Are electives necessary? Cal Poly says they are

Ashley Giulio  
Monday, Feb 2

Have you ever wondered why colleges require students to take elective courses to receive a degree? How well a class on the social construction of whiteness or a bowling elective help a student grow and succeed in the future? A non-partisan nationwide network called Americans for Limited Government (ALG) said eliminating some classes from core requirements will save taxpayers millions of dollars by shortening the time needed to graduate from California State University and University of California schools to two years.

The state university system demands a total of 180 units to graduate with a degree—approximately 60 general education units, 60 units in major-related courses and 60 elective units. Degree requirements vary because different majors have different courses to educate students in their area of study. Engineering, for example, has a substantial number of major courses, so electives are reduced in an effort to balance the 180-unit degree requirement.

Cal Poly President Robert Koob said general education courses are intended to give students a well-rounded education and the ability to see life from different perspectives. “Brain research is showing that college years are when humans begin to question the way we think together seems to change for us, so it’s important to think like a mathematician, mathematician, scientist, historian and social scientist.”

He also wants to provide students a way to experience multiple fields of study. “Not everybody is always going to be the same thing forever; we give people an opportunity to explore different majors,” he said general education courses are important.

One of those “avenues” would be to try pass the proposed fund as a referendum, requiring students would vote to implement the program much in the same way the new recreation center was approved last spring.

Fund could increase green programs at Poly

Joshua Ayers  
Monday, Feb 2

Cal Poly Associated Students Inc. is working on the infancy stage of a green fund that has the potential to generate hundreds of thousands of dollars for future student-led campus sustainability projects.

The fund, called The Green Initiative Fund (TGIF), would pool a $5 per-quarter student fee into a monetary reserve to be used for senior projects, internships and energy efficiency projects through Cal Poly.

Hartrich said that the current plan is to draw the fee from the potential $100 to $300 increase in college based fees that is awaiting approval from the College Fee Advisory Committee this week.

“If the fees don’t go through then obviously TGIF would fail,” Hartrich said, “but there are other avenues.”

One of those “avenues” would be to try pass the proposed fund as a referendum, requiring students would vote to implement the program much in the same way the new recreation center was approved last spring.

ASI President Angela Kramer and Hartrich aren’t taking any chances. The duo has already began drafting a proposal to be included in the upcoming March referendum as a precaution.

Kramer, who has built her student administration to focus heavily on sustainability, said that she has seen interest at the university’s administrative level. “President Baker is a huge supporter of sustainable projects especially when they’re student-led projects,” Kramer said. “He really sees this as a great opportunity for students to have access to funds to actually put on events or build models or do research or anything that’s appropriate to their field and I would 100 percent agree.”

Hartrich estimated that TGIF could acquire close to $300,000 per year if it passes, and if it is put into play at Cal Poly. Kramer said that students could apply to use the money for senior projects that plan to use sustainability frameworks. “It would be for projects that see Green, page 2

Exploring a sustainable future

Students and community members attended the Sustainability Project showcase yesterday evening as part of Focus the Nation. Both students and clubs displayed over 15 different sustainable projects. Projects ranged from water conservation and electric vehicles to sustainable dwellings.

Education chief: Calif. system ‘precarious’

Juliet Williams  
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO (AP) — Warning that its public schools are in a "precarious" state, California's top education official on Tuesday called for more money even as lawmakers were considering billions of dollars in cuts to help address the state's massive budget deficit.

Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O'Connell said California's system of funding education, in which money is directed at dozens of specialized programs enshrined over decades, isn't working.

"The state of public education in California is precarious," he said during his annual state of education address. "Beyond the immediate crisis, and even more alarming to me, is the long-term future of our common education system."

California spends about $48 billion a year on K-12 education, almost half its general fund, but its students fare poorly when compared to their peers in other states on standardized tests. The state's schools also have a persistent gap in achievement rates: white, Asian and wealthier students far outperform students who are black, Hispanic and poor.

O'Connell said without more money, California will remain a two-tiered education system for its students. "Families who struggle financially will be left with a substandard system, one that cannot possibly prepare their children to be able to compete in a changing global economy," he said.

His comments came as Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and legislative leaders are struggling with a budget deficit.
Some of the projects UC SB's TGIF has funded included installation of waterless urinals, mounting gas meters on buildings and classes that teach creating business plans geared toward sustainability.

Cal Poly's conceptual design for its TGIF closely models that of UC SB's.

Kramer said that TGIF be put into effect, Harrich said a grant-writing committee, headed by a full-time grant writer, would be employed to pursue matching funds for green projects.

ASi is currently collecting student opinions about TGIF through online petitions at the temporary Web site www.tgifpoly.com.

"It's more or less to see what students support," Harrich said.

"The total requests were just under a million dollars, so we're going to have to whittle that down over the next few weeks," she said.

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Education

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Jet lands safely after bird hits engine

FRANK CROWE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this picture provided by airline passenger Frank Crowe, workers inspect the blades of an engine on a United Airlines Boeing 757 at the Denver airport Tuesday.

Dan Elliott
ASSOCIATE PRESS

A United Airlines jet returned safely to the Denver airport Tuesday after a bird was sucked into one of its engines shortly after takeoff.

The engine that was struck continued to operate and the second engine wasn't affected, airline spokeswoman Megan McCarthy said. A passenger said the bird hit the right engine.

None of the 131 passengers and crew was injured.

The Boeing 757 had just left for San Francisco when the bird strike happened. McCarthy said the pilot's decision to return to the airport was a precaution.

A US Airways jet splashed landed in New York's Hudson River on Jan. 15 after a collision with a flock of birds knocked out both engines. All 155 aboard survived.

see Jet, page 4
Iran claims first launch of its own satellite

Nasser Karimi

Iran sent in first domestically made rocket into orbit, the president announced Tuesday, a key step for an ambitious space program that worries the West, and other world powers because the same rocket technology used to launch satellites can also deliver warheads.

For nearly a decade, Iran has sought to develop a national space program, creating anxiety among international leaders already concerned about its nuclear and ballistic missile programs.

The telecommunications satellite — called "Ambassador-2" carrying the satellite "Omid" or "Hope," was photographed prior to launch at an undisclosed location on Monday.

"There's almost always a link between satellite programs like this and military programs and there's almost always a link between satellites and nuclear weapons. It's the same delivery vehicle," said James Lewis, an expert on defense technology at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington.

White House spokesman Robert Gibbs condemned the launch, saying: "This action does not convince us that Iran is acting responsibly to advance stability or security in the region."

State Department spokesman Robert A. Wood accused Iran of using the space-launch program as a technological stepping stone to develop long-range ballistic missiles.
Kennedy Center to help struggling arts groups

Michael M. Kaiser, president of Kennedy Center, is shown in this courtesy photo from at the Al-Kasaba theatre and cinema-theque in Ramallah, West Bank, Palestine. Kaiser announced an unprecedented "Arts in Crisis" initiative on Tuesday to offer free assistance to managers of nonprofit performing arts organizations across the country.

Brett Zongker ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — With the nation's nonprofit arts organizations suffering in the drought economy, the Kennedy Center has developed the Performing Arts: Crisis Initiative, offering consulting to see them through.

The arts aren't at the top of many lawmakers' lists for a federal bailout. So Michael Kaiser, the Kennedy Center's president, announced an unprecedented "Arts in Crisis" initiative on Tuesday to offer free assistance to managers of nonprofit performing arts organizations across the country.

"I worry about many, many arts organizations disappearing," Kaiser said. "My concern is: Are they cutting the right things? Are they going to be able to compete for resources when there are fewer resources to compete for?"

He said his team could devote significant time and up to $100,000 in expenses to provide emergency planning for fundraising, budgeting, marketing or other strategies as cost offices revenues decline and donations and endowments run dry.

"I worry about many, many arts organizations disappearing," Kaiser said. "My concern is: Are they cutting the right things? Are they going to survive? And are they going to be able to compete for resources when there are fewer resources to compete for?"

Orchestras, ballets and opera companies from California to Maryland and even New York City are facing huge deficits. The Los Angeles Opera is laying off 17 people, cutting salaries and will stage fewer performances this year. The Miami City Ballet is cutting eight dancers. The Baltimore Opera has declared bankruptcy.

The nonprofit group Americans for the Arts estimates 10,000 arts organizations could disappear in 2009. In New York, the Dance Theatre of Harlem, which rebounded from a financial crisis that closed its doors in 2004, is cutting salaries for its entire staff by 10 percent to avoid layoffs and programming cuts.

"There's a silent erosion happening. That sort of makes the whole situation a little more daunting," said Laverne Naidu, executive director of the Harlem dance company co-founded by Arthur Mitchell. "When we look up after the dust has settled, I think that we are going to be sorry that we weren't more proactive sooner."

Kaiser charted an emergency financial restructuring for the Harlem group to reopen in 2004 and continues to consult with Naidu, a dancer who was new to arts management when he took over the company's administration.

The video shows Phoenix, in a long, scrappy beard, rapping nearly inaudibly and ends with him losing his footing and falling off the stage. It was an inauspicious start, but Phoenix was adamant that his hip-hop career is real.

"There's not a hoax," Phoenix said. "But is it ridiculous? Might my career in music be laughable? Yeah, that's possible, but that's certainly not my intention."

Phoenix, 34, said he had not expected anyone to care when he made the surprise announcement last fall that he was quitting Hollywood for music. At the time, fans assumed he might build on the country music success he achieved with 2005's "Tigh Train," the year he won the Academy Award for best actor for 2004's "Walk the Line."

"I don't know where that comes from," Phoenix said. "It's going to be hard, but I'm going to do this."

"I don't know where that comes from," Phoenix said. "If it comes from people that I've had a falling out with, that are (ticked) off at me?"

The event will take place at 7:30 p.m. today in Chumash Auditorium and is free and open to the public.

Ashley Ciullo

Multicultural Center to host poet Prentice Powell for "Another Type of Groove"

Ashley Ciullo

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The Fray stick to the script with sophomore album

Matt Love
THE NEWSPAPER (t. hilliard)

Unlike most bands, The Fray's greatest flaw is widely known: The group works with a serious lack of variety. This seems to have been the most recurring criticism of the group's debut album, "How to Save a Life," and it is again the biggest problem on the band's self-titled sophomore effort.

"The Fray" should have been a redeeming album for a band with some promise, but instead it plays as another humdrum collection of bitterweet anthems. There is practically no thematic contrast between "The Fray" and "How to Save a Life."

This is perhaps no more evident than in the first single, "You Found Me." — a track built on formula. Just like previous Fray singles, it starts with a piano intro, quickly followed by electric guitar riffs and drums that wind up to anthem-like sound that seems mechanical. "The Fray" also employs the same themes and lyrical style as "How to Save a Life:" Lead singer Isaac Slade is still crooning about longing and friendship to the same breathy vocals and melancholic tone. When he sings, "Lost and insecure/You found me/and the guitar lightly plucks out riffs. The song never builds and feels more natural than any of the album's previous power anthems.

The effect is mesmerizing and reveals a band with a great potential, but this realization just makes the album's failure even more evident.

It really is hard to blame The Fray, though. The band has found its winning combination, which may be enough to capture American airwaves for a time — but it's not enough to sustain a full-length record.

Phoenix continued from page 5

roof, he laid down playing John- ney Cash in "Walk the Line," a film in which he learned to play guitar and did his own singing.

His new rep personas added to the confusion, butPhoenix said he is a longtime fan of hip-hop, speaking fervently about Public Enemy, Ice Cube and other artists he admires. "Phoenix said he has no intention of returning to film after "Two Lovers," a romantic drama co-starring Gwyneth Paltrow and reuniting him with James Gray, his director on "The Yards" and "We Own the Night." The movie opens Feb. 13.

While Phoenix regrets that his coming-out party as a rapper came through poor-quality video

Kenny continued from page 5

tion. Kaiser is also credited with rescuing London's Royal Opera House and the Alvin Ailey Dance Company in New York.

Kaiser's first piece of advice for struggling groups: Focus on generating revenue.

"Too often the nature of work is to focus on cutting costs," he said. "The second is when we do have to cut costs, cut programming but, not first. I fear that's what's happening now."

Cutting back on artistic innovation and programming makes it harder for a group to recover and compete for funding, he said and "you appear to be a less exciting organization" a mantra Kaiser repeats from lessons developed through the Kennedy Center's arts management institute.

The center's designation as a presidential memorial gives it some federal funding and stability, but the bulk of the center's $550 million annual budget must be raised privately. And yet, it's not immune to money troubles. In 1999, the center was suffering under a $15 million debt and $30 million in long-de­layed repairs and needed Congress to help dig it out. More recently, Kaiser began trimming the budget by 5 percent in early 2008, anticipating the recession.

Still, he found two donors to cover the cost of helping other

struggling arts groups.

One arts group learned what it was like to suffer a crippling blow even before the recession took hold: The Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra, which lost its home in Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and had its musicians, who own the com­pany, scattered across the region.

But the group quickly rebuilt, with help from Kaiser, by becoming more mobile, playing in 22 different venues around several parishes. Many times the group has played in Baptist churches instead of concert halls, reaching new audi­ences at the same time.

"We didn't have a lot to lose. We had everything to gain," said Babs Mollere, the orchestra's managing director. Now the group is bracing for tough times in 2009. "We talk about the second hurricane taking place with the economic scene," she said.

Congress included $50 million in its economic stimulus package for the National Endowment for the Arts, which arts advocates say could save more than 14,000 jobs in local arts groups. The money was removed, though, from a Senate version of the bill and has become a target for some who want to cut wasteful spending, making any boost to arts funding appear unlikely.

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Let me warn you; this story is not only going to be a complete nerd fest but also will leave quite a few spoilers about Grant Morrison's recent work of "Batman R.I.P."

I am a huge fan of Batman. He is one of those iconic characters that has been around for almost 70 years but new artists and writers have been able to make interesting, I mean, just look at how well "The Dark Knight" did last summer. Besides the praise, though, I was sorely disappointed with Morrison's recent take on Batman.

Apparently, "Batman R.I.P." has been in the works for a few years now and is meant to be the end of Batman as we know him. Basically it deals with Batman encountering the Black Glove organization, led by a mysterious Dr. Hurt, who attempts to destroy Batman both physically and mentally.

For those of you who may not know, Batman is a little paranoid, led by a mysterious Dr. Hurt, who attempts to destroy Batman both physically and mentally.

As for those of you who may not know, Batman is a little paranoid, led by a mysterious Dr. Hurt, who attempts to destroy Batman both physically and mentally.

"Batman R.I.P." Batman created an infallible system for himself in the case of going insane. The system was that of Batman Zar-En-Arh, a more primitive form of Batman that would take over in case he lost his identity.

Batman Zar-En-Arh is actually a throwback to an old Batman story, which is kind of cool, but the allusion doesn't really go anywhere. Also, Batman dies in issue 681, but is alluded to have lived in the final panels. This crap can't get much worse.

Throughout the story there are many allusions to Dr. Hurt actually being Thomas Wayne, Bruce Wayne's father. At the end of the last issue, 681, in Batman's final confrontation with Dr. Hurt, Hurt explains to Batman that he planned the murder of Martha and Bruce Wayne, but Joe Chill, the hired killer, lost his nerve, and Thomas Wayne faked his own death. This of course, and thankfully, ended up not being true. If that had been true, it would have been single-handedly destroyed the past 70 years of why Bruce Wayne became Batman.

Batman's entire motivation for deciding to fight crime, to prevent anything like that happening again, would have been destroyed. That would have been akin to somehow Uncle Ben not dying and Spiderman was just fighting crime for the hell of it. Honestly, you have no idea how ticked off I would be if that were the case.

I'm a little curious to see how Batman goes from here, but whatever happens, it's not going to be good. My suggestion, if you are hankering for some Batman action, is to stick with "Batman: The Widening Gyre," a more recent Eisner Award winning arc.

I also have to say, Morrison's writing in this story is just, well, bad. I understand that the story deals with Batman losing his mind, but much of the time I was just confused to the point of almost giving up on the whole thing. I kept giving it a shot when the new issues came out every month, but I just became progressively more disappointed every time.

I'm a little curious to see where Batman goes from here, but whatever happens, it's not looking good. My suggestion, if you are hankering for some Batman action, is to stick with "Batman: The Widening Gyre," a more recent Eisner Award winning arc.

Jon Montelii is a history senior and Mustang Daily comic book reviewer.
Dear Representative,

The following words are written on behalf of the remaining men and women of our country that believe in the sanctity of law and the God-given rights enumerated to all in the U.S. Constitution. Though you have undoubtedly received letters in previous years requesting handouts, favors and preferential treatment from your constituents, this letter is different, this letter is unique, this letter is just. Within it is a request that can be fulfilled without the grievances of fellow citizens, without the labor of other workers and without a version of the rule of law.

On behalf of my fellow Americans, I humbly request to be excluded from the financing of the so-called stimulus package. It is not because we do not wish for our economy to be stimulated or that we object to the trillions in spending ready to come from a Cal Poly e-mail account. Do not send us a letter as an attachment. Please send it to me in the body of the e-mail.

By e-mail: mustangdailyopinions@gmail.com
By mail: Letters to the Editor, 16 Room 226 Cal Poly, Bldg 50 CA 95037

Donald Mcclirdell, but Fell's words ring true like the ding after walking 21.

Jeremy Hicks

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

February 4, 2009
Volume XXI, No. 18
Mustang Daily

I might not have seen the debate between James Fall and John McCauley, but Fall's words ring true like the ding after walking through the door at a 7-Eleven. According to his clearly toneout, research, two major results of setting the drinking age at 21 is "a reduction in alcohol consumption by those under 21, and... a reduction in drinking and driving related fatal crashes by those under 21." showing he spent his time and money well. I also heard that raising the drinking age to 18 might reduce the risk of 16-year-olds falling asleep behind the wheel, but I'll leave the "facts" to him.

— Mike Eichemueller
Response to "Video: 18 or 21? The great drinking age debate"

NOTE: The Mustang Daily features select comments that are written in response to articles posted online. Though not all the responses are printed, the Mustang Daily prints comments that are coherent and foster intelligent discussion on a given subject.

find out what our reporters & editors are thinking

mustang daily

blogs.mustangdaily.net

Wednesday, February 4, 2009

Editor in chief: Madeline van Romburgh
Managing Editor: Giana Magnoli

Mustang Daily

The Mustang Daily staff takes pride in publishing a daily newspaper for the Cal Poly campus and the neighboring community. We appreciate your readership and are thankful for your careful reading. Please mail your corrections to mustangdaily@gmail.com.

This letter is requesting on behalf of millions of Americans not another handshake or favor, or the perversion of the law for our benefit; we simply request not to be collectively subjected to additional debt for increased government wastefulness that will benefit a few at our expense.

On behalf of millions of disgruntled Americans, I request that you acknowledge the unwisdom of the people by participating in the further encroachment of our sovereignty and vote against the stimulus package.

Respectfully,
Jeremy Hicks

Jeremy Hicks is a 2008 political science graduate, the founder of the Cal Poly Libertarian Club and a Mustang Daily political columnist.

Until now you have chosen how much we spend, you have chosen who receives the monies we earned, and you have chosen to neglect the voices of the people footing your bill, we the people.

An open letter to a congressman
Oh, how we like to bring our heroes down. Forget his right gold medal in Beijing, forget the fact that just five months ago we were parading him around as a national icon, a superhuman athlete and an Olympic story for the history books. In the eyes of the righteous, all of that glory is now overshadowed by the looming image of our hero taking a bong hit.

On my. With all the breathless surrounding the photo of Michael Phelps smoking pot, you’d think he actually harmed someone.

He didn’t. Phelps smoked a little weed at a college party; and the media wouldn’t have been the wiser except for some goody-two-shoes with a camera phone.

He’s never tried to dispute the legitimacy of the photo and quickly issued a brief apology admitting that it was bad judgment on his part: “I’m 23 years old and despite the successes I’ve had in the pool, I acted in a youthful and inappropriate way, not in a manner people have come to expect from me. For this, I am sorry. I promise my fans and the public it will not happen again.”

With marijuana now essentially ingrained in pop culture, and with an estimated 83 million Americans having consumed marijuana at least once, why all the fuss? There are comedies about it — although they’re never any good — ranging from the most recent “Pineapple Express” to the slightly more classic Harold and Kumar movies. Ac­tried marijuana at least once. Of Americans age 12 and older have consumed it, why all the fuss? There is already talk that many of Phelps’ corporate sponsors may not renew their contracts with him, and that’s certainly understandable. After all, no sensible business wants to be seen as condoning illegal or contro­versial behavior.

But the condemnation of Phelps is even more ironic given the great many celebrities and even politi­cians that partake in socially question­able behavior. Our newly inaugurated president, admit­ted to having done cocaine during his youth, and now re­sorts to lighting up a cigarette when the urge hits him — a substance that is arguably more harm­ful than marijuana but just so happens to be legal. Who really even knows what George W. Bush did during his youthfully rebellious college days? And then of course there’s Bill Clint­on who “didn’t inhale” and John Kerry who “didn’t like it.” Let’s not even get into some of the more mus­ically-inclined pot smokers — the most famous of which I think would wisely say, “Let it be.”

So, to the people who have participated in this Fa­cebook phenomenon: If people want to get to know you, they will. If you wrote this list because you felt like you were creating lists about ourselves? We all spend enough time on ourselves. Why are we creating lists about ourselves?

I can’t wrap my mind around the idea. Who do you think is going to read it? I’ve read two of them and I stopped less than a quarter of the way through out of boredom. I asked one friend why she did it, and she said, “Well I had to sound just as good as everyone else.” Why? Who are these people that you have to build yourself up for?

What happened to actions speaking louder than words? I determine the character of a person based on what they do rather than what is said or written about them.

Every one of us is unique and has a lot more than this “25 things about me” list can offer. We need to take the focus off ourselves and shift it to the person next to us. Focus on the person who needs a friend or the person who dropped their books and needs help picking them up. Focus on anything but yourself.

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Our world accommodates far too much “me” thinking, and it has been to our detriment. We are con­sumed with ourselves and have forgotten how far help­ing others can reach. The 45 minutes you spent writing your “you list” could have been spent volunteering at the St. Francis House or writing a letter to your local firefighers thanking them for their tireless efforts.

You could have made a difference with that time. I encourage you to think about that next time you get tagged in one of those “you lists.”

Michelle Hipps is a contributor to the Independent Florida Alligator at University of Florida.
When the Joker Takes His Anti-Psychotic Meds

Pop Culture Shock Therapy by Doug Bratton

HI BATMAN! I'M ON MY WAY TO MAKE BALLOON ANIMALS FOR KIDS IN GOTHAM GENERAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL. I LIKE TO GIVE THEM SOMETHING TO SMILE ABOUT!
DODGERS
continued from page 12

per season.

"We'd love to sign Manny," McCourt told MLB.com. "But we have to decide whether that's the direction we're going. This is about winning now, but also in the future." Calfell initially tried to re-sign the left fielder, offering a two-year, $45 million deal with a buyout or a club option for a third season, but Ramirez's agent Scott Boras and later withdrawn by the team.

"The agent is challenging to work with and we've tried hard," McCourt told the Los Angeles Times. "Calfell has made three efforts and we still have not received a specific number from the agent, and I don't have anything to that, too."

The Dodgers' second attempt involved salary arbitration in December, but the game's leading to that, too.

The San Francisco Giants have confirmed interest in Ramirez, but like the Dodgers, they are believed to be reluctant to guarantee a long-term deal.

New York general manager Brian Cashman reiterated Tuesday that the Yankees will not pursue Ramirez.

Shotwell
continued from page 12

"We've secured the areas of need and hopefully put ourselves in a better position," Cashman said. "We're not planning on any major league free agents other than non-roster invitees."

The length of the deal seems to be the sticking point between the Dodgers and Ramirez, who created a buzz upon arriving in Los Angeles from Boston at the July 31 trade deadline.

Ramirez hit .396 with 17 homers, 53 RBIs, 36 runs scored, 74 hits and 35 walks in 33 regular-season games, leading the Dodgers to the NL West title.

He was even more potent in the postseason, hitting .326 with four homers, 10 RBIs, nine runs scored and 11 walks in eight playoff games.

Ramirez made a huge impact on the Dodgers' bottom line, with a big boost in attendance and souvenir sales, including No. 99 jerseys and fake dreadlocks.

But the latest rejection seems to signal that Ramirez remains intent on locking up a long-term deal that would take him through age 40.

"This is what I would call a 'deliberate market,'" Boras said Tuesday.

"Players end up in market contracts." Los Angeles manager Joe Torre and some of the Dodgers players have said they want Ramirez back.

The latest rejection doesn't mean he's not coming back. They're still talking and that's what negotiations are all about," Torre said at a signing for his new book in New York.

"I've talked to him a couple of times. He enjoyed his experience. He'd like to come back, but again, this is the business part of it. Hopefully things can get worked out. Ramirez is even getting job-hunting help from Albert Pujols.

The St. Louis slugger passed along Ramirez's telephone number to Cardinals manager Tony La Russa.

"I speak with Manny every three days and he tells me, 'Man, no one wants to sign me,'" Pujols said last week in the Dominican Republic. "I'm not an agent or general manager, but I can't understand how Manny has not been signed."

--Associated Press

RAIDERS

notably picked veteran offensive coach Paul Hackett to be JaMarcus Russell's quarterbacks coach.

With a head coach finally in place, the Raiders can get to work hiring coordinators. They're also deep in preparations for the draft in which they have the seventh overall pick.

Cable went 11-35 in four seasons in charge at Idaho from 2000-03 in his only previous experience as a head coach before Davis promoted him to replace Kiffin, who was fired Sept. 30 after a series of embarrassing public disagreements with Davis. Cable spent 2006 as Atlanta's offensive line coach following two years as UCLA's offensive coordinator.

The Raiders expanded favorably to Cable over the final 12 games of the regular season, pulling together for back-to-back wins over Houston and Tampa Bay to close another dismal year on a high note. Although 5-11 isn't much, Oakland finished with its best record since 2004, when Norv Turner led the Raiders to the same mark.

Cable follows Bill Callahan (2002-03), Turner (2004-05), Art Shell (2006) and Kiffin (2007-08) in charge of the Raiders, who haven't had a winning season since Callahan left Oakland to coach the Super Bowl in his first season after replacing Jon Gruden.

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Sports designer: Kate Nickerson

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TODAY'S PUZZLE

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SPORTS

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football

Shotwell to roam sidelines again

I'm going to keep my eyes open to the characteristics that I saw in myself.

—Kyle Shotwell
Cal Poly assistant coach

family as an assistant coach.
A family reunion indeed; Shotwell has two brothers on the team: junior defensive lin­
mate Ryan, and freshman offensive lineman Troy who both said their brother's decision took the guess out of his participation. Ryan said after watching the grueling routine his brother had to go through for a minimal return.

"You're living in a city where you don't really have any friends, any family and your teammates don't give a hoot about you. I can see why he made the decision to start coaching... no amount of money can replace your happiness," he added.

Since signing with the Oakland Raiders as an undrafted free agent in 2007, the former Cal Poly linebacker has signed deals with four other teams. As recently as two months ago, he was on the Kansas City Chiefs practice squad, but was unable to crack an NFL team's active roster during his time in the league.

Once the toast of Cal Poly football, Shotwell said he never felt more overlooked and felt it to be move on.

"Basically I got worn out of being the first guy cut and the last guy signed," he said. "When you live like that for two years, it starts to wear on you.

Now that he finds himself guiding from the sideline, he admits as a coach he will be more sympathetic to a walk-on, because he too wasn't a highly recruited player.

"I'm going to keep my eyes open to the characteristics that I saw in myself, and char­

Raiders keeping Tom Cable as head coach

Greg Beacham
ASSOCIATED PRESS

OAKLAND, Calif.—The Oakland Raiders retained head coach Tom Cable on Tuesday, officially giving him the job for one year — that would have been his last if he had been replaced.

Cable went 4-8 after replacing Lane Kiffin with the Raiders (5-11), who have lost at least 11 games in six consecutive years. Cable, Kiffin's former offensive line coach, rallied Oakland back to back-to-back victories to end last season. Raiders owner Al Davis interviewed a handful of candidates for the job, but never seemed seriously inclined to replace Cable, valuing his organizational loyalty and leadership. Davis spoke to New York Giants offensive coordinator Kevin Gilbride and Green Bay assistant head coach Winston Moss before sticking with Cable, the former Idaho head coach who joined the Raiders in 2007.

Cable's hiring, to be announced at a news conference on Wednesday, will bring some stability to a coaching staff that's already under­going wholesale changes even with Cable staying in charge. Cable, who represented Oakland at the Senior Bowl in Alabama last month, has argued that keeping him would bring stability to a club already on its fifth head coach since 2003. But several key assistant coaches who finished the season under Cable's leadership already have left the Raiders for new jobs, including defensive coordinator Rob Ryan (Cleveland), offensive coordinator Greg Knapp (Seattle), special teams coordinator Brian Schi­neider (Southern California), running backs coach Tom Rathman (San Francisco) and line­backers coach Don Martindale (Denver). While waiting to announce Cable's hiring, Davis filled several positions on the Raiders' new staff, hiring a few new assistants and re­taining several others. Oakland

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McCourt: Dodgers still want Ramirez

Beth Harris
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — The Dodgers are still trying to bring back Manny Ramirez. Only the pragmatic Dod­ger doesn't like their latest deal.

He rejected their third offer — for one year — that would have made him baseball's second-highest paid player behind Alex Rodriguez.

That leaves Ramirez snagged three months after deciding to test his value in the recession-plagued free agent market, with the Dodgers the only team to have confirmed making any offers.

"We have interest in signing Manny," general manager Ned Col­
leen told The Associated Press in an e-mail Tuesday. "We don't see a deadline but these situations can change in an instant and either side can change them in an instant."

The Dodgers open spring train­ing for the first time in Arizona on Feb. 14.

Team owner Frank McCourt said the team still wants Ramirez back, but "at some point, we have to move on," he was quoted by MLB.com, which attended McCourt's hospital visit to see Ramirez along with the Los Angeles Times on Tuesday.

The latest deal — a one-year, $25 million offer — was rejected Monday. It would have given Ramirez the second-highest average salary behind New York Yankees slugger Rodriguez's $275 million, 10-year contract.

"We came up with what we thought was a creative proposal to give him a lot of money, and well deserved in a challenging economy, and give him flexibility if he feels it's important to test free agency next year," McCourt told MLB.com. "I don't see long-term contracts happen­ing in this market."

Manny Ramirez celebrates after scoring on a two-run double during game 3 of the National League Division Series last October.

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