**Greek life still suspended after student death**

**MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT**

All Cal Poly greek life activity was formally suspended mid-December following the death of freshman Carson Starkey, a fraternity pledge who died the morning after attending a Sigma Alpha Epsilon (SAE) party.

Starkey, 19, was found unresponsive at a local residence at about 6 a.m. Dec. 2 and was later pronounced dead. A toxicology report and autopsy were performed but results have not been released. His death is suspected to be alcohol-related given the circumstances, and there are numerous investigations as to whether hazing was a factor. Police are also investigating whether the party was a pledge event.

SAE's charter was suspended from all activity until further notice first by the university following the incident and later by the fraternity's national organization.

In addition to the death of Starkey, SAE has had several incidences in which they had to attend meetings with Student Life and Leadership including alcohol violations, destruction of property and alleged drugging of a sorority member.

**Autopsy: medical condition caused sophomore's death**

The autopsy of Favian Mora, an electrical engineering sophomore who was found unresponsive in his room in Poly Canyon Village in December, was released yesterday and said that his death was due to a medical condition.

Toxicology results were negative for drugs and alcohol said San Luis Obispo county public information officer Rob Bryn. No foul play is suspected.

A bacterial infection caused by the bacteria called Group B Strept Sepsis was responsible. This bacteria is from the same school of bacteria that causes strep throat, according to David L. Harris, the medical director of the Cal Poly Health Center.

He added that when most people are exposed to the bacteria, their bodies isolate the infection and fight it off, but sometimes it can travel into a person's bloodstream. This leads to a total body infection, or sepsis, which can cause the body to go into shock and lead to organ failure and cardiac arrest.

"The chances are miniscule," Harris said for this scenario to happen to anyone with a healthy immune system. "The lesson to take home here is if you're feeling unwell, get checked out."

Mora, 19, planned to graduate Cal Poly in 2011 and was a member of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers. He graduated from Andrew P. Hill High School in San Jose, Calif. in 2007.

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**Top eight stories of 2008:**

**July: Saudi contract signed**

A controversial contract to develop and implement a new engineering program at Jubail University College (JUC) in Saudi Arabia was signed by Cal Poly in early July. However, almost six months later, JUC has yet to sign its portion to the contract is not finalized and remains private, raising concerns as to whether the deal will actually go through. The five-year contract would bring $5.9 million to Cal Poly, but opponents worry the deal will lead to discrimination against minority groups including Jews, women and homosexuals.

**September: Poly Canyon Village opens**

The brand-new Poly Canyon Village complex opened for move-in last week. Besides apartments for sophomore students, the village features a resident-only pool and restaurants including Jamba Juice, Peer's Coffee and Tea, Einstein Bros. Bagels and a market.

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Recap

continued from page 1

August: Beijing Olympics

Cal Poly graduate Stephanie Brown-Tafion won the discus event at the 2008 Summer Olympic games in Beijing and became the first gold medalist from Cal Poly after posting a mark of 212 feet, 5 inches. Brown-Tafion, a 2004 engineering graduate and three-time All-American at Cal Poly, had failed to advance to the final round in 2004 and was entered as the 16th seed in 2008.

September: Budget meltdown

Due to California’s budget crisis and an overall recession, the California State University system was forced to cut its budget. Provost Robert Koellh responded by cutting the budget of each college in Cal Poly by 2.5 percent, leading to fewer courses and fewer teachers.

October: Racism protested

A noose and a confederate flag hanging from the balcony of the on-campus Crop House sparked a massive protest and campus-wide debate about racism and diversity on campus. A forum was also held to address student concerns. The residents have vacated the building but any punishment would be an affront to first amendment rights according to Cal Poly.

November: Cal Poly helps elect Obama

Cal Poly students turned out in large numbers to help propel Barack Obama to win the election and become the United States’ first African-American president. Students also went against the grain by voting overwhelmingly against Proposition 8, the proposal to ban gay marriage, which passed in the state.

November: Heartbreaker loss to Wisconsin

Although the Cal Poly football team beat Football Bowl Subdivision (formerly Division I-A) teams like UTEP and San Diego State during the Rich Ellerson era, it took things to another level on Nov. 22, 2008. The Mustangs, at the time ranked third in the Football Championship Subdivision (FCS), tried to become just the second FCS team since 2001 to beat two FBS squads in the same season. They nearly pulled it off, never trailing before the final play of a 30-35, overtime loss.

For the latest on Cal Poly football, see the sports section. To check out an audio slideshow featuring the game, go online to mustangdaily.net.

December: Two student deaths, two days

Two student deaths within several days of each other rocked campus in December. Architectural engineering freshman Carson Starkey died after attending a Sigma Alpha Epsilon event, a fraternity he was pledging. The fraternity has been indefinitely suspended.

Mechanical engineering sophomore Favian Mora died in his on-campus apartment two days later. The death was a result of a bacterial infection. Candlelight vigils were held for both students.

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Walking distance from Cal Poly - Right next to Kona’s Deli

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(Hey, it’ll give you something to talk to Mom about.)
Israel ignored mounting international calls for a cease-fire Monday and said it won't stop its crippling 10-day assault until "peace and tranquility" are achieved in southern Israeli towns in the line of Palestinian rocket fire. Three Israeli soldiers died in a friendly fire incident.

Israeli forces seized control of high-rise buildings and attacked smuggling tunnels and several mosques in a campaign against Hamas militants that took an increasing toll on civilians. Three young brothers were reported killed during shelling. Palestinian wounded filled hospital corridors.

Arab delegates met with the U.N. Security Council in New York Monday, urging members to adopt a resolution calling for an immediate end to the Israeli attacks and a permanent cease-fire. At the same time, diplomats and European leaders traveled the region in an effort to stop Israel's expanding ground and air offensive.

In the first serious clash in an urban area, Israeli troops and Hamas militants fought a gunbattle on the outskirts of the crowded Gaza City neighborhood of Shajaiyeh, Israeli defense officials said. Details also emerged of an unsuccessful attempt by Hamas fighters to capture Israeli soldiers hours after the ground operations.

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**WORD ON THE STREET**

"Should Obama remain mum about the situation in Gaza?"

"I have mixed feelings about it. It's something that we need to know he has the ability to take care of but I wouldn't want it to be escalated by the wrong words."

-Jordan Janis, biological sciences sophomore

"As the new President-elect, Obama should speak about the international community because he's the face of America and we need to have leaders who discuss issues."

-Lacey Jones, aerospace engineering junior

"I think he should speak on the issue... it's important for him to let the country know how he feels."

-Ben Raymond, materials engineering junior

"I think he should be way more vocal. As the future president, he should be able to talk about it with everyone."

-Justin Rayala, biological sciences sophomore

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tion began Saturday with a withering round of artillery fire. Military spokesman Brig. Gen. Avi Benyamin told Israeli TV the assault was going according to plan with forces sweeping through Palestinian rocket launching locations near the border.

Later, the Israeli military said three soldiers were killed and 24 others wounded Monday evening by friendly fire. It said an errant Israeli tank shell hit their position outside Ciaza, adding that initial suspicions that a Hamas booby-trap caused the casualties were ruled out. Israel Radio reported a colonel who commanded an infantry brigade was among the injured.

Despite Israeli claims that casualties have been heavy among militants, no Hamas fighters were seen Monday by an Associated Press reporter at Shifa Hospital, the Gaza Strip's largest. Instead, the hospital was overwhelmed with civilians. Bodies were two to a morgue drawer, and the wounded were being treated in hallways because beds were full.

Gaza health officials reported that since the campaign began on Dec. 27 more than 550 Palestinians have been killed and 2,500 wounded, including 200 civilians.

Gaza
continued from page 3

State

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Mayor Gavin Newsom is considering the vandilation of a Catholic church in San Francisco. Swastikas and graffiti were spray-painted on the Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church over the weekend in an apparent protest of Proposition 8, which outed same-sex marriage in California.

Although prominent Catholic leaders supported Proposition 8, the targeted church is in the Castro District, San Francisco's gay neighborhood.

Former phát. Steve Presser told radio station KCBS-AM that his parishioners don't support Proposition 8. "I think it's unfortunate that they selected our community to attack," he said, "because it's the wrong one."

In a statement, Newsom called the attack "a cowardly and criminal act."

SACRAMENTO (AP) — Meg Whitman, the former eBay executive who stepped onto the political landscape last year as an adviser to John McCain, is preparing to run for California governor in 2010, adding another big name to an increasingly crowded field of potential contenders.

She stepped down from the boards of eBay, Procter & Gamble Co. and DreamWorks Animation SKG as of Dec. 31, her spokesman, Henry Gomez, said Monday.

He said it was for "personal reasons and time commitment," but would not elaborate.

A person who is knowledgeable about Whitman's political aspirations told The Associated Press that the 52-year-old Silicon Valley leader is planning to run for governor.

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International

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) — President-elect Barack Obama decided over the weekend to fill the nation's top intelligence jobs with two men short on direct experience in intelligence gathering but experienced in building communities and making the nation's intentions clear from both administration policies.

Former Clinton White House Chief of Staff Leon Panetta, an eight-term congressional veteran and administrative expert, is being tapped to head the CIA. Retired Adm. Dennis Blair is Obama's choice to be director of national intelligence, a selection expected for weeks, according to two Democrats who spoke on condition of anonymity because Obama has not officially announced the choices.

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — A Minnesota board on Monday certified results showing Demo­ crat Al Franken winning the state's Senate recount over Republi­ can Norm Coleman, whose lawyer promised a legal challenge that probably will keep the race in limbo for months.

The Canoinsong Board's declaration started a seven-day clock for Coleman, the incumbent, to file a lawsuit proving the result. His at­ torny Tony Trimble said the chal­ lenge will be filed within 24 hours.

SANTA FE, N.M. (AP) — Gov. Bill Richardson's gold-plate­ ed residence had never been tarnished as he moved up the political ladder from congressman and diplomat to governor.

But a day after backing out of consideration for U.S. commerce secretary, Richardson faced a murky political future as a grand jury proved a possible pay-to-play deal involving one of his big political donors.

President-elect Barack Obama has not officially announced the nomination expected for weeks, according to two Democrats who spoke on condition of anonymity because Obama has not officially announced the choices.

Mandated Nowak told Austrian radio he hopes more countries will set aside their misgivings and doo­ solidarity with the incoming gov­ ernment of President-elect Barack Obama, who has vowed to shut the detention center in eastern Cuba.

Most European nations have refused to accept Guantanamo in­ mates, citing national security con­ cerns. Nowak told public broad­ caster ORF he understands their reluctance, "since the U.S. govern­ ment for many years represented the prisoner as the most danger­ ous ever captured."
Travolta heartbroken over son's sudden death

Chris Gillette

FREEPORT, Bahamas — John Travolta said Sunday that although Jett was last seen Thursday and found in a bathroom in Grand Bahama where his 16-year-old son, Jett, was found collapsed in a bathroom on Friday after having a seizure and hitting his head on the bathtub at the actor's vacation home in Grand Bahama, according to a police officer who declined to be named. He was taken by ambulance to a Freeport hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

"That the government is doing everything it can," Minniss said Sunday, adding he doesn't believe that the teen was in the bathroom for a substantial amount of time.

"The police left the impression that the boy was unsupervised. No. There were two nannies with him next morning."

"(Jett) was spectacularly supervised," said McDermott. "They made it seem like he was sent to the condo and nobody checked in on him until the next morning.

"(They) left the impression that the boy was unsupervised. No. There were two nannies with him for the entire evening," McDermott told The Associated Press. "They made it seem like he was sent to his room, and it is a beautiful reminder of the inherent goodness in the human spirit that gives us hope for a brighter future."

Travolta and Travolta have said that Jett became prone to seizures. The Church of Scientology, established in 1945 by science fiction writer L. Ron Hubbard, has at least one more famed members is Travolta, who has long been one of Hollywood's biggest names.

"Lives of recent times, will, at last, tell her story."

"I am curious about Laura Bush and I believe others — people you would expect to be supporters of a Republican first lady, and other people, too — are just as curious about her," says Scribner publisher and executive vice president Susan Moldow, one of several publishers to meet last fall with the first lady. "She was forthcoming about her own reticence. She understands she has not put herself forward and that this is her chance to share the information she wants to share. I know it is interesting in a surprising, unfilmed way."

The potential audience is enormous. Despite eight years in the White House, Laura Bush is essentially unknown to her many admirers, who have speculated about her politics (rumors abound that she's more liberal than her husband), her marriage and a car accident when she was a teenager. A former librarian, Bush is also known as a devoted reader whose favorite authors include Cormac McCarthy, Truman Capote and Toni Morrison.

"It is a high priority for her." Moldow said she anticipated a lively and fascinating book, and added that she never sought a "tell-all" from the first lady. "I think she is clearly a very loyal person and she is also not someone you would expect explosive information from," she said. Asked what she hoped for in the book, Moldow said, "I want to learn her view of things, that's what I want to hear."

According to Barnett, Bush has not stated the book, but "wants to get right to work on this project when she leaves the White House. It is a high priority for her."

Bush will have a collaborator — still to be determined — to help her meet the 2010 publishing date. Former first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton's memoir "Living History" was released by Simon & Schuster two and a half years after she left the White House, well into her first term in New York. "She was a major Bush book, page volving several publishers, according to Bush's literary representative, Robert Barnett. Neither Moldow nor Barnett would offer financial details, but both say the memoir will be candid, Barnett, whose clients include Hillary Clinton and former President Bill Clinton, disputed concerns by noting that you never "reveal your best material in multi-publications meetings."

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‘Marley & Me’ remains box office top dog with $24M weekend

David Germain
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — Jennifer Aniston, Owen Wilson and their little dog have not lost their box-office bite.

The family tale “Marley & Me,” starring Aniston and Wilson as owners of an adorably mischievous pooch, took in $23.1 million to finish as the No. 1 movie for a second-straight weekend, according to studio estimates Sunday.

The 20th Century Fox flick raised its total to $106.5 million since opening Christmas day.

With no new wide releases, the weekend shaped up largely like the previous one, with Disney’s Adam Sandler comedy “Bedtime Stories” in second-place with $20.3 million.

Rounding out the top-five again were Paramount’s Brad Pitt romantic drama “The Curious Case of Benjamin Button” with $18.4 million, MGM’s Tom Cruise World War II saga “Valkyrie” with $14 million and the Warner Bros. Jim Carrey comedy “Yes Man” with $13.9 million.

In a season loaded with wartime stories, two more Nazi-themed films opened in limited release.

Paramount Vantage’s “Defiance” debuted with $121,000 in two theaters for a whopping average of $60,500. The film stars Daniel Craig as one of Jewish brothers who form a band of freedom fighters against the Nazis in Eastern Europe.

ThinkFilm’s “Good” opened with $9,300 in two theaters, averaging $4,650. The film casts Viggo Mortensen as an upright German academic gradually seduced into the Nazi fold as World War II approaches.


By comparison, “Marley & Me” averaged $6,862 in 3,505 theaters. “Defiance” stars Daniel Craig in the story of Jewish brothers who form a band of freedom fighters against the Nazis in Eastern Europe.

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Top ten estimated ticket sales (in millions) for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Media By Numbers LLC.

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COURTESY PHOTO

"Bedtime Stories" starring Adam Sandler had the second highest weekend ticket sales.

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Ryan Broderick
THE CHRONICLE (BOSTON L.)

Beyoncé’s latest album, “I Am... Sasha Fierce,” is a complicated mess. It’s cut into two discs, the first being “I Am...” and the second being “Sasha Fierce.” Upon first listen, the question that comes to mind is what is the alter ego all about? The answer: something to do with “creating a sexual, aggressive alter ego.” The real answer of course is that “I Am...” is a challenging and interesting track for the singer. Beyoncé’s done quiet ballads before, but not with the intensity and edge that she pulls off here. Her vocals are strong, the productive is sleek and it’s a solid pop song. The rest of the disc continues along the same path, with simple and genuine lyricism. It dips off a bit with “Disappear,” but “Avia Maria” picks it back up and it ends on a more or less strong note.

“Sasha Fierce” opens with “Single Ladies,” and the anheptic dance song is catchy and strong. The only thing it suffers from is repetition. Three minutes and 13 seconds is far too long for the simple power ballads does her range become fully utilized. The dance singles have a smaller range than the anthemic dance song is catchy and strong. The only thing it suffers from is repetition. Three minutes and 13 seconds is far too long for the simple power ballads does her range become fully utilized. The dance singles have a smaller range than the anthemic dance song is catchy and strong. The only thing it suffers from is repetition. Three minutes and 13 seconds is far too long for the simple power ballads does her range become fully utilized. The dance singles have a smaller range than the anthemic dance song is catchy and strong.

Another negative aspect of “Sasha Fierce” is the production is sleek and it’s a solid pop song. The rest of the disc continues along the same path, with simple and genuine lyricism. It dips off a bit with “Disappear,” but “Avia Maria” picks it back up and it ends on a more or less strong note.

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Beyoncé’s new album “I Am... Sasha Fierce” was released last month. The CD has received mixed reviews.

It will be the collaborator’s job, Moldow says, “to capture that, because I don’t think people have heard it as clearly as I did.” Moldow says that Bush will help publicize the book. Recent first ladies, including Barbara Bush, have had more dependable appeal with readers than their husbands have had. President George W. Bush said last year that he, too, wants to write a book. Publishers, noting his poor approval ratings, have urged him to wait.
Welcome to 2009. Now make one resolution. Make one simple decision. Change one thing in your life that you can change to reduce your impact on the planet. Make it something achievable. Make it something that's important to you.

Statisticians have estimated that only 29 percent of Americans make New Year’s resolutions these days, and only two out of 10 of them actually follow through with their goals. Be that minority. You have 365 days to become a better version of yourself. Start on it.

Typically it seems that New Year’s Resolutions center around large, nebulous topics such as losing weight or increasing our net worth. What follows is a list of some more fine-tuned suggestions for resolutions. Some are specific, others are a bit more abstract. There are no real surprises in the mix, considering that this is an environmental column after all. But I do encourage you to pick a few of them and really make the effort to improve your lifestyle.

Personally, I’m going to put a lot of focus on the foods that I eat this year. I’m finally going to get around to reading Michael Pollan’s “The Omnivore’s Dilemma.” Changing dietary habits is a very simple and direct way for me to reduce my impact and feel better in the process.

Like most other college students, I’m a convenience-oriented eater. I’ll eat whatever is around at the time, without much regard for my personal health or the origins of the products. But that’s going to change this year.

—You are (as green as) what you eat. If we cut down our meat consumption and buy organic when possible, we will also be reducing our consumption of land and water and our contributions to the pollution of both. We can begin to implement positive daily food changes now, in big or little steps. Eating local is the single-best thing you can do to curb climate change. The average American forklift of food traveled 1,500 miles to reach your mouth. By eating local, we save the fuel, and even the farmers, and we save emissions, primarily through transportation food. Eating local also allows us to eat fresher, more nutritious food and become more closely connected to the land and the seasons. Go on a “low-carbon” diet. Author David Gerhson has devised a detailed plan of energy-slimming actions to indi-see Green Spot, page 9

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Israel attacks on Hamas are justified self-defense

Last week, in a program aired on public radio regarding the Israeli bombardment of Hamas positions in Gaza, a Hamas spokesman said: “If this is not Holocaust, then I don’t know what Holocaust is.” And he is absolutely right. He does not know what Holocaust is.

The Holocaust was the murder of 6 million innocent Jews, who were killed just for being Jewish, not because they were fighting the Germans or terrorized the German civilians or were armed and had caused the destruction of Germany. They were murdered for being Jewish.

Since 2003, Palestinians have launched 9,400 rockets and mortars into civilian populations of Sderot, Ashkelon and Be’er Sheva, 3,200 in 2008 alone, close to 600 during the six-month truce since June, resulting in at least 28 deaths, over 1,000 injured and countless property damage. Think about that! Israel has the right, and an obligation to her civilian populations under rocket attacks from Hamas and Islamic Jihad, to protect them. Equating Israel’s defense of her citizens with the Holocaust is a shameful disgrace.

No doubt countless instructors at Cal Poly will also blame Israel in their classes. You, the students who are subject to this, should ask those faculty members why they think Hamas should be able to launch rockets on Sderot and Ashkelon’s civilian populations, indiscriminately, including schools, homes, hospitals, etc., while Israel is blamed by them for defending herself. Even Mahmoud Abbas has put the blame squarely on Hamas. Is it Israel’s fault if Hamas keeps weapons and manufacturing facilities in houses, in the university and in mosques?

Benjamin Goodman
San Luis Obispo resident

Israel attacks on Hamas are terrorism

If the Israeli attacks on Gaza do not embody the essence of terrorism, I am not sure what else would. Israel is showering bombs on Gaza and has begun a ground invasion, terrorizing the 1.5 million innocent civilians living in this tiny strip of land. Israeli sanctions have already caused a severe humanitarian crisis, denying Gazans electricity, food, fuel, medicine and other basic necessities. With the recent attacks on Gaza, over 500 innocent Palestinians have died and over 2,000 wounded. These numbers surpass the Israeli casualties over the last seven years.

Collective punishment of an entire people is morally and legally unjustifiable. Unfortunately, our own tax dollars are financing the Israeli massacre. Israel is the largest recipient of military aid from the United States, and over $30 billion dollars are allocated to Israel over the next decade (endtheoccupation.org). According to American law, however,
Hamas, Israel share blame in Gaza conflict

Travis Sulzbe

The Lantern (Friday, Jan 9)

Palestinians carry a dead man into Shifa hospital in Gaza City, killed during the Israeli army operation in Gaza Sunday. Israeli ground troops and tank hits swaths through the Gaza Strip Sunday, blocking the coastal territory and surrounding its biggest city at the new phase of a devastating offensive against the Hamas group managed momentum. The Israeli military used overwhelming firepower from tanks, artillery and aircraft to protect the advancing soldiers and Gaza officials said at least 31 civilians were killed in the onslaught. One Israeli soldier was killed.

As the conflict in Gaza escalates, it seems that the only group without blood on its hands is the one that has paid the greatest cost: the civilians of Gaza. Israel has again chosen to collectively punish Palestinians for the actions of Hamas with a response completely disproportionate to the rocket attacks on their country.

Before the ground invasion by Israel on Saturday, there had been 480 Gaza casualties, including 26 women, children and an unknown number of male civilians. Israel has suffered four deaths from the rocket attacks.

And although Israel has directly caused the most damage in this conflict, Hamas is no less responsible. Hamas has chosen to direct rocket fire at the cities of southern Israel, deliberately targeting civilians. Hamas knew what the response from Israel would be, yet ignored the effect it would have on the lives of the people they claim to represent. Hamas has even used mosques and university buildings as weapon building sites, gambling on the humanitarian crisis, and make your voice heard to senators and congressmen without blood on its hands is the one that has paid the greatest cost: the civilians of Gaza. Israel has again chosen to collectively punish Palestinians for the actions of Hamas with a response completely disproportionate to the rocket attacks on their country.

Green Spot

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visually lose 5,000 pounds of carbon or more annually. Considering the average American household has a carbon footprint of 22,000 pounds per person, plenty of carbon to cut. For more information, go to www.empowermentinstitute.net.

— Set the "zero-waste" goal. Make recycling, composting, washing and reusing a common practice in your daily life. A mature tree will produce just 14 newspapers. A mature tree will produce just 14 newspapers. If you're studying Business, Architecture...
Fiesta

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eyes stifled the high-powered Longhorns, who averaged 43.9 points this season but mustered only a field goal in the first half. They didn't lead until early in the third quarter, when Texas threw to quarterback Colt McCoy, who also threw for 314 yards and two scores with an interception.

The Longhorns' final possession finished in a three-way tie atop the rugged Big 12 South and thought their 10-point victory over Oklahoma should have put them in the conference title game. But Oklahoma was declared the division winner on the BCS standings tiebreaker, and the Sooners ripped Missouri in the Big 12 playoff to earn a trip to the national championship.

"This team started this way and finished this way, and they're obviously one of the best teams in the country if not the best," Texas coach Mack Brown said.

The loss was Ohio State's third straight in a BCS standings tiebreaker, and the Buckeyes would finally be celebrating.

Texas brought its own sense of momentum, but left its offensive back in Austin, at least in a sluggish first half.

The Longhorns failed to score in the first quarter. Texas was shut out in only four quarters all season — and only once in the first quarter, in a 39-33 loss at Texas Tech on Nov. 1.

The Buckeyes took a 3-0 lead on a 51-yard field goal by Aaron Pettrey midway through the first period. Ohio State drove 43 yards in nine plays, the biggest chunk coming on a 22-yard burst by Chris "Beanie" Wells.

Four minutes into the second quarter, Texas tied it at 3 on a 27-yard field goal by Hunter Lawrence. The Longhorns covered 57 yards, running twice for a total of no yards on the drive.

The Buckeyes responded with a 67-yard march to the Texas 7-yard line. But Buckeyes tackle Bryant Bostick was flagged for a false start on third-and-2 at the 7, and after an incompletion, the Buckeyes had to settle for a 36-yard field goal by Ryan Pickett to take a 6-3 lead.

Texas' best chance came late in the half, when McCoy smartly marched the Longhorns from their own 9 to the Ohio State 16 in 47 seconds.

But on third-and-2 at the Buckeyes' 16 and 9 seconds to go, McCoy threw perhaps his worst pass of the season. McCoy lobbed the ball toward Cosby at the goal line, but safety Anderson Russell picked it off to kill the threat.

Had McCoy thrown the ball into the seats, the Longhorns would have had time for a chip-shot tying field goal. But they went into the dressing room still down by three.

It didn't take McCoy long to atone.

Out there, two teams going at it extremely hard," Ohio State coach Jim Tressel said.

Texas players rushed onto the field after Buckeyes' last gasp. But the turf deep in Texas territory, then gathered in front of the band and sang "The Eyes of Texas" with jubilant fans.

"But early on, it looked as if the Buckeyes would finally be celebrating.

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It didn't take McCoy long to atone.
**Search for Ellerson’s replacement heats up**

Bernie Wilson

**ASSOCIATED PRESS**

SAN DIEGO — There was the strained groin in 2004, the lingering rib injury in 2005, a jaw injury in 2006, the knee injury in last year’s playoffs and then his jammed right big toe earlier this season.

Now there’s the groin injury that’s dogging LaDainian Tomlinson to the point that he might have to sit out the San Diego Chargers’ playoff game at Pittsburgh on Sunday.

The star running back isn’t sure he can complete the moment for the first of two straight AFC championships if Oklahoma beats Army marks the third head-coaching position for Ellerson, who also served as head coach at Southern Utah for one season in 1996.

Ellerson, 55, has strong family ties to the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, N.Y. where his father, a career Army officer, graduated in 1935. Ellerson had two siblings also attend the academy including his brother John, who lettered in football three times and served as the team’s captain in 1962.

The Mustangs saw four players drafted under Ellerson’s direction including third-round picks Jordan Beck (Atlanta Falcons) in 2005 and Chris Gocong (Philadelphia Eagles) in 2006. Quarterback Seth Bulford (San Diego Chargers, 2002) and defensive back Courtney Brown (Dallas Cowboys, 2007) were seventh round selections.

Wide receiver Kames Brown is also expected to be drafted during this year’s draft which takes place April 25 – 26.

**L.T. could be sidelined Sunday by ‘tough’ injury**

Andrew Bagmato

**ASSOCIATED PRESS**

MIAMI (AP) — Texas coach Mack Brown well understands the situation.

"I don’t think there’s anybody in the country who can beat us at this point," McCoy said.

"I don’t think there’s anybody in the country who can beat us at this point," McCoy said.