Iraq rejects Sunni demands

Government brushes aside request to postpone January election; insurgents step up attacks on U.S. patrols
Robert H. Reid
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD, Iraq — The Iraqi government Saturday brushed aside Sunni Muslim demands to delay the Jan. 30 election, and a spokesman for the majority Shiite community called the date "nonnegotiable.

Insurgents stepped up attacks, blasting U.S. soldiers in Baghdad and killing a U.S. soldier north of the capital.

Clashes also occurred north of Baghdad, where U.S. and Iraqi forces fought a three-hour gun battle with insurgents who overran a town hall and two police stations, local officials said.

Talk of delaying the election gained currency over the weekend after influential Sunni Muslim politicians urged the government to postpone the voting for six months to give authorities time to secure polling stations and persuade Sunni clerics to abandon their call for an electoral boycott.

But the spokesman for interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi, a secular Shiite, said the government was sticking by the Jan. 30 date after receiving assurances from the Iraqi Electoral Commission that an election could take place even in Sunni areas wrecked by the insurgency.

"The Iraqi government is determined...to hold elections on time," spokesman Thair al-Naqeeb said.

"The Iraqi government, led by the prime minister, is calling on all spectra of the Iraqi people to participate in the elections and to contribute in the election to build a strong democratic country."

That position was strongly endorsed Sunday by politicians and clerics from the Shiite community, which comprises about 60 percent of Iraq's nearly 26 million people and which has been long clamoring for an election.

In the Shiite holy city of Najaf, Mohammed Hussein al-Hakim, son of Grand Ayatollah Mohamad Said al-Hakim, said the Shiite leadership would not accept a delay and called this position "nonnegotiable.

He said elections were "the most legitimate way on the international level to express the will of the people," and "all parties have agreed on this date and we cannot back this position for any reason.

In Baghdad, a major Shiite party, the Supreme Council for the Islamic Republic in Iraq or SCIRI, said 42 parties and individuals from the Shiite and Turkomen communities agreed on a statement affirming support for the Jan. 30 date.

SCIRI official Redha Jawad Taj said the 42 included the other leading Shiite party, the Islamic Dawfa, and the Iraq National Congress for the Liberation of Iraq, a secular Shiite once strongly supported by the Pentagon and Washington conservatives.

"The Shiite political council will support the elections," Chalabi said. "We will fight for the elections and will work to ensure that they are held peaceful on the specified date.

Iraq's two major Kurdish political parties said they were ready to take part in national elections on Jan. 30 as planned, but would not object if other political powers wanted to postpone the vote.

The Web site of the Patriotic Alliance for Iraq, page 2

MIDDLE EAST POLITICS

Inside

Finding Neverland' movie review
Johnny Depp as imaginative author J.M. Barrie
IN ARTS and CULTURE, page 5

Women's basketball off to a great start
Mustangs force 39 turnovers in win over Portland
IN SPORTS, page 5

WEATHER REPORT

Tehama Juice, in downtown SLO, is collecting for the Toys for Tots program. Employees are pooling their tip money to donate to the program.

The ladies ball it up for charity

The ladies ball it up for charity
Iraq

Union of Kurdistan said Saturday that the party issued a joint statement with the Kurdistan Democratic Party expressing their "readiness to participate in the Kurdistan Democratic Party's-led government," but did not specify which candidates they would support.

The party's statement, which was released after consultations with other parties, said that the party would support the government's "national, democratic, and popular" agenda.

The party also called for an "immediate halt to the violence" and "the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Iraq." The statement said that the party would work "side by side" with the government to achieve these goals.

Football

continued from page 1

helping raise money to find a cure for Alzheimer's.

Since its founding, the Cal Poly chapter has organized 14 tournaments and raised thousands of dollars for the Ronald Reagan Alzheimer's Association.

For more than 20 years, the association has awarded more than $165 million to researchers seeking new methods in prevention, better treatments, and eventually a cure for Alzheimer's.

Three civilians died and a dozen were injured in other bomb attacks against U.S. convoys in the Baghdad area, U.S. and Iraqi officials said.

A U.S. military vehicles, including an armored shuttle bus, were damaged by a bomb Saturday on the road to Baghdad International Airport, which the State Department considers a U.S. military installation.

The attack was launched to help raise money to find a cure for Alzheimer's.

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LOS ANGELES — The illeg­itimate son of one of South Korea’s wealthiest businessmen filed a law­suit claiming he was denied his rightful inheritance after he was given up for adoption to a California family 18 years ago, a newspaper reported Sunday.

Peter Roach, 26, seeks $5 mil­lion in a federal complaint accusing

Wal-Mart Stores Inc. was less fortunate — the industry leader said its sales in the seven days that ended Friday were disappointing, and the company lowered its sales forecasts for November.

Wal-Marts Inc. and Sears, Roebuck and Co. were pleased with their sales.

Iraq's deputy prime minister, Barham Saleh, said sticking to the Jan. 30 election timetable would be a challenge, but delaying it would bolster the insurgents' cause.

The opposition warned Monday that if the president of the United States wants this bill, as commander in chief of the middle of a war, 'I can­not believe Republicans in the House are going to stop him from getting it,' said Sen. Joseph Lieberman, D-Conn., on ABC's 'This Week.'

BEIJING — A gas explosion in a coal mine in central China has left 187 miners trapped, the government said.

The accident occurred at 7:20 a.m. in the state-owned Montrose Regional Airport, which serves the Telluride Ski Area.

WASHINGTON — The fate of an orphaned pair of US intelligence agen­cies rests with President Bush, who has 24 hours to decide, Senate negotiator said Sunday.

8 a.m. - 2 p.m. In the IU Plaza - FREE

MONTROSE, Colo. — A corpor­ate jet taking off from near a ski area crashed through a fence and burst into flames Sunday, killing at least two of the six people on board and seriously injuring three others. Sheriff's officials said two people were dead, but a Federal Aviation Administration spokesman said three had died in the crash at Montrose Regional Airport, which

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Roberts gave birth to twins Hazel Patricia Moder and Phinnaeus Walter Moder on Sunday morning at a Southern California hospital, publicist Marcy Engelmann said Sunday.

PALO ALTO — Police continu­

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Wal-Marts Inc. and Sears, Roebuck and Co. were pleased with their sales.
While thinking of what to write for my last column of the quarter, I contemplated the finality of occurrences in life. In the music business, bands inevitably break up and the finality reverberates through every fan. This week, I’m devoting my column to band break-ups that absolutely affected the music world and what happened since.

5. The Pixies. Final Show: April 25, 1992. I’m cheating by putting this band on the list for two reasons: The band broke up before I was old enough to appreciate their genius, and they recently had a reunion. But the break-up of the Pixies was truly a mark in musical history that led the way for many musicians. Not only did lead singer Black Francis and bassist Kim Deal go on to have successful careers, but also the variety of fans that turn up to reuni-on shows demonstrates just how influential the band was.

4. Sunny Day Real Estate. First break-up: March 1995; final break-up: 2001. Aside from the fact I believe Sunny Day Real Estate should have been the No. 1 band after their release of "L_Fow it Feels," its members have turned heads in many different bands since. Bassist Nate Mendel and drummer William Goldsmith joined the Foo Fighters in 1995. Lead singer Jeremy Enigk created The Fire Theft and recorded a solo album entitled, "Return of the Frog Queen," a superb album. Guitarist Ed Droste had a reunion with The Pillions, and drummer J隙ey Ciamerlin's approaching solo albums will foster a musical breakthrough. Though three of the members are still active in the music industry, the Pumpkins' revolution is taking its last gasp and fans are hoping lead singer Billy Corgan's and drummer Jimmy Chamberlin's approaching solo albums will foster a musical breakthrough. Though bassist D"arcy Wretzky removed herself from the spotlight, guitarist James Iha is now a member of A Perfect Circle. For those who know the long and grueling story of the break-up, a reunion seems unlikely. But it doesn't hurt to dream.

3. Soundgarden. Break-up: April 9, 1997. As the grunge era suffered with the death of Kurt Cobain, Soundgarden stuck it out for nearly three years before calling it quits. Though lead singer Chris Cornell couldn’t lead Soundgarden into the 21st century as his contemporary Eddie Vedder did with Pearl Jam, he did not deny his fans. After releasing a lackluster solo album in Sept. 1999, he joined the remaining members of Rage Against the Machine to form Audioslave.

2. Jeff Buckley: Drowned: May 29, 1997. Some people say a rock star’s death immediately catapults him into stardom. For Jeff Buckley, stardom came years later with a rash of b-sides, demos and live performances that are still being released. There is no doubt in my mind Buckley would have been one of the greatest musicians of my lifetime, had he only escaped tragedy. His phenomenal album, "Grace," continues to sell.

1. Smashing Pumpkins. Final Show: Dec. 2, 2000. In 13 years, Smashing Pumpkins sold over 25 million records, released 160 songs and played more than 900 concerts in 30 countries. After the break up of such a celebrated band, the next few years were inevitably bleak. Though one of the best bands of all time, the Pumpkins sold just over 2.3 million records, "(irace," continues to sell.
A beautiful blend of history, fantasy

Christina Joslin
MONTAUK DAILY


In "Finding Neverland" (which was inspired by true events), Barrie is a struggling writer who spends his afternoons in Kesington Gardens with his dog, Porthos. He and his overeared Newfoundland stumble across the Davies family: four spirited, young brothers and their recently widowed mom, Sylvia (Kate Winslet).

Barrie provides the family with a variety of imaginative adventures in the park and out in his country cottage. In return, Peter Davies (Freddie Highmore) offers endless amounts of inspiration to Barrie through his intriguing conversations, and later the carnivorous author asks Peter to be a character in his upcoming play.

The movie is exceedingly entertaining and packs an enormous emotional punch. Watching every woman leave the theater with tear-filled eyes, Depp and Highmore leave the audience with a feeling of newfound appreciation for Neverland.

Like his role in "Pirates of the Caribbean," Depp gives another Oscar-worthy performance. I found the real story of Peter, and it was much more tragic than the movie depicts. Peter's mother and father died while he was a young child and two of his brothers died as young adults. In addition, Peter became distraught due to his unwanted popularity in accordance with his connection to the play and threw himself under a train when he was 60 years old. However, I agree that these bits of darkness in the movie were better kept out of the movie.

Despite the fact that the movie was wonderfully acted, directed and highly imaginative, there were a few historical details that were overlooked. After doing a bit of research, I realized that the movie depicts. Peter's mother and father died while he was a young child and two of his brothers died as young adults. In addition, Peter became distraught due to his unwanted popularity in accordance with his connection to the play and threw himself under a train when he was 60 years old. However, I agree that these bits of darkness in the story were better kept out of the movie.

Finding Neverland was intertwined with images of fantasy and reality that created a superb connection to Barrie's life as it begins to imitate his art and his talent.
COMMENTARY

Dumbing down curriculum, students

By Hold future students of Cal Poly, they shall call for your majors.
And when they get there, they shall shrug them until the original intent of a university is altogether forgotten.

But let us strongly stress that education, that's what screws us up in the end," computer science senior Alan Jaynes said. "The definition of a university is you come and learn about all topics. When we start stripping that away, we no longer have a whole education."

The upcoming 2005-07 Cal Poly course catalog obliterates foreign language requirements for a bachelor's degree in journalism and a bachelor's degree in liberal studies. We already lack cultural diversity at Cal Poly. Now we want to further push ourselves away from other cultures? Isn't this a step backward?

In the past, a bachelor's degree in journalism required 12 units of a foreign language. The new requirement vaporizes these units and strongly urges students to take language courses as elective units instead. That will happen.

A journalism department curriculum committee made up of journalism professors decided to drop the foreign language requirement. Journalism professor Patrick Munroe said three elements went into the decision to drop the requirements. First, the university mandated the college to reduce its units from 189 to 180 units. Second, the committee looked to see what courses they could combine and combined two classes into one. This defected four units. Third, the committee asked journalism students if the requirement was useful to them. Most journalism students believed 12 units of a foreign language was not enough to learn how to speak a second language.

Let me get this straight. The committee needed to drop nine units. Got it. The Committee combined two classes into one. This cut four units and left five to go. Next, the committee decided to drop all 12 units of the foreign language requirement. Why not just keep it at 185 units or combine two more classes? I'm lost. Buehler? Buehler?

For liberal studies, the new catalog deletes the past four-unit foreign language requirement and leaves no replacement.

If there is a liberal studies major not learning a second language, how is that person going to really know English? Modern languages and literatures senior Nancy Jones said, "Learning other languages helps you understand English and learn the roots of words."

Journalist Jaynes said a student's foreign language requirement inspired her to travel to Spain for a quarter.

"Without a foreign language requirement liberal studies students will have no real drive to seek experiences in different cultures," Knight said.

Like Knight, I also saw the necessity of learning and understanding a second language and culture through studying abroad in Spain. While there, I took classes with students from Japan, and I had a Spanish teacher who did not speak English. This made for some real trouble when a student in class did not understand something.

I remember one day in particular. My teacher, profesora Christina, taught the class a new concept that the Americans and I did not understand. The students attempted to further explain the concept, but we still did not get it. Before long, the Japanese students could not take it anymore and explained the concept to us in English.

Let us take a moment to retrace those steps. I am in Spain I fail to understand something in Spanish. My Spanish teacher, unable to speak English, turns to the Japanese students in my class for help. The Japanese students understand the entire concept in Japanese; they understand it in Spanish, and they understand it in English well enough to explain it to me. Talk about a low point. But, do not worry, we can always find a person from Japan to translate for us.

Students all over the world speak English in addition to their first language while Cal Poly drops language classes from its curriculum just to get students a few units closer to graduating.

"From being abroad in Germany, I thought it was really cool how everyone I ran into knew English," civil engineering senior Matt Brunelle said. "They did not just know a few words, they knew the whole language because they learned it in school." It is time that Americans show respect and an interest in other cultures," social science senior Alinea Gordon said.

Taumy Grace is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily staff writer.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Know Your Role!

I think a lot of people react to the "Know Your Role" display without stopping to consider what the artist was trying to say. When I first saw the display, I was deeply offended that there were people on a college campus that believed what women (45 percent of this campus) shouldn't be here. I was shocked that someone believes women should simply be housewives and beauty queens. Women trying to speak about women's rules? Was it a call for women to rid themselves of these rules.

I am a journalism major and class standing. Letters, comments and cartoons do not represent the views of the Mustang Daily. Please send your correction suggestions to editor@mustangdaily.net.

Letters must come from a Cal Poly e-mail account. Do not send letters as an attachment. Please send the text in the body of the e-mail.

LETTER

November 29, 2004

Carson and "Know Your Role" only hurts and offends.

God, or that in order to truly believe 2+2=4 you must believe in God is ridiculous. All it takes to believe in 2+2=4 is four wooden blocks.

"Okay little Jimmy. You have two blocks, and I give you two more. How many do you have now? Four. Good job, Jimmy."

Today, let's create innovation and evolution and all that fun stuff aside and talk about the Bible. The Bible is supposedly a book chronicling all of the "miracles of God."

There's only one problem with the Bible: Most of the "miracles of God" sound a whole lot like 2+2=5. Water into wine, resurrecting the dead, parting the Red Sea and sticks turning into cobras — all of these are unexpected, illogical and therefore "miracles."

Dictionaries define a miracle as something that is inexplicable by the laws of nature. These all sound pretty inexplicable to me. There's nothing miraculous about 2+2=5. It takes no leap of faith — it just is. On the other hand, believing that 2+2=5, or that Jesus walked on water, does take quite a big leap of faith.

I think that people have the right to believe in what they want, and that their faith is their choice. If you want to believe that 2+2=5, more power to you. As for me and other "heretics," I don't need miracles of God, I just need four wood blocks.

Brian Loom Civil engineering sophomore.

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Graphic Arts Building, Suite 226
California Polytechnic State University
San Luis Obispo, CA 93407
(805) 756-1796 editor@mustangdaily.net
(805) 756-4343 advertising
(805) 756-6784 fax
mustangdaily@calpoly.edu

"For a journalist, not a theologian."

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Defense

continued from page 8

Portland. The Pilots were 20 of 45 from the floor for 44 percent. Cal Poly outrebounded Cal Poly 38-33. Sarah Griese had five boards for the Mustangs.

The Pilots were led by Jamie Medley with 14 points and Amy Boman off the bench with 10. AAdobe Realty 509-543-2693

rebounded for Portland.

Cal Poly went into the locker-room with a 30-25 halftime lead. The Pilots regrouped and jumped to a 34-30 lead on a 9-0 run early in the second half.

But the Mustangs went on a 9-0 run of their own at the nine-minute mark.

With 4:21 remaining, the Pilots tied the game at 45 on a coast-to-coast layup by Whitney Grant. Cal Poly led, 53-51 with 25 seconds remaining, but it was Portland's ball.

The Pilots turned the ball over and then immediately fouled Anderson, sending her to the foul line. Anderson sealed the deal, converting both free throws.

Volleyball

continued from page 8

the game at 4-4 with help from two UC Davis hitting errors but Kim Vincent's kill put the Aggies up for good.

This was the first season with a predominantly Division I schedule for UC Davis, which completes its second year of a four-year transition process to NCAA Division I. The Mustangs are members of the Big West Conference, of which the Aggies will become a full-fledged member in 2007-08.

On Friday, Carrie Nash recorded 20 kills to lead San Jose State to a 3-0 victory.

Nash made five errors in 41 attempts as the Spartans improved to 15-3 with the 30-23, 30-16, 30-7 victory.

Dors led Cal Poly offensively with seven kills in 38 attempts with seven errors. Mulder added six kills while Bertotti had five.

Jackson had 15 digs while Donoghue notched five blocks, one of them solo, to lead the Mustangs defensively.

Sports

Monday, November 29, 2004

7

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**Sports**

8 Monday, November 29, 2004

**Coach's Corner**

This week's spotlight once again...

Cross country coach

Mark Conover

Daniel Ely

**MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT**

A. — One of the most awesome sights in sports is the start of the NCAA Championships. For the second game in a row, Cal Poly didn't have a standalone on the offensive side of the ball, but did plenty on the defensive end to win. Cal Poly won its opening road game, in sharp contrast to last season when the Mustangs didn't win a game on the road until Jan. 31 at UC Riverside — a stretch of 10 games away from Mott Gym. In the season-opening win over Navy just Friday, 11 Mustangs scored, with seven players tallying between seven and 11 points, and Cal Poly forced the Midshipmen to commit 30 turnovers. The numbers were similar against Portland as 11 Mustangs scored — none in double figures. Sparkle Anderson and Heidi Wimmert each scored seven points and Jessica Eggleton added six. The Mustangs made just 21 of 67 floor shots for 31 percent, but attempted 22 more field goals than the team unforced 39 turnovers as it defeated Portland 55-51 in a non-conference game at the Chiles Center.

The Mustangs shot just 31 percent but used a stingy defense to force 39 turnovers in their win over Portland. Jessica Eggleton contributed six points in the Mustangs win on Friday.

**Big turnover for women's basketball**

**MUSTAND DAILY STAFF REPORT**

A. — One of the keys for PSU was the superb play of point guard Will Funn. He made a career-high six steals — none in double figures. Sparkle Anderson and Heidi Wimmert each scored seven points and Jessica Eggleton added six. The Mustangs made just 21 of 67 floor shots for 31 percent, but attempted 22 more field goals than the team unforced 39 turnovers as it

**Phil Johnson goes up for a shot against an Eastern Washington player in the Mustangs first loss of the season.**

**M. basketball still missing the shooting touch in loss**

**MUSTNO DAILY STAFF REPORT**

A. — Goal is to have your top five finishes as close together as they can. With the competition so wild and woody and conditions on the course so muddy and awkward, I knew we had to run a smart race. The plan was to conserve energy for the first 5K, and then find your teammate and pass as many people as possible in the last two. That's tough to do in the NCAA Championships because the field is so talented. But the plan went well and as a result they came out with a top ten finish. Q. — What did you tell your players going in to the NCAA? Did you give them a big speech like in sports movies? A. — No, but I told them the night before that no matter what happened I was proud of them. I knew that they were ready to go out there and run well. They've been running as a team, in every sense of the word.

Q. — Did you have a plan or strategy going in to the competition? A. — Well, the goal is to have your top five finishes as close together as they can. With the competition so wild and woody and conditions on the course so muddy and awkward, I knew we had to run a smart race. The plan was to conserve energy for the first 5K, and then find your teammate and pass as many people as possible in the last two. That's tough to do in the NCAA Championships because the field is so talented. But the plan went well and as a result they came out of it with a top ten finish. Q. — Are you making any changes based on what you saw this season? Are you going to do anything different? A. — Our program is building toward consistency. We were in the top 15 for two years and then top 10. We want to keep that kind of consistency and improve if it's possible.

Q. — What was it like to take the team to Indiana? A. — It's a great experience for the team. Anytime you're getting on the airplane it means you've done something important. This is something they'll always remember and it bonds them as friends and as a team.

Q. — What was the competition like, competing against 31 other teams? A. — One of the most awesome sights in sports is the start of the NCAA Championship race. There are 255 people all lined up at one big starting line, getting ready to run through gravel and mud — it's a very dramatic event. It's different from cross country, page 7

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**Cross country coach Mark Conover**

**Daniel Ely**

**MATT WECHTER MUSTANG DAILY**

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