Minimum wage to rise to $8/hour

Samantha Young
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO — California’s minimum wage, which is far higher than the federal rate of $5.15 an hour after lagging behind the rates in several other states. Schwarzenegger described the compromise as a “common sense” solution that would lead to a higher minimum wage for working Californians with the agreement of both sides. “I have always said that when the economy was ready, we should reward the efforts of California’s hard-working families by raising our minimum wage,” Schwarzenegger said in a statement. “This is another sign California is coming back stronger than ever.”

The governor has vetoed two previous attempts to raise California’s minimum wage, which is far higher than the federal rate of $5.15 an hour after lagging behind the rates in several other states. Schwarzenegger described the compromise as a “common sense” solution that would lead to a higher wage for working Californians with the agreement of both sides. “I have always said that when the economy was ready, we should reward the efforts of California’s hard-working families by raising our minimum wage,” Schwarzenegger said in a statement. “This is another sign California is coming back stronger than ever.”

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Award given to professor for dairy research

Jandy Jones
MUSTANG DAILY

For most of us, drinking a glass of milk is just that, sipping down milk. The in-depth thoughts about the milk and its contents never really cross the mind unless that mind belongs to professor Phil Tong. Tong, director of the Dairy Products Technology Center, has been in the dairy industry for over 20 years, and some of his recent work has earned him an International Dairy Foods Association Research Award. The purpose of the award is to acknowledge researchers in the dairy science field. Tong was the 13th person to win the award, and it was because of his research in dairy ingredients processing, functionality and composition control.

“The greatest benefit to me is the recognition by my peers,” Tong said. Other perks of winning the award are Cal Poly being noticed for its strong dairy science program and the attention will help with recruiting new students and faculty, he said. It will also bring attention to technology and research in the dairy science field, Tong said. “(The award) opens the eyes to people outside the (dairy) field,” he said.

In order to combat late-night double parking issues, the San Luis Obispo Police Department has designated taxi zones throughout the downtown area.

The new taxi zones are a way of ensuring the safety of both nighttime pedestrians and taxi drivers, according to police. “What we’ve seen in past years are more and more people stopping in the middle of the street,” police Lt. Chris Staley said. “We just wanted to make sure we have a place for taxis to park while they’re picking people up.”

The implementation of the taxi zones began on Aug. 9, and a grace period for violators will follow until Sept. 9. During the grace period, any non-taxi or non-delivery vehicle parked in the zone during the designated hours will be issued a warning. Following Sept. 9, the warning will be replaced with a $40 ticket for prohibited parking. The seven new taxi zones are in effect from 10 p.m. to 3 a.m., and are located in areas where double-parking has traditionally been a problem, Staley said.

Three were placed on Higuera Street; one in front of the Mission Mall, one in front of the Sports Forum, and one in front of Verizon. The four remaining taxi zones are dispersed throughout downtown, one is across from Blue on Osos Street, one is in the 1100 block of Garden Street, one is near Mission Grill on Chorro Street, and one is in the 1000 block of Nipomo Street.

The areas are marked by a white sign with black writing that reads “Taxi Zone Only. Nightly, 10 p.m. to 3 a.m.”

Despite the implementation of the zones, Beach Cities Cab owner Jeff Goldenberg said not to expect an increased availability of taxis. Beach Cities Cab operates 46 cars in San Luis Obispo, and Goldenberg said during certain hours taxis are often maxed out. “Nothing is going to change,” he said. “If the need arises I’ll have more cars on the road.”

Although for the time being the number of taxis in San Luis Obispo will remain the same, Beach Cities Cab does offer a special service to transport Cal Poly students home. The service does not offer see Zones, page 3

SLOPD sets taxi zones downtown

Katie Hofstetter
MUSTANG DAILY

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California Assembly says 'No' to opening coast for drilling

Tyler Wise
April 12, 2006

The California Assembly sent a strongly worded letter to the Bush administration this month with the passing of a resolution that will prevent both California and the federal government from reconsidering drilling for oil and gas off the coast of California.

Both the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives passed legislation recently that would open up the California coastline to more oil and gas drilling.

However, on Aug. 10, the state Assembly passed resolution AJR 55 to ensure that Congress would not be able to conduct offshore drilling and exploration. The resolution also proposes that Congress continue the federal offshore oil and gas leasing moratorium, which has prohibited new offshore drilling for the past twenty-four years, and expresses the legislatures opposition to federal energy policies and legislation that might attempt to lift it, according to the California Political Review.

"This is California's way of telling the Bush administration to keep their hands off our coast," said Assembly member Pedro Nava in a press release.

The resolution is designed to respect both California's coastal resources and federal laws that prohibit offshore drilling.

According to the California Assembly, AJR 55 sends a clear message that California cherishes its coastline and does not want any federal attempt to weaken its role in what happens along it.

The resolution is currently under consideration by the state Senate for a final vote.

Wages

continued from page 1

indexers, regardless of the condition of the economy or the health of a business, is another concern," said Vince Solanta, spokesman for the California Chamber of Commerce.

"Wage increases need to remain on hold as long as unemployment remains high and workers face difficulty in finding employment," Solanta said.

The Republican leader in the state Senate, John Gibson, said Republicans would not support the wage increase.

"It's very important that we do not have a negative impact on hiring minorities and low-income workers because there will be less jobs," he said.

George Patel, who employs eight workers at a Subway sandwich franchise three blocks from the state Capitol, said the boost in the minimum wage could force him to lay off some workers.

"As the owner, I'm not very happy about it," he said. "Right now, I could not afford an extra $1.25; I would have to do layoffs.

But I would be looking to increase production." He met up with some people who were friends accompanying bider on the ride. Some of them planned to skateboard, while others were going to walk or bike.

But they ultimately all bailed and the ride became a solo mission, bider said.

"I think it's really cool that he ended up going by himself because it's such an independent act," said Nicole Balvanita, a biology sophomore and bider's friend.

bider purchased a new carbon fiber skateboard, a Rolls Rolls, that was made in Germany for his trip and averaged 10 to 15 mph on flat surfaces.

"It's super low to the ground and easy to control," bider said. "I can get up to 30 mph on the downhill.

In addition to the skateboard, bider traveled with a 30-pound camping backpack that included a gallon of water, OJ bars, a sleeping bag, head lamps, clothes, trash bags, glass necklaces, and a pants belt.

"I made glass necklaces to barter," bider said. "I traded some people for rides and left them with the people I camped with.

A ride was necessary just outside of Los Angeles because of rough roads. Bider hitchhiked about 17 miles after walking for six miles.

"After a car that passed picked me up so I was totally stoked," bider said.

After skateboarding 80 miles in nine hours, bider stopped to camp at Gaviota State Beach.

He met up with some people who got kicked out of the park for being too noisy and moved 10 miles south with them to a beach just north of Ida Vista in Santa Barbara where they slept for the night.

"I didn't really party too hard because I was exhausted," bider said.

bider

Sunday, August 20

I got up that morning and started skateboarding after bider said.

He stopped in Santa Barbara for four hours after skateboarding since 7 a.m.

"I needed to get up a year of shoes because mine were sucking," bider said. "I threw my old pair out.

bider then visited a sandwich shop for lunch and headed to a skateboard park where he sat and watched the locals before heading to the beach where he talked to the local glass artist about his work.

At 2 p.m., bider hiked a hill 800 feet above sea level and proceeded to coast two to three miles downhill on U.S. Highway 1 at Lompoc.

He didn't stop until he reached Ventura at 8 p.m. after eight hours of skating.

For part of the trip, bider skated on U.S. Highway 101 to break up the monotony of U.S. Highway 1. When he arrived in Ventura, he skated down a local arcade and ate peanuts and tamales for dinner.

"I was super depleted of minerals and dehydrated," bider said. "I drink four gallons of water.

After 67 miles of skating, bider stopped for the night under a bridge in Ventura.

"I was pretty scared," a 6-foot-4-inch, 225-pound bider said.

Monday, August 21

The morning sun woke bider at 7 a.m. and he set out once again on his journey soon after.

He had reached Neptune's Net, a popular restaurant north of Malibu by 9:15 a.m. and figured why not go to the rest of the 60 miles.

bider arrived at 3 p.m. in Santa Monica after three days of skating.

"I arrived whole in one piece," bider said. "He never fell once during the trip.

His one regret: "I didn't wear any sunblock," bider said. "I have the biggest sunblock burn.

After arriving at the Santa Monica Pier, bider skated around the beach for a while. The six and a half hours he had already skated was not enough to baptize him.

The first thing he did when he arrived home was to take a shower and go to sleep.

"I had sweat caked onto my body," bider said. "I got home and felt so cool.

bider

He had reached a top speed of 37 mph, hitchhiked past rough roads, and limited the frame and conquered an 899-foot hill.

"It was quite the feat of human endurance," bider said. "Neither the self-appointed conservationists nor his equipment was insane.

bider

Plans for the next skateboard challenge have already begun to form in bider's mind.

"Next summer I plan to skate down the entire U.S. coastline from Squaw Valley to San Luis Obispo," bider said.

Award

continued from page 1

previous award winners or members of the association, he said.

Tong was recognized for his work on dairy calcium, cream cheese, yogurt and dairy ingredient standardization.

His work with dairy calcium was developing a process to produce lower lactose milk protein while retaining more calcium. The process used was ultra-filtration technology that relies on semipermeable membranes with small pore size, he said.

According to the California Assembly, AJR 55 sends a clear message that California cherishes its coastline and does not want any federal attempt to weaken its role in what happens along it.

The resolution is currently under consideration by the state Senate for a final vote.

Tong's work is not exclusive to the United States but also spreads out to countries. Countries that he has a particular interest in are China, Mexico and Southeast Asia.

He is working with groups to help educate on potential food processing and improving existing ones, he said. The point is to make good nutritional products, Tong said.

Tong is mostly interested in China because dairy is not a particular staple of the Chinese diet but it is becoming more evolved, he said.

"They are just starting to develop.states that are westemized Tong said.

Dairy science does not mean just milk, cheese and ice cream, he said. It is also taking dairy ingredients and making foods that people would not normally think are made of milk products.

Irezo that contain milk products but really are not known for them are confections, baked goods and whey-sold products, he said. Why is important because it is used in body-building products, he said.

"Milk can exist outside the traditional dairy cases," Tong said.

Summer Mustang News
THE BIZARRE

Hitler restaurant irks Jews

BOMBAY, India — When a restaurant called "Hitler's Cross" opened four days ago in a Bombay suburb, the city's small Jewish community was outraged, but there were few other objections.

Owner Poonam Sahibkot insisted then — and still does — that the name and theme of his new eatery is only meant to attract attention, with its posters of Adolf Hitler and swastikas.

"There is no intention to hurt anyone," Sahibkot said of his spacious restaurant, which serves pastries, pizza and salad in Navi Mumbai, a northern suburb of Bombay, which is also known as Mumbai.

Holocaust awareness in India is limited, Hitler is regarded by many as just another historical figure. The swastika, reviled in many parts of the world, is also an ancient Hindu symbol and displayed all over to bring luck.

There are just 5,500 Jews in India, and all but 1,000 live in Bombay.

"It's really made people very upset that a person responsible for the massacre of 6 million Jews can be glorified," Eliaj Jacob, one of the community's leaders, told The Associated Press on Aug. 23.

Those objecting to the restaurant plan to ask the local government to force a name change, said Daniel Zoshme, Israel's consul general in Bombay.

"Instead of Hitler's name being an example of extreme evil, this is like giving legitimacy to Hitler. It's not right to advertise his name in public," Zoshme said.

But while India is ordinarily sensitive to causing religious offense — it recently took action to ban "The Da Vinci Code" movie and cartoon drawings of the prophet Muhammad — at least one local leader said the name Hitler didn't bother him.

"People are unnecessarily making this into an issue," said Sudhir Jadhav, a local ruling party leader. "We have no plans to protest outside the restaurant or ask him to change the name."

Goldenberg said thus far his drivers have noticed little change.

"You still have regular cars parking in the (taxi) zones, so the taxis still have to go around them," he said.

Goldenberg said he hopes when Sept. 9 rolls around, and tickets begin to be issued, the taxi zones will in fact serve their purpose.

Zones
continued from page 1

transportation from a student's residence to downtown, but does supply a safe ride home for $4.

As far as the assistance the taxi zones have provided to taxi drivers,

In this is the bar of a Second Lieutenant. You earn it by taking ROTC in college. It means Officer, a leader of the United States Army. To wear it is to put an entire team on your shoulders.

August 24 - September 1, 2006
SUMMER MUSTANG NEWS
www.mustangdaily.net

State

LOS ANGELES (AP) — California detectives notified Colorado officials in 2001 of John Mark Karr's "apparent fascination" with the JonBenet Ramsey murder, the Boulder County Sheriff's Department said Aug. 23. The notification happened while he was under investigation for a child pornography case. It is the earliest known time that Karr was brought to the attention of authorities investigating the 1996 slaying of the girl in her Boulder County, Colo., home.

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A 5-year-old boy was grazed by a stray bullet while playing basketball with his family in a city playground Aug. 23, authorities said.

The boy was taken to San Francisco General Hospital to be treated for non-life threatening injuries after he was hit in the buttocks around 1 p.m. at the Crocker Amazon Playground in the city's Excelsior neighborhood, said police spokesman Sgt. Neville Gattens.

Investigators believe that the occupants of two cars were firing at each other, and that the boy was not the intended target, Gattens said.

Police still were searching for the suspects involved in the shooting.

Briefs

National

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) — The lone survivor of the Sept. Mine disaster and the families of two victims on Aug. 23 sued the mine owner and five other companies, alleging negligence that put the miners at grave risk as they went about their work underground.

All those lawsuits accuse International Coal Group and a subsidiary of shoddily operation of the mine near Buckhannon, and of producing unsafe conditions against Iran unless it reverses enrichment, and the U.S. began with other governments.

The Bush administration said Aug. 23 the situation in Lebanon was "explosive" while Syria's president says the deployment of international troops along the Syria-Lebanon border would be a "hostile" act.

The escalating rhetoric came in the 10-day cease-fire was shaken by the deaths of three Lebanese soldiers killed during a missile and an Israeli killed by a land mine in south Lebanon.

Lebanese Prime Minister Fuad Saniora urged the U.S. to help end Israel's air and sea blockade, saying his country was making "every effort" to secure its borders.

LOndon (AP) — A British court Aug. 23 extended the time nine suspects in the alleged plot to blow up U.S.-bound flights could be held without charges being filed against them, officials said.

Police said eight suspects who have not been charged could be kept in custody until Aug. 30, giving police more time to quiz them about the plot they have said involved liquid-based explosives, while the ninth suspect had his detention extended until Thursday.

International

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — Israel's foreign minister said Aug. 23 the situation in Lebanon was "explosive" while Syria's president says the deployment of international troops along the Syria-Lebanon border would be a "hostile" act.
Author's performance brings fictional characters to life

Nicole Small

A poetic cockroach and his friends will make their appearance at Linnaea's Cafe Sunday night, Aug. 27 at 7 p.m. Gale McNeeley, a Santa Maria resident, presents a one-man show as "Archy, the Poetic Cockroach," and "Mehitabel, the Toujours Gai Alley Cat" and other characters created by Don Marquis.

The name Marquis is recognizable to people over 60, but younger generations are not familiar with his work.

"My job is to keep Archy and Mehitabel alive; they will die if not," McNeeley said.

McNeeley acts out one of his characters, which were created by Don Marquis, during a performance.

First there's Archy, the Santa Maria resident, presents a one-man show as "Archy, the Poetic Cockroach," and "Mehitabel, the Toujours Gai Alley Cat" and other characters created by Don Marquis.

Gale McNeeley acts out one of his characters, which were created by Don Marquis, during a performance.

Marquis and acts them out, and even sings a few numbers, "Song of the Moth" and "The Old Actor Cat," McNeeley becomes the characters.

McNeeley first became acquainted with the duo when he acted in the musical and in 1987 began doing his own act.

Betty Faas accompanies McNeeley for two songs for the act on the piano. Faas has worked with McNeeley for a year and said the show is sophisticated, wonderful and people seem to respond to it nicely.

"You've never seen anything quite like it; he can become all these characters. It's something else," Faas stated.

According to McNeeley, Marquis experienced a sad life, but somehow wrote comedy; his message was no matter what hits someone in life, always find the good life has to offer.

Marquis created Archy, the wannabe writer stuck in a cockroach's body, who every time he dies wants to come back as a human so he can be an accomplished writer. Ironically, no matter how many times he dies, Archy always goes back to being a cockroach, what he was meant to be in life.

Then there's Mehitabel, the alley cat who is always happy, even when suffering with a broken leg. She is well-known for her line, "toujours gai, toujours gai, my dear Archy," meaning always happy, always be happy Archy.

McNeeley is determined to keep Marquis' work alive and show people how the material remains relevant to a person's life today.

"My goal is to not let them die, and if they do die, they'll just turn into a body of a cockroach," joked McNeeley.

This November McNeeley will travel to Greensberg, Pennsylvania to perform his show with Michael Sims, who featured McNeeley in his book, "The Annotated Archy and Mehitabel" and head to his old alma mater, John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio to perform.

McNeeley is currently working to get his show on national radio for all audiences to become familiar with Archy and Mehitabel.

Linnaea's is located at 1110 Garden St.
Kevin Cumeo
MUSTANG DAILY

Every so often a movie is made that shatters Hollywood pretenses and leaves audience members with a feeling of awe and inspiration. "Snakes on a Plane" is not one of those movies. What "Snakes" does do, however, is combine an over-the-top plotline with fantastically amusing movies of the summer. The absurdity begins when a laid-back surfer Sean Jones (Nathan Phillips) was dancing on their tables, drinks sloshed, hammered, wasted ... whichever term you prefer — it completely smashed (intoxicated, drugged, wasted) his criminal enterprise.

Everyone knows that mob bosses have a flair for dramatic, nefarious plots, but Eddie Kim gets the Lifetime Achievement award for the most ridiculously amusing. Of a Los Angeles district attorney must take the reluctant Sean to Los Angeles, to bring down by mob boss (and martial arts expert) Eddie Kim (played by Byron Lawson). Queue Nelville Flynn (Samuel L. Jackson) who must take the reluctant Sean to Los Angeles so he can testify against Eddie Kim and bring down his criminal enterprise.

One of the movie's biggest pluses is the summer. The absorbing begins when a laid-back surfer Sean Jones (Nathan Phillips) is dancing on tables, drinks sloshed, hammered, wasted ... whichever term you prefer — it completely smashed (intoxicated, drugged, wasted) his criminal enterprise.

Everyday does it every other option?

—Eddie Kim
Snakes on a Plane

Accidents happen. You don't think I didn't exhaust every other option?

—Eddie Kim
Snakes on a Plane

Everyone is afraid to fly, so what can be done to make it even more terrifying? Snakes. Duh. From the movie probably just wrote itself. The characters are almost perfectly killable. From the pot-smoking, horny couple that decides to join the mike-high club seconds after take-off, to the obnoxious Brit who hates Americans almost as much as he hates flying coach, each gruesome death is meant to be cheered on by the audience. There is some one-line, sum-it-all-up character development that slithers in perfectly between each gruesome death and gigantic plot hole adding to the cheery factor. For instance, when flight attendant Clair Miller (Julianna Margulies) mentions that she is on her last flight before going to law school, the audience automatically knows that the flight is doomed, but there may be one flight attendant savvy enough to outsmart the serpents. Samuel L. Jackson's performance is perfect. He is able to subtly subdue his signature, aggressive acting style until the movie climaxes with what will undoubtedly be marked as one of the most creative lines in the history of cinema. (I have had it with these mutha-**** stokes on this mutha-**** plane!)

What is pleasing about "SOAP" is that the sick people who made the movie had enough respect for the story not to make it tongue-in-cheek.

Everyovericed cliche ("I need you to be strong right now") and laughable line ("Time is tissue") is acted out with complete seriousness, delivering exactly what the audience wants when they go see a movie called "Snakes on a Plane."

So, if you are still asking yourself "Why snakes? On a plane?" you should be asking yourself "Why not snakes on a plane?" God Bless America.

Kevin Cumeo
MUSTANG DAILY

I was in Puerto Rico last week, laughing and sipping drinks with friends and family, when a man got up on a nearby table and started dancing, spilling his drink all over their heads were filled with concrete. I understood breaking out a bottle of champagne for celebrations or some red wine for dinner at an Italian restaurant, but this? It's just hard for me to see the motivation behind getting completely smashed (intoxicated, sloshed, hammered, wasted ... whichever term you prefer — it still means you're drunk.) I have never quite had the desire to binge and wake up the next morning feeling like a dump truck ran over me.

In high school, a lot of my classmates would go out for the sole purpose of getting completely schnockered. Even then, I wondered at their overindulgence and inexplicable desire to feel like their heads were filled with concrete.

The deceased blood clotting increases circulation, which enhances brain functions and decreases the risk of death from cardiovascular disease, peripheral vascular disease and ischemic stroke.

Now don't get me wrong; this isn't a raging anti-alcohol article by any means. I have enjoyed a nice glass of wine on many an occasion. It's just hard for me to see the motivation behind getting completely smashed (intoxicated, sloshed, hammered, wasted ... whichever term you prefer — it still means you're drunk.) I have never quite had the desire to binge and wake up the next morning feeling like a dump truck ran over me.

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I understood breaking out a bottle of champagne for celebrations or some red wine for dinner at an Italian restaurant, but this?

I know the attitude I'm expressing here isn't really typical of your average 18-year-old, but I guess that's because I wasn't raised with a typical view of alcohol. Because alcohol was just another thing for my parents to worry about. It was a drink to complement the atmosphere — not to create one.

Kevin Cumeo
MUSTANG DAILY

SMOKING TOBACCO THROUGH WATER CAN REDUCE CARCENOGENS UP TO 50%
Cable news resembles tabloids, not journalism

Though on cable news: a bunch of stuff you really need to know is hidden. So that may not seem like a breaking story, but it's certainly becoming more and more rare.

With about 1,056 minutes to fill every day, cable's three main news networks -- CBS, CNN, Fox and MSNBC -- have evolved into entertainment broadcasts rather than informative sources. They will do anything to hook viewers, often turning to flashy titles, ridiculous interview subjects and shallow stories that hardly have an impact on society.

As journalism students on the brain cancer in the media, we are disappointed with how the industry is sliding away from its foundation. In our first journalism class, we are led to believe that we are here to inform the people -- that's our responsibility. News is only news if it contains the elements like impact, conflict, novelty, prominence, proximity and timeliness.

While many stories featured on cable news may contain at least one of these elements, stations sensationalize them to extremes just to get higher ratings. Suddenly, JonBenet's murder suspect flying on business class to the United States is deemed a breaking news. Good Lord, he drank champagne too? Heighten the security levels from yellow to orange! As usual, The Daily Show with Jon Stewart nailed this point better than we could. "Let me explain something to you about the algae, if you will, of cable news. Three-year war in Iraq is less than the 36-day-old bombing in Lebanon, which is less than exploding Gatorade on a plane, all of which is apparently chicken sh-t next to the break in the 18-year-old murder case. Yes, apparently a suspect has been named in the case of the killing of JonBenet Ramsey or, as she is known to cable news, 'cucumber.'

To fill up time and emphasize the "importance" of these stories, these networks often interview anyone who knows anything.

Unfortunately, in their haste, these stations ultimately interview friends who barely know what's going on or, worse, other journalists. While a Washington Post reporter may have written some stories about the conflict in the Middle East, they are journalists being interviewed in the United States. Their families were not affected by recent conflict; their homes were not ravaged by bombs, and they didn't write a best-selling book that exposed underlying reasons for why the war is escalating in the first place. In other words, it's taking the easy way out. Could you imagine reading an article in The New York Times that quotes Nancy Grace as a legitimate news source? Ah, Nancy Grace -- that's another problem with cable news stations. During the primetime hours, instead of highlighting the day's top stories or doing in-depth analyses of issues, they feature Showbiz Tonight, The O'Reilly Factor and Nancy Grace. Essentially, instead of taking the day's biggest platform to inform the public, the cable news stations use them to make issues out of non-issues. Why? Because it's entertainment.

Again, these stations are sacrificing their roles as public informants to bring you the latest on the state of Britney Spears' marriage. Is it threatening the sanctity of marriage in the United States? Probably, but let's worry about the sanctity of broadcast journalism first.

Editors reflect the opinion of the Mustang Daily.

STAFF COMMENTARY

JonBenet case exposes beauty pageant problems

This whole JonBenet Ramsey ordeal is weird. It's been going on for 10 years and it keeps getting weirder. The newest addition came with the arrest of former Sonoma substitute teacher John Mark Karr, who has admitted guilt in what he said was a failed kidnapping attempt.

The only problem is, whether Karr likes it or not, he has an alibi. His ex-wife, Lara Knutson, told San Francisco's KGO-TV that Karr was with her in Alabama at the time of Ramsey's Boulder, Colo., murder. All of this coupled with Karr's shady, shady past, which includes two marriages to underage girls and an obsession with the 1993 kidnapping of 12-year-old Polly Klaas, who he even received mail from back then.

And then more ridiculousness still. Following recent chowng of Puerto Rico native Zuleyka Rivera, Rivers Mundita as Ms. Universe, the 18-year-old garnered under the weight of her gown.

So with the plethora of cons surrounding the pageant world, I am still watching for the pros of 5, 6, and 7-year-old beauty queens. It seems that, if nothing else, a crown is something that stands for endless expectations and pressures of perfection that outweigh even the Ms. Universe dress. What's the point of subjecting children to this? Yes, your child is adorable, but is a child nonetheless. Boxing a younger in grown-up garb that all-too-often creates a sexual effect only works to attract the likes of John Mark Karr.

If anything, JonBenet Ramsey was a lesson, not a precedent. The entire case is bizarre, found-

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pinned by University Graphics Systems

"They're like suck: you get white powdervhere you never..."
Beck leads former Mustangs in NFL

Tristan Aird
MD

Jordan Beck is making the most impact so far this preseason of any of the 10 former Cal Poly football players currently in NFL training camps.

Beck came on as a backup middle linebacker for the Atlanta Falcons, has recorded five tackles in two games. He also had one stop on special teams Aug. 11 in a 26-23 win over New England before making his mark with four solo tackles in a 36-10 loss Aug. 19 at Green Bay.

"I was able to get a few big hits," Beck said on the Falcons' Web site of the game against New England, in which he made the tackle on the opening kickoff. "Our defense played well and it was just an awesome game. I think our whole core will be pretty deep this year."

Beck was the 99th overall pick in the 2008 NFL Draft. He was challenging for a starting role last summer because of a stinger and bruised shoulder, but he caught 14 passes for the Philadelphia Eagles, who didn't have a home-field advantage until they played the Big West team since most of them were shadows or sophomores playing for what Beck considered a tough schedule which featured tournaments hosted by San Diego State and Nevada.

"This year will be deeper (for the Mustangs)," he said. "We are certainly hopeful that we can keep the Big West trophy at Cal Poly. And the women's side is getting better with more depth and experience."

"I do stretches and a lot of rehab in my shoulder firing again," Cartwright said. "The really good news is go pro or go to the USCs or UCLA's of the world."

To get around this, Cartwright seeks out multi-sport athletes instead. He points to Jessica Fortin, an all-state basketball and track star at Nevada, and All-Broncos Winsinger, who played in Irvine before attending Cal Poly.

Though all the female Cal Poly football players have substantial playing experience in high school, "once they are devoting more time to golf, they have the ability to improve," Cartwright said.

As for next year's NFL Digest rankings, Cartwright said he would like to see Cal Poly move up on the list, but there are bigger obstacles to overcome first. "Like the men's team won the Big West Conference championship last year, things were a bit rougher for the women's team since most of them were freshmen or sophomores playing for the Mustangs considered a tough schedule which featured tournaments hosted by San Diego State and Nevada."

Beck was the 11th overall pick in the 2006 NFL Draft. He had two assisted tackles Aug. 12 in a 31-26 win at Miami and had one tackle Aug. 19 in a 17-10 loss to Carolina.

Richardson was undrafted following his senior seasons at Cal Poly and Cal Poly outside hitter Kylie Ashberson, left, goes up for the ball alongside two teammates last summer. The Mustangs open the season Aug. 25 at the UNLV Tournament. Cal Poly plays its first 11 matches this season away from home. They face UC Davis in Mont Gym on Sept. 19.

**Golf**

continued from page 8

your high school team doesn't have you get to play Division I golf."

For women, it is more difficult.

"There aren't as many high-caliber women golfers yet," Cartwright said. "The really good news is go pro or go to the USCs or UCLA's of the world."

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off a 6-14 season in which it went 1-9 in the Big West, won't have home-field advantage until it plays Navy on Sept. 8.

The volleyball team doesn't have a home match until it plays UC Davis on Sept. 19, due to what head coach Jon Stevenson called "the most difficult nonconference schedule ever in the United States."

Despite his team's tough schedule, Stevenson has high hopes. He aims to surpass last year's 19-6 record.

Cal Poly was third with a 10-4 Big West Conference record last season but was excluded from the NCAA Tournament.

"This year, we're going to go out and find the competition," he said. "All we want to do is make the school proud."

And think we can do that this year.

With our hard schedule, we're learning to compete at the highest level. I mean, we're competing against some quality teams here."

"When asked to expand upon that thought, Stevenson clarified: "Well, the first weekend is always tough, and it's a scary idea playing all these great teams, but it's like The Wizard of Oz — when they think it's huge scary wizard and it turns out to be a complete different. Just some guy behind a curtain. This is kind of like that."

**Fall Sports**

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Poly ranked 11th-best golf school

Cal Poly senior golfer Jessica Hu, who was named co-MVP of the women’s team for her junior season, takes a shot last year. Cal Poly was ranked the 11th-best school by Golf Digest in the magazine’s September 2006 issue.

Kristen Marschall

Both the Cal Poly men’s and women’s golf teams were granted major bragging rights when Golf Digest ranked each team No. 11 nationally for academics and golf in the magazine’s September 2006 issue.

The magazine said the list was for “juniors who are excellent students first, golfers second, these schools provide the absolute best education and an opportunity to play.”

A separate list was also made for “Golf First,” for which the Cal Poly men’s team ranked No. 27 and the women were unranked.

“We ranked the NCAA’s 772 men’s programs and 500 women’s programs in six categories, grading each category on a curve to determine overall scores,” the article said of how the rankings were determined.

The six categories included academic, facilities and coaching, funding, academic life, team climate and intercollegiate opportunities. The Mustangs had the fourth lowest overall score of 151.4.

Men’s basketball schedule unveiled

The 2006-07 Cal Poly men’s basketball schedule, announced Aug. 16 by head coach Kevin Brooks, will see the Mustangs play their first tournament since the 2002-03 season and 14 home dates.

The Mustangs will open the season at the Oregon State Tournament and play three nonconference games during the first appearance in the Division I-AA playoffs.

Cal Poly is ranked sixth in the Associated Press preseason poll.

• Sprinter Justin Gatlin received an eight-year ban from track and field Aug. 22, avoiding a lifetime penalty in exchange for his cooperation with doping authorities and because an earlier positive drug test was deemed an honest mistake.

He will forfeit the world record he tied in May, when he ran the 100 meters in 9.77 seconds.

The Associated Press contributed to these reports.

Soccer, volleyball teams ready to go

Sara Hamilton

Three Mustang teams kick into action Aug. 25, marking the beginning of the volleyball and soccer seasons.

Cal Poly’s women’s soccer team will open its season by hosting San Diego State in a free game starting at 7 p.m. Aug. 28 at the Cal Poly Sports Complex. The men’s soccer season begins with an away game against New Hampshire at 4:30 p.m. Aug. 25, while the volleyball team will be traveling to Las Vegas to battle UNLV in its first game at 7 p.m. Aug. 27.

“Everyone has a little bit of uncertainty that comes with the first game, but it’s a good time to see what we’re capable of,” said Cal Poly women’s soccer head coach Alex Crosier, who is entering his 14th year at the helm. “I think it’ll be a great opportunity for people to come out and see some really great soccer.”

The women’s soccer team also has home games Aug. 27 and Sept. 1, when it will face Pepperdine and

This year, we’re going to go out and find the competition.

— Jon Stevenson

Cal Poly volleyball head coach

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