or format such as books, magazines or video cassettes. Users can also search with any word in a title or only knowing part of an author's last name.

"We really want to teach students how to use (both phases) so they can take full advantage of it," said Adalian. "They can do some really neat things with Phase II."

The terminals are on the main floor, the reserve room and in various research sections. Soon, every floor will have Polycat in two locations, and a printer will accompany every four terminals.

Training classes will be offered to students both winter and spring quarters. The 45-minute classes will accommodate 32 students and will be offered about eight times a week. Sign-ups will be posted by the information desk.

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DA VINCI III

From page 1
been reached, students are still working toward another goal: to claim a $25,000 offer by the American Helicopter Society. To meet the award criteria, the muscle-powered helicopter must fly for 60 seconds, remain within a 10-meter square and reach an altitude of three meters.

"It can’t be done with the helicopter now," said Margie Whelan, president of the American Helicopter Society. "It’s too heavy and it doesn’t have the stability for a more controlled lift-off.

The students say they want to win the award not for the $25,000, but for the satisfaction of being the first to accomplish the goal.

"Engineers are weird people whose drive is to create the first of something," Whelan said. "There’s no practical application (to designing the first human-powered helicopter), but nobody’s done it. It’s hard to describe. It’s being the first."

As far as the money goes, "That’s something we don’t think about," she said. The money would probably be donated to the school for more human powered research.

So students are still working toward the drawing board to design a Da Vinci IV.

"We won’t actually be building the helicopter this quarter," Whelan said. "We’re in a design phase."

The time it will take to build the next Da Vinci will depend largely on money and materials. "We’re basically out of everything," Whelan said. "Funds have always been a problem for this project.

More than $100,000 has been donated to the project over the past nine years. The Da Vinci III was the fourth human-powered helicopter built by Cal Poly students and took six months of redesign and reconstruction after the Da Vinci IIb was damaged in a flight attempt May 20 at Vandenberg Air Force Base. Saiiki said it will take six months to a year for the Da Vinci IV to be designed and built.

The Da Vinci III cost about $5,000, but many parts from the Da Vinci IIb were reused. For the Da Vinci IV, $15,000 to $20,000 needs to be raised because the helicopter is being built from scratch.

Cal Poly is not alone in trying to win the American Helicopter Society award. There are about 10 other helicopters in the race. Saiiki is not worried.

"We are way ahead of any other efforts," he said. "We’ve invested the most money and have the most powerful knowl-

Saiiki said that the use of pro-

grams and computers from NASA has given them an edge. Arizona State University is Cal Poly’s only real competition, he said, but they’ve been work-

ing on their project for a year and a half and compared to Da Vin-

ci’s nine-year history. The rest of the competitors are Japanese universities, an English university, some private firms and "from crazy people in their backyards," Saiiki said.

Students have their first choice, the Da Vinci III will go to Smithsonian Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C.

"We want to give it to them, but it would take up a lot of display area," said Saiiki. Otherwise, the helicopter will go on to some of the stops along the Leonardo Da Vinci museum in Italy.

Of the 25 people working on the Da Vinci, about 15 are core workers. But even after students graduate, they still remain close-

ly involved with the project. "The workers are members for life," said Whelan. "Old graduates keep coming back.

Graduate members in industry have donated materials and technical support. For Whelan, joining the project two-and-a-half years ago wasn’t what she had planned.

"I tried to stay away from the project because I knew it would be so involving," she said. "But I had some friends who were working on it. One night I brought cookies to a flight test and I never left.

CAMPBR

From page 3
I was moving in. In the meantime, they had rented the room to somebody else.

"It was very interesting. I was going through a real depress-

sion period. I was beginning to make plans. But even after students graduate, they still remain close-

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No illicit drugs found in bodies of Stockton train accident victims

STOCKTON (AP) — No traces of illicit drugs were found in the bodies of three victims of a deadly morning collision with an Amtrak train and a trac-

tor-trailer rig last month, accor-

d to a spokesman for the San Joaquin County coroner’s office.

The coroner’s report found that the truck driver, David Haskell, died of "extreme blunt force trauma" and that two train crew members died of thermal burns.

More than 50 people suffered minor injuries in the Dec. 19 acci-

dent, which took place in heavy fog along Interstate 5 about five miles south of Stockton.

Investigators have not deter-

mined a cause of the accident.
Palo Alto gets $600,000 for officers

EAST PALO ALTO (AP) — In an outpouring of support for a year-old anti-drug activist wounded by gunfire, a San Mateo County supervisor told a crowd the board will raise $500,000 to hire five police officers for the crime-ridden city.

Joaquin DeMonet, developer of proposed complex in the city's Westlake Avenue neighborhood with semiautomatic weapons fire on New Year's Day, that he will donate $50,000 so the city can hire a police officer.

About 100 people packed the council meeting one week after anti-drug activist C.W. Roddy was wounded slightly in the arm by a gunman who riddled her house in the Westlake Avenue neighborhood with semiautomatic weapons fire.

Neighbors feud may have led to bomb explosion

POMONA (AP) — A package bomb and a firecracker explosion may have been the latest incidents in a neighborhood feud that started with a toy plane more than five months ago, authorities said.

Randy Mang, on the architectural and landscape committee of the Cimarron Oaks Town Houses in Diamond Bar, suffered cuts and burns on his stomach, hands and face Monday when he opened a Christmas present addressed to him.

The 35-year-old discovered the wooden box on his front porch as he was sweeping leaves. After the bombing, Mang told sheriff's personnel and explosives investigators he had been part of a long-term dispute with a neighbor.

It all began, he said, about five months ago when a remote control airplane accidentally buzzed his yard where it could have fun his children — an infant and a 3-year-old.

He complained to the offending neighbor. A short time later, a large firecracker described as "a half-stick of dynamite" was thrown into Mang's yard. No one was injured.

Sheriff's Sgt. Ron Moya said detectives are investigating a possible link between Mang's explosion and the firecracker blast.

E. Palo Alto gets $600,000 for officers

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Southern California woman receives letter from son killed in Dec. fighting in Panama

BUENA PARK (AP) — "If you're reading this letter, then you know that something has happened to me," goes the message Julie Otto got in the mail recently from the son she buried three days after Christmas.

"Whatever happened, there is a reason for it," the fallen soldier wrote tonight prior to his death in combat.

Lt. Army Pfc. Roy Dennis Brown Jr., an Army Ranger, was killed Dec. 20 in the opening days of the latest invasion of Panama. The 19-year-old was buried Dec. 25.

"Tell everyone in the family and all my friends that I love them all and that my death was for a good cause," Brown wrote.

"Get over my death and continue for success in your life," Otto, who was divorced from her son's father after his birth, read the letter to reporters Monday in an emotional breakdown.

Brown, who recently made contact with his father after a prolonged period of estrangement,

"Tell Dad about me sometime," he said.

"I guess it's the standard letter the soldiers write before they go out," she said. "She's kind of his last will and testament."

The letter was found by an officer who gathered Brown's belongings from his locker at Fort Benning, Ga., and Army spokesperson Monica Morales.

Brown was assigned to the 75th Infantry Regiment and although he had not been officially told he would be sent to Panama, he concluded that is where he would be sent 48 hours after he wrote the note.

The letter was hand-carried to the world's greatest mom.

"He said there were many things he wanted to say but that he didn't have the time," Otto said. The letter told her to pet the teenage soldier's cat, Michelle.

"Rangers invariably go to different areas of the world where there is danger," Mangano said. "A lot of them have a letter left in event of death."

The letter closed with Brown thanking his mom for being "the world's greatest mom."
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