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NEWS

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Nader

continued from page 1

Nader criticized Obama's and McCain's performances in last Friday's debate and said the debate illustrates why he and Nader are running.

During the closing questions and answer session, psychology senior Mishal Davey asked Nader for advice on how to run a campaign against corrupt, big-money politicians. She said afterwards that she was satisfied with Nader's answer and the speech.

"His advice was good. It was a great talk. This pretty much settled it for me; I'm going to be voting for him," she said.

Dining

continued from page 1

restauran ts on campus have changed its food processing system to feature the "batch-cooking" concept. In order to offer food with a homemade taste, portions will be cooked, seasoned and served in smaller portions.

"We're still serving thousands of students a day but we're cooking smaller amounts more often with fresh herbs and ingredients," Welton said. "It's like the difference between fresh food and frozen Swanen's dinners."

Despite this new system, the station has cut order wait times to ten minutes by preparing food using an assembly-line technique. Students previously had to wait up to 30 minutes for certain orders from Garden Grille.

"Garden Grille was good but we are executing a vision in seeing how we can do it better," Welton said. "It was really about streamlining. The trick is, 'How can we get guests out in a reasonable amount of time and with quality food?""

Like Garden Grille, 19 Metro Station has five stations, each offering different types of fare. LCD screens have been installed at each station and flash the current menu options, allowing for frequent menu updates and eliminating the old printed menus.

Field of Greens features the ever-popular salad in enough varieties to keep both vegans and carnivores satisfied. Round Trip Fare features soups, sandwiches and wraps. Hawaiian Bowl offers foods like your mother would make. Pasta Stop,

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Pelosi: Rescue is not a bailout but a ‘buy-in’

WASHINGTON — Congressional leaders and the White House agreed Sunday to a $700 billion rescue of the ailing financial industry after lawmakers insisted on sharing spending controls with the Bush administration. The biggest U.S. bailout in history won the tentative support of both presidential candidates and gives to the House for a vote Monday.

The plan, belated up for days by election-year politics, would give the administration broad authority to use billions upon billions of taxpayer dollars to purchase deleaved mortgage-related assets held by cash-starved financial firms.

President Bush called the vote a “vital” one for lawmakers but said he is confident Congress will pass it. “Without this rescue plan, the costs to the American economy could be disastrous,” Bush said in a written statement released by the White House. He was to speak publicly about the plan early Monday in the Oval Office.

Flexing its political muscle, Congress insisted on a stronger hand in controlling the money than the White House had wanted. Lawmakers had to navigate between angry voters with little regard for Wall Street and administration officials who warned that inaction could cause the economy to seize up and spiral into recession.

A deal in hand, Capitol Hill leaders scrambled to sell it to colleagues in both parties and acknowledged they were not certain it would pass. “Now we have to get the votes,” said Sen. Harry Reid, D-Nev., and Sen. Chris Dodd, D-Conn., on the financial crisis Sunday.

Still, the solution could be vetoed if Bush’s team stepped up its efforts to block a measure that would benefit perhaps the most publicly detested of all; companies paying back taxpayers for any losses — that gave momentum to the final accord.

Lawmakers in both parties who are facing re-election are loath to embrace a costly plan proposed by a deeply unpopular president that would benefit perhaps the most publicly detested of all companies that got rich off bad bets that have caused economic pain for ordinary people.

The negotiations were shaped by the political pressure of an intense campaign season in which voters’ economic concerns figure prominently. They brought McCain and Obama to Washington for a White House meeting that yielded in no small part a breakthrough required to infuse huge amounts of government money into a financial sector buckling under the weight of toxic debt.

It was Obama who first signaled Democrats were willing to give up some of their favorite proposals. He told reporters Wednesday that the bankruptcy measure was a priority but that it “probably something that we shouldn’t try to do in this piece of legislation.”

Frank negotiated much of the compromise in a marathon series of up-and-down meetings and phone calls with Paulson, Dodd, D-Conn., and key Republicans including Gregg and Blumenthal.

Dodd shepherded the discussions at key moments, and cut a central deal Saturday night — on companies paying back taxpayers for any losses — that gave momentum to the final accord.

An extraordinary week of talks unfolded after Paulson and Bernanke, the Federal Reserve chairman, went to Congress 10 days ago with ominous warnings about a full-blown economic meltdown if lawmakers did not act quickly to infuse huge amounts of government money into a financial sector buckling under the weight of toxic debt.

The negotiations were shaped by the political pressures of an intense campaign season in which voters’ economic concerns figure prominently. They brought McCain and Obama to Washington for a White House meeting that yielded a deal that would benefit perhaps the most publicly detested of all companies that got rich off bad bets that have caused economic pain for ordinary people.

But many of them say the plan is vital to ensure their constituents don’t pay for Wall Street’s mistakes, in the form of unaffordable credit and major hits to investments they count on, like their pensions.

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**WE DELIVER**
State

CAMP PENDELTON, Calif. (AP) — Camp Pendleton is in the midst of a building boom despite a slowing economy. The Marine Corps base is undertaking what ultimately could be $2 billion worth of construction projects.

Base officials this year are overseeing 25 projects valued at $387 million. In a normal year, the base usually spends $50 million on new construction.

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. (AP) — The family of a psychiatric patient who was killed during a hit-and-run is upset that the woman responsible for the death was recently released on probation after an unexpected pregnancy.

Heather Lee Hulsey, 22, was freed this month by a Santa Barbara County judge who ordered her into a residential substance abuse program. Hulsey was serving a six-year prison sentence after she pleaded no contest to manslaughter and-run is upset that the woman who was killed during a hit-and-run.

Rohnert Park, Calif. (AP) — Sonoma State University officials are investigating a security breach that exposed the Social Security numbers of about 600 former students.

University officials say they're not aware of any criminal or inappropriate activity linked to the breach, which was discovered on Sept. 2.

National

NEW YORK (AP) — Police say as many as seven men were stabbed during a quarrel at a nightclub in New York City. Two are in critical condition.

The bloody fight erupted around 8 a.m. Sunday inside the Tahona club in the Queen's neighborhood of Astoria.

NEW YORK (AP) — Mets fans rode vintage New York City subway cars for their last nostalgic ride to the final regular season home game at Shea Stadium, Sunday.

The ride on the No. 7 train that took millions of fans to games for more than 40 years is courtesy of New York City Transit.

BOSTON (AP) — Sen. Edward Kennedy is back home after being taken to a Massachusetts hospital in an ambulance.

A statement issued by the 76-year-old senator's office attributed the episode Friday to a change in medications.

Kennedy has been in treatment for brain cancer. He complained of feeling ill Friday.

EL CENTRO, Calif. (AP) — The U.S. Border Patrol's gleaming new regional headquarters building is just one sign of how the fast-growing agency is boosting the local economy.

Agents frequent the restaurants and gas stations. A new indoor shooting range relies on Border Patrol employees. And dry cleaners do brisk business pressing green uniforms.

International

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP) — A heavily armed U.S. destroyer was stationed off the coast of Somalia on Sunday, making sure that pirates there don't remove tanks, ammunition and other heavy weapons from a hijacked Ukrainian cargo ship.

A man claiming to be a spokesman for the pirates says they won't let $35 million to free the cargo ship. Fania wanted and warned of dire consequences if any military action was taken to try to free the ship.

Pirates seized the Ukrainian-operated ship Thursday as it traveled to Kenya with a load of 33 Russian-built T-72 tanks and a substantial quantity of ammunition and spare parts ordered by the Kenyan government.

BEIJING (AP) — Three Chinese astronauts emerged from their space capsule Sunday after a milestone mission to carry out the country's first spacewalk, showing off China's technological know-how and cementing its status as a space power and future competitor to the United States.

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — An Afghan police official said Sunday that a U.S.-led coalition operation apparently targeting a suicide bomber cell in eastern Afghanistan killed three civilians.

However, the claim was disputed by the coalition, which said in troops killed two al-Qaida militants.

Elsewhere, insurgents killed a woman in charge of female police officers.

WORD ON THE STREET

"Did the debates on Friday have any impact on your vote for President?"

"I didn't watch, but it would take more than just one debate to change my opinion."

— Brian Miller, mechanical engineering freshman

"No, not really. I'm still pulling for Obama. I thought they both did well. I think Obama showed tough on foreign policy and that he could hang with McCain on that."

— Alex Sharp, agriculture business freshman

"I know I am voting for McCain. I think he made some good points but he's not as good a speaker as Obama. If he could speak better he would definitely win."

— Peter Hoonhout, mechanical engineering junior

"I don't think so. I think they all seem to argue over semantics and not issues."

— Aaron Lichtner, materials engineering senior

Compiled and photographed by Jennifer Titcomb
State gay marriage ban sparks ‘War of the Rings’

Skyline Church members hand out literature urging voters to pass Proposition 8 on Sunday in San Diego. Churches of many faiths have banded together in support of Proposition 8.

Lisa Leff
ASSOCIATED PRESS

To the initiative's backers, nothing less weighty than religious liberty and even the building blocks of society are at stake. To its opponents, the California Marriage Protection Amendment tests nothing more cherished than the American ideals of equality and personal freedom.

All of it is riding on whether voters in the state accept or reject 14 words: "Only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California."

Proposition 8 is one of three proposed gay marriage bans appearing on ballots around the country this November. It would amend the state Constitution to overturn the California Supreme Court decision earlier this year that legalized same-sex unions.

It will be the first time a marriage amendment goes before voters in a place where same-sex couples — thousands of them since the court's ruling took effect in mid-June — have legally wed.

"There is a sense that this is a potential tipping-point election," said Jon Matsumasa, president of the Initiative and Referendum Institute at the University of Southern California. "If voters here accept the concept of same-sex marriage, that will have an effect on the way people think across the country."

By Election Day, the measure's supporters and opponents expect to spend about $40 million — a large amount for a social issue initiative, according to Matsumasa. Volunteers on both sides will have spent thousands of hours getting their messages across to the state's 16.2 million registered voters.

More than 9,900 people from all 50 states and the District of Columbia have contributed nearly $22 million to support or oppose the measure.

Home to the country's first offshore oil well, California's coastal waters have been off-limits to new drilling for a quarter century. The congressional ban that halted development is set to expire next week, but chances are remote that the 10 billion barrels of oil estimated to lie under the continental shelf will ever be tapped.

Stealthy opposition within the state, fueled in part by memories of a catastrophic 1969 oil spill off the Santa Barbara coast, will make it extremely difficult for oil companies to win the necessary approvals and prevail in the lawsuits that would be sure to follow.

"When it comes to California, it's so extremely unlikely and remote that any new offshore oil drilling is going to take place," said Mark Masara, director of the Sierra Club's coastal programs. "Here, the opposition runs wide and deep."

That includes Republican Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, whose opposition puts him at odds with the candidate he has endorsed for president, GOP nominee John McCain. McCain has made offshore oil drilling a key component of his energy platform, "his 'drill here, drill now' mantra," according to the Los Angeles Times.

McCain says tapping the country's offshore reserves would help reduce America's dependence on foreign oil and would be a stopgap measure until alternative fuels are developed. Democratic candidate Barack Obama has endorsed limited offshore drilling as part of a broader plan to wean America off foreign oil that includes investing in alternative-energy research.

In an address Friday in San Francisco, Schwarzenegger reiterated his opposition to new oil drilling and said he would prefer there be no drilling at all off the coast. He recalled walking the beach in his book building days after the Santa Barbara oil spill.

"Every single time I walked around Muscle Beach, my feet were stuck with tar and there were dead birds lying around," Schwarzenegger told the Commonwealth Club of California. "I think the people of California don't want to go through that again. I think we must protect our pristine coastline."

The congressional shift on oil drilling came earlier this week when House Democrats conceded to Republican pressure to remove the annual ban in a must-pass, year-end budget spending bill. Republicans argue that more offshore oil drilling could decrease the country's dependence on foreign oil and lower gas prices.

Despite the fanfare accompanying the moratorium's expiration, it's seen as just a temporary move. Longer-term decisions on coastal drilling will be left to the next administration and Congress.
UCLA group discovers humongous prime number

Mathematicians at UCLA have discovered a 13 million-digit prime number, a long-sought milestone that makes them eligible for a $100,000 prize.

The group found the 46th known Mersenne prime last month on a network of 78 computers running Windows XP. The number was verified by a different computer system running a different algorithm.

"We're delighted," said UCLA's Edson Smith, the leader of the effort. "Now we're looking for the next one, despite the odds.''

It's the eighth Mersenne prime discovered at UCLA.

Primes are numbers like three, seven and 11 that are divisible by only two whole positive numbers themselves and one.

Mersenne primes — named for their discoverer, 17th century French mathematician Marin Mersenne — are expressed as 2^P-1, or two to the power of "P" minus one. P is itself a prime number. For the new prime, P is 43,112,609.

Thousands of people around the world have been participating in Project, a Great Internet Mersenne Prime Search, or GIMPS, a cooperative operation in which underused computing power is harnessed to perform the calculations needed to find and verify Mersenne primes.

The $100,000 prize is being offered by the Electronic Frontier Foundation for finding the first Mersenne prime with more than 10 million digits. The foundation supports individual rights on the Internet and set up the prime number prize to promote cooperative computing using the Web.

The prize could be awarded when the new prime is published, probably next year.

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**Obama slams McCain for not mentioning middle class**

Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama sought to score a quick post-debate advantage Saturday by traveling to two Republican-leaning states and accusing GOP rival John McCain of being out of touch with middle-class Americans.

"We talked about the economy for 40 minutes and not once did Sen. McCain talk about the struggles middle-class families are having," Obama told more than 26,000 people who stood out in the rain with him on the campus of the University of Maryland.

While Obama was out campaigning, McCain stayed in Washington, D.C., area monitoring phone bank calls and the congressional negotiations on a deal to stabilize U.S. financial markets. Obama did the same while on the campaign trail, with aides saying he spoke by phone to Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid and Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., as negotiators inch toward a deal.

"Unlike Sen. McCain, it didn't take a crisis on Wall Street for me to realize that people are hurting," Obama said.

Obama returned to Washington Saturday night with his wife Michelle to accept an award from the Congressional Black Caucus at its annual legislative conference before taking off again Sunday for campaign stops in Michigan, a crucial battleground state.

Earlier in the day, Obama debated his post-debate attack on McCain with a campaign swing through North Carolina, another traditionally Republican state like Virginia where Obama hopes to make inroads.

The Illinois senator repeatedly took McCain to task for not talking about any plans for helping the middle class in the midst of the country's financial and fiscal crisis.

"Through 90 minutes of debate, John McCain had a lot to say about me, but he didn't have anything to say about you," Obama told the cheering 20,000-plus crowd at the J. Douglas Gabby Depot in downtown Greensboro. "He didn't even say the words 'middle class.'" He didn't even say the words 'working people.'"

The Obama campaign tried to back up that point in its newest ad, a spot released Saturday that also notes McCain never mentioned the middle class during the debate. "McCain doesn't get it," the announcer says. "Barack Obama does.

McCain's campaign suggested Saturday that the Arizona senator had referred to the middle class during the debate when he argued that Obama had voted in favor of higher taxes on families making $42,000 a year and proposed hundred of billions in new government spending that would place a crushing burden on families and businesses.

Obama disputed both of those assertions and said that 95 percent of America taxpayers would not pay more in taxes under his plan.

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"If justices strike Prop 22, that would mean for gays and lesbians, the principle message of gay rights would be silenced until the people's vote" and that "it's mit an attack on the gay lifestyle."

"The nation will be watching to see what happens with this, second only to the presidential campaign," predicted Tim Wildman, president of the California branch of the American Family Association.

The evangelical Christian lobbying group has given $500,000 and produced a 30-minute video to back the Yes campaign.

While 20 other states have enacted similar amendments — 25 since May — the California vote could move the state's size and cultural influence and other states nullion.

This summer repealed a long-standing piece of legislation before their Senate Morning Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., a supporter, promised a Senate vote on the accord in the week ahead, possibly Monday.

"Hoping to raise pressure on that chamber, Bush quickly issued a statement praising House passage and the Senate to the do the same thing."

"I urge the Senate to quickly take up and pass this important piece of legislation before their Oct. 12 adjournment," the president said. "Signing this bipartisan bill will help strengthen our partnership with India."

India's Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, addressing the Indian community in New York where he was attending the U.N. General Assembly, said, "The journey President Bush and I embarked upon is nearing fruition."

"India will be liberated from the constraints of technology denial of 34 years. It will add an important strategic pillar to our bilateral partnership We will widen our clean energy options," he said Saturday.

The House approved the measure 298-117 without debate in an unusual Saturday session, held a lawmaking gap dealing with the financial crisis and wrapping up the year's business.

The accord reverses three decades of U.S. policy by shipping atomic

People hold placards and burn firecrackers to celebrate Saturday's developments in the India US nuclear deal, in Ahmadabad, India, early in September.
University art gallery welcomes new exhibit

Samantha MacConnell

At first glance, the photography of Brian Taylor and Stanley Smith posted on either side of the University Art Gallery may appear to be vastly different. However, with a closer look, a definite harmony appears; the art becomes a cohesive collection and has a common purpose.

Cal Poly’s University Art Gallery introduced a new exhibit Friday evening entitled Polarities and Intersections, in which Taylor and Smith’s photography is displayed. Prior to the opening both artists, who had only met one week ago, spoke to a large group in the business studies detailing the start of their careers and providing a glimpse of their work.

Taylor, an award-winning photographer since the age of 18 and a professor of art and design in San Jose State University, is known for his study of alternative photographic processes. Among his body of work, Taylor has utilized 19th century printing techniques and created handmade books, which are featured in the exhibit. "I am drawn to making handmade books that are fully opened so that I can tell a story by showing you two, and sometimes even more than two photographs at the same time," Taylor said. "What I like about this format is an open book allows me to juxtapose one image against another image, even though the photographs might have been taken 3000 miles apart."

Derived from a love of texture and inspired by poetic moments in time, Taylor’s art is completely handmade. The photographs, torn around the edges as though they were ripped from a book, have underlying pages that add mystery to the piece: the viewer only gets the sense that something lies beneath the surface, because they can’t be seen.

Paper boats, a milecrafter and a tree house are among the many subjects of Taylor’s nature-inspired photography shown in subdued colors like white, gray, light brown, and black against white backdrops.

Smith, a photographer all his life and currently head of Imaging Services at the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles, originally was trained as a geologist, but his interest in subverting reality with a camera led him to pursue photography.

A major difference between the two artists is that Smith likes to use a digital camera to create large-scale, colorful images that appear abstract from a distance. One can see that he collected various, small images and digitally reconstructed them to create one photograph.

“My photography is built,” Smith said. “I build these images. It’s a very different way of working than people think of when they think of photography or photographers. Photographers usually take a picture, I don’t take pictures, I make them. I do take them, but only to gather the raw materials to make one of these final images.”

In Smith’s piece “Smokes,” what looks like hundreds of tiny photos of cigarette cartons have been compiled to create a colorful work of art. In “Groceries,” various grocery shelves were photographed and manipulated to create a large, abstract image showing consumerism at its highest.

The exhibit name, Polarities and Intersections, generated by curator Eric Johnson, represents the extreme differences in the artists’ work, and the points in which both meet to reveal commonalities.

“There are certain places where Stanley’s work and mine are similar. One example, Little Pink Houses has something in common with Stanley’s work which is all about little pictures shown together. Where we come together is the social commentary, sort of commenting on life, crowded life, the fast pace of life. Then we are polar opposites. Where we are different is that he is 21st century and I’m 19th century,” said Taylor.

Mary LaPort, professor of graphic design in the art and design department at Cal Poly, is a frequent visitor of the gallery and enjoyed viewing their work for the first time.

“I think one of the commonalities, even though they are extremely different, is the narrative content,” said LaPort. Another interesting thing, this commonality is they are both working with combining images, but the way they do it is very different.”

The exhibit will run in the art gallery located in Dexter building through Oct. 31.
Film raises funds for Obama

Bridget Volti

Was it the debates or the price of gas that kept people from coming to “Gas Hole” on Friday? Twelve people attended the film fundraiser at the Palm Theater on Friday night at 7 p.m. Proceeds from the screening went to Obama Victory Fund.

Palm Theater General Manager Cameron Bowman said that the film was originally offered to both presidential campaigns.

“McCaia turned it down outright,” Bowman said. “It’s essentially Obama’s energy platform, so they picked it up and wanted us to start fundraising with it.”

Bowman thinks that the low turnout was a result of the presidential debates, which were televised at the same time as the screening.

“I think if the debates had been canceled this place would have been packed,” Bowman said. “I’m planning to screen the film again at a time when more people are likely to attend.”

For the 12 people that did attend, the film was somewhat of a non-traditional political debate—a very one sided one. Obama’s campaign centers around change; and, as political fundraisers go there were two of the stuff in there (the film) is a chat run on hydrogen.

“Gas Hole,” is a documentary film about the issue of current gas prices in this country, centered around the history of oil to the salaries of gas company CEOs. The primary issues of this film are the cost of gas and people are using them. “Gas Hole” stresses the importance of Americans taking the initiative in conservation and new technology. By the time the movie was over Ben Baughman, 28, was ready to start moving.

“I feel enlightened, I didn’t know how we got here,” Baughman said. This film illuminated the country’s current situation for me, and made me want to make changes in my life.

Narrator by actor Peter Gallagher, “Gas Hole” portrays the oil industry as unclean and questions the motives and morality of American gas companies by accusing them of controlling the cost of oil.

“Gas Hole” may not have brought in as much money for the Obama campaign as its writers had hoped, but it did generate big questions about the price of gas and why, with all of the developments in technology, nothing has been done to help the effect this has had on the environment and American wallets.

Bowman showed the film for its overall message and connection to the Obama campaign.

“I don’t know if it’s the best documentary ever made, but it is the only one that I know of that has attacked the industry and raised some red flags and I can respect that,” Bowman explained.

“Gas Hole,” is the first film of Jeremy Wagner and Scott D. Roberts that have directed together. The pair met during Wagner’s film directing debut in 2001, “Chicks Man,” and became friends. They planned to attend the Friday screening, but ultimately could not make the trip from Los Angeles.

The reviews from the crowd were mixed, with some viewers doubting its overall effectiveness. Engineer Chris Hartz, currently a public policy graduate student at Cal Poly, said that the overall message of the documentary was important but as a whole it was “fairly over the top,” categorizing it as a “wannabe Michael Moore film.”

The film concluded by showing possible solutions that some Americans, including celebrity Josh Jackson, are turning to, like biodiesel fuel and cars that run on hydrogen.

“I run films, so I’m no expert, and some of the stuff in there (the film) is a little outdated, but some of it is working,” said Bowman. “Hydrogen cars exist, and people are using them. “Gas Hole” stresses the importance of Americans taking the initiative in conservation and new technology. By the time the movie was over Ben Baughman, 28, was ready to start moving.

“I feel enlightened, I didn’t know how we got here,” Baughman said. “This film illuminated the country’s current situation for me, and made me want to make changes in my life.”

When future employers ask if you have any extra curricular activities, drinking games isn’t what they mean.

Fey reprises role as Palin on SNL

Jake Coyle

NEW YORK (AP) — Tina Fey reprised her role as Sarah Palin on "Saturday Night Live," again appearing as the Republican vice presidential candidate in an opening sketch.

Saturday night's show — the third of the season for the NBC comedy program — brought back the season premiere tandem of Fey and Amy Poehler, who opened the season with a memorable sketch featuring Fey as Palin and Poehler as Hillary Clinton.

This time around, Poehler played CBS's Katie Couric, parodying the interview with Palin earlier this week. Poehler, though, mostly played straight man to Fey, who ratcheted up her performance of Sen. John McCain's running mate by satirizing her foreign affairs experience.

When Poehler's Couric pushed Fey's Palin to specifically discuss how she would help facilitate democracy abroad, Fey gave an: "Katie, I'd like to use one of my lifelines... I want to phone a friend!"

When a confused Poehler informed her that that wasn't how the interview worked, Fey's Palin responded — alluding to one of the governor's most quoted lines from the interview — "Well, in that case, I'm just gonna have to get back to ya."

Fey, a former cast member and head writer of "SNL," has seemingly been thrust back into regular appearances on the program despite her full-time gig with NBC's "30 Rock."

"She is widely considered to look like Palin, and "SNL" execs, live producer Lorrie Michaels persuaded her to reprise the role on "SNL.""

Fey wasn't the only former cast member who returned Saturday night. Chris Parnell came back to play presidential debate moderator Jim Lehrer in a sketch that paralleled Friday night's context between McCain and Democratic rival Barack Obama — which occurred less than 27 hours earlier than the live "SNL" broadcast.

The sketch mainly played up McCain's attempts to shake up the debate process, as Darrell Hammond's McCain urged his opponent to join him in "nude or semi-nude" town hall meetings.

At the outset, Parnell announced: "Throughout the debate, I urge you both to look at one another up and beyond the point it becomes uncomfortable."
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Christy Lemire
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Paul Newman couldn't have expected today — or lost, not the way we came to know him.

Sure, the talent would have been there, the classic good looks, the magnetism, the captivating screen presence. But the primary demand he had, and which helped establish and solidify his mystique as a bona fide movie star, would never have been afforded him in our tabloid-driven, celebrity-obsessed culture.

And that may be why we were fasciinated with Newman, who died of cancer Friday at 83, because we didn't know every gory detail of his life, even though he held the zenith of fame and popularity. He left us craving more — and that he lived and died far from Hollywood's glare in the small town of Westport, Conn., in the converted farmhouse he shared with his wife of 50 years, Joanne Woodward, speaks volumes not only about who he was, but who he didn't want to be.

It's hard to think of an actor today who compares in that regard: someone who's hardly confidant on screen but maintains some mystery about who he really is, someone who would make even hardened, cynical journalists go weak in the knees upon meeting face-to-face. Newman's lifelong friend and co-star, Robert Redford, certainly qualifies, but of the current generation of stars? We know too much about Tom Cruise, Will Smith, Leonardo DiCaprio.

George Clooney springs to mind, and even he has fought public battles with the paparazzi over the need to respect celebrities' privacy. Clooney, himself, seemed to recognize the legacy Newman left, to racism to his death Sunday morning: "He set the bar too high for the rest of us...not just actors, but all of us. He will be greatly missed," he said through his publicist.

I imagine the same for Newman's career, which encompassed nearly 60 feature films over the past half-century, the range that leaves an impression. You never forget you were watching Paul Newman. He was a presence after all. He was the star. But he could fit into a wide variety of parts — unlike some other actors with longevity and stature, who shall remain nameless for these purposes, who have devolved into caricatures of themselves as they've aged.

In a simple interview, Newman played:
- A washed-up football player in Tennessee Williams' "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" (1958).
- A temp ("Fat Eddie") Felson in "The Hustle" (1981), the role he would reprise in "The Color of Money" (1986), which, surprisingly, earned him his only Academy Award in 10 nominations.
- A bad boy cowboy in "Bad" (1963).
- A train robber alongside Redford, iconically, in "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid" (1969).
- The player-coach of a small-town hockey team in the comedy cult favorite "Slap Shot" (1977).
- A cantankerous grandfather in "Nobody's Fool" (1994).
- A formidable mob boss in "Road to Perdition" (2002).

Newman came up in the Method-acting tradition, a la Brando, but there was never anything obviously studied about him; he made the swagger look natural.

And his evolution over the years — from young and dangerous to middle-aged and struggling to older and wiser — constantly carried with it the aura of dignity.

"His powerful eloquence, his consummate sense of craft, so consummate — it's a shame he didn't want to be," his actor-friend Redford, certainly qualifies. But of the current generation of stars? Newman's not the only one who didn't want to be.

"He set the bar too high for the rest of us...not just actors, but all of us. He will be greatly missed," he said through his publicist.

Maybe Paul Newman wasn't so hard to figure out after all.
back to skool concert culmination event for poly students business

Orientation concert, took place in the parking lot at 714 Embarcadero Blvd. and shut down half of the Boulevard in front of the event. The expected crowd turn out was between 2,000 and 3,000 people. While doors official­ly opened at noon, the line of expectant fans started arriving around 7 a.m. and stretched around the corner up Pacific Street. By 2 p.m., approximately 600 people crowded the stage, many of them waving their hands to the beat. Among the concert goers, groups of children ran around chairs and dodged adults while some of their parents watched from the enclosed bar area.

Despite being an event for all ages, there was a marked security presence and a detail of police officers on hand. While Morro Bay is no stranger to large events, the nature of this one, meant to bring Cal Poly and Cuesta students to Morro Bay makes it important to get right the first time.

No one is more aware of this than event organizers Reza Akavain, Jason Neubauer and Hamei Hamedi of Obsession Entertainment. The three Cal Poly students are respectively, president, vice president and market­ing director of the company that is fast gaining a local reputation for excellence in event planning.

"Pretty much, one summer when I was president of our fraternity and Reza was treasurer, we came up with the idea that we should start packaging together all of the Greek events," Neubauer said.

"Everything had just been leading to off­site venues because all the houses were be­coming such a liability. We came up with the ideas of, 'Why not set up contracts with all the vendors, all the venues, transportation and you know, have our own security and DJs.' That way businesses respect another business coming at them to do Greek events."

By setting up a unified front for campus fraternities, the entrepreneurs gained valuable experience in event organizing, after planning all of Cal Poly’s Greek events last year.

"The whole mission of the company, when we started, was to save fraternities and clubs time and money," Akavain said. "So you make one phone call and we’re the middle man. We take care of everything for them and we can get it for cheaper because we already have contacts with all these venues and transportation companies, everything."

After dealing with event planning for clubs, the company, joined by Hamedi who graduated Cal Poly with a degree in electrical engineering, started concert planning, bringing in sponsors and going after big name artists that aren’t often seen on the Central Coast.

"You go out there and you go get them and you have to argue prices," Neubauer said. "It’s like a game; you try to get the artist before they get too big so you don’t pay as much. We found before anybody knew him. I just had an inkling that he was going to blow up because of his MTV show and now he’s pretty famous, so that’s good for us."

Despite the strain of attending school and running a company simultaneously, the founders have collected their share of interesting stories, such as breaking down in Paso Robles with the artist E40 on April Fool’s day while driving him to their first major concert.

"They have the most gained respect in the field," the MC for Sunday’s concert, JoJo Lopez of the local radio sta­tion 106.1, called them "the cream of the crop."

"These guys always deliver the big names," Lopez said. A lot of times people will advertise and you’re like, “Ya right, that sounds to good to be true, why would they come here?”, but these guys go and get the acts. They find names that otherwise we’d never see here."

Local law enforcement also appreciate their plan­ning expertise.

"They’re very professional to work with," Command­er Tim Olias of the Morro Bay Police Depart­ment said.

"You can tell Reza’s done this before. He’s got every­thing running smoothly. We’ve never had this type of event before, but there’s certain things to expect anytime large groups get together."
Mustang Daily

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There are more than two checkboxes on your ballot

Candidates like Ralph Nader and others are the lost voices of true democracy

Whether or not you agree with their views — whether you find their politics unappealing, infuriating or amusing — one thing is certain: we need more candidates like Ralph Nader in our nation’s political dialogue.

Nader was at Cal Poly last night as part of his California university tour. Nader spoke passionately to a packed auditorium about the problems with America’s current two-party political system.

“What’s left for you to do for this country?” he questioned the audience.

With his third presidential bid, this time on the Peace and Freedom party ticket, Nader hopes to bring attention to the plight of running as a third-party candidate.

Meanwhile, an estimated 60 million people had tuned in on Friday for the first presidential debate between senators John McCain and Barack Obama. That is a phenomenal number of eyes and ears tuned in to listen to two mere mortals who hardly ever sing from their party ’s standard platform.

And already the pundits are going at it again — dissecting every trivial figure of speech and mannerism from the debate. So much airtime is devoted to tracking McCain and Obama’s policies, it’s almost as if life didn’t exist before them.

In this media madness we forget that there are other issues at stake — and that there is a whole spectrum of men and women who represent these views.

Candidates like Nader, former Republican candidate Ron Paul, Libertarian party candidate Bob Barr, former Democratic candidate Mike Gravel and Green party candidate Cynthia McKinney are shut out from the discussion completely.

Do people realize how flat, boring and utterly predictable our nation’s political dialogue has become since shutting them out?

Opening for Nader last night, his vice-presidential nominee Matt Gonzalez devoted his opening speech to talking to that issue.

“The other two party candidates, you see, with a straight face, that we’re not allowed to be in a debate with them,” he said.

“Then how can we have a better democracy.”

The reason these candidates weren’t allowed into the primary debates and are still ignored is often not because their views are too marginalized for the average American, but simply because they haven’t played the political game right; they’re not in bed with corporate interests, nor do they have the charm to attract nodder-like followings around the globe.

Few Americans realize that the debates are literally controlled by the two major parties, in the form of the Commission on Presidential Debates, which was created by the Bush and Democratic in 1987. Prior to that, the two major-partisan League of Women Voters had sponsored the presidential debates, but they declined to continue doing so after pressure from the two major parties to internationally shut out discussion by third party and independent candidates.

In a press release to the public that year, the League explained their reason for withdrawing sponsorship: “The League of Women Voters is withdrawing sponsorship of the presidential debates... because the demands of the two campaign organizations would perpetrate a fraud on the American voter. It has been agreed that these two political organizations act to add debates to their list of campaign-trail charades devoid of substance, spontaneity and answers to tough questions. The League has no intention of becoming an accessory to the backshoofing of the American public.”

Even since, our presidential debates have been what they are now: not a chance to foster revolutionary ideas or encourage new political thought, but just another step in the re-election of a Republican or Democrat to the White House.

Granted, at this point in the game and in the face of economic melodramas, it would be ill-advised to ignore the debates. The stakes are too high and McCain and Obama are, afterall, the only two options to realistically choose from.

But even as you do that — and vote however you may on November 4 — don’t forget that a democratic society was never designed to be a two-party game. The fact that there are currently only two major political parties and that they have such a monopole on our country should be discouraging to everyone, no matter what side of the aisle you’re on.

There was a time when Republicans and Democrats did not exist and when being an American meant more than voting for a prescribed party ticket. Now, candidates like Obama and McCain get pushed to celebrity status, complete with cult-like followings by their most ardent supporters, while “mess- age candidates” like Nader, Paul and McKinney are ridiculed and mocked for daring to break the mold.

Yet third parties and independents are realistic and they are visible — if only given a chance. Ross Perot proved to be a dangerous competitor to both Bill Clinton and George H.W. Bush in the 1992 presidential campaign, pulling roughly even with them at various points in the race. His supporters successfully managed to get him on the ballot in all 50 states, which gained him almost 19 percent of the popular vote.

During this election campaign, former Republican nominee Ron Paul attracted a massive Internet following among our generation for his support of low taxes, free market policies, civil liberties and an end to the Iraq war. In a single day last year, his campaign broke the record among Republican nominees, raising $4 million online and an additional $200,000 over the phone.

And let us not forget that Nader himself had a major impact (or good for bad, depending on your outlook) on the outcome of the 2000 election when thousands of liberals flocked to him rather than Democratic nominee Al Gore, an outcome which many say cost Gore the election.

These moments in history — and events like Nader and Gonzalez’s appearance at Cal Poly last night — prove that true democracy is not yet dead. Every once in a while America do seems to remember that as voters they have a right to demand a candidate that truly represents their viewpoints, regardless of party affiliation.

Voting for a third party candidate or an independent is not a vote wasted — it is a democratic exercise and a sign of independence.

Take the time to research the rainbow of other candidates out there and remember that the two men you see on television are only two men with two platforms. There’s too much to be understood about our world and too much at stake to narrow our choices down to such a simple ballot.

Katie van Romburgh is a journalism student and the Mustang Daily editor in chief.

Send a letter to the editor!

Submit your thoughts, opinions, rants and raves in 250 words or less to mustangdailyopinions@gmail.com
Hey professors: how about saving us some money on books?

Let's face it: textbook prices are freakishly high, but they don't have to be.

There's always the song and dance about publisher prices and no one is nontun to it, there are plenty of ways professors can make it easier for students to get cheaper books each quarter. And there's no better way to gain the respect and love that book requests save them some money. (Klees, bring food to class. We're suckers for free food.)

Put book requests in early if using El Corral

If book requests are put in early to El Corral Bookstore, they'll appear on the "textbook lookup" online and students can find the booklets for their future courses. Reserving books ahead of time saves 10 percent on prices, but that does no good if professors didn't ever order them. Addis University Book Exchange can also get them if they're requested on time, which gives students another local option.

Students can also shop around for the best prices online and order books in time to do homework the first few weeks. Sometimes, we won't even know we have a book until the first day of class and when reading is assigned we're cornered into very few options (most of them are expensive). It's unfair to spring a book on people and expect them to have the money to buy it in time to complete the reading for next class. We have to buy locally and can't go for bargains online.

Use old editions

New books are shiny, which is understandably distracting and attractive, but old editions are often just as good and have more used copies available. Some textbooks update every year and professors insist on the very latest, which makes the chance of selling them back to the bookstore or other students slim to none. On that note, reusing the same hook every year and professors insist on the very latest, which makes the chance of selling them back to the bookstore or other students slim to none. On that note, reusing the same hook even when reading is assigned we're cornered into very few options (most of them are expensive). It's unfair to spring a book on people and expect them to have the money to buy it in time to complete the reading for next class. We have to buy locally and can't go for bargains online.

Only require books that are absolutely necessary

Be realistic: a quarter consists of 10 weeks, so getting through three textbooks in that time probably won't happen. After all, our motto isn't "learn by highlighting a textbook." Sometimes we buy them just to find out (too late to return it, unless weight is a consideration.

Keep students' interests at heart

Your "favors" cost me dollars. I know your colleague from the other day to save a couple hundred bucks. I can only get a fraction of the money back from El Corral.

Lessons learned from a police ride-along

This past Friday night I spent four hours conducting a ride-along with the San Luis Obispo Police Department. From 10 p.m. to 2 a.m., Sergeant Sean Gillham and I patrolled the downtown area and the residential neighborhoods south of campus and the downtown area. We encountered dozens of violations and made dozens of arrests.

I had no idea what we would encounter and found out that there really is nothing like experiencing the late-night patrol first-hand. The police vehicles look strapped for war, but I'm told it's just precautionary. In fact, the officer I rode with has been with the force over 20 years and has never fired his weapon while on duty.

According to the University Police Department crime report, San Luis Obispo is a pretty safe place to live, with no murders and very few serious crimes in the last few years.

But I soon found out that a typical Friday night produces dozens of noise complaints and potential noise violations. In addition to that, a steady flow of drunk in public, minor in possession, fights, urination in public, open containers and driving under the influence violations occur. Though seeing people cited for these violations didn't shock me, I was surprised at the frequency at which these violations were committed.

When partying, it's important to start the night with a game plan, so here are the top five things I learned on my police ride-along:

1) You're not fooling anyone by calling the liquid in your cup "orange juice." If you're outside of the house you can legally be cited for an open container violation. Police officers are permitted to question you about the contents of your beverage container. Note: a minor in possession citation is a few hundred dollars. You're killing me. I'll have to try to sell it online, because even if the book is still good we're less prepared for class, have lame discussions and don't get as much out of it as we could! But can you blame us?

Gina Magnoli is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily managing editor. She didn't buy any textbooks spring quarter and still passed with flying colors.

2) Nobody looks cool doing a field sobriety test. Don't risk it; find a sober driver. DUI arrests stay on your record for years and are really difficult to explain to potential employers, banks, and parents.

3) Don't break the seal! Urinating in public is a $350 fine! If you know that you are going to be far from a restroom for an extended period of time, prepare to hold it... or insert a catheter for those long nights (just kidding, eww!).

4) Walking in front of police cars when they are speeding down Broad Street to stop a fight at Downtown Brew is not a good idea. Turns out, you can really get hurt that way! Close your cell phone and look both ways.

5) Turning the wrong way onto Marsh Street and claiming you were lost when your driver license says you're from Atascadero is also not a good idea. Cops know all the tricks; if you make a mistake, be more creative.

Ultimately, SLOPD and UPD are here to protect us and to promote a healthy and safe relationship between students and the rest of the San Luis Obispo community. We are all residents of San Luis Obispo and need to treat our (new) home with respect and courtesy. The choices we make today will inevitably affect the efforts and initiatives we wish to pursue tomorrow. Set limits for yourself before leaving the house, know who is driving and become familiar with the environment around you. Look out for your roommates and friends and be the person who stops the fight before it gets out of hand. Remember, responsible partying starts with you!
Blakloc eliminated in singles play

Cal Poly women's tennis junior Brittany Blakloc was eliminated Sunday from singles play at the Riviera/Intercollegiate Tennis Association Women's All-American Championships in Malibu.

Blakloc fell to Missouri freshman Kristi Bosse in the fourth round of pre-qualifying competition, but she and teammate Sherry Wong (also a junior) will participate Tuesday in the tournament's doubles play in Pacific Palisades.

As a doubles tandem, Blakloc and Wong are ranked 31st by the ITA.

Rain washes away first day of Hart­ford Invitational

The Cal Poly men's golf team, which was set to open its season Sunday morning in the Hartford Invitational, will have to wait. Its first round at Ballymeade was washed out due to heavy rain. Play will begin at 8 a.m. today if weather permits.
Utah holds off hard-charging Mustangs

Scott Silver  "Women's Sports"

A barrage of second-half shots was in vain for the Cal Poly women's soccer team in a 1-0 loss to Utah on Sunday. The Mustangs (3-6) outshot Utah 15-4 in the second half but were unable to score despite several close chances.

"We had the ball in their half (the whole second half) they were on their heels," Cal Poly forward Ashley Valles said.

The Utes (4-0-2) took the lead in the 24th minute on junior Kelly Idaho's fifth goal of the season. Idaho made a 10-yard run to the top of the box and took a well-placed shot that went past Cal Poly goalkeeper Cord Hoover.

"They were composed on the ball and we got switched a little bit," Mustangs head coach Alex Croeter said.

Trailing 1-0 at the half, the Mustangs controlled the second half, playing the majority in the Utah zone.

"Toward the end we had a couple good quality opportunities," Croeter said. "We just weren't able to score the ball."

One such chance came in the final minute, as junior Carin Andrews' header off a corner went past Utah goalkeeper Enaile Rogers and skipped off the top of the crossbar and over the net.

The Mustangs also had their opportunities in the first half.

Late in the first, freshman forward Tiffany Guarnes had a shot knocked down by Rogers that drifted tantalizingly toward the goal, but was cleared by a defender just moments before it would have trickled into the netting.

"I really can't say why we couldn't get it in the net," a frustrated Valles said. "We should - there is really no excuse for it."

Valles made several key runs in the second half that ended with a shot, or winning a corner on deflections from her cross attempts.

Cal Poly's Whitney Sidler (left) fights for position with Utah's Lauren Dudley on Sunday.

Chargers rally, score 25 in fourth to beat self-destructing Raiders again

Josh Dubow  "Associated Press"

OAKLAND — For three quarters, the Oakland Raiders stopped LaDainian Tomlinson and appeared poised to turn set up Nate Kaeding's go-ahead 47-yard field goal with 1:51 to play and Tomlinson sealed the 28-18 victory Sunday with his second fourth-quarter touchdown that gave him yet another 100-yard game.

"Every year is different. They're a better team," said Tomlinson, who had 75 of his 106 yards in the fourth quarter. "We pride ourselves on now matter how we start, finishing the game strong. It didn't matter that it was against the Raiders."

Closing a game out was important for the Chargers (2-2), who lost their first two games of the season in the final minute. But those games weren't against the Raiders (1-3), who showed they can blow a lead against the Chargers as easily as they can get blown out.

"Obviously when you've won that many in a row, you've got a grasp on how to beat them," said quarterback Philip Rivers, who went 14-for-25 for 180 yards, a touchdown and two interceptions.

"We just kept fighting. It wasn't our prettiest win, but our defense gave us a chance. There was no panic."

The loss marked the second straight week the Raiders (1-3) were unable to hold onto a two-score lead in the fourth quarter and might finally signal the end of coach Lane Kiffin's tenure in Oakland.

The Rams blew a nine-point fourth-quarter lead last week in Buffalo. They led 13-6 at halftime Sunday and went into the fourth quarter with a 13-3 lead. Now with a bye coming up this week, the questions about Kiffin's job security will only intensify.

"That's not my call," he said. "I don't know what I expect. I'm not sure."

Chargers' page 15

San Diego Chargers LaDainian Tomlinson (21), Vincent Jackson (83) and Mike Tolbert celebrate a fourth-quarter touchdown Sunday in Oakland.

Brees, Saints blow away 49ers in New Orleans

Brett Martel  "Associated Press"

NEW ORLEANS — Helmet in hand, Deuce McAllister jogged triumphantly into the tunnel of the Louisiana Superdome past celebrating Saints fans howling his name.

Then came another stroll.

McAllister's childhood idol, former San Francisco running back Roger Craig, called to congratulate him on his first validating performance since his second knee reconstruction.

"I talked to my hero," McAllister said. "He told me he was proud of me."

San Francisco's shaky run defense had trouble stopping McAllister's power running and New Orleans avoided an early-season hole with a 31-17 victory on Sunday.

The Saints all-time leading rusher hardly looked like he was playing on two reconstructed knees when he bowled over tacklers down field, moved the pile or dove over it for his