U.S. helicopter crash kills 12 Americans; five Marines slain

Patrick Quinn
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD, Iraq — A U.S. Army Black Hawk helicopter went down in northern Iraq, killing all 12 Americans believed to be aboard in the deadliest crash in nearly a year, while five U.S. Marines died in weekend attacks, the military said Sunday.

The latest death followed an especially bloody week in which nearly 200 Iraqis and a dozen U.S. troops were killed. Iraqi politicians, meanwhile, claimed headway in forming a stable coalition government following the Dec. 15 elections, whose final results may be released the week.

U.S. military officials said the UH-60 Black Hawk crashed just before midnight Saturday about seven miles east of Tal Afar, a northern city near the Syrian border that has seen heavy fighting with insurgents.

"All those killed are believed to be U.S. citizens," military spokesman Lt. Col. Barry Johnson said.

He did not say what caused the crash, but bad weather has wrecked most of Iraq.

The Black Hawk was part of a two-helicopter team providing support for the 101st Airborne Division and was flying between bases when communications were lost, the military said. After a search, the helicopter was found about noon Sunday, the military said.

The helicopter was part of Task Force Band of Brothers and attached to the 101st Aviation Brigade, but Maj. Tom Bryant, spokesman for the division's 3rd Brigade, said the helicopter was not from Fort Campbell, Ky., and belonged to another unit.

Bryant could not say what unit the helicopter belonged to or whether any soldiers were aboard.

Study shows more college students not indicating ethnicity on forms

Matt Williams
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOULDER, Colo. — A new study released by a San Francisco-based foundation this week finds that more students at colleges and universities are choosing not to state their ethnicity when they enroll.

Moreover, a "sizable" number of those students are probably white, according to the "Unknown" Students on College Campuses: An Explanatory Analysis" report from the nonprofit James Irvine Foundation, which studied enrollment statistics at three small private schools in California.

Kevin MacKenzie, the University of Colorado's interim admissions director, said the "unknown" upswing is also happening at CU.

"Any time any of us fill out an application in today's world, we're aware and ask 'I wonder how they're going to use this?'" he said.

About 4.7 percent of CU-Boulder's fall 2005 class of freshman resident students was deemed "unknown" compared to 3.5 percent of the same cohort in fall 1997.

Students enrolled at CU officially declare an ethnicity only once — on admissions applications.

The University combines in one "unknown" category those students who choose not to answer the question or give an answer that can not be categorized, according to CU's director of institutional analysis, Lou McClelland.

"We're sure that it's impossible that everybody we're calling unknown is white," she said.

But for statistical purposes, McClelland said see Study, page 8

Mourners grieve privately for victims of West Virginia mine explosion

Kelley Schommer and Vicki S.
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PHILIPPI, W.Va. — The funerals began early.

There were just so many scheduled in West Virginia's coal mining towns this Sunday.

And after an untold number watched on live television as it was revealed that 12 miners died in the Sago Mine explosion, the funerals were, for the most part, a private affair.

Only those who knew the miners and their families were allowed to join the families to grieve. Police officers created a protective ring around the two funeral homes here, asking the media not to intrude.

But it was clear, even from a distance, that nearly 100 mourners — hugging each other, offering condolences to each other, many staring at their feet as they walked inside — had gathered to remember miner Jacky Weaver.

The 52-year-old section electrician, who spent 26 years working in the mines, always wrote "Jesus saves" in the coal dust of his mine car as he and colleagues descended into the mine, said his cousin, Aciny Felton, 42, of Philippi.

"He was a wonderful man with a wonderful sense of humor," said Melanie Hayhurst, 44, of Fairmont, who said she and her family had known Weaver for about 15 years. "He was a Christian, too, so I am not worried about that."

Hayhurst said Weaver's family planned to bury him next to his son, who died as a child about 20 years ago in a motorcycle accident.

There were so many family and friends it made it difficult for some to remember where they all were.

"There are so many," said Pete Sandridge, an

see Explosion, page 2

MUSTANGS TO HOST 49ERS

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Derek Stockalper and the Mustangs play Long Beach State (5-7, 0-1) at 7 p.m. in Mott Gym. Cal Poly is coming off a last-minute loss to UC Irvine. Despite a poor non-conference showing, the Mustangs are 2-1 in Big West Conference play and knocked off Cal State Fullerton, the pre-season favorite to win the conference. More in sports, page 12 ...

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Barbour County Deputy Sheriff Ron Gray affixes black ribbons to four crosses commemorating the four miners from Barbour County who were killed in the mine explosion at Sago Mine in Philippi, West Virginia.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

"Boards of Canada" provides out of world experiences in its newest ambient techno release IN DIVERSIONS, 6

Cal Poly wrestling splits latest Pac-10 dual meets IN SPORTS, 12

IN SPORTS, 12

see Crash, page 2

see Study, page 8
Two other Marines were killed from the 10lst were aboard. Master by small arms attacks in Fallujah, 40 went down in bad weather in western in Iraq since a CH-53 Sea Stallion Saturday by roadside bombs in separate incidents, the military said. Records indicated that eight passengers were wounded.

Three Marines were killed Sunday by roadside bombs in separate incidents, the military said. With the latest Marine deaths, at least 2,199 members of the U.S. military have died since the war started in 2003, according to an Associated Press count. That toll did not include those killed aboard the Black Hawk.

In other violence Sunday, five people died in separate attacks in Baghdad, including a policeman killed by a suicide car bomber targeting an Interior Ministry patrol. Seven others were wounded.

Meanwhile, a French engineer abducted Dec. 5 apparently was dumped on a Baghdad street by his abductors after a ransom was paid. According to Iraqi police and the French Foreign Ministry in Paris, Bernard Planche, 52, was kid­napped on his way to work at a water plant Planche worked for a non-gov­ernmental organization called AACC- ENS and was found Saturday night near a checkpoint in the Abu Ghraib neighborhood. His captors had demanded the withdrawal from Iraq of French troops — even though the country has none in Iraq.

The French Foreign Ministry said Planche should be returning to France shortly. French Prime Minister Dominique de Villepin thanked U.S. authorities, as well as French diplo­matic and intelligence officials, for their help in Planche's "liberation during a securing operation."

Insurgents have kidnapped more than 250 foreigners in the past two years, aiming to force U.S.-led troops to leave Iraq or prevent Arab nations from strengthening their ties with Baghdad. The leader of Iraq's main Sunni Arab political group said after meeting President Jalal Talabani that significant headway had been made in efforts to form a government of national unity.

"Talabani and I have an identical point of view regarding the formation of a national unity government based on consensus," Adnan al-Dulaimi said. Al-Dulaimi confirmed that Iraq's two Kurdish leaders, Talabani and Kurdistan regional President Masoud Barzani, have been mediating with each other to form a coalition gov­ernment.

Their efforts seem to have forged an understanding between the two major Sunni and Shiite religious bloc and al-Dulaimi's group — which represent two tradi­tionally hostile camps whose enmity often threatens to plunge Iraq into sectarian warfare.

Shiite leaders have in recent days threatened reprisals against the minority Sunni Arabs following two suicide attacks that killed more than 100 people. They have blamed the attacks on both the Sunni Arab-led insurgency and some Sunni Arab political groups they say openly sup­port the militants.

"This should be done by consensus for the sake of Iraq's unity and inde­pendence. Barzani, Talabani and I agree on this condition, and this is our sole condition and demand," al-Dulaimi said.

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THE FACE OF CAL POLY

Name: Taylor Smith
Year: senior
Hometown: Santa Maria
Major: nutrition

Favorites
Muppet: Kermit the Frog
Food item: Doritos
Cheese: Cheddar
Book: "To Kill a Mockingbird"

If You Could ...
— travel to any place and any time where would it be and why?
New York in the 1920's.
— choose the world to be in one color?
Blue.

WHO SAID THAT?

The marvel of all history is the patience with which men and women submit to burdens unnecessarily laid upon them by their governments.
— William H. Borah

I don't know the key to success, but the key to failure is trying to please everybody.
— Bill Cosby

Wordly Wise

Gastronome: A lover of good food and drink.
Esurient: Hungry; greedy.

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World History

HOW TO...

PIZZA
Calculus

during January.
Located downstairs in the University Union.
10am-9pm Mon-Thurs
10am-10pm Fri
10am-8pm Sat
Noon-9pm Sun

4-Day Weather Forecast

Tuesday
High: 66 Low: 44

Wednesday
High: 66 Low: 45

Thursday
High: 68 Low: 44

Friday
High: 69 Low: 46
State briefs

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A Daly City man was ordered to stand trial for a stabbing death outside a Giants baseball game in which Barry Bonds hit his 700th career home run.

Rafael Cuevas, 23, is accused of killing Timothy Griffith, a 21-year-old Redwood City man who died outside SBC Park after a Giants game on Sept. 17, 2004.

The order, issued Friday by San Francisco Superior Court Judge Charles Haines, followed a preliminary hearing that featured testimony from three witnesses who were at the scene. None of the witnesses said they saw Cuevas stab Griffith.

Police testified that Griffith was stabbed five times, including once in the heart.

ORLAND (AP) — Cattle rustlers aren't all that common these days, but the Glenn County Sheriff's Department said they have one who just won't go away.

Matias Bravo Nares, 35, was convicted with his brother of stealing Holstein heifers valued at $24,700 in 2001. He was deported to Mexico in December after serving a three-year prison term.

Nares was back in Glenn County in time to lead a deputy early Friday on a seven-mile pursuit at speeds up to 100 mph, after the deputy tried to stop Nares for driving with a defective headlight.

KLAMATH (AP) — Dozens of trailer park residents forced to abandon parks because of New Year's flooding must vacate a site where they've camped for the past week or face fines of $350 a day.

Their trailers, from six parks damaged by flooding, have been parked behind a Klamath business since Jan. 1.

Owners have been ticketed and told they must move by Jan. 15 to stop violating a county code that prohibits camping in the street.

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — A bank robbery in Oakland this weekend resembles other recent holdups in the Bay Area, including two New Year's heists, police said.

Three masked, gun-wielding men took over a bank branch in Oakland's Montclair district Friday night and escaped with several thousand dollars, police said. No one was hurt.

Police said the holdup was similar to other robberies in Oakland and Emeryville on New Year's Day. During those holdups, one robber watched the door while the others grabbed cash and valuables.

California town fears replay of mudslide

LA CONCHITA — Mike Bell doesn't want to see any more crosses go up in this tiny seaside hamlet beneath a towering bluff of unstable dirt.

Four now stand atop the giant mound of earth that came crashing down a year ago, killing 19 people, destroying 13 homes and damming 23 others.

The makeshift memorials are a painful reminder of the tragedy that struck the free-spirited community — and could strike again as suburban residents butt heads with cautious bureaucrats over what should be done to make La Conchita a safer place.

Defiant and resolute, Bell and other residents said they intend to stay put as they prepare to file lawsuits claiming Ventura County should be held accountable.

The litigation could help clarify the blurry line between public responsibility and government accountability that has left La Conchita with an uncertain future.

"The county feels as long as they don't burden the rest of the taxpayers, they figure they are clean," said chairman of the La Conchita Community Organization, "the county should protect all of its citizens."

County officials counter that they aren't sure anything can be done to prevent the landslides that have long plagued the Central Coast town 70 miles northwest of Los Angeles. They have warned residents that it's dangerous to live there.

"No one yet has identified anything that could be effective," said county Supervisor Steve Bennett.

"If the county tried to stabilize the hill, it has to accept full liability right now, we are not willing to do that."

Experts are split on who is responsible for the safety of La Conchita residents.

"I think the government should bring in engineers to determine if it's a livable area," said Anastasia Loukaitou-Sideris, chairwoman of the urban planning department at the University of California, Los Angeles. "It shouldn't be left up to people whether they should live there."

George Lefcoe, a professor of real estate law at the University of Southern California, said government officials "aren't the absolute guarantors of public safety."

"The people who live in La Conchita have to decide what risk level they are comfortable with," he said.

La Conchita is an eclectic town — bohemia by the beach — where Spanish-style stucco homes sit next to wood cottages.

What is the law?

A weapon to be wielded?

Or more than that?

A set of tools.

A creative approach.

A helping profession and collaborative process.

Explore the wide scope of the law in a school devoted to the big picture.
Debate swirls as wind power grows rapidly

John Christoffersen
ASSOCIATED PRESS

STAMFORD, Conn. — Giant windmills — on scenic mountain ridges, prairie grass and even an Indian reservation — are spinning an unusual debate that is dividing leading environmentalists.

Wind power grew rapidly in 2006, becoming more competitive as natural gas prices jumped and crude oil prices reached record highs. Improved technology, a federal tax credit and pressure on utilities to use clean energy sources helped fuel the growth from coast to coast.

But wind energy is posing a dilemma for environmentalists who support in-pollution-free electricity but have grown increasingly alarmed at its death toll on birds and bats.

Officials in Atlantic City, N.J., dedicated the nation's first coastal wind farm last month, while Fairfield-based General Electric Co. announced a startup near San Diego of the largest wind power farm on Indian land.

The industry added about 2,500 megawatts of wind power last year, a record 35 percent increase, according to the American Wind Energy Association, an industry trade group. The country's wind capacity is more than 9,200 megawatts in 30 states, enough for 2.4 million average U.S. homes.

Wind power will make up less than 1 percent of the nation's electricity, but experts expect wind to generate at least 5 percent by 2020.

"The wind resource in the United States is comparable to the oil resource in Saudi Arabia," said Tom Gris, deputy executive direc
tor of the association. "It's a major strategic national resource we should be making every effort to develop."

The environmental debate has intensified as the first offshore projects are proposed in popular tourist areas, such as Cape Cod, Long Island, N.Y., and the New Jersey shore. Critics, including a member of the influential Kennedy family, worry that some projects could harm national treasures.

"All of a sudden you're transferring an asset used by 5 million people into the hands of private industrial speculators," said Robert F. Kennedy Jr., an environmentalist who has objected to the Cape Cod proposal. "If you're giving away public rights, you ought to make sure the public benefits from this transfer, that the costs do not exceed the benefits."

Kennedy's stance has put him at odds with the environmental organiza
tion Greenpeace, which last August sent boats to interrupt a visit by Kennedy. Supporters say the project would meet the region's energy needs in an environmentally friendly way.

Conservationists also have wrestled with the wind farms.

In Kansas, conservation groups have asked state officials to create guidelines for wind energy development, citing concerns that more wind farms will harm the last remnants of the nation's prairie grass and prairie chicken populations.

"We feel rather protective of that area and feel it is a real national treasure," said Alan Pollans, Kansas state director of The Nature Conservancy. "If we're really going to capture the benefit of green power, it seems ill considered to pursue it in such a manner that you create offsetting detrimental eco
tical impacts."

Wildfires force evacuations in southern Colorado; fires burn in Oklahoma and Texas

Robert Weller
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AGUILAR, Colo. — Wind-whipped wildfires destroyed at least five houses in southern Colorado and forced the evacuation of several hundred residents Sunday, authori
ties said.

Two fires had burned over 3,400 acres in Huerfano and Las Animas counties, not far from the New Mexico line. One of them had start
ed as a controlled burn earlier in the week that flared up again despite efforts to keep it down.

Wind gusting up to 50 mph pre
tended authorities from using air
ducts to drop water on the fires, said Pam Martinez of the Huerfano County Sheriff's office.

Firefighters were investigating the extent of the damage and watching for more flareups.

The land around Aguilar, a town of about 1,000 residents, is covered with sagebrush and grass, and the nearby hills are dotted with pines and ponderosa pines.

"This just points out that we are very dry in Colorado even though it's winter," said Bart Timock, a U.S. Forest Service spokesman. "No matter where we are in Colorado, but especially along the Front Range, we ought to be thinking about being extremely careful with fires outdoors."

Drought conditions and gusting wind have spread dozens of wild
dfires across Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico over the past two weeks. At least 475 homes have been destroyed by the winter blazes and five people have been killed.

In Oklahoma, high wind and unreasonable, warm temperatures created prime conditions again Sunday for grass fires.

Firefighters in southern Oklahoma were trying taming one wildfire that had already charred about 900 acres near Coalgate, said Richard Reuie, a spokesman for a state command center.

"The big problem today is going to be an expected wind shift coming in from the north," he said Sunday. "If firefighters aren't aware of the wind shift while they're putting out a fire, it could get really dangerous for them."

In Texas, more than 60 wildfires were reported across the state, but most were only a few dozen acres in size. Burn bans and more firefighting resources, such as aircraft and equipment, have helped firefighters get the blues under control, said Forest Service fire information offi
cier Jim Caldwell.
"Canada' is out of this universe"

Gino Macaluso 

Boards of Canada, hailed as the most important band of electronica music in recent years, has returned with its third album, cryptically titled “The Campfire Headphase.”

The group, most praised for its genius expedition into ambient techno on 1998's album "Music Has the Right to Children," hasn't changed its sound all that much. I heard one girl refer to "The Campfire Headphase" as "psychadelic sci-fi folktronica," claiming that Boards of Canada has stepped out of its own genera. But I think the root word folk might be stretching these other-worldly musicians too far from the cosmos they happily dwell in.

Sonically, this album is the pop-personification of Zen Buddhist Garden. Ambient waves of peace and tranquility build and often subtly bluster amidst a myriad of electronic beats, sweeps and creeps. Good, why don’t we take a 5-minute break? Smoke if ya got 'em.

"Chrononaut Dreamcoat" enters like a couple of dissonant enemy thunderclouds scratching each other with their frayed fingernails and gives way to the rising sound of an avairy in the background. The song sounds like a muffled 'Fortune song.'

The best song on the album is "Dayvan Cowboy," which showcases Boards of Canada's boldest move on the album, as it possesses a strong helping of electric guitars. But don't get too excited rock 'n' rollers, these electric guitars sound like nothing of this world as they glaze about the atmosphere with nothing but the simple tapping of a tambourine drawing them nearer to our earthly existence. Supernovas are both chat-tered and reborn in this song.

An ultimately chill-listening experience that should tantalize the listener with a banking for hush studying experiences. Though it possibly lacks the original poignancy of their previous albums, it perhaps doesn't need to venture the often trivial territory of poignancy.

The Velvet Rope

The Velvet Rope is a 21+ column for students and faculty to describe their experiences with finally being LEGAL. Submit entries (700 words or less) or ideas to Mariecar Mendoza at mustangdaily@gmail.com

BILLBOARD

Welcome back to school...and stop pounding because midterm aren't for another few weeks. Until then, enjoy some cool events on campus like today's interactive graffiti exhibit. Part of "Art - Officially Urban," a collection created by art and design senior Regina Nicolas, the UU Plaza will feature a hip-hop DJ from 11 a.m. to noon. The full exhibit will have an opening reception Tuesday from 6 to 8 p.m. at the UU Gallery.

CHECK out a free flick Tuesday at Chumash Auditorium as ASI kicks off its quarterly movie night titled "Tuesday Night at the Movies" with the showing of "just like Heaven," featuring Reese Witherspoon and Mark Ruffalo. The movie rolls at 8:15 p.m so be sure to snag a comfy spot early.

Can't get enough of those free flicks? Stop by the San Luis Lounge (UU 221) Wednesday at 7 p.m for a free screening of the film "Environmental Ethics: Examining Your Connection to the Environment and Your Community." An address by R. Thomas Jones, dean of the College of Architecture and Environmental Design will follow the show.

CONTINUING with the theme of sustainability this month, be sure to make it to the Sustainability Club Fair on Thursday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The fair will feature a keynote address by architecture professor Tom DiSanto.

AND laser Thursday night, make it out to Farmer's Market between 6 and 9 p.m. for an ASI-sponsored concert, dance and art exhibit that is also a part of Sustainability Month. ASI will unveil the "Cal Poly: NEXT Mosaic" at the event.

STOP by the University Union Plaza for UU Hour, a weekly musical experience that ASI sponsors every quarter, between 11 a.m. and noon this Thursday. The alternative rock band Grounded is set to perform this week.

Visiting aristo Mister Robot?" OK, I'm sorry for that, but I thought it was funny. Anywho, the Cal Poly Robotics Club will be featuring a presentation by Larry Singleton Wednesday at 7 p.m for a free screening of the film "Environmental Ethics: Examining Your Connection to the Environment and Your Community." An address by R. Thomas Jones, dean of the College of Architecture and Environmental Design will follow the show.

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Laugh out loud this weekend at the improv comedy show Saturday hosted by the troupe Smile and Nod. The show starts at 8 p.m. in building 45, room 212.

Maybe it's because they're from my hometown and maybe it's because they're welcome, but I suggest taking the drive to the Majestic Ventura Theater Saturday to rock out at a concert featuring No Use For A Name. And hey, even if you don't love NUFAN, you should go for either Pennywise or The Suicide Machines because this will probably prove to be one of the coolest shows this month.

For more information, visit the club's Web site at www.cpsalsa.com.

Submit your ORIGINAL poetry (24 lines or less) to Mariecar Mendoza at mustangdaily@gmail.com with your name, contact info, major and year. Faculty and staff submissions are also welcome. Party will run on Friday.
Kristin Macdonald
MICHIGAN DAILY (U. MICHIGAN)

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — Neil Jordan’s “Breakfast on Pluto” is a long way from the sinister-villain territory that Gillian Murphy slunk through last year in "Batman Begins" and "Red Eye." As Irish transvestite Patrick “Kitten” Brady, Murphy convincingly turns his menacing sneer into an effeminate purr, masterly all the vocal and physical mannerisms of a rather flirty and very persuasive coquette.

While “Breakfast on Pluto” takes a straightforward approach to following Patrick’s passage to adulthood, it chooses an unusual emotional focus for a coming-of-age story. This is not just another heartwarming tale of self-acceptance; not even as a young child does Patrick seem ashamed or confused by his sexuality. Instead, the film outlines his passage to adulthood, it chooses an unusual emotional focus for a coming-of-age story. This is not just another heartwarming tale of self-acceptance; not even as a young child does Patrick seem ashamed or confused by his sexuality. Instead, the film outlines how Patrick journeys through the world, trusting his identity as a strength and not a weakness.

And journey is certainly the right word. Patrick has an affinity for frivolous transience, bouncing from place to place, emerging even from hostile greetings undaunted. When refused entry to a local dance, Patrick merely turns to a nearby group of burly bikers and cheerfully hitchs a ride to spend the rest of the night huddled cooly around a campfire. He’s a mischievous sort, pert and mildly sassy. He doesn’t so much shoulder society’s distrust as bypass it altogether. If anything, Patrick actually enjoys asserting his differences, bemused by the predictably furious reactions of the small-town conservatives who initially surround him. Patrick sports makeup and nail polish, convinces the principal of his Catholic school to call him Kitten and even imagines his conception in an in-class essay as the humorous rape of a housemaid by the town priest.

Patrick, or Kitten, as he prefers, takes little in life seriously, which his tough veneer to mask fragile emotions deep inside. But Murphy shrugs off the delivery with such simplicity that it doesn’t become an overdramatic revelation but merely a practical acknowledgement of his own weakness. Kitten knows and trusts himself. So whenever he finally does find a worthy place to stop, we can have faith that it’s in his control whether or not he stays.

Some of Kitten’s old friends are involved in Ireland’s growing public unrest, but while Kitten observes the action from very close range, the revolution is only vaguely explored. Murphy’s commitment to keeping his portrayal from degenerating into a cliche coupled with Kitten’s vitality form the resounding core of “Breakfast on Pluto.” When asked why he always smiles, Kitten replies lightly “Otherwise I might cry and never stop.”

It seems an easy sentiment, especially for a movie — the typical tough veneer to mask fragile emotions deep inside. But Murphy shrugs off the delivery with such simplicity that it doesn’t become an overdramatic revelation but merely a practical acknowledgement of his own weakness. Kitten knows and trusts himself. So whenever he finally does find a worthy place to stop, we can have faith that it’s in his control whether or not he stays.

“Breakfast on Pluto,” starring Cillian Murphy, is currently showing at The Palm Theatre in San Luis Obispo.

Monday, January 9, 2006
It's "as if they were all white," although we don't put them in a column that is labeled "white," she said.

That means there are probably at least a few more of color students at CU-Boulder than the campus census indicates, she said, and a slightly higher percentage of students of color compared against campus enrollment numbers.

CU's student population is about 77 percent white.

Another statistic: Of CU-Boulder's 28,600 students, a sum of 1,700 (5.8 percent) fall into the "unknown" category.

That is in line with Department of Education Integrated Post-secondary Education Data System statistics that found the percentage of higher-education students in the "unknown" category has risen from 3.5 percent in 1991 to 5.9 percent in 2003.

CU does not count the unknowns in its diversity numbers.

CU-Boulder student Curtis Love, president of the CU chapter of the NAACP, said one explanation could be that more multiracial students can't categorize themselves based on criteria that universities use.

Sometimes multiracial students pick the "White" category if they have no other choice, according to the Irvine Foundation.

The University of Colorado uses four categories for ethnicity broken down by gender: Native American, Hispanic/Chicano, Asian American and African American. In addition, CU allows applicants to write in a specific response. A general feeling of anxiety about how the data will be used is also a possibility, MacLennan said.

"I had my certain perceptions coming in," Love said. "If I put 'Black,' it could have been a good thing because I could have got scholarships, or it could have been bad because they would've (crossed) me off."

Love doesn't remember what he picked.

The University of Colorado uses ethnicity data to track enrollment trends, and in some cases as one criterion among 11 others when it selects students for admission. The state of Colorado practices affirmative action in college admissions, MacLennan said.

The Irvine Foundation report said that the increasing prevalence of the "unknown" student is worrisome because it could skew the diversity statistics of colleges and universities.

To address the problem, the foundation suggested standardizing reporting methods at colleges and universities — something it says isn't in place today.

The report was based on the organization's larger $29 million Campus Diversity Initiative, which aims to improve opportunities for underrepresented students in California.

McClelland cautioned that generalizations shouldn't be made about the white "unknowns" mentioned in the study because the report only includes data from three small, private universities.

A 40-person Blue Ribbon Commission on diversity organized by CU president Hank Brown will meet publicly on Jan. 21 to discuss and review diversity-related programs at CU-Boulder that recruit and retain minority students.

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Doctors wait to bring Sharon out of coma

Ravi Neman
ASSOCIATED PRESS

JERUSALEM — A scan of Ariel Sharon's brain on Sunday showed improvement, but doctors decided to wait another day to start bringing the Israeli leader out of his medically induced coma, an important step in determining how much damage he suffered from a massive stroke.

One of Sharon's doctors said if the prime minister survives, he would not be able to return to office. Acting Prime Minister Ehud Olmert told the Cabinet he would work to carry on Sharon's political legacy.

Sharon remained in critical condition Sunday at Jerusalem's Hadassah Hospital after suffering a stroke late Wednesday and undergoing two lengthy surgeries to stop massive bleeding in his brain. Sharon previously experienced a mild stroke Dec. 18.

Doctors have kept Sharon in a medically induced coma and on a respirator since Thursday to give him time to heal. Sharon's medical team decided that on Monday morning they would begin reducing the level of sedatives he is receiving to start pulling him out of the coma.

Experts said the process could take six to eight hours, and doctors should have a good idea of the extent of the damage by the end of the day.

A new brain scan Sunday showed his vital signs, including the pressure inside his skull, were normal, said Dr. Shlomo Mor-Yosef, the hospital director.

"His condition is still critical but stable, and there is improvement in the CT picture of the brain," Mor-Yosef said.

"In light of all of these factors, the panel of experts decided to start the process of taking him out of the sedation tomorrow morning. This all depends, of course, on whether the prime minister makes it until tomorrow morning without any significant incidents."

Doctors had planned to start pulling Sharon from the coma Sunday, but decided to wait another day after performing the new scan.

The 77-year-old Sharon, Israel's most popular politician, was seen by many here as the best hope for resolving the Israel-Palestinian conflict. His grave illness, just three months before elections, has stunned Israelis and left Middle East politics in limbo.

Doctors will pass their assessment of brain damage to Attorney General Meni Mazuz.

"They will inform us when they make him up from the sedation and they will know what systems were damaged and what his situation is," Justice Ministry spokesman Jacob Galanti said.

If doctors determine that Sharon is permanently incapacitated, the Cabinet would meet immediately to choose a new prime minister from the five sitting Cabinet ministers from Sharon's Kadima Party who also are lawmakers.

Olmert is seen as Sharon's potential heir.

One of Sharon's surgeons, Dr. Joe Cohen, said that while the prime minister's chances of survival were high, his ability to think and reason would be impaired.

"He will not continue to be prime minister, but maybe he will be able to understand and to speak," the Argentina-born Cohen said in comments published Sunday by The Jerusalem Post.

Outside experts were even less optimistic.

"There is zero expectation on my part that he will have the capacity to perform in any kind of formal way," said Dr. Keith Siller, Medical Director at the NYU Comprehensive Stroke Care Center.
**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

Catholic Church is hypocritical.

I would just like to take a moment to comment on Grant Desmée's letter, 12/25/05. I quote: "It is not our job as Christians to judge one's soul." C'Mon, dude, this came only one paragraph after: "On the other hand, hypocrisy is wrong whether or not one is a Christian. The Old Testament states in Leviticus 19:2, "Do not play the role of God and judges of others."

As far as relationships are concerned, I had big plans for 2005. It was supposed to be the year I resolved to find true love, not to fall for some dork, although I was to be a little less jealous about, well, everything.

The Mustang Daily reserves the right to run letters of 250 words or less. Letters must be typed double spaced. E-mail address is mustangdaily@email.com.
While the women easily handled Cal Poly's basketball team suffered a
UC Irvine on the road, the
program, including a school-record
SPORTS INFORMATION REIHIRT
times in the 32-year history of the
floor shots en route to a 99-72 vic­
five seasons hitting 54 percent of its
recorded its highest point total in
18 years old; free of misdemeanor
106 against Cal Lutheran in 1989,
while Cal Poly inbounded the ball to
Clark, who dribbled into the key, but
his 12-footer at the buzzer
bounced off the rim. With the win, UC Irvine
improved to 5-8 overall and 1-0 in
the Big West. Cal Poly, aiming for its
first 3-0 start in the Big West play since
the 1996-97 season, fell to 4-9 over­
all and 2-1 in the Big West.
UC Irvine produced a quartet of
double-digit scorers, led by sopho­
come center Darren Fells with 14 points.
Sophomore forward Patrick
Sanders added 13 points, senior
forward Nic Campbell 10. Fitzgerald and senior guard Ross
Sanders each scored nine points.
Fells. Clark added a career-high 17 points
while Chaz Thomas, another fresh­
man guard, scored a career-high 13
points.
UC Irvine hit 54.3 percent of its
floor shots, including six of 11 from
three-point range. Cal Poly con­
neted on 46.9 percent, including
10 of 21 treys. Cal Poly outre­
bounded UC Irvine 28-24, led by
point guard Sparkle Anderson added 17 points
while both Louise McBride and Megan
Harrison scored 11 points. Anthony
Newman recorded nine points and
eight rebounds.
UC Irvine was led by Miranda
Ishizaki with 16 points, followed by
Angie Niel with 15 and Kelly
Cochran with 13.
Both teams turned the ball over 23
times, but Cal Poly held the
Anteaters to just 42.2 percent
shooting from the floor. The
Mustangs made 46 of 74 floor shots,
including seven of 14 from three­
point range.
Cal Poly visits Long Beach State
(8-5, 1-0 Big West) on Monday
night. The 49ers upset 10-time con­
ference champion UC Santa
Barbara 58-52 on Saturday at The
Pyramid.

Men's basketball
UC Irvine 69, Cal Poly 67
Senior guard Aaron Fitzgerald hit
a 25-footer with 7.92 left to play
lifting UC Irvine to a 69-67 victo­
ry over Cal Poly in a Big West
Conference men's basketball game
Saturday afternoon before 2,048 in
Mac Gym.
Freshman guard Traci Clark had
Cal Poly a 66-67 lead with 39
seconds left, hitting a three-pointer
from the top of the key. After a
timeout, Fitzgerald hit his three­
point shot.
Cal Poly inbounded the ball to
Clark, who dribbled into the key, but
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**WRESTLING**

**WINTER BREAK SUCCESS**

Over the break, the wrestling team notched a big win over then No. 14 Nebraska and then-No. 7 Iowa State. If not for Darrell Vasquez's injury suffered in the match against Nebraska, Cal Poly coach John Azevedo said the Mustangs would have won. Vasquez is ranked No. 3 in the nation by InterMat, a prominent national wrestling Web site giving Mustangs prediction credence.

Last week, the Mustangs competed against Oregon and Oregon State in Pac-10 duel meets. While the Mustangs handled Oregon, aogh of injuries led to defeat against Oregon State.

The most significant injury came to Matt Monteiro. The junior standout led his opponent 10-1 before a leg injury prevented Monteiro from finishing the match. Monteiro, ranked No. 12 in the nation in the 197-pound weight class, is not out for 3 to 6 weeks, Azevedo said. Despite the setback, Azevedo is confident his team will make a run for the Pac-10 championship.

"It's a reachable goal, but it's a tough goal," Azevedo said. "Arizona State probably has the better team on paper, but that doesn't necessarily mean anything."

In a preview of what to come, the Mustangs wrestled Arizona in a dual meet on Jan. 27 at Mott Gym.

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**CAL POLY WEEKLY HOME ATHLETICS SCHEDULE**

Mon. 9  
*Men's Basketball vs. Long Beach State, 7 p.m. @ Mott Gym*

Tues. 10  

Wed. 11  

Thurs. 12  

Fri. 13  

Sat. 14  

*Women's Basketball vs. UC Davis, 7 p.m. @ Mott Gym*

*Wrestling vs. Purdue, 5 p.m. @ Mott Gym*

vs. Boise State, 7 p.m. @ Mott Gym