Drug ring busted that funneled pot through SLO

SAN LUIS OBISPO, Calif. — Federal and local officials said San Luis Obispo was a key distribution center for Mexican marijuana shipped nationwide. Densely packed Mexican marijuana was moved to various locations in Southern California and then to San Luis Obispo before it was packaged for shipment east, authorities said.

Federal and local law enforcement officials on Wednesday displayed some of the evidence seized during the 15-month probe. Investigators said San Luis Obispo was likely popular because it’s small, remote and centrally located.

There were four arrests.

In San Luis Obispo, the marijuana was repackaged into computer and television boxes for shipping nationwide. The pot repackaging took place in remote homes around the city because of the strong odor, officials said.

The San Luis Obispo County Narcotics Task Force investigation began after an Ohio-bound shipment of 631 pounds of marijuana was seized in 2005 during a routine Sheriff’s Department inspection at a commercial warehouse.

“The locale is kind of central to the state. It’s more of a quiet city. In Los Angeles, they are really looking for this type of stuff,” task force Cmdr. Jim Rodriguez said.

The investigation included surveillance in the Southern California cities of Pomona, Rancho Cucamonga, Fontana and Chino, as well as Santa Maria and Cincinnati.

— The Associated Press

Flexible Fastener: students, faculty design device for all facets of life

Josh Krame
MUSTAN3 DAILY

Cal Poly is looking to license out a flexible bolt that has uses in construction, medicine and many other facets of life.

The Flexible Fastener, designed and built by a team of Cal Poly students and faculty, can fit into nonaligned or mismatched holes and can be fastened to parts with nonparallel surfaces, such as roof trusses (which support roofs). They can also aid in robotics assembly and have the capability to add pliancy to artificial knees and other joints.

Cal Poly patented the Flexible Fastener in 2005.

The special bolts move side-to-side, like a spring, while remaining stiff top-to-bottom, which allows it to be tightened.

They have uses in everyday tasks, such as securing loads to the end of a truck or attaching nonuniform pieces together.

“If you buy something, like a spare part, and the holes don’t match, or if you’re a bad carpenter and your holes don’t align, then this will work,” said Saeed Niku, professor and graduate advisor for mechanical engineering, who oversaw the project. “You can use your imagination. Every time you need a device that needs bending and then tightening, then this would be appropriate.”

The flexible bolts will be especially useful in retrofitting buildings with older architecture and unreinforced masonry, said architectural engineering professor Abe Lynn. Structural elements in these buildings are often hard to access, he said, making it difficult to drill holes that are exact in alignment and angle.

“Contractors were looking for these bolts a long time ago. It’s like velcro; it’s not going to replace every bolt, but there are certain situations where it will help make it easier,” Lynn said.

Birthed from a “flash of imagination” 

see Fastener, page 2

Riding to the top

Hayley Bramble
MUSTANG DAILY

The Cal Poly Society of Automotive Engineers is moving full speed ahead into a busy quarter, working hard to prepare its cars for upcoming competitions.

SAE is divided into three teams: Formula, Baja and Supermiles. The teams all work on separate cars and compete in separate competitions, but come together as a club to share a design center and funds.

“That’s the thing with our club: There’s something for everyone,” mechanical engineering sophomore Chris Dirkes said of the club’s diverse interests.

Dirkes is the club’s publicity officer and the Formula team manager. The team is going to the National Hot Rod Association Museum in Pomona with the Cal Poly Pomona SAE club this weekend for a panel discussion with hot rod and motorcycle builder Jimmy Shine.

see SAE, page 2

More women are single now than in recent years

Garesia Randle
MUSTAN3 DAILY

BATON ROUGE, La. — Vernell Fields has always led an exciting life. Fields, 53, embarked on a college career at East Texas State University, now Texas A&M University Commerce, to pursue a career in criminal justice in the late ’70s — a time when women were just beginning to prove their professional worth in the workforce.

Fields said she never got the chance to make her law enforcement career a reality, but her professional life as a clinic manager for East Baton Rouge Tuberculosis Unit and a customer service associate at DollarTree has fulfilled her life over the years.

The Texas native packed her bags long ago to leave home and has lived everywhere from Maryland to Florida. She has visited Nigeria and has plans to vacation in China this summer.

But Fields has made this journey alone.
Single
continued from page 1

Fields is among the 51 percent of American women who reported living without a spouse in 2005. According to a New York Times analysis of Census Bureau data, the combination of widows, single, separated and divorced women has reached a peak, rising from the 35 percent in 1950 and 49 percent in 2000. Although living in her life, entering a life of holy matrimony is far down on her list of things to do.

Not Lonely ... Just Single

Fields said she once had a desire to get married in her 30s when she could have children, but she never found anyone she deemed worth spending the rest of her life with.

"When I wanted to get married, men were coming back from the Vietnam War, and the quality and availability of men was not appealing," Fields said. "When (more) came back a lot of them had mental problems or went to prison. They just were not themselves."

Fields said her age has forged her chance to have children who could possibly care for her when she gets elderly, but she stands firm in her choice not to have children outside marriage.

"I was not going to have a child and raise it by myself," Fields said. "I did not want to be selfish by fulfilling my needs to have a child and not look at the child's needs."

Fields said she sometimes feels lonely, but being single gives her a sense of freedom that she would not otherwise have.

"I have a stress-free life because I got the chance to do what ever I wanted to do ... whenever I wanted to do it," Fields said. "I have had the chance to travel, and I did not have to worry about consulting with anyone or worrying about a family when I got ready to do something."

Karen Gad Lewis, marriage and family therapist and author of the self-help book "Wed or Without a Man: Single Women Taking Control of Their Lives," said she has seen more of a social acceptance of women staying single during her 36 years as a therapist.

"There is not a financial need that women get married. There is no longer a social need. And there is much more pressure for women to have careers now," Lewis said. "When a woman has a career, she may not get married until 35. But she may have been in a committed relationship for 10 years. Society says it is OK until a woman gets to a child-bearing age. That is when the pressure comes in."

Percentages for widows and divorced women increase as women get older, according to 2005 Census Bureau data. Eighteen percent of women between the ages of 45 and 54 are divorced compared to 5 percent of women between the ages of 20 and 34.

Lewis said the percentages of divorced women and widows are higher for women after their 40s because many women do not remarry.

"There is some indication that older widows and divorced women don't get remarried the way they use to," Lewis said. "One reason many older women don't get married again is because they have been through marriage and don't want to start over with a new man and relationship that may not be good."

The New York Times reported that 53 percent of American men are married and living with their spouses compared to the 49 percent of women who are doing the same.

"Women live longer than men," Lewis said in regards to the women's lower percentage of living with a spouse. "And these numbers for women living without spouses may be even higher because the census does not count the over 80 or over 100-year-old women living without a spouse."

Future Generations

Women between the ages of 20 and 34 rank the highest at 47 percent among other age groups of women who have never married, according to the 2005 Census Bureau. These are the ages that most women are in college or in the primes of their lives and careers.

SAE
continued from page 1

The Formula team will also be featured on a new show called "Hard Shine" with the man himself on TLC. They are filming the show this weekend.

The Baja team is working on a new car for their competition in South Dakota on May 3. They are using the same frame as last year, but have revamped it with new suspension and a redesign on select systems. At the intercollegiate competition in May, the Baja team will be judged not only on how fast they can run buggy runs, but on its design as well. The physical competitions are Maneuverability, Rock Crawl, Acceleration, Hill Climb and an Endurance Race that usually lasts 4 hours, according to the team's Web site.

Industrial engineering senior Holly Dunckel is the new manager of the Baja team. She said that the most important thing in considering a car design is "getting the horsepower to the ground with as little loss as possible."

In addition to the car used for competition, the team also has a car used for driver training. The team practices and tests runs its car in the tractor training field.

Self-driving car may soon be a reality

Sarah Tomoser
THE DAILY U TICA | 3

PROVO, Utah — What was once thought to be only a fantasy — selling a car where to go and then sitting back to enjoy the ride — is now a reality.

A 2005 Dodge Caravan donated to the Brigham Young University, Department of Electrical Engineering Department will be quite different from typical minivans that occupy the streets.

Students and faculty will work to make the vehicle drive itself, without human guidance.

The car will be entered into the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) Grand Challenge, which is in its third year. The vehicle that performs the best on a determined course, with obstacles, will win the competition.

The team of BYU students and faculty consists of about 50 people — including three faculty members, three graduate students and 36 undergraduate students.

"It's fun to have a big project with a lot of people working together; there's a lot of excitement," said Aaron Wilde, an associate professor of electrical and computer engineering.

"This being our first year entering the challenge, we don't know how we'll do," Wilde said. "We hope to do well, but we don't expect to do as well as teams who have been doing it for three years."

The DARPA Grand Challenge has three stages.

The first stage will occur on April 13. Teams must send a five-minute video demonstrating their vehicle driving autonomously.

Teams are then selected for a site visit at the end of June. A representative from DARPA will watch each team's vehicle operate in their hometown.

The vehicles that perform well during the visit will be asked to compete in the National Qualifying Event in October.

The final competition will occur November in the final stage of the challenge at the California Speedway in April.

The students involved believe the DARPA Challenge is a great opportunity to demonstrate their abilities to future employers.

"The idea of putting this project up to the public is something that we've been working on for a few years," said Greco. "It was something that people could actually buy it. But everything you see, someone has invented. It puts this in perspective."

Solution, tips, and computer program at www.sudoku.com

PUZZLE SPONSORSHIP AVAILABLE

CONTACT MUSTANG DAILY ADVERTISING

(805) 756-1143

完成的表格如下

| 6 | 1 | 3 |
| 9 | 8 | 2 |
| 3 | 8 | 3 |
| 4 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 6 | 4 |
| 1 | 5 | 4 |

HARD

Puzzle Sponsorship Available

Contact Mustang Daily Advertising

(805) 756-1143

News editor: Kristen Marschall • mustangdailynews@gmail.com

Friday, January 26, 2007

BY THE NUMBERS

| 51 | The percent of women separated or divorced in 2005. |
| 35 | The number of single, separated or divorced women in 1950. |
| 49 | The number of single, separated or divorced women in 2000. |
| 53 | The percent of men married and living with their spouses. |
California air regulators ban toxic dry-cleaning chemical

Samantha Young
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO — Like most dry cleaners in the country, Thomas De Pippo used the industry's primary chemical to get the spots, drips and stains from his customers' clothes.

"The cost of the cleanup was $200,000. It cost me my entire lifetime savings, my marriage," De Pippo said. "I had to sell all my stocks."

Now De Pippo is an advocate of so-called wet cleaning, one of several new methods that he and thousands of other dry cleaners across the country are turning to as a more environmentally friendly option.

This market for those greener technologies got a boost Thursday when California air regulators enacted the nation's first statewide ban on perchloroethylene by 2023.

"That's the wave of the future — nontoxic, non-smog forming" said Annette Kondo, spokeswoman for the Coalition for Clean Air, a California environmental group. "We think this is going to ripple down to other states across the country."

The regulation by the California Air Resources Board begins to phase out the fluid next year, banning dry cleaners from buying machines that rely on the solvent. The state's 3,400 dry cleaners who now use it must get rid of machines that are 15 years or older by July 2010.

Environmental and health advocates embraced the new rule, although they had urged the air board to accelerate the ban because of the chemical's health effects as a potential carcinogen. The solvent has contaminated one in 10 wells in California.

"Dry cleaners have known this is a problem for quite some time," board member Dorene D'Adamo said. "There is a cost to society, and believe me taxpayers are paying for it."

But cleaners say the ban threatens to drive some of them out of business because alternative methods are unproven and more costly. An estimated 70 percent of the state's dry cleaners use the solvent.

"It could shut down some mom-and-pop operations — the little guys who can't afford it," said Bob Blackburn, president of the California Cleaners Association.

The cost of converting could be significant for dry cleaners, 85 percent of which are small businesses with slim profit margins. Replacing a machine that uses perchloroethylene can cost between $41,500 and $175,000.

Customers are likely to notice the change when they pick up their clothes. The air board estimates that the additional expense of the new equipment will boost a $15 bill between $1.20 to $1.60.

In addition to wet cleaning, three other alternatives are considered the best options to replace the old method, according to the air board.

Environmentalists urged the board to ban the most common alternative, which uses hydrocarbons. Critics said it could lead to increased ozone pollution.

The board's vote follows similar action five years ago by the South Coast Air Quality Management District in Southern California. That agency became the first regulatory body in the country to ban perchloroethylene, forcing more than 2,000 dry cleaners to stop using the chemical by 2020.

Last year, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency banned the chemical for dry cleaners located in residential buildings nationwide by 2020. But those operations are a small fraction of the nation's cleaners, said Jon Mejir, vice president of the International Fabricare Institute, an industry association based in Maryland.

In California, for example, only 50 of the state's 5,210 dry cleaners operate out of residential buildings. Under the new state rule, those cleaners must remove their perchloroethylene machines by July 2010.

"If anyone else doing what California is doing! Absolutely not," said Sandra Giarde, executive director of the California Cleaners Association.

California declared perchloroethylene a toxic chemical in 1991. State health officials told the air board Thursday that it can cause epidermal cancer, lymphoma, cerebral and bladder cancer. The solvent, which has a strong, sweet odor, also can affect the central nervous system.

Some business owners disputed those claims. Blackburn, 68, the association president is a second-generation dry cleaner who said his own health was fine.

"The health issue is a non-issue in my book," he said.

Passports now required for Mexico, Canada

Kate Bigelow
ASSOCIATED PRESS

KENT, Ohio — Students planning to travel to Cancun or the Caribbean Islands over Spring Break will have to invest a little more money than usual into their vacation.

As of Tuesday, all American air travelers are required to carry a passport. Under the new law, only air travelers are required to carry passports across international borders.

"We're hoping it's been well-publicized and particularly for land border travel, because there won't be any issues," said Linda Copley, clerk of Kent, Ohio City Council, and the city of Kent has been providing passports since 2002.

Since that time, more than 2,500 passports have been processed. Normal passport processing time is eight weeks and costs $97 for $157, the process can be completed in six weeks. The city of Kent receives $30 from each application.

In a memo sent to Kent Mayor John Fender and the City Council, Copley called passport sales a "financial success" for the city.

"People are applying for a variety of reasons," she wrote, "from the young man who was just naturalized to the elderly couple going on a cruise for their golden anniversary."

"Looking down the road, when the implementation occurs for sea and particularly for land border travel, there's where we're much more concerned," Webster said. "You're dealing with a much higher volume of travelers."

Pat Smith, media relations manager for Cleveland Hopkins International Airport, said the new law won't affect airport personnel much.

"By the time (travelers) have gotten to us, they already have their passports," Smith said. "Really, nothing is going to change."
BE READY TO INTERVIEW

FREE PIZZA, DRINKS & PRIZES

BE READY TO INTERVIEW

Looking for a Summer Internship?
Do you have questions about a Career in Engineering, Food Science or Manufacturing?

Find out more about North America's premier Food & Beverage Company

Tom Krishna
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DEARBORN, Mich. — Ford Motor Co. lost a staggering $12.7 billion in 2006 — an average of $1,925 for every car and truck it sold.

The company that invented the assembly line and whose name was a byword for the auto industry warned it will bleed red ink for two more years before it has a shot at turning around.

Ford reported on Thursday, the worst in the company's 103-year history and came amid shrinking demand for sport utility vehicles and other gas guzzlers and huge restructuring costs tied in part to the plant closures of 16 plants.


A fourth-quarter loss of $5.8 billion helped drive up the red ink, which for the year amounted to $6.79 per share versus a profit of $11.4 billion, or 77 cents a share, in 2005.

Although huge, the losses were far from the largest annual or annual corporate deficits on record.

Tone Warner Inc. reported a record $1.44 billion, or 77 cents a share, in fiscal 2006.

General Motors Corp. lost $23.4 billion, or $11.37 a share, in 2005.

The company under new CEO Alan Mulally is trying to bring the auto industry closer to profitability.

Ford also wasn't the worst annual total in the auto industry. General Motors Corp. lost $23.4 billion in 1992, due mainly to accounting rule changes on bad car liabilities.

The Dearborn-based company Predicted more losses for this year and found, but Ford said in restructuring plan is on track to see Ford, page 5

Ford posts record net loss of $12.7 billion in 2006

Nedra Pickler
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Every American should have health care coverage within six years, Democratic Sen. Barack Obama said Thursday as he set an ambition goal soon after jumping into the 2008 presidential race.

The time has come for universal health care in America," Obama said at a conference of Families USA, a health care advocacy group.

"I am absolutely determined that by the end of the first term of the next president, we should have universal health care in this country," the Illinois senator said.

Obama was previewing what is shaping up to be a theme of the 2008 Democratic primary. His chief rivals, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton and John Edwards, are both strong proponents of universal health care and have promised to offer their plans.

Obama said while plans are offered in every campaign season with "much fanfare and promise," the policy cupboard is nearly empty.

He said it's wrong that 46 million in this country are uninsured when the country spends more than any one else on health care. He said Americans pay $15 billion in taxes to help care for the uninsured.

"We can't afford another disappointing charade in 2008, 2009 and 2010," Obama said. "It's not only time, it's wrong."

Obama's call was an echo of a speech he made last April when he said Democrats need to take the lead on the core values that make us Democrats, the belief in universal health care, the belief in universal education, and then we should be aggressive in terms of how to achieve those values."

His argument Thursday not only will be considered through the prism of the presidential campaign, but weighed against Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton's ill-fated plan to overhaul the health care insurance system when she was first lady.

Even after leading that calamitous attempt in 1993, Clinton remains in favor of universal health care and has made it a central theme of her presidential bid.

"One of the goals that I will be presenting ... is health insurance for every single child and universal health care for every American," she said at a community health clinic in New York City Wednesday, entering the 2008 Democratic field. "That's a very major part of my campaign. I want to hear people's ideas about how we can achieve that goal."

On Thursday, she criticized Bush's proposal to make health care more affordable through tax breaks, arguing that it would cut Medicare funding for hospitals.

Addressing the U.S. Conference of Mayors, Clinton was self-deprecating in describing her own experience in the health care debate and joked that Bush would need some heavy-duty protection as he wades into the fight.

"I welcome his participation in the health care debate, and I hope he will send him a suit of armor because I know anybody who puts a foot in health care debate is gonna need that. I've got the scars and experience to show for it," said the New York senator.

Another candidate, Ohio Rep. Dennis Kucinich, also backs universal health care.

The 48-year-old congressman has made health care one of his top issues, saying the country should have a "national health plan" that covers every American.

He was a one of five candidates to win the Netrooz poll, a non-pseudo poll of likely voters. But he's the only one who is a Democrat and the other four are Republicans.

Despite his support for universal health care, Kucinich is not a frontrunner in the national polls. He's in double digits in a number of national opinion polls and is in the single digits in others.

His campaign is relying on the Internet to reach out to likely voters and raise money.

Kucinich has also said he will run as an independent in the contest for the Democratic nomination.

His campaign is calling for a "universal health care for every American" that is funded in part by a "people's health care tax" on the wealthy.

Kucinich said he was "inspired" and "refreshed" after Bush's health care speech Thursday and said he's ready to make his own proposal to "end the argument."
Students clash at a Beirut university, 2 reported dead

Brian Murphy / Associated Press

BEIRUT, Lebanon — Government and opposition supporters clashed at a Beirut university campus Thursday, battering each other with sticks, stones and even weapons — chair legs, pipes, garden tools, sticks and chains — converged on the university and clashed with the police.

The army was called in with armored vehicles, firing tear gas and live rounds in the air to try to disperse the crowd.

Hezbollah leader Sheik Hassan Nasrallah later appealed for calm on state television, asking his followers to clear the streets and allow security forces to operate.

"It is a religious duty. All must ... leave the streets and remain calm and restrain themselves and leave the arena for the army and the security forces to shoulder full responsibility to control the situation," Nasrallah said in an audio message broadcast on Hezbollah's Al-Manar TV and other channels.

Al-Manar reported two of the Shiite group's supporters was killed. Security officials could not immediately confirm the deaths but reported 17 people wounded. Other TV stations reported that about 25 people were hurt.

The opposition has staged two months of demonstrations and sit-ins in a bid to topple Saniora's government. The prime minister has refused the opposition's demand for veto-wielding share of the Cabinet.

The trouble at the university — located in the mainly Sunni Muslim country that killed three people and was by three people wounded by gunfire.

"We are afraid about the future of the country," he said. "We are afraid about civil war."

As the battle spilled into the streets, people from outside the university joined in. Young men carrying sticks and wearing hard hats arrived and pelted each other with stones. Some flung pieces of furniture. Soldiers fired volleys of automatic fire into the air, and residents of the area fled.

Saniora was in Paris Thursday at a conference of donor nations that promised more than $7 billion to invest in new programs.

"It is a religious duty. All must ... leave the streets and remain calm and restrain themselves and leave the arena for the army and the security forces to shoulder full responsibility to control the situation," Nasrallah said in an audio message broadcast on Hezbollah's Al-Manar TV and other channels.

Al-Manar reported two of the Shiite group's supporters was killed. Security officials could not immediately confirm the deaths but reported 17 people wounded. Other TV stations reported that about 25 people were hurt.

The opposition has staged two months of demonstrations and sit-ins in a bid to topple Saniora's government. The prime minister has refused the opposition's demand for veto-wielding share of the Cabinet.

The trouble at the university — located in the mainly Sunni Muslim country that killed three people and was by three people wounded by gunfire.

"We are afraid about the future of the country," he said. "We are afraid about civil war."

As the battle spilled into the streets, people from outside the university joined in. Young men carrying sticks and wearing hard hats arrived and pelted each other with stones. Some flung pieces of furniture. Soldiers fired volleys of automatic fire into the air, and residents of the area fled.

Saniora was in Paris Thursday at a conference of donor nations that promised more than $7 billion to invest in new programs.

"It is a religious duty. All must ... leave the streets and remain calm and restrain themselves and leave the arena for the army and the security forces to shoulder full responsibility to control the situation," Nasrallah said in an audio message broadcast on Hezbollah's Al-Manar TV and other channels.

Al-Manar reported two of the Shiite group's supporters was killed. Security officials could not immediately confirm the deaths but reported 17 people wounded. Other TV stations reported that about 25 people were hurt.

The opposition has staged two months of demonstrations and sit-ins in a bid to topple Saniora's government. The prime minister has refused the opposition's demand for veto-wielding share of the Cabinet.

The trouble at the university — located in the mainly Sunni Muslim country that killed three people and was by three people wounded by gunfire.

"We are afraid about the future of the country," he said. "We are afraid about civil war."

As the battle spilled into the streets, people from outside the university joined in. Young men carrying sticks and wearing hard hats arrived and pelted each other with stones. Some flung pieces of furniture. Soldiers fired volleys of automatic fire into the air, and residents of the area fled.

Saniora was in Paris Thursday at a conference of donor nations that promised more than $7 billion to invest in new programs.

"It is a religious duty. All must ... leave the streets and remain calm and restrain themselves and leave the arena for the army and the security forces to shoulder full responsibility to control the situation," Nasrallah said in an audio message broadcast on Hezbollah's Al-Manar TV and other channels.

Al-Manar reported two of the Shiite group's supporters was killed. Security officials could not immediately confirm the deaths but reported 17 people wounded. Other TV stations reported that about 25 people were hurt.

The opposition has staged two months of demonstrations and sit-ins in a bid to topple Saniora's government. The prime minister has refused the opposition's demand for veto-wielding share of the Cabinet.

The trouble at the university — located in the mainly Sunni Muslim country that killed three people and was by three people wounded by gunfire.

"We are afraid about the future of the country," he said. "We are afraid about civil war."

As the battle spilled into the streets, people from outside the university joined in. Young men carrying sticks and wearing hard hats arrived and pelted each other with stones. Some flung pieces of furniture. Soldiers fired volleys of automatic fire into the air, and residents of the area fled.

Saniora was in Paris Thursday at a conference of donor nations that promised more than $7 billion to invest in new programs.

"It is a religious duty. All must ... leave the streets and remain calm and restrain themselves and leave the arena for the army and the security forces to shoulder full responsibility to control the situation," Nasrallah said in an audio message broadcast on Hezbollah's Al-Manar TV and other channels.

Al-Manar reported two of the Shiite group's supporters was killed. Security officials could not immediately confirm the deaths but reported 17 people wounded. Other TV stations reported that about 25 people were hurt.

The opposition has staged two months of demonstrations and sit-ins in a bid to topple Saniora's government. The prime minister has refused the opposition's demand for veto-wielding share of the Cabinet.

The trouble at the university — located in the mainly Sunni Muslim country that killed three people and was by three people wounded by gunfire.

"We are afraid about the future of the country," he said. "We are afraid about civil war."

As the battle spilled into the streets, people from outside the university joined in. Young men carrying sticks and wearing hard hats arrived and pelted each other with stones. Some flung pieces of furniture. Soldiers fired volleys of automatic fire into the air, and residents of the area fled.

Saniora was in Paris Thursday at a conference of donor nations that promised more than $7 billion to invest in new programs.

"It is a religious duty. All must ... leave the streets and remain calm and restrain themselves and leave the arena for the army and the security forces to shoulder full responsibility to control the situation," Nasrallah said in an audio message broadcast on Hezbollah's Al-Manar TV and other channels.

Al-Manar reported two of the Shiite group's supporters was killed. Security officials could not immediately confirm the deaths but reported 17 people wounded. Other TV stations reported that about 25 people were hurt.

The opposition has staged two months of demonstrations and sit-ins in a bid to topple Saniora's government. The prime minister has refused the opposition's demand for veto-wielding share of the Cabinet.

The trouble at the university — located in the mainly Sunni Muslim country that killed three people and was by three people wounded by gunfire.

"We are afraid about the future of the country," he said. "We are afraid about civil war."

As the battle spilled into the streets, people from outside the university joined in. Young men carrying sticks and wearing hard hats arrived and pelted each other with stones. Some flung pieces of furniture. Soldiers fired volleys of automatic fire into the air, and residents of the area fled.

Saniora was in Paris Thursday at a conference of donor nations that promised more than $7 billion to invest in new programs.
Art, wine and food a-plenty at Cambria Festival

Hayley Bramble

In January, Cambria is usually a sleepy little town, but for the past few years, the small community just 33 miles north of San Luis Obispo has sought to liven things up a bit.

The Cambria Art and Wine Festival starts today and will run through the weekend, rain or shine. The fifth annual festival offers wine tasting, fine dining, and local artists' work.

"It was kind of my brainchild I got stuck with," said Nancy McKarney, who chairs the event. McKarney said they are expecting more people than ever this year, and that Friday's kick-off event has been sold out for over a month. Of the part of the weekend she's most looking forward to, she joked, "Monday morning when it's all over."

This year, they have added another day and another event to the festival. "It has grown from a one-day event to a three-day event in four years," said Mary Ann Carson, executive director of the Cambria Chamber of Commerce. Carson has been involved with the Chamber of Commerce for 10 years and helps put on the festival along with the Allied Arts Association.

Saturday includes wine tasting from all local wineries and an art show. The main event takes place at the Veterans' Hall, but additional wine tasting is available at the Jookys Center on Main Street. Artists' work is also displayed throughout the town. Art pieces are available for purchase through a silent auction, which closes at 5 p.m. that evening.

This year's addition to the festival is a special banquet at the historic and award-winning Bramble's Dinner House. The Kaperonis family, who has owned and operated the restaurant since 1982, will host the event on Saturday at 6 p.m. Each of the meals' six courses is paired with a specially selected wine, most of which are from local wineries.

The dinner requires a separate ticket, which are from local wineries. The meal's six courses is paired with a specially selected wine, most of which are from local wineries. The dinner requires a separate ticket, which are from local wineries. The meal's six courses is paired with a specially selected wine, most of which are from local wineries.

Carson said the community has worked hard to promote the event, sending out press releases all over the state and advertising with two local radio stations and numerous publications.

Both McKarney and Carson said the festival helps bring people into town at a time they wouldn't usually come. "It's working well," Carson said. "Tickets to the event are still available, but limited. Carson said they expect the event to sell out. For more information on tickets or any of the events, contact the Cambria Chamber of Commerce at 927-3624.
Apple's iPhone nothing more than an over-hyped James Bond gadget

Ryan Chartrand

Now that the buzz of Apple's latest "revolutionary" product, the Apple iPhone, has died down, I'd like to take a moment to bring you back to reality (a cruel, yet slightly more logical world). What amazes me about Apple gadgets, since they are no more than that, is that not only will the dedicated Apple fans always look past the steep prices, but the outsiders, those who wish they were "cool," follow suit. It's like in the '90s when everyone had to have the thickest Fogs or the most flamboyant yo-yo. Money simply doesn't matter in an "i-life." If only for a moment, stop acting like your Ipod or your iMac to prove you have on your iMac to prove your money.

In five months, Apple will force you to donate $600 to their cause (a rule changing the world). In return, you will own a 4 1/2 inch long "cell phone," which is apparently used for communication between two human beings. Unfortunately, this will be the most insane donation you will ever see.

I'm sure many of you are thinking, "Ryan, you fool, the reason the iPhone costs $600 is because it contains approximately 4.8 ounces of pure gold. If you absolutely must carry something around with the same weight, it might as well be some delicious body butter. You might even end up looking as smooth and silky as the back of an iPod Video.

Forget your fancy phones and start making dreams come true through your very own Make a Wish Foundation.

No. 5) Lost Season One and Two. $90 — These are almost as essential as food. Without these, you might die of a starving mind by June.

No. 6) Shure E-4c-d sound isolating earphones. $325 — If you're going to be out wasting money, you might as well waste a good amount of it on some worthy headphones for that iPod of yours. After all, what good is life if you can't block out everyone surrounding you.

No. 7) One-hundred DVD-Rs: $25 — Look at this way: This is like having 165 iPhones. Yes, a far stretch, but how many times must I stress the point that four gigabytes of space, whether on a phone or a DVD, is nothing to dance in the streets about?

No. 8) One-year membership to the President Baker Fan Club: $25 — Need I say more?

No. 9) iPod Shurtle: $80 — Living without Apple entirely might not be safe your pure, Steve Jobs ideashaped life, so we might as well toss in another iPod to add to your collection (most likely a pile of broken iPods).

I'm sure many of you are thinking, "Ryan, you fool, the reason the phone costs $600 is because it contains so many marvelous gadgets into one beautiful array of brilliance!" Perhaps, but how often is it that you find yourself completely disconnected from your computer and all forms of entertainment? The only time of day that you are detached from modern technology is when you're at class, and even then there you're most likely listening to your iPod. You then go straight home and watch movies on your computer, listen to music on iTunes and call people on your pathetic $300 phone.

Why is it so necessary to combine your entire multimedia life into one piece of hardware, poorly categorized as a "phone," when you are only cut off from computers and entertainment for a few hours a day? Because Apple owns you, of course.

I am also well aware that the iPhone is considered cheap compared to some phones on the market. That, however, is far from the point. This is about the Apple lifestyle that has infiltrated American culture and sent one too many college students into unnecessary debt. Please, step out of your life and free the greatest gadget ever invent- ed: your mind. Apple will easily get away with creating yet another trend if you are convinced that you are still in high school and not having Uggs means not existing. Thank; if only for a moment, why an iPhone is somehow better than you.
New Jennifer Garner movie ‘Catch and Release’ a dead fish

Tripp Laino
The Damascus

While Susannah Grant is known for adapting interesting and new stories for the silver screen ("Erin Brockovich," "Ever After"), her latest endeavor and her first in the director's chair, "Catch and Release," fails to be anything more than predictable, by-the-book romantic comedy. Despite turns from Jennifer Garner and the View Askewverse genius of Kevin Smith, Grant's latest release should have never been caught at all by any production studio.

"Catch and Release" opens with Gray Wheeler (Garner, "Alias") at the funeral reception for her recently deceased fiancé, Grady Douglas. Overwhelmed with emotion, she seeks refuge in an upstairs bathroom, only to have her solitude interrupted by the coital adventures of Grady's friend, Fritz (Timothy Olyphant, "Deadwood") who sought to end his grief with one of the waitresses in the form of a quickie.

Naturally, having her sorrow interrupted in such a rude way would deter Gray from ever seeking comfort in Fritz's arms, but that would be unrealistic. Instead, in this unbelievable romantic comedy, love predictably — and also inexplicably — blossoms between the pair. Garner and Olyphant develop a nice chemistry, but in the context of the film, the justifications for their relationship never appears as anything but "falling into the arms of the other for a shoulder to cry on." Fritz's character provokes Gray's with comfort in her time of need, and he also fills her in on some details she didn't know about her deceased fiancé — Douglas was secretly a millionaire because of a hefty inheritance from his father, and he was sending an unknow'ti recipient a monthly stipend from a hidden account. As Gray learns more about Wheeler's secret life, she draws closer to Fritz; nevertheless, Grant fails to develop the relationship between the two adequately, and it never truly makes sense to the audience.

Luckily for this film, it avoids failing completely, thanks to several excellent performances by the supporting cast. Juliette Lewis ("Grilled"), veteran of the oddball comedy, turns in an entertaining performance as Maureen, a massage therapist and a part of Wheeler's secret life. Her awkward massage session with Sam (Smith, "Clarks II") offers one of the few spots of physical comedy in the film and provides some much-needed laughs.

Smith is the biggest shock of "Catch and Release," as he not only proves that he can act beyond the one or two lines of the Silent Bob roles he claims in his View Askewverse films, but also shows he can be counted on for both chuckle-worthy and heartwarming moments. His performance is the most redeeming aspect of "Catch and Release"; it seems as if every time Smith appears on screen, he chimes in with a clever one-liner or is involved in a bit of physical comedy to brighten up the proceedings. If there were one major reason for seeing this film, it would be to catch his excellent performance — not much else in this film shines as brightly as Smith does.

While "Catch and Release" gets effort points for trying to do more with the romantic comedy genre, it eventually becomes nothing more than your basic boy-meets-girl-then-falls-in-love-but-has-bumps-along-the-road story. This movie is like so many other forgettable romantic comedies that are released around Valentine's Day, but find something else to do that evening with your significant other — "Catch and Release" leaves nothing but tangled lines.

**COURTESY PHOTO**

Former bride-to-be Gray Wheeler (Jennifer Garner) spends the day hanging out with possible love interest Fritz (Timothy Olyphant).
**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

Memorials should highlight the good and bad. Well, today I open my paper to find not one, not two, but three different articles bashing the Mustang Daily for implying a woman is not perfect because she had a child. Spencer Wood was not the one to bash, yet the time he died. All of them praised him and what he had achieved in life, and not one of them seemed the least bit inclined to admit that he had a single flaw.

This, I find, is the problem with memorials. When I die, I want it known that I strived for future space colonization and that I loved playing dodgeball. But I also want it known that I was an abusive and of a memorial is if it’s notkosmo? When I’m memorialized, I want to be a real person, and to quote the Barrenstruck Lads, “anyone perfect must be lying.” Why is it so wrong to admit that in the midst of his caring, kindness, and charisma, Spencer Wood made a few mistakes in his life?

It’s not overly impressive for a perfect person to be kind, caring, and talented, but I think it makes a person far more memorable if they did these things while overcoming some shortcomings.

*Memorials should highlight the good and bad.*

*—Anonymous*
7. 1985 Chicago Bears

The best defense in league history, 1985-1986, the Bears finished 15-1, the Super Bowl Shuffle Walter Payton finally getting a ring, a 375-pound defensive tackle known as "The Refrigerator" who more than adequate as a leader, captured MVP honors for his performance in the Super Bowl XXXII. In addition to a potent running attack the Bears provided plenty of targets for Elway. Wide receivers Ed McCaffrey and Rod Smith both surpassed the 1,000-yard mark. Tight end Shannon Sharpe was also impressive with 10 touchdown grabs.

The defense was a veteran group gelled together by free agency. They weren't the fastest unit but played smart and together. Steve Atwater had his last great season, winning his final trip to the Pro Bowl.

The Buccaneers ended the regular season 14-2, sending Elway out on top in a 34-19 pasting of the "Dirty Birds" in the Super Bowl.

6. 1996 Denver Broncos

Losing the shuffle of John Elway's swan song is the fact that the 1998 Broncos are one of the 10 best Super Bowl champions ever. The team was led by an awesome running game, featuring 2,000-yard rusher Terrell Davis, who was unstoppable for most of the season. Davis, as a leader, captured the Broncos' No. 1 spot in the All-Pro team. The defense was a veteran group gelled together by free agency. They weren't the fastest unit but played smart and together. Steve Atwater had his last great season, winning his final trip to the Pro Bowl.

The Buccaneers ended the regular season 14-2, sending Elway out on top in a 34-19 pasting of the "Dirty Birds" in the Super Bowl.

5. 1976 Oakland Raiders

They get the nod over the 1983 Los Angeles Raiders because of the multitude of Hall of Famers or players who should be in the Hall of Fame — quarterback Ken Stabler, receivers Fred Biletnikoff and Cliff Branch, running back Dave Casper, offensive linemen Art Shell, Gene Upshaw and Dave Dallas, defensive linemen Otis Sistrunk, linebackers Phil Villapiano and Ted Hendricks, cornerback Willie Brown, safeties George Atkinson and Jack Tatum and returner Ray Guy, to name a few.

The most notable thing about this team was that it's actually the best in NFL history. At least, that's what the Tennessee Titans, which featured Tomlinson, Wratchford, Johnson and a dominating defense, would say. The Titans were led by an awesome running game, featuring 2,000-yard rusher Terrell Davis, who was unstoppable for most of the season. Davis, as a leader, captured the Titans' No. 1 spot in the All-Pro team. The defense was a veteran group gelled together by free agency. They weren't the fastest unit but played smart and together. Steve Atwater had his last great season, winning his final trip to the Pro Bowl.

The Buccaneers ended the regular season 14-2, sending Elway out on top in a 34-19 pasting of the "Dirty Birds" in the Super Bowl.

4. 1996 Denver Broncos

Losing the shuffle of John Elway's swan song is the fact that the 1998 Broncos are one of the 10 best Super Bowl champions ever. The team was led by an awesome running game, featuring 2,000-yard rusher Terrell Davis, who was unstoppable for most of the season. Davis, as a leader, captured the Broncos' No. 1 spot in the All-Pro team. The defense was a veteran group gelled together by free agency. They weren't the fastest unit but played smart and together. Steve Atwater had his last great season, winning his final trip to the Pro Bowl.

The Buccaneers ended the regular season 14-2, sending Elway out on top in a 34-19 pasting of the "Dirty Birds" in the Super Bowl.

3. 1978 Pittsburgh Steelers

Considered one of the greatest dynasties in sports history, the Steelers captured four Super Bowls in five years. We'll take the 1978 team, which featured the greatest quarterback ever, Terry Bradshaw, and had the league's best defense. The team was led by an awesome running game, featuring 2,000-yard rusher Terrell Davis, who was unstoppable for most of the season. Davis, as a leader, captured the Steelers' No. 1 spot in the All-Pro team. The defense was a veteran group gelled together by free agency. They weren't the fastest unit but played smart and together. Steve Atwater had his last great season, winning his final trip to the Pro Bowl.

The Buccaneers ended the regular season 14-2, sending Elway out on top in a 34-19 pasting of the "Dirty Birds" in the Super Bowl.

2. 1995 Dallas Cowboys

The team featured the triplets (Troy Aikman, Emmitt Smith and Michael Irvin) in their prime, with Aikman leading the way. The Cowboys were led by an awesome running game, featuring 2,000-yard rusher Terrell Davis, who was unstoppable for most of the season. Davis, as a leader, captured the Cowboys' No. 1 spot in the All-Pro team. The defense was a veteran group gelled together by free agency. They weren't the fastest unit but played smart and together. Steve Atwater had his last great season, winning his final trip to the Pro Bowl.

The Buccaneers ended the regular season 14-2, sending Elway out on top in a 34-19 pasting of the "Dirty Birds" in the Super Bowl.

1. 1978 Super Bowl XVII

The best offense in league history, 15-1, the Super Bowl Shuffle Walter Payton finally getting a ring, a 375-pound defensive tackle known as "The Refrigerator" who was an awesome collection of football talent.

That's just in the regular season. In the playoffs they won five games, including the Super Bowl. The team was led by an awesome running game, featuring 2,000-yard rusher Terrell Davis, who was unstoppable for most of the season. Davis, as a leader, captured the Buccaneers' No. 1 spot in the All-Pro team. The defense was a veteran group gelled together by free agency. They weren't the fastest unit but played smart and together. Steve Atwater had his last great season, winning his final trip to the Pro Bowl.

The Buccaneers ended the regular season 14-2, sending Elway out on top in a 34-19 pasting of the "Dirty Birds" in the Super Bowl.
**Kobe voted All-Star starter for 9th time**

Brian Mahoney
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gilbert Arenas pulled out another late victory.

The Washington star surged past Vince Carter in the final days of All-Star voting to claim the second Eastern Conference guard spot to pass 3,010 votes Thursday, the fourth-closest margin for a starting spot.

LeBron James, the MVP last year, led all players with more than 2.5 million votes for the Feb. 18 game in Las Vegas.

The first All-Star game held outside an NBA city will maintain one traditional look: Shaquille O'Neal was chosen to his 14th straight All-Star game, tying Jerry West and Karl Malone for the most consecutive selections.

Arenas was 214,460 votes over Thursday's two weeks, but finished with 1,454,166 to Carter's 1,431,136.

"It is an unbelievable feeling," Arenas said. "Two years ago, I was voting for myself for the game. Now fans are voting me in, and I'm going to do what they are looking for. I've got something to give back to the fans during All-Star weekend."

Arenas' rally was the latest January highlight for the guard who has forced his name into the MVP discussion with a series of clutch performances. He hit 3-pointers to win games against Milwaukee and Utah, and is second in the NBA with 29.7 points per game and will become the first Washington player to claim said spot since Michael Jordan in 2003. Jordan wasn't voted in by fans but placed in by Carter, who gave up his spot in the lineup.

Arenas, O'Neal and James will be joined in the East lineup by Dwyane Wade and Allen Iverson, who would have finished ahead of Arenas to earn a starting spot if he were still in Philadelphia. Iverson started the last seven All-Star games and was the MVP in 2001 and 2003.

"That was a blessing in disguise," Arenas said about Iverson's injury. "It potentially opened years of getting in because of him going out West. He was up all of the votes, along with Dwyane Wade. Now the opportunity to do is catch Vince Carter, and that is what I did."

James couldn't quite catch Yao. His total of 2,516,049 votes has been topped only by Yao's 2005 total of 2,673,529.

"That's something I've never dreamed about," James said. "I've always wanted to be an All-Star, but being the leading vote-getter over guys like Vince Carter, Shaquille O'Neal, Dwyane Wade and Allen Iverson, you never think that's going to happen. Just gaining that opportunity to be the leading vote-getter is kind of unbelievable."

A-C Green edged Malone by 1,226 votes in 1990 for a starting spot, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar was a 1,837 vote runner-up in 1984, and John Stockton won the West's second guard spot by 2,562 votes over Derek Harper in 1990.

---

**Help Wanted**

Babysitter needed in North County. Must have reliable transportation. Apn. 12 wk. (805) 226-7547

**Research Candidates**

Coastal Medical Research Group, Inc. is conducting a clinical research trial for participants with Candidiasis. Are you 18 years of age or older? Do you have symptoms of:-Uncomfortable, burning or irritating? You may qualify to participate in this research study. Qualified participants will receive study related medical exams, investigational medication and reimbursement for travel and time.

Coastal Medical Research Group, Inc. (805) 549-7570

**Rental Housing**

Room Available for Winter/Spring Master Bdrm with 2 walk-in closets. Shocking, beautiful, 2/2 with all the comforts of home. winter2006@yahoo.com 458-723-1986

---

**HELP WANTED**

HELP WANTED

Research Candidates

COASTAL MEDICAL RESEARCH GROUP

Research Candidates are being sought for a clinical study to evaluate the safety and efficacy of an investigational medication. Qualified candidates must meet the following criteria:

- Be 18 years of age or older
- Meet all other eligibility criteria
- Be willing to participate in all study procedures
- Be able to provide written informed consent

If you or someone you know is interested in participating, please contact us for more information.

Dr. John T. Carey, M.D.
805-549-7570

---

**HOMES FOR SALE**

Free List of all houses and Condos for sale in SLO. (805) 546-1990 or email steve@shoshomes.com

A beautiful BRR located near 101 SLO. This 2-story custom has 3 full baths & a cozy Family Room. Quick access to Poly. $799,300. CALL US ON CONDOS, TOO. ABOBE REALTY 805-542-2993

---

**CLASSIFIED**

**LOST AND FOUND**

FOUND: gold bracelet with initials "J". Contact: (805) 790-6400

**FREE**


dyke@calpoly.edu

---

**HELP WANTED**

HELP WANTED

Research Candidates

CMIG is actively looking for Research Candidates to participate in a clinical trial. If you are 18 years or older, diagnosed with a Sinusitis Infection and have symptoms longer than 7 days and less than 28 days with 2 of the following: Facial Pain, Purulent Nasal Discharge, Frontal Headaches, Maxillary Dental Pain, or Fever, you may qualify for this clinical research study. Please contact Coastal Medical Research Group at 805-549-7570 for more information.

Time and travel may be reimbursed for qualified participants.

Join Beyond Shelter to volunteer at local homeless shelters! Call (805) 549-7570 or email michele@beyondshelter.org

**SHOUT OUTS!**

FREE! EVERY THURS! Submit yours by Tuesday! classified@mustangdaily.net
Poly women swimmers ready for San Diego St.

Cal Poly sophomore Amy Speer competes in the 200 butterfly in the Mustangs' 153-143 nonconference win over visiting UC Santa Cruz on Jan. 15. Cal Poly faces San Diego State at Pepperdine on Saturday.

The Mustangs will have their final tune-up for February's Big West Conference Championships this weekend.

Cassie Gaeto Mustang Daily

The Cal Poly women's swimming and diving team will travel to Pepperdine in Malibu to take on San Diego State in a nonconference meet at noon Saturday. The meet is the women's last meet before entering the Big West Conference Championships in Long Beach from Feb. 21 to 24.

The Mustangs have already defeated Pepperdine twice this season, but are yet to swim against San Diego State.

"Pepperdine and San Diego State are both good teams, and we could very well win the meet, but I'm more concerned about how sharp we come across and how we do individually," Cal Poly head coach Tom Milich said.

The women lost to their last opponents, UC Davis and Pacific, in a meet Jan. 20.

The team started off its training by swimming about 11 miles per practice and Milich is slowly working down the swimmers' mileage to get them ready for the races they face at the end of the season.

"This is going to be a tune-up meet for us," Milich said. "In swimming you train so hard and so much to prepare for the championships, sometimes you just want to cut out the competitions and get to training." After Saturday's competition, the women will not have any other meets until the championships. The time off between the meets will allow the women the necessary time in the pool instead of on the road.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL UPDATE

Cal Poly handed visiting Pacific a 77-62 Big West Conference loss Thursday night in Mott Gym to improve to 6-12 overall and 2-4 in Big West play. Cal Poly senior forward Jessica Eggleston had 24 points and eight rebounds and sophomore forward Megan Harrison added 13 points.

Eggleston was one point short of a career high in scoring.

The Mustangs continue their four-game home stand against Cal State Northridge at 4 p.m. Saturday.

For a full recap of Thursday's game, see www.mustangdaily.net on Friday.

MEN'S BASKETBALL UPDATE

The Tigers handed the visiting Mustangs a 66-43 Big West Conference loss at Alex G. Spanos Center to drop Cal Poly to 9-9 overall and 2-4 in the Big West. The loss snapped a three-game overall winning streak for Cal Poly, which fell to 1-7 on the road this season.

Point guards Chaz Thomas and Trae Clark led Cal Poly with 10 and 12 points, respectively. Anthony Esparza led Pacific with 13 points, 13 rebounds and four assists.

The Mustangs continue their four-game road trip at Cal State Northridge at 7 p.m. Saturday.

COMMENTARY

Mustang Daily picks top 10 Super Bowl champs

Devan McClaine and Tristan Aird Mustang Daily

The Mustang Daily picks top 10 Super Bowl champs

The grand daddy of them all, literally. The first team to win the Super Bowl makes the list over their 1966 counterparts. Tristan made a strong case for the Brett Favre-led Packers, which finished first in scoring and packed a few shutouts. In turn, I made the argument for the Tom Brady-Bill Belichick 2004 Patriots. In the end, we decided we had to include a Vince Lombardi team. The Super Bowl trophy is named after him.

Call me old fashioned, but what happened to smash mouth football? Lombardi was as old school as high call backs and white socks and his team mirrored that image. Lombardi's squad featured nine Hall of Famers if we count the coach. The defense was hardly exciting, the "three yards and a cloud of dust" credo. However, what they lacked in excitement they made up for in efficiency. Quarterback Bart Starr had 14 touchdowns and three interceptions. The backfield featured the Hall of Fame tandem of Jim Taylor and Paul Hornung.

The Super Bowl trophy is named after him.