Talent show winner recites Shakespeare

Jannie Brady

The Ford Talent Drive College Tour came to Cal Poly on Wednesday, naming theatre senior Penni Tolvar the big winner.

Tolvar was awarded with an A-line prize package, including a round-trip ticket to Los Angeles, hotel accommodations for two nights, a meeting with a casting agent, a VIP tour of Sony Pictures Studios and red carpet treatment at a Hollywood premiere.

Tolvar will also star in a Ford Focus "Talent Drive" documentary/short film and could possibly win a 2005 Ford Focus priced at $20,375.

Ford Motor Company and Sony Pictures Digital teamed up to visit 16 college campuses nationwide in an attempt to find the ultimate talent.

Students audition by preparing a quote, reciting a monologue or singing a song. Tolvar performed a Shakespearean sonnet.

"She put her own creative twist on it," said Brian Bosch, ASI Events supervisor and architecture senior. "All the judges felt that she had the most potential and that she could really represent Cal Poly."

Bosch said the judges scored the performers on a 50-point system.

The "Lite it Up" mirrors feature a variety of designs framed over acrylic with blue tube lights built inside to give a faint glow.

Industrial technology students designed 'Lite it Up' mirrors: sketched designs were most popular.

Computer-assisted drafting program was then converted to a milling machine.

"We use the machine to etch each individual design onto the glass," Langel said.

It took 90 hours to complete the frames, which we just recently finished," Langel said.

The group will sell the mirrors for $70 a piece.

The group designed 79 different mirrors.

The group spent 50 hours in the lab completing their project.

"The Lite it Up" group spent $3,500 of their own money on the project.

BY THE NUMBERS

$3,500

The "Lite it Up" group spent $3,500 of their own money on the project.

$70

The group will sell the mirrors for $70 a piece.

79

The group designed 79 different mirrors.

90

It took 90 hours for the group to finish the mirror frames.

Picking delicious apples in Avila

Cheap and peaceful way to get some produce

IN ARTS AND CULTURE

Poly baseball players back from Alaska

Summer league builds skills and team bonding

IN SPORTS, page 16
Warming
continued from page 1
chairman of the environment commit­
tee, who has described global warming as a hoax. In a statement, Inhofe called
the study yet another scare tactic.
"Almost 40 percent of their grade is
based on various criteria ranging from
their finishing place at the trade show,
how they have evaluated each other’ s
evaluations. "No matter what I pile on, they do
a better job than what I expect," Barber said.
The "Lite it Up" group has spent
day and night working on their pro­
ject, and foresee that everything will
be completed on time. The team is
proud of their design and all their hard
work.
As Facilities Director Sardana put it,
"This is going to be the best IT 407
project ever."

Surfing after class?
Check out the surf
forecast on the front page

Time to spread some cheer with your peers at the ...

Financial

Student Special
X-LARGE PIZZA w/1 TOPPING
Always available!
No coupon needed!
$11.99 + tax
Additional toppings: 11.59 ea.
Garment toppings: 7.29 ea.
Not good with other offers. Must show valid student ID.

Dine-In Take-Out Groups

Voted SLO's Best Pizza 16 Times!
- New Times Readers' Poll

Salads • Wraps • Wraps & Wraps • Wraps on Tap
Video Games • Pinball • Watch Sports on Multiple TVs, Including a Big Screen

We Deliver!
The plane's registered owner is Robert Carson of South El Monte, according to the Federal Aviation Administration registry. August said a male and female were aboard the plane, which was four to six people.

SAN JOSE — Responding to complaints, eBay announced a new policy Wednesday to reduce the use of racist offensive terms in its Internet auction listings.

The giant online marketplace said that from now on, such words may be used only if they are part of a product title. Otherwise, the words may not be used in describing other kinds of collectibles such as old advertisements and ceramics, as some sellers have apparently done in the Web site's Black Americana categories.

TO R R A N C E — A man accused of robbing more than two dozen banks around greater Los Angeles pleaded not guilty Wednesday to 17 charges of robbery and one charge of attempted robbery.

David Robinson, 53, previously pleaded not guilty to 10 felony counts of robbery on Nov. 2. Prosecutors described Robinson as a transient who wore a variety of disguises, including dreadlocks, which earned him the nickname the Dreadlocks Bandit.

He allegedly netted about $70,000 during a 2 1/2-month spree that began Aug. 19.

FREEHOLD, N.J. — Nira Nevins said only one of her many personalities robbed a bank, but they're all going to jail. Nevins, 55, maintains that an alternate, childlike personality came over her the day she robbed the bank.

"I am so ashamed of our actions," she told Superior Court Judge Edward M. Neary on Tuesday.

The judge ordered Nevins to serve 18 years in prison for kidnapping the bank's head teller and forcing her to drive from the scene. He also imposed a concurrent 13-year prison term for the armed robbery of the bank in 2002. Nevins must serve 15 years and three months before becoming eligible for parole.

A jury convicted her in August, following a trial that included the appearance of "Jimmie," the child personality Nevins said robbed the bank of more than $5,000.

Nevins' attorney, Paul Edinger, argued she suffered from dissociative identity disorder, formerly called multiple personality disorder, and should be acquitted by reason of insanity.

She testified that she had considered suicide the morning of March 20, 2002. The next thing she recalled was being in a police car after the robbery.

But Assistant Monmouth County Prosecutor Jacqueline Seely portrayed Nevins as a manipulative, intelligent woman who planned the robbery to pay off $124,000 in debts.

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina — Homemade bombs exploded in two Buenos Aires banks Wednesday, killing a security guard and shattering windows, police said. The explosions occurred near ATM machines in branches belonging to Citibank and Banco Galicia, damaging the buildings' facades, officials said.

The explosions occurred before the banks opened to the public.

MOSCOW — Russia is developing a new nuclear missile system unlike any weapon held by other countries, President Vladimir Putin said Wednesday, a move that could serve as a signal to the United States as Washington pushes forward with a missile defense system.

Putin gave no details about the system or why Russia was pursuing it, and it was unclear whether the Kremlin's cash-strapped armed forces could even afford an expensive new weapon.

BAGHDAD, Iraq — A suicide attacker drove his bomb-laden car into a U.S. convoy during fighting Wednesday in a northern town, where hospital officials said at least 10 people were killed amid a wave of violence across Iraq's Sunni Arab heartland.

The increasing attacks and the instability in Iraq have made November one of Iraq's bloodiest months.

According to an Associated Press tally, the American death toll in the war in Iraq surpassed 1,200 with new Defense Department identifications Tuesday, night and Wednesday. The total of 1,206 deaths included 1,202 identified members of the U.S. military, three military civilians and one unidentified soldier who reportedly died Tuesday in Balad.

Fallujah has made November one of Iraq's bloodiest months.

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Based on a survey conducted by Cal Poly Reality of 302 students enrolled at Cal Poly students with an error margin of ±9%.
Want to lose weight? Sleep more and get a pooch, experts say

Marilyn Marchione  
ASSOCIATE PRESS

LAS VEGAS — Experts have this unconventional advice for dieters: Don't scrump on sleep and think about getting a dog.

A wide study has found a surprisingly strong link between the amount of shut-eye people get and their risk of becoming obese. Researchers also found that dog owners who dieted alongside their pets did slightly better than their dog-less counterparts.

Both studies were reported this week at a meeting of the North American Association for the Study of Obesity.

The sleep study found that people who got less than four hours of sleep a night were 73 percent more likely to be obese than those who got the recommended seven to nine hours of rest.

Those who averaged five hours of sleep had 50 percent greater risk, and those who got six hours had 23 percent more.

"Maybe there's a window of opportunity for helping people sleep more, and maybe that would help their weight," said Dr. Steven Heymsfield of Columbia University and St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital in New York, who did the study with Columbia epidemiologist James Gangwisch.

They used information on about 18,000 adults participating in the federal government's National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey throughout the 1980s.

It may seem odd that sleeping more could prevent obesity because people burn fewer calories when they're resting, but they also cut when they're awake. The effect of chronic sleep deprivation on the body's food-seeking circuitry is what specialists think may be making the difference in obesity risks.

"There's growing scientific evidence that there's a link between sleep and the various neural pathways that regulate food intake," Heymsfield said.

Sleep deprivation lowers leptin, a blood protein that suppresses appetite, and raises ghrelin, which does the opposite.

It also hurts "executive function" — the ability to make clear decisions, said Dr. Philip Eisling, a sleep and weight-loss specialist at the University of Arizona who also is medical director of the Canyon Ranch, a spa in Tucson that caters to business executives.

"One of my treatments is to tell them they should move from six hours to seven hours of sleep. When they're less sleepy, they're less hungry," he said.

Meanwhile, Chicago doctors are hoping people consider a "buddy system" for losing weight that includes man's best friend. Two-thirds of Americans and one-fourth of pets are overweight or obese, so there's huge potential.

According to the first study to put people and their pets on a simultaneous diet and exercise program, experts found both lost weight and kept it off.

Dogs did better than owners, but owners said they had fun, something people rarely say about their diets.

"If you're looking for motivation and social support to lose weight, you probably don't have to look any further than the pet in your own home," said Dr. Robert Kushner of Northwestern Medical School, who did the study with Chicago veterinarians Kimberly Rudloff and Dennis Jewel, a nutrition expert for Hill's Pet Nutrition, which makes Science Diet and a prescription diet dog food used in the study.

People attended weekly counseling sessions at Northwestern on diet and exercise, and were encouraged to walk at least 20 minutes and burn calories to 1,400 a day. Dogs were fed the prescription diet and walked with their owners.

All were followed for one year.

The dog owners did slightly better than the dieters who walked and dieted alone. Overall, people lost an average of 11 pounds, or 5 percent of their body weight, in the first four months and kept it off for the next eight.

Dogs lost an average of 12 pounds — 15 percent of their initial weight. Of course, that's easier to do when someone controls your food dish.

But the dogs didn't seem to mind as judged by something any dog owner can understand. "Begging behavior did not go up," Jewel said.

Owners said their dogs had more pep and were anxious to go outside for walks and play.

Kathleen O'Deirk, a 51-year-old Chicago lawyer, said that certainly was true for her pampered Cavalier King Charles spaniel, Winston, who lost seven pounds during the study.

"He bounds up the stairs three and four at a time whereas before he used to just crawl up," she said.

She lost 13 pounds, and it encouraged her so much that she joined a fitness class and now does more strenuous exercise than she'd ever done before.

"I had never been on a diet," she said. "I dropped two pant sizes."
Low-fat beats low-carb for keeping pounds off, study suggests

by Doctors compared their diets to see whether one type or another made a difference in how much weight they had lost and how much they had regained a year later. All reported eating only about 1,400 calories a day, but the portion that came from fat went from 24 percent in 1995 to more than 29 percent in 2003, while the part from carbohydrates fell, from 56 percent to 49 percent. The number who were on low-carb diets (less than 90 grams a day) rose from 6 percent to 17 percent during the same period.

"Only a minority of successful weight losers consume low-carbohydrate diets." Suzanne Phelan Brown Medical School psychologist

The type of diet — low-fat, low-carb or in between — made no difference in how people lost weight initially. But those who increased their fat intake over a year regained the most weight. That meant they ate less carbohydrates, because the amount of protein in their diets stayed the same, Phelan said. "Only a minority of successful weight losers consume low-carbohydrate diets," she and the other researchers concluded. Colette Heimowitz, a nutrition expert and spokeswoman for the Atkins diet organization, noted that the study considered 90 grams to be low-carb, while Atkins recommends 60 grams for weight loss and 60 to 120 for weight maintenance. She said that for many of the dieters studied, "the carbs aren't low enough for them to be successful." They also should have replaced carbs with more protein rather than fat, she said.

Dr. Thomas Wadden, a University of Pennsylvania weight loss expert who had no role in the study, said it is too soon to say which approach is better. Several longer-term studies of low-carb and low-fat dieters are in the works, he said. But he said, "I do think that people who are keeping the weight off are eating a low-fat, high-carb diet." The dietary establishment has long been skeptical of the long-term safety and effectiveness of low-carb diets, and consumers increasingly are losing their enthusiasm for the glut of low-carb product that overstocked grocery store shelves as the diet became a fad in the past few years. More than half of Americans who have tried a low-carb diet have given up, according to a recent survey by the market research firm InsightExpress. Other published survey information suggests that the number of Americans following such a diet peaked at 9 percent last February and fell to 6 percent by June.

The American Institute for Cancer Research used those trends to issue a statement in September urging dieters to "come back to common sense.

"Eat a balanced diet weighted toward vegetables and fruits, reduce portion sizes and increase physical activity," the institute said. Dr. William Dietz, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, said it is difficult to tell whether these low-carb diets really work because people find it hard to stick to a strict regimen for long periods.

"My anecdotal experience is that people go on and off these diets," he said. "When their weight goes up, they go back on the diet to lose weight." Other research at the conference underscored the many health and psychological problems obese people face.

Duke University doctors said two-thirds of obese people seeking treatment at the Duke Diet & Fitness Center reported not enjoying or wanting to have sex, and having problems with sexual performance. Only 5 percent of normal-weight people from the surrounding community who completed the same quality-of-life survey reported such problems.

Tip #72: Fold this Mustang Daily into a trendy hat!

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Chapman University College's Santa Maria Valley campuses are now accepting applications for the upcoming term.

Chapman University College, one of California's most highly respected universities for adult learners, is also the perfect transfer choice. New terms start every 10 weeks and our accelerated programs are taught at convenient times by professionally and academically accomplished faculty who are focused on your success.

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Not all programs available at all locations.
Families should talk medical history at Thanksgiving, officials say

WASHINGTON — Medical officials are urging families to talk not only turkey this Thanksgiving but also medical history to help identify breast, heart and other problems early enough to prevent them.

"Knowing your family's history can save your life," Surgeon General Richard H. Carmona said Monday. "Thanksgiving is a perfect day for talking about family history ...You'll be amazed at what you learn."

That knowledge, recent genetic studies show, often means power to predict and perhaps head off diseases prevalent in families even before they appear.

The average doctor's visit is 20 minutes, which is too short to interview a patient, record three generations of medical history, assess disease risks and chart courses of action, said geneticist Francis S. Collins.

"Family history is at the center of taking advantage of the new genomic medicine, which is bubbling up all around us," said Collins, director of the National Human Genome Research Institute who was a leader in the Human Genome Project.

Carmona acknowledged that filing family histories carries privacy concerns, such as the possibility an insurance company might see the records and raise a patient's premium or deny coverage. Family medical histories already sit in many patients' files, he pointed out.

"A bill passed by the Senate and working its way through the House would provide more protection by barring employers from using people's family histories in hiring or firing," Carmona said.

"Knowing your family's history can save your life. Thanksgiving is a perfect day for talking about family history."

— RICHARD H. CARMONA
Surgeon General

The government about $300,000, mostly for printing and software, said Larry Thompson, spokesman for the National Human Genome Research Institute.

The software can be downloaded at www.hhs.gov/fami­lyhistory. A print version of "My Family Health Portrait" will be available in English and Spanish at more than 3,600 medical offices nationwide. Print versions also can be obtained from the Federal Citizen Information Center at (888) 878-3256.
Global health network goes multilingual

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — A global system designed to spot bioterrorist attacks or new disease outbreaks became even more global Wednesday.

The Global Health Intelligence Network, created in 1999, previously scanned only English language news reports for signs of infectious disease crises. Beginning Wednesday, it scours reports in Arabic, French, Spanish, and both simplified and traditional Chinese.

The $1.3 million upgrade was funded in part by the Nuclear Threat Initiative, a U.S.-based nonprofit dedicated to reducing the threat of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons.

"I believe the world is in a race between cooperation and catastrophe," said former U.S. Senator and NTI co-founder Sam Nunn, who started the organization in 2001 with media executive Ted Turner.

In addition to concerns about bioterrorism, infectious disease experts are increasingly worried that a novel illness like SARS or bird flu spread among humans could rapidly overwhelm public health efforts if not addressed in its earliest stages.

"We've found that newswire sources are remarkably accurate," said Dr. Ron St. John, director of the Canadian Center for Emergency Preparedness and Response, which operates the global health intelligence system.

Analysts at the network's Ottawa headquarters handle about 10,000 news reports a month that are selected by computer from public databases. The incoming information is compiled, edited and supplemented with public health information, then shipped in daily reports to the World Health Organization.

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Kaiser extends coverage to locked-out hotel workers

Lisa Leff
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN FRANCISCO — Health care provider Kaiser Permanente stepped into San Francisco's bitter hotel labor dispute by agreeing to provide two months of medical coverage to 3,500 locked-out workers who were at risk of losing their benefits.

The Oakland-based health plan's decision Tuesday allows the hotel workers, whose employer-sponsored health insurance with Kaiser is due to expire on Dec. 1, to stay on picket lines while their union holds out for its contract demands, said Mike Casey, president of Unite Here Local 2.

Kaiser's move followed a tie vote last week by the board that oversees the hotel workers' health care fund on whether to extend the workers' insurance coverage while contract talks continue. The four trustees who represent the 14 hotels at the center of the dispute voted against the extension, according to Casey.

"By withholding health care, they thought people would cave in," Casey said. "I think this weakens the weapon of the lockout, which was designed to starve us out."

Rick Malaspina, a spokesman for Kaiser Permanente's Northern California region, said the nonprofit company was not taking sides in the hotel dispute but merely looking out for the well-being of its clients.

In the past, Kaiser has done the same for other union members engaged in work stoppages, including Southern California grocery store workers last year and San Francisco's longshoremen during the 1990s, he said. In the latter case, none other than legendary labor leader Harry Bridges proposed the deal and fulfilled his promise to pay Kaiser back when his members returned to work after a two-year strike.

Malaspina said that even though there was no quid pro quo for Kaiser to continue serving the hotel workers, "we expect that eventually we will be repaid." He would not disclose the cost to the company to continue insuring the workers and their families, a group that totals about 8,000 people.

Last week, the union held a news conference to highlight the hardship that losing their health insurance would pose to hotel workers with pre-existing medical conditions such as cancer, diabetes and AIDS, especially during the height of the flu season.

Another 500 Local 2 members who get health care through PacificCare and San Francisco's Chinese Hospital are still at risk of losing their insurance on Dec. 1, but the union is hoping to work out similar deals with them, said spokeswoman Valerie Lapin.

THE RECOMMENDED DISTANCE

between vehicles is two car lengths. If someone is

on your tail, try these tips to avoid an accident:

FOLLOWING TOO CLOSE

- Let the tailgater pass by pulling to the roadside, changing lanes or turning off on a side street.
- If you have a cellular phone and can safely make a call, report the car and driver to the police.
- Ignore staring and engaging in any type of gestures toward the tailgater. This can endanger yourself and others on the road.

Tailgating goes best with football.

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Tailgating goes best with football.
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- Max Units increased to 22
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Got an Arts story idea? email us at artsandculture@mustangdaily.net
In a traditional fashion, the Avila Valley Barn provides an opportunity to handpick your own fruits and vegetables depending on the season. The farm offers three types of apples, pumpkins, pomegranates and more.

see You Pick, page 10
You pick (continued from page 9)

I'm going to be honest with you, I've never had any dreams of becoming a pumpkin farmer. Granted, I like wide open spaces, horses and overall as much as a farmgirl could, but my occupation has never called out to me. That's why, when I was surprised by an afternoon in Avila Valley picking apples, it could be as enjoyable as it was.

The place: A "U-Pick" farm near Avila Beach, called Avila Valley Barn. Though it is a scant minute or so from the freeway, it's a shame to deprive yourself of the scenery of the back roads. Ocean views, rolling hillsides, all of that "purple mountain majesty" cause many to love this area. Except the mountains aren't par- ticularly high.

I've had limited experience with farms like this. When I was a youngin', my dad drove me out to a farm like the Avila Valley Barn to buy a pumpkin for Halloween. We'd buy bags of weird candies, like cinnamon gummy bears and saltwater taffy, and pick out the perfect pumpkin.

Even though Halloween has passed, the farm was still full of pumpkins. I, however, do not have room in my apartment for a rot­
ning gourd, and was thus passed on the list.

Just need to grow. You pick, you wash, you transport, you eat. The amount of work put into harvest­ing is tremendous. The apples at the farm just need to grow. You pick, you wash, you transport, you eat. The result: The apples at Avila Valley Barn were 55 cents a pound, almost a third of the price at the grocery store. My entire grocery bag full came out to less than $2.

Later, I sat reflecting on the bag of apples atop on my desk, which I was taking a break from eating. The drive back through the golden, rolling hills had certainly been calming, and I felt ready to tackle whatever came my way. First on the list was tackling the bag of cin­

Greek word meaning "everything is pointy and hurts me." Burns, thistles and all varieties of sharp flora abound, and my exposed arms took quite a poking by the time I was through.

So why bother driving out to Avila just for fruit? There's the joy and satisfaction of picking your own apples (peaches too, starting in the spring), but there's got to be a reason. Well money talks, so listen up. If you've taken economics, you know labor means cost. The apples you see at the grocery store have to be picked, washed, inspected, polished, transported, stocked, dis­played and sold. That means the cost of those apples reflects the amount of work put into harvest­ing them. The apples at the farm just need to grow. You pick, you wash, you transport, you eat. The result: The apples at Avila Valley Barn were 55 cents a pound, almost a third of the price at the grocery store. My entire grocery bag full came out to less than $2.

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So why bother driving out to Avila just for fruit? There's the joy and satisfaction of picking your own apples (peaches too, starting in the spring), but there's got to be a reason. Well money talks, so listen up. If you've taken economics, you know labor means cost. The apples you see at the grocery store have to be picked, washed, inspected, polished, transported, stocked, dis­played and sold. That means the cost of those apples reflects the amount of work put into harvest­ing them. The apples at the farm just need to grow. You pick, you wash, you transport, you eat. The result: The apples at Avila Valley Barn were 55 cents a pound, almost a third of the price at the grocery store. My entire grocery bag full came out to less than $2.

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Local band Sherwood returns home

Hailing from Cal Poly, emo power-pop band Sherwood is making its return to the Central Coast this weekend with a show at SLO Nazarene Church Friday. The band recently signed with Sidecho Records and has been touring the country the last five months.

Tickets are $6 and doors open at 6:30 p.m. There are four opening bands as well. Check out Sherwood's web site at www.sherwoodmusic.net. The site offers free mp3s off their self-titled debut EP.

Eminem returns for his 'Encore'

Fulvio Cativo
THE DREAMER

Worry not: Eminem grows in "Encore."

He grows more perverted, more political, more creative and more confusing. So don't be surprised if your first response is, "I waited two years for this?"

At best, "Encore" is Eminem's most ambitious effort, an album on which he lessens his arty fly at the expense of maturity. But it should leave hip-hop purists and most people past puberty aching for the introspective, serious artist we have come to know.

For now, you can kiss those days goodbye. You won't find understated gems like "Square Dance" or "Who Knew" on this album. In fact, the insightful, introspective artist we heard on the last album barely makes an appearance this time around.

If you were turned off by his first single, "Just Lose It," you probably won't dig several songs on "Encore." The regression to potty humor may lead to a resurgence of doubt about Eminem's street cred, maturity and legitimacy — all of which he dispelled with "The Eminem Show." Yet, as if we needed reinforcement, Eminem clearly indicates (see the album jacket) he doesn't care what we think.

But if you want to hear Eminem's numerous personalities run wild, "Encore" is a must-listen. Eminem amps up his psycho-jester persona, gives rare insight into his life with his wife and takes us along for some outrageously mind-boggling raps on tracks like "Big Weeny" and "Ass Like That."

While we're at it, fans of the late Christopher Reeve should steer clear. "Encore" is equal parts brilliance, irreverence, immaturity and misfiring artistry. It's his psycho-jester persona, gives rare insight into his life with his wife and takes us along for some outrageously mind-boggling raps on tracks like "Big Weeny" and "Ass Like That."

Ultimately, in a noticeable departure from the pattern of his first three albums, on which the last few tracks were like a dessert to the masterpiece you had just consumed, "Encore"'s last tracks will determine whether most people like or hate the album.

The Dr. Dre-produced title track is the only certifiable banger on "Encore."

"Crazy In Love" and "One Shot 2 Sho" are both sing-songy tracks, the latter featuring D12 and a ridiculous, catchy beat and hook you'll hum as you hop in the streets at 3 a.m. Truth be told, your opinion of Eminem will vary with your mood. It is equal parts brilliance, irreverence, immaturity and misfiring artistry. It sounds hastily assembled in some stretches and it is not Eminem's finest effort, but it shows growth in every direction imaginable. If you're disappointed, you won't be the only one — not that he cares what anyone thinks.
Arab-Israeli future lies in new leader

With the death of embittered Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, the Arab-Israeli conflict burns deep in the world. As Israeli debate pulling out from settlements in Gaza, Palestinians will choose a new leader, and hopefully a new direction.

From LEFT field

peace, and the extremists who will not rest until they see the complete destruction of Israel.

If Palestinians do emerge with an effective leader, President Bush and other world leaders must engage in the peace process. The decision-making process must use reason and not succumb to blind left-thinking or religious right-wing zealotry. The far-left refuses to recognize Israel as a legitimate state, even though it's the only democracy in the Middle East. Israel is the only state in the region where gay pride parades are held and women are treated with complete equality. One can criticize actions made by Israel, but to deny its legitimacy does nothing to establish common ground.

As with the other side of the spectrum, the Christian Right blindly supports anything Israel does. Like the Orthodox Jews living in the settlements who believe "God gave them the land," the Christian Right believes in the Second Coming of Christ. Once Jesus returns, they will inherit Israel, and all non-believers will be cast into the abyss of hell. If President Bush believes this, we are in serious trouble.

As we await new leadership for Palestinians, we must change the way we think. When a Palestinian states himself in order to prevent innocent civilians from being killed, President Bush believes this, we are in serious trouble.

We cannot ignore the goal of an Islamic terrorist, which is to maximize damage to innocents and go to heaven as a martyr. When Israel conducts military actions, the goal is never to maximize the deaths of innocent bystanders. This in no way exonerates Israel from killing innocents.

We cannot imagine what it's like to live in a world where your identity is based on your faith, and your government acts on the words of your leadership. Where do we go from here?

Josh Koh is a political science senior and Mustang Daily columnist.
U.N. oil-for-food program investigation halted — for now

Edith M. Lederer
Associated Press

NEW YORK — The independent panel investigating alleged corruption in the multibillion-dollar U.N. oil-for-food program in Iraq told the Senate it won't hand over any documents until its own investigative reports are issued starting in January.

Former Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker, who heads the inquiry, also said he opposes allowing U.N. staff or contractors to testify before congressional committees, arguing that this could risk their cooperation with his investigation.

In the current highly charged atmosphere, he said, the panel wants to avoid the release of "potentially misleading and incomplete information that could impair the ongoing investigation, distort public perceptions, and violate simple concerns of due process."

Volcker's comments came ahead of a hearing Wednesday by the House International Relations Committee, which is investigating potential corruption in the oil-for-food program.

Committee investigators said they had uncovered evidence showing that Saddam Hussein diverted money from the oil-for-food program to pay millions of dollars to families of Palestinian suicide bombers who carried out attacks on Israelis.

The former Iraqi president tapped secret bank accounts in Jordan — where he collected bribes from foreign companies and individuals doing illicit business under the humanitarian program — to reward the families up to $25,000 each, investigators told The Associated Press.

The humanitarian program that let Iraq trade oil for goods was set up in 1996 to help Iraqis get food, medicine and other items that had been scarce under strict U.N. economic sanctions imposed after the Gulf War, investigators say. Saddam made more than $23.3 billion in illegal revenue under the program as well as by evading the sanctions for more than a decade.

Iraq had thousands of secret bank accounts throughout the world, including over 1,500 in Jordan. Money from kickbacks on oil-for-food deals, illegal oil payments from the Jordanian government and other illicit funds were paid into accounts.

There are indications that the bank may have been noncompliant in administering the oil-for-food program. If true, these possible banking lapses may have facilitated Saddam Hussein's manipulation and corruption of the program.

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— HENRY HYDE
committee chairman

Volcker said he expects it will be "apparently asking them to forego compliance with U.S. money laundering laws, a lawyer for BNP said. Hyde's statement was unfair. "There are simply no connections."

BNP held the sole escrow account through which all of the more than $60 billion of Iraqi oil revenues generated through the program flowed while it was in place from 1996 to 2003. BNP also wrote letters of credit for deals for the import of humanitarian goods which were approved by the United Nations and paid for out of the escrow account.

Five congressional panels, including Hyde's, have been pressing the U.N.-appointed independent inquiry to hand over internal U.N. documents for their own oil-for-food probes.

On Tuesday, Volcker reiterated his independent inquiry's refusal to share documents in a letter responding to a request by Sen. Norm Coleman, R-Minn. and Carl Levin, D-Mich.

Volcker, who was appointed in April by U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan to chair the Independent Inquiry Committee, said the United Nations generally does not make internal confidential information available to any of its 191 member states or their investigations.

Volcker expressed concerns about the congressional panel's apparent desire to require U.N. personnel and experts it had contracts with to appear before its investigators, "apparently asking them to forego their United Nations immunities.

For a U.N. official to appear before the subcommittee in the current, highly charged environment, would plainly risk ending prospects for their cooperation with our committee and with subsequent potential criminal investigations," he said.

Volcker said his committee aims to complete a "definitive report" on the internal management of the oil-for-food program by the middle of 2005, and is planning one or more interim reports, including one as soon as January.

When his final report is released, Volcker said he expects it will be "accompanied by release of substantially all documents relevant to those findings in the committee possesses."

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Trade deficit soars, U.S. dollar weakens

Martin Cruminger
Washington News

WASHINGTON — America's trade deficit is soaring and the once-high-flying dollar has sunk to record lows against Europe's common currency. But the Bush administration has reacted with remarkable calm to developments that raise worries about a possible dollar crisis.

Treasury Secretary John Snow, when asked, sticks to his standard comment that the administration's position in favor of a strong dollar has not wavered.

Beyond such utterances there has been no single government action. During in four years in power, not once has the administration intervened in currency markets to support the dollar or done anything else to stop the dollar's slide.

At one point last week, the greenback hit an all-time low when it took $1.50 to buy one euro, the common currency used by 12 European nations. That rate was down 8 percent from where the dollar stood in relationship to the euro just three months ago.

The slide means that a vacation in Europe costs more and European nations are buying Foreigners so far are more than willing to lend the money. The unsettling worry, however, is what could happen if foreigners suddenly lost interest in holding dollar-denominated investments. The outward rush from U.S. stock and bond markets could send stock prices crashing and interest rates soaring.

That is one reason many analysts believe the administration is taking the right approach on the dollar, insisting in public statements that it supports a strong dollar but does nothing to stop the slide.

The administration doesn't have any problem with a weaker dollar, but they don't want to say anything publicly for fear of raising the markets and creating some sort of crisis, said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Economy.com.

As the dollar falls, analysts expect that the United States will start to see the benefits in its trade balance. A weaker dollar makes U.S. goods cheaper and more competitive on foreign markets. It also makes exports pricier for Americans, thus helping domestic manufacturers.

For an administration that has endured the loss of 2.7 million manufacturing jobs over the past four years, anything that offers the potential of lifting the fortunes of U.S. manufacturers has definite appeal.

The dollar's slide has been most pronounced against European currencies, but it has fallen only slightly against currencies in Asia. That is where the United States is running its biggest trade deficits.

China has tied its currency, the yuan, at a fixed rate to the U.S. dollar. Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and other nations in the region have intervened massively to keep their currencies from strengthening against the dollar, to keep from losing their own trade advantages.

U.S. manufacturers contend that China has tied its currency, the yuan, at a fixed rate to the U.S. dollar. Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and other nations in the region have intervened massively to keep their currencies from strengthening against the dollar, to keep from losing their own trade advantages.

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Mark Sherman
Asssociated Press

WASHINGTON — St. Louis­ based Express Scripts Inc., facing scrutiny of its generic drug prices, is offering discounts on dozens of generic medicines to low-income Americans.

The program includes prescription drugs for arthritis, asthma, cancer, high cholesterol, high blood pressure, diabetes, depression and heartburn. It is open to people who earn no more than $23,000 a year, or $47,000 for a family of four, regardless of age or insurance coverage.

"People don't want to make choices here," said Cynthia Meiners, an Express Scripts vice president. "It is designed to supplement whatever other means folks have to obtain medication." Participants pay $18 for a three-month supply or $30 for a six-month supply of any of more than 50 drugs, which are available only by mail. The average pharmacy price of three months' worth of the medicines is $100, Meiners said.

One of those drugs, 20-mil­ ligram tablets of generic tamoxifen for breast cancer, costs $200 for a six-month supply at the online pharmacy drugstore.com. On the other hand, the blood pressure drug atenolol costs just $21.

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Company offers discounted generic drugs to poor people

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**Alaska**

Continued from page 16

**Friends in Alaska.**

"We hung out all the time in Alaska," Roberts said. "The league is well known in Alaska, where families sign up to host the players in their homes."

"This league is pretty big," Roberts said. "A lot of people from Alaska go to the games."

Roberts and another player from Chico State lived with an Alaskan mom, dad, two younger brothers and sisters.

"The mom had a hot meal on the table every night for us when we came home," Roberts said. "And the dad came to all the games and cheered. It was unbelievable."

Roberts said the most value he got out of Alaska was playing in an environment where he had to face good pitchers and good players. Some of the players Roberts will face this season played in other teams in Alaska over the summers.

"The league is really a good league," Roberts said. There were no pitches that there weren't good. That will prepare me. I worked a little harder out there in the outfield."

LeDuc said the Bucs are not a trans-orientated as Cal Poly. It is more geared toward individual growth.

"It is a lot more low-key than playing ball at Poly," LeDuc said. "We only had to get to the field 2 1/2 hours early instead of four hours early for a game."

LeDuc used his individual time over the summer to strengthen his body for a new pitching strategy. After a few frustrating weeks at the end of last season, LeDuc decided to try out a new pitch to gain velocity, but ended up deciding his old pitch worked best.

Olson worked Alaska and was named to Baseball America's Summer All-America Team. He posted a 9.07 record and held a .667 earned run average.

The Mustangs finished last year without attending the playoffs and instead watched a fellow Big West Conference team Cal State Fullerton win the College World Series.
Baseball in the great outdoors

Playing in a summer league is no rare thing for a Mustang, but for these four teammates, an Alaska summer league provided bonding.

Tawny Grace

More than 20 Cal Poly baseball players participated in summer leagues, but for four Mustangs, Alaska provided a time for both practice and outdoor adventures.

Baseball players Brandon Roberts, Dennis LeDuc, Garrett Olson and Brett Berglund played for the Anchorage Bucs, one of America's top summer collegiate baseball teams. The Bucs and four other teams make up the Alaska Baseball League, a semi-professional circuit. Players from the league have move on to the minor and major leagues.

The coaches recruited players from major universities throughout the United States for the league, which ran June 5 through Aug. 31.

"Everyone goes to summer league somewhere," senior pitcher Dennis LeDuc said. "Alaska is a little more prestigious."

Coaches recruit players for five teams in Alaska: Mat-Su Miners, Bucs, Goldpanners of Fairbanks, Kenai Peninsula Oilers and the Anchorage Glacier Pilots. The teams battle one another seven times throughout the summer and play teams visiting from other states.

In addition to the daily games, the teams dug out a few adventures. Junior pitcher Olson recalls bonding with a few players over a fishing trip.

"We were all on Dramamine and pretty sick," Olson said.

It took three hours just to get to the fishing spot, but when they got there, they brought up one halibut after another.

"It was just a great group of guys," Olson said. "We had people from back East and people from California, Texas and Arizona. We got away from everything.

"I just had fun," Olson said. "It was absolutely perfect. Everything worked out. I just played and everything just clicked. You can't really plan that. It just happens."

Olson also had a chance to go sight-seeing in a plane to see Alaska's wilderness. He remembers seeing bears crossing the rivers down below him along with moose and bald eagles.

He did not have to fly high to see Alaska. The team also ate at the northernmost pizza place in the world and took boat trips out to touch and see glaciers.

"We have a chance to have a real adventure," Olson said. "One part of the Alaskan culture he never got used to was the continuous daylight. "People would be out partying and it would be daylight," Olson said. "I had a lack of sleep."

The team also ate at the northernmost Dairy Queen in the world along with moose and bald eagles.

Four Mustangs, including Brett Berglund, pictured, played for the Anchorage Bucs in a summer league in Alaska. The other Mustangs were Brandon Roberts, Dennis LeDuc and Garrett Olson.

Golden Graham

It's been a little more than a year since former Mustang baseball player Jose Tudisco was sent to jail.

"It will give us a chance to test ourselves against an opponent that plays at the Division I-A level and in the Western Athletic Conference," Ellerson added.

Tudisco's prom ising baseball career is almost certainly over now, that the disposition in court Tuesday, only so long as he doesn't get convicted after a long trial, either.

As reported by the Advertiser, the "no contest" plea means that he will not continue defending himself against a criminal charge.

Green said he wanted to take responsibility for his actions and avoid a trial.

Whatever Tudisco really did on that August night three years ago, there may be some good that come out of it. In the face of a manslaughter investigation, a young man was able to persevere and play baseball at the college level, first at Cuesta College, then for two games at Cal Poly before he was Put out of school.

The Mustangs could've used more than just his vaunted speed even beyond his March sentencing. He changed his "not guilty" plea, even beyond his March sentencing.

Tudisco may remain that way, even beyond his March sentencing. He changed his "not guilty" plea, even beyond his March sentencing.

He's barely talking to anyone. The Honolulu Advertiser reported that Tudisco maintained a stossal disposition in court Tuesday, only saying one word. Though the Honolulu Star-Bulletin ran a front-page story Tuesday on the proceedings, Green said every local television station ran a news piece Tuesday night, no comment from Tudisco could be found.

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