Poly students hear ‘voices’

By Meghan Nowakowski

College students will be bringing excitement to local seniors tonight, Las Vegas style.

Cal Poly’s Student Community Services will be hosting a casino night at the Judson Terrace Retirement Center at 6 p.m.

“This is their absolute favorite event,” political science senior Kerensa Pearce said. “It always has the highest attendance. They are so happy to be there.”

SCS casino night bridges generation gap

Students volunteer to deal cards or just hang out with a senior buddy for the night.

“I think the best part is when the seniors tell you how nice it is to get a new perspective on the students, because all they ever hear is negative press in the papers,” said Emily Becker, biology sophomore and director of senior services for SCS.

Seniors gamble with play money and each walks away with a prize at the end of the night. This year, the see NIGHT, page 2

Bioengineer to speak on matters of the heart

By Ashlee Bodenhamer

Mark Kroft, Ph.D., senior vice president and chief technology officer for St. Jude Medical Inc.’s Cardiac Rhythm Management Division, will speak to students at 11 a.m. in Cal Poly’s Advanced Technologies Laboratories.

Kroft’s presentation will be valuable to students from majors besides engineering, said College of Engineering Associate Dean Dan Walls, especially those studying business and science.

see SPEECH, page 2

‘Night at the Mission’ a prelude to Carnegie

By Alexa Ratcliffe

The Cal Poly Wind Orchestra has dreams of playing in Carnegie Hall. They will perform a benefit chamber concert Saturday to help them get one step closer to turning their dream into a reality.

The concert, entitled “A Night At The Mission,” will begin at 8 p.m. and is open to the general public. The orchestra was also invited to perform at Carnegie Hall later this year.

“A Night At The Mission” is a very special concert for us,” wind orchestra conductor William Johnson said. “This concert will feature our small performing groups that don’t receive the chance to perform as often.”

The concert will feature chamber music, which Johnson described as a group with a small number of players.

The concert will be held at the old San Luis Obispo Mission Plaza, which offers a perfect setting for smaller performances, he said.

“It is one of the most beautiful places that I have heard,” Johnson said. “Acoustically, it is just as good as performing in the Performing Arts Center.”

The benefit concert will feature a number of both large and small ensembles and will open with the 12-player Trombone Choir. The orchestra will play a mixture of traditional and contemporary works. The next group to play will be the Saxophone Quartet, which features Cal Poly’s top four saxophone players. Also performing at the concert will be the String Trio, the String Ensemble and the Wind Orchestra.

The last time Cal Poly’s Wind Ensemble performed a show in the Mission was more than three years ago, when they raised money for a trip to the International Music Festival in Sydney.

It was at the Sydney festival performance that they were invited to perform at Carnegie Hall in April during this year’s New York Wind Band Festival.

“We are all really excited to go,” music junior and publicity coordinator Anna Harwicz said. The New York Wind Band Festival brings bands from all over the United States and Japan together.

Newcastle outbreak strikes

By Laura Newman

All over Southern California, thousands of chickens and turkeys are being put to death in an effort to eradicate the Exotic Newcastle Disease (END).

Currently, the disease is restricted to birds in the quarantined counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego and Ventura, but an outbreak of END close to San Luis Obispo County has Cal Poly poultry students taking extra precautions.

“We are set up with all of the basic bio-security measures,” said animal science junior and Poultry Club President Amy Linneivs. “Our facility is closed to the public, and we make sure that students with backyard flocks don’t make contact with our birds.”

END is a contagious and often fatal viral disease that affects many species of birds. Infected birds may show respiratory or nervous system signs, but birds can fail to exhibit symptoms and yet continue to spread the virus, according to the California Department of Food and Agriculture Web site.

“There is no treatment (for END), so California is trying to eradicate it,” Linneivs said. “The chickens have to be euthanized.”

Exotic Newcastle Disease has killed thousands of chickens and turkeys in California. Cal Poly is taking precautions to protect campus poultry from the outbreak.

Students own backyard flocks, there is an acute risk of human transmission, see NEWCASTLE, page 2

Disease threatens Poly poultry

By Meghan Nowakowski

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“This is their absolute favorite event,” political science senior Kerensa Pearce said. “It always has the highest attendance. They are so happy to be there.”

As a part of “Inside Voices,” an exhibit attempting to start a dialogue about body image, students gathered in the UU Plaza to play music and present artistic works Wednesday. There was also a gallery exhibit of paintings and photography, as well as poetry readings. The organizers of “Inside Voices” will present an open mic night tonight at 6:30 in UU 221.

‘TODAY’S WEATHER

High: 74°
Low: 49°
News

Society of Women Engineers hosts regional conference

By Lesley Reo

Cal Poly’s Society of Women Engineers (SWE) is hosting the 2003 Society Regional Conference and Career Fair at Embassy Suites in San Luis Obispo through Monday.

The conference, titled “Survive,” aims to bring together student and professional engineers and will include several different activities designed to emphasize the convention’s themes.

“This year will concentrate on developing leadership, communication and innovation,” said Jed Linn, regional conference director and innovative professional engineers and will include several different activities designed to emphasize the convention’s themes.

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Opinion

Product placement takes music to new low

I’m not sure how many Busta Rhymes fans (over 21 of course) had a heart attack for Courvoisier before the video aired, but the impression now is that it’s worth fighting ninjas for.

Papa Roach mulls down the road on a sugar high from Pepsi Blue. Busta Rhymes asks you to pan the Courvoisier, and only at the end of the video does Michael Jordan’s face pop into view. The public relations firm is proudly making an already nearly totaly naked campaign of flash-by-flake pop icons into more spokespersons devoid of any remnants of artistic creativity.

In this technologically savvy age where advertisers’ target markets fend off onslaughts of commercials with TiVs, satellite TV or just plain-changing the channels, advertisers are turning to artists to help their products within the medium of expression.

It’s not a new concept. James Bond shaved with a Norelco razor in his newest flick, a scene that can’t legally be edited out of the film, but the plug, Papa Roach’s latest album was slated for release to coincide with the marketing campaign for Pepsi Blue and commercials for the drink air right after the song is played on the radio. Have you heard that new Pepsi Blue – I mean Papa Roach – song?

Many students agree that this new trend in the music business is LAME.

Business major Chris Wagner reports the decrease in artist credibility because they are no longer playing for fans, but for corporate America.

Generally, people don’t think that this blatant branding of artists influences their buying decisions, but what if all of the not-assuming individuals who buy pop music and songs does work to make people want the product?

I’m not sure how many Busta Rhymes fans (over 21 of course) had a heart attack for Courvoisier before the video aired, but the impression now is that it’s worth fighting ninjas for.

Letters to the editor

Sex? What sex?

Editor,

In response to Steve Rose’s plea for average and not beautiful recounts of “Sex in San Luis.” (“Attractive col­numer can’t complain,” Jan. 29), I offer up my average looks and sex life for a glimpse of what the rest of us are up to in our nightly escapades. Let’s take a gander into the boredom of the “average” male’s sexual titillation on a weekend.

I wake on Fridays around 3 p.m. in my bed and repeat the exact same routine until I arrive home single, alone, drunk, dirty, and water the patio table, impressing this town who are attractive and clean with their gastric release – I head to a party.

Barney Hayes is a political science junior who usually does the knocking when the van is rocking because he left his CD in there.

Too much attention focused on Iraq

Editor,

I am writing in response to John Holbus’ article “Liberal stance on war isn’t clear” (Jan. 28). Specifically, I’d like to talk about his response in argument three. He states that after the Gulf War, America made improvements in the Middle East and any violation of that treaty means that we have the right to step in...” Fair enough. But Iraq has not broken this treaty.

Surely the United States has spent the last six months zooming in Iraq trying to find a reason to go to war. Iraq has not provided its neighboring countries, but others have. Like Syria, Libya and North Korea. And North Korea just recently announced that they have the atomic bomb.

Yet the United States continues to focus all of its attention on Iraq when there are clearly other much more imme­diate problems around the world, let alone on the home front. (Health care, unemployment, Social Security). All I ask is for Mr. Holbus to reconsider his argument.

Has any year been more important to the Mustang Daily staff writer.

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Molly Spencer
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Andrew Cole
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It looks obscene cause I have to unbutton my pants."
Letters to the editor

Opinion

Editor

Abortion helps maintain balance

While the abortion issue is still on the pages, I would like to also make a remark. George Davis has done his homework, and from you I learned just how bad the abortion problem is ("Life also make a remark. George Davis has done his homework, and social analysts are saying we need! Forty million extra babies? That's just what our economic and social burden is."

I often run that gigantic number by you guys again. Fortyeight million? Did I say that there was a bad abortion problem? I meant abortion solution. Man, and to think that America could have 40 million more just what our economic and social analysts are saying we need! Forty million extra babies would be a horrendous economic and social burden. Can you imagine? If you think the economy is bad now, just remember that most of these kids would be under 20. That means you, my kids, or their kids.

More competition, more crowding, that's what we need right? This school would have certainly been more crowded than it is. All schools would be more crowded than their already crowded state. That's less pie for EVERYBODY. I'm willing to bet that a lot of those 40 million were in California. Are you sure about 40 million more? How will it affect the sea? Is it going to happen? No one, one of billions of combinations of DNA didn't exist. God must be crying. Do you really believe that what has been done will not affect you? I've only been bombing abortion clinics for? Somehow else said it best when he said, "We are the same decaying organic mater as everything else.

Do you believe that our population be kept in balance, but we are always getting around our balancing factors. Abortions help maintain balance in a bigger way than I ever imagined. And what better is the population that there are lover really existed, and even their mothers didn't want them. Talk about win-win, eh? I would like to build a memorial to all these mothers who have sacrificed their seed for the greater good. A goddamned memorial because I'll never know who these doves next to it, so that they sit on it and make it angelic.

Morgan Elam is a general engineering junior.

Abortion is a woman's issue, not man's Editor

This letter is in response to George Davis and all other men out there who agree with his views on abortion ("Life also make a remark. George Davis has done his homework, and social analysts are saying we need! Forty million extra babies?"

It is amazing to me that you can have such a strong opinion about an issue you don't affect in the least. You can't even justify telling another person what to do in a situation that you will never, ever in your life have to experience? It must be easy to make a decision without the responsibility of actual people having to carry it out and live with it every day for the rest of your life.

Do you ever tell your mother that there are women out there who absolutely do not want to go through the process of giving birth and raising children? What about when their birth control fails? It was not their choice to be born with the ability to become pregnant, but of course that doesn't matter and they should be forced to "take responsibility for their actions."?

Guys can just split at the prospect of an unwanted kid and never look back, while the woman is stuck to deal with it. And the great thing is there's nothing illegal about that; it happens all the time. Sounds like a fair system to me.

Until a government controlled by women, under a female president, and led by a women's movement decides to overturn the ruling made 30 years ago, shut your mouth on this issue and let women have their right to choose, no matter what your beliefs are.

One last thing, George. I challenge you to show me any right a woman had in those days. I know they sure as hell couldn't vote. Micah Hoffman is an electrical engineering junior.

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In response to all the men writing in about their opinion on abortion, I say do what you please, but I challenge you to show me any right a woman had in those days. I know they sure as hell couldn't vote.

Mustang Daily

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Film

By Carly Haseluhn
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

"The Pianist" doesn’t rely on convention to cover familiar ground. Instead, it is a captivating film with a new perspective on the persecution of Jews in World War II.

Director Roman Polanski shows war away from war. This isn’t the Hollywood-esque version of the Holocaust that American moviemakers are used to — there are no scenes in the concentration camps, no horror, in fact. The young Jewish pianist, Wladyslaw Szpilman, plays music to cover familiar ground.

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

rounding him. Adapted from an autobiography by Wladyslaw Szpilman, Polanski shies away from the obvious in every aspect of the film. By focusing on one character and his isolated day-to-day struggle, Polanski makes the pianist a detached observer, allowing the audience to view each scene as if watching it through a bedroom window.

Polanski paints realistic scenes of Jewish life under German control by emphasizing the details. Showing German commanders laughing while making Jews dance and an old man stealing food from the hands of an old lady, lapping it up like a dog when it fell to the ground.

With close-shots of single gunshots, the concentration camps, no hot showers, no planes swooping down from anything familiar and forced to carry them along until they are shipped away to the concentration camps.

But with all eyes meant to be on the pianist, who goes from a clean-cut, pleasant young man to a desperate, age-locking figure, Brody successfully carries the plot along by himself. Manipulating his facial expressions and body gestures and relying mainly on grunts, Brody is unevitably realistic in his transition from young to old (after being weathered from hiding).

Opening in 1939 Warsaw, the Szpilman family, as well as other Jews in Poland, find themselves having to submit to German rule. First they can’t even eat in the same restaurants, then they have to walk to the gutter and bow to German officials. As soon as the nearly 500,000 Jews are confined to designated ghettos, they are being killed in the streets and slowly starved to death.

Though the Szpilmans try to work to save any little bit of freedom, they are quickly herded off to concentration camps. The pianist is spared by a kind uncle and tries to work until the allies come, but soon after going into hiding helps with underground friends. His life is threatened everyday.

"The Pianist" is said to be Polanski’s best film since his success with "Chinatown." Though he’s not allowed in the United States anymore due to one too many relationships with immature (if not perverted) young women, this movie is one that should be viewed and appreciated by all for its powerful imagery and unspoken depth.

By Jordan Schultz
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

"Rabbit-Proof Fence" gives a heart-wrenching account of the kidnapping of Molly (Evelyn Sampi), her younger sister, Daisy (Tiana Sanderby) and cousin, Gracie (Laura Monaghan) by the Australian government in an attempt to abort the culture into the white race.

The devotion of the three girls on dark brown faces as white hands force a wedge between the girls and their waiting mother. Mr. Neville, appropriately known by the Aborigines as "Mr. Devil," occasionally visits the camp to inspect the skin color of the newest arrivals.

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The pianist, played by Adrien Brody, is the sole main character throughout the film, with the others only having enough character depth to carry them along until they are shipped away to the concentration camps. The pianist is spared by a kind uncle and tries to work until the allies come, but soon after going into hiding helps with underground friends. His life is threatened everyday.

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By Genieve Fussell

The film is inspired by the critically acclaimed documentary "The Thin Blue Line.

The film, written and directed by Joe Carnahan, was inspired by the critically acclaimed documentary "The Thin Blue Line," about the slaying of a Dallas police officer in 1976. Initially, Carnahan developed the story into a short, 30-minute film entitled "Gun Point." Tiara Blu Films, a production company founded by Ray Liotta, combined their efforts with Tom Cruise of Cruise/Wagner Productions to develop "Gun Point" into a full-length feature. Liotta's staunch support and determination to make the picture garnered "Narc" considerable attention. The resulting film depicts the harsh realities of Detroit's drug underworld and the narco officers intent on infiltrating it. Nick Tellis, played by Jason Patric, is one such officer whose passion for his work borders on a dangerous obsession. After being suspended from the Detroit Police Force for killing an innocent bystander, Tellis is remarried to crack a frustrating case. The murder of a rookie undercover officer has gone unsolved, even with the efforts of the slain officer's partner and mentor, Detective Henry Oak (Ray Liotta).

Tellis joins Oak in his determined attempt to find the killer, much to the chagrin of his wife. Both men become intensely preoccupied with the case, fully immersing themselves in Detroit's seedy underworld. However, just when you think they have solved the puzzling case, the grim truth reveals itself. Although the storyline was dry, both Patric and Liotta delivered worthy performances. In addition to their strong performances in dual roles, the chemistry between the two actors was apparent and effective. The combination of Tellis' confident yet soft-spoken demeanour and Oak's abrasive rowdiness created a formidable team.

Liotta was particularly impressive as Oak, the hardened detective with a penchant for violence. Although looking rather haggard and overweight, Liotta's delivery was notable. Despite his dedication, Oak's fiery aggression resulted in a contradictory character whose integrity was questionable at times. He was more than willing, if not enthusiastic, to beat up the various thugs he encountered throughout the investigation.

The film has received praise, being nominated at the 2003 Independent Spirit Awards. In addition to a nomination for best cinematography, Carnahan was acknowledged for his direction and Liotta was included in the Best Supporting Male category. Despite the critical acclaim, the film ends with major issues unresolved. Although I am a fan of action movies, this film did not live up to expectations.

"Narc" is short for narcolepsy-inducing film.
National/International News

Thursday for clue to cause of an explosion and a plastics factory that killed three people and injured 32 others. Eleven people remained in critical condition, and officials said Thursday that another woman was unaccounted for.

The explosion in a 45-foot-tall section of the West Pharmaceutical Services plant Wednesday set off flames and debris showering into the air, shooting off fuses in the surrounding woods and shaking homes for miles. About 130 people were in the plant at the time.

Some of the injured were still in grave danger, with severe burns over up to 70 percent of their bodies. Ten people were in critical condition at the North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center in Chapel Hill, spokesman Dr. Anthony Meyer said.

Despite record number of female governors, fewer women in legislatures

After three decades of gains, the number of women crafting state laws and policy has slipped in recent years, drawing concern from advocates who see statehouses as a training ground for the nation's future leaders.

The latest drop is small. There are 33 fewer female legislators this year, down to 1,645 women out of 7,382 state lawmakers across the country. But a similar decrease occurred after the 2000 election. Despite a record number of women now serving as governor, women have lost ground for all state- wide elected offices, such as treasurer and attorney general.

"There are fewer women in the pipeline than we want to have and we need to have," said Roselyn O'Connell, president of the National Women's Political Caucus.

"We're going to see fewer women serving for legislature.

And we're going to have fewer women running for positions like lieutenant governor or governor, because they haven't moved through that pipeline."

In Congress, women failed to make any gains in the House last November and increased their numbers by one in the Senate, with Lisa Murkowski appointed by her father, Alaska's new governor, to fill out the rest of his term. There are 23 women out of 535 members of Congress.

International Briefs

Along with anti-U.S. rhetoric, Baghdad offers American goods and popular culture

BAGHDAD, Iraq - Saddam Hussein's government can easily marshal thousands of demonstrators to burn American flags and shout "Death to the USA." But away from the TV cameras, Iraq is awash in American goods and culture.

In central Baghdad, among jewelry stores selling watches with faces featuring Saddam's smiling face, movie theaters are showing Demi Moore in "Strip Tease" and "Under Suspicion," with Gene Hackman and Morgan Freeman.

In the upscale Arabist district - past the toy store named Barbie and the ice cream parlor that calls itself the Mars Bar - the video CDs shops have up-to-date fare like "My Big Fat Greek Wedding," "Men in Black II" and Nicolas Cage in "Windtalkers." About American Iraqi soldiers in World War II.

It's unclear who's making money from all this - most of the CDs and movies may be pirated - but America's convenience goods and the products of its entertainment industry are virtually everywhere.

Posters of Britney Spears are pasted in windows, and American Dylan's croaky voice was heard one day on the government FM radio station singing "Like a Rolling Stone."

At the chic Bakedeesh restaurant, diners enjoyed their meal one evening with Frank Sinatra crooning "New York, New York" in the background. At Nabil's, another high-priced restaurant, a piano player belted out another Sinatra favorite, "My Way."

North Korea calls Bush's State of the Union speech declaration of aggression

SEOUL, South Korea - North Korea on Thursday said President Bush's State of the Union address was an "undisguised declaration of aggression."

In its first reaction to the speech, North Korea said it "will never allow the U.S. to wantonly encroach upon its sovereignty and dignity of the North and destroy its system."

"This policy seeks to essence, an undisguised declaration of aggression to topple the DPRK system," an unidentified spokesman of the North's Foreign Ministry said in a statement carried by the North's official news agency, KCNA. DPRK is the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Israel troops demolish market stalls, close Palestinian police and TV stations

HEBRON, West Bank - An Israeli Troop unit shot dead two Palestinian militants in Tulkarem, including a militia leader, and army bulldozers demolished a Palestinian vegetable market and closed Palestinian police and TV stations in Hebron.

In Tulkarem, an undercover border police unit shot dead a 25-year-old Palestinian in a gunfight after chasing their car through the streets of the town, Palestinian and Israeli security sources said.

In Hebron, soldiers fired live rounds and rubber-coated steel pel­lets at Palestinians who threw stones and large objects during the demoli­tion of a house considered by the army to be a "terrorist hideout." There were no immediate reports of injuries.

The military said it carried out the West Bank operation in response to a series of shooting ambushes in Hebron. Since Nov. 15, 18 Israelis have been killed in such attacks.

Briefs compiled from The Associated Press wire service by Mustang Daily news editor Andrea Coberly.

U.S. helicopter crashes in Afghanistan; four soldiers killed

WASHINGTON - Four U.S. sol­diers were killed when their Black Hawk helicopter crashed during a training mission in eastern Afghanistan on Thursday, U.S. officials said.

The cause was being investigated.

It was the deadliest day for the American military in Afghanistan since Sept. 11, 2001, when several cen­tral command officials said yesterday that 11 U.S. soldiers were killed and 11 wounded at the outset of an offensive against Taliban and al-Qaida renegade forces.

By Robert Burns

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The Mustangs begin regular season play this weekend with a pair of matches at the Sports Complex against Arizona and Arizona St.

The Mustang Equestrian team

By Jenni Mintz

Cal Poly Equestrian Team

Mustangs: no horning around

The Mustang Equestrian team finished second behind Fresno State at the Cal Poly Home Show last weekend. Despite sweltering heat and riders' gear not conducive to the high temperature, the team galloped with vigor. The Mustangs hosted the intercollegiate competition with Fresno State, Stanford, UC-Davis, College of Sequoias and Bakersfield. Unlike its competitors, Cal Poly's team is entirely student-run. Saturday's events were based on the English riding style, which consists of riders in circles and doing jumps. Sunday included Western events, such as riding in patterns and testing the horse's skills at different speeds, as well as the rider's ability to maintain control. The greatest hurdle that riders had to overcome was riding an unfamiliar, randomly selected horse in the show. Sarah Newman, an animal science sophomore at the College of the Sequoias, has been riding for 20 years.

By Meghan Nowakowski

The difficult road to the playoffs begins today, and the Cal Poly rugby team is more than up for the challenge. In their first game of the season, the Mustangs will face the University of Arizona tonight at the Cal Poly Sports Complex, then Arizona State on Sunday.

"University of Arizona almost knocked us out of the playoffs last year," senior rugby player Matt Gallagher said, "but we made a late rally and came back to win." Fourth-year Cal Poly rugby player Nick Gicalone, the team's captain, is ready to see the competition.

"I think University of Arizona is one of the better teams in our league," Gicalone said, "so we are excited to see what the competition is going to be like this year.

The Mustangs have played incredibly well in their preseason games, beating Stanford — who won the Division II national title last year — 33-12, and USC Davis 40-7. Though all players have been doing an outstanding job, there are a few that stand out.

"The entire team played well in the preseason, especially Tony Torres, Patrick and John Kollerer," Gallagher said. "They have been the two best players on the field at every game so far.

Gicalone credits newcomers Ed Potts and Chris Williams for their ability to step up when the team needed them. "We had some injuries, and Ed and Chris stepped up and really played well," Gicalone said. Even though the team took second in the conference, the Mustangs are excited to see what the competition will be like.

"We have been lucky that there hasn't been much rain this year," Gicalone said. "Rain usually prevents us from practicing and playing on our normal facilities."

Last season was the first that the Mustangs were able to play every home game on the Associated Students Inc. recreation field. "It is a large, fast field that helps us utilize our speed," Gallagher said.

"We are familiar with playing on that field. We practice on it four days a week. It is a definite advantage to play there."

Tonight's game against the University of Arizona is at 7 p.m., with Sunday's game against Arizona State at 1 p.m. Both will be held at the Cal Poly Sports Complex, field 6.

Cal Poly Rugby

The scrum is on

FILE PHOTO/MUSTANG DAILY

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