César Chávez lives on

Pismo Beach man arrested for allegedly raping another man

A Pismo Beach man was arrested Thursday after allegedly sexually assaulting another man near Pirate's Cove.

According to the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Department, 59-year-old Ronald James Rodriguez was taken into custody after returning to the scene of the assault. Deputies say he crossed barrier tape in an apparent attempt to remove evidence from the site.

The alleged victim, a 34-year-old Santa Maria man, was injured during the attack and was treated at Marian Medical Center, deputies said.

The assault occurred at approximately 1 a.m. near Cave Landing Road. In recent years, the area has become notorious for illicit sexual activity.

It is not yet known if Tommasini and the suspected victim were acquainted prior to the incident.

Tommasini was booked into San Luis Obispo County Jail on charges of assault with intent to commit rape, sexual assault with force, sodomy and tampering with evidence.

Energy drinks under increased scrutiny

Red Bull promises to "give you wings," Rockstar encourages you to "party like a rock-star," and Monster tells you to "unleash the beast."

The Food and Drug Administration, health experts and a state legislature, however, are scrutinizing energy drink advertisements for not informing consumers of risky stimulants, according to a lease of the San Luis Obispo Daily Free Press.

Stimulants found in energy drinks such as guarana and synephrine, alternatives to FDA-banned ephedra, do not require FDA approval.

Because Red Bull is known for its advertising, health experts are focusing on it. However,Monster and Rockstar have also come under scrutiny.

The FDA has informed Monster and Rockstar of the issue, according to a lease of the San Luis Obispo Daily Free Press.

Police arrest local man for felony vandalism

Aaron Gaudette

Officers from the San Luis Obispo Police Department arrested a man believed to be one of the most active graffiti vandals in the city of San Luis Obispo Saturday, according to a police press release.

Police arrested Nicolaus Rodriguez, 24, of San Luis Obispo at his home on the morning of March 29. Rodriguez was linked with at least 24 different graffiti vandalisms in San Luis Obispo during the past year, which included spray painting bridge abutments, trash dumpsters, signs, signal boxes, railroad property, and applying stickers with graffiti on them to signs, according to the press release. Most of the graffiti featured the word "PILO."

"We'd known about the graffiti for about a year, and we'd always interested in vandalism incidents around the city," said Lt. Bill Proll of the San Luis Obispo Police Department. "It was a few months ago that additional information began to surface, which enabled the warrant and his subsequent arrest.

While the vandalism had been prevalent throughout much of the town — including the Cal Poly campus — Proll noted that the "PILO" graffiti was most concentrated around where Rodriguez lived, on the northeast side of San Luis Obispo.

When serving the warrant, officers confiscated 73 cans of aerosol spray paint, permanent marking pens, postal service stickers, photographs of graffiti, and numerous sketch books which contained the word "PILO," according to the press release.

Proll noted that Rodriguez was "very calm and cooperative" in being arrested without incident and booked at the county jail on felony vandalism charges, according to police. His bail was set at $18,000.

Investigators are still compiling the specific crimes in which Rodriguez was involved and are unable to fully assess the total cost of the vandalism, although police estimate it will amount to thousands of dollars.
Energy

continued from page 1

under, taking specific aim at college students, the energy drink industry is ever-popular and continuing to expand. The average energy drink contains as much caffeine as one 8-ounce cup of plain coffee. Over-consumption of caffeine can have negative effects, even in regular users.

"Part of the problem stems from the use of energy drinks that contain large amounts of caffeine but are not required to label caffeine content," said Carla Jackson, a health educator at Student Health Services. "Because students may be unaware that these energy drinks contain caffeine, they may use them on top of their current caffeine intake patterns."

While not listed on the packaging, Monster contains 160 milligrams of caffeine, RedBull No Fear contains 158 milligrams, and Full Throttle contains the top three at 144 milligrams. At first glance, Red Bull seems mild with its 80 milligrams, but its serving size is 8.5 ounces as opposed to the others' 16 ounces. In a 16-ounce serving, Red Bull's caffeine level is similar to the other drinks.

Even the most seasoned caffeine user can use too much, termed caffeine intoxication," Jackson said. "Most people don't have any negative consequences from their caffeine habits, especially if they tolerate caffeine well and consume in moderation, usually defined as two to three cups of brewed coffee per day — no more than 300 milligrams of caffeine."

Symptoms of caffeine intoxication include restlessness, nervousness, insomnia, flushed face, excessive urination, diarrhea, twitching and irregular heartbeat. "Most people have not heard of anything like this happening," said San Luis Obispo Police Sergeant Jeff Booth.

Police said the passenger of the Tahoe fired several rounds from a handgun at the couple after they got into their car. No one was injured, however. No suspects have been identified yet. Police did not know if it was a gang-related crime or if there was any relationship between the suspects and victims, or what kind of handgun was used.

The shooting was a surprise to both San Luis Obispo police and nearby residents. "I've been here since 2000, and I've never heard of anything like this happening," said San Luis Obispo Police Sergeant Jeff Booth.

You deserve
a break.

mustangdaily.net

We've got plenty to distract you from those textbooks.
Girls & Sports by Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein

You don't hit on any girls in Las Vegas, do you? We bet on the early games, the afternoon games, then we bet on the late late games... Frankly, I wish you wouldn't hit on girls.

Edited by Will Shortz

1 8 7 3 8

No. 0220

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz  No. 0220

Across

34______-cone
35Readystock
36Earthquake site
37Met's claim
38Fraternal org.
39Interior
designer's force
40It may have
41Mark's
42It may have
43Toward
44It may have
45Toward
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47Toward
48It may have
49It may have
50It may have
51It may have
52Part of a
Christmas Eve service
53Judge's
54It may have
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56It may have
57It may have
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59It may have
60It may have
61It may have
62It may have
63It may have

Down

1Homes with
electronic gates,
maybe
2Some
newspaper
pictures
3Machine on a
shaping line
4Barley make
5With "out"
6Way around
Paris
6Far from Munich
7Hi sign?
8Sweat up
9Styling aid
10"Orca" island
11Devoted fans
12Enters
helter-skelter
13Opening of
18Injuring the right
stuff
22Shake on
23Italian wine city
24Old master's
Eastern way
25Best suited
26Police dispatch,
for short
27C-E-G triad,
e.g.
28Fans often have
29Offerers of arms
30Army, navy and
Air force: Abbr.
31"Back to the
Future" subject
32Prada and Fendi
33Give a ticket
34_____cone
35Some
newsletter
36Some newsletter
37Miner's entry
38Brain scan
39Medium's claim
40Defense wall
41Autos
42Automaker
43Race site since
44Spanish capital
45Not helter-
skelter
46Lives
47Flaky sort
48Parts of a
Christmas Eve service
49Automaker
50Alternatives to
Vetoes
51Brussels-based
org.
52"Ben-__"
53Court org.
54Some
contain every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.
In light of the ongoing election drama, one man strives to continue the peaceful bloodstream between Democratic candidates Sen. Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton. Our nation's top-rated talk radio host, Rush Limbaugh, has labeled this mission "Operation Chaos." Its goal: to prepare Americans for the inevitable defeat of the Clinton presidency, and it seems to be working quite well.

Limbaugh may be indicted for voter fraud in both Ohio and Texas. In Ohio, what Limbaugh is accused of is a fifth-degree felony, punishable with a $2,500 fine and six to 12 months in jail. Several Democrats and state officials (except for the ones voting for Hillary Clinton, of course) are in an uproar over Limbaugh, encouraging his mainly Republican listeners to vote for independent John McCain in the presidential primary in order to keep the Democratic race alive. Obama, remaining embattled by Clinton, is likely to suffer.

It is a difficult task for a free election to be a benefit for John McCain because the Democrats will continue to rip each other apart. In Ohio, a door hanger that was distributed is seen as an indication that the voters must publicly declare which candidate they are loyal to the Democratic Party and they will uphold party principles "under penalty of election falsification."

Furthermore, the 14th Amendment states that "No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States." Some will argue that these Amendments are up for interpretation, but to a supporter of the Constitution, taking oaths in Ohio and Texas is simply wrong. Making this offense by telling citizens that they have an open election, yet to the same breath saying that they cannot vote for their candidate of choice unless they promise to cooperate and help in the winning of the other candidate penalties every day or else, completely goes against all of the rights and protections of the U.S. Constitution.

This testy little issue came up completely with one of the Democratic candidates.

DENNIS KUCINICH was taken off the ballot in Texas because he rejected the forced loyalty oath saying that he must "support and defend the Constitution." But also that he "will faithfully support the candidate for the office of President whoever that shall be." Kucinich refused because he believes that in Iraq is unconstitutional since it was never declared by Congress, but if the, eventual nominee supported the war and Kucinich was forced to support that candidate, then he would be resigning his duties as a member of Congress.

Forced loyalty oaths, indictments as punishment, and religious based oaths — it all sounds more like KGB than USA.

Finally, the last and the most entertaining reason that this legal action is unfounded is that if Limbaugh is indicted in Ohio, Obama should be as well. A Barack Obama door hanger that was distributed in Ohio (and other states such as Pennsylvania) was also encouraging Republican and Independent voters to vote for Sen. Clinton. The hanger plainly stated "Republicans and Independents can vote in the Democratic primary."

It turns out there really could be a bipartisan ending to an election — Rush Limbaugh and Barack Obama sharing a jail cell in Ohio.

Christina Chiappo is a social sciences senior, president of the Cal Poly College Republicans and a Mustang Daily conservative columnist.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

New column's perspective unfair to men

POLICY MAKERS. The new column, entitled "The Naked Truth," is based on two premises: men can write about everything, but women cannot; about "the elusive friend zone," which apparently doesn't exist. Is there a whole article about something that doesn't exist, eh?

Is that the controversy? People should be able to vote for whom they choose by free will, right? Not necessarily. At this time, the Board of Directors has launched an investigation into illegal crossover voting. This is ironic, since both Texas and Ohio have open primaries where a voter may vote for any candidate, regardless of the voter's registered party, but the voter must publicly declare which party they are going to vote for before they enter the voting booth. The rules pertaining to the Democratic Party in these states say that the voters must publicly state that they are loyal to the Democratic Party and their party will uphold party principles "under penalty of election falsification."

Our nation's top-rated talk radio host Rush Limbaugh, has labeled this mission "Operation Chaos." Its goal: to prepare America for the inevitable defeat of the Clinton presidency, and it seems to be working quite well. It is a difficult task for a free election to be a benefit for John McCain because the Democrats will continue to rip each other apart.

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"It's too bad she won't live! But then again, who does?"

That question posed by Gaff (Edward James Olmos) in the closing moments of the science fiction novelette "Blade Runner" has encapsulated the existential crisis at the heart of the film since its original release in 1982. Now, moviegoers have an opportunity to see the film like never before — as "Blade Runner (The Final Cut)," is showing at the Palm Theatre.

Disagreements between director Ridley Scott and other creative professionals over the film's original release in 1982. Whereas past alterations dealt primarily with its plot, the final revision reinforces the film by slightly tweaking the visionary intent of Scott's 1992 version. This revision is also devoted to applying contemporary technology to ubiquitously mundane in appearance.

Unlike similar digital retorts that overstepped their elementary purpose and interfered with the audience's built-in relationship with the material, such as the chilling additions to George Lucas' "Star Wars" special editions, refinement throughout the 25th-anniversary composition of "Blade Runner" is deliberately interjected in order to present an illuminated experience that serves not to contaminate narrative, but to enhance it.

From the onset of the opening volatile, endless skyline to the glowing yellow irises inherent to replicants, the final cut butters new found illumination providing revelatory depth and intimacy to every frame. Fans of Scott's director's cut are rewarded with the original, full-length extension of Deckard's fleeting-yet-crucially-suggestive unicorn daydreams that had to be re-inserted after the studio initially extracted it for being too abstract, which further butchered the overall work. It forced Ford to utter a shamblering, explanatory voice-over even culminating in a corny, upbeat ending seemingly by design.

Donovan Aird

"Blade Runner" has encapsulated the film's original release in 1982. Now, moviegoers have an opportunity to see the film like never before — as "Blade Runner (The Final Cut)," is showing at the Palm Theatre.
Blade
continued from page 5

longing to another story
Interpersed during the seg­
mented chimera is a close-up of a
wide-eyed Deckard, darting to com­
prehend his thoughts; he gapes at the
critical implications in the film’s fi­
ternal seconds upon discovering a small
replicant we never saw.

Other amendments correct lan­
guage inconsistencies left by the
film’s editing bureau, such as Deck­
ard’s supervisor alluding to another
replicant we never saw.

More resourceful modifications
include the superimposing of Ford’s
mask over his own, lip-synch­ing
brief dialogue that had previously
been out of sync; and the re-filmed
face of Cassidy being digitally placed
over that of stunt double Lee Palford
in a scene where Zhorra falls through
crashing glass.

When Roy Batty (Rutger Haus­
cer), the leader of the band of repli­
cants, is able to confront Dr. Eldon
Tyrell (Joe Turkel), he no longer
feels alive. "That’s what it is to be a
slave."

Batty’s confrontation echoes the
terror of Rachel (Sean Young), a
replicant who had earlier told him,
"I’m not in the business. I am the
business."

A metaphor for all estranged and
persecuted, Deckard’s blank-stare­
epiphany in the face of Batty, coupled
with his unforeseen love for Rachael—and of course, Gaff’s folded gift
— led him to realize those whom he
was hunting may not have been so
different from, nor less human, than
himself.

Due to its timeless inquiry of hu­
manity, “Blade Runner” stands
not so much simply a “movie” as a
filmed codex of fine art, rang­ing
from the literary (it was based on
Philip K. Dick’s 1968 novel “Do An­
droids Dream of Electric Sheep?”) to
the architectural (prominently fea­
turing The Bradbury Building and
Frank Lloyd Wright’s Ennis House)
and the painted (as Scott derived the
entrancing synthesizer-driven score of
Vangelis, of “Chariots of Fire” fame)
from the musical (graced by the delicately
extracring synthesizer-driven score of
Vangelis, of “Chariots of Fire” fame)
and the painted (as Scott derived the
very mood of the film from Edward
Hopper’s “Nighthawks.”)

Seeing the film as its truest form
and revitalized on the big screen is
equiv a电缆 the following in the late ‘80s
and early ‘90s.

In 1993, it was chosen for pres­
ervation in the U.S. National Film
Registry by the Library of Congress
for its cultural, historical and aesthetic
significance, and in 2007 took a place
on the American Film Institute’s list
of the hundred greatest American
movies ever made.

Named as 2007 by the Visual Ef­
facts Society as the second-most in­
terational visual effects film of all time,
it has been praised in that regard
since receiving an Academy Award
nomination for Best Art Direction
and Set Decoration.

Today, in what ought to be its last
incarnation, “Blade Runner” stands
not so much simply a “movie” as a
filmed codex of fine art, rang­ing
from the literary (it was based on
Philip K. Dick’s 1968 novel “Do An­
droids Dream of Electric Sheep?”) to
the architectural (prominently fea­
turing The Bradbury Building and
Frank Lloyd Wright’s Ennis House)
and the painted (as Scott derived the
very mood of the film from Edward
Hopper’s “Nighthawks.”)
Here comes to save the day — Danger Mouse is on the way. Just when The Black Keys were running the risk of becoming a one-trick pony, Sir Gnath himself has arrived on the scene to give the guitar-and-drums duo a much needed shot in the arm.

“Attack & Release,” the Keys’ fifth and most recent studio album, branches out considerably more than its predecessor under the tasteful touchering of sonic maestro Danger Mouse. When “Magic Potion” felt a bit recycled as a whole, the new album gets a bit wider in scope. A little dash of weird here and there goes a long way for the Keys.

Of course, Danger Mouse, who produced the album, is not solely responsible for breaking up the monotony. For “Attack,” guitarist Dan Auerbach and drummer Patrick Carney reached out to two of Tom Waits’ longtime collaborators, Marc Ribot and Carney’s Uncle Ralph. As a result, “Attack” smashes through the limitations present on previous Keys albums.

In the past, Auerbach and Carney have done their fair share of reaching out for some sound variation. Several months before releasing “Magic,” the duo tackled “Chulahoma,” a 28-minute EP dedicated to the songs of blues legend Junior Kimbrough. In contrast with the following full-length album, “Chulahoma” went a little darker and stranger.

But “Magic” never made good on the promises of “Chulahoma” and “Rubber Factory.” Less than two years later, “Attack & Release” goes above and beyond what many have come to anticipate from a Black Keys album. The bold, classic rock-and-blues mash-ups are still ever present, but with some fresh eyes and ears at their disposal, Auerbach and Carney have greatly expanded their approach.

Album standout “Psychotic Girl” has The Black Keys showcasing all the new twists on their old bag of tricks. Auerbach does not play his slide guitar parts so much as let them escape, like a squealing air from a stretched balloon. A simple piano refrain and a banjo track make it into Danger Mouse’s dense mix, as Auerbach relates the fragments of a broken relationship.

But for every attack, there is a release. Never before have the Keys worked so effectively in balancing tempo and pace across an entire album. Nightmares give way to sweet dreams. The slow crawl becomes the hard burn when The Black Keys were running the risk of becoming a one-trick pony, the monotony. This album busts through the limitations present on previous Keys albums.

The bold, classic rock-and-blues mash-ups are still ever present, but with some fresh eyes and ears at their disposal, Auerbach and Carney have greatly expanded their approach.

End of the road — Danger Mouse is on the way. Just when The Black Keys were running the risk of becoming a one-trick pony, Sir Gnath himself has arrived on the scene to give the guitar-and-drums duo a much needed shot in the arm.

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A crude welcome back

The era of cheap oil is over. This state­ ment shouldn’t come as a surprise to most of you, given the $4 a gallon you just paid to drive back to school. However, in a few years that $4 a gallon (assuming from $100 a barrel oil) will look pretty darn cheap. Why? Because as tight as the oil markets are currently, they are about to get a lot tighter over the next few years, resulting in much higher prices. According to the International Energy Agency (IEA), oil markets are entering a period of intense pressure from both supply and demand factors (excess world demand and limited supply). In its 2007 report, the IEA calculated that world demand for oil will grow by 2.2 percent annually over the next five years, while supply will only experience a 1 percent growth. Thus, a 12 percent discrepancy between supply and demand, while seemingly small, has caught the attention of several prominent groups. For example, the renowned investment bank Goldman Sachs (shock, the exact opposite of Bear Stearns in terms of financial IQ) recently noted that the oil squeeze could push prices to as high as $150 to $200 a barrel within the next few years—meaning $6 and $8 a gallon for Americans.

On the supply side of the problem there is unfortunately very little that can be done. The IEA report indicates that most of the world’s largest oil fields are declining in terms of their production capabilities. In addition, the country’s dependence on oil has gotten so bad that in 2006 President Bush declared, “Invocation and one that was at the mercy of "foreign governments and cartels" (this was when oil prices were at $1.30 a gallon!).

The IEA report does note that both Democratic candidates, Obama and Clinton, have pledged tens of billions of dollars that will help fund, develop and implement alternative energies during their respective administrations. More importantly, both candidates genuinely seem concerned about America’s "addiction" to oil, unlike many of their Republican counterparts.

Fortunately, both Democratic candidates, Obama and Clinton, have pledged tens of billions of dollars that will help fund, develop and implement alternative energies during their respective administrations. More importantly, both candidates genuinely seem concerned about America’s “addiction” to oil, unlike many of their Republican counterparts.

Barrie Maguire
MAGUIRE
news editor, Sara Hamilton
vice president Cal Poly since 1996
To Cal Poly Students, Faculty and Staff:

As we begin the 21st century, Cal Poly is exploring the role of polytechnic universities in a rapidly changing world. One of the important considerations is our education of students fully prepared to enter a global workforce and function as informed citizens in a diverse and increasingly interdependent world.

We start with the important and already well-established University principle that encountering, studying and seeking understanding of the extraordinary variety of human conditions, experiences and perspectives is fundamental to a Cal Poly education.

- The University Mission Statement, for example, emphasizes that:
  "As an academic community, Cal Poly values free inquiry, cultural and intellectual diversity, mutual respect, civic engagement, and social and environmental responsibility."

- The Cal Poly Statement on Diversity, endorsed by the Academic Senate in 1998, observes that:
  "Only through intellectual and first-hand personal exposure to diversity in its myriad forms – racial, ethnic, cultural, gender, geographic, socioeconomic, etc. – will students gain the understanding, empathy, and social skills that they will require to be effective, engaged citizens in an increasingly crowded and interrelated global community. The benefit of diversity is universal. Cal Poly's commitment to diversity signals an affirmation of the highest educational goals of this University, including mutual respect, civility, and engaged learning."

- In 2008 the Academic Senate adopted formal diversity learning objectives for Cal Poly students. They are based on the premise that "all students who complete an undergraduate or graduate program at Cal Poly should be able to make reasoned decisions based on a respect and appreciation for diversity as defined in the Cal Poly Statement on Diversity."

Our commitment to diversity as an educational value is clear. It is manifested impressively and in many different ways in the day to day academic and co-curricular activities of the University community.

At the same time, it is also true that the strength and fidelity of that commitment have been tested and even called into question over the past few years by controversies centered on issues of race, gender, cultural difference and sexual orientation. Far too often, campus public discussions and debates about these issues have been characterized by poorly informed, emotional and even hurtful rhetoric and symbolism. In some cases, while these forms of expression have Constitutional protections and are protected under institutional policy, the sentiments voiced and the way in which they have been communicated fall outside the boundaries of civil and mutually respectful discourse in a university community.

As a result, I believe it is crucial that we revisit and reaffirm Cal Poly's commitment to diversity as a core value of our institution, a value that allows us to be responsible citizens as we traverse an ever-more complex global landscape.

Over the next several months, we will be publishing a series of brief statements about diversity. Articles in this series will address various aspects of diversity including diversity as a central attribute of California and the nation, diversity as a key value in the organizations and corporations that hire Cal Poly students, ways in which the University is working to instill in our students the capacity to function in diverse cultural and intellectual contexts, and the responsibilities of University citizenship in a diverse campus community.

The goal of these articles is to foster greater understanding and clarity about the place that diversity occupies in our university and the wider society. I hope to open a dialogue and invite you to share your thoughts and observations about this vitally important issue and ways in which we can address it here at Cal Poly.

I hope that the entire campus community will join me as we reaffirm our commitment to diversity as a community value at Cal Poly.

Warren J. Baker
President
State

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A man accused of participating in an international smuggling ring that trafficked rare Asian tortoises into the United States was sentenced Tuesday to 9½ months in federal prison.

Wei He Guo was also ordered to spend another 9½ months in home detention by U.S. District Judge J. Spencer Letts.

SACRAMENTO (AP) — Placer County officials would be able to bar boating during holiday weekends on a popular stretch of the Truckee River under a bill that passed the state Senate.

The bill was sent to the Assembly Tuesday on a 27-4 vote.

Sen. Dave Cox is working the plan on the stretch of river below Lake Eagle, from Tahoe City to the Alpine Meadows entrance.

He says the river turns into a drunken party during the Fourth of July and Labor Day.

SACRAMENTO (AP) — The California Senate has approved spending $5.3 million to restore salmon habitats.

Lawmakers are responding to a population decline that may end the river's status as a spawning ground for salmon fishing off the California coast.

Senators approved the bill Tuesday, 29-0, and assigned it to a Senate committee.

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — San Francisco's school board of supervisors passed a resolution protesting China's poor human rights record ahead of the Olympic torch's visit to the city.

The resolution calls for an investigation into China's actions in Tibet and its treatment of disorders.

It asks city officials to express their disagreement when they receive the Beijing Olympic Torch on April 9.

POLICE BLOTTER

Mar. 21, 03:53 - Officers responded to an alarm at the Rec Center pool discovered three males swimming.

Mar. 17, 12:44 - An officer took a report of a suspicious male who had previously been found multiple times in the women's locker room at Mott Gym.

Mar. 16, 22:21 - An officer responded to a report of arson near Yosemite Hall. A ceramic bowl had been set on fire.

Mar. 15, 12:58 - An officer responded to a report of vandalism at Cerro Vista Apartments. A window was broken and screen missing. It appeared several dishes had been thrown out the window.

Mar. 14, 15:37 - Officers respond to a fire in Yosemite Hall. A subject put paper towels in the microwave and they caught fire. The fire was contained within the microwave.

Mar. 11, 10:53 - Additional patrol was requested near the Dexter Building as a subject had been sleeping on an air mattress in the area. The reporting party was asked to contact UPD if the subject was seen there again.

Mar. 11, 10:35 - Officers responded to a suspicious circumstance of a "HELP" sign being posted in a window of the Engineering East Building.

National

WAYCROSS, Ga. (AP) — A group of third-graders plotted to attack their teacher, bringing a broken steak knife, handcuffs, duct tape and other items for the job and assigning children tasks including covering the windows and cleaning up afterward, police said Tuesday.

The plot involving as many as nine boys and girls at Center Elementary School in south Georgia was a serious threat, Waycross Police Chief Tony Tanner said.

School officials alerted police Friday after a pupil ripped off a teacher that a girl had brought a weapon to school. Tanner said the students apparently planned to knock the teacher unconscious with a crystal paperweight, bind her with the handcuffs and tape and then stab her with the knife.

LAKE CHARLES, La. (AP) — Police officers suspected that a car they had pulled over was stolen, so they called the registered owner and left a message.

But when the owner called back, officers saw the apparently thought the message was from a drug dealer, and the was busted for allegedly trying to buy crack cocaine.

"Officers put in a lot of energy to close a case, so we never mind getting one on sheer luck and suspicion," Lake Charles police Sgt. Mark Aris said of last week's arrest.

FRANKFORT, Ky. (AP) — A Kentucky man wasn't around when officers seized reptiles from his home. That's because he was at a hospital having fингes amputated after a work-related injury.

The state Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources seized seven rattlesnakes, a gaboon viper, a king cobra, an iguana, two monitor lizards, two alligators, a boa constrictor and a python.

International

SAO PAULO, Brazil (AP) — A reputed Colombian drug lord whose car was accused of carrying hundreds of tons of cocaine to the United States was sentenced Tuesday to more than 30 years in prison in Brazil for crimes committed in that country.

Juan Carlos Ramirez Abadia, who was arrested last year in Brazil, was found guilty of money laundering, corruption, conspiracy and use of false documents in this South American country. Besides the sentence, Ramirez Abadia must also pay a fine worth $2.5 million.

BEIJING (AP) — China has branded the U.S. as a "wolf in sheep's clothes" and his followers the "scum of Buddhism." It stepped up the rhetoric Tuesday, accusing the Nobel Peace laureate and his supporters of planning suicide attacks.

The Tibetan government-in-exile swiftly denied the charge, and the Bush administration rushed to the Tibetan Buddhist leader's defense, calling him "a man of peace."

"There is absolutely no indication that he wants to do anything other than have a dialogue with China on how to discuss the serious issues there," State Department spokesman Tom Casey said.

BAGHDAD (AP) — A woman was stripped in a dirty abaya and beaten with a belt and canes turned toward upholding the kindness of strangers.

The sidewalks around the Convention Center are an ideal place for 54-year-old Umm Mohammed — a nickname that means "mother of Mohammed" — to hustle for spare cash.

Beggars are reappearance in the Green Zone and elsewhere in the capital, an indication that police seem to be losing interest in carrying out orders last month to round them up.

"Like a plethora of fabric madness."

— Andrew Whiting, agricultural business sophomore

"Mine's made out of faux-wolf."

— Natasha Knapp, biochemistry freshman

"Mine's empty because I need to do laundry really bad."

— Isabelle Kraus, psychology freshman

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"Very swap meet, it is. I get all my underwear at the swap meet."

— Richard Ruiz, city and regional planning sophomore
Golf

continued from page 12
fully defended its intercollegiate
title during the two-day, 14-team Lankin Cup Cal Poly Invitational at
Tandem Golf Course in Arroyo Grande.
Wagner won the tournament after
carding his third-straight round of
71 to finish with a 54-hole total of
213, three under par on the par-72
course. He finished the tournament
tied with Branson Cothran after the
third round, but won by default af­
ter Renfrow had to board a plane
back to Vancouver before the final
playoff. It was Wagner’s first time
winning a college tournament.
“It’s definitely a success,” Wagen­
ner said. “It’s not the way I like
it, but it counts as a victory.”
The victory for Wagner comes
after a crucial scorekeeping error
the day before, when he found a par-four hole, but accident­
ally marked it as an even-par. The
mistake cost him an extra stroke,
leaving him two behind Cal State
Northridge’s Nick Deloia, the lead­
er of the first round.
Two other Mustangs ended the
tournament in the top 10. O’Brien
finished alone in ninth after post­
ing a final-round 73 for a two-over
210 total, while Knight finished in
115 for 10th place with a five-over
221 total, carding a 76.
Levens finished tied for 13th
place with a final-round 73 and a
223 total while Gonzalez shot a
73 for a total of 224, coming in an
18th-place tie.
“We managed to pull it togeth­
er each round,” Wagner said.
Cal Poly won the team cham­
ionship in a margin of 11 strokes
over Cal State Northridge by
-casting a final-round, two-over
209 total for a seven-over 871 ag­
go.
The Mustangs, who were a
tournament-high 19 under par-
trees, and had the most birdies
(51) and pars (191), will travel to
the Big West Conference Cham­
ionships, held April 21 and 22 at
Tijeras Creek Golf Course in Mis­
ion Viejo.

BOWLS

continued from page 12
fully endorsed the bureau’s exclu­
sion and echoed Biaggini’s senti­
ments.
“It would be costing to have
the very best high school players in
the state of California play games in
Spa­ton Stadium,” Cone said. “It
would be good for the (basketball)
programs, certainly good for the
community and would expose that
many more high school students to
Cal Poly.”

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Poly could host state football championships

Alex G. Spanos Stadium one of five frontrunners to host five December high school bowls

Donovan Aid

Cal Poly is now among five candidates being seriously considered to host five high school football state championship games this weekend in December, a California Interscholastic Federation official said Tuesday.

On-campus Alex G. Spanos Stadium would serve as the San Luis Obispo venue for the 2008 CIF State Football Championships Bowl Games, and is one of seven sites still officially being evaluated.

The others are L.A. Memorial Coliseum, Stanford Stadium, San Jose State's Spartan Stadium, the Home Depot Center in Carson, Memorial Stadium in Berkeley and UC Davis' Aggie Stadium, according to various reports confirmed March 25 by Ron Nocetti, director of state championship events for the CIF, the state governing body of high school athletics.

Although they have not been formally ruled out, L.A. Memorial Coliseum and the Home Depot Center are likely out of the running due to being "substantially more prohibitive in cost" than the other sites, said Emmy Zack, CIF director of communications.

While Zack would not divulge specific financial parameters of the proposals, she said the two unlikely sites would cost close to $200,000 for the two-day rental, while Cal Poly was "more in the ballpark with everyone else" at less than $190,000.

"We're in the process of going over the bids, and determining based on a variety of criteria, whether the bids meet our needs, financially and logistically," Zack said. "The hope is that in the next couple of weeks, visits will be made." The CIF is yet to decide which of the five locations in selection committee will visit Zack said. After the visits, she said, a recommendation will be given to the executive committee of the CIF, and a decision will be made "hopefully in the next couple of weeks" leading up to May 1.

Visits would be conducted in the first 10 to 14 days of April, culminating in a decision made "very shortly," afterward, Nocetti said.

Advantages Spanos Stadium may hold over the more high-profile settings seem to be in its equivalent distance from both the southern and northern parts of the state, and its price, compared to the larger options.

Last season, the CIF which netted a reported $61,000 in profit Dec. 20 and will again have to account for a variety of expenditures in addition to teams' travel costs, was reportedly charged approximately $124,000 strictly for a one-day, Dec. 15 rental of the Home Depot Center for a trio of championships.

"Some of the other sites may charge less money, but maybe won't have features we need," Zack said. "For 10 teams, we'll need suitable locker rooms, parking and hotels in the community.

Spanos Stadium, which was renovated from 2006 to 2008, has a seating capacity of 11,750.

From the other six possibilities, only Aggie Stadium, which seated 10,743 as of last year, was smaller.

Although those numbers pale in comparison to the seating offered by L.A. Memorial Coliseum (92,000), Stanford Stadium (50,000), Home Depot Center (27,000) and Bakersfield's Memorial Stadium (20,000), it may not matter.

According to Nocetti, while the newness of the bowl games, which started in 2006 as a three-game format continued in 2007, makes their future attendance "pretty much impossible to tell," they drew about a combined 13,000 fans in their inaugural trial and approximately 11,000 last year.

Joni Biagiotti, executive director of the San Luis Obispo County Visitors and Convention Bureau, said the increased games could attract up to 25,000 people during the slated weekend, reported to be Dec. 20 to 21.

"We're looking for the site that gives us the best of both worlds with regard to size, amenities, training rooms, locker rooms, parking, travel and so on," Nocetti said. "Every site has its trade-offs."

Neither Nocetti nor Biagiotti would give details of San Luis Obispo County's proposal.

The growth of the bowls, which were contested in 2007, makes the CIF's five-game format continued in 2007, on average, Dick Mendes in the title match, 5-2.

Mustangs tie for second

Cal Poly senior 141-pound wrestler Chad Mendes, then No. 1 in the country, rejoiced after defeating Oklahoma State's Nathan Morgan 1-0 in the semifinals of the NCAA national championships in St. Louis on March 21.

A day later, he was upset by Ohio State's Jordan Mein in the title match; 5-2.

Mendes, a two-time All-American, finished the season 30-1 and his career 64-14.

Cal Poly tournament title

Patrick Barbieri

Four days after winning in second tournament title in a row, and its sixth in school history, the Cal Poly men's golf team, No. 23 in the US Coaches Poll and NCAA Pacific Region, won the NCAA West Regional on Wednesday and qualified for the NCAA championships.

The Mustangs carded an 875 total at Rancho San Marcos Golf Course in Santa Barbara to tie with Boise State, 20 strokes behind Cal State Northridge, which led from start to finish.

Boise State senior Troy Murritt matched the event record with a 199 to take top individual honors.

On behalf of Cal Poly, sophomore Geoff Gonzales shot a final-round 72 en route to a 218 total, good enough for an 11th-place finish.

Senior Brycen Wagner tied for 13th with a 223, and senior Michael O'Brien, in 40th at 227.

Thursday and Friday, Cal Poly successes...