Community offers peer support groups for women

Nicole Small
MUSTANG DAILY

College is a lot of fun with all the activities and parties, but there are some bumpy times as well. Each day, unexpected events and many obstacles take place and sometimes sharing these experiences with others can help ease the stress. Beginning Oct. 5, the Women's Community Center (WCC) will have a drop-in peer group Thursday nights from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at 880 Industrial Way (in the Goodwill building). Any subject is welcomed.

There is no commitment to attending the weekly meeting, all are welcome to attend as many sessions as they wish. Dona Cobelens will be leading the group. Cobelens has experience in family and marriage counseling, as well as drug and alcohol counseling.

"We feel very pleased with her confidence and enthusiasm," said WCC member Susan Hows, whose members interviewed Cobelens.

In terms of the programs offered on campus, the director of Women's Programs, Devon Hodgdon, said programs have been set up for specific groups, but none of them have had enough people involved to be successful. Some groups that failed to take off include a women of color group and another for women who had abortions.

"We find with students who are on campus, many subject is welcomed.

Many college grads going home sweet home

Emily Glazer
DAILY WESTERNER (NORTHWESTERN U.)

Evanston, Ill. - Students are moving back home after college, and they aren't embarrassed about it, opting to forgo accidentally blasting their favorite shirt, constantly eating cold pizza and forking over rent.

Northwestern University alumnus Peter Duchan, Communication '95, is currently living in Manhattan but spent a year at home in Connecticut, while commuting to work in New York.

"When I got home off the train — even though my family had already eaten — there was a plate with a whole meal," Duchan said. Experience, Inc., a company that provides career services to students and alumni, polled recent graduates across the nation. In its 2006 survey, the company found that 58 percent of college grads moved home after college and 32 percent stayed at home for more than a year. These students have been labeled the "Boomerang Generation," because they leave home for a period of time and then return. The boomerangers have become so widespread that author Elisa Furman wrote the book "Boomerang Nation: How to Survive Living With Your Parents... The Second Time Around."

The number of graduates moving back home remains constant, but moving back home is becoming more socially acceptable, she said.

"It used to be the "boomerang in the basement,' but they're really coming out of the basement, if you see. It is still a problem, but they have found a way to do it and it's okay," she said.
Valets (continued from page 1) 

requires about six volunteers to run effectively every week.

There is a main group of about ten volunteers who make decisions for the group and bring essential supplies for each week. Peak Tanks also created many of the bike racks in use around town, such as in front of Linnea's, Mountain Air, and the San Luis Obispo City/County Library.

According to an article in The Tribune published on Sept. 20 called "Today's Focus: Wheels Bike Valet," Adam Fukushima, Executive Director of the SLO County Bicycle Coalition, said that the organization's ideal goal is to envision San Luis Obispo County as a "vibrant community where walking, cycling and conventional transit make personal transportation safe, simple and fun."

Plans are in the works to secure funding for a part-time coordinator for the project, but for now the valet service will go on as it has been. As interest in the service has grown, organizers have decided to extend the valet service past its original end date of Oct. 20.

They anticipate that the influx of new students will give them the chance to educate even more people about cycling in San Luis Obispo County.

Anyone interested in volunteering for the Bike Valet at Farmers' Market can contact Jessica Berry at jberry@esidekau.org.

Peer group (continued from page 1)

school is a priority and don't take time to come to meetings," said Aimone Williams, communication studies major who works with Hodgdon.

However, Williams is optimistic about this year because she and Hodggon, who came last January, have already made many changes to the Women's Center and have ideas for the upcoming year.

To get involved or to find out more about Women's Programs offered on campus, visit the Women's Center in building 65, Room 217. For more information about women's programs in the community, call the WCC at 541-9313.
Question of the day:

Do you use Polyratings?

"Not anymore. I did when I was a freshman because I've had good teachers with bad ratings."

"Most of the time I don't have time to look at all the teachers."

"Yes, so I can see if the teacher's good or not."

"I do use Polyratings sometimes because I've found it helpful before, but I don't agree with the ratings all the time."

"No, because I don't know what Polyratings is."

-Dane Rasmussen, kinesiology junior

- Shannon Murphy, biology sophomore

- Scott Sumner, chemistry sophomore

- Amy Barnes, kinesiology senior

- Tom Pinaino, graphic communications senior

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DNA could lead water sleuths to septic tanks of Malibu’s stars

Noaki Schwarz
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MALIBU — The mystery: Just whose waste is fouling the most celebrity-saturated stretch of California coast?

The suspect: Malibu residents whose septic tanks might let what gets flushed down the toilet flow down the hills and into the Pacific.

The strategy: DNA testing and a pledge, if need be, to get court warrants to inspect leaky tanks buried beneath the backyards of Hollywood stars.

"This is going to get messy," predicts Mark Pestrella, the Los Angeles County public works official tasked with the project.

Loyalty to septic system runs deep in a city that was incorporated to stop construction of a sewer line. Residents who fiercely deny that their tanks are the source of ocean bacteria also fiercely guard their privacy and their right to flush the estimated 2,400 septic tanks in a city strong along 23 miles of coast.

After decades of wrangling, county officials are promising to get tough — threats of hefty fines by clean water regulators were an important push.

Over the next few months, investigators will begin testing sea water if DNA tests show waste is human and not from, say, raccoons or coyote, they’ll follow the trail up creeks that traverse neighborhoods in Malibu, where clean water advocates such as Pierce Bronson and Ted Danson live.

Where the tests show a concentration of human waste, inspectors will want to comply with the investigators will begin testing sea water if DNA tests show waste is human and not from, say, raccoons or coyote, they’ll follow the trail up creeks that traverse neighborhoods in Malibu, where clean water advocates such as Pierce Bronson and Ted Danson live.

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National briefs

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (AP) — President Bush on Wednesday signed a homeland security bill that includes an overhaul of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and $1.2 billion for fencing along the U.S.-Mexico border to stem illegal immigration. Standing before a mountainous backdrop in Arizona, a state that has been the center of much debate over security borders, Bush signed into law a $35 billion homeland security spending bill that could bring hundreds of miles of fencing to the busiest illegal entry point on the U.S.-Mexican border.

PHOENIX (AP) — Leave the gun. Bank robbers have found an easier way to make off with other people's money. Around the country, thieves have hot-wired forklifts at construction sites, chugged up to banks and scooped up their ATMs, with all the cash inside. ATM manufacturers have been working on ways to stop the heists, and sometimes the money involved is so small it hardly seems worth the risk. But that hasn't discouraged thieves this summer in such states as Arizona, California and Georgia. They have pulled off or attempted such thefts at least 21 times this year in the Phoenix area alone.

"It's called the smash-and-dash," said Rob Evans, director of industry marketing for Dayton, Ohio-based NCR Corp., the world's largest maker of automated teller machines. Evans is the company expert on ATM thefts. They have pulled off or attempted such thefts at least 21 times this year in the Phoenix area alone.

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WASHINGTON (AP) — House Speaker Dennis Hastert's political supporter showed signs of cracking on Wednesday as Republicans filed an election-year scandal spawned by steady consti­ tuent messages from former Rep. Mark Foley to teenage male pages.

Several adults were taken to ambulances by the same route. Several adults were taken to ambulances by the same route.

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The country’s archaeological treasures have already been damaged by earthquakes and wars — some of them destroyed during the 1982-2000 Israeli occupation.

The sites were spared any direct hits in the war between Israel and Hezbollah, but those at Byblos, Tafileh and Tyre are in urgent need of repairs, according to UNESCO officials and the Israeli defense minister.

Across the country, dozens of other traditional buildings, hilltop castles and ancient bridges were damaged.

“We are still waiting for the money,” he said.

String of bombs in Baghdad shopping district kills 9

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — A series of bombs went off in rapid succession in a shopping district in a main Christian neighborhood of Baghdad on Wednesday, killing nine people and wounding 71, police said.

Other attacks around Iraq killed four other people, and the U.S. military announced the death of a soldier in the north.

A car bomb and two roadside bombs blew up within 10 minutes just before noon in a shopping district of the predominantly Christian Camp Sara neighborhood, 1st Lt. Ali Abbas said.

The wounded including shoppers and 15 policemen. The blast destroyed cars and collapsed part of the nearby building, he said.

In an earlier attack in the area, two policemen were killed and two others injured when their car was hit by a roadside bomb, Abbas said.

Meanwhile in Baqubah, 35 miles northeast of Baghdad, gunmen attacked a police patrol and killed five officers and injuring five people, Diyala province police said.
Prank U. guideline for dorm room delinquencies

Tyler Wise

Wednesday, October 5, 2006

When you stepped out of your front door this morning and went to class only to discover that the reason everyone was snickering while pointing fingers in your direction was because your roommate had crudely drawn a giant phallic on your forehead, immediate and bitter sweet revenge became your No. 1 modus operandi. Oh, yes. Your roommate is doomed to feel the same shock and embarrassment you felt as you walked around campus advertising a woody on your dome-piece. But you need a game plan.

What you need is to devise a prank so killer and so deviously epic that your roommate will never recover from the wounds of shame and your peers will treat your antics like they were the stuff of legend.

However, if you're short on creative juice, and in dire need of devilish inspiration for the prank of all pranks, who can you turn to?

Well, here at the Mustang Daily recently received a nifty little guidebook that could just be an inspiring piece of literature for your lack of prankster talent. It's called "Prank University," and right off the bat, it claims to be "the ultimate guide to college's greatest tradition: the prank."

Written by John Austin, a college graduate and self-proclaimed prank aficionado, "Prank University" just might be the perfect aid for discovering that one genuinely hilarious or disgusting prank to enrage the hell out of your roommate, friends, or if you're a real jock, any innocent person your devious heart desires.

"Why show compassion to your roommate when you can terrorize them to the point of insanity," Austin writes. "And with over one hundred different pranks documented, one could possibly string enough together to infuriate an entire dormitory."

Immediate kudos goes to the layout of the book that makes it quite easy for anyone to understand how the pranks should be choreographed. Equal parts pictures and description—enough to ensure that even a complete bonehead could understand the step-by-step instructions laid out for any devious deed. "Fill a garbage bag with poop, put it on someone's porch, and with a doorbell, then run like hell."

The book is structured as a checklist at the top of each page for "successful attempts" of every prank and a couple of blank pages at the end entitled the "Prank Journal" so that one could boast a tally sheet and documentation of victims who have suffered the wrath from a variety of gimmicks and gags.

However, boasting about your record of mischief is only as good as the creative and ingenious pranks you pull. So the question that begs to be answered is whether or not the contents of this handbook themselves—the pranks—are enough to consider "Prank University" as the bible of all things dastardly and devilish.

Of the one hundred pranks listed within "Prank University" there are definitely some genius shenanigans that will certainly earn you high marks as a master of mischief. Devious deeds such as "wasabi in the toothpaste," "rain muck," and the "gay porn screensaver" are a few surefire ways to make your victim a hater for life.

The "flyin fish in the motor prank," where one deposits a raw fish under the hood ensuring that the motor will eventually fry the campus and make your victim's vehicle smell worse than a salami packing plant, is definitely tops.

But where "Prank University" falls short of ingenuity lies in the majority of the content that describes all too many typical college prankster staples that won't earn anyone high marks for being a brilliant rascal. Juvenile escapades such as putting your sleeping roommate's hand in a warm bowl of water, ding-dong door ditching, or unplugging a computer mouse aren't going to bring you any notoriety—except for being an annoying prick.

And at times, content such as the "plastic forks in the lawn" escape pod (where one takes a shit-load of forks and sticks them into someone's lawn to make a three-dimensional representation of erect utensil or the "popcorn avalanche") gag (tape a garbage bag to victim's door, dump it full of wasabi and dump it into a crevice between the bag and door) make the effort worse than the spoils—"the juice just isn't worth the squat."

In addition, the complete absence of some truly audacious pranks, such as laying a trash can full of farm animal poop on the door of the peer you truly detest, or the non-oenous delight of a "cheese/rat book" (trust me, you want to know) are nowhere to be found.

Let's just say that if you are truly a bonehead looking for cheap redemptio, then there is quite enough of it in "Prank University." But, not to knock it completely off base, the author of "Prank University" seems to understand that some of these pranks, done individually, are no more than cheap, silly antics. So rather, it is encouraged throughout the book to combine pranks to make awesomely devious concoctions. So if you need to settle the score in a bad way with your roommate, friend, or just some jerk in general, "Prank University" though certainly not a "prank bible," has enough content to give anyone enough inspiration to make a rampant cocktail of dorm room delinquency.
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MOVIE REVIEW

‘The Illusionist’ mystifies with stellar cast, cinematography

Christina Casi
MIMICING DICK

As children, we all believe that miracles can happen and that a simple man can pull a rabbit out of a hat. When we grow up, we begin to doubt all of it, except when it is stirred up in us once again. “The Illusionist” is the sort of movie that brings back the desire to believe in our childhood fantasies.

Not only does the movie give the audience hope in magic, it takes the whole theater to a different world that we have only heard about in history books.

Set in Vienna at the turn of the century, the costumes, characters and cinematography literally bring us back in history books. Neither Norton, Jessica Biel or the first beer I got hooked on was anything like “Stealth” and “Blades of Glory.” However, her performance in “The Illusionist” as Sophie was beyond expectations. Stuck in a relationship she does not want to be in and in love with a person from her past, Biel makes us sympathize with the character. Though we in no way can try to understand high-class tradition in that time, her underlying dilemma is very familiar to us.

The other cast members played their parts just as well. Paul Giamatti separates from his self-loathing character in “Sideways” and gives us the performance we have been waiting for. He plays the chief inspector that has a loyalty to the king, but can’t seem to leave his humble roots behind. Throughout the film you can see his frustration with wanting to do what is expected of him and what he knows is right. Giamatti gives the character substance unlike anyone before.

When it comes to villains, viewers want confused, dark and hope­ful characters instead of inherently demoralizing and evil ones. Rufus Sewell plays the former perfectly in “The Illusionist” as the crowned prince. Though he is seriously corrupt and wants to rule the country more than anything, he has a heart for Sophie. (or so we think). His final speech at the end brings the audience to realize that in his mind, he was being compassionate, which completely changes our view of him.

Edward Norton (Eisenheim), and Jessica Biel (Sophie), give stunning performances in “The Illusionist,” (played by Norton) which opened seventh last weekend at the box office.

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Director and writer Neil Burger adapted a short story by Steven Millhauser into “The Illusionist.” Eisenheim falls in love with Sophie, who is in a higher class than he is and must deal with the consequences that go along with this. However, the chief inspector and the crowned prince are trying to stop his show down at the same time.

While this movie is seriously unrealistic, it is highly entertaining. The cinematography is phenomenal. The use of close ups and panning add to the mystery of the story. Soft lighting and airy music bring the audience into the legend and drag them all the way to the end. Not only is the cinematography great, but the setting is fantastic as well. The buildings look exactly as you would imagine for the era. The prestigious ones have a sense of grandeur about them while the smaller ones just show an unpow­erful­ish effort. The distance between the wealthy and the poor is obvious.

All in all, the movie is worthy of your $8 to $9. The twist at the end is enough to get you see the movie at all and the acting is outstanding.

So, with your Poly Card in hand, go get your student ticket and prepare to go back in time to Vienna and make a couple new friends called Sophie and Eisenheim.

Nicole Small
MUST BE 21 OR OLDER TO ENTER

The yet-to-be-named refreshing drink

Nicolle Small
MUSTANG DAILY

“I’d like a Stella, please,” is my common line to a bartender (by the way for those younger readers it’s a type of beer. Stella Artois).

However, I have not attended a pint night here in a while and I don’t know why, I just haven’t had the chance to take advantage of those $1 beers.

This is surprising to me because I’m a beer girl. Call me crazy but the first beer I got hooked on was Guinness. And I wondered why I could no longer fit into my skinny jeans after a few months of drinking right after I turned 21 (which was this past January).

However, when I’m looking for something out of the ordinary I go to a bar my good friend told me about. This place is known for themselves a great laugh.

Really, any drink ordered here is magically delicious.

Another friend came and joined us a half hour later and before she knew it a strawberry lemon drop sat before her.

We all finished our drinks, looked at our glasses and glanced at one another wishing there was time for more, but it was late and none of us have that kind of money.

My best friend and I said good-bye to our friend and we drove home.

Since we both felt good still, we turned on Dane Cook’s Vicious Circle comedy act and had ourselves a great laugh.

Needless to say my Tuesday night was amazing. Sure, I didn’t take advantage of $1 beers, but I consumed half the calories I normally would have on one amaz­ing­ly yummy drink, chalked it up with some good friends and after a good, hard laugh I slept like a baby the whole night through.

The other cast members played their parts just as well. Paul Giamatti separates from his self-loathing character in “Sideways” and gives us the performance we have been waiting for. He plays the chief inspector that has a loyalty to the king, but can’t seem to leave his humble roots behind. Throughout the film you can see his frustration with wanting to do what is expected of him and what he knows is right. Giamatti gives the character substance unlike anyone before.

When it comes to villains, viewers want confused, dark and hopeful characters instead of inherently demoralizing and evil ones. Rufus Sewell plays the former perfectly in “The Illusionist” as the crowned prince. Though he is seriously corrupt and wants to rule the country more than anything, he has a heart for Sophie. (or so we think). His final speech at the end brings the audience to realize that in his mind, he was being compassionate, which completely changes our view of him.

Edward Norton (Eisenheim), and Jessica Biel (Sophie), give stunning performances in “The Illusionist,” (played by Norton) which opened seventh last weekend at the box office.

Director and writer Neil Burger adapted a short story by Steven Millhauser into “The Illusionist.” Eisenheim falls in love with Sophie, who is in a higher class than he is and must deal with the consequences that go along with this. However, the chief inspector and the crowned prince are trying to stop his show down at the same time.

While this movie is seriously unrealistic, it is highly entertaining. The cinematography is phenomenal. The use of close ups and panning add to the mystery of the story. Soft lighting and airy music bring the audience into the legend and drag them all the way to the end. Not only is the cinematography great, but the setting is fantastic as well. The buildings look exactly as you would imagine for the era. The prestigious ones have a sense of grandeur about them while the smaller ones just show an unpow­erful­ish effort. The distance between the wealthy and the poor is obvious.

All in all, the movie is worthy of your $8 to $9. The twist at the end is enough to get you see the movie at all and the acting is outstanding.

So, with your Poly Card in hand, go get your student ticket and prepare to go back in time to Vienna and make a couple new friends called Sophie and Eisenheim.

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SIMPLIFIED WALK TO SCHOOL: A REALITY IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Kaitlin Chandler

 information and photos courtesy of Kaitlin Chandler

NAME: Kaitlin Chandler

MAJOR: Social sciences

COUNTRY: Prague, Czech Republic

Next Thursday: Ronny Beer checks in from Barcelona, Spain

Take one step off the curb onto the cobblestone street and my journey has begun, down the hill, past the castle on my left, past the couple sipping pints of Gamlbrinus patio-side on my right — never mind that it's only 10 a.m. — this is the Czech Republic. This is the country that consumes the most beer per capita than any other. And 30 a.m. is a fine time to start drinking.

I walk towards town, my classroom in mind as my final destination, although I know I will soon be distracted by the warm apple strudel pastries that sit patiently in glass cases for all who walk by to eat.

As I continue my journey to class with one of these delicious pastries in hand, I find myself approaching the man playing the violin near the warm apple strudel pastries that sit patiently in glass cases for all who walk by to eat. I pass vendors selling cute ear warmers and weathered skin create a sense of curiosity in me to know what his story is, what has he seen and endured while this country was under communist rule; I know he has a lot to tell.

Now I embrace the lookout point where I take in the whole view of the city, it's bustling with people. I am only a quarter of the way through my journey, but because of the view and the sun on my back I don't mind. I continue down many steps, OK, I'm a bit tired and hung-over from a ridiculously crazy night at the clubs and bars that lasted until five this morning, but that's alright. I'm 20 years old, I can always sleep. But by now I'm descending upon the river, and I pass outdoor cafe after outdoor cafe. I turn a corner and find a great old statue, then another; the next street reveals a cathedral that stretches and reaches up to the sun. I walk through a park and begin to cross the bridge as my school building comes into view. I can't believe it. Do I really attend class in this magnificent building? It seems unreal.

I pass vendors selling cute ear rings and beautiful paintings and I find them hard to pass up. I have to restrain myself because I just spent a lot of my money this month on plane tickets to Amsterdam, Florence, and Barcelona. My 12-day break is soon approaching and with all these destinations in close proximity I absolutely must find my way to them.

I reach my school building with time to spare so I head to the cafe where I will sit with my latte in the sunny park with friends among the flowers and trees, and gaze out at the view of Praha. Or I'll possibly venture to Old Town Square where I will sit with my latte in awe of my present surroundings and people watch. Either way, the journey goes on, and life here remains simply amazing.
Skateboard ban on campus irrational

Foley's folly: highlights failures of Republican party

Brian Murphy
For The Mustag Daily

I f you previously had any thoughts or theories about the Republican Party's "monopoly on morality," you can leave those behind. Last week, Rep. Congressman Mark Foley of Florida's 16th House District resigned. His resignation came after he had been questioned about sexually-explicit instant messages he had sent to a 19-year old congressional page in 2003, which made references to sexual acts.

Despite their strong stance against child pornography and sex offenders, it now seems that much of the House Republican leadership knew about the messages.

The congressional career of Mark Foley, to say the least, was definitely incompatible with his private life. In Congress, he was one of the leaders of the opposition to child pornography and sexual offenders. Foley was the chairman of the House of Representatives' Caucus On Missing and Exploited Children.

After he resigned, Foley and other Republicans were pressed to resign. Foley's primary weakness was that he had sent sexually-explicit instant messages to an underage boy. It is strikingly immoral, however, that Republicans knew about a child molest in their ranks and did not say anything; they have lost all credibility on that issue.

Before, such as the 2004 campaign, when Democrats mentioned moral issues, they were repeated in the context of the GOP's shortcomings. Indeed, it is immoral that so many Americans are unemployed and it is also immoral that millions of Americans lack health care. It is strikingly immoral, however, that Republicans get lectured about family values by the GOP base. Foley's admission, while it is a low point in the context of the GOP's shortcomings, is a major point that so many Americans were and thus provide an opportunity for some young back to get rich while squeezing the system because he got a boot-boo while skateboarding on campus.

Once again, a legitimate argument, however the one thing that is the most important and key factor that administration and the political neglect to tell you when you pine about the skateboarding ban; is this: they have banished themselves.

Yes sir. The most popularly promoted argument of transportation, the bicycle, is not covered by any type of CSU insurance plan. This is, since it is apparent to myself that the same rationale used against skateboarding can be made for cycling, then where is the issue? Why should skateboarding be singled out when cycling is inherently just as dangerous or damaging? What Cal Poly and the rest of the CSUs need to understand is this: not every skateboarder who cruises onto campus is going to do the "carcass toss" down a set of stairs and break a leg or harm a passer-by. For many of us, we just prefer to ride a skateboard instead of driving a car or using a bicycle. It is portable, lightweight, and a much cheaper alternative than even a bicycle.

And though there will be quite a few students who will continue to shred the benches and handrails on campus for thrills, the nukin of a minority of skateboarders should not be a legitimate reason to keep the activity banned entirely.

If we applied the same rationale for banning skateboards on campus to other forms of transportation, then we might as well ban driving because of the risk of speeding, drunk driving and fatal accidents, or hell, why not ban walking for fear of falling? If the CSU system would only cast away the fear of litigation or property damage, which are just as problematic for cycling and any other mode of transportation, then maybe they would understand why skateboarding is a beneficial form of transportation.

Tyler Wise is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily staff writer.

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**Staff Commentary**

Foley's folly: highlights failures of Republican party

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Tyler Wise is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily staff writer.
Pendleton Marine pleads not guilty to murder, kidnapping of Iraqi

Thomas Watkins
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. — A Marine pleaded not guilty Wednesday to murder and kidnapping charges stemming from the death of a civilian man in rural Iraq.

Pfc. John J. Jodka III is one of seven Marines and a Navy corpsman charged with kidnapping and murdering 52-year-old Hashim Ibrahim Awad last April in the town of Haditha.

He was the first of the eight to be arraigned. The arraignment for Cpl. Marshall L. Magincalda was set for later Wednesday and a third Marine is expected to be arraigned next week.

Pleas for motions hearings for the other troops are expected in coming weeks.

At his arraignment, Jodka spoke little, simply confirming his identity and entering his plea. Through his attorney, Joseph Casas, he said he wanted to be tried by a jury of civilians, rather than by a judge alone.

Jodka wore a short-sleeved khaki service uniform which was decorated with several medal ribbons. He took notes throughout the proceedings.

Judge Col. Steven Folsom said he was concerned with the amount of information that had been disseminated by both civilian defense lawyers and Camp Pendleton on its Web site about Jodka's case. He issued a temporary order prohibiting both the government and the defense from discussing details of the case with the news media.

"There is a real possibility we could have (jury) members from the local Camp Pendleton area," Folsom said. "And I was concerned with pretrial exposure to those members.

Folsom also issued an order prohibiting potential jury members from talking to the press about the case. He ruled that a closed-circuit television feed from court proceedings should remain switched on.

Marine prosecutor Lt. Col. John Baker said he was concerned the order would make it too hard for the public to get information on the case.

"The process seems to be overly mechanical, is not flexible and will delay information getting out," Baker said.

Folsom said the order was not perfect and would be reviewed at a motions hearing Oct. 25. The gag order does not apply to seven troops — yet.

Both Jodka and Magincalda also are charged with conspiracy and housebreaking. Jodka also faces an assault charge and Magincalda additionally charged with murder, conspiracy and making a false official statement.

All eight troops have been in the brig since May. Jodka pleaded not guilty to all counts.

Jodka, 20, and Magincalda, 23, face up to life in prison if convicted.

The commanding general in the case last week ruled that the two and a third Marine, Lance Cpl. Jerry E. Shumate, should not face the death penalty. Decisions on whether the other five troops should stand trial — and if they will face the death penalty — will come after their preliminary hearings.

According to prosecutors, some of the troops kidnapped Awad on April 26, bound his feet, dragged him from his home and shot him to death in a roadside hole.

All have been charged with murder and kidnapping even though charging documents show some of the men did not fire on Awad. This is because they are liable as accomplices, attorneys say.

Charging documents do not spell out a possible motive, but say the group went looking for a known terrorist. When they couldn't find him, the documents say, they entered Awad's home and took him against his will.

Jodka is accused of firing his M-299 squad automatic weapon at Awad, along with four other troops alleged to have opened fire.

Some of the troops — including Magincalda, according to charging sheets — are accused of stealing an AK-47 assault rifle and a shovel and placing them in the hole with Awad's body, apparently to make it look like he was an insurgent planting a bomb. The Navy corpsman is accused of firing the AK-47 in the air and Magincalda of placing the expended shell casings by Awad's body.

Since the start of the Iraq war in 2003, at least 14 members of the U.S. military have been convicted in connection with the death of Iraqis. Two received sentences of up to life in prison, while most others were given little or no jail time.

Jodka's trial date was set for March 5, 2007.

Dexter Lawn
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cpl. Marshall L. Magincalda, left, is escorted to his arraignment alongside his civilian defense counsel Joseph Low, center, Wednesday, Oct. 4, 2006, in Camp Pendleton, Calif.

U.S. Marines battle persistent rumor mill in isolated western Iraq

Antonio Castaneda
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HADITHA, Iraq — Word spread quickly: A Marine search dog had escaped and was menacing the streets, attacking children. But the Marines didn't have any dogs in Haditha at the time.

Nevertheless, Marines found themselves having to quash yet another of the baseless rumors that often sweep this city of about 50,000 people, most of them Sunni Arabs wary of U.S. intentions in Iraq.

Rumors — most of them maligning U.S. troops — are a staple of life in the embattled, isolated cities of Anbar province, a region that is a center of the Sunni Arab-led insurgency and where telephones don't work, and newspapers rarely appear. Many residents are afraid to visit other parts of the country such as Baghdad, 140 miles to the southeast, for fear they'll run afoul of Shiite death squads.

In their isolation, most people rely on Arab television networks such as Al-Jazeera for news of the outside world. For local news, the main medium is word of mouth.

No one is sure how the dog rumor started but soon terrified people were complaining to tribal leaders about a violent animal on the loose. The director of the city hospital even told reporters that seven children had been bitten.

The Americans must be to blame, many people concluded.

"We heard this from the people about dogs roaming the streets, the market, that have bitten 20 people," one tribal leader was overheard complaining to a Marine officer.

"Well, they're not our dogs. We'd know if they were ours," replied Capt. Andy Lynch of Chicago, a company commander in the 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment.

That didn't satisfy the sheik, who insisted: "Our dogs don't bite."

Lynch told him the Marines didn't have any search dogs in Haditha.

...
Government report: textbook prices outpace inflation

ConnectEdU designed to equalize college admissions game

Irene Chen
BLOOMINGTON, IN (BLOOM U)

The textbook industry is a "classic broken market," Wu said in a press release.

"Every year that the cost of textbook prices doubles compared to the overall average," said Powell, who was the former president of ConnectEdu.

"This semester was awful," said Eriksen. "The cheapest book I got cost $20." Powell is getting frustrated as well. "I saw early on what a cumbersome, emotional process applying for colleges was," Powell said.

"We need to make sure that students who might not proactively seek out support," Harrigan said. "We need to make sure that every kid in America has a series of interactions with their counselors to help build a relationship with them," he said. "Those with initiative are the ones who show up at my door. Unfortunately, not many students are proactive."
Tuesday. He is expected to miss the entire postseason.

Already without injured ace Pedro Martinez, New York scambled Tuesday night to find a healthy, rested starter and picked Maine, an afterthought in the offseason trade that sent Kris Benson to Baltimore for reliever Jorge Julio.

The 25-year-old Maine went 6-5 with a 3.66 ERA for the NL East champions, who tied the crostown Yankees for the best record in baseball at 97-65.

Yet he probably would have been left out of the playoff rotation altogether if Martinez hadn’t gone down. “My nerves I think were worse in the second inning than they were in the first,” Maine said. “It wasn’t too bad.”

Lifted with a 2-1 lead in the 6th, Maine got a break on a bizarre play when the Dodgers had two runners cut down at home plate in the second.

With two on and none out, righthanded Russell Martin hit an opposite-field drive off the base of the right-field wall. But Jeff Kent hustled to second base, apparently thinking the ball might be caught, and got an extremely late jump.

Oakland one win away from ALCS after 5-2 win

Mark Kotsay hit a two-run, inside-the-park home run for the As, who lead the ALDS 2-0.

Dave Campbell

Playing it safe? Not Torii Hunter’s style. That’s why he has five Gold Gloves.

Trying to make a tough catch right after his Minnesota teammates tied the game with back-to-back home runs, Hunter missed — and Oakland took advantage.

Mark Kotsay circled the bases for a two-run, inside-the-park homer after Hunter’s ill-advised dive for a sinking line drive, lifting the Athletics over the Twins 5-2 on Wednesday for a 2-0 lead in their first-round playoff series.

“The was the worst feeling in the world. You can’t do anything about it,” said Hunter, who blamed himself for the defeat.

The Twins shifted west Friday, with Twins right-hander Brad Radke taking his broken shoulder socket to the mound, and reliever Doug Jones filling in for the season appearance of his 12-year career. Dan Haren, in his first postseason start, will pitch for Oakland.

Predictions

continued from page 16

Mark Kotsay went 6-5, 0.61 ERA (in postseason) to shut it down in the ninth.

How the Yankees do will depend on how much they can get out of Randy Johnson, if he pitches at all. The A’s are hungry, but the Yankees are too, having not won a World Series in six years (must be nice).

It will come down to who will make more clutch hits and any team with Derek Jeter on it will have the edge in that department. Nonetheless, it will be an entertaining series. Expect some bizarre plays and standard lateinning heroics. Don’t be surprised if Jose Canesco tries to make a start or two in left field. When it’s all said and done the Yankees squeak by in a seven-game thriller that everyone will remember.

Yankees win, 4-3.

NLCS: New York Mets (97-65) vs. St. Louis Cardinals (83-78)

The Cards struggled down the stretch and looked more like a team that didn’t want to get beat in the World Series again. The Mets have cruised as of late, but are still the most talented team in the National League on paper.

The Mets have used a perfect mix of veterans and youth all year. The Cards are primarily a veteran team, with a couple of guys (namely Jim Edmonds, who is getting old, and Jeff Weaver, who pitches like he’s old) in the twilight of their careers.

Pitching is pretty even — both staffs are solid, although the Mets are going to miss Pedro Martinez. Both lineups have a lot of pop; I would give the Mets the edge because of their speed and ability to put pressure on the Cards. However, don’t be surprised if Albert Pujols has a monster series and puts St. Louis on his over­ timed back for a couple of games.

Expect Cards manager Tony La Russa to be a couple of Mets for celebrating home runs if things don’t go his way. The Yanks will be fun to watch, so will La Russa, but it will not be enough to get the Cards past a talented young Mets team.

The Cards have good players that like to pitch, while the Mets have players that like to hit. This series could be the whole Piazza/Clemens shenanigans.

The Yanks will play the team that they last won the Fall Classic against, I just hope the Mets give Darryl Strawberry and Doc Gooden tickets, they deserve them, and it might keep them out of trouble.

Pitching will matter in this one, but only in later innings (see: Rivera). I’m really hoping these turn in to 12-10 absolute slugfests, which would be great because I have no reason to pay attention to this series. Such is the case when you are a Giants fan.

Defense won’t really matter because of the amount of extra-base hits in the series.

The ERA’s will be bloated on both sides, and it will be the highest scoring World Series in history.

The usual Jeterrocks will be in full effect, and expect a good series from Mets third baseman David Wright.

It will be a good World Series, but I’ll take the Bombers. The reason is a win-win for me. I pick the winner, say “I told you so,” and the Yankees don’t win another World Series for six years.

Or, they lose and I can say I picked them to provide the proverbial “media prognostication jinx” (not sure if that exists, but it sounds good). I’ll take the Yankees in six games, 4-2, with A-Rod winning MVP honors.

Because when you make $25 million a year, you deserve a little extra something.
Football
continued from page 16
UC Davis. The Mustangs' attendance record (9,497) came against the Aggies in 2004. The game itself is shaping up to be a classic battle of offense versus defense. UC Davis quarterback Jon Grant is sixth in Division I-AA in passing yards per game (261) and the Aggies lead the Great West Football Conference in fewest points per game (20.5).

Meanwhile, C'al Poly has the top-ranked scoring defense among 117 Division I-A teams, allowing just 8.2 points per game. Cal Poly senior middle linebacker Kyle Shotwell has rung up two sacks in each of the last two games, including a pair against Division I-A Stanford in a 17-7 loss Sept. 23.

"That's extraordinary for a guy his age, because he's just a shadow of what he will be," Elveron said of Ryan Shotwell.

Johnny
continued from page 16
homes and are all spread around the southern United States. McElrathbey lived with coaches in high school; this kept him out of trouble and forced him to focus on football and school. McElrathbey has given his brother hope and opportunity, but by no means without sacrifice.

While most of his teammates are dating and going out on the weekends after games, McElrathbey says dinner and a movie with his brother is about as crazy as it gets. McElrathbey has given up the chance to have the college life that most star athletes enjoy. In 2004, he was named to the NFLPA Player of the Year candidates list. He has given his brother a chance in life that wouldn't have been possible if this 20-year-old didn't act more like 50.

"My pastor told me it's the Lord wanting me to do me down. I'll take it, that's all," he said.

The NCAA worked very closely with the Atlantic Coast Conference and Clemson and finally granted McElrathbey a special waiver for this very unique situation. The waiver grants McElrathbey the ability to receive special medical benefits unlike all other student athletes.

Before this ruling, the NCAA was penalizing McElrathbey, a young man who epitomized everything they want their collegiate athletes to represent. They finally made the right decision and should be praised for helping out McElrathbey, who is doing the same thing for young people as McElrathbey is representing his school and football team. McElrathbey is now worth his weight in gold.

The offense has even named a play after Palma and all McElrathbey's teammates have embraced him as their team's little brother. If you check the box score in Clemson's dominant 31-0 victory against Louisiana Tech last weekend, you'll see that McElrathbey only had one tackle. He may not be an elite player on the field just yet, but in the field, he has had a life-size position and is an All-American in book.
Poly football team's wait to face UC Davis almost over

Cal Poly has been eyeing a rematch with UC Davis since losing 20-13 last year.

Tristan Aird

SPORTS

Thursday, October 5, 2006

Mets take first game from Dodgers, 6-5

Derek Lowe gave up four earned runs in 5 1-3 innings for Los Angeles.

Mike Fitzpatrick

COMMENTARY

End result: Yanks will edge Mets in Subway Series

Devan McClaine

Oakland general manager Billy Beane and his council of underpaid Jed finally get the best of the Emperor's, eh, Steinbrenner's Yanks?

You know the A's want this match up, especially after the heartbreak of being eliminated by the Yankees in 2000 and 2001. The Yanks come in with the highest payroll in baseball at more than $198 million while the A's continue to thrive with a paltry $63 million.

The two are a study in contrast — the Yanks speed like Larry Flax, the A's like Larry the Cable Guy. New York has a cast of mature veterans; the A's have that special something. That's at least the story of this year, but the Yankees still have a slight edge in the best-of-seven series. 

Ah, October is here. If you are a sports fan, Christmas has come early. The NFL season is in its infancy and the Major League Baseball Playoffs have just begun the long march to the World Series.

For your reading pleasure, the Mustang Daily has decided to give you a play-by-play preview of the upcoming American and National league championship series and the World Series — with a twist.

Tristan Aird

SPORTS