## ECONOMY

### Merchants see solid start

**By Anne D'Innocenzo**

The Thanksgiving weekend gave the nation's retailers a solid start to the holiday season, but stores that expected shoppers to have less interest in bargain-hunting were disappointed.

Wal-Mart Stores Inc. and other discounters had the strongest sales, attracting customers with specials on TVs, DVD players and toys.

Department stores and mall-based apparel retailers were discounted less than they did last year, and their business was uneven.

"Sales appear to be better than last year, but the consumer is still value-oriented and looking for sales," said Walter Loeb, who runs his own New York-based retail consulting firm.

A dozen people were standing in line Sunday morning at a Best Buy in Danwood, Ga., a suburb of Atlanta, waiting for doors to open at 10 a.m.

Like many shoppers, Charles and Susan Lynch were willing to spend more to get a good deal.

"I am unemployed this time last year so my economic situation has been stolen since the school term began in September. "It is difficult to tell how much worse theft is," said University Police Department Commander Bill Wattum. "Year to year, we'll see some big upswings in theft when people come over from the valley," he said, "but we don't know if that's what's happening or if this has been a rash of local thefts." Wattum also said stolen bikes have been taken from all over campus; there is no central location where theft is more prevalent.

Agribusiness freshman Jason Delisle lives on campus and keeps his bike in his room. "I have a Trek '900, and its cost $3,000," Delisle said. "I left a $50 to $100 bike in the racks but not my bike. My bike is for going on long rides. I don't ride to class."

One way to keep a bike safe is to keep it in a bike locker and not a rack.

Wattum said access and commuter services has gotten funding to install more bike lockers on campus but did not know how many units will be added.

Debbie Anderson of ACS was unavailable for comment.

### Word on the Street

**How do you protect your bike on campus?**

**By Steve Giegerich**

"I lock it up in the rack by the frame, not the wheel." — Adam Tope, graphic communications junior

"I lock it up on the end bike rack." — Rebeka Levi, psychology junior

### Having their say: Colleges' ties with parent group is growing

**By By Caitlin O'Farrell**

Susan Jennings Lantz recalls just what involved her mom and dad in her education at West Virginia University during the 1980s. "My parents dropped me off at school, and that was that," she says.

Things are different today, as Lantz is well aware. As WVU's parent advocate — a salaried position at the Morgantown school — Lantz fields up to 400 calls a year to the school's Parents Club-Helpline, asking about everything from roommate problems to transportation glitches to billing questions.

Like other educators and college administrators, she sees parents taking an increasingly active role on campuses across the country.

A nonprofit group, College Parents of America, is in the early stages of a membership campaign aimed at growing the membership and lobbying success of AAPA.

Lantz says parents figure that if they're spending thousands of dollars on their child's education, they ought to have a voice, experts say. But that's more, say Lantz. "These were the first kids to get the 'Baby on Board' signs," she says.

"It's not just the parents that are involved, a lot of students want their parents involved, too," Lantz says.

This summer, Jim Boyle became president of College Parents of America with the goal of raising the profile of the 900-member group, not quite a decade old, by increasing membership and lobbying. For fees ranging from $18 to $26, Boyle intends for the group to provide an array of services, including answering questions for the parents of middle and high school students about college savings, financial aid and applications. In the style of the AABE, Boyle envisions his organization lobbying Congress on issues such as tuition tax credits.

The group is also working to provide parents of college students with materials on topics ranging from binge drinking to credit card abuse.

"A growing number of schools understand that a parent simply going away once their child drops off at school is not an option anymore," Boyle says.

"It's important to view the family not just the student, and to communicate with the family every step of the way." In many ways, parents have already opened those lines of communication with colleges and universities.

"At West Virginia, concerns about transportation raised by the 11,000-member Mountaineer Parents Club persuaded the school to establish a shuttle between the Morgantown campus and Pittsburgh International Airport."

"When a father wondered that his daughter's car might break down on her way home from her home and Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, the OSU Parent's Association responded by enlisting local mechanics and car dealerships to provide free automobile maintenance checks to students before major holidays."

"At Whitman College in Walla Walla, Wash., 105 parents have signed up for a second-year program."

### Cameras add to risky behavior, study says

**By Caitlin O'Farrell**

It happens everyday. Colleges, high school and even elementary students participate in risky behaviors such as fighting, binge drinking, reckless operation of a motorized vehicle, excessive drinking activities and displays of public nudity.

These clips led to a study conducted by Lantz, psychology professors Shawn Barn and psychology professor Ned Schultz. "The Role of the Home Video Camera in Risky Adolescent Behavior," was conducted by surveying 210 introductory psychology students, determined the frequency of risky behavior and the possible personality and social influence mechanisms that underlie such use, according to the study.

"It is not the risky behavior, it is the camera that is adding a new dimension by exaggerating the behavior amongst friends and social groups," Lantz said. "It creates group cohesion and bonding, by talking about and watching the incident over and over."

Of the students surveyed, 86 percent reported engaging in at least one risky behavior during high school and college and 54 percent participated in the videotaping of at least one risky behavior incident. About half of the students said they exaggerated their behaviors because the camera was present, the study found.

Some of the risky behaviors include extreme sports, extreme physical activities, behavior likely to cause property damage, extreme neckless operations, being caught on a electronic vehicle, excessive drinking activities and displays of public nudity.

Only one media variable, exposure to MTV's "Jackass" television program was related to videotaping risky behaviors and did not have significant gender differences when it came to participating in these d
**Local Weather**

**5 Day Forecast**

**TODAY**
- high: 65°
- low: 45°

**TUESDAY**
- high: 67°
- low: 43°

**WEDNESDAY**
- high: 67°
- low: 40°

**THURSDAY**
- high: 66°
- low: 43°

**FRIDAY**
- high: 65°
- low: 46°

**Sunrise/Sunset**
- rises: 6:52 a.m.
- sets: 5:40 p.m.

**PARENTS**

continued from page 1

that encourages them to read and learn, via Internet postings by professors, about many of the same books their children are studying in the first-year core curriculum, including Homer's "Odyssey" and Plato's "Symposium.

"If our parents are well-informed about policies and where to refer their children in certain situations, especially when it comes to vehicle safety and campus regulations, Lant: said, "this is where we start." The downside to this trend in dangerous activities, especially while being video-taped, is these sensation seekers tend to get injured by trying to out-do each other, and this poses a public health problem.

Thirteen percent of the students surveyed reported injuries resulting from this risky behavior while 20 percent needed medical attention.

One third of 45 households who have video cameras in the house, according to the study, "owning a video camera can be almost likened to having a loaded gun in the house," Schultz said. "Such a high chance of sensation seekers gives the person a high from participating in dangerous behaviors. Novelty seeking is when someone is always looking to try new and different things and may end up partaking in these risky behaviors just because they are different. Distrustfulness is when something an impulsive and may have fewer controls for resisting them. Boredom is a susceptibility to being injured by the same stimulation over and over. To break out of this boredom, this type of person may look for an activity to escape from the monotony."

"Sensation seekers are at a higher risk of being injured physically, especially when it comes to vehicle crashes because of this dangerous behavior," Schultz said. "This is where the social significance comes into play." Sensation seeking is thought to be biologically based and may be linked to hormones that stimulate the brain, such as testosterone.

"Male and female things are three to four times more likely to engage in risk taking behavior because their general biological makeup," said Schultz, psychology professor.

**SHOPPING**

continued from page 1

Regina Elias, shopping for discount Bratz dolls Sunday at a K-B Toys store in Manhattan, said she was feeling "a little better than last year" about her finances.

"I'm working a lot of overtime," said Elias, of Brattleboro, Vt. But she said she plans to spend the same as last year, about $1,000.

Michael Newman, a retail industry analyst with Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi Ltd., said of the weekend, "It was pretty good, but it wasn't spectacular."

He said business was stronger for men's clothing than for women's, a consultant with ShopperTrak.

Niemira said he still forecasts a 4.8 percent rise in total sales from Friday after Thanksgiving to a year ago, according to ShopperTrak, which tallies sales at $100 billion retail outlets. Last year's sales had been 6.8 percent higher than 2002's, Niemira said.

For Friday and Saturday combined, total sales were up about 5.5 percent, said a consultant with ShopperTrak.

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Then there are the few calls that are more serious, such as child pornography, police said. Belinda Mancini, the assistant vice president of the Folsom Police Department, said Debbie Bettencourt, deputy superintendent of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District.

"My sons were chagrined when we took away the vehicle to create their own jobs, but they also held a certain level of pride in doing these things," said Slem. "They were proud of surviving."

**Folsom teacher arrested on child porn charges**

The child is not one of Gmitter's students, but based on the child's statement, police obtained a search warrant for Gmitter's home and classroom, Robinson said.

The conference was held the home Wednesday morning and set property that included several computers and CD-ROMs, Robinson said. He said the discs contained images of young children.

Police also seized a school computer used only by Gmitter, who has taught at Empire Oaks since the school opened in 2001, he said.

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National Roundup

SAN JOSE — At least five murders occurred over Thanksgiving weekend in a city renowned not only for its technology industry but also for its low crime rate. The violence began Friday afternoon, when 44-year-old Jeff Souza and his wife, 49-year-old Beatrice Souza, were found dead in their San Jose home by Beatrice Souza's son, John Villasenor. Police declined to say how the couple died, but neighbors heard Villasenor, who lived with his mother and stepfather, shouting that his parents had been shot. The Santa Clara County coroner's report detailing how the victims died is expected to be released Monday. San Jose Police spokeswoman Gina Tepoorten said they are not looking for suspects.

SANTA BARBARA — Sheriff's officials say they found several wireless microphones in a brush area just outside their headquarters soon after Michael Jackson surrendered to face child molestation allegations. The microphones could have been left behind accidentally, authorities said, but they consider that unlikely.

“It is being interpreted by the department as an attempt by somebody within the media to garner information that otherwise would not be available,” said Sgt. Chris Pappas.

MIAMI — The 2003 Atlantic hurricane season was busier than usual, with 14 named storms blamed for 62 deaths (28) by season's end Sunday, but forecasters say it could have been worse. Hurricane Fabian was the strongest of the storms to hit land, taking Bermuda with 120 mph wind that tore up roofs and roads in early September. Two weeks later, Hurricane Isabel plowed into North Carolina's Outer Banks with 102 mph wind.

The six-month hurricane season produced seven hurricanes, three of which major with sustained wind speeds of at least 111 mph. Hurricane Ivan was the most destructive of the storms.

AMBOY, Calif. — If big-city life has got you down, this desert hamlet 150 miles east of Los Angeles could be the perfect alternative. Its 960 acres include the 130-room castle and its 1940s-era bar, four operational gas pumps, 28 motel rooms and a post office, all located on historic Route 66.

There's only one catch. If you're looking to buy in Amboy, you'll have to buy the whole place, and a couple of people may be in line ahead of you. Celebrity photographer Timothy White and his business partner, Walt Miyaguchi, want to sell the place for $1.9 million. They wanted to buy the whole place, and a couple of people may be in line ahead of you. Celebrity photographer Timothy White and his business partner, Walt Miyaguchi, want to sell the place for $1.9 million.

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World Roundup

ROGUE — Candlelight vigil, educational seminars and torchlight parades were planned around the globe Monday to mark World AIDS Day, while a U.S. delegation headed to hard-hit Africa to urge its leaders to increase awareness about the deadly virus.

Athletes were also getting into the spirit: The International Cricket Council said Sunday that players from Pakistan, New Zealand, West Indies, Zimbabwe, England and Sri Lanka would wear red ribbons during matches Monday to show their support for AIDS victims.

The United Nations reported last week that 2003 saw more deaths and infections from HIV and AIDS than ever before, with more than 3 million people killed and another 5 million infected.

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea says the United States should compensate for halting work on two nuclear reactors amid efforts to arrange a second round of six-nation talks on the communist state's atomic weapons program.

"The government is determined to certainly force the U.S. to compensate for all financial and material losses it caused to North Korea by suspending work on the light water reactors, according to Rodong Sinmun, a North Korean state-run newspaper. The report was carried by KCNA, the North's official news agency.

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — More than 100 men and boys will be transferred in the next two months from the U.S. jail for terrorism suspects in Cuba, including a teenager who allegedly killed an American special operations soldier, a U.S. military official said.

The first of two new transfers is scheduled for the end of December, and the other in January, the official told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity. The detainees would be released from U.S. custody, but it was unclear if any would face further detention or prosecution in their home countries.

The official did not say where the prisoners would be sent and a military spokeswoman declined Sunday to provide details about future transfers from the U.S. base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

MOSUL, Iraq — The U.S. military said Sunday for the first time that the collision of two Black Hawk helicopters in Mosul — the single deadliest incident of the war for American forces — may have been caused by enemy fire.

Until now, the military had not publicly disclosed a possible cause of the Nov. 15 collision, which killed 17 soldiers.

College Roundup

EUGENE, Ore. — Stress is building up for many students as the end of the term draws near, and that may or may not be a good thing depending on the amount of stress students feel.

Senior Staff Psychologist Ron Minaguchi at the University Counseling and Testing Center said students should maintain an optimum level of stress that is balanced between too much and too little.

"When people are too stressed out, they are not productive," he said. "If you're not motivated, your performance can suffer."

On the other hand, Minaguchi said that if students are too stressed out, their performance can suffer.

"If you're under-stressed, you scarlet, you fail," he said.

BOSTON — The moment the Massachusetts Legislature says gay couples in the state can get married, Cambridge residents should be able to walk into city clerk offices and get marriage licenses, Cambridge city council agreed. The council unanimously passed a resolution calling for the city clerk to "take all necessary steps to accommodate the wishes of all married gay couples in the state as legally possible."

The resolution came in response to a state Supreme Judicial Court ruling that said banning gay marriages is unconstitutional in Massachusetts.

Associated Press
**By Sean Dailey**


No matter what you call it, blink-182 is a large step forward for bands Mark, Tom and Travis from their livelihood to blink. In the interim between the band's last album, 2001's "Take Off Your Pants and Jacket," all three members explored differing solo projects. Guitarist Tom DeLonge and drummer Travis Barker collaborated on Box Car Racer. Barker also formed the Transplants with other punk rock notables. Bassist Mark Hoppus, well, he did vocals on that Simple Plan song.

The influence of these diversions can clearly be felt on this album. Most notable is the larger presence of DeLonge vocally, as well as a songwriter, as "blink-182" almost feels like a Box Car Racer album, featuring guitar work that is more jazz-infused than punk.

But where Box Car failed in repetition and mediocrity, the new blink succeeds with a newfound diversity.

Gone is the terror humor and silliness of the former blink. "blink-182" is dark and brooding, at times very angry and at others incredibly somber. "Violence," with its abrasive guitars, has DeLonge screaming "Like violence, you have me. forever and after / Like violence, you kill me."

That's not to say that the usual poppy singles aren't still thrown into the mix to add a bit of levity. Opening track "Feeling This" fits right in with the band's former efforts. "Go" is an equally fun song as well. The rest of the album does its best to break the conception of what a blink song is. "I Miss You" and "The Fallen Interlude" experiment with samples and drum machines.

With more than just the usual guitar/bass/drum combination, the album on the whole feels fuller than previous releases, and much more mature. "All of This," perhaps the most moving track on the album, features bittersweet vocals from DeLonge about the breakup of the Cure. Since when are blink songs moving? It only makes sense that the band is beginning to mature. Now in their 30s and with wives and children, it was about time. Perhaps because of their past, not in spite of it, the band's latest shines more brightly. "blink-182" is an unexpectedly strong album from three guys known for adolescent skateboard punk.

Newly minted diversions, yiFu kill me."

** Jeffrey D. Stulberg**

Attorney at Law

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**New University of Minnesota group discusses social ramifications of pants**

**By Paula Haynes**

MINNEAPOLIS — It was a cold and snowy afternoon, and Erica Eads looked on in horror as a man wearing shorts crossed the street near the University of Minnesota.

"That would be a pants-inappropriate situation," she said.

And Eads should know. She's president of Tengo Pantalones, a newly registered university student group dedicated to discussing situations in which pants are appropriate.

Eads and two friends from her dorm, Caren Eads and Kelly Frush, started the group last month. The trio made their case on a "I have pants" — now has 40 members, and the three founders said they have no idea what to do with them.

They've talked of holding a large forum with all its members to discuss pants, in addition to a clothing drive for pants, which would not accept shorts or skirts.

"We deal with pure pants only," Eads said.

One thing the founders said they want to do is keep the club apolitical.

"Pants have nothing to do with abortion, religion or racism," Eads said.

So they want to keep them subtle. "They need to want to help themselves before we can do anything," said treasurer Kelly Frush, referring to the man wearing shorts in the snow.

They do, however, dream of a pants-related infomercial that could some day air during a U.S. president's State of the Union address.

"We're really, really random when we talk about things and sometimes that gets translated into reality," Swain said.

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AmeriCorps poised to get big funding increase

WASHINGTON (AP) — Kamala Harris ranks of volunteers next year. The funding boost from Congress that could swell its — an increase of more than 50 percent above the past fiscal year. It’s also about $10 million more than the amount requested by President Bush for the AmeriCorps program.

WASHINGON (AP) — Despite some redistricting, some blacks are now elected from majority-white suburbs, Southern farmlands or thriving business hubs, forcing the caucus to reexamine its mission.

What changes would you make if you were Director of the UC?

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Changing membership broadens scope

WASHINGTON (AP) — The agenda is still shaped by the liberal causes of urban black Americans but no longer is limited to them. Now, the group of 39 Democrats is taking on topics more national and international in scope.

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Los Angeles (AP) — Devon Farnier scored 26 points, including six 3-pointers, and Southern California got anticipating home opener despite blowing a 15-point lead Sunday. Senior guard Devon Farnier started USC on a game-opening 9-2 run with a trey. The Trojans answered with 12 straight points before the Trojans regrouped and ran off 11 in a row to make a 20-12 lead. Farnier scored 15 of USC’s final 23 points. Northridge (1-2) got within two points on a 7-0 run with 3:45 remaining in the first half, but USC reasserted the Matadors 10-4 to end the half ahead 39-31.

Down White led four Northridge players in double figures with 21 points. Chris Dunn added 18, points. Joseph Traier had 12 and Ian Bylavl 11. USC freshman guard Quinton Day didn’t play for disciplinary reasons.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

31 Inhabitant of ancient civilizaton
30 Bee-related
29 Take care of
26 Shooting star
25 Brings in
22 Probable
20 Boxer Norton
19 Pepsi- ___
17 Al Capone’s gang, once?
16 Ayatollah
15 Union concerns
14 Where enfant
13 Sticks around
12 ____.__.
10 Young Eudora
9 Treaties
8 Building wing
6 Mushroomed
5 Netting
4 Dr. Mom’s
3 Prenoon period,
2 Flu symptom
1 Quantity of

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Lost: Cell phone, older Sony with name Karen Brown. Please call Christi at 756-1143 and place an ad!}

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Back on the winning track

CAL POLY BASKETBALL

By Graham Womack
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Friday: Mustangs cannot close deal against Colorado

Mustangs get within five points in closing minutes but cannot pull out another upset

Mustang Daily staff report

Junior center David Harrison scored 22 points, grabbed 10 rebounds and blocked four shots to lead Colorado to a 73-62 victory over Cal Poly in a non-conference men’s basketball game before a sellout crowd of 3,032 Wednesday night in Mott Gym.

Harrison made 10 of 18 field shots and seven of his rebounds were on the offensive end of the floor. Senior guard Dre’ Proctor and sophomore guard Shane Dennis had 14 points and seven rebounds each, followed by sophomore forward Blake Wilson contributed 14 points and 10 boards to the bench.

Cal Poly (1-1) was paced by junior forward Nick Enzell with 15 points and seven rebounds. Junior forward Eric Jackson scored 12 points.

Colorado out-rebounded Cal Poly 45-36 and each team turned the ball over 14 times.

Colorado went on a 25-5 run in the first half to turn a 16-11 deficit into a 46-21 advantage with 3:21 remaining. Freshman guard Marcus Hall capped the run with a layup.

The Buffaloes settled for a 38-28 lead at the break.

Cal Poly closed the gap in the second half and matched points for 40-40 before Cal Poly in a non-conference women’s basketball game Tuesday night.

Katie Caraway led the way for the Lady Indians with 22 points on 9-13 shooting and seven of nine free throws. Amber Abraham added four points while Cartrice Webster had 13 and Brooke Shelby had 12.

Cal Poly had a trio of double-digit scorers, led by freshman point guard Sparkle Andersen with 17 points and five assists,此外, forward Katy Paterson added 10 points and seven rebounds while senior guard Carissa Taylor came off the bench to contribute 10 points.

Arkansas State, now 2-0, on the season, led 45-37 at halftime, but Cal Poly steadily pulled away in the second half as Cal Poly made just 28 percent of its floor shots after the break and finished at 41 percent. Cal Poly out-rebounded Arkansas State 36-28, but turned the ball over 31 times, five more than the Lady Indians. The Mustangs also were called for 27 personal fouls, with forward Kimmy Greens-Davis fouling out.

The loss was the first for Cal Poly in three games this season. The Mustangs had beaten the Lady Indians 73-68 a year ago in Mott Gym.

Morgan Polyn returns with a pair of home games next week in Mott Gym. The Mustangs host Air Force on Thursday, Dec. 4 at 7 p.m. and UC Davis on Saturday, Dec. 6 at 2 p.m.

Wednesday: Women suffer first loss of season

Arkansas State outscores Mustangs by 21 in second half on way to blowout win

Mustang Daily staff report

Arkansas State shot 34 percent from the floor and scored over 40 points in each half en route to an 89-60 victory over Cal Poly in a non-conference women’s basketball game Tuesday night.

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