Fraternity Fight Night knocked down and dragged off campus

Holly Burke

Months of student work and planning were thwarted when an event put on by the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity was cancelled Monday by Ken Barclay, Director of Student Life and Leadership at Cal Poly.

The Fraternity Fight Night event was to be held Saturday, March 11 in Mott Gym. The event was to feature 30 men, representing many Cal Poly fraternities, in a series of boxing matches.

Because of the cancellation, it will now be held on Saturday at 7 p.m. at SLO Kickboxing. The fighters will meet in "smoker matches," matches arranged for people who have not boxed in a ring before.

Fraternity Fight Night was planned primarily by Tommy Van Cielder, a biomedical engineering graduate student and member of Pi Kappa Alpha. Van Gelder began planning the event in September 2005. The event was approved, with a few stipulations, by the athletic department on Dec. 9, 2005.

However, Van Gelder received an e-mail on Monday from Barclay notifying him the event was cancelled.

"This type of activity, in my opinion, does not relate to the student development mission and purpose of the University, the student affairs division, nor your fraternity," Van Gelder said in the e-mail. "Therefore, this event is cancelled effective immediately. I am very, very sorry for this late notice and all the effort that you and others have given to it."

The event was cancelled only four days before it was to take place.

"Yeah, time spent planning the event went down the drain ... money spent on the event went down the drain, but the hardest thing for me was telling 30 guys from separate fraternities that there wasn't going to be an event," Van Gelder said.

The fighters had been training since January for the event.

"One of the things I feel badly about is that (the event) got under my radar," Barclay said. "I wasn't aware of it until Friday (March 3)."

Barclay is also concerned that the event is centered around students beating each other up.

Profits generated by Fraternity Fight Night were to be given to the San Luis Obispo Special Olympics and Cal Poly Athletics. Van Gelder anticipated earning up to $26,000, and planned for the majority of the money to go to SLO Special Olympics.

A number of community sponsors were involved with the event, including SLO Athletics, the California Polytechnic State University Student Athletic Association, and the California Polytechnic State University Student Leadership Association.

Although the cause might be very well-intended, the risks to the individual participants far outweighs the value of this event," Van Gelder said in the e-mail. "Therefore, this event is cancelled effective immediately. I am very, very sorry for this late notice and all the effort that you and others have given to it."

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Fight
continued from page 1
Kickboxing, Wild 106 FM, FedEx Kinko’s, Tahoe Joe’s, Meathead Movers, MG Sports Supplements and Downtown Brewing Company. Radio commercialists had been running to advertise the event until Tuesday and television commercials that were set to run were cancelled.

Insurance policies were also taken to cover the event Van Gelder paid for an accident policy for the fighters and a general liability policy for those officials had been running to advertise the event until Tuesday and television commercials that were set to run were cancelled.

According to a confirmation e-mail approving the event that Van Gelder received on Dec. 6, the athletic department required the group to rent tiles to cover the floor of Matt Gym, hire or provide adequate security for the event and contact Sgt. Lori Hashim of the University Police Department to discuss the event. Van Gelder met the stipulations and paid to rent the tiles, met with Hashim and deposited money for the security.

Nevertheless, the event was still cancelled. “The high risk involved far outweighed the purpose of the event, enough to warrant cancellation even at the last minute. But I really feel badly for the lateness of it,” Barclay said.

He added that office procedures were being modified so that this does not happen again.

Upon receiving the e-mail, Van Gelder forwarded it to all those involved in the event. “I found the e-mail disrespectful,” said Mike Steele, a civil engineering sophomore, member of Theta Chi and fighter-in-training for the event. “The wording describing the event undermined the effort that goes into (boxing). It lowered the sport to frat guys punching each other. The sorry notice of the cancellation was disrespectful as well.”

Though Van Gelder and his fraternity are no longer allowed to be associated with the event, it, though slightly modified, will still be held.

Recruiting
continued from page 1
The Solomon Amendment was passed in 1995 to grant military recruiters the right to recruit on such campuses. Congressional legislation in 2000 and 2002 denied federal funds to any university that barred military recruiters. Universities retaliated by allowing recruiters on campus, but not giving them equal access to that of other on-campus recruiters.

In 2005, Congress declared that access for recruiters was not sufficient and demanded that military recruiters be given access equal to that of other on-campus recruiters in order to receive funds from the federal government.

Although the Duke School of Law never adopted policies that would bar military recruiters from the campus, opposition to the Solomon Amendment was voiced through groups such as OUTLaw — a student-run organization seeking to support the rights of gays, lesbians and bisexuals on campus — and the Duke Chapter of the American Constitution Society.

Professors like Chemerinsky also opposed the amendment. Chemerinsky explained that denying campuses funding based on the Solomon Amendment is, in itself, unconstitutional. “The government can’t offer a benefit on the grounds that a person has to forego a constitutional right,” Chemerinsky said in December.

Katharine Barklett, dean of the School of Law, said the court’s decision will not change students’ ability to protest the Solomon Amendment.

“Students will continue to express their views and we will continue to make available forums for students (to voice their opinions),” she said.

In an interview before the December hearing, Chemerinsky explained that law schools must maintain an anti-discriminatory policy.

“Every aspect of our law school must be open to all of our students,” he said. “We can refuse to associate with others if we disagree with their views.” Chemerinsky added, explaining the constitutional right of association.

Monday’s decision by the Supreme Court is the final say on the issue. It’s obviously disappointing for us,” Chemerinsky said. “The Supreme Court had no sensitivity in understanding the law school’s policy.

In the view of Chemerinsky — the document that delivers the opinion of the court — the justices explained that forcing the schools to open their campuses to military recruiters was not an infringement on First Amendment rights.

“Nothing about recruiting suggests that law schools agree with any speech by recruiters, and nothing in the Solomon Amendment restricts what the law schools may say about the military’s policies,” Chief Justice John Roberts wrote in the Opinion of the Court. With the Court’s decision finalized, Chemerinsky said those opposing the amendment must look to the future.

“Now what is important is to have protests and to have outrage expressed,” he said, noting that the new goal must be to change the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy of the military and its “homophobic stereotypes.”

Summer in Mexico
Spanish Language Immersion Program
Summer 2006 - Queretaro
General Information Meeting
Thursday, March 9, 11 am - 12 pm
Erhart Agriculture Bldg. (10), Rm. 222
www.mustangdaily.net/sudoku.com

Summer in Spain
Spanish Language Immersion Program
Summer 2006 - Valladolid
General Information Meeting
Thursday, March 9, 11:00 am - 12 pm
Erhart Agriculture Bldg. (10), Rm. 222

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issue
Made by the hottest nerds in the journalism department!
WHO SAID THAT?

The worst thing about Europe is that you can't go out in the middle of the night and get a Slurpee.
—  Tellis Frank

There is only one admirable form of the imagination: The imagination that is so intense that it creates a new reality, that it makes things happen.
—  Sean O’Faolain (1900 - 1991)

Wordly Wise

Prevaricate: To depart from or evade the truth.

BREAKING NEWS

UPD A T E D AT THE SPEED OF COLLEGE LIFE

www.mustangdaily.net

Name: Jessica Hickey  •  Year: senior
Hometown: Placerville  •  Major: business marketing

Cal Poly

Favorites
Bar: Black Sheep
Drink: Blue Moon
Movie: “Super Troopers”
Song: “Waiting in Vain” by Bob Marley
Band: Dispatch
Memory: Living in Australia
Saying: Your mom goes to college.

If You Could …
— travel anywhere, where would you go?
Ireland.
— have a superpower, what would it be?
Stop time, because you could do anything if you could stop time.
— have any theme music to live by, what would it be?
“Funky Cold Medina” by Tone Loc
— date any celebrity?
Justin Timberlake, who wouldn’t?

Other
Shout out: Phelix, Peter, Francis, Lady, Mercedes, Senor and the roomies, you too Greek-Fab!

Annual Civil/Environmental Engineering Career Fair

Career Fair is 10am-3pm in Chumash Auditorium. FREE for students!
Make sure to sign up for your choice company before they fill up!

The student/industry banquet will take place on the evening of March 10th, 6pm-9pm in Chumash Auditorium.
We are charging SCE members just $5 to attend this great event, and $15 for non-members.

Alb ert A. Webb Assoc.
BKF Engineers
Black and Veatch
Bowley Engineering Corp.
Bryan A. Stritn & Assoc.
County of Santa Barbara, Dept. of Public Works
County of Sacramento, Municipal Services Agency
California Department of Toxic Substances Control
Castile Macy
Caffians
Cannon Associates
Canton, Barbee, & Gibson, Inc.
Carlton Engineering
CDOM
CSG Consultants, Inc.
C&B Consulting, Inc.
Cunningham Engineering Corp.
Dokken Engineering

Faithful & Gould
Fehr & Peers
Piccadenti & Waggoner Consulting
Structural Engineers
Ford Construction
Fugro West, Inc.
Geotrans, Inc.
Geomatrix
Granite Rock
HDR Inc.
IKE Consulting Engineers
Jensen Design & Survey
Kaweah Construction Co.
Kimwit Pacific Co.
Kimley-Horn and Assoc., Inc.
Los Angeles County Dept. of Public Works
Los Angeles County Sanitation District
LTI Civil Engineers
Mark Thomas & Company, Inc.
MacKay & Somps
Mid-Valley Engineering
Morley Builders
Nassl Engineering
Nolte Associates
O’DELL Engineering, Inc
Osmo-Means
Pankow
Penfield & Smith
Porter-Robertson Engineering & Surveying, Inc.
Provost & Pritchard
Engineering Group
Quay Knupf
Quincy Engineering Inc.
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State briefs

GLENDORA (AP) - A marijuana user whose cultivation charge was dropped, said he's having trouble getting the court fee back from the county.

The cultivation case against Antonio Perry, 33, was thrown out by a Superior Court judge in Pomona after he produced a doctor's note stating his marijuana was for medical use. Perry, who now lives in La Verne, said Glendora police have no right to keep his pot and seeds.

"I spent years trying to cultivate those herbs. The seeds are irreplaceable," Perry said. The marijuana, growing equipment and rifles were seized by police during a March 2005 raid on his Glendora mobile home.

SAN BERNARDINO (AP) - The state Republican Party is investigating a voter-registration drive in the county because more than 3,000 apparently fraudulent registration cards were uncovered in the county.

The district attorney's office began an investigation after a request by the county registrars of voters and the county GOP.

SANTA CRUZ (AP) - A faculty-appointed task force that investigated last year's unrest called labor unrest feel "excluded from decision making".

labor unrest feel "excluded from decision making." It is the first time the county's prosecutors have filed charges against a lawman for an on-duty shooting.

Webb's arraignment was set for Wednesday. If convicted, he could face up to 18 1/2 years in prison.

The charge includes the special allegations of infliction of great bodily injury and use of a firearm, Ramos said at a news conference. In California, such enhancements can result in extra prison time.

An attempted-murder charge was not filed because there was no finding of premeditation.

"I deplore the charge," Carrion, an Air Force security officer just back from Iraq, was a passenger in a Corvette that police chased at high speed on the night of Jan. 29 until the Corvette crashed into a wall in Chino, about 45 miles east of Los Angeles.

A grainy videotape shot by a bystander showed Carrion on the ground next to the car with Webb standing and pointing at gun at him. It is believed to be over Carrion to rise, but when the airman appears to begin complying, the deputy shoots him three times. Carrion was shot in the chest, shoulder and thigh and was hospitalized for several days.

Authorities found no weapons on Carrion or the driver, Luis Escobedo. Prosecutors announced they were charging Escobedo with a felony of manslaughter in airman shooting.

San Bernardino deputy to face attempted manslaughter charge in airman shooting

Greg Riding

Associated Press

SAN BERNARDINO - A sheriff's deputy, who was video-taping a shooting an Iraqi War veteran after a car chase, will be charged with attempted voluntary manslaughter, authorities said Tuesday.

The decision to charge Deputy Ivy J Webb, 45, was announced by San Bernardino County District Attorney Michael A. Ramos. Sheriff Gary Pentrod said Webb will remain on paid administrative leave during the investigation into the shooting of Air Force Senior Airman Elmo Carrion, 22.

"I respect the decision of the district attorney's office," Pentrod said.

It is the first time the county's prosecutors have filed charges against a lawman for an on-duty shooting.

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Michael Ramos, center, San Bernardino County District Attorney, announced during a news conference Tuesday his office filed a charge of attempted Voluntary Manslaughter against San Bernardino County Sheriff's Deputy Ivy J Webb in the shooting of Elmo Carrion.

GOP needs to agree on public works plan, Assembly speaker says

Source: (AP)

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO — Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger must round up support within his own party if he and lawmakers are to have even a remote chance of meeting a looming deadline...," Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez said. "Obviously, you want to give the public information can get out to the voters," he pointed out that it is consider for lawmakers to return a telephone call during the session.

The Republican governor and legislative leaders have been trying to agree on a massive public works bond measure that would be put on the ballot next June, part of which would be funded through $68 billion in voter-approved bonds in a series of elections through 2014. He hoped to put the first of those bond proposals on the June or November ballot this year.

Last week, the governor asked for another $35 billion in bonds for levee repairs, but aides said the overall amount of bonds was negotiable. Democrats, however, have said they have other spending priorities, and want a bond proposal of about $30 billion that would be voted on in one election, Senate President Pro Tem Don Perata, D-Oakland, said Monday.

Some Republicans are also concerned about whether the state can afford the level of borrowing proposed by Schwarzenegger. Republicans, at least those in the Assembly, want a "pay-as-you-go" approach that they say would reduce the need to sell bonds.

"The biggest problem we have (in reaching an agreement) is where Assembly Republicans are," Perata said. "They are at zero. They do not belief we should have bonds." Assembly Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Bakersfield, did not immediately return a telephone call seeking comment.

Schwarzenegger needs the votes of at least two Republicans in the Senate and six in the Assembly to muster the two-thirds majorities required to pass a bond bill.

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"There are also differences with what the governor has proposed and one of the outcomes Democrats have put forward," Palmer said. "That's just an observation of where the process is." The governor has said he wants the first of the bonds to go on the ballot in June, but he's given different signals about how important it is to reach an agreement in time to make that ballot.

On Sunday, as he wrapped up an appearance at his Arnold Classic Sports exposition in Ohio, he said he and lawmakers should work around the clock this week to get a deal by Friday. "If you don't shoot for June, you don't have a chance to make it," said Palmer, spokesman for the state Department of Finance. "That's clearly the line the governor has said and other leaders have said. We'll see where this week's discussions take Ranch Supervisor (Goat Ranch)

Goat Ranch.

Beckman Cattle Inc., a leader in the development and manufacture of Clinical Diagnostic Instruments, is seeking a Supervisor for his goat ranch in Riverside County. As the successful candidate, you will oversee and manage all operations of a goat ranch that performs antibody samples from goats and rabbits. Purchase feed and other supplies. Arrange for veterinary care and a number of other infrastructure systems, levee upgrades, new schools and how to use the bond funds and are close to agreeing on how much bond to borrow. Lawmakers and the governor should ask voters to approve. But, a characterized Schwarzenegger and his Republican counterparts in the Legislature as being further apart.

Schwarzenegger's original plan envisioned $222.6 billion in spending over 10 years, part of which would be funded through $68 billion in voter-approved bonds in a series of elections through 2014. He hoped to put the first of those bond proposals on the June or November ballot this year.

"The Republican leadership and the governor are not on the same page at this point, four days before a deadline... "Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez, D-Los Angeles, said Monday.

"Once they get on the same page — Republicans, that is — we can negotiate that are more fruitful." The Republican governor and legislative leaders have been trying to agree on a massive public works spending plan that Schwarzenegger announced in January. They are seeking a package of bond measures to help pay for highways, public transit systems, levee upgrades, new schools and a number of other infrastructure projects.

Secretary of State Bruce McPherson has set Friday as the cut-off date to put bond proposals on the June ballot, but Nunez suggested the secretary would stretch that deadline as much as five or six days if Schwarzenegger requested.

"It's all a question of how fast we can print ballots, how fast the information can get out to the voters," Nunez said. "Obviously, you want to be careful that voters (living overseas) get an opportunity to vote, but I think there is some wiggle room there." Nunez has said he and colleagues in the Assembly after Friday would go on the November ballot.

"Based on the information we have today, the drop-dead deadline is still March," Democratic said. Schwarzenegger, R-Bakersfield, did not immediately return a telephone call seeking comment.

"We've just been trying to stay strong and help my brother get better," she said in a telephone interview. "Just give him support, which is what he needs right now." The FRP is investigating possible civil rights violations. The sheriff's department conducted an own probe of the incident. Results will go to the district attorney's office.

At the time, the sheriff said the video tape "arouses a lot of suspicion," but he pointed out that it is fuzzy and contains gaps.

Greg Risling, a top attorney to review the shooting and requested an FBI enhancement of the videotape. Charging Webb was a "difficult decision," Ramos said, but enhancing the videotape "made our decision easier."
Illegal immigrants rise to 12 million; 5 percent of workers in U.S.

Stephen Olmstead

WASHINGTON — The number of illegal immigrants in the United States has grown to as many as 12 million, but they now account for one in every 20 workers, a new estimate says.

It is difficult to accurately measure the number of illegal immigrants in the United States, but most census agencies and private groups had set figures on a flow of about 11 million. The Pew Hispanic Center used Census Bureau data to estimate that the United States had 11.1 million illegal immigrants in 2005. The center used monthly population estimates to project a current total of 11.5 million.

The report estimated that 850,000 undocumented workers in the U.S., or about 5 percent of the country's workforce, the Pew report said.

It estimated that illegal immigrants fill a quarter of agricultural jobs, 17 percent of office and house cleaning positions, 14 percent of construction jobs and 12 percent in food preparation.

Bush administration tells Iran: it must not enrich nuclear fuel

Anne Gar微观

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration drew a hard line on Iran Tuesday, warning of “meaningful consequences” if the Islamic government does not back down from an international confrontation over its disputed nuclear program.

Edging toward the U.N. Security Council, Bush was strong Tuesday, saying it was time for inspectors to turn up. Washington rejected any possible 11th-hour compromise that would Iran to process nuclear fuel that could be used for weapons.

President Dick Cheney said the United States and other signatories agreed that “we will impose meaningful consequences.”

Speaking to the pro-Israel lobby, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, Cheney did not specify what the U.S. would do but said it was “keeping all options on the table.”

The United States, Israel and several Arab nations fear development of a bomb, which would be used at risk or force the balance of power in the Middle East.

Russia, which plans to sell a multimillion-dollar system to Iran Tuesday, was critical of the U.S. approach.

Chevron, speaking at an annual gathering of Wall Street analysts, said it would invest between $15 billion and $16 billion a year through 2012, or 21 billion dollars in 2005 — to keep annual production growth above 3 percent for at least 10 years.

Analysts said they were generally pleased with the company’s growth forecast, though they remained concerned about the execution and timing of the projections.

Chevron preferred U.S.$12 bill to $17 billion a year, a year a fourth of that, but the company said it would push coal to an estimated 10 percent of the world’s energy needs.

Bush administration tells Iran: it must not enrich nuclear fuel

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Ten Ruminations
Upon Watching MTV's 10 Spot

1. The brains-in-a-vat behind MTV's prime-time programming emphasize modern ambiguity tenfold over actual comprehension. The 10 Spot intro, once the designation site for "Daria" clips and off-color jokes, held a brief flirtation with actual music videos last year. Now it settles for the self-promoting image of a clicking, granting silver orb in a middle-class living room. A terrifying prophecy of times to come?

2. "Real World/Road Rules Challenge: The Gauntlet 2" forces me to reach for the dictionary and then promise to read "Anna Karenina" for intellectual debt repayment. What is a gauntlet? Apparently, a crude form of torture that involves two rows of spear-wielding warriors. Sounds remarkably narrow-minded for the network, whose original "Real World" season spawned a virtual galaxy of spin-off shows, including entire 30-minute reunion specials where chemistry-festooned selves at each other like the spaceships in "War of the Worlds."

3. There is no man in the entire "Gauntlet 2" I wish to shamelessly emulate, which is alarming and ultimately proves that nothing good has come from this entire genre of programming. "Real World," the granddaddy of reality shows, pushed the Culture of Celebrity forward first with its voyeuristic fanaticism for pretty people. Some victory; seeing twentysomethings cry and score is the cornerstone of my undergraduate education. Amateurs can do a lot of things, like shop at the Gap and fall at the Olympics, but they don't have any inherent capacity to entertain beyond the ego-aggrandizing wit-ticisms they provoke.

4. There is a vocal inflection used by all MTV reality "celebrities." It's a vowel extension placed on a whine after a new-age, up-chick-inducing office cliché. Example: "there's nothing to do."

5. Boy bands will fade over time. Programming. "Real World," the brains-in-a-vat behind MTV's prime-time programming emphasize modern ambiguity tenfold over actual comprehension. The 10 Spot intro, once the designation site for "Daria" clips and off-color jokes, held a brief flirtation with actual music videos last year. Now it settles for the self-promoting image of a clicking, granting silver orb in a middle-class living room. A terrifying prophecy of times to come?

6. If you're an average-looking, hairless guy, you can really make a lucrative living starring in body spray commercials. They're omnipresent.

7. The best reason to watch "There and Back" is for the ravaged expressions/hairstyles of Angel's former teen dream comrades, including that one redhead who used to sport a scraggly goatee. Those chaps are the saddest reunion in all God and country. White-boy dreadlocks are plentiful.

8. Didn't the programming used to include news, at least about Britney's navel? The end-of-hour headlines are M.I.A. during The 10 Spot. The most assumedly intelligent characters at MTV News, buttoned-up babe Gideon Yago and archaically miserable Kurt Loder, are probably at home popping sedatives.

The former O-Town singer gamely commutes on an existential train wreck of self-reflection with endless complaining, shallow Freudian analysis, and flat singing. This is somehow tolerated by his exhausted fiancée, who tends to their newborn son (horribly named Lyric). Will this be interesting anytime soon? As evident by Angel's proudly sported "Don't Worry. It's Only Seems Kinky At First" T-shirt, truly refined taste comes only with repetition.

Matisyahu takes beat-flavored risks

Marc Shapiro
THE DAREDEVILS (L. MAISONET)

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — Often when a little-known band receives mainstream attention, it tends to compromise its sound for something trendier. This is not at all the case with Matisyahu.

With "Youth," the Hasidic singer Matisyahu has achieved what many rising stars strive for but often fail at miserably: He has greatly expanded his sound while staying true to the elements that garnered him respect in the first place — rocking familiar reggae rhythms while throwing dancehall, hip-hop and rock into the mix.

The album is chock-full of musical departures. Bassist Josh Werner trades melody for thumping bass lines on "Indestructible" and "Jerusalem," which exemplify the hip-hop and dancehall influences in Matisyahu. "What I'm Fighting For" is a raw acoustic song about Matisyahu's quest for something "worth far more than silver and gold."

From rapping to beat-boxing and melodic scatting, Matisyahu busts out a whole range of vocal abilities on the CD.

The title track addresses the importance of keeping the flame of youth alive and not letting society crush in spirit.

Part of the genius of Matisyahu is that his messages, like those of most reggae bands, are not just for one particular group of people, they are universally appealing.

In "Dispatch the Troops," for example, Matisyahu sings: "Many names for one God! Trotting on, through the facade! You were all my children! Gotta dig for that feeling! Love will break through the concealment."

Another aspect of the album that deserves much praise is that Matisyahu's band, Roots Tonic, sounds tighter than ever. Guitarist Aaron Dagan is more melodic in his playing, Josh Werner carries the album with dance-cable riffs and Jonah David ties it all together, blowing listeners away with a one-minute no-holds-barred drum solo on the track "Ancient Lullaby."

"Youth" will no doubt please the legions of all Matisyahu fans while expanding the audience beyond its core of Jews and reggae supporters.
Waves
continued from page 1
VCRs or DVD players so surfers and surf buffs gathered together at film previews and sometimes it got out of hand.
"I had guys riding in on motorcycles, lighting off cherry bombs, Id show one of those films and age 20 years," Noll said.
Premieres were events where devoted surfers gathered together to watch and sometimes meet their heroes, and to see what was happening in the world of surfing.
"At a premiere in Santa Monica I had burnt out two of the projection lamps and was down to one," Noll said. "I knew if it went out I was a dead man." Noll said.
Steve Gibby is hoping to bring back that old surf film premiere feeling, minus the cherry bombs and raucous night, after a limo ride from Mission Grill where there is going to be a VIP party before the show.
All of the stars of "Riding Giants" have some connection to the Central Coast. Noll ran his commercial fishing boat out of Port San Luis for three years, and Peralta and Clark met on the Central Coast when Peralta picked up a hitch-hiking Clark.
The group will be back tomorrow evening Cdark will assemble the new castmates, all of whom are gorgeous and defiantly hip.
Diversions editor: Maricar Mendoza.
www.mustangdaily.net
American missing in tape showing Christian Peacemaker hostages

Samere N. Yacoub

The tape showed the three men sitting in chairs and speaking. One had white hair and a slight beard; the other two had dark hair and full beards.

The previously unknownSwifts of Rightsnows was alleged to have kidnapped the four foreigners, who disappeared on Oct. 27.

The four had not been heard from since a video tape aired by Al-Jazeera on Oct. 27, depicting a group of eight people, including the four foreigners, seized in an unknown location.

In Toronto, the co-director of Christian Peacemaker Teams, Doug Pritchard, said he drew some comfort from seeing three of his colleagues on video again.

"The fact that they're still well after more than three months says that the kidnappers have been concerned for their well-being," Pritchard said. "The fact that there are no demands made or timelines set is a big leap." But Allan Slater, a Canadian member of the group, said he was disturbed not to see Fox.

"We certainly are hopeful when we see three of our friends alive, but also it's very distressing that we didn't see Tom Fox, and I wouldn't want to hide that because I'm sure it's very distressing for Tom's family and friends as well," Slater said to The Canadian Press from Baghdad.

The hostages seen in the brief video dated Feb. 28 were Canadians James Loney, 41, and Harmeet Singh Snoody, 32, and Briton Norman Kember, 74.

The news anchor said the men asked their governments and Persian Gulf countries to work for their release.

Al-Jazeera's policy is to silence the audio on hostage tapes for broadcast.

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COMMENTARY

March 8, 2006

Celebrities and Oscars: Who really cares?

Megan Schulz

Rocky Mountain Collegian (Rocky Mountain State U.)

FORT COLLINS, Colo. — I usually catch the Oscars every year out of habit. Being a movie junkie and a reformed E! Television addict, I love finding lame material to get my fix. Probably not the best plan, but it’s one way to get a little bit of entertainment and escape from reality. The least expensive item in the goodie bag was worth $600, an amount of money I would never expect to receive a goodie bag either. If you are a celebrity entitled to a goodie bag, what do you expect to receive? Not everyone is worth $600, an amount of money I would never expect to receive a goodie bag either. But I think it’s important to remember that celebrities are just like any other human being. They have feelings and emotions, just like the rest of us.

When we think about all of the disasters that happened in 2005, such as Hurricane Katrina, we do not want to be reminded of just how ridiculously rich celebrities are. Just for being a presenter at the 2006 Oscars, a star could expect to receive a goodie bag valued at more than $100,000. The least expensive item in the goodie bag was worth $600, an amount of money I would never expect to receive a goodie bag either. But I think it’s important to remember that celebrities are just like any other human being. They have feelings and emotions, just like the rest of us.

Obviously, this is to be expected. In general, everyone is well behaved. Let’s not forget that it was only three years ago when we had to listen to Michael Moore’s tirade about a “frightening war and a fictitious president” while he accepts the Oscar.

I am strong opinions about celebrities using their fame to publicize their own religions and political agendas. If you read my column on Tom Cruise and Scientology, you already know this. I would like to believe that Oscar ratings are going down because Americans are tiring of Hollywood hype.

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Celebrities are a powerful force in society. But while we struggle to attain equal rights and their continuing acknowledgment as the makers of history, we must also acknowledge women’s achievements, we must remain conscious of the hurdles they still must overcome.

The most severe problem affecting women in the sexual assault. One in four women is likely to become victims of sexual assault while in college, and women 16 to 19 years-old are four times more likely to be assaulted than any other age group. Sexual assault is by far one of the most heinous crimes and unfortunately these crimes occur quite regularly in San Luis Obispo. A recent national study showed that, on average, sexual assault occurs every 90 seconds and domestic violence four times every minute. Last year the Sexual Assault Recovery and Prevention Center (SARP) of SLO reported 367 sexual assault crimes committed that year which is twice that many went unreported.

Even more frightening than the sheer number of assaults that occur, are the candidates surrounding the incidents. More than 80 percent of sexual assault crimes are committed by acquaintance, and over 75 percent of these acquaintance rapes involve alcohol or other debilitating drugs like marijuana and GHB.

Clearly there exists a severe problem that is affecting millions of women in America. And I must be clear when I say it’s not just the responsibility of women to put an end to the violence. It is time for men to stand up and take responsibility for the actions we all commit.

This is why the Hollywood campaign against piracy is useless in my opinion. The makers of movies are not going to have to come up with a better premise that doesn’t involve me feeling sorry for members of the movie industry. Like many other moviegoers, I am smarter than that and those efforts are just a waste of time. And so, I will continue to enjoy great movies in my own personal form of escapism. I will watch the Oscars and other award shows, but I won’t forgive the greed of the rich and famous.
Basketball continued from page 12
Division II teams. However, a 300 conference record nestled Cal Poly in a No. 4 seed in the Big West tour-
nament and a first round bye.
Will the bye be enough for the Mustangs, though? Probably not, as Cal Poly has failed to win more than half of its post-season games in recent years ...
and that's with more than a day's rest in between. To punch a ticket into the NCAA tournament, the Mustangs will need three wins in three days.
Still, Cal Poly does have several big wins and close calls worth mentioning. The Mustangs went on the road to beat Cal State Fullerton in their Big West opener and had a win stolen by Irvine when an off-balanced Aaron Fitzgerald three- pointer with under 10 seconds remaining sank the Mustangs. Cal Poly also played Pacific tightly, dropping a 64-62 decision in a game that came down to the final possession.

Lost and Found ads are

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Lost and Found ads are
Frank Stranitz sports editor

The anomaly that was the 2004-05 season will not repeat itself this year. fruit and the season is over when the winner of the Big West tournament will receive the lone conference bid to March Madness.

Four months of intense competition and all that matters is what happens on March 11 in the Anaheim Convention Center Arena. Just like last year, UCLA will be the favorite to earn one of the NCAA automatic bids to the NCAA tournament, but this time there is less room for error.

Pacific's success this year didn't come without doubters. Following the program's best season in school history, including a trip to the second round of the NCAA tournament, Pacific was picked to finish second in both the coaches and media pre-season polls.

"Our guys have carried over a tradition," Pacific coach Bob Thomason said. "I told people at the media day we should be on top. We've done it the last two years. You should pick the top dog until they've been knocked off."

Thomason, the Big West Coach of the Year for a third consecutive season, has no reason to keep a modest tongue about his program's success. The Tigers have become the Big West mainstay in March Madness, reaching two of the conference's last three automatic berths and an at-large bid last season. The Tigers (22-7, 12-2) are led this season by a pair of first team all-conference players. Senior forward Christian Malikzadeh, the 2005-06 Big West Player of the Year, is second in the conference in scoring with averages of 17.2 points per game and leading the conference in rebounds in all-time program game. Teammate and senior guard Johnny Gray also had a

large bid last season. The Tigers also have momentum in their favor. Pacific has won 10 straight Big West games and 11 of their last 12. "There's no doubt UOP is playing with an at-large bid, giving the Big West a rare two-team representation in the tournament. What if the Tigers lose this year? Do they stand a chance of another run at-large berth?" "Those are always fun things to talk about," Thomason said. "We don't get mentioned at all, we haven't all year. We understand we need to win the tournament to go to the NCAA." The ESPN.com "Bubble Watch" lists a pair of teams the Tigers beat but not Pacific. Texas A&M (20-7, 10-6) is in the "Should be in" category, while Western Kentucky (22-6, 14-2) shows up in the "Work left to do" section.

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huge difference between the top of their league and the top of ours." Based solely on the Ratings-Percentage-Index, the MVC is notably better than the Big West this season with six teams in the top 50. Pacific, the top-rated school in the Big West, sits at 104. Experts predict anywhere from four to six teams from the Missouri Valley Conference could qualify for the NCAA tournament. Multiple bids for mid-major conferences are an increasing trend. Several others have a legitimate shot at sending more than one team to the NCAA tournament. Both Hofstra and George Mason are tournament-worthy from the Colonial Athletic Association. While the University of North Carolina-Wilmington won the conference tournament and an automatic bid Conference USA also has a good shot to send two teams with Memphis a lock and University of Alabama-Birmingham recently entering the equation.

The rest of the Big West field

While every coach pointed to Pacific as the favorite, unexpected outcomes are a trend in March.

"If you can win a couple games and get on a roll, it's tough for those other teams to beat you," Cal Poly coach Kevin Bradley said. Bradley's Mustangs (9-18, 7-7) were 2-8 heading into Big West play with wins against a pair of see Basketball, page 11