Agriculture appreciation

Speakers address the role of ag in California’s future

By Chris Hoffman

Students got a chance to learn about food safety issues and policies at “Food Safety for the 21st Century,” an interactive symposium hosted by Cal Poly’s College of Agriculture and the California Department of Food and Agriculture on Monday.

Authorities from private and academic sectors spoke on various aspects of food safety at the conference, which was held at the University Union’s Chumash Auditorium as part of San Luis Obispo’s Agriculture Appreciation Week. Topics included regulations and quality control on commodities ranging from fruit to fish.

Ann Veneman, Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture, was the symposium’s keynote speaker. Veneman said food safety has increased in importance over the past few years following several food problems like E. coli outbreaks and tainted strawberries.

“I can’t over-emphasize the importance of food safety,” she said, adding that keeping food supplies safe requires cooperation between government, industry and academic institutions.

“Food safety is best addressed in multi-faceted partnerships,” she said. Dr. Jeff Farrar of the California Department of Health Services spoke on the public health aspects of food safety. Several steps are being taken to increase food safety, including establishing minimum cooking standards, requiring certification of food service managers and posting warnings on foods that contain potentially risky ingredients, such as raw eggs.

“Foodborne outbreaks won’t only continue, but increase,” Farrar warned. He recommended manufacturers adopt irradiation techniques (such as using gamma rays or an electron beam) as a safe way to disinfect food. Like Veneman, he too emphasized the need for partnerships.

“No group is going to solve the problems on their own,” he said.

Farrar also outlined several steps consumers can follow to decrease the risk of food poisoning:

1. Wash fruits and vegetables thoroughly.
2. Don’t eat different foods on the same surface without washing it.
4. Wash hands after handling raw meat.

see AG WEEK, page 3

Students can study politics in action

Semester at the Capitol enhances CSU education

By Rachel Robertshaw

Cal Poly students are being offered the opportunity to gain hands-on experience in California state government and politics.

The Sacramento Semester program is now accepting applications for the Spring 1999 semester from students at all 22 California State University campuses.

Interested students, if accepted to the program, will be invited to spend a semester in the state capital. A chosen student, along with about 20 other participants, will become totally immersed in the state political scene.

Cal Poly’s local representative of the Sacramento Semester, Diane Long, said the program is a great opportunity for Cal Poly students.

“It’s a wonderful experience,” Long said. “The students that we have sent in the past are very positive about the program.”

According to professor Jean Torcom, director of the Sacramento Semester, the program is a combined package of an internship and an intensive seminar.

The goal of the program is to give students a rare learning experience in public policy formation.

The internship requires participants to work a minimum of 25 hours per week. Positions may be in either the executive or legislative branch, an interest group, lobbying organization or other agencies.

see SEMESTER, page 3

Suspects in student beating could face death penalty

LARAMIE, Wyo. (AP) — The beating death of a gay University of Wyoming student inspired condemnation from across the country, as President Clinton and activists asked Wyoming to impose harsher penalties for hate crimes.

Matthew Shepard, 21, died at a Fort Collins, Colo., hospital Monday after spending several days in coma. His skull was so badly fractured by the beating that doctors said they could not even operate.

Shepard was found last Wednesday in non-freezing temperatures, lashed to a spit rail post outside Laramie.

“All gay people and lesbians have felt alone and under siege at times,” gay activist Michael Weinstein told about 1,000 people attending a candlelight vigil in West Hollywood, Calif. “Thinking of him alone on that post, it’s just horrifying. He was so young. He had not yet had the chance to live.”

Police said charges against Arthur Henderson, 21, and Aaron James McKinney, 22, will be upgraded to first-degree murder, which carries a possible death sentence.

Police said robbery was the motive for the attack but that Shepard, apparently chosen in part because he was gay, Shepard had been beaten twice in recent months, attacks he attributed to his homosexuality.

Students rallied Monday in downtown Laramie.

see PENALTY, page 2

Friends surprised by allegations

LARAMIE, Wyo. (AP) — Powell Henderson had plans for himself that aren’t much different from others his age, but he was gay. Shepard had been beaten twice in recent months, attacks he attributed to his homosexuality.

He said he wanted to make a million dollars by the time he was 26.

Shamira Arcabu said, who dated Henderson, 21, for a year before they broke up.

see FRIENDS, page 2
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THE INFORMATION AGE STARTS HERE

PENALTY continued from page 1

town Denver to remember Shepard. In Laramie, some students wore yel­
low and green armbands to send a message of peace.

Students attending a rally against a column­ist who criticized gays in the University of Maryland campus new­spaper observed 10 seconds of silence for Shepard. And in the Castro dis­

tricit of San Francisco, the giant rain­

Pen flag that symbolizes the gay movement was lowered to half staff.

"Americans will once again search their hearts and do what they can to reduce their own fear and anxiety and anger at people who are different," Clinton said. "And I hope that Congress will pass the hate-crime leg­

islation." The Federal Hate Crimes Protection Act would make federal offenses of crimes based on sex, dis­

ability and sexual orientation. Current law covers crimes based on race, color, religion or national origin. Of the 41 states that have hate­
crime laws, 21 states specifically cover offenses motivated by the vic­


friend continued from page 1

that he wanted to be a good dad," she said.

"One of the things that night, the last night that we talked, was that he just wanted to get out of Laramie," said Arcuhy of the Friday evening before Shepard's beating.

"I said: 'Oh, I love Laramie, I love it so much. It feels like home.' And the last thing I said was 'l love my place in this town' and he said 'I hate my place in this town. I feel like people are, you know, against me.'"

The two had discussed leaving Laramie, Arcuhy said, but Henderson needed some time to break off his relationship with Chantilly Vera Fairley, who is charged with accessory to murder after the fact in the Shepard case.

"He definitely felt like he owed her something, that he had made a commitment to her," Arcuhy said.

Fairley and Henderson had been dating for two years, and were cur­rently living together, though Arcuhy said from Henderson's side of the story, it didn't sound like a content relationship.

"Though her friends say she is in denial, Arcuhy said she is having a rough time accepting the facts of the case."

"I'm having a hard time believing it was even about Matt Shepard being gay," Arcuhy said. "I personal­
dly don't believe that was what it was about."

"I mean, this was a guy that I dated for a year. Never was he vi­

lent to me or around me," she said. Shown Shields, 23, and Kevin Janesofsky, 29, who were friends with Henderson from 1992 to '93 while working at Taco Bell, said he had a tendency of being a follower. "There's no way that can be over­ looked," said Jim Osborn, who attended grade school with Shepard. "It has to go along with whatever a person said, even though it was prob­
ably against his better judgment," Shields said.

The two said they were surprised with the charges brought against Henderson, whom they had also seen the weekend before the murder.

"Even to this day I didn't think he was a violent person like that," Janesofsky said.

"I think it's a heinous crime," Arcuhy said. "I feel bad for any of Shepard's friends, for any of his fam­
di. Definitely."

But I definitely feel like there's an aura around town that's like, 'I hate this,'" she said. "The sus­pected did it, don't worry about it. It's over." And I think his family just really wants to say, 'Hey, all his friends aren't out the door. They're still friends, still backing up. He's family is backing him up.'"
Organizers hope to raise awareness

By Whitney Phaneuf

One out of every three American women will be sexually assaulted in her lifetime. Campus organizations are trying to end this violence with awareness.

Phi Beta Sigma fraternity will present the Sexual Assault Awareness Fair today from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Chumash Auditorium.

Victor Glover, Phi Beta Sigma service programs chairman, had the vision for the fair from the education he received while participating in the "Real Men" program.

Glover, a general engineering senior, thought it was important to have the fair in the beginning of the year to educate freshmen and new students about the resources available. Glover also has personal reasons for wanting to educate people on sexual assault.

"After talking with my friends who were victims, my understanding increased and it made me more aware of what was happening," he said.

Women's programs and Cal Poly's Sexual Assault Free Environment Resource program co-sponsoring the day of awareness.

The fair will include informational booths, a film in Bob Hope Lounge and personal testimonials. Representatives from Rape Crisis Center, Surprised Abuse Response Team, Safe-SLO Model Mugging, and San Luis Obispo Police Department will be there along with many other community and campus organizations.

An introduction by the president of Phi Beta Sigma at 11 a.m. will be followed by informational speakers and an open microphone session where anyone can speak about personal experiences concerning sexual assault.

"First-year students need to know where to go if a problem arises, so they'll have the information when they need it," said Pat Harris, coordinator of women's programs.

Susan Kelley, business senior and event coordinator for women's programs, thinks students can never get enough information concerning these issues.

"Exposing people to the different resources available will help develop a better understanding of sexual assault," she said.

During the last few years there has been a tremendous increase in the number of laws passed dealing with domestic violence and sexual assault, according to a letter written by Senator Hilda L. Solis, 24th District. She believes the campaign to end domestic violence will never succeed without massive public awareness.

"There must be zero tolerance for this behavior. Friends and neighbors must be willing to get involved," Solis letter said.

Glover hopes more men will get involved and visit the Sexual Assault Awareness Fair. He hopes the fair is successful in helping to raise awareness.

"Getting people to think about these issues is the fair's main objective," Glover said.

"Exposing people to the different experiences concerning sexual assault, they'll have the information when they need it," said Pat Harris, coordinator of women's programs.

"This is such an important topic," said President Warren Baker in his vision for the fair from the education he received while participating in the "Real Men" program.

"Real Men " program was sent the Sexual Assault Awareness Fair in the beginning of the year to educate freshmen and new students about the resources available. Glover also has personal reasons for wanting to educate people on sexual assault.

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The real problem plaguing America

Cancer, heart attacks, bullets and drunk driving tally up some of the most frightening annual death tolls in this nation. Those legitimate causes of death, however, are not as hard to cope with for everyone involved, do not come close to America’s No. 1 cause of suffering: ex-girlfriends.

Coming in all shapes and sizes, ex-girlfriends have different back-grounds, unique perspectives on life and special quirks that permanently affect themselves or our memories. The problem lies in their unpredictability. Women are like that sometimes we hit it straight, but mostly we shunt it or kick it.

The worst aspect of relationships is the inevitable end. Breakups can strike without warning or reason. Ex-girlfriends typically pick a time to decide it’s over that has no logical explanation, casting a black shadow over our psyches.

Ex-girlfriends could at least have the decency to explain, in a coherent manner, why they deem it necessary to kill relationships that have no flaws. After all, we treat them well enough and would be able to handle the news better if there was some sanity backing it. But, as we all know, the female brain, fueled by scattered emotions and hypothetical what-ifs, eliminates any possibility of sanity.

I believe Jack Nicholson’s character said it best in “As Good As It Gets,” when asked how he wrote women so well. He gave the immortal answer, “1 knew Jack Nicholson’s character said it best in “As Good As It Gets,” when asked how he wrote women so well. He gave the immortal answer, “I know. Women are like tigers: unpredictable, unique perspectives on life, special quirks that permanently affect themselves or our memories. The problem lies in their unpredictability. Women are like that sometimes we hit it straight, but mostly we shunt it or kick it.”

What’s the farthest you’ve ever traveled and why?

Kyle Christensen mechanical engineering senior

“I went to Mazatlan Mexico for vacation and New York City to visit my family.”

Andrea Alloway nutritional science senior

“I went to Wisconsin to see my sister last summer.”

Ricardo Malonado computer engineering sophomore

“I went to Connecticut to visit family in the sixth grade.”

Letter policy

Columns, cartoons, and letters reflect the views of their authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Mustang Daily. Mustang Daily encourages comments on editorial policy and university affairs. Letters should be typed or double-spaced, signed and include a phone number. They can be mailed, faxed, delivered or e-mailed to us.

I don’t care about anything but my parking space

Editor:

So, President Baker gets a raise and now earns 200X a year. Well, God bless him. I wish I did. In fact, I don’t really care what the man makes.

If I don’t care if the school gives him a new Mercedes 520i, to drive every year, and the engineering department has to wash it. I don’t care if he has a million-dollar home subsidized by the school, and the ag department has to mow the yard. I don’t care if he has a pond the size of Lopez Lake in his front yard, and the horticulture department has to plant water lilies in it. I don’t care if the female subordinates on his staff have to dress like French maids, while their male counterparts get every Friday off. I don’t care if the English department has address his Christmas card, and the journalism department has sent him enclosed Christmas letter. But what I do care about is my one damn parked parking space!

I want what I paid the $36 bucks for! How does the administration of this school have the gall to strictly enforce parking for rules when it does not fulfill the reciprocal part of an agreement? Fraud at an academic level is no different than a shake down in a back alley.

I want my parking fee refunded and the meter maid fired until there is ample parking provided at this school. Anything less is unethical.

Mary Alice Altorfer is a journalism senior

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“Why doesn’t he try a guy next time?”

Mustang Daily
Help our faculty

Old propaganda at work

Editor:

I've got to hand it to Arno DeFerrari — that boy sure can pack a lot of bullshit into a very short opinion column.

Not only does he wrongly depict Barbara Boxer as being disinterested in the issues he also manages to slam the National Organization of Women (NOW) and he wants us to believe the ridiculous claim that Boxer and NOW have nothing negative to say about Clinton. Finally, he wants us to believe that Fong is "middle of the road" and Boxer is an "ultra-liberal extremist," when just the opposite is true.

Boxer has always spoken out clearly on the issues, and continues to do so during this Senate race. (I noticed that Mr. DeFerrari did not mention or discuss any issues even once.)

Boxer, along with most Democrats, has found Clinton's behavior stupid and damaging to the image of the party. But while most Republicans are now using the "guilt by association" ploy to denigrate Democrats, most of the Democratic candidates are trying to focus on the many issues that go beyond the tabloid headlines.

Boxer supports the mainstream viewpoint that our national environmental laws are significant and worthy of protection. Fong takes the ultra-conservative extremist view that such laws should be weakened or abandoned. Boxer supports the mainstream view that women should be able to decide about an abortion. Fong supports the ultra-conservative extremist view that the government should make that decision for the woman.

Boxer supports laws which restrict assault weapons. Fong tends to follow the extremist positions of the National Rifle Association. Boxer follows the mainstream view that the defense budget should be trimmed as needed. Fong wants to continue the wasteful spending patterns of the Reagan-Bush years.

Boxer wants to strengthen federal support for education. Fong wants to follow the extremist path taken by Pete Wilson, relying more on private schooling, which benefits only those few who are wealthy enough to afford it.

Sadly, DeFerrari has to rely on the tired old propaganda of the Reagan-Bush years. He worries that the government should be weakened or abandoned, and he wants to follow the extremist path taken by the ultra-conservative extremist.

Michael Sullivan is an education graduate student.
NBA cancels first two weeks of season after talks break off

NEW YORK (AP) — For the first time in its history, the NBA on Tuesday canceled regular season games because of a work stoppage when talks between owners and players broke off after about 30 hours. The games during the first two weeks of the season, Nov. 1-10, will not be played or made up, deputy commissioner Russ Granik said. That brings the NBA's 51-year streak of 35,001 consecutive games to an end.

The league had been the only major professional sport that had never lost a game due to a labor dispute. The players and owners are arguing over rising salaries, among other issues.

The next move will come from the owners, who will deliver a counter-proposal later this week.

"It doesn't look promising," commissioner David Stern said. "It's reality that the owners had no choice."

Stern and Granik made the announcement late in the afternoon at a midtown Manhattan hotel after the sides had met for two sessions, one in the morning and one in the afternoon.

The players made a counterpropos-

in the morning, addressing the topic of "cost certainty" by asking for a luxury tax that would be paid by owners who sign players to exorbitant contracts. Stern said the idea of a tax was something the owners would look at, but he said it was not enough to stop the league from canceling games for the first time in its history.

"We had a somewhat more constructive dialogue, but it's hard to say if we got closer to an agreement," Granik said. "We promised to come back with our own set of proposals."

The owners imposed the lockout July 1, and the summer and early fall passed with the sides meeting only twice for formal bargaining sessions. The talks Tuesday were the third between the sides.

Patrick Ewing, Dikembe Mutombo, Ray Allen, Antonio Davis and John Starks were among the players who attended the meeting. The owners were represented by Gordon Gund (Cleveland), Les Alexander (Houston), Abe Pollin (Washington) David Cheekeets (New York) and Jerry Colangelo (Phoenix).

"We're going to try to step up and talk about issues they're raised," union director Billy Hunter said as he arrived. "We've got a response, but if they're inclined to wait for Dean Ferrick then nothing's going to happen."

Arbitrator John Ferrick, dean of Fordham Law School, is expected rule in a week or two on a union grievance that more than 200 players with guaranteed contracts must be paid during the lockout.

"An agreement in principle had to be reached by Tuesday to preserve the 82-game season."

The season was scheduled to begin Nov. 3, but it could conceivably have been pushed back a week or so to give teams about four weeks to make trades, sign about 200 free agents and hold abbreviated training camps.

In the last labor agreement in 1995, the owners agreed to pay the players between 48 percent and 51.8 percent of revenues. If the percentage went higher — and owners claim it reached 57 percent last season — the owners had the right to toss out the old deal and seek a new one, which they did.

They have demanded "cost certainty" from the players, meaning they want to put an absolute ceiling on salaries that can be devoted to payrolls.

The union calls such a system a "hurdle salary cap" and has vowed not to accept one.

"In terms of reaching a deal, this is the worse we've ever had," Granik said earlier. "We've never gotten to this point without being able to make a deal.

"The players have to participate in some deal that lowers the percentage of revenues being paid to salaries. But they don't see that as their responsibility at all."

Chargers fire head coach

SAN DIEGO (AP) — The San Diego Chargers fired coach Kevin Gilbride today following the NFL team's fourth straight loss and replaced him with offensive coordinator June Jones, who will be interim coach.

The 47-year-old Gilbride was in his second season after being signed to a 5-year contract and had a record of 6-16. With rookie Ryan Leaf at quarterback, the Chargers won their first two games, but then lost four straight as Leaf was benched during two of the losses.

The Chargers scored just 22 touchdowns in 22 games under Gilbride, an offensive coordinator in Houston and Jacksonville before taking the San Diego job. Leaf has just one touchdown pass and has turned over the ball 15 times.

Before becoming coach of the Chargers, Gilbride was probably best known for a sideline fight in nationally televised game with defensive coordinator Buddy Ryan. Jones, 45, was head coach of the Atlanta Falcons from 1994-96, going 19-30. Both Gilbride and Jones began their careers as defensive coordinators of the run-and-shoot offense, although San Diego barely ran a conventional system.

Defensive end William Fuller echoed the charge.

"We were playing for ourselves, not to save his job," Fuller told XTRA Radio on Tuesday. "Many players were falling asleep at meetings and nothing was being done about it."

Gilbride is a veteran of 24 years in coaching, including nine previous seasons in the NFL. He joined the Chargers after two seasons as offensive coordinator of the Jacksonville Jaguars. He was offensive coordinator for the Houston Oilers from 1990-1993.

The Chargers fired Gilbride in 1997 after the Jaguars had the top-ranked passing offense in the NFL and advanced to the 1996 AFC Championship Game in just their second year in existence.

Under Gilbride, the Oilers' offense ranked first in the NFL in passing yards from 1990 through 1992 and was third in 1993.

During Gilbride's first season with the Chargers, the team suffered a host of devastating injuries, including the loss of the team's top two quarterbacks, Stan Humphries and Joshohn. After starting the season 4-4, they dropped their final eight games. The Chargers barely lost to the Oakland Raiders, Gilbride said. "This is about as low as you can feel. It's probably the worst we've ever been associated with. To lose the way we did at the end after the season has played so miserable-fully was just heartbreaking."

Raiders coach arrested

PLEASANTON (AP) — Oddball Raiders head coach Ken Druden was arrested Tuesday for driving and delivering alcohol after he was arrested after his team beat the San Diego Chargers, the California Highway Patrol said Tuesday.

Druden, fresh from Sunday's 7-6 victory, was booked at the Santa Rita Jail for investigation of drunken driving and was released about three hours later. He was scheduled to appear in court on Nov. 9.

"Our officers saw him exceeding the speed limit by about 15 to 20 miles an hour," patrol Capt. Mary Harrison said. She said the coach was cooperative.

Reaching his home Monday night, Gruden, 35, told the Contra Costa Times he wants to "wait to see if justice prevails." "I'm confident it will," he said.

Gruden was watching the 157-speed limit in a 1997 black Mercedes in Pleasanton. He was straddling lanes and officers deter- mined he was under the influence, according to patrol spokesman Steve Creel.

Gruden took a blood test; authori- ties said it takes 10 days to two weeks to complete, officials deter- mined he was under the influence, according to patrol spokesman Steve Creel.

Creel said the case will be handed over to the Alameda County District Attorney's office when the investiga- tion ends.

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McGwire pictured on Wheaties

LOUIS ANGELES (AP) — Be sure to eat your Wheaties, if you want a Mark McGwire souvenir. McGwire was honored Tuesday with the unveiling of a special Wheaties box commemorating his incredible 70-homer season. The St. Louis Cardinals slugger broke Roger Maris' single-season home run record of 61 set in 1961. As a limited edition issue, only about 1.5 million copies of the 18-ounce McGwire Wheaties box will be made available to the public by General Mills, starting next week. Wheaties' association with sports began in 1913 — nine years after the cereal was first introduced. Among baseball stars over the years endorsing the so-called "Breakfast of Champions" have been Babe Ruth, Hank Aaron, Joe DiMaggio, Ted Williams, Stan Musial, Roy Campanella, Yogi Berra, Mickey Mantle and Johnny Bench — all members of the Hall of Fame. Others who have endorsed the cereal are Michael Jordan, Arthur Ashe, Larry Bird, Ken Strug and Tiger Woods.

Wednesday, October 14, 1998 7
The boxing world had an ethical backbone, the Nevada Boxing Commission wouldn't even be considering the return of Mike Tyson. Ethical boxing is an oxymoron, so proposing an ethical argument for or against the reinstatement of Tyson would be an absurd task. So let's just throw out the ethical-legal defense and focus on my self-obsessed reasoning as to why I want Tyson back in the ring.

A n e m one other boxer, other than Oscar de la Hoya, who can draw as much worldwide attention as Tyson? Heck, boxing fans want to see Tyson pummeling opponents like baseball fans needed to see Sammy Sosa and Mark McGwire bomb the baseballs out of the park.

What upcoming boxing match are we box fans anticipating to catch without our favorite rubal pagina? Larry Holmes versus George Foreman. The 5K and over audience will be chomping with their teeth during this event. You can call this one the "Brawl to win the Gertler." Slow-motion replays will be nullified in this so-called fight.

Even with a tarnished image, Tyson's power to attract public attention is unmatched.

It could be argued that Tyson will threaten the lives — other than with his fists — of his opponents in the ring if he is to return. I offer you a reasonable solution. Have Tyson and his rival wear head gear like amateur boxers.

Tyson should even receive a referee shot before the match, as was suggested jokingly by the late Pulitzer Prize-winning sports writer, Pat Flannery. I'd even pay to see a head-gear-wearing, rubal-free Tyson.

Truth be told, Tyson should probably be more dangerous if he wasn't allowed to fight. Sure, he's lost a few, but he's also won a couple a times until they stopped buckling due to the share of trouble with the law during his turbulent career, but imagine a homicidal Tyson without boxing!

Hello O.J. Look like a chump. He already allegedly beat the crap out of an individual during a road-rage incident. Tyson needs to take his frustrations out in the ring, not on innocent drivers like you and me.

Let's also not forget Tyson wasn't the first boxer to savoir raw meat in the ring. Evander Holyfield, the pride of Atlanta, tainted some flesh during his amateur days as he chewed into an opponent's shoulder.

Not surprisingly, Holyfield has stated Tyson shouldn't be allowed to return. Whether Holyfield was thinking of his amateur days or actually understood the opinion takes place Oct. 24 at the Rec Center. The winner will receive the title in the National Championship Tournament, held in Miami, Ohio on Nov. 6 and 7.

Joe Nolan

If Mike Tyson wants to fight, he belongs in the jail yard with the rest of the criminals.

The Nevada Boxing Commission is about Tyson's title fights and will decide the fate of his boxing career soon. Should it come to the conclusion that Tyson deserves a second chance, it should be decided that Tyson deserves a second change, but it should be decided that Tyson deserves a second chance, not for Tyson himself, but for the sake of the sport.

Because it's not a matter of if, but of when.

For those of you who need an examination to determine if Tyson should get a second chance, I have a copy of the test they gave to "free Mike.

Rational human being: "Have you ever been involved in an automobile accident, and if so, how did you handle the situation?"

Tyson: "I was in an accident recently, and I thought about exchanging insurance companies. But then I decided that I needed to get the crap out of the guy instead."

Rational human being: "Other than boxing, what is your second passion? How do you handle embarrassing situations?"

Tyson: "Well, one time I was getting my ass kicked by this guy for the second time, and so rather than continue to lose and lose I ran out and chased his ears a couple a times until they stopped the fight. I mean, how could I run out just because I had lost to him the last time?"

Rational human being: "Good point, losing wouldn't look much worse. Have you ever been convicted of a crime?"

Tyson: "Rape, was that bad?"

Rational human being: "Well, it's definitely a crime of the first degree for a second."

Tyson: "Just like robbery. A 50 and over audience, you know. A rational human being to police "I got a guy down here who handles every difficult situation with style. My conclusion is we need to put him away — for a long time."

For those of you who use the excuse, "Boxing is a violent sport," to validate your desire to watch this animal in action you're missing the point. Boxing is a violent sport, but it has always prided itself in being classy. There are rules. Spectators dress nicely, and in the majority of the bouts there is a high level of respect that the boxers have for each other. If you want blood-shiny cemetery where hitting is okay, watch ultimate fighting, not boxing.

There is a problem with boxing's popularity, but Tyson is not the long-term answer. Boxing needs a change. It needs a rational human being to police "I got a guy down here who handles every difficult situation with style. My conclusion is we need to put him away — for a long time."

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