Schwarzenegger signs Calif. budget 85 days late

Judy Lin
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger signed the most overdue state budget in California history Tuesday, skipping the usual fanfare because he said the Legislature’s efforts on the $144.5 billion spending plan were nothing to celebrate.

Nearly a quarter of the way through its fiscal year, the state finally has freed up billions of dollars to pay medical clinics, nursing homes, daycare centers and contract vendors. The 85-day impasse stemmed from a partisan legislative standoff over how to close California’s $15.2 billion deficit.

The final version approved by the Legislature last week includes $7.1 billion in spending cuts, which advocates say will trigger deep cuts to health care programs. Critics also said the plan relies on accounting tricks to inflate revenue and makes permanent some tax breaks that will lead to larger deficits.

Schwarzenegger trimmed another $510 million through line-item vetoes Tuesday, but a leading Democratic legislator said that in doing so he effectively raised taxes for senior citizens by cutting tax credits.

Lawmakers met the governor’s demands for a stronger rainy day fund and authority to make spending cuts during the year, but they did not address the imbalance between revenue and spending.

And the budget battle isn’t quite over. The changes increase in the state sales tax that would drop after three years. That plan failed to gain support from Republicans, which meant it would not be able to generate the required two-thirds vote in the Assembly or Senate.

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Jesus
continued from page 1

Though the subject matter is serious, Lloyd-Moffett said that the class is fun as well. Activities include watching "Monty Python and the Holy Grail." People realized that this is a history class, not an indoctrination to Christianity. The class was popular the first time around and is one of Lloyd-Moffett's favorites to teach. The reason for open spaces at the start of the quarter is due to lack of awareness of the class, Lloyd-Moffett speculated.

"Last time students saw the coming of Jesus was through flyers and word of mouth and they were drawn to it," he said. "But the second coming seems to be a surprise," he added humorously.

Students who took the class last spring found it enlightening. "It was interesting to find out how this one man has caused so much discussion and turmoil in history," said English senior Robyn Dawley. "I felt like it was one of those classes that you wanted to write everything down in, not so you have it to use for the test, but so you have it."

Budget
continued from page 1

to the rainy day fund require voter approval, as does a plan to borrow $10 billion from future lottery revenue to help stabilize the next two state budgets. Schwarzenegger said a special election is likely to be scheduled for June. Democratic Assembly Speaker Karen Bass reiterated her call to have a commission review the state's tax structure, while Republican leaders pledged to fend off tax increases in the next fiscal year that will start July 1. Those negotiations are expected to be just as frustrating as this year's, as the state's economy continues its tailspin. Lower tax revenue and automatic spending increases are expected to produce a deficit of at least $1 billion in the 2009-10 fiscal year.

The governor's finance director, Michael Eisen, said revenues were based on the belief that the state's economic troubles would bottom out by the end of the fiscal year and begin to recover next year.

Next year's shortfall will grow significantly if voters reject the lottery proposal, which is expected to add $5 billion annually for the next two years.

After signing the budget, Schwarzenegger took part in a rally for Proposition 11, the Nov. 4 ballot initiative that would take authority to draw legislative districts away from state lawmakers and give it to an independent citizen's commission overseen by the state auditor. Schwarzenegger says the current system creates a conflict of interest that prevents truly competitive races for Assembly and Senate seats. When districts are weighted strongly for Democrats or Republicans, only the most partisan candidates win and head to Sacramento. That dynamic makes compromise extremely difficult, Schwarzenegger has said, pointing to this year's protracted budget deadlock as an example.
A drillship sits on station off the coast of Louisiana as Chevron drills for oil in the Gulf of Mexico. As the House and Senate reconvene Monday after back-to-back political conventions, both parties are eager to use the three-week session to show voters why their candidates are the ones to fix the economy and lower energy prices.

Democrats concede to let offshore drilling ban expire

Andrew Taylor
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Democrats have decided to allow a quarter-century ban on drilling for oil off the Atlantic and Pacific coasts to expire next week, conceding defeat in an months-long battle with the White House and Republi­cans set off by $4 a gallon gasoline prices this summer.

Approprations Committee Chairman David Obey, (D-Wis.,) told reporters Tuesday that a provision continuing the inoratoriuin for oil off the Atlantic and Pacific goes along with the House action, it said. The congressional battle over the ban on energy development will be lifted if the Senate

Democrats are expected to press for broader energy legislation, probably next year, that would put limits on

see Drilling, page 5

Just last week, the House passed legislation to open waters off the Atlantic and Pacific coasts to oil and gas drilling but only 50 or more miles out to sea and only if a state agrees to energy development off its

Republicans called that effort a shant that would have left almost 00

The Interior Department es­timates there are 18 billion barrels of recoverable oil beneath coastal wa­ters now off-limits.

While the ban on energy de­velopment will be lifted if the Senate goes along with the House action, it doesn't mean any federal sale of oil and gas leases in the offshore wa­ters - much less actual drilling - would be imminent. The Interior Department's current five-year leasing plan includes potential leases off the Virginia coast but probably would not be pursued unless the state agrees to energy de­velopment. And the state is unlikely to do so without Congress agreeing to share federal royalties with the state.

The congressional battle over offshore drilling is far from over. Democrats are expected to press for

see position parties.

By 4:00 p.m.

Drilling, page 5

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By 4:00 p.m.

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Applications due: October 2, 2008
By 4:00 p.m.
Gov. Palin meets privately with her first world leaders

Sarah Kugler
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sarah Palin met her first world leaders Tuesday. It was a tightly controlled crash course on foreign policy for the Republican vice presidential candidate, the mayor-turned-governor who has been outside North America just once.

Palin sat down with Afghan President Hamid Karzai and Colombian President Alvaro Uribe.

The conversations were private, the pictures public, meant to build her resume for voters concerned about her lack of experience in world affairs.

"I found her quite a capable woman," Karzai said later. "She asked the right questions on Afghanistan."

The self-described "hockey mom" also asked former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger for insights on Georgia, Russia, China and Iran, and she'll see more leaders Wednesday on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly meetings.

"I have my reservations against Palin with her family asking for privacy. I don't really like that hiding."

-Jeremy Loh, landscape architecture freshman

"I think it's sneaky: a good way to hide she is more conservative than Bush and McCain. I think it is conniving."

-Dan Fisher, engineering sophomore

"It's kind of sad. They are using her as bait for photos and not for the interest of the country."

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WORD ON THE STREET

"What do you think about the limited interaction Gov. Palin has with the press?"

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Avoid Burnout

We've got plenty of distractions.
Iran's Ahmadinejad: U.S. 'empire' nears collapse

Slobodan Lekic
Associated Press

Iran's president addressed the U.N. General Assembly Tuesday declaring that "the American empire" is nearing collapse and should end its military involvement in other countries.

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said terrorism is spreading quickly in Afghanistan while "the occupiers" are still in Iraq nearly six years after Saddam Hussein was ousted from power in Iraq.

"American empire in the world is reaching the end of its road, and its next rulers must fear its interference to their own borders," Ahmadinejad said.

He accused the U.S. of starting wars in Iraq and Afghanistan to win votes in elections and blamed a "few bullying powers" for trying to undermine Iran's nuclear program.

Ahmadinejad's hardline rhetoric came as no surprise and offered little in the way of compromise at the U.N., where he faces a new round of sanctions if no agreement is reached on limiting Iran's nuclear capabilities.

While he reiterated that the country's nuclear program is purely peaceful, the U.S. and others remain skeptical, looking to the U.N. to get out of the cesspool created by itself and its supporters.

The Iranian president is feared and reviled in the region and to dominate oil resources.

"Throughout history every force that has entered Afghanistan has left in defeat," Ahmadinejad said.

He predicted that the alliance would not be successful.

"Terrorism and a huge increase in production of narcotics," said Ahmadinejad. He predicted that the alliance would not be successful.

"Throughout history every force that has entered Afghanistan has left in defeat," Ahmadinejad said.

His speech came just hours after President Bush made his eighth and final appearance before the U.N. General Assembly at UN headquarters, Tuesday.

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Drilling

continued from page 3

any drilling off most of the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. Republicans, meanwhile, are likely to fight any resumption of the drilling bans that have been in place since 1981.

"The future resolution of offshore drilling will have to be addressed with a new president," Drew Hamm, spokesman for House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said in a statement.

Palin

continued from page 4

dolezezla Rice, three hours behind Palin in seeing Karzai, found herself overshadowed for a day as she made her own rounds.

John McCain's presidential campaign has shielded the first-term Alaska governor for weeks from spontaneous questions from voters and reporters, and went to striking lengths Tuesday to maintain that distance as Palin made her diplomatic debut.

The GOP campaign, applying more restrictive rules on access than even President Bush uses in the White House, banned reporters from the start of the meetings, so as not to risk a question being asked of Palin.

McCain aides relented after news organizations objected and CNN, which was supplying TV footage to a variety of networks, decided to pull its TV crew from Palin's meeting with Karzai.

Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, addresses the 63rd session of the United Nations General Assembly at UN headquarters, Tuesday.

ASSOCIATED PRESS
A GOOD OLD-FASHIONED MIDNIGHT KISS

Chelsea Bieker

The film really is beautiful, with thoughtful voiceovers and a gorgeous look at the otherwise harsh streets of Los Angeles. Through the black and white veil, we are able to see a more genuine and browned look at the city and the characters. In many films, things just seem to work out, and situations flow seamlessly. With "Midnight Kiss", the viewers are privileged to a rare and honest account of human nature at its most raw.

It is not only for its truth and brilliance. I felt moved by the film's candid ability to represent everyday people, in an extraordinary way. Wilson's character is undoubtedly the real gem. No matter how loud Vivian's voice was in the film, it was Wilson that made it what it was. He is charming, without being overwhelming.

As they explore the city, Wilson and Vivian learn about each other, and foster a understanding connection, as well as a strong attraction. Wilson does not want her to leave, and neither does she, although she puts up a pretty dramatic show of displeasure with him for a while. They really don't have much in common, but it worked because both characters were able to really appreciate odd little things. She wanted to be an actress, but ordinary, and as they stroll through downtown Los Angeles, one cannot help but feel taken aback by Vivian. She is beautiful, but rough and manic at the same time. At times it is almost too much to watch, and it is pretty unbelievable that he doesn't run back to the car after her haughty introduction.

With more time and lots of banter, it is possible to get use to her personality, and perhaps even appreciate her rashness. As the film progresses, we see her character develop into more than just a crazy sunglass-wearing man-hater (thank God!), and into her real role of being the damaged and abused wife of a crazy, abusive Texan "hick." Her character is a lot to take in; you should probably just see the film to understand for yourself.

The film's ending is tragic, but in a true to life way that isn't at all conventional. People make mistakes, and people get into tough situations. And yes, it is true that often times these situations can and will be resolved by the end of the allotted two hours of film. In fact, in this case, nothing is resolved, and it shouldn't be any other way. This film is something both genders can relate to and enjoy. It is an artistic expression of a snapshot of a day a piece of two people's 24 hours, in search for more than just a midnight kiss.
**Innerparty system drummer talks music, popularity**

Alex McElvain
**The Manager (E. Menne)**

**Ever since Blink 182 ran around naked in their "All the Small Things" video, made some fart jokes on YouTube, and released CDs of their crudest antics, there has been an unspoken rule for success in alternative music: be as entertaining in your personal life as you are onstage.**

Jared Piccone rejects that. "I don't want to get famous because I took a shit onstage," Piccone said. "I want it to be because I'm in a band that writes great songs."

As the drummer for Reading, PA-based industrial-dance-rock group Innerparty system, Piccone would know. The band, which takes its name from the ruling elite in George Orwell's "1984," found success with "Don't Stop," a track featuring language like "selfish blood" and " platinum soul."

One sample: "I am the closest thing to God." So worship me and never stop."

"It bashles the obsession with celebrity culture," Piccone said. Which isn't to say that he finds fame inherently evil: "I'm never going to be like, 'I hate Trent Reznor because he's really popular.' He does great work, but you never see him on MTV."

"We want to be a big band, we want to make a living out of this — but we want to do it the right way."

These days, though, it's tricksy to say which is the right way. Through the steady decline of record sales, and the equally steady rise of the Internet as a tastemaker, bands are getting exposure more rapidly than ever. SPIN magazine put Vampire Weekend on its cover before they'd released an album. An Apple advertisement transformed Yael Naim from unproven to one of the world's hottest artists. Who wants to be the John Lennon of our generation?"

"We're only so many options, but if you just put your stuff up there could be a 15-year-old kid from nowhere, who absolutely destroys your remix," Piccone said.

The other topic that peppers Piccone's excitement is his ambition for the group's live show, which will come to The Blue Note on Wednesday, and referenced groups known for their onstage productions: The Faust and Daft Punk.

"To be at that level one day is definitely a goal of ours," Piccone said. "It's not just a band playing songs, it's like a multimedia production. Even if you don't like the group, you could go see it. It's like a movie."

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**Welcome back Cal Poly & Cuesta**

**CrazyJays**

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post-rock darlings Mogwai rode the hype train all the way from Glasgow to world fame with the release of its 1993 debut "Young Team" but has increasingly tested the patience of fans accursed on hype alone. 2006's "Mr. Beast" didn't have the novelty, excitement or dynamics that made "Young Team" so well-loved among listeners and critics alike, and the result was a disappointing album that everyone was entirely justified to forget about. So what does a band like Mogwai do after the hype fails to make a poor album successful? They release a better one — the exactly similar, yet engrossing, "The Hawk Is Howling."

No, this album isn't any different from what Mogwai has been doing since the '90s. It's the same instrumental work the band has always created. Treading the same ground over and over again could make a listener bored, or maybe even cynical, especially when rock over again could make a listener bored, or maybe even cynical, especially when rock could justambitious enough to prove the (Glasgow bunch has changed its ways with "The Hawk Is Howling," but this bird has definitely sharpened its talons and taken flight. The opener " Try, Jim Morrison, I'm Dead,"
is the usual soft, down-tempo and moody affair Mogwai loves so much but acts as the "Hawk" to the band's entire body of work. But the song's twinkling second-act breakdown picks up the pace and relieves a simple arpeggio for a three couple of arpeggios acting as a well-designed bridge into the riotous EP-single "Bats."

This track begins to difference "Hawk" from its predecessors, as it sounds uncannily like a Tool set-piece while retaining the atmospheric prog-rock structure Mogwai has perfected (in a somewhat turgid manner) over the course of six LPs. But current trends in the alternative music world seem to have rubbed off interestingly on Mogwai, adding subtle nuances to the band's sound that touch almost every new track. The psychodically titled "The Sun Smells Too Loud" pairs a dream, repetitive guitar lick with cut-and-dry drumming and then bathes the whole thing with layers of shimmering and shill electronics. It's Crystal Castles minus the stretching lead singer. Only at the end of the album does one realize how expertly monotonous Mogwai can be. About 40 minutes into "The Hawk Is Howling," the driving "Scotland's Shrine" begins, layering variations on a figure that feels like the fusion of the opener and "The Sun Smells Too Loud." Mogwai has a technique, but after learning from "Mr. Beast," the group has started making repetition and variation a central feature of the album instead of a general trait of every song they write. Instead of 60 minutes of unique pieces that could have been awesome, Mogwai gives us 10 songs that work best as one cohesive suite.

And with the closer "The Precipice," Mogwai wraps the other nine songs of this post-rock suite into one final theme. The track begins slowly with the delicate touch of the soft meditations that or throughout "The Hawk is Howling," and builds to a surging torrent of growling guitars and waves of fuzz. Every element of the album is there, and Mogwai's intentions seem much grander because of it. "The Hawk is Howling" may not justify the kind of hype Mogwai's debut once did, but it's justambitious enough to prove the Glasgow mates don't necessarily need it.

Scottish band Mogwai's (left) new album, "The Hawk Is Howling" (right) was released on September 22, 2008. The completely instrumental album remains consistent with the band's prior releases.
Don't forget the liberties promised by our forefathers

Nearly two and a half centuries ago, the founding fathers of this nation risked their lives so they might one day live in a state of freedom unparalleled in the world. They knew of the many tyrants and their sacred honor to repel the oppression of the most powerful country at the time. With a system they declared a Declaration of Independence, they communicated their shocking and unprecedented stance. The American Colonists, a poetic gang of the best known radicals in history, would not suffer tyranny. It took a revolution to break the chains of oppression and to allow for the creation of an independent government.

Having fought and bled to escape the clutches of one tyrannical owner, forefathers were load to loose the liberties they had secured to another ruler. They acknowledged and underlined history. And history shows that the greatest and most habitual violators of individual liberties have been governments. Oppressive governments have forced people to adhere to the whims of others. Ideologies, have partaken in unpopular wars for the state. Betterment rather than the country's security, have pillaged, raped, murdered, and much more.

It would have done little good to chop off the head of the beast only to have two more grow in its place. A foreign tyranny could easily be replaced by a domestic tyranny. Our founders recognized that governments, even the American government, must have restraints. To enforce this they drafted the Bill of Rights, which spells out irrefutable clarity of the rights of individuals and the limitations of government. Thomas Jefferson was known to refer to the "wall of separation" between church and state. A concept which literally, enchained the government and restricted it to its proper scope.

Another groundbreaking conception of that time was the notion that government is the servant of the people. The ends of government are to be directed by the people in order to most efficaciously secure their safety and happiness; it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish any government that becomes destructive of these ends.

These are earth-shattering ideas that have not lost their relevance over the years. Every cursory reading of the primary documents of our founding conveys a stark difference between what we believe we were granted by our forefathers and what we have been realized over the course of our country's history. Every four years we are encouraged — indeed instructed — to blindly trust in the efficacy and rightness of our democratic process. But I ask you, what has this process wrought?

Our leaders, both Republican and Democrat, have steered this nation further and further away from this principle upon which it was founded.

We have a variety of shameful anecdotes spewing from every major media publication to choose from that illustrate this point. If we view the actions of the Republicans who preach on the immorality of homosexuality only to shamefacedly confront one of their own with that same issue, I ask you. Who is to say that the Democrats are any better when they claim to be defenders of our civil rights, yet weaken housing rights or voting for the Patriot Act, as many Democrats did?

Lately Republicans seem to be bent upon convincing us that their rights will be secure if only we are willing to secure the borders of our empire and engage in unconstitutional wars. And so Americans leave their families and their homes to fight in far flung countries for aims which the armchair generals in D.C. endlessly redline according to the news headline. Meanwhile, Democrats seem ostensibly convinced that it is the government's role to care for the host of social ills and inequalities by providing social services to anyone and everyone. The government can only give that which it takes, so who among us should be taken from first?

Are we a free people? Or are the definitions of freedom about to change to this point where we are all walking into madness? It seems that our present rulers would have us believe that we are freest when what they have chosen for us is the rule. This is not what our founders intended. Government is not supposed to dole out the fruits of our labor because they think it is fair. Government is not supposed to legislate how we are to live our lives because they think they know what is best for us. In sum, government is not supposed to infringe on any aspect of our right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Once upon a time, there was an age when we had conquered a historical foe that had tyrannized peoples ever since the dawn of that time. That victory and, I fear, the dream that accompanied and inspired it, are fading ever faster; but that does not mean that our perseverance is a joke. If any of the above has resonated with you, if any of the above has resonated with you, if any of the above has resonated with you, if you believe you know how to live your life better than the government does, you believe in an act of world-stopping madness which in lighting is LEDs. Wal-Mart already has a fairly decent variety of LEDs for home lighting in their stores. LEDs don't burn out and use much less power per lumen than any other light because they don't produce any heat as a byproduct. LEDs provide huge cost savings in energy usage over the long run. Replacement costs (bulbs, man-power and disposal) are reduced to near zero.

Fluorescents can also harm the environment (they contain small amounts of mercury) unless disposed of properly as HazMat, which adds even more to the overall cost of their usage. So why use obsolete lighting in new facil-

— Anonymous

Response to "Library unveils newly-renovated second floor"

Well said! A very thoughtful and intelligent approach. I echo Marlin's sentiments. Why not encourage and exhort students in a way that has the potential to bring about change the best we can and run for office.

— Anonymous

Response to "Thank's anyway, Bananke, but we can pick ourselves up."

The whole medicinal marijuana thing is a big mess. That "patients" are using it primarily for recreational purposes is a joke. Everyone I know here who has a "waste-connect" simply knows someone with a quintupants card. I think the limit is an ounce a day. Who needs to smoke an ounce a day? We look back on the many hours and hundreds of dollars you spent on a bag and you won't regret it.

— Anonymous

Response to "Last dance with Mary Jane, no more time to kill the pain..."

NOTE: The Mustang Daily features letters to the editor that are written to respond to articles posted online. Though not all the responses will be printed, the Mustang Daily will print comments that are coherent and in good taste.
How to play the Daily Dots
1. Find a playing partner.
2. Each person takes a turn drawing one line connecting two dots. Only horizontal and vertical lines can be drawn.
3. The first person to close a square, wins that square. To keep track, place winners initials in the box.
4. Once one square is closed, that player gets to go again. They continue until no more squares can be closed.
5. Player with the most squares win.

Girls & Sports by Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein

<table>
<thead>
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<td>Palm off</td>
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<td>52</td>
<td>Word from the crib</td>
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<td>53</td>
<td>Teamed beasts</td>
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<td>54</td>
<td>Tournament passes</td>
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<td>Word that can contain every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.</td>
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<td>56</td>
<td>Miracles</td>
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<td>Rec room item</td>
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<td>60</td>
<td>Water around Prominez</td>
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<td>61</td>
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The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

<table>
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<td>&quot;She's a&quot;</td>
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<td>Validation of a current event</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Formed for a specific purpose</td>
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<td>Like Abner</td>
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<td>Inky</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Inlay</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Window into</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Back</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>It's like to buy...&quot;</td>
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| 11     | See 55-Down | 11    | "It is equally an error to...
| 12     | See 55-Down | 12    | "She's a" |
| 13     | Like Abner | 13    | "It is equally an error to...
| 14     | Inlay | 14    | "She's a" |
| 15     | See 55-Down | 15    | "It is equally an error to...
| 16     | See 55-Down | 16    | "She's a" |
| 17     | See 55-Down | 17    | "It is equally an error to...
| 18     | See 55-Down | 18    | "She's a" |
| 19     | See 55-Down | 19    | "It is equally an error to..." |
Yankees
continued from page 12

Baseball rebels in its rich traditions, but that does not stop the wholesale replacement of stadiums since Camden Yards ushered in the retro concept when it opened in Baltimore in 1992. The two New York stadiums are merely the latest examples of this trend, which will include a new stadium in Minneapolis in 2010 and most likely one in Miami a year later.

Most of the old places weren't worth remembering, and memories of them faded away quickly with the opening of new ballparks. It's hard to imagine that happening with the first real stadium ever built for baseball, but it's just as hard to imagine that it will soon be gone.

The old girl was given a fine goodbye and, whether Roger Clemens was invited or not, it was best that she didn't show up. Having Joe Torre there would have been nice, but he's busy managing a team fighting for the playoffs clear across the country.

Fans got to walk the field before the game, and see the old Yankee sites. But it was the final moments that seemed so special, mostly because it was kept so simple.

There was no podium set up on the field, no politicians speaking, and not a Steinbrenner in sight. It wasn't sponsored by Budweiser, and there didn't seem any organization to it at all.

Instead, Derek Jeter took the microphone to say a few words from his heart that actually sounded like they were from his heart. He thanked the fans and he and his teammates then walked around the field with bat held above their heads in tribute to them.

With that, The House That Ruth Built ended a grand 85-year run the likes of which will never be seen again.

My guess is that the Babe would have approved.

Sparks send Storm home in first round

GREGG BELL

The sun sets behind legendary Yankee Stadium on Sunday before the Yankees played the Baltimore Orioles in their last baseball game played there.

There will be a new stadium in Queens, too, though it will be hard for even baseball to figure out a way to make anyone feel sappy about Shea Stadium being demolished. And the Mets may actually make the playoffs, which would relieve the team of the burden of planning any allure to a stadium whose passing won't be mourned.

WNB/A titles between them — and changed coaches from Anno Donnover to Bruce Agner.

But Griffith, who had knee and ankle problems, couldn't lea­son in the finals and was bothered much of the season by back pain, had just two points in 21 minutes.

And Sawoski, the 37-year-old three-time league MVP recently seduced by a concussion and 11 months fought back surgery, missed her first six shots. She didn't make a field goal until 8:07 remained. Seattle was down 61-49 by then.

Seattle gained a final hope when Sawoski went to the bench with five minutes to go but, without a third consecutive made shot, made it 65-62, but then turnarovers doomed Seattle.

The Storm were a league-best 16-1 at home this season and then 3 Acre Horse Property

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For the second year in a row, the Cal Poly men's soccer team's leading scorer hasn't been a seasoned, wise, senior. It hasn't been a ju­nior turning the corner to stardom, nor even a sophomore providing promising glimpses into the future.

Indeed, Mustangs defender Pat­rick Sigler, the 2005 California Gatorade Player of the Year who re­turned last year as a sophomore providing promising promise, turned the corner to stardom, nor doesn't matter and you're not treated differently.

That kind of open-minded­ness allowed not only for his oppor­tunity, but also others'.

"David Zamora gave freshmen hope they can come into a col­lege atmosphere and be successful Sigler added. "We all know it's not impossible for freshmen to become starters." Cal Poly head coach Paul Holocher Sigler certainly doesn't seem to care what year Sigler's in. "Patrick has done phenomenal for us," Holocher said. "He's definitely going to be up for contention for Big West (Conference) Freshman of the Year." Zamora won that distinction a year ago. Sigler — whose nine points, four goals and 400 shooting percentage are all team highs — isn't the only one exerting immediate impact for the Mustangs (4-2-1), though. Of Cal Poly's 38 points through seven contests, 16 have been tallied by freshmen — who've scored seven of 13 goals. "Each year we hope to bring in top players and so far we're picking some good ones," Holocher said.

Year classification aside, 16 differ­ent Mustangs have taken shots. Six have contributed at least four points, and Sat­urday's 3-0 win over Evansville (which entered ranked No. 21 by Soccer Times) featured three different scor­ers — Zamora, junior midfielder Jose Garcia and freshman forward Wes Frighner.

"I think that's going to be our strength, playing 15 to 20 goalies a game — and they're all contributing," Holocher said. "There are some teams out there that play 13, 14 goalies and we're not that program. We need to get more numbers in there."

While the Mustangs' of­ensive flurry has been steady, their defense — which posted 10 shutouts in 19 games in 2007 — has been somewhat erratic early, unchar­acteristically blanking just Air Force before Evansville.

"We feel like we're a team that can produce a shutout each game," Holocher said. "We only have two shutouts out of seven games which is kind of unlike our team."

Cal Poly will get another chance to test its defense when it hosts Cal State Bakersfield in Alex G. Spanos Stadium at 7 tonight.

"They combine very well, they pass very well, they've got good team speed," Holocher said of the Roadrunners (2-6), who've played all of their games on the road, and lost four of them by just one goal apiece. "They're gritty, they're hard and they're tough."

The Mustangs, who visit Sacramento State (5-1-1) at 1 p.m. Sunday, are yet to win twice consecutively and are still look­ing to establish their rhythm before enter­ing Big West Play Oct. 1.

"I don't feel like we're firing on all cylinders at all," Holocher said. "I think that we can improve our passing and we can improve our defending."

Sigler agreed.

These two games are really big to give us momentum heading into the Big West," he said. "I feel like just now in the last game or two we've been starting to play better, and up to our potential!"