Panel discusses results of America's primaries

Kory Harbeck
MUSTANG DAILY

It was supposed to be clear the picture and set the stage for the most anticipated presidential election in decades. A sign on the front lawn in a head-to-head battle for delegates that could extend all the way to the Democratic convention in Denver Aug. 25 to 28.

Of the 32 students who attended the event, 20 were women. The professors were pleased by the turnout and mentioned how much they enjoyed the heightened level of involvement. Young people were displaying this time around.

"I am actually interested in this election," political science junior Taylor Baumann said. "I was interested to hear their predictions and the implications for the future."

The panel agreed that Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) almost certainly will win his party's nomination but that some interesting dynamics were still at play with former Gov. Mike Huckabee.

Huckabee's continued participation was described as a combination of wanting the vice presidential nominee and a desire to keep the conservative core of the Republican Party motivated.

"It has the potential to undermine McCain if he keeps doing well," Lattner said.

Political science junior Peter Swin- iarski wanted to find out more about the specifics of how delegates are awarded. The discussion on delegates focused on the competitive race between Clinton and Obama.

"The story of the Democratic race has been one of fluidity," Lattner said. A record turnout of 8.5 million in California represented nearly half of registered voters in the state.

A breakdown of the demographics showed why Clinton was able to win 26% of delegates with 52 percent of the vote.

Because of proportionality rules, a nominee has to win by a 2:1 vote or else the delegates will be split evenly. In districts with an odd number of delegates, the person who captured the plurality of votes receives the majority. Obama was ahead by 22 points.

New treatment for chronic disease sufferers

Lindsey Tanner
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHICAGO — Living to 100 is easier than you might think. Surprising new research suggests that people who develop heart disease or diabetes late in life have a decent shot at reaching the century mark.

"It has been generally assumed that living to 100 years of age is limited to those who had not developed chronic illness," said Dr. William Hall of the University of Rochester.

The researchers think that may be because the men had to develop heart disease or diabetes late in life have a decent shot at reaching the century mark.

"It has been generally assumed that living to 100 years of age is limited to those who had not developed chronic illness," said Dr. William Hall of the University of Rochester.

Sometimes a combination of policy and health is a factor, but many people do not live to 100. In fact, they had a 54 percent chance of living that long.

In an editorial in Monday's Archives of Internal Medicine, the researchers think that may be because the men had to develop heart disease or diabetes late in life have a decent shot at reaching the century mark.

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Leisure
continued from page 1

Leisure said he spent much of his time in Lafayette Park, which people called "peace park."

Out of work and not in school, he would stay in the park during the day "hanging the fort down" at its vigil, which is famous for being a gathering place for anti-war and anti-smoker proponents and their protest signs — many displaying the peace symbol.

He was unaware that about a decade later, the symbol would become his message to the world.

Living in San Luis Obispo in 2002, Leisure said he saw people starting to speak out against the possible invasion of Iraq. "Right away inside my brain a bell went off, big bell, humongous bell. I started thinking, "Hey, I have been here before."

It was then that he decided to carry with him the peace symbol every day, everywhere he went except church.

Leisure feels it necessary to make clear that he began protesting only the invasion of Iraq. "I did not believe in protesting against the coming his message to the world.

At the invasion of Iraq, he also said the reaction to his peace-symbol-touring has been mostly positive, especially from military personnel.

"You should see the amount of young Marines that really love me. They honk at me and they go, 'Right on!'"

Asked if he has encountered any negative responses, Leisure responded, "sometimes people like to flip me the bird or call me and call me every dirty name in the book."

He then described one incident where "one idiot" pulled down his pants and stuck his "rear end" against the window of a passing van. "I just stood there like, hey buddy, you're making an ass of yourself because you are an ass."

Leisure said that at first, these occurrences bothered him, but then friends told him, "Try not to let their ugliness and rudeness destroy you, because that ugliness and rudeness is inside of them and you don't have to let them formulate the beautiful person who you have become."

He then added, "It takes a lot of courage to be there letting someone flick you the bird and call you all these wicked names and you just have to stand there like, 'Hey buddy, peace on you.'"

And retaliation is out of the question for Leisure. He said that if one strikes back, not only are they stooping to the offender's level, but you're destroying the purpose of what you are really trying to pass on."

"What exactly is he trying to pass on?"

"I hope really to try to see if I can make a difference by shining people that we need to have peace on all levels," he said.

With that in mind and peace symbol in hand, everyday he'll be there on Santa Rosa and Higuera streets, or walking up and down Farmers' Market, with a smile on his face, listening to the calls and hooks of supporters and brushing off the curses and gestures of others.

Mike Leisure displays one of his many signs supporting peace.

BRIAN MCMULLEN MUSTANG DAILY

Primaries
continued from page 1

among voters between the ages of 18 and 29. And despite closing margins between white and black voters, Clinton was able to maintain her margin of victory, thanks to strong support from Hispanic women.

Especially in districts represented by Latinos in the House of Representatives. Those four districts averaged 71 percent votes for Clinton and gave her a 12-4 delegate advantage.

"I wasn't aware how close the delegate count actually was," journalism junior Amanda Benevento said.

With most news outlets calling the delegate count close to even and not anticipated to change drastically, the nomination is seen as lasting all the way to the convention.

This means an important role for the superdelegates, made up of former politicians and party insiders. Most see the 796 unselected superdelegates as the possible deciding factor in the nomination.

"Until recently, the opinion was that we wouldn't get that far, that someone would emerge," Den Hartog said. "Now, nobody knows the answer, with the possibility that the outcome could alter the voters and hurt Democrats in the general election."

Clinton is generally seen as having the advantage among superdelegates, leaving open the possibility Obama could have a slight lead entering the convention and still miss out as the nominee.

As their role becomes clearer, some super-delegates are saying they do not want the responsibility and that it should be up to the American public.

The next stage of the election process is the so-called "Potomac Primaries," as Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia all go to the polls today.
ASSOCIATED PRESS
by courage, optimism, and unwavering dedication to his principles and to freedom and prosperity to others." "Peace." — Aloha Kerr, nutrition junior

"Greet the day." — Emma Mitchell, art and design sophomore

"Hello!" — Kelsey Delagardelle, business senior

"Don't even worry about it." — Kyle Kennedy business junior

"Smile!" — Kelsey Delagardelle, business senior

Tom Lantos, last Holocaust survivor in Congress, died

Erica Werner
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rep. Tom Lantos, who as a teenager twice escaped from a Nazi-run forced labor camp in Hungary and became the only Holocaust survivor to win a seat in Congress, has died. He was 80.

Spokeswoman Lynne Weil said Lantos, a Californian, died early Monday at the Bethesda Naval Medical Center in suburban Maryland. He was surrounded by his wife, Annette, two daughters, and many of his 17 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Annette Lantos said in a statement that her husband's life was "defined by courage, optimism, and unwavering dedication to his principles and to his family.

Lantos, a Democrat who chaired the House Foreign Affairs Committee, disclosed last month that he had been diagnosed with cancer of the esophagus. He said at the time that he would serve out his 14th term but would not seek re-election in his Northern California district, which takes in the southwest portion of San Francisco and suburbs to the south that includes Lantos' home of San Mateo.

President Bush praised Lantos in a statement as "a man of character and a champion of human rights.

"After immigrating to America more than six decades ago, he worked to help oppressed people around the world have the opportunity to live in freedom," Bush said. "As the only Holocaust survivor to serve in Congress, Tom was a living reminder that we must never turn a blind eye to the suffering of the innocent at the hands of evil men."

Flags were lowered to half-staff at the White House and U.S. Capitol.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said, "Tom Lantos was a true American hero. He was the embodiment of what it meant to have one's freedom denied and then to find it and to insist that America stand for spreading freedom and prosperity to others."

SAN DIEGO (AP) — A 21-year-old man was stabbed at a mall parking garage in the University City area in what authorities say was an attempted carjacking.

San Diego police arrested a 42-year-old man on suspicion of attempted murder in Sunday's attack.

Police say he stabbed the woman in the chest after she refused to hand over the keys to her car. San Diego Police Sergeant David Jennings says an officer responding to the stabbing noticed a man fitting the suspect's description waiting at a bus stop at the mall.

RIVERSIDE (AP) — Cit ing rampant health and safety violations, a federal judge on Monday appointed two special masters and a temporary receiver to help manage a Coachella Valley trailer park on Indian land that is home to up to 6,000 migrant workers.

Attorney Mark S. Adams was named temporary receiver, with the power to order emergency repairs at the park and control the financial books.

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The California Supreme Court says a consumer campaign to get grocery stores to label artificially colored,farmed salmon can go forward.

The justices decided unanimously on Monday to overturn two lower court rulings tossing out the legal challenge.

DELAWARE, Ohio (AP) — Men have begun a beard-growing competition, which is partly a presidential look-alike contest, as this central Ohio city celebrates in 20th birthday.

The current, clean-shaven resident of the White House isn't the inspiration. Instead, it's the nation's 19th president, Rutherford B. Hayes, born in Delaware in 1822 and typically pictured with long, wiry whiskers.

The competitors all started Sunday with clean slates. They were photographed with shaved chins and obtained permits to register in the contest, to be judged July 5.

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — It lived up to its name: The temperature in International Falls fell to 40 below zero Monday, just a few days after the northern Minnesota town won a federal trademark making it officially the "Icebox of the Nation."

It was so cold that resident Nick McDougall couldn't even get his car trunk lid to close after he got out of his car to kick-start his dead battery. By late morning, the temperature had risen all the way to 19 below zero.

"This is about as cold as it gets, this is bad. There's no wind — it's just cold," said McDougall, 46, a worker at The Fisherman, a convenience store and gas station in the town on the Canadian border.

"People just don't go out, unless you have to go to work."

POLICE BLOTTER
Feb. 6, 11:09 - An officer responded to a report of vandalism in the Tenaya Hall Laundry Room. A door of one of the washers appears to have been beaten in.

Feb. 5, 18:30 - A disturbance in the Agricultural Sciences building was reported to the UPD. A student had become agitated and hostile and proceeded to punch a locker in the hallway.

Feb. 5, 00:27 > Officers were called to Yosemite Hall to check the welfare of a student. An officer responding to the student's description waiting at a bus stop at the mall.

Feb. 4, 19:20 - An officer responded to a fire alarm in the Engineering West building to find the class had been evacuated and the alarm was due to burnt popcorn in a classroom.

Feb. 3, 20:14 - Officers provided first-responder medical aid to a victim of injury at Fremont Hall.
Wednesday, February 13th
5pm-8pm

Wear your PJ's
and receive a 30% discount on all:

- Regular priced Cal Poly clothing & gifts
- General reading & reference books
- Seasonal promotional gifts including:
  - Valentines
  - Greeting cards
  - Stationery
  - Gift wrap
  - Stuffed animals
- Student supplies including:
  - Art
  - Office
  - School

*Does not include: Textbooks & Courseware, Computer Department, Photo Department, Sale Items, Special Orders, Rainbow Sandals, Hand Book Bestsellers, Magazines, Food & Beverages and Health & Beauty.

www.elcorralbookstore.com
Based on the historical novel by Philippa Gregory, reviewed below, the film version of "The Other Boleyn Girl" will open in theaters nationwide Feb. 29.

Time travel made easy

Good historical novels are hard to find. Many have tried to create the perfect combination of history and story, but few have succeeded. Philippa Gregory is one of those who have written history in a new, fascinating and perfect way. Her writing style brings the reader to another place that truly cannot be escaped in "The Other Boleyn Girl." Not only does she write a story that's captivating, but she has done years of research so the main parts of the tale are true to history.

The story starts out in the spring of 1521 at the courts of King Henry VIII. Mary Carey is a 14-year-old girl, married for two years, who the king has shown an interest in. Her overly ambitious family decides it would be beneficial to them if she bedded him. So, the husband is quietly put aside and her sister, Anne Boleyn, and brother, George, teach Mary ways to win the king's favor. She is successful in that but finds the strain of keeping him difficult and finds herself losing her place to Anne. Her struggle for recognition and place slip out of her hands as she sees her sister rising higher.

This famous story, told by a lesser-known character, reveals the relationship between three siblings and the perspective, Gregory gives the reader a narrator that brings the reader to another place that truly cannot be escaped in "The Other Boleyn Girl." Not only does she write a story that's captivating, but she has done years of research so the main parts of the tale are true to history.

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However great the players are, the imagery is even better. In scenes where Gregory describes a room or a market or any kind of event, I was captured by what she does to the imagination. She takes readers to the castles the characters travel to and the country house Mary is punished to for a short period of time. The colors are vividly described and written through the clothing characters wear and the food they eat. It is as though you are living and dancing in King Henry VIII's court with Mary and Anne. Gregory's writing draws the reader in so tightly that you can't get out. She makes it a television show so that every time you stop reading, you're anticipating the next episode, dreaming of what could be happening to the characters. While reading, I was eager to go home, skip my homework and just get back into this great world that was also terrible.

The past is something we can't run from, and Gregory finds a way to put it in front of us so we want to relive it. Her descriptive writing and creative storytelling make "The Other Boleyn Girl" worth every minute it takes to read.

Rachel Adams
Daily Utah Chronicle (U. Utah)

"Persepolis" is a wonderfully moody film — a deft mixture of humor and horror, the thrilling and the mundane. Reminiscent of "Pan's Labyrinth," this film similarly chooses to temper a subject as terrible and adult as war by showing it through the lens of childhood. But while "Pan's Labyrinth" turned adult ideas of heroism and sacrifice into the stuff of fairytales (with depressing results), "Persepolis" turned a child's ideas of God and heroism into the stuff of real, everyday choices.

To those who object to subtitles, I say, your loss (however, there will be an English-dubbed version available at some point, starring Jean Pierre, Iggy Pop and Gena Rowlands). To those who think animation is just for children, I have a more substantial reply: Based on the autobiographical graphic novel of the same name, "Persepolis" is definitely not for children. Rated PG-13, it deals with sex, drugs and, of course, war and death. The beautiful, amn...

COURTESY PHOTO

Lannon’s ‘Pressure’ a finely crafted album
(If only it could cure insomnia, too.)

Rachel Glas
MUSTANG DAILY

About halfway through the fourth track of singer-songwriter Nyles Lannon’s new CD, “Pressure,” I was feeling as if I had popped an Ambien — or two. So I decided that the seemingly monotonous folk-pop album was the perfect cure for insomnia; all it needed was some different marketing. I could pitch the idea to Big Pharma and make a fortune! But I think the idea of popping an Ambien once indistinguishable tunes turned out to be 50 minutes of finely crafted, emotionally intense pop songs after all. I guess I’ll have to make my fortune some other way.

Feeling like crap
Get the day’s top stories and more (from home) at www.mustangdaily.net
Despite its predictable plot, "Stomp the Yard" is an entertaining film in which Columbus Short, Chris Brown, Ne-Yo, Darrin Henson and others show off elaborate moves.

Mica Vincent
Tuesday, February 12, 2008

I have to admit, before I watched "Stomp the Yard" I was expecting the step version of "Bring It On," chock-full of phrases like, "This isn’t a democracy. It’s a step-ocracy." Instead of the fifth installment of the played-out cheerleading movie fluke, "Stomp the Yard" delivered somewhat decent entertainment.

Between director Sylvain White’s unique camera angles and the extensive work done in the editing room, I found it hard to hate "Stomp the Yard" — regardless of the predictable plot.

The movie revolves around a central character, DJ (Columbus Short), who, following tragic circumstances, moves to a new town, is convinced to join a competition between two rival teams, falls for someone he can’t have, and struggles to define himself.

Sure, it may sound similar to the formulaic "Bring It On" plot we’ve all grown to hate, but that’s where the similarities end.

"Stomp the Yard" is more like "Save the Last Dance," complete with train rides and nostalgic flashbacks depicting the loss of a loved one. In this film, DJ copes with the loss of his brother Darren (played by Chris Brown), which is the catalyst for him moving to a new town.

Ultimately, despite his motto, "I don’t step, man — I battle," DJ decides to join Theta Nu Theta, the underdog fraternity to Mu Ciamma, the seven-time step champions.

OK, it’s cheesy, but who cares? When else are the phenomenal skills of dancers like Short, Brown, Ne-Yo and Darrin Henson showcased (aside from music videos)?

Does DJ get the girl? Does he learn the meaning of teamwork in time to help his team? Does Theta Nu Theta win the championship?

If you want to see how it ends — or how it begins, for that matter — skip the trip to the video store and celebrate Black History Month by watching it in the University Union (room 223) today from 7 to 9 p.m.

Black Student Union members will be performing a step dancing demo before the movie begins.

Persepolis
continued from page 5

spheric drawings set the perfect stage for the events of the story, allowing the comic and the horrific to fluidly intermingle (as they tend to do in real life), drawing attention away from the foreign aspects (for example, the veils all women are mandated to wear by Islamic law) and allowing the viewer to immerse oneself completely in the story — the coming-of-age of a young girl in war-torn, religiously oppressive Iran.

We’ve seen plenty of political thrillers during the past couple of years: "The Constant Gardner," "Babel," "The Kingdom," "A Mighty Heart" — all of these are depressingly relevant and inevitably begin to weigh down the movie-goer (or haven’t you had your fill yet of bad-news documentaries, such as "No End in Sight" and "The Body of War") Fortunately, "Persepolis" feels more like a coming-of-age story than a political drama, thanks to the spunky young Marjane (Chiara Mastroianni), whose humorous viewpoint adds new flavor to an old stew.

Don’t expect to be exonerated, though. The once-refreshing, now-familiar sight of Americans as the bad guys shows up in this film, and the somewhat abrupt ending leaves the viewer with a sense of responsibility. The problems are still there, "Persepolis" says. Who will do something about it? Granted, "Persepolis" isn’t perfect: There were a couple of moments where the story dragged (for example, the existential crisis, a French staple that rarely finds a comfortable place in American film). After all of the politics throughout the movie, a call to action of sorts might be expected, and the lack is felt (as I said earlier, perhaps this is a good thing).

The voiceovers are wonderful (with Catherine Deneuve as Marjane’s mother, Danielle Darrieux as Marjane’s grandmother, and Simon Abkarian as her father), the characters are well-drawn (literally and figuratively) and rich, the story both incredible and down-to-earth. It’s hard to talk about direction in an animated film, but the art direction was amazing. The animation, although simple, was so evocative and vivid I could swear that as the little white flowers fell across the screen at the end of the film, the smell of jasmine floated over me. I became such a part of that two-dimensional world that standing up and walking out of the theater, the three-dimensional world seemed new.
Turn the heat up in the kitchen this Valentine’s Day

Planning a romantic evening for Valentine’s Day? Many people think of soft music, flowers and candlelight. However, most overlook the importance of romantic aphrodisiac foods! Despite a long-standing interest in aphrodisiac foods throughout the centuries and across multiple cultures, little to no scientific study has been done to confirm or deny these claims. Lacking scientific evidence, you will need to be the judge for yourself. Create an evening revolving around a menu of delicious aphrodisiacs. Here are the sexy foods to make it easy.

**Banana:** Some studies show its enzyme bromelain enhances male performance. Bananas are rich in potassium and B vitamins, necessities for sex hormone production. This phallic fruit backs up its appearance.

**Caviar:** It’s high in zinc, which stimulates the formation of testosterone, maintaining male functionality.

**Oysters:** Oyster extract is excellent for men’s reproductive health and endurance. It is a rich source for the amino acid taurine, which has a cardioprotective effect and improves nerve transmission. Historically known as an aphrodisiac, flavonoids in oyster meat have been shown to stimulate the reproductive system.

**Celery:** This common vegetable acts as a stimulant, and eating the fresh root strengthens the sex organs. Celery root contains an essential oil, and the minerals iron, calcium, magnesium, sulfur and phosphorus.

**Pine nuts:** Zinc is a key mineral necessary to maintain male potency and pine nuts are rich in zinc. Pine nuts have been used to stimulate the libido as far back as the medieval times.

**Squash:** Seeds contain fatty oil, protein and vitamin E that is important for maintaining male functionality. The adrenals produce hormones that regulate metabolism and synthesis of hormones. B vitamins may be the most important nutrients for healthy function of the nerves. Lack of sensory function can directly lead to a lack of sexual fulfillment. A lower level of B vitamins means lower levels of female hormones.

We’ve all heard the old adage, “the shortest way to a lover’s heart is through their stomach.” If you’re resisting this whole idea because you’re just not a cook and wouldn’t have any idea how to incorporate these foods, you can relax. This evening will be a great test for the power of aphrodisiac foods. You could make a pesto sauce (basil and garlic) with whole wheat pasta topped off with some pine nuts, served with an arugula salad. Have fun and be safe!

Sarah Bailey is a nutrition senior, Mustang Daily nutrition columnist and a member of PULSE. E-mail her your questions at sbballey@calpoly.edu.

**Zinc:** This mineral is essential for healthy sexual function and the health of the sexual organs. It is involved with production of several hormones involved with genital function and has been used to treat infertility.

**B-Complex:** All of the B vitamins are involved with production of energy, metabolism and synthesis of hormones. B vitamins may be the most important nutrients for healthy function of the nerves. Lack of sensory function can directly lead to a lack of sexual fulfillment. A lower level of B vitamins means lower levels of female hormones.

**Wheat:** Ingestion of wheat germ, oil or sprouts has been shown to strengthen the sexual organs. Wheat also contains vitamin E to strengthen the sex organs.

**Licorice:** This acts on the glands, especially the adrenals, to optimize hormone levels. The adrenals produce sex hormones and are directly involved with a healthy sex drive. Lowered adrenal function can lead to loss of libido, less energy and poorer sexual response. It is particularly stimulating for women. So buy your special valentine a big box of Good N’ Plenty candies.
So you’re out on a date with the cutie from your history class. You order a steak. He/she orders the vegetable pasta. You ask if he/she eats meat and he/she says no. Do you:

A. say, “that’s cool,” and resume your previous conversation
B. ask why and have a civil discussion about the pros and cons of vegetarianism
C. spend the rest of the night trying to convince him/her that meat is SO TASTY and you just CANNOT UNDERSTAND why anyone would give it up and animals were put here on earth for humans anyway and you KILL vegetables when you eat them so why is it ok to eat them?

If you answered C, then congratulations! You are just like the majority of people I meet here in San Luis Obispo. I’ve been a vegetarian for seven years. I’ve never once regretted the decision to give up meat, nor do I ever plan on eating meat again. I don’t talk about my decision unless asked, and oftentimes people don’t know I don’t eat meat until several weeks or months after we’ve been friends, when they start wondering why I never get a hamburger or pepperoni pizza. (For the record, I gave up eating meat because I believe as humans, we have other options to nourish ourselves without killing animals, and thus it is wrong to kill them for food.)

I don’t broadcast my beliefs. So why then does everyone insist on grilling me about my choice, then telling me exactly why I am wrong for making it? I mean, I’d understand it if whenever my roommate ate a turkey sandwich I asked, “So how does the rotting flesh of a once-live being taste today?” or passed around color photos of slaughtered animals while out to dinner at Firestone.

But I don’t. For example, I was at a barbecue last year when the guy at the grill asked me what I’d like. I asked for a veggie burger, and another guy nearby whom I’d been chatting with earlier asked me why not a real burger. Once I explained, he nearly died from shock (perhaps his heart couldn’t take all the red meat he’d been eating?). Once recovered, he proceeded to spend the entire night telling me how dumb I was for not eating meat, and trying to convince me to eat a burger. Sorry dude, it would take a lot more than a drunk, argumentative recreation major to get me to eat my first burger in seven years. You aren’t that special.

But it’s not just random people who bug me. It’s my friends too. Invariably, the subject comes up every time we go out to eat. And since we go out to eat several times a week, it gets very tiring. I mean, I can joke about eating cute little penguins with the best of them. But after a couple of weeks or so of continuous ribbing, it just begins to sound desperate. If you have to constantly prove that eating meat is morally right, you aren’t trying to prove it to me, you’re trying to prove it to yourself.

So basically, I understand most people eat meat, and I accept that. I don’t rag on you for eating a once-adorable, brown-eyed cow named Bessie, so please just extend the same courtesy to vegetarians.

Moral of the story: on Valentine’s Day, when out to dinner with your Valentine, go ahead and order the steak and just don’t ask about your date’s reason for choosing the vegetable pasta. If you absolutely must ask, consult my article, and please please please choose A or B from the handy quiz I’ve provided. You can thank me Friday morning.

Rachel Gla is is a Journalism junior and a Mustang Daily reporter.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

UU artwork needs to be replaced

A lot of the artwork in the UU seems out-of-date and not widely appealing — especially the metal wall-sculpture called “Web of Life” near the Chumash Auditorium entrance. I complained about it last year and I was then invited to join the UU Art Acquisition Committee to help update the UU’s artwork and “bring down the Web of Suck” as far as I know, the committee doesn’t exist anymore.

Jacob Howell
Graphic design junior

All letters must be 250 words or less and are subject to editing for spelling, grammar and style.

E-mail us at:
mustangdailyopinions@gmail.com
Girls & Sports by Justin Boris and Andrew Feinstein

Last Ditch Effort by John Kroses

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

Across
1 "Mamma Mia" group
5 Play chauffeur
10 Money to help one through a tight spot
14 Editor of two directing brothers
15 All gone, as denier
16 Mayberry boy
20 Directional suffix
22 Good thing
25 Joseph Conrad
29 A choir may
30 Station with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.
31 The blahs
32 Participated temporarily, as with a band
36 Rebellious
37 Vintage autos that's a hit to this puzzle's theme
39 Prefix with lock or knock
40 __cone
41 Colonial settlement
42 Bobby Orr
43 Vocational school instruction
45 Supernatural
47 Ring outcome, breezily
48 pants (multipocketed wear)
50 Common Seattle hotel
54 "Don't ..."
57 Common employment benefit
59 Bit of air
60 Cleveland's lake
61 Enlarge a house
62 Men-only
63 "The World of Suze ..."
64 Sierra
65 Certain vanity plate for husband-and-wife cars

Down
1 Suffer from a charley horse
2 Transvaal tracker
3 Vanilda
4 "What next?"
5 "Meet the Fockers" co-star, 2004
6 Hamlet's problem
7 "Jury"
8 ZIG zag
9 S.A.S.E., e.g.
10 Rules, as rules
11 Berkeley Breathed comic strip
12 Lieutenant
13 Fit snugly
14 Really hot under the collar
16 Like Lincoln, in physique
20 Uno + dos
22 Straight Prefix
24 "The other foot'
26 More ...
27 "(Donkey tune"
28 To mark off
29 Taper wing
30 Station with a show
31 The Who
32 Participated temporarily, as with a band
33 Police con
34 Virtuoso
35 Fenimore's river
36 Letter-shaped alphabet
37 Letter-shaped strip
44 Links band
45 Bring into harmony
46 Stuck of gum, e.g.
47 Prefix with -post --
48 Slang, forecast
49 Sierra
50 Models, in a set
51 "Slower, smaller, less efficient"
52 Ravens, on a PC
53 "The shoe, the other foot"
54 A couple of chips, maybe
55 Injury reminder
56 Purchases for a shindy
58 9,000, sci-fi computer
59 Bit of air

Answer to previous puzzle

We're listening

Send your opinions, rants and raves in 250 words or less to
mustangdailyopinions@gmail.com

All submitted letters must include author's name, year and major, and are subject to editing for grammar, style and spelling.
LeBron
continued from page 12
but they all play on teams that would have trouble winning in the NCAA Final Four.
Calderon's Toronto Raptors, on the other hand, are currently holding the fifth spot in the Eastern Conference. Earlier this year when T.J. Ford went down with a neck injury, many proclaimed Barton's season over.
Nobody expected Calderon, an undrafted guard from Spain, to step into the side and give the Raptors an even better shot at winning. He has done such a great job, having the best assist-to-turnover ratio among players who average more than 30 minutes a night, that he will hold on to the starting spot even though Barton has come back from injury.
Rookie of the Year: Greg Oden—"Wait, what? Why isn't this one going to Kevin Durant?" It's easy: Durant is playing for the Seattle SuperSonics, a team that has the second-worst record in its conference. Even though Durant has a lot of talent and will probably develop into a phenomenal player, I just have trouble giving the award to somebody who barely shoots 40 percent from the floor.

The NBA is full of talented players, and most of them could average around 20 points per game like Durant if the offense was centered on them.

With regard to the Odén pick, I honestly didn't think of a player who actually deserves it. Experts proclaimed last year's draft as one of the best rookie classes ever, but I have yet to see it. It's not that those players won't have great careers, but they simply haven't made much of an impact on their teams, unless you count Oden.

As soon as the Portland Trail Blazers drafted him, their philosophy changed, and even though he has yet to play a game in the NBA, his presence turned the franchise around.

Sixth Man of the Year: Manu Ginobili—This is an automatic win for Ginobili because most people know he shouldn't be a sixth man in the first place. He would be a start-
er on most teams, but coach Gregg Popovich likes to give the San Antonio Spurs an extra boost by having him come off the bench. Even in that capacity Ginobili quietly averages all-star numbers on a team that contends for the title every year.

Coach of the Year: Doc Rivers—One of the hardest things to do in sports is to win when you are expected to. When the Boston Celtics made blockbuster trades for Kevin Garnett and Ray Allen over the summer, the expectations for them skyrocketed.

Yet at the same time, all the critics came out saying the team had no chance because it had no depth and had point guard issues.

On top of all that, the city grew to want more as they saw the Red Sox win the World Series and the Patriots complete a perfect regular season. The Celtics, under Rivers, have responded by having the best record in the NBA.

Executive of the Year: Kobe Bryant—No, this is not a joke. I truly believe he deserves this award. If it weren't for Kobe lobbying to trade Andrew Bynum over the summer, Bynum might not have been inspired to increase his work ethic and display the dominance he had earlier this season. Also, if it weren't for Kobe's demanding to be traded and threatening to opt out of his contract next year, the Lakers might have never made that trade for Pau Gasol.

OK, maybe this is a joke.

Dwight Bok is an annual science writer and a Mustang Daily sports columnist.
Bryant, Lakers continue strong trip

Los Angeles wins 106-97 to improve to 4-1 after trading for Gasol, who adds 26 points to Kobe’s 31

Mike Cranston
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Kobe Bryant scored 31 points, Pau Gasol added 26 and the new-look Los Angeles Lakers continued their impressive road trip with a 106-97 win over the reeling Charlotte Bobcats on Monday.

The Lakers improved to 4-1 since acquiring Gasol behind Bryant’s third-straight game scoring 30 or more points.

In improving to 6-2 on their nine-game road trip, the Lakers never trailed but struggled to put away the Bobcats. Charlotte cut a 13-point deficit to 89-86 midway through the fourth quarter before wilting in their seventh-straight loss.

Bryant’s jumper with 4:30 left made it 96-90. His no-look pass to Lamar Odom for a dunk made it 100-93, and Bryant put the Lakers ahead by 11 with two free throws with 1:02 left.

Gasol had his second-highest scoring game since joining Los Angeles, hitting 9 of 11 shots and 8 of 12 free throws. The Lakers shot 50 percent in their third-strait win.

Raymond Felton scored 29 points and Nazr Mohammed added 22 points and 11 rebounds for the Bobcats, who matched their longest losing streak of the season.

The Bobcats played without leading scorer Gerald Wallace for the fourth time in five games. Wallace, hobbled by a strained right foot, was replaced a night earlier in Detroit by rookie Jared Dudley in the starting lineup.

But coach Stan Van Gundy changed his mind Monday, putting Dudley back on the bench, moving Felton to shooting guard and starting Jeff McInnis at point guard. Felton turned into Charlotte’s go-to scorer with Jason Richardson held to 10 points on 4-of-14 shooting.

Felton was two points shy of his career high, hitting 11 of 20 shots, and added eight assists. But the Bobcats had to make up too much ground after a dominating start by the Lakers.

Bryant hit his first five shots, three of them 3-pointers, and Gasol was 6-for-6 including two dunks as the Lakers looked early like the very same inside-outside team with Gasol.

When Bryant finally missed — a desperation 3 with the shot clock winding down — Gasol grabbed the rebound, was fouled and hit both free throws to give the Lakers a 49-40 lead.

Bryant and Gasol were a combined 12-of-14 from the field and 9-of-9 from the foul line as Los Angeles led 55-44 at halftime.

The Bobcats weren’t getting completely blown out thanks to Felton’s 18 points and the Lakers’ 10 turnovers.

For the second-straight day, the Lakers struggled to put away a struggling team. After allowing Miami to come back in the fourth quarter Sunday before finally finished off the Heat, the Lakers saw a 13-point lead with just over 10 minutes cut to three on Charlotte’s 15-5 run.

The Lakers wrap up their trip Wednesday at Minnesota.

Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant pushes a pass behind Charlotte Bobcats forward Emeka Okafor on Monday night.

Spurs 93, Raptors 88

Manu Ginobili scored a season-high 34 points and guarded the ball when high 15 rebounds as the Spurs led from wire-to-wire and won for the fifth time in six games.

Donovan Aird
MUSTANG DAILY

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant pushes a pass behind Charlotte Bobcats forward Emeka Okafor on Monday night.

Top football signing chose Cal Poly over Pac-10, SEC

The game had nowhere near the last year’s visit by the Lakers, won by the Bobcats in triple-overtime despite Bryant’s 58 points.

The Lakers wrap up their trip Wednesday at Minnesota.

LeBron? Dinty Biek

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With this weekend’s all-star game marking the halfway point of the NBA regular season, I wanted to reflect on how crazy it has been. For the first time since the 90s, we have seen the Boston Celtics and the L.A. Lakers rise to dominance at the same time.

However, we have also seen a great great franchise, the New York Knicks, due to a once-great player, Isaiah Thomas — become the laughing stock of the NBA. We have seen Chris Webber and Don Nelson re-seated, and the trade of Shaquille O’Neal to the Phoenix Suns if roller skates were included in both deals.

All this could probably make any NBA fan forget about Tim Donaghy. (Oops, my mistake.)

To commemorate this great NBA season, I wanted to give my take on player awards.

Most Valuable Player: LeBron James — Every year there are many players who deserve it. Cases could easily be made for Steve Nash, Kobe Bryant, Tim Duncan, Chris Paul, Dirk Nowitzki or Kevin Garnett.

However, none of them have stood out like “King” James this year.

Unlike all of his competition, James does not have the luxury of playing with a talented supporting cast. The Lakers are not as good as the Miami Heat and Cleveland general manager Danny Ferry is content with overpaying mediocre players like Larry Hughes and Drew Gooden rather than going after Jason Kidd, a guy who could actually help his young superstar contend for a championship.

Nonetheless, James has raised his game to a new level this year, averaging an unbelievable 30 points, eight rebounds and seven assists. If that isn’t enough of a compelling argument, consider this: the Cleveland Cavaliers are 6-4 in games James didn’t play in.

Defensive Player of the Year: Marcus Camby — Camby is the Nuggets’ last — and only — line of defense. While perimeter players like Carmelo Anthony and Allen Iverson dominate the Nuggets’ trigger happy offense, it’s Camby’s surprising opponents that average the fourth-most points per game against him. Still, Camby currently leads the league in blocks per game and is second in rebounding. Just imagine what kind of stats he would be if Camby weren’t there.

Most Improved Player of the Year: Joe Calderon — This pick was extremely simple because no other player up for this award is on a winning team. Sure, Rudy Gas, Chris Kaman and Al Jefferson are having career years with eye-catching stats, see LeBron, page 11

see LeBron, page 11

see LeBron, page 11