Democrats win control of both houses of Congress for first time since 1994

Liz Sidoti  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Democrats completed an improbable double-barreled election sweep of Congress on Wednesday, taking control of the Senate with a victory in Virginia that pushed their day-old majority in the House.

"The days of the do-nothing Congress are over," declared Democratic Sen. Harry Reid of Nevada, in line to become majority leader, adding that Americans spoke "clearly and decisively in favor of Democrats leading this country in a new direction."

Jim Webb's victory over Sen. George Allen in Virginia assured Democrats of 51 seats when the Senate convenes in January. That marked a gain of six in modern elections in which the war in Iraq and President Bush were major issues.

Earlier, State Sen. Juy Tester triumphed over Republican Sen. Conrad Burns in a long, late count in Montana. With a handful of House races too close to call, Democrats had gained 28 seats, enough to regain the majority after 12 years of Republican control and place Rep. Nancy Pelosi of California in line to become the first female speaker in history.

"It was a thumping," Bush conceded at the White House. "It's clear the Democrat Party had a good night."

Allen's campaign issued a statement noting state officials are conducting a canvass of the votes cast in Tuesday's balloting.

"At the conclusion of those efforts, Senator George Allen plans to make a statement regarding the outcome," it said.

The Senate had teetered at 50 Democrats, 49 Republicans for most of Wednesday, with Virginia hanging in the balance. Webb's victory restored Republican hopes of eking out a 50-50 split, with Vice President Dick Cheney wielding tie-breaking authority.

The Associated Press contacted election officials in all 134 localities in Virginia where voting occurred, obtaining updated numbers Wednesday. About half the localities said they had completed their postelection canvassing and nearly all had counted outstanding absentee ballots. Most expected to be finished by Friday.

The new AP count showed Webb with 172,539 votes and Allen with 165,362, a difference of 7,176. Virginia has had two statewide vote recounts in modern history, but both resulted in vote changes of no more than a few hundred votes.

It had been clear for weeks that Democrats would pick up seats, but it took until after midnight to finalise the outcome, it said.

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Thursdays meeting will outline funding and a time frame for completion of the plans and also allow time for public input. "It's an opportunity for residents to come and see what we're doing. They're going to have an opportunity to express concerns," Hook said. He added that the plan has no set cost or timetable for completion.

In Virginia, Webb, a former Navy pilot who is now a state senator, announced that he would run for governor. "I think it's going to make a huge difference in the Senate, because we can establish an affordable housing plan for the city's poor, and we can increase support for the arts and culture," Webb said.

With power on Capitol Hill shifting, Bush has expressed a desire to issue a scathing rebuke of the status quo. The president, who spoke of spending Ins political capital after his presidency, announced that funding will be allocated to affordable housing and affordable housing programs.

In the Senate, Democrats soundly defeated Republicans in Ohio, Missouri, Rhode Island, and Pennsylvania. The battle for Senate control, with the public embracing the Democrats' call for change to end a decade of one-party rule in Washington.

"This new Democratic majority has heard the voices of the American people," said Pelosi. The California Democrat all but certain to become the nation's first female House speaker, adding that Americans placed their trust in Democrats. "We will honor that trust. We will not disappoint."

With the GOP, booted from power, lame-duck Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-IL, announced he will not run for leader of House Republicans. Rushing Democrats took control in January.

"Obviously I wish my party had won," Hastert said in a statement that added he intends to return to the interim team in motion and calling himself interim leader.

In Virginia, Webb, a former Navy secretary under Ronald Reagan, had declared victory, and began to set a transition team in motion and calling himself interim leader.

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UC details extra compensation paid to university employees

Terence Chea
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN FRANCISCO — The University of California said Wednesday that compensation paid to employees beyond salary and overtime rose to $916 million over the past academic year, up from $843 million a year earlier.

The 10-campus UC system released its preliminary analysis on "above base pay" employee compensation and posted payroll data online after the San Francisco Chronicle requested the information, officials said.

The system has been under fire from state legislators and other critics, following reports that some top executives got millions in bonuses, housing allowances and other perks at a time when student fees were raised sharply to offset state budget cuts.

UC officials said they need to compete with other universities for top talent, but conceded there had been some "misunderstanding" about it.

Almost 90 percent of the money went to academic employees, particularly to health science faculty for treating patients and conducting research, the report said. Nearly $93 million went to union-represented employees.

Just over $7 million in extra compensation went to senior managers — such as presidents, chancellors, deans — for bonuses, lodging, severance pay, extra research and teaching, unused vacation, housing and automobile allowances, according to UC's analysis.

But some critics were skeptical of the report.

Kevin Rooney, chief union negotiator for the University Professional and Technical Employees, questioned the report's accuracy and completeness. He complained that many explanations of executives' extra compensation were too vague.

"I think they need to be more forthcoming with the total compensation and what forms of compensation the managers are receiving," Rooney said. "People in the university system need to be held accountable for their actions and their spending."

Sacramento State digital media major wins anti-Arnold ad contest

Alicia Loya-Ponce
THE STATE BUREAU (CAL STATE-SACRAMENTO)

SACRAMENTO — California State University at Sacramento senior Miguel Francis won a year's tuition by competing in a campaign against Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger.

The 20-year-old arts major said he originally heard about the contest, entitled "Flunk Arnold," through a friend and decided he would give it a shot because he said it was a good opportunity to parlay in a new challenge and it would look good on his resume.

"Without the tuition I would probably still do it anyway," Francis said.

Francis' video depicted Schwarzenegger standing between an average college student who has nothing and a greedy business owner wanting more than his fair share. Schwarzenegger then takes the student's shirt off to give it to the business owner.

Francis said the overall message is that students ultimately end up paying the price for Schwarzenegger's needs to compensate for the need of business owners to keep them in California, Francis said.

The California Faculty Association launched the "Flunk Arnold" contest in order to get CSU students involved in the political process because of the rising costs of student tuition fees and the lack of young voters, said John Travis, CFA's president.

"It was a novelty way to unleash the creative juices students have," Travis said.

The association is a union that represents 22,000 teachers, librarians, coaches and counselors of the CSU system. It wanted to change the way that political campaigns are conducted and tap into the creativity of the CSU students, according to a press release on the union's Web site.

Through the contest, which happens to be the first campaign of its kind, students were to create a 30-second anti-Arnold video or Web site, and the winning videos would be aired as an ad during "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart."

The whole idea behind the campaign was an important venue that was directed toward what students do, and it was an effort to connect students in a way that they are most comfortable and allow them to take part in the political process, said Cecil Canton, Sacramento State chapter president of the union.

Canton said the contest gave students a chance to express how they feel about what's going on in the world.

"We were trying to use something that was never used before, and I hope that we'll do it again because a lot of students were interested," Canton said.

Travis added that the contest was more effective when it came to grasping the students' attention: Just two days before the winners were determined, the Flunk Arnold Web site received more than one million hits.

The union plans to follow the results of the Nov. 7 election in order to determine whether the contest affected the outcome.

However, the CSU system did not know about the Flunk Arnold contest, said Paul Browning, CSU Media Relations Specialist.

Browning said he thinks it is a positive way to get students active in the political process but that the CSU does not stand behind the idea of an organization forcing students to endorse one particular candidate.

"We wouldn't support getting students to the polls to vote for one candidate, because we want students to use their own judgments and to make their own decisions regardless of the candidate they choose," Browning said.

ACADEMY OF ART UNIVERSITY

Friday, November 10, 2006

Assistant news editor: Rachelle Santucci

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Michael R. Blood  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — California likes to go its own way. In a year of Democratic gains nationwide, voters returned a Republican governor to office. They endorsed billions in new debt to build roads and schools, then spared tobacco and oil companies from new taxes to fund health care and clean energy.

California may have a Democratic heart, but Tuesday's election was a reminder that its voters have a fickle streak that defines easy labels and predictable outcomes.

Consider: Nearly 1 million voters pulled the lever for Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger over Democrat Phil Angelides, then shifted back to the Democratic ticket for lieutenant governor, secretary of state, treasurer and controller, according to a Democratic analysis. There was no sweeping coastal effect for Schwarzenegger — Democrats lost all statewide offices save two, governor and insurance commissioner.

At the same time, Schwarzenegger's return to middle-ground politics this year helped him notch victories in some of the state's most fertile Democratic regions, including Humboldt, Sonoma, Monterey, Contra Costa and Santa Clara counties.

Overall, though, this year's election attracted lackluster turnout, estimated at 43.8 percent. But voters who picked through Tuesday's dense ballot proved choosy.

"Clearly voters were very selective," said Democratic strategist Gale Kaufman, who thinks you can make one kind of argument that if a Democrat comes out, this is what is going to happen.

To political scientist Raphael Sonenshein, California "is not always a bellwether." Available Democrat

"The minute (Schwarzenegger) moved to the center, he became viable, in fact he dominated," said Sonenshein, who teaches at California State University, Fullerton. "The notion of red and blue states is probably overrated."

With 97 percent of precincts reporting, unofficial returns showed the governor with 55 percent of the vote, to 39.2 percent for Angelides, a 16.6 percent margin. If the tally holds, he would be the first Republican to win a race for president since Gov. Pete Wilson defeated Democrat Kathleen Brown by 14 percentage points in 1994.

With eye on future, the actor-governor cast himself as a politician who could rise above the scrums of Washington-style politics. "We address the issues but we don't attack each other. We fight over our causes but in the end we find common ground. This is the California way," he told supporters on Tuesday night. "I embrace it."

Angelides talked during the campaign about education, health care and the influence of special interests on government, echoing themes Democrats used to great effect nationwide. But he proved to be a poor messenger in California.

In defeat Wednesday, he argued that Schwarzenegger hijacked Democratic issues and said he was demonized in the campaign about education, health care and a measure to boost tobacco taxes other statewide offices, suggesting that the party's significant registration advantage helped but was trumped by stronger candidates for governor and insurance commissioner. "We passed "Jessica's Law" to protect paroled sex offenders from living near children. They passed "Jessica's Law" to protect paroled sex offenders from living near children. They passed "Jessica's Law" to protect paroled sex offenders from living near children. They passed "Jessica's Law" to protect paroled sex offenders from living near children. They passed "Jessica's Law" to protect paroled sex offenders from living near children. They passed "Jessica's Law" to protect paroled sex offenders from living near children. They passed "Jessica's Law" to protect paroled sex offenders from living near children.
WASHINGTON (AP) — Supreme Court justices Wednesday sharply questioned attorneys on both sides of the legal battle over what opponents call partial-birth abortions at the high court weighed whether to uphold Congress's ban on the procedure. In an intense morning of arguments, lawyers for the Bush administration and supporters of abortion rights gave starkly contrasting views: A law passed by Congress labels it a gruesome and inhumane practice. Supporters argue that such abortions in the second trimester of pregnancy sometimes are the safest for women.

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Bill Cosby settled a lawsuit Wednesday with a woman who said the entertainer drugged and sexually assaulted her at his home outside Philadelphia.

Terms of the settlement will remain confidential, according to a one-paragraph statement released jointly by both sides.

Cosby’s publicist, David Brokaw, said there would be no further comment. A telephone number for the plaintiff could not be determined Wednesday and she could not be reached for comment. Her lawyer, Delores M. Troiani, declined further comment.

The woman claimed that Cosby, 69, assaulted her at his mansion in Cheltenham in early 2004 after giving her pills. Attorneys for Cosby say the comedian gave the woman Benadryl after she complained of stress and sleeping problems.

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush pledged Wednesday to work with Democrats after the “thumping” that Republicans took on Election Day. He named a new defense secretary to oversee the war in Iraq, a change the president said was going to happen regardless of which party won the election. Bush said former CIA Director Robert Gates, if confirmed by the Senate, would replace Donald H. Rumsfeld at the Pentagon.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Michelle Kwan, the American figure skater and three-time world champion, is about to become a nonsalaried U.S. diplomat.

On Thursday, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice plans to name the 26-year-old Californian and daughter of Chinese immigrants from Hong Kong as a public diplomacy ambassador, said a senior U.S. official.

Kwan, the biggest star in her sport for a decade, will represent American values especially to young people and sports enthusiasts and is expected to travel widely, the official said.

NEW YORK (AP) — Wall Street rose for a third straight session Wednesday, with the Dow Jones industrials reaching another record close as investors grew more confident that a huge victory by Democrats in congressional elections would result in gridlock and keep lawmakers out of the way of business interests.

The market had largely expected Democrats to gain control of the House of Representatives, but an undecided Senate race in Virginia had during early trading unsettled investors who dislike such uncertainty. Stocks showed gains after the resignation of Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld.

According to preliminary calculations, the Dow rose 19.77, or 0.16 percent, to 12,176.84. The blue chips closed above the record level of 12,167.02 set on Oct. 26 and came within a few points of a record trading high of 12,196.32 reached Tuesday.

Resignation continued from page 1

Bush reached back to his father's administration to tap a former CIA director to run the Pentagon.

The Iraq war was the central issue of Rumsfeld’s nearly six-year tenure, and unhappiness with the war was a major element of voter dissatisfaction Tuesday — and the main impetus for his departure.

Even some GOP lawmakers in Congress became critical of the war’s management, and growing numbers of politicians were urging Bush to replace Rumsfeld.

Bush said Robert M. Gates, 63, who has served in a variety of national security jobs under six previous presidents, would be nominated to replace Rumsfeld.

Gates, currently the president of Texas A&M University, is a Bush family friend and a member of an independent group studying the way ahead in Iraq.

"Secretary Rumsfeld and I agreed that sometimes it’s necessary to have a fresh perspective," Bush said in the abrupt announcement during a postelection news conference.

In a later appearance at the White House with Rumsfeld and Gates at his side, Bush praised both men, thanked Rumsfeld for his service and predicted that Gates would bring fresh ideas.

"The secretary of defense must be a man of vision who can see threats still over the horizon and prepare our nation to meet them," Bush said.

In brief remarks, Rumsfeld described the Iraq conflict as a "little understood, unfamiliar war" that is "complex for people to comprehend."

Asked whether Rumsfeld’s departure would be a change in policy, Gates said it would be a change in people.

"Secretary Rumsfeld and I agreed that sometimes it’s necessary to have a fresh perspective," Bush said. "Well, there’s certainly going to be new leadership at the Pentagon."

Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman said Rumsfeld was not leaving immediately. Rumsfeld planned to deliver a speech on the global war on terrorism at Kansas State University on Thursday.

Just last week Bush told reporters that he expected Rumsfeld, 74, to remain until the end of the administration’s term. And although Bush said Wednesday that his decision to replace Rumsfeld was not based on policy, the announcement of a Pentagon shake-up came on the heels of Tuesday’s voting, in which Democrats captured control of the House and could win control of the Senate if the remaining undecided race in Virginia goes their way.

With his often-combative defense of the war in Iraq, Rumsfeld had been the administration’s face of the conflict. He became more of a target — and more politically vulnerable — as the war grew increasingly unpopular at home amid rising violence and with no end in sight.

Gates ran the CIA under the first President Bush during the first Gulf war. He retired from government in 1993.

He joined the CIA in 1966 and is the only agency employee to rise from an entry level job to become director. A native of Kansas, he made a name for himself as an analyst specializing in the former Soviet Union and he served in the intelligence community for more than a quarter century, under six presidents.

Numerous Democrats in Congress had been calling for Rumsfeld’s resignation for many months, asserting that his management of the war and of the military had been a resounding failure. Critics also accused Rumsfeld of not fully considering the advice of his generals and of refusing to consider alternative courses of action.

Sen. Carl Levin of Michigan and Rep. Ike Skelton of Missouri — the top Democrats on the Armed Services committees — said the resignation would only be a positive step if accompanied by a change in policy.

"I think it is critical that this administration make the transition from just a different face on the old policy," Skelton said.

Rumsfeld, 74, has served in the job longer than anyone except Robert McNamara, who became secretary of defense during the Kennedy administration and remained until 1968. Rumsfeld is the only person to have served in the job twice; his previous tour was during the Ford administration.

Rumsfeld had twice previously offered his resignation to Bush — once during the Abu Ghraib prisoner abuse scandal in spring 2004 and again shortly after that. Both times the president refused to let him leave.

Gates took over the CIA as acting director in 1987, when William Casey died of a heart attack with cancer.

Questions were raised about Gates’ knowledge of the Iran-Contra scandal, as he withdrew from consideration to take over the CIA permanently. Yet he stayed on as acting director.

Then-National Security Advisor Brent Scowcroft, who had been a critic of the younger Bush’s policies, asked Gates to be his deputy in 1989 during the administration of Bush’s father, President Bush, a former CIA director himself, asked him to run the CIA two years later.

The scandal had faded and Gates won confirmation.

Gates is a close friend of the Bush family and particularly of the first President Bush. He became the president of Texas A&M University in August 2002. The university is home to the presidential library of Bush’s father.

###

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International briefs

BEIT HANOUN, Gaza Strip (AP) — Hamas' armed wing on Wednesday carried out a cease-fire with Israel and militants threatened to attack Americans if 18 members of a family, including eight children, were killed in a heavy artillery barrage on the densely populated Gaza neighborhood. It was the highest number of Palestinian civilians killed in a single strike since fighting erupted six years ago, and undermined Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas' attempts to form a more moderate government and renew a peace process with Israel.

DARGAL, Pakistan (AP) — In the deadliest suicide attack on the Pakistani military, a man with explosives strapped to his body ran up to soldiers doing calisthenics Wednesday and blew himself up, killing at least 42 troops and wounding 20.

No one claimed responsibility for the attack, but suspicion fell on pro-Taliban militants who had vowed revenge for an airstrike that killed at least 80 people on a Muslim school the government said was being used to train militants.

The violence marked an escalation in the conflict between Pakistani security forces and Islamic militants along the rugged border, and sparked fears that the war in Afghanistan may be spilling into Pakistan, a key U.S. ally in the war on terror.

... MADRID, Spain (AP) — The seismic shift thatоворific elections brought to Washington's political landscape was welcomed by many Wednesday who oppose the war in Iraq and the hard-earned Bush administration has employed in fighting terrorism.

From Paris to Pakistan, politicians, analysts and ordinary citizens said they hoped the Democratic takeover of the House of Representatives would force President Bush to adopt a more conciliatory approach to global crises, and teach a president many see as a "cowboy" a lesson in humility.

But some also expressed fears that a split in power and a lame-duck president might stall global trade talks and weaken much-needed American influence.

On Iraq, some feared that Democrats will force a too-rapid retreat, leaving that country and the region in chaos. Others said they doubted the turnover in congressional power would have a dramatic impact on Iraq policy any time soon, largely because the Democrats have yet to define the specifics of the course they want to take.

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Dozens of mortar rounds slammed into a soccer field in Baghdad's Shiite neighborhood of Sadr City, killing at least eight people and wounding 20, police said.

The mortars struck as young men from the sprawling slum were playing a soccer game, police Capt. Mohammed Ismail said. Players and bystanders were among the eight people killed and 20 wounded, Ismail said.

Dozens of people have been killed in recent days in mortar attacks by rival Sunni and Shiite groups on residential areas in Baghdad.

Daniel Ortega tries to calm investors, rivals after winning back presidency

Traci Car Joturnallist

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) — Sandinista leader Daniel Ortega tried to calm critics shaken by his recent call for U.S. power holding back in a meeting Wednesday with Nicaragua's president and business leaders worried about Ortega's "dramatic impact on investment and the influence of U.S. allies.

Congratulations poured in from around the world after Ortega won Sunday's election.

Cuban leader Fidel Castro welcomed the former Marxist into a growing family of Latin American leftists who see themselves as a counterweight to U.S. dominance in the region.

Ortega's rivals said they would pressure him to maintain close U.S. ties, and State Department spokesman Gonzalo Gallegos said cooperation with Ortega and his Sandinista colleagues will be "based on their action in support of Nicaragua's democratic future."

The nag-of-war was likely to set the stage for a conflictive five years in office.

Ortega was scheduled to address his supporters during a massive victory rally late Wednesday in Managua, a speech that would set the tone for his banderole.

During his meeting with President Enrique Bolanos, Ortega said, "We aren't thinking of dramatic or radical changes in economic policies.

But, he added, "We need to make sure that each, each Nicaraguan family can live with dignity and honor."

Ortega showed no sign of turning to the fiery rhetoric of his past.

On the campaign trail, he promoted reconciliation, free trade and ties with Washington.

The ex-rebel says he is a changed man who has learned from his past mistakes, and he promises to help the poor by creating jobs and building on a recently approved Central American Free Trade Agreement with the U.S.

Ortega's 1985-90 presidency saw Nicaragua descend into economic chaos under radical economic policies, including property seizures, and pressure from the U.S.-financed Contra insurrection.

"One of the business leaders scheduled to meet with Ortega," Cuban Foreign Minister Abel Rodriguez told a local television station Wednesday, "was worried about possible U.S. sanctions against Ortega's presidency."

"My fears aren't really about Ortega," said Baby, who holds American and Nicaraguan citizenship. "He's among a group of wealthy men who want to protect their investments."

Ortega's victory was celebrated by the hemisphere's most famous leftists.

Cuban President Fidel Castro, a key backer of Ortega's radical government in the 1980s, said the victory "fills our people with joy, at the same time filling the terrorist and genocidal government of the United States with apprehension."

Venezuelan leader Hugo Chavez said he and Ortega would be "uniting as never before" to construct a social future.

Second-place finisher Eduardo Montealegre told a local television show on Wednesday that he would "use every connection I have to make the relationship with the U.S. work."

"We can't afford to give Ortega an excuse to let us only support him," Montealegre said.

During his meeting with Bolanos, Ortega appeared to have maintained most of his 38 seats in Congress, but the right was split.

Montealegre's new Nicaraguan Liberal Alliance, which broke away from the Constitutional Liberal Party of former President Arnoldo Aleman, robbed the ruling party of its 41-seat plurality. Montealegre appears to have about two dozen seats and it was unclear if they would unite against Ortega.

As an opposition leader, Ortega forged several alliances of convenience with Aleman, who was convicted of corruption charges in a case known as the "Glenas" scandal.

Those agreements stripped the presidency of key powers, so Ortega would need his backers in Congress' support when he takes office Jan. 10.

During his meeting with Bolanos, Ortega appeared uncomfortable as he explained he didn't plan to rely on Bolanos' power. As a seasoning over his words, struggling to state his position, Bolanos laughed and said "It's in your hands now."

Japan halts beef imports after suspicious shipment

Kozo Mizoguchi

TOKYO — Japan said Wednesday it has halted beef imports from the U.S. after a shipment containing 11 tons of frozen beef and beef tongues was found to contain traces of bovine spongiform encephalopathy, a disease that scientists believe may be the source of "mad cow disease" in humans.

"It is an important channel so he must let Ollie fill in Chavez's shoes,"

President-elect Daniel Ortega of the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN), left, and Nicaragua's President Enrique Bolanos, shake hands at the Head of State Palace in Managua, Nicaragua on Wednesday, Nov. 8, 2006, after losing the presidency to Daniel Ortega.

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Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi, centre, followed by Liberal Democratic PartyPresident-elect Daniel Ortega of the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN), right, and Nicaragua's President Enrique Bolanos, shake hands at the Head of State Palace in Managua, Nicaragua on Wednesday, Nov. 8, 2006, after losing the presidency to Daniel Ortega.
SPOTLIGHT

Anime retailer expands with Paso store opening

Ryan Chartrand
COURTESY PHOTO

Fans of Japanese animation in Paso Robles will be overjoyed when Anime Express moves in Saturday, bringing along with them well-known voice actors and a manga artist for their grand opening.

Anime Express sells movies like "Cowboy Bebop," imported video games and manga.

Anime Express, also located on Madonna Rd. in San Luis Obispo, is the only retailer on the Central Coast dedicated entirely to Japanese animation (or anime), comic books (or manga), and imported video games.

One might not expect Paso Robles to be a gathering place for fans of Japanese animation, or anime, but Jason Newton, owner of Anime Express, said the demand is there.

"We actually have a pretty big fan base that drive from Paso to San Luis Obispo, so we thought we’d help them out by putting a store up there," Newton said.

Newton and his wife Brandie, two former Cal Poly students, opened the store in 2001 with the hopes of bringing anime, imported video games and other related products to the Central Coast when they realized such a store never existed.

"The Central Coast is unlike a metropolitan area, it's very divided and it's pretty much big, big gaps of space between the major populated areas like Paso and Santa Maria," Newton said. "Our goal is to put these stores in locations where everyone can reach them and Paso is one of the largest growing towns on the Central Coast."

Anime Express will have its grand opening in Paso Robles this Saturday and will feature Lex Lang from the anime "Rurouni Kenshin" and comedy shows like "Prime Time Glick." His wife Sandy Fox from Cartoon Network's "Hi Hi Puffy Ami Ami" and other shows like "The Simpsons" and "King of the Hill," and finally, local manga artist Irene Flores, whose comics Newton said have had great success at Anime Express.

The grand opening will also feature a drawing for the new Nintendo Wii system, which is set for release on Nov. 19. The drawing is Anime Express' way of thanking its past and future customers, according to Newton.

Since their first year, Anime Express has been gaining popularity as well as a great deal of success.

"Our first year we were very conservative on how much we would make...but we blew all that out of the water," Newton said. "We've done well, and every year there's been an increase."

The increase comes at a time when anime's popularity in America continues to grow.

"The public is starting to realize Japanese animation is not just for children. So we have adults, the elderly, the young, and everyone involved in these items," Newton said.

As for the future, the Newtons will continue to expand wherever they can.

"I think the Central Coast is like any other place; wide open and ready for new experiences," Newton said.

Run to RUN during UU Hour

Kathrene Tiffin

RUN will bring its rock sounds to the University Union today from 11 a.m. to noon.


After the release, many commercial, alternative and rock stations nation-wide played the record, the Web site said.

- From there, RUN went to the fans of rock music, got a van and trailer, and drove across the country.

"And that's where RUN is now," the Web site said. "In your town, playing at your club, making you remember the books, hum the melodies and RAWK out. On their way to the dream. Living it. Running."
Ryan Chartrand  
**MUSTANG DAILY**

MD: I noticed you guys now have TotalFark, which requires a $5-a-month subscription fee for full access. We've been asking other humor sites if they were moving toward subscription fees and most said they wouldn't. When exactly was the point when you guys decided it was time to slap the subscription fee up there?

DC: The main idea was just to see if we could generate revenue by offering something else people would want to pay $5 a month for. It turned out in our particular case we didn't come up with a really good idea. It was actually kind of shocking to me that people still sign up for it. They do it because there's a community in there and what really broke it wide-open was the small community, which stayed pretty small, but we allowed them to sign other people up for it. Now they're starting to go out and have a bunch of super good friends to hang out with on the Internet and it seems really strange and sort-of backwards that people would be willing to pay you money for that. It was mainly to generate revenue and it's carried us through with downtimes in advertising revenue because that (TotalFark revenue) always comes in every single month.

MD: So advertising doesn't always come through?

DC: Advertising is not doing very well right now as it turns out. We made a decision in February to only go after mainstream advertisers and the main idea being, you know, you can get all the el-chapo ads you want all day long with T-shirts and mugs and god knows what else, but the real money is with mainstream advertisers and they don't tend to advertise on inline sites with T-shirts and Viagra.

So the problem is that this is a transition period where we ran into two problems. The first problem is the transition period, which is basically that previously we forced advertisers to pay up front, and mainstream advertisers don't do that. In fact, they're really slow. They won't pay for 120 days, and that's if you're lucky. So, making that transition killed all of our advertising revenue and we're just now starting to see it trickle back six months later. The second challenge, this is kind of bizarre, I don't think a lot of people that are running independent Web sites have run into this because they haven't progressed as far down the advertising side of things as we have. For example, we have Maxim selling ads for us. They're an interesting case study, because they have 25 employees and they've been selling advertising to mainstream advertisers for the past 10 years. It's interesting they sold ads on a site they've never heard about...that tends to cause some problems. So it's really kind of interesting and it has some interesting ramifications for bloggers making serious money down the road. In order to do that they'll have to hook in with another major media company that sells their ads for them, otherwise it's not going to fly.

MD: So when it comes to humor sites these days, it seems like the most integral part of the site is always the strong community that arises on the forums and comments. What did it take on your part to build the Fark community?

DC: The only thing we really did was let people make comments. The first year-and-a-half we didn't have comments and I really did it because I wanted to learn some database programming. I figured it would be an interesting challenge and so the community sort of self-generated after that and it's really kind of bizarre. What's interesting about Fark's community is, last time I checked we had 310,000 registered users, but the actual membership is about 20 times that. It's interesting because everyone knows Fark for the community and comments and what-not, but the vast majority of the people don't know and don't care, which is really kind of fascinating to me. There's an interesting parallel to that in the blogging world where a lot of bloggers are under the impression that people know the top 10 blogs and it's not true, but if you stopped stopping people in the streets, two-thirds of the people you talk to don't know any of them.

MD: Have you had any favorite submissions over the years?

DC: Yeah, one of my favorite ones was really early on because it was one of the most bizarre stories I'd ever heard in my life and it actually came up again a couple years ago because of a follow-up. It happened seven years ago when a guy who was 19, he's 26 now, was at this local pub that was having an "I'll do anything to win a bar tab" contest. Whatever you wanted to do, the craziest, most outrageous thing, you'd win 500 pounds or bar tab, which for the average Brit lasted about a month, especially if you're 19 years old. Anyway, he decides he really, really wants to win. So what he does is he shows up and his mom is standing there while he's doing this, by the way. He whips his junk out, nails it to the table with a staple gun, douses it with gasoline and sets it on fire...with his mom sitting there. So, needless to say he won. The follow-up later on asked him how he felt about that now and he said, "Yeah, it was probably a stupid idea." When they asked him why he'd do it, he said, "I really, really wanted that bar tab." There's plenty of them.

There was an interesting article about some information they discovered on an all-Qeda computer they captured from the Russian mafia. Apparently they had given them $50 million on two separate accounts and the Russian mafia sent them like Volkswagen parts. They were debating whether or not they should try a third time and maybe the third time they'd send them a nuclear weapon.

**Spotlight editor: Katherine Tiffin**  
**Assistant Spotlight editor: Jennia Wilson**  
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**Thursday, November 9, 2006**

**Mustang Daily**

**TIME CAPSULE**

**November 9**

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**Fark: the future of infotainment**

because you have to actually warm up an advertiser, because advertising with a site you've never heard of...they don't really give a shit what kind of demographics you have; it's all about whether they're going to get find when they go tell their boss where they paid advertising.

They'll buy full-page ads in The New York Times all day long because that's acceptable, but if they have to go to their boss and explain how they

20 times that. It's interesting because everyone knows Fark for the community and comments and what-not, but the vast majority of the people don't know and don't care, which is really kind of fascinating to me. There's an interesting parallel to that in the blogging world where a lot of bloggers are under the impression that people know the top 10 blogs and it's not true, but if you stopped stopping people in the streets, two-thirds of the people you talk to don't know any of them.

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It became so surreal for me, being caught in the hallway, because as the living room was escalating into a violent mess, the kitchen was still jovial with the sounds of laughter and the simultaneous ‘crack’ of beer cans popping open for a cheering context.

The highlight for me was when the DJ walked out of the kitchen balcony and into the foyer. From across the hall I saw him take one look at the mess that broke out in front of his turntables and raise his hands as if to say, “**this** this. I’m out of here.”

My friends eventually took control of the situation in the living room, but the fight wasn’t over yet. The crowd sang the brook out into the street. As I looked out over the porch balcony, I witnessed one guy get slammed into the ground with such sickening force that the turntable upsides could have skipped a beat.

If that wasn’t horrible enough, I walked back into the kitchen to find a heavily intoxicated and confused young man, with a look of blissful relief on his face, using the vegetable fryer in the refrigerator as a urinal.

But the pinnacle of this good time had come in the form of a couple of guys who had used the kitchen balcony as their toilet of choice, which just so happened to hover over my friend’s brand new Lexus IS300.

It was a clear night after all, so to see a car completely drenched was an old sight — that and the humanly impossible amount of fart that was splattered all over the trunk of the car. To say I would have been enough to make even Jackson Pollock proud.

The cops came to clear out the place, passing out citations all around, and what was once a chill place to walk out with a shred of responsibility was now more than a musty, beer-soaked disaster scene. The apartment became a high priority on the local police’s “cruip” list after, in effect killing any chance for future parties.

If you’re lucky enough to have or know of a place that allows you to throw away any last remnants of decor with out stressing over shady characters, the police, or eviction notices, keep it in legible and as tame as drinkable possible.

Make sure that the people coming over know who they are, and always have someone at the front door to give new people the once-over because the last thing you want to have happen is for ‘Streets of Rage’ to unfold on your living room floor or for the Garbage Pail Kids to use your entire house as a giant urinal.

MUSTANG DAILY
SPOTLIGHT

The house party from hell

Tyler Wise

I like to think that the fundamental reason we go to parties to share a drink and a hearty laugh with our good friends while sharing the floor with new faces that are as intriguing as they are exciting — a panacea of sorts to a rough week at the office. This is why all parties have such a cheery atmosphere and instead turn out to be the biggest nightmare of the weekend.

Here’s a tale of one particular party that was supposed to turn out oh-so-benevolent, but instead ended up in alia in a hurry.

The names have been excised, but the actions were drunk and stupid.

Last fall I had a group of friends that liked to throw some pretty wild parties. I don’t know how they got away with it, considering they lived on the second floor of an apartment complex facing a busy street, but landlords were so used to it that they seemed to keep their noses out of it.

Maybe it was because the parties they threw felt like a sardine can with enough music and commotion to rival a dance hall were actually quite tame in hindsight. No one got into fights, the woman’s butt wasn’t grabbed, nobody threw up in the closet, etc. No matter how many people showed up to these parties, everyone behaved as well inebriation would allow for.

Then there was that night.

My friends decided that the usual crowd of friends, who being too mundane so they needed to spice up things up with some weirdos. Word went out on the second floor of an apartment that were actually quite tame in hindsight, that my friends were going to throw a party. Word went out upstairs could have skipped a beat.

I happened to be in-between the kitchen and the living room (a sort of neutral zone) looking back and forth to the kitchen to watch some dude bong chugging a beer funnel, and back to the dance floor where I witnessed the spark that ignited one of a flame.

Apparently, one of the gangster-pimpz was getting freaky with a girl that wasn’t having it, and after her protest became more vocal and violent, a roughneck stepped in to break the brook out with a shred of a flame.

...The living room was packed so tight that when one couple would bump and grind it would cause the people surrounding them to sway and vibrate like a human Jell-O mold.

Between to share some words with the jersey-chad groper. Obviously this “gangsta” wasn’t taking too kindly to what the roughneck had to say, and before you could sing the chorus of Andre Nickatina’s “Crack Raider Razer,” the hip-hopper threw a right jab into the roughneck’s face.

The next thing I knew, a fight broke out that I could only describe as the live-action interpretation of a rareaneous cancerous growth — it literally escalated from the center of the room into a complete living room brawl.

MD: Thank goodness.

MD: Finally, we recently spoke with SomethingAwful and we were wondering if you could clear up if there is or isn’t a rivalry between the two sites.

DC: That’s actually completely fabricated. It was an idea Lortwax (Richard Kynka) had one day. He plays it up still. In general, as far as I’m concerned, there’s no rivalry and I think there’s a bunch of people that are probably confus­ed about it on the SomethingAwful side. But, yeah, he was just playing it up for the hell of it. We help them out how ever we can, like Zack (Parsons) just had a book come out and on the Fark homepage we gave them a hand with it, you know that kind of stuff.

MD: Thank goodness.

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Thursday, November 9, 2006
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Paris the city of lights, trees, love, fashion and, as of Aug. 25, the residence of a very confused Cal Poly junior. It’s been a challenging transition. During my first week here, I had to find my own housing, get the paperwork in order for my carte de séjour, buy a cell phone, figure out what university I’d like to go to, apply to it, take pictures and send them to the appropriate government institutions, purchase a Metro pass, figure out how to get from one point on the Metro to the other, all while taking orientation grammar classes. And all of this in French.

The fun did not stop there. Registration for classes at Nanterre Université, Paris 10 started the first week of October. There is no listing way to describe registering for classes that would accurately give you in image of the hell students go through at the beginning of every French semester. In two words: it sucked. My days were full of lines, lines and more lines. Registering for classes was like Labor Day at Disneyland, but without the fireworks and the fun. I spent over six hours standing in the wrong lines.

I asked an important-looking person “Where should I go?” in my broken French, which apparently no one understood, because I’d stand in the line they suggested for an hour and a half only to learn that the line I was in was incorrect. I kept bouncing back and forth between unnecessary lines until I felt like a highly abused air hockey puck. But, after five days of confusion and a succession of minor heart attacks, I finally cemented my schedule. That was probably one of the proudest moments of my life.

Before I committed to this year abroad, I’d never realized how crowded we are in the States. The difference between French and American course registration processes alone speaks volumes about the degrees Americans go abroad. I’d never realized how abused I had been using profusely), “Da,” was not actually German at all ... e’est la vie.

There are so many memories that I’ll take home with me in June. But the small ones are my favorites: lying on the grass in the park on weekend afternoons, the wind blowing my nose when I step off the Metro, the view from Sacré Coeur at sunset. These quiet moments remind me why I’m here. Studying abroad has definitely stretched me to my limits, but I can feel myself growing. I’ve stepped outside of my box. Vive la France!

The Mustang Daily is looking for Traveler Checks columnists!

Email Emily at mustangdaily@gmail.com with your name, major and where you’ll be studying. We want you to check it out!
STAFF COMMENTARY

Y ou log into the Web site with your expectations high. You believe that someone you have never met would like to add you as a "friend," or even better maybe someone left you a comment about a new slaney picture of yourself that you recently posted on your wall of fame? These are the prices you are paying.

Let's admit it folks, social networking sites like MySpace and Facebook are a waste of time, especially for students. Yes, you could be typing up that paper due tomorrow instead of playing on the site. But you are hell-bent on collecting more friends. Being the loser with a friend count of only 30 is just out of the question.

These social networking Web sites, MySpace.com in particular, are also a haven for sexual predators and criminals. Last November a group of Texas high school students used MySpace to plan a " Columbine-like" attack on their school. Lucky for us, the school saw the malicious plot online and notified the authorities before the deadly plan could unfold. It isn't a coincidence that high schools and universities are banning the sites altogether.

In August, MySpace reportedly went over the 100 million user mark. Its popularity has also made it a target for groups like the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children who claim that social networking sites like MySpace are a "haven for sex offenders and child predators." Anyone who has visited a social networking site knows firsthand how easy it is to review personal information of a user they do not even know. Everything from a person's age, relationship status, sexual orientation, and religious views are readily available. On the contrary, just because someone exposes this information does not mean that it is true. Yes, you could be adding a "cool" new friend who made up her "space" because she is looking for friends just as badly as you. As for the middle-aged man with the back hair who asked to add you, go ahead and do everyone a favor and click on the "do not accept" icon.

I deleted my MySpace account last year. Now I'm not claiming to be some revolutionary, who is defying pop culture and becoming the 21st centuries version of Sucklithra, but it was a personal decision. I was simply spending too much time on the site, while other more important matters (i.e. homework) were not getting done. After about two days of freeing myself from its reins, I realized that it is absolutely not necessary for my survival. To my surprise there is an entire world out there, and it was a world that did not require starting at a monitor.

These sites are also notorious for "hook-ups," yet ironically do not come with a profile option to list what sexually transmitted diseases one might be carrying. Word to the wise pictures can be cropped and edited to make an unattractive person look presentable. Whatever happened to meeting someone in person?

At one point facebook.com was supposed to be the alternative to MySpace by allowing students to connect with peers in the same class. But recently the Web site has been opened up to anyone and now basically mirrors MySpace. One would think that facebook would be used for academic purposes. But more often than not people are just busy putting up pictures and posting worthless comments as they are on MySpace. Granted, I can't quite myself to delete my facebook account because I've convinced it very well might help me in my academic life. Although it has yet to do so. I've already been sucker in to posting some pictures from a recent pump-kin carving party.

This gets back to the point that social networking is the new hobby of the information superhighway. A hobby that is as worthless as that box of Barbies or the binder of baseball cards. The only problem is, I'm not sure if this fad is going to go away anytime soon.

Do yourself, and your GPA, a favor and click on the "s" in the upper right corner of the computer screen. This is your processing software and start that paper. It's late and everyone else is probably asleep. Those who are logged in probably need to start worrying. This is what I'm sure you are doing.

Rommie Meehan is a journalism major and Mustang Daily humor columnist. Check him online at www.mikeheimowitz.com if you're too lazy to stalk him on facebook.

Is your facebook addiction properly fed?

Moving on, guys, I haven't heard of one girl not getting creeped out by trying to get picked up-and parked randomly on face. That means, I don't care how much you have in common with a girl, facebook isn't for matchmaking. I can probably safely assume that if I found a girl like myself whose favorite TV show is "Welcome Back Kotter" and list MC Hammer under favorite music, I would probably be more scared than excited that there was a girl out there exactly like me. That's not so say that "Welcome Back Kotter" and MC Hammer should be overlooked as the greatest show and music in history, but those are whole other "Guides to Life" entirely.

So, once again, this brings me to the end of another exalting "Guide to Life." Hope you've learned something valuable. If you really need to go look at your facebook to see the correct way to use it, I'm just trying to make the world a better place. What is the most important thing to me besides-18 to 24-year-olds, one facebook profile at a time.

Mike Heinowitz is a journalism major and Mustang Daily humor columnist. Catch him online at www.mikeheimowitz.com, if you're too lazy to stalk him on facebook.

WANT MORE?? Check in with these online columnists at www.mustangdaily.net

MONDAY The Green Spot sustainability by Jesse Churchill
TUESDAY The Bunjon humor by Daniel Gingras
WEDNESDAY Book Reviews
THURSDAY The Word on the Screen movie reviews by Ryan Chartrand
FRIDAY How to Survive by Daniella Orthuela-Gruber

HUMOR COLUMN

I t is a rash every single time. It can make you feel the highest you've ever felt and then give you a complex and total collapse. No, I'm not talking about my articles, or heroin, but the facebook phenomenon. Making a profile and looking at other people's you know you are addicted, but it's OK, because you are not alone. Problem is, though, even though you might be spending hours upon hours on the site, you could possibly be doing it all wrong. This is why someone's "Guide to Life" is here for. I'm going to help you successfully procrastinate or whatever else you use facebook for.

First, let's talk pictures. Girls, if you haven't put your Halloween costume pictures up, please immediately do so after you finish reading this whole article. If you didn't know this about me, I have a huge love for us, comparing the ways different cameras take pictures at nightime. So for guess that, for matter, put your birthday photo up on facebook so that I know which brands are best. Our really posted. And would it not be priceless. And would it not be

"Columbine-like" attack on their
so that you are looking
"I swear I've never done heroin. OK Mom, Dad, sister?
that someone added "Three's
your birthday on facebook, but m ake sure you use
to remember birthdays. There used
do not include information of a user they do not
the people you are friends with on
learning anything yet? Hope so.
for friends just as badly as you. As
her "space" because she is looking
didn't already know. I'll give a few
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Now, let me up this facebook, running one of the obligations that friends should have for each other- to turn out for your best friend's birthday. It can be a day when people wrote down every other person's birthday, or hey, why not your own? But, though, everyone has a three-day warning of when their friends' birthdays are, which is enough time to get a "friend request." With that said, if you don't have your birthday listed in your profile, you may as well go and say this though... While it is called a "News Feed" this "friend request" literally tells the "news all you care about. If the only news that is important to you has to do with what group your friend joined or that someone added "Three's Company" to their list of TV shows, you probably should get out more. Instead, maybe you should get your news from, I don't know, the only news Web site worth going to, mustangdaily.net!

I swear I've never done heroin. OK Mom, Dad, sister? I have a Canon camera. Please give my brand a home.
Still a great cover-up right?
Yeah I admit it, like any other guy, seeing the costumes. There, I said it.
Or you can just pay 10 bucks for an autographed picture of myself. Great gift. What a deal!
Oh and Dan, dude, on the topic...can you put some clothes on? I'm tired of seeing you sitting there in your Spongebob boxers every time I come home from class.
Any other thoughts? It might happen.
Shameless plug to keep my stupid articles in the Daily.
"Mike's Guide to John Travolta's" and "Mike's Guide to Bringing Back parachute ants?"
It eased the ban in July after U.S. and Japanese officials hammered out a deal that included strict restrictions and stringent checks at U.S. meat processing plants. Currently, Tokyo limits the trade to meat from cows aged 20 months or younger that are handled by a select list of U.S. meat exporters. But many Japanese remain worried about mad cow disease, a degenerative nerve disease found in older cattle that has been linked to the rare but fatal human variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, and feel uneasy about U.S. safeguards.

The internal organs in the suspect shipment were not deemed at-risk meat parts for mad cow disease, but they triggered alarm because they were shipped without the proper customs documentation, Yamaguchi said.

Japan, though it is not on Swift's Japanese health officials who were safety, the company said.

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Reese Witherspoon makes it official; files for divorce from Ryan Phillippe

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Nearly two weeks after Reese Witherspoon announced her separation from Ryan Phillippe, the actress has filed for divorce.

LOS ANGELES — A day after Britney Spears filed divorce papers, Kevin Federline counter-filed court papers Wednesday seeking sole custody of the couple's two children.

The former backup dancer and aspiring rapper is also seeking spousal support. He says the couple's community assets are "uncertain," though Spears said in her divorce papers there were none to speak of. Suggesting the two had a prenuptial agreement in place.

"Kevin is prepared to go the dis­
tance in order to do what he feels is necessary to protect and safeguard the children and will not be intimi­
dated or dissuaded from pursuit of those goals," said Michael Sands, spokesman for Federline's attorney, Mark Vincent Kaplan.

Citing "irreconcilable differ­
ces," Spears filed for divorce Tuesday.

Spears, 24, and Federline, 28, have a 1-year-old son, Sean Preston, and an infant son, Jaden James, who was born Sept. 12. Spears is seeking cus­
tody of both children.

Spores wed Federline in the fall of 2004. They had a ceremony in September, but court papers state the couple were officially married Oct. 6.

It was nonstop drama after that.

Magazines couldn't get enough of the pair, document­
ting their every tender gesture and tear-ev­y fight.

The couple, who constated in the 1999 release "Cruel Intentions," married that year. Their separa­
tion was announced Oct. 30 by a publicist who declined to elabo­
rate on the reason for the split.

March. Witherspoon won an Academy Award for her role as June Carter Cash in 2005. "Walk the Line," Phillippe starred in the best­
picture Oscar winner, "Crash," and is starring in Clint Eastwood's lat­
est film, the World War II drama "Flags of Our Fathers."
Disputed Picasso with controversial Nazi-era history withdrawn from Christie's auction

Uli Loth

NEW YORK — A descendant of former owners of a Picasso painting with a controversial Nazi-era history had sought to delay the auction of a disputed painting, saying that the work was not properly listed as coming from a family whose assets were seized by the Nazis.

A widely circulated theory posted on the Web last week claimed that the painting was a fake or a product of Nazi-era forgery. The work was due to be auctioned Wednesday at Christie's in New York City.

The auction house confirmed that the painting would go on sale as scheduled, but did not provide details about the claim.

The painting, "Portrait de Angel Fernandez de Soto," is expected to fetch between $12 million and $18 million. Christie's has been criticized in the past for auctioning works of art with questionable provenance.

Google's decision to sue YouTube for copyright infringement was seen as a test case that could set a precedent for other companies seeking to protect their intellectual property online.

The suit, filed in federal court in San Francisco in January, seeks $1.65 billion in damages from YouTube, Google and its sibling company, Google Inc.

Google's decision to sue YouTube was prompted by a series of disputes with media companies who claim that YouTube is violating their copyright by allowing the posting of clips from their content.

YouTube has been on the defensive since it launched in February 2005, with a series of deals to buy and license content from major media companies like Warner Music Group and Disney.

Some of the disputes have led to legal action, but Google has continued to grow, with a recent report estimating that it had 707 employees as of the end of the third quarter.

Much of YouTube's success has been driven by easy access to copyrighted video clips posted on the site by the Web site's millions of users.

Google removes videos when copyright owners complain, but printed clips continue to pop up.

The recurring problem has raised fears that some copyright owners are delaying legal claims against YouTube until Google completes the acquisition.

Copyright settlements. Google Chief Executive Officer Eric Schmidt assured that Google's commitment to address the concerns of copyright holders.

"YouTube had been on this path and together we will get there more quickly," Schmidt said.

Just before the Google sale was announced, YouTube negotiated licensing agreements with three of the world's largest record companies — Vivendi's Universal Music Group, Sony BMG Music Entertainment and Warner Music Group Corp.

Because it indexes so much material from others, Google has become accustomed to fielding complaints about copyright infringement. The company has been forced to make digital copies of library books to its search engine's ability to display snippets of news stories and photos appearing on other Web sites.

Those suits haven't become a big problem for Google yet, and investors so far appear confident that the company's lawyers will minimize the damage from any claims brought on by the YouTube purchase.
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**Volleyball**

Continued from page 16

Cal Poly's first and only conference title (the PCWA was the forerunner to the Big West) was 23-17 in 2000. Last season the Mustangs went 20-9 and a sweep will put Cal Poly's highest win total since finishing the 1992 campaign (22-11). Additionally, if the Mustangs can produce 13 conference victories, it will match the total set by the 2002 Mustangs (13-5) and be just the third 13-plus league victory total in program history. Cal Poly's current .917 conference winning percentage is the top mark in program history.

Following their first and only Big West loss, a 3-2 decision to UC Irvine on Oct. 28, the Mustangs got back to their winning ways in dominating fashion, downing Cal State Fullerton on Nos. 3, 30-28, 27-30, 30-16, 32-32, and 30-32, and UC Riverside on Nos. 4, 30-18, 30-10, 30-13. Against the Titans, Cal Poly scored the first five points of the match on route to a 20-11 lead.

The Titans, however, reeled Cal Poly back to a 29-28 defeat before a Bremner Trudke serving error handed Cal Poly a 1-0 games lead. The Titans recovered to lead game No. 2 wire-to-wire before Cal Poly took back in game No. 3, batting 486 and opening a double-digit lead at 22-12 en route to reclaiming the match.

Cal Poly survived 12 ties and seven lead changes in the fourth game to take a 26-25 lead on one of Kylie Atherstone's team-high 19 kills. The Titans knotted the game twice down the stretch before back-to-back Cal State Fullerton attack errors gave Cal Poly the win. The following night, Atherstone collected a match-high 17 kills and hit .552 and Cassie Moline and Addieh Bermont added 16 kills apiece as Cal Poly won for the 12th time in its last 13 outings.
Johnny

(continued from page 16)
to the Phoenix Suns to end the 2005-
year-old infant son

his 6-1/2-month-old son

suffocated while sleeping a couple of

weeks after the season ended. A week

later, Odom was robbed at gaspumps in

Queens, N.Y. He had been sched-

uled to play for the U.S. team this

summer, but withdrew after his son's

death.

They were hoping he would be

Bryant's Scottie Pippen. And it might

not have been until this summer that

Odom realized the opportunity that he

has with this For Odom, For Odom

in the battle and head hard rains
down, even on the court. He admitted

that during this recent preseason game

against Sacramento he was overworn

with emotion.

"It was weird, in the middle of the

time, I found myself way too emo-
tional," Odom told reporters. "I had

to catch myself. I can't carry this

with you like this. I'm a mentally

strong dude. I've been suspended
twice, my mother died, my grandmother

died as soon as I got to the Heat-

but there was one time I where

I thought I might mentally break down

and really love it.

The Lakers are the fourth-youngest

team in the league with a plethora of

young talent. They have the single

most talented player in the league, the

NBA. He has the talent

to become an elite player When the

Lakers traded for him, they were

thinking long-term. Odom turned 27

Tuesday and still has eight to 10 solid

seasons left. The Lakers could have

this nucleus together for years to

come.

They have a coach who has nine

rings and an assistant in Kareem

Abdul-Jabbar whose sole job is to

mentor Andrei Bynum, their 19-year-

old center with a world of talent.

But the current season may balance

on what Odom brings to the table.

At 6-foot-10-inches, Odom is eas-

ily one of the most physically gifted

athletes in the NBA. He has the talent

to become an elite player. When the

Lakers traded for him, they were

thinking long-term. Odom turned 27

Tuesday and still has eight to 10 solid

seasons left. The Lakers could have

this nucleus together for years to

come.

After starting the season with

Bryant on the bench because of an

injury, Odom knew he would have to
elevate his play. The 4-1 Lakers have
gotten 24 points and eight rebounds
per game out of the man who should be
thinking long-term, not basketball.

Many say in life you have to always

look forward and not worry about the

past. Try telling that to Odom, and

what he has experienced in his short
career. If Odom is able to balance his

emotion and play with his limitless
talent, everyone in the league had bet-
ter watch out, not just for the Lakers,

but for him.
Poly junior Reid runs toward signature cross country season

Phillip Reid led Cal Poly to its fourth straight Big West Conference title.

Kelly Cope (Cal Poly Cross Country)

Phillip Reid's leg has earned him many, many miles under his belt.

A top member of the men's cross country team and a kinesiology junior, cross country running has been a passion since his very early childhood, when at age 5 or 6 he took up youth track.

While other kids his age were out playing on the Little League baseball diamond, he was out running.

This passion would continue through junior high school, when he "went through the ranks," as Reid put it, and got involved with the "legit" seventh-grade youth cross country team, and it brought him to the fateful Humboldt State running camp in high school, where he met his future Cal Poly men's cross country head coach, Mark Conover.

Conover was the keynote speaker at the camp, and the two hit it off.

Kelly Cope (Cal Poly Cross Country)

From the start, CTmover began discussing Reid's future college plans with him, and the two decided that Cal Poly would be the best choice for him in the ensuing fall, Reid said that "it seemed like a great place."

Conover and Reid met in July 2001, and by February 2002, Reid had finalized his plans to come to Cal Poly.

Conover saw incredible potential for Reid on the men's cross country team at Cal Poly. He had won numerous state championships in different events in years prior, and was "highly touted," Conover said. So far this year, Reid has proven to be one of Conover's best investments.

In his three years at Cal Poly, he has posted consistently strong results, but this year has been especially successful.

In September, Reid was the top Cal Poly finisher at the Bill Dellinger Invitational in Oregon, placing 14th with a time of 23 minutes, 46.03 seconds on the 8K course, leading the team to its third-place finish.

On Oct. 29, at the Big West Conference Championships hosted by Cal Poly at the Fairbanks Course, Reid finished at the head of the pack with a time of 25:45 on the 8K course. His win helped the Mustangs win their fourth straight Big West title and seventh overall.

Over the years, Reid has suffered many serious injuries, but has always found a way to fight through it and get back out on the track.

Most recently, in the spring of 2005, he suffered a stress fracture in his right femur, but by next season, he was out on the track and on the road to recovery. Reid said that the recovery process was difficult, but that "when you're out for that long, you want what you can't have," and that mindset drove him to get back into his previous shape.

Conover enjoys the guidance that Reid exhibits with his teammates, and that says his recoveries from so many injuries are a testament to his commitment.

Conover also said that Reid gets along very well with his teammates, and described him as "a warrior. He is able to instill that attitude in everybody on the team."

"He can't wait for Saturdays," Conover added of the day Reid's races are held.

Many athletes like to follow a set routine or participate in a particular pre-race meal to help prepare for a meet, but Reid always found a way to fight through it and get back out on the track.

Cal Poly junior Phillip Reid won the Big West Conference title Oct. 28 with an 8K time of 25 minutes, 45 seconds at the Fairbanks Course.

Kelly Cope (Cal Poly Cross Country)

SHELIA SCOBIE (Mustang Daily)

Johnny in the Box

When you see Jack Nicholson's name, one thing— he's a great actor. A man who had just as much of an impact on Hollywood as any individual ever to come through that rehabilitation-traffic-jammed place they call Los Angeles. But when I think of Nicholson, I think of that big grin sitting front court watching the Lakers. Using one hard to five Kobe Bryant and the other side of some drunk cocktail waitress who dreams of being an actress just brought him. Maybe one of the most devoted celebrity fans of all time.

While watching Shaquille O'Neal help the Miami Heat to a championship may have been devasating for Jack and all Lakers fans around the country, I'm here to tell you why it's all good.

When Lakers owner Jerry Buss had to decide which one of the greatest Dysfunctionals taut in the history of sports to keep, it wasn't even a question. Keep the young, extremely talented womanizer, or the old, likable, bad boy legend. The Big Diesel had to go — you couldn't trade Bryant to another team and watch him become the next Michael Jordan right in front of your eyes.

Now the dilemma is, how do you get equal value for a man bigger than the basket? You don't, you just make sure you trade him out of your conference and try to get their best player in return. OK, they may not have obtained Miami's best player, but Lamar Odom might turn out to be everything the Lakers wanted and more.

Odom is a player who has had some trouble early in his career with drugs. He was suspended in his third year with the Clippers for testing positive for marijuana use, and for an eight-month span. Many tend to forget that Odom entered the league after just one year out of Rhode Island, as a raw 19-year-old. Many might say that not much has changed in the seven years he's been in the league. He might not have scored as many points as Odom, but a summer that no person would wish upon any other.

While Lakers lost a heartbreaking Western Conference semifinal series

see Johnny, page 15

Johnny need road win at NDSU to keep playoff hopes alive

The 17th-ranked Mustangs (19-5, 11-1) host Cal State Northridge on Friday and Pacific on Saturday.

SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT

The formula for the No. 17 Cal Poly volleyball team is simple — win in two remaining Big West Conference matches against Cal State Northridge (Friday) and Pacific (Saturday) and the Mustangs will capture the program's first conference title.

Even if Cal Poly (19-5, 11-1) splits against the Matadors (15-8, 6-4) and the Mustangs will still earn the conference's automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament by virtue of sweeping the season series from the 49ers. Both matches at Mott Gym begin at 7 p.m.

The 1984 Cal Poly squad posted a 7-1 mark within Pacific Coast Athletic Association play to earn the see Volleyball, page 14 Mustang Daily will not publish a GameDay special section Friday and Saturday because the eyes.

see Football, page 14

Sports Editor's Note

There will be no GameDay special section Friday and Saturday because the Mustang Daily will not publish in observance of Veterans Day.

Poly volleyball team can clinch Big West title this weekend

Cal Poly junior Phillip Reid won the Big West Conference title Oct. 28 with an 8K time of 25 minutes, 45 seconds at the Fairbanks Course.

Kelly Cope (Cal Poly Cross Country)

No. 9 Cal Poly has lost two of its last three games entering a crucial contest Saturday at No. 5 North Dakota State.

SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT

The ninth-ranked Cal Poly football team (6-3, 2-1 Great West Football Conference), which let 6-0 and 9-7 leads slip away in a 10-9 loss at No. 2 Montana last week, in its second one-point loss in three weeks, plays the last of three consecutive road games Saturday with a Great West matchup against No. 5 North Dakota State (6-1, 2-0). Kickoff for Cal Poly's final road game of the regular season is set for 11 a.m. PST at the Fargodome (18,700 capacity) in Fargo, N.D.

Cal Poly, which has posted three straight winning seasons, back-to-back shutouts against Fort Lewis and Weber State, the first time the Mustangs posted consecutive shutouts since 1968 when Cal Poly, in Joe Harper's first year at the helm, blanked San Francisco State and Cal Western. Cal Poly then beat Sacramento State 17-10 before suffering its first loss of the season Sept. 23 at 1-A San Jose State, 17-7.

After opening Great West play the Mustangs will look to get back on track with a win at No. 5 North Dakota State Saturday.