Diaz pleads no contest

Ryan Chartrand
MUSTANG DAILY

Computer engineering freshman Francisco Diaz plead no contest Wednesday morning to felony charges after he was accused of sending threatening e-mails to more than 50 Cal Poly students and faculty members in October 2007.

The plea bargain, while technically not a guilty plea, means Diaz neither admits nor disputes the charges of criminal threats and unlawful access to a computer and fraud. His sentencing is set for June 2.

Judge Dodie Harman dismissed the remaining two counts of criminal threats and one count of unlawful access to a computer and fraud originally charged against him.

His felony probation, which could last from three to five years, states that he is to serve up to 90 days in the county jail in addition to performing community work service.

He also faces a fine of no less than $280 and no more than $10,000.

Police arrested Diaz Oct. 30, 2007 at Cal Poly on suspicion of sending e-mails that stated the sender was planning an attack on Cal Poly students and faculty similar to incidents at Virginia Tech in April 2007. Diaz posted his $50,000 bail the following day.

An online message allegedly sent from Diaz in November 2007 to the Mustang Daily said Diaz was sorry for sending the e-mails and that they were meant to be a Halloween prank.

Giving sperm is about more than money

Michelle Ragusa
DAILY BROWNS (UC)

We've all been privy to the classic scene in movies and sitcoms: a desperate male protagonist, in a final plea to return some sense of self-worth and earn a quick buck, struts into a sperm bank, makes a quick deposit and walks out chapered, the audience chucking, the writer knowing we shouldn't be doing the same.

If only life imitated art.

In reality, sperm banks couldn't be farther from Hollywood's Rocky portrait: With new developments in medicine every day, it is becoming easier to conceive — and with easier conceptions, the importance of quality sperm is on the rise, as are quality sperm banks.

California Cryobank, one of America's leading sperm banks and largest laboratories, is pioneering the art of helping those with reproductive issues, same-sex couples and single women hoping to conceive.

Established in 1977, California Cryobank has four locations: Westwood, West Hollywood, Palo Alto and Boston.

Uniquely, California Cryobank's donors are often male college students.

The Cryobank today, however, embodies more than just a college student's quick option to make a buck; it stresses the ability to help people of all backgrounds realize their dream of becoming parents.

"I love it. It's the most satisfying thing I've been a part of," said Scott Brown, California Cryobank's communications executive.

Modern-day sperm banks have evolved into a serious commitment on the donor's part, evident in the long process of becoming a donor.

Neglect, abuse seen in 1 in 50 American infants

Mike Stobbe
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLANTA — About one in 50 infants in the U.S. have been neglected or abused, according to the first national study of the problem in that age group.

Nearly a third of the victims were one week old or younger when maltreatment was reported, government researchers said Thursday. The study focused on children younger than 1.

Most of these cases involved neglect, not physical abuse. In the case of the newborns, experts said the data suggests drug abuse by the mother may have been the cause for reports of neglect, but they couldn't be certain.

The researchers counted more than 91,000 infant victims of abuse and neglect from Oct. 1, 2005 to Sept. 30, 2006. About 30,000 of those cases were newborns aged one week or younger.

The information came from a national database of cases verified by protective services agencies in 45 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.
January and February combined. David Plouffe, Obama's campaign manager, claimed a double benefit from the Illinois senator's fundraising. "Many of our contributors are supporters of our work and are looking to maximize our campaign the largest grassroots army in recent political history," he said.

Clinton, speaking to reporters in Burbank, Calif., in the midst of her own fundraising sweep through the state, said, "We've both raising huge amounts of money. But I think the more modest, the more effective. Democrats have been in raising money the last 15 or so months.

"I will have more to compete. Obviously Sen. Obama has more than enough money to compete. But this is a good news story because we mean we are raising it from people committed to our candidacy."

Indeed, the numbers, even for the lagging Clinton, are remarkable. While both raised less than they did in February, the numbers of dollars and the most successful contributions came in March in Texas and Ohio.

Obama's money has given him a significant spending edge over Clinton in Pennsylvania, where the April 22 primary is the biggest delegate prize left on the Democratic calendar. He entered the race with $60 million to help pay his online application, and must meet requirements such as weight, height (at least 5-foot-10), and must be 18. People who have completed or been in the process of completing a four-year university education.

Requiring education, using the computer, and has been donating for almost a year.

"You learn a lot about yourself going through your family history and genetic screening," said the donor who learned about California Cryobank through advertisements. Because of marketing strategies that often target young males, many of California Cryobank's donors are men who are financing their own college educations, using the computer, and have been donating for almost a year.

"It's really convenient. The facility for me is within walking distance. There's no appointment needed. I can drop in on a day or two," the donor said.

"Missile defense is one of many high-priority topics for their succession. However, it appears unlikely that Putin, who stepped down in May, will suddenly embrace a project he considers to be provocative."

The Czechs agreed to host an American radar that would be used to track the flight of missiles heading toward Europe from the Middle East. It would, in effect, be a set of long-range ballistic missiles of the sort Washington believes Iran is developing.

The crucial go-ahead came Thursday from the Czech Republic, where a vital radar site is planned.

The United States and Poland insisted on U.S. military aid as part of an agreement, Bush reiterated that the decision of words seemed to indicate some residual anger.

But this does not mean Moscow's misgivings will stop with the deployment. It would, in effect, be a set of long-range ballistic missiles of the sort Washington believes Iran is developing.

"It is something which we will talk to the Russians about," Bush said.

Cal Poly Health Center

Due to staff shortages and high demand for services, we occasionally may be required to cut off sign-ins prior to our usual 4:30 closing time. To ensure being seen, we recommend that you come into the Health Center as early as possible. We are sorry for the inconvenience.
New evidence puts humans in North America 10,000 years earlier

Randolph E. Schmid

New evidence shows humans lived in North America more than 14,000 years ago, 1,000 years earlier than was previously known.

Discovered in a cave in Oregon, fossil feces yielded DNA indicating these early residents were related to people living in Siberia and East Asia, according to a report in Thursday’s online edition of the journal Science.

“This is the first time we have been able to get dates that are unambiguously human, and they are 1,000 years before Clovis,” said Dennis J. Jenkins, a University of Oregon archaeologist, referring to the Clovis culture well-known for its unique spear points that have been studied previously.

Humans are widely believed to have arrived in North America from Asia over a land-bridge between Alaska and Siberia, perhaps to polish or grind or mash bones or fat.

“What this tells us is that humans were in this region before Clovis,” he said.

The Clovis culture has been dated to between 13,200 and 12,900 calendar years ago and is best known for the tools left behind.

“The Paisley Cave material represents, to the best of my knowledge, the oldest human DNA obtained from North America,” said co-author Eske Willerslev, director of the Centre for Ancient Genetics at Denmark’s University of Copenhagen.

The Paisley Cave material, a handful of the oldest human DNA obtained from North America, adds to the evidence for a pre-Clovis human presence in North America.

If you have to live without a sense, what would it be?

Compiled and photographed by Rachel Gellman

“Sight, because I can understand beauty without having to see it.”

— Anthony De Fazio, architecture junior

You deserve a break.


mustangdaily.net

We’ve got plenty to distract you from those textbooks.
Arab home torn down in Jerusalem, triggering discrimination complaints

Karin Laub
ASSOCIATED PRESS

An Israeli wrecking crew knocked down Shadi Hamdan’s home in an Arab neighborhood of Jerusalem in just a couple of hours, reducing the upholder’s savings to a pile of grey rubble.

The demolition of the home, which Israel claims was illegally built, vividly illustrates the toughest issue facing negotiators in Israeli-Palestinian peace talks — conflicting claims over Jerusalem.

Agreeing on how to divide the ancient city, home to 476,000 Jews and 250,000 Arabs, is on the table but has yet to be resolved in talks launched at a U.S.-hosted Mideast peace conference last November. The Palestinians want to establish a capital in east Jerusalem, as part of a future Palestinian entity in the event of a peace deal.

Already, Anata is cut off from the center of Jerusalem by Israel’s West Bank separation barrier. The single-story structure was first knocked down in 2005, but volunteers rebuilt it over two weeks last summer. Former Jerusalem city council member Meir Margalit, one of Hamdan’s supporters, said his group won’t be deterred and plans to rebuild again.

On Wednesday, a crane-mounted jackhammer tore down Hamdan’s home — two apartments on 1,560 square feet, one for him and one for his parents, 50-year-old Nazha and 70-year-old Hassan. The wrecking crew was guarded by Israeli police, and one Israeli activist was briefly detained for trying to block the demolition.

“I felt my heart would explode,” Nazha Hamdan said of watching her house being wrecked. Hamdan, a 30-year-old bachelor, said he’d sleep at his workshop from now on while his parents would move in with his brother. A small truck arrived to cart off the family’s belongings, including a sofa, fridge and window frames.

Hamdan’s lawyer, Sami Ershied, said the family applied repeatedly for permission to build on its land in Anata but was always turned down on grounds that Anata doesn’t have a master plan. Without one, permits cannot be issued.

Demolition orders are currently pending against several other Anata houses, he said.

Across east Jerusalem, thousands of residents live in fear of demolition, Margalit said, adding that about 1,000 homes are built there without permits every year.

Israel portrays demolitions as a technical matter — saying it’s cracking down on illegal construction across Jerusalem, and that it’s doing so without differentiating between Arab and Jewish residents. “It’s a matter of enforcing municipal law,” said Israeli government spokesman Mark Regev.

Scientists find bacteria that eat antibiotics

Lauran Neergaard
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Antibiotics for breakfast? The drugs are supposed to kill bacteria, not feed them, yet Harvard researchers have discovered hundreds of germs in soil that literally gobble up antibiotics, able to thrive with the potent drugs as their sole source of nutrition.

These bacteria outshine antibiotics in a disturbingly novel way, and now the race is on to figure out just how they do it — in case more dangerous germs that sicken people could develop the same ability.

On the other hand, the work explains why the soil doesn’t harbor big antibiotic builders despite use of the drugs in livestock plus human disposal and, well, excretion.

“Thank goodness we have these bacteria to eat at least some of the antibiotics,” said bacteriologist Jo Handelsman of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, who wasn’t involved in the study. “Nature’s pretty effective.”

The discovery, published in Friday’s edition of the journal Science, came about almost by accident.

A team led by Harvard Medical School geneticist George Church has a Department of Energy grant to develop ways to create biofuels from agriculture waste. Plants are full of natural toxins, so the goal was to find microorganisms in soil capable of breaking down those chemicals. To winnow down the strongest candidates, they tried exposing these bacteria to what should have been far more toxic substances, antibiotics.

That bacteria can eat things that is the basis for the field of bioremediation. Some bugs help break down oil spills, for example.

Nor is it a surprise that soil bacteria can withstand some antibiotics; some had already been found. After all, a number of antibiotics are natural — think penicillin. Some antibiotics have been derived from soil.

Instead, the surprise was how many bacteria didn’t just survive but flourished when fed 18 different antibiotics, natural and manmade ones — including such staples as penicillins, vancomycin and Cipro — that represent the major classes used in treating people and animals.

Church’s team gathered soil from 11 spots in Massachusetts, Minnesota and Pennsylvania, from city parks to pristine forest to a cornfield fertilized with antibiotics-containing poultry litter.

Bacteria prefer to eat sugars, like rotting fruit. Put in laboratory dishes to subsist only on antibiotics, the germs give a little more slowly, but the researchers found every drug tested could support growth of some bacteria.

More disturbing, a number of bacteria could withstand levels of antibiotics that were 50 to 100 times higher than would be given to a patient.

“They were not only resistant, they were super-resistant,” Church said.

“I guess we weren’t really thinking about it as something that bacteria would just eat for breakfast,” he added.

“They are capable of living on this stuff for a long, long time.”

The finding comes amid increasing concern that many infections could soon become untreatable, as more bacteria become immune to today’s antibiotics even as new drugs are being discovered.

But the medical impact of the new work isn’t yet clear. Germs in soil aren’t big human threats, and no human pathogens have been spotted with the same abilities. Still, many of the soil bacteria tested are relatives of human pathogens, including a notorious E. coli strain.

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Movie guide

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<td>21 (PG-13)</td>
<td>Jim Sturgess, Kate Bosworth, Lawrence Fishburne, Kevin Spacey, Lisa Lapina, Josh Gad, Aaron Yoo, directed by Robert Luketic</td>
<td>Summary: Needing to pay school tuition, shy MIT student Ben Campbell (Sturgess) pens a group of gambling-diary (and system-beating) parodies to head to Sin City every weekend to rake in money. The Good: An excellent &quot;slapstick fantasy&quot; (as per the Philadelphia Inquirer). The Bad: Its moralistic message is its downfall. (Metacritic.com)</td>
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<td>Caramel (PG)</td>
<td>Nadine Labaki, Yasmine Al Masri, Joanna Kouzi, Geena Asaad, Shaham Haddad, directed by Nadine Labaki</td>
<td>Summary: The beauty salon acts as the central locale for five Beirut women to dish on men, sex and motherhood — all between haircuts and sugar waxing with caramel, of course. The Good: Like the Lebanese version of &quot;Sex and the City&quot; — but bettor. The Bad: Rotten Tomatoes gives it a 92 percent (so it must be good, right?). (RottenTomatoes.com)</td>
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<td>The Counterfeiters (R)</td>
<td>Karl Markovics, August Diehl, David Striesow, directed by Stefan Ruzowitzky</td>
<td>Summary: A disparate group of imprisoned artists, financiers and swindlers secretly assemble in a concentration camp to produce millions of counterfeit bank notes that support Nazi war efforts. The Good: A provocative look at the complex nature of humanity under inhumane conditions. The Bad: The film closely resembles other Holocaust dramas. (Metacritic.com)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears A Who! (G)</td>
<td>Jim Carrey, Steve Carell, Carol Burnett, Seth Rogen, Will Arnett, Isla Fisher, Dan Fogler, Amy Poehler, directed by Steve Martino and Jimmy Hayward</td>
<td>The Good: Stay true to Seuss while making creative visual embellishments. The Bad: What's not to love? Relive your childhood. (Metacritic.com)</td>
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<td>In Bruges (R)</td>
<td>Owen Wilson, Alex Frost, Casey Boersma, Dylan Boersma, Troy Gentile, Nate Hartley, directed by Steve Brill</td>
<td>Summary: After a killing spree in London, two hit men try to take it easy in Bruges, Belgian while waiting for a call. Ray hates the city, but his accomplice, Ken, finds himself in a cultural masterpiece. The Good: A sharply written, superbly acted, hilarious but powerfully serious film. The Bad: A black comedy that may be too dark for some. (Metacritic.com)</td>
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<td>Leatherheads (PG-13)</td>
<td>George Clooney, Renee Zellweger, John Krasinski, Jonathan Pryce, directed by George Clooney</td>
<td>Summary: The owner of a professional 1920s football team drafts a too-good-to-be-true college sensation while trying to win the heart of a suspicious journalist. The Good: Strong romantic chemistry between Clooney and Zellweger. The Bad: The plot lacks depth, and the plot is unfurling and clichéd. (Metacritic.com)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Married Life (PG-13)</td>
<td>Pierce Brosnan, Chris Cooper, Patricia Clarkson, Rachel McAdams, directed by Ira Sachs</td>
<td>Summary: An unconventional telling of both the power and madness of love. &quot;Married Life&quot; follows Harry as he tries to kill his wife Pat. Why? Because he loves her too much to let her suffer when he leaves her. The Good: A sophisticated, humorous, complex film with a homage to Hitchcock. The Bad: A lot of complex issues — marriage, sex, murder — squeezed into one movie. (Metacritic.com)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miss Pettigrew Lives For A Day (PG-13)</td>
<td>Frances McDormand, Amy Adams, Clea DuVall, Lauren McDowell, directed by Bharat Nalluri</td>
<td>Summary: Miss Pettigrew (McDormand), an aging grandmother dismissed from her job, becomes social secretary for Delysia Lafosse (Adams), helping her navigate a career and complicated love life. The Good: An entertaining, farcical romance featuring impressive acting and authentic costumes and sets. The Bad: It's a British film, but there are no British actors in the leading roles. (Metacritic.com)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nim's Island (PG)</td>
<td>Jodie Foster, Abigail Breslin, Gerard Butler, Alphonso McAuley, directed by Martin McDonagh</td>
<td>Summary: Nim (Breslin) enjoys life on a utopian island, until her father goes missing and she writes a letter to win the heart of a suspicious journalist. The Good: Nim (Breslin) enjoys life on a utopian island, until her father goes missing and she writes to her favorite author for help in finding him. The Bad: Rotten Tomatoes gives it a 92 percent (so it must be good, right?). (RottenTomatoes.com)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paranoid Park (R)</td>
<td>Gabe Nevins, Daniel Liu, Taylor Momsen, Jake Miller, Lauren McKinney, directed by Gus Van Sant</td>
<td>Summary: While investigating an unsolved murder at Portland's infamous Paranoid Park, detectives are led to a local high school, forcing one young skater into self-examination. The Good: Breathtaking, heartbreaking, tragic, beautiful and true. The Bad: It's a modest, artful film that could get overlooked. (Metacritic.com)</td>
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<td>Run, Fatboy, Run (PG-13)</td>
<td>Simon Pegg, Hank Azaria, Thandie Newton, Dylan Moran, Matthew Fenton, Rhiannon Palfrey, directed by David Schwimmer</td>
<td>Summary: In an attempt to win back Libby, the woman he left at the altar five years ago, slightly overweight but charming Dennis decides to run in the same London marathon as Libby's new love interest. The Good: Consistently amusing, with an impressive effort by Schwimmer's part. The Bad: No real fat boy? (Metacritic.com)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Superhero Movie (PG-13)</td>
<td>Drake Bell, Sara Paxton, Christopher McDonald, Pamela Anderson, Leslie Nielsen, directed by Craig Mazin</td>
<td>Summary: The Bad: A satire of &quot;Spiderman&quot; and other superhero movies targeted for a Nickelodeon audience. The Good: Predictable plot and weak jokes, but what do you expect? (Metacritic.com)</td>
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Forget about Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton and John McCain — the biggest election event of the century is coming to the World Rhythm and Motion Center in San Luis Obispo.

For two weekends in April, George W. Bush and a singing nun named Sister Dominique-nique-nique will vie to become the head of the Catholic Church in "POPE II: A Holy, Political, Musical Cabaret."

The show, branchchild of local comedian and playwright Gale McNeeley, is the most recent incarnation of 2006's highly acclaimed "POPE: The Musical."

It follows the same plot as the original, but has been reworked to remain humorous and relevant to today's news.

According to McNeeley. "The inspiration (to bring the show back) is the change in today's political climate."

The satire is no longer aimed at "Dubya" and the Catholic Church. It pokes fun at the latest crop of presidential candidates as well as the "American Political Idol Campaign" currently capturing the country.

"It's hard for Dubya to be funny anymore," said McNeeley, who plays the role of the great decider. "We're equal opportunity pokers."

Hollywood is such a gamble these days. Just look at the new blackjack thriller "21." You may be familiar with the true story on which it's based: In the 1990s, a cadre of math wizards from MIT (college kids like me, except, you know, smart) devised a successful system of card counting they used to bank millions during flashy weekends in Las Vegas. Though eventually caught and banned from many gambling establishments, their story became the stuff of legend and inspired the best-selling book "Bringing Down the House."

"I always thought there was more to life than money," he announces out loud, a not-so-subtle hint at his upcoming character crisis.

When not impressing customers with his rapid price calculations on marked-down suits, Ben works with two nerdy friends (Josh Gad and Sam Golzari) on a science competition, rating the attractiveness of females in bars during breaks.

For those who missed the first "POPE," it is definitely your garden-variety musical.

Reminiscent of a vaudeville review on speed, improvisation and audience participation ensure that individual performances are unique. Each show includes a question-and-answer segment where audience members can grill the candidates. The actors, never breaking character, have to either come up with the right answers or avoid and defer, like real politicians.

"There is a script, but it's just not your average theater experience," said Christina Landeros, a recent addition to the cast. "It's fluid, it's mechanical. It's more intimate because there are only four actors and we play everything."

Landeros' favorite role? A rapping Saddam Hussein.

"It's not supposed to be good because Saddam's not a rapper," she said. "But it is supposed to be funny ... and it's definitely that."

"POPE II" previews Friday at the World Rhythm and Motion Studios located at 150 South St., and officially opens Saturday. It will play at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and 1 p.m. Sundays through April 20. There is a suggested donation of $15 for general admission and $10 for students. Reservations are recommended and can be made by calling (805) 925-1802.
starring degree.

Director Robert Luketic provides the requisite aerial shots of the city's nighttime skyline, showing in montages of neon signs, towering hotels and busy boulevards.

Vegas has always been an exaggerated dreamland, but Hollywood often confuses that with caricature, and Luketic, who doesn't have the artistic eye to tell a captivating story, tries to pacify us with computer-generated piles of chips, music video editing and cheesy slow-motion. And the montages — my God, the montages. This isn't a movie about blackjack players — it's Vegas porn.

Like the tell-all trailer promised, the group runs into a deck of problems, including a bullish casino boss (Laurence Fishburne) who doesn't appreciate the methods employed by Ben and company.

But because this supposedly important plot-thread has to compete for screen time with the nerdy friends (who aren't featured in the book) and the forced romance with Jill, it becomes lost in the shuffle.

By far, the most glaring error "21" pulls off is its refusal to accurately portray the real-life people of the story. Two of the major counters in reality were Asian-Americans, but Columbia Pictures, who financed the project, thought it better for their bottom line if the main characters here were familiar, pleasant Caucasians. They still gave parts to Asian-Americans: two supplemental counters (one is a comic-relief klepto with goofy hair, the other a "loser" who plays slots) and an anonymous counter who is beaten up by Fishburne early in the film. Hollywood has a history of "white-washing" minorities out of movies, and this one has received some major flack (there's even a Facebook group called "Boycott '21").

It's a shame, because the real story is quite cool. Check out the book, but with "21," when it comes to "hit" or "stay," you need to stay.

Stay away.
Van Jones!

Bridging the gap between environmental and social justice

"We need a different on-ramp for people from disadvantaged communities," Van Jones told Thomas Friedman in the New York Times article "The Green-Collar Solution."

"The leaders of the climate establishment came in through one door and now they want to squeeze everyone through that same door. It's not going to work. If we want to have a broad-based environmental movement, we need more entry points."

Van Jones is an Oakland-based progressive leader whose vision of environmentalism seamlessly incorporates social justice. He is the founder and national executive director of the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights in Oakland, an action center working for justice, opportunity and peace in urban America. Jones is also a member of Oakland Mayor Ron Dellums' Green Economic Initiatives Task Force, which supports the idea of aggressively integrating eco-friendly employment and businesses to the inner city.

"I am currently writing a book called" Green-Collar Jobs: How To Beat Global Warming, Cure Poverty & Unite America," in which he places the private sector at the center of a new, solution-based environmentalism. Jones is most recent project, Green For All, is projected to provide an estimated 10 million "green-collar" jobs to minority and low-income workers, mostly youth in urban areas.

At last year's Bioresearchers Conference, after pointing out the difference between the environmental issues poor black people care about and the ones affluent white people worry about, Jones jokingly declared, "This is the PowerPoint presentation Al Gore would give if he was black." Those who have had the opportunity to hear him speak often come to the conclusion that he will go down in history.

"I don't accept any...coexistence with Israel...Today the conflict."

"The Mustang Daily staff takes pride in publishing a daily newspaper for the Cal Poly campus and the neighboring community. We appreciate your readership and are thankful for your careful reading."

The Mustang Daily is a "designated public forum." Student editors have full authority for all content decisions without censorship or advance approval. The Mustang Daily is a free newspaper; however the removal of more than one copy of the paper per day is subject to a cost of 50 cents per issue.

"I saw a guy in a vest the other day and I wandered..."

GUEST COMMENTARY

Two sides to the story, but not to the facts

In response to Soquel Schaefer's guest commentary on April 1, of course there are multiple sides to each story, but that does not allow there to be multiple facts (or maybe you were just making an April Fool's Day joke?).

For example, you claimed the 1967 Arab-Israeli War was initiated by Israel. While Israel did, in fact, fire the first shots on June 5, Egypt closed the Suez Road to Israeli shipping on May 22, which was a declaration of war. I'm sure Dr. Foroohar also taught you that Syria repeatedly shelled Israeli towns in the north, and Egypt sent terrorists to attack Israel in the years leading up to the war. But did she tell you why the Jews in Israel.

To read the original commentary titled "There's always another side to the story" by Soquel Schaefer, please go to http://tinyurl.com/2p9f92.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

More rational abortion display response

Thank you, Mr. Wolf, for writing in response to my letter. To begin with, I was merely bringing it up based on the fact that you can't have conception without them; therefore jilling them, prevents a life from occurring. Just about anything can be reasoned if it's only a step further than what's already accepted as the norm.

On to the next point, rape victims' pregnancies. One in 100 may not seem statistically significant, but it is actually a lot of people. According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics Web site, one in every six women has been sexually assaulted, with approximately 450,000 women raped a year in the United States as of 2001. Forty-four percent of those victims are under the age of 18. According to the University of Rochester's Men Against Sexual Assault organization, this results in approximately 32,000 pregnancies a year (about 15,000 to 25,000 victims under the age of 18).

I urge all to consider that these are not just numbers, but real people who are suffering. Even if it's not a large portion of the population percentage-wise, it's still thousands of real people whose lives are devastated. It is fair to prevent them from changing their futures to make abortion a little less convenient for others?

Diana Watkins

Graphic communication junior

Clarification on what's sugar-based

The column "A crude welcome back" on Wednesday's opinion page made a reference to Brazil being energy independent thanks to "sugar-based" ethanol.

Technically, all ethanol made for fuel comes from sugar, making all ethanol "sugar-based." That sugar can be extracted from sugar cane (as is done in Brazil), corn or sources of cellulose.

Andrew Deem

Graphic communication junior
Johnny
continued from page 12

Kevin Love, The Tigers haven't seen a guy with this much versatility all season.

University of Oregon's Kevin Love was the only collegiate player of all time to win a national championship after having been chosen No. 1 overall in the NBA draft.

Love's performance was a result of his ability to score inside and out, as well as his strong all-around play. He led his team in scoring, rebounding, and assists, and was named the tournament's Most Outstanding Player.

UCLA guard Darren Collison looks to pass over Xavier's Drew Lavender in the first half of the Bruins' 76-57 win on Saturday.

UCLA into Final Four

Beth Harris
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN ANTONIO — A whole lot of Love has taken UCLA a long way this season. Expectations were already outsized when Kevin Love walked onto the Westwood campus as the greatest high school player in Oregon history. The 6-foot-10 freshman was the coveted big man the Bruins had been lacking since Bill Walton retired. Kareem Abdul-Jabbar starred on John Wooden's teams in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

“I’ve heard the comparisons. Those are unfair, because they are comparing me to the best college players of all time,” Love said. “Those are the hardest footsteps ever to follow in college basketball.”

But he’s trying.

Love chose UCLA ahead of North Carolina and quickly won over the Bruins' demanding fans, dazzling them with his speed, skill and intensity on both ends of the court. He's scored in double figures in all 38 games, including 23 double-doubles, with 16 of those in the Bruins' last 22 games.

The turning point in Love's memorable first, and like­ly only collegiate season came against Texas in early De­cember. The Bruins were beaten by two points at home, their first loss, and Love played just 24 minutes—nearly 10 minutes less than the other starters.

“I wasn't doing that great on defense. Lorenzo Mata-Real had to step in being a fourth-year guy,” Love said. “From then on, I just tried to study film and listen to my coach.”

Unlike most of the team, Love has been injury-free throughout the season, except for tweaking his back in the Pac-10 tournament. He's scored in double figures in all 38 games, including 23 double-doubles, with 16 of those in the Bruins' last 22 games.

He stepped into one of the best situations any fresh­man has in his life, and got easy baskets and points from the field and 77 percent from the 3-point range m

He's blocked 17 shots, in­cluding seven in a thrilling overtime win over Texas A&M in the second round.

“He came in with so much expectation, and hope,” UCLA coach Ben Howland said. “There is a lot on your shoulders and not only reach all the expectations, but to exceed them, he’s been incred­ible.”

Love has learned to play Howland's style of hard-nosed defense, something that didn’t happen in high school, where he "just sort of stood around and got easy baskets and waited for rebounds,” he said.

The UCLA freshman center Kevin Love has averaged 21.8 points and 11 rebounds per game during the NCAA Tournament.

Love family, whose roots run deep.

Kevin was born in Santa Monica before Stan and Karen moved to Lake C Y s- way, Ore., where he grew up. His uncle Mike Love formed the Beach Boys in the region famous for its beach culture. The Loves rent an apartment in the same complex near campus where Kevin lives with his friend Collin. Their teen­age sister Emily has turned up at games as has Mike, Stan's brother.

The younger Love used to be a bit ashamed of his uncle's music. Mike teased him that Love was just wor­ried about losing his street cred. "If I listen to it," Love said, lowering his voice, "what will my friends think?"

Now Love embraces his family's musical heritage. He lists "Good Vibrations" and "California Girls" as his fa­vorite Beach Boys songs. Least favorite? "Surfer Girl.”

Ever the contrarian, he said, "I don’t like that one because it’s my dad’s favorite.”

Love said his uncle was going to try to make Satur­day's game.

The Beach Boys are on an eight-date United King­dom tour, with shows in London on Friday and Cardiff, Wales, on Sunday.

“What is he thinking? Who makes his schedule?” Love joked. “He’s going to try to either pay off the show or do something to get out here. This is a pretty special time for my family and for myself as well, so he’s going to try.”

Love and his teammates will go for the school's 99th NCAA tournament victory against Memphis on Satur­day. He figures to be the center of attention again.

"No matter how much press I get, no matter what people say about me, I’m just going to be Kevin, the nice kid that my parents raised me to be,” he said.

Maybe a national champio, too.
Hoffman rebounds for Pads, saves 3-2 win over Astros

The San Diego Padres’ Kevin Kouzmanoff, right, is congratulated by teammate Scott Hairston after hitting a two-run homer against the Houston Astros on Thursday.

In the 3-2 win, San Diego’s Torrey Hoffman earned his second save in three chances.

Football

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per game to finish second in the Football Championship Subdivision in total offense, fewer than two yards behind national champion Appalachian State’s 488.3.

So many returning contributors to such a prolific, output made striking deals with would-be opponents even more difficult, resulting in a calendar pitting the Mustangs against five adversaries they’ve never faced, and one Ellerson deemed the “most challenging” in program history.

Following back-to-back games in Louisiana Sept. 13 and Sept. 20, Cal Poly is presently scheduled to play just once in the ensuing three weeks, with a bye planned Sept. 27.

“A lot of us have never had two byes, but I don’t think it’ll slow us down,” said Mustangs senior quarterback Jonathan Dally. “We’re a strong-minded team — with our experience, a bye week shouldn’t slow us down mentally. As far as getting us prepared, it should boost us into the latter part of our season, and be a benefit in terms of staying healthy.”

While the most-hyped matchup figures to be the regular-season finale at Wisconsin, which closed last season dotted 24th in the Associated Press poll, Dally emphasized that the Mustangs have to stay grounded.

“I think a lot of players know it’s an honor to play a team like Wisconsin,” he explained. “But getting ahead of ourselves would only make it more difficult as the year goes on. This year we have one of the strongest schedules out there and a lot of us are looking at it as a challenge.”

Even Dally, who played for 29 touchdowns and rushed for 12 more on the way to finishing No. 2 in the nation in passing efficiency, acknowledged the veteran Mustangs’  capabilities.

“We know there’ll be highs and lows, but our potential can be at an all-time high,” he said.

Only five starters, however, return to the Mustangs defense, which finished 23rd in the country a year ago, allowing 370.4 yards per outing.

“Rounding out that group was a focus of February and March spring drills, along with gelling a shuffled offensive line, as senior, former center Stephen Field, a three-time all-conference first team member, was moved to left guard to take the place of the graduated Daniel Bradsho. Sophomore Jason Cox has been penciled in as Field’s replacement.”

“We’ve just got to pick up where we left off and make sure everybody’s been staying up to speed,” Dally said.

Fans will have an opportunity to get their first glance at the new-look Mustangs at 3 p.m. Saturday in the Mustangs’ annual spring game in Alex G. Spanos Stadium.

Two groups, broken up into green and gold and coached by offensive coordinator Ian Shidlik and defensive coordinator Payam Saa-
dar, will take the field, as one full team today and the other tomorrow.

“I should be a glimpse of the future and how our depth looks,” Dally said. “The best-case scenario would be to get all our starters out there and play some of the walk-ons and younger kids. It should be fun.”

Round-up

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The series starts at 3 p.m. today, with both the second and third install­ments scheduled for 1 p.m. and Saturday.

Frazee finishes in top 20 at Tex­as Relays

Cal Poly senior Chris Frazee placed 19th in the 400-meter hurdles Thursday in 53.92 seconds at the 81st Clyde Littlefield Texas Relays.

The Mustangs will continue com­petition in Austin, Texas through Sat­urday, while others will participate in the Stanford Invitational, which is held today through Saturday.

Women’s tennis team looks to end losing skid

The Cal Poly women’s tennis team will host three matches in a row, by all 6-1 margins.

Men’s tennis team hosts pair of Big West foes

Coming off a 4-3 win over Loyola Marymount on Saturday, the Cal Poly men’s tennis team will host two Big West Conference opponents this week end at Mustang Courts.

The first match will take place at noon Saturday against conference­leading Pacific (8-7, 2-0), followed by another noon outing Sunday, against fourth-place UC Davis (8-6, 1-3).

Second-place Cal Poly (9-7, 1-0) has won two of its past three.

Cal Poly football schedule announced

Eleven-game slate includes two byes, although search for 12th opponent still underway

Donovan Aird

Opening and concluding the Mustangs' regular season will be contests against Football Bowl Subdivision teams, Aug. 30 at San Diego State and Nov. 22 at Wisconsin. Since announcing Feb. 22 the latter trip, Cal Poly was unable to come to terms with fellow Great West Football Conference member North Dakota; although if an "appropriate" scenario surfaces, a 12th game will be added, according to Mustangs' athletic director Alison Cone.

"We're always crying about the challenges we face putting together a schedule," Cal Poly head coach Rich Ellerson said in a statement. Alsoihd did a great job putting this thing together. Sometimes it's just a matter of whoever answers the phone. There's not a whole lot of design beyond that."

Cal Poly, which finished last season 7-4 and ranked No. 24 in the Sports Network poll, returns 10 offensive starters from an offense that compiled 487.1 yards per game. Twelve offensive starters are back this year, including two byes and six home games.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>OPPONENT (W-L in 2007)</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>TIME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 30</td>
<td>at San Diego State* (4-8)</td>
<td>San Diego</td>
<td>5 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 6</td>
<td>Montana (11-1)</td>
<td>San Luis Obispo</td>
<td>6:05 p.m.</td>
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<td>Sept. 13</td>
<td>at McNeese State (11-1)</td>
<td>Lake Charles, La.</td>
<td>5 p.m.</td>
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<td>Sept. 20</td>
<td>at Northwestern State (4-7)</td>
<td>Natchitoches, La.</td>
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<td>Sept. 27</td>
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<td>Oct. 4</td>
<td>South Dakota ** (6-5)</td>
<td>San Luis Obispo</td>
<td>6:05 p.m.</td>
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<td>Oct. 18</td>
<td>at South Dakota (7-4)</td>
<td>Brookings, S.D.</td>
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<td>North Carolina Central (6-4)</td>
<td>San Luis Obispo</td>
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<td>UC Davis (5-6)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 22</td>
<td>at Wisconsin* (9-4)</td>
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*Football Bowl Subdivision, **in transition from Division II. All times are Pacific. Home games are bolded.

Baseball team looks to amend defensive woes

After dropping two of three to No. 7 UC Irvine last weekend, the Cal Poly baseball team continues Big West Conference play with a three-game series at Cal State Northridge's Matador Field beginning today.

The Mustangs (9-14, 1-2) held leads in all five of their games a week ago but could prevail in only one. They booked-ended a 4-2 Saturday win over the Anteaters with 12-4 and 10-6 losses March 26 and Sunday, and rank next-to-last in the conference in staff earned-run average, at 5.92.

"It has been a season filled with ups and downs," Cal Poly head coach Larry Lee said in a statement last week. "Defensively we know we had the capability of playing strong defense and for the most part we have. The real struggle has been from the pitching aspect. We need to get better outings from everyone involved on our staff."

Cal State Northridge (10-13, 0-3), meanwhile, won nine of its opening 15 contests before falling in seven of eight.

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