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Robert H. Reid

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After he drove away, Russell apparently seized his escort's weapon and returned to the clinic, the official said on condition of anonymity because the investigation was ongoing.

The clinic was operated by the 1st Theater Medical Command, the official said.

This U.S. Army photo made available via the family on Tuesday shows U.S. Army Sgt. John M. Russell.

The Poli House crew plans on putting in a roll-in, wheelchair-accessible, shower. They're also expanding the doorway of the bathroom so her grandparents can more easily carry her through the space. A new heating system is being put in the home to accommodate Reuck's sensitivity to temperature.

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add another bedroom and create her roll-in shower. She will also be able to slide her along. They're also widening the window in her room for better viewing.

Since Reck's grandparents want their home to be a safe haven for neighborhood children to play in, Poly House will be installing a large play structure, a half basketball court and a vegetable garden in the surrounding land.

Poly House has been an annual project that has been remodeling homes for local families since 2004. Planning for the Reck house project started in mid-April and construction began last weekend and will finish this upcoming weekend. This week will be used for progress analysis and status reports as well as any adjustments that might be needed.

Poly House is almost entirely dependent on sponsors and fund-raisers to fund the project and has benefited from the donations of many local businesses. Donors Dynamic and Talton and Sons are just two local businesses that have donated over 80 sheets of drywall and other materials, while San Luis Marble and Granite donated granite tabletops for the kitchen.

Regional Transit Authority has also donated their services to help volunteers and workers to and from the site. "It's an 80 mile roundtrip that they do for us twice a day," Steve Kilbert, the logistics project manager said. "It's saved us a lot of money in gas now that we won't have to try to transport all of these people everyday."

San Luis Obispo County assisted in the project by approving their building permits in a day, a process that otherwise could take up to a year, and waived the fees for the permits.

The group hopes to continue fundraising for the project. Until next Sunday, portions of participants' purchases at Jamba Juice on Foothill Boulevard will be donated. Panda Express, also on Foothill Boulevard, will donate a portion of their profits on Wednesday from 2 p.m. until close. A benefit concert will be held at the Carlton Hotel in Atascadero Thursday night. Guests need to bring the flyers that can be printed out from the Poly House website to ensure that proceed go to the philanthropy.

"It's surprising how many people were willing to help, considering the economic climate," kitchen project manager Erika Miller said. "One of the donors told me that the only way a project like this could happen was because of our "Poly House magic," and that there's no other way something like this is tangible."

The inside of the house shown here will be revamped to allow Reck and her grandparents move around the house easier and accommodate her disabilities.

Soldier

continued from page 1

by the 55th Medical Company, a Reserve unit headquartered in Indianapolis. Two of the victims were officers assigned to the clinic and the three others were enlisted sol-

diers, Perkins said.

The Pentagons identified Cpl. Charles Springle, 32, of Wilming-
ton, North Carolina, as one of the victims of the shooting. The mother of Michael Edward Yates Jr., said two men from the Army came to her Fredericksburg, Maryland, house early Tuesday to tell her her 19-

year-old son was killed.

A psychiatrist from Amarillo, Texas, Dr. Matthew Houseal, also was confirmed among the dead, according to the director of a Texas mental health clinic where Houseal worked. Bud Schreiter said House-

al's wife told him Tuesday that her husband was among the dead.

In addition to the ongoing criminal investigation, Perkins said the U.S. command had opened a formal inquiry into the "general availability" of health care for American service personnel in Iraq, "specifically the policies and procedures surrounding behavioral health services.

He gave no further details and did not say how the investigation was being conducted.

The U.S. military has become increasingly concerned about men-

tal health problems, following a steady rise in suicides—which the Army says have increased worldwide from 102 in 2006 to 140 last year. As of April, the Army had reported at least 48 suicides.

Thousands of other veterans are believed to suffer flashbacks, nightmares or fits of anger as they attempt to readapt to civilian life. "If we're still fighting this war from this, we learned from World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the previous wars, is not all that different in terms of mental, physical," said Maj. Gen. Daniel P. Bolger, commander of Multi-National Division-Baghdad.

In Shanurn, William Russell, 73, said he believes counselors in the military stress center "broke his son before the shootings."

The younger Russell was six weeks away from completing his third tour in Iraq before Monday's shootings, the father told reporters Tuesday in front of the suburban home his son is buying with his wife. Willid Russell said his son was treated poorly at the military stress center. He said his son had e-

mailed his wife, calling two recent days the worst in his life. "I hate what that boy did," the elder Russell said. "He thought it was justified. That's never a solution."

He said his son felt like "his life was over as far as he was concerned. He lived for the military."

John Russell began his active duty in the Army in 1965 and served in a series of minor criminal scrapes in his hometown, according to reports in Governo County Texas.

His ex-wife obtained a tempo-

tary restraining order against him this week after he claimed pani-

cings for child support. In February 1993, a month after the divorce decree was issued, Russell was charged with misdemeanor assault but the matter was dropped, the records show. A Pentagol official said Russell previously served two one-year tours of duty in Iraq, one from April 2003 and another begin-

ning November 2005. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because the warrant was authorized to speak on the record.

Russell, who had also served in the Balkans, was due back late within weeks. During his current tour, Russell was assigned to the 226th Regional Support Command of security south of Baghdad.

To cope with the stress, the Army offers a variety of counseling sessions, in addition to workshops and recreational activities. The sessions serve as a way of giving military personnel the space needed to discuss their feelings, said Rober.

However, some officials believe soldiers are reluctant to take advan-

tage of the facilities because of the stigma associated with counseling.

Commanders, chaplains and therapists at the camps said soldiers also came to watch for signs of stress and refer soldiers to mental health professionals if needed.

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tage of the facilities because of the stigma associated with counseling. "We're encouraged people to do self-referral," Hodger said. "We've actually encouraged them to say, hey, we're not going to hold this against you, we'd rather have you self-refer... than have an incident that would be tragic."

William Russell said that procedures had been followed in the Russell case, with the com-

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mander removing his weapon and preventing him from entering the 12 hour shift to mental health professionals.
Obama at ASU: School’s goals mesh with president’s

Jacques Billeaud

The abortion flap over President Barack Obama’s invitation to speak at Notre Dame’s graduation is getting all the attention.

But Arizona State — the mega-university where he’ll speak at commencement Wednesday — says a lot more about his education goals.

Obama has called for all Americans to pursue at least one year of higher education, and places such as ASU will be at the forefront of efforts to expand college access.

In recent years, the sprawling university has felt more like a booming company than a college. There is a new campus in downtown Phoenix and a newly expanded campus in nearby Mesa, along with dozens of new programs and hundreds of new faculty. As the state population has exploded, enrollment has surged by more than 10,000 students, among the highest in the country. There are plans for another 16,000 more within five years.

ASU’s president, Michael Crow, insists his university can be both great and big — with both world-class research and mass-scale teaching. He calls the experiment the “New American University” and it’s being closely watched nationwide.

“If there is a prototype school on track and designed to fulfill Obama’s mission, we are it,” said Crow, who became president in 2002. “We’re open, we’re accessible, we’re high quality — all those things that he talked about.”

But there are also cautionary tales in ASU’s experiences. Some aren’t persuaded high quality and rapid expansion are compatible. And after years of blistering growth, ASU has been hit hard by the economic downturn — a reminder that Obama’s target will be hopeless unless the economy starts growing again.

In his address to a joint session of Congress in February, Obama called for every American to pursue some form of education beyond high school. But he offered no new funding or initiatives to make it happen.

This October 2006 photo shows the campus of Arizona State University in Tempe, Ariz. President Barack Obama is scheduled to speak at the school’s commencement ceremony today.

State Briefs

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A helicopter pilot who was videotaped receiving oral sex from a woman as he flew her around San Diego is facing serious charges that his license must be revoked, the National Transportation Safety Board said.

The actions of David Martz were so dangerous, the NTSB concluded in a written ruling, that they put the lives of everyone on his aircraft and on the ground below him in danger.

The agency’s ruling, reached last week in Washington, D.C., was released Tuesday and upholds previous actions revoking Martz’s pilot license by the Federal Aviation Administration and an administrative law judge.

LAKEWOOD, Calif. (AP) — Authorities say eight students at a Southern California high school have been hospitalized after taking pills that a student brought to school. Los Angeles County Fire Inspector Steve Zernieno says a 14-year-old girl came to the nurse’s office at Mayfair High School in Lakewood on Tuesday and complained of feeling lightheaded.

Sheriff’s Lt. Brian Proctor says the pills were identified as Ativan, an anti-anxiety medication. Zernieno says the students were taken to hospitals as a precaution but did not have symptoms. It’s unclear if the student who brought the pills was among those hospitalized.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A man accused of helping his wife flee the scene after their car hit two USC students in a crosswalk has been charged with leaving the scene of an accident.

Josue Luna was charged Tuesday with the felony and is scheduled to be arraigned Wednesday in Los Angeles County Superior Court.

Police say Luna was a passenger in a car driven by his wife that ran a red light and struck the two students March 29 near the University of Southern California.

The accident killed 16-year-old Adrianna Bachan and injured 19-year-old Marcus Garfinkle.

Police say Luna pulled Garfinkle off the windshield after the crash and fled with his wife, Claudia Cabrera. Luna says the collision was an accident.

This October 2006 photo shows the campus of Arizona State University in Tempe, Ariz. President Barack Obama is scheduled to speak at the school’s commencement ceremony today.
Swat Valley still dangerous

People from Pakistani Sikh community who fled their homes from the troubled Swat Valley wait for food after they take refuge at a temple in Hasanabad near Islamabad, Pakistan Tuesday. Army battled the militants, while U.S. missiles killed eight people in an attack on a suspected insurgent hide-out elsewhere in the northwest.

WORD ON THE STREET

“If you had your own reality show what would the premise and the name of the show be?”

“My show would be called, ‘Go For the Gold’ where athletes compete for an Olympic medal.”

-Cindy Schwager,
business administration junior

“Our reality show would be called, ‘Your Sorority Girls in a Really Small Apartment’, recording the daily fights, drama and dimes of life.”

-Al Duganovic, English sophomore and Megan Oliver, recreation parks and administration sophomore

“My game show would be a version of the game ‘Assassins,’ with hundreds of people marking (each other) with a pen.”

-Jordan Yorkles, business administration junior

“I feel like the daily fights, drama and dimes of life.”

-All Duganovic, English sophomore and Megan Oliver, recreation parks and administration sophomore

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ASU

continued from page 3

school. The United States has slipped to 9th in the world in its percentage of 25- to 34-year-olds with an associate degree or higher.

In Arizona, a board of regent's study found the rate more double to number of bachelor's degrees in the humanities. The board approved a plan to cut that number to 21.

ASU said it won't be hit by that state's freeze in tuition, but Washington has cut state funding, which is a fifth of the university's budget. Arizona's fiscal crisis, which prompted state cuts and a freeze in tuition, led to an out-of-state boom, but students there got much more tuition aid, which was also a factor in ASU's rise.

As the Legislature considered even bigger cuts for the upcoming year, Crow reluctantly raised the possibility of closing two campuses.

Such worse-case options now look unlikely, thanks partly to federal stimulus money and a tuition surcharge approved last month. Full-time professors have kept their jobs but are picking up extra classes and handling clerical tasks that used to fall to support staff. Enrollment is expected to rise slightly next fall. Crow calls the economy a "100-year-storm," but insists it won't derail his long-term goals.

Even before the downturn, Crow had critics who thought ASU was trying to do too much.

"At times, it seems like the university wants to be all things to all people," said John Chance, an anthropology professor on the Tempe campus. "We want to admit as many students as we can, and we want a topflight research faculty. We want to do them all, but we can't.

For students, ASU offers endless choices, including more than 250 programs and majors. But personal attention is a challenge. The latest federal figures show ASU's six-year graduation rate is about 56 percent — about the national average.

Colin Miller, a junior majoring in mechanical engineering, lives in Tempe but likes to take classes at a campus 25 miles away.

"I don't mind driving this far for smaller classes," he said. But this year he had trouble getting into the courses he needed because they filled up so quickly.

In cooperation with Obama's visit, ASU is expanding a key financial aid program and renaming it for the president, who has also called for the United States to have the world's highest proportion of college graduates by 2020. The level of family income needed to qualify for ASU's program will go from $50,000 to $90,000, and the number of Arizona freshmen who will benefit next fall will more than triple.

Meanwhile, ASU has risen into the top tier (No. 121) in the US News & World Report College Rankings. The school has lured dozens of big-name faculty and lavish resources on in honors college that has attracted 674 National Merit Scholars during the last four years.

Crow has also won over many faculty with his relentless defense of higher education as the Legislature considered budget cuts. In February, faculty senators from ASU's four campuses approved a resolution supporting him 68-4.
Bridget Veltri  
**SUNDAY**

Seniors and students will have a chance to experience prom another time around at the third annual Senior Prom on Sunday.

Unlike your average high school prom, this one raises money for a good cause, all of the proceeds from Senior Prom go to the Alzheimer's Association.

"We are trying to reach out to the community," business junior and Sigma Kappa sorority's vice president of philanthropy Heather Raymond said. "It's for anyone who wants to re-live their prom and help raise awareness."

In previous years, the prom was undevised and organized by agriculture business senior Brandon Styles.

"It was kind of a lot work doing it by myself, I have always done a lot of community service work," he said. "I have always volunteered with senior citizens and Alzheimer's runs in my family."

This year Styles teamed up with the women of the Sigma Kappa sorority to put on the event. He says he hopes that the sorority will continue the event in future years since he is graduating in spring.

Sigma Kappa seemed like the logical choice, since they already have a connection with the San Luis Obispo office of the nationwide organization.

"I wanted to do something that could be institutionalized at Cal Poly after I leave, and their philanthropy is Alzheimer's Association," Styles said. "This is kind of the marriage I wanted to make with them (Sigma Kappa), so they could carry this on in years to come."

According to Raymond, the sorority is likely to continue to plan the event in the future.

"We have never put on an event like this before and it has been really fun," she said. "We have had a 'prom planning' committee that..."
I think it's time we have a little chat about my favorite mainstream superhero: Green Lantern.

Before we delve into the realm of Hal Jordan, I have to say a few words about a recent comic book method. In its more obvious circles, the term is known as "retcon." For all you Liymen out there, the term is short for "retroactive continuity." In essence, it is a process by which a comic book writer changes the past about a superhero, from something small, like when they were born, to something huge, such as their motivation for becoming a superhero.

In theory, retcons could be a good thing. They could modernize an already established character, thereby offering new and better stories to be written. And they gave nerds like me a multitude of opportunities to read awesome comic books.

However, the process is not always smooth. There are countless examples, but I'd say that DC is especially guilty of really awful retcons. Just look at "Infinite Crisis," for example.

Anyway, back to Green Lantern. Hal Jordan, the original Green Lantern, has been my favorite superhero since I was a little kid. Back then, I'm sure I thought he was awesome solely for the fact that he wore green and made green things happen. As I grew up, I started to realize that this guy was much cooler than the fact that he wears green. Hal Jordan is part of a universe galactic, a very special technology, their power rings. Powered by their own willpower and their ability to overcome fear, each Green Lantern Corps member can create "constructs" with their ring. Basically, with their willpower, each member can create anything they want with their ring, from a sword or shield around their body, to more elaborate devices like a gun. The only limit is their own cleverness.

You would understand that, to me, just as a fanboy, Hal Jordan was eventually killed off in the early '90s. But if you're a big DC fan like me, then I'm sure you thought he was back from the dead. Now in "Green Lantern: Rebirth," Kyle Rayner, who was a bit more hip than Hal Jordan, the original Green Lantern Corps, and eventually killed off in the early '90s, is back. And I'm sure DC powers that he brought back his favorite superhero ever.

So here we are in 2009, and the Green Lantern series is really getting awesome. It is written by Geoff Johns who is in my opinion the best mainstream comic book writer in the business. In the summer of 2007, Johns started the "Sinestro Corps War," series, which was pretty epic, and set the stage for this summer's event, "In Blackest Night." Oh man, my nerd senses are tingling.

I really think you should check out this series because it is frickin' sweet. I'd start with "Green Lantern: Rebirth," but if you are too impatient, the "Sinestro Corps War" trades are a good start as well.

Jon Monteith is a history senior and Mustang Daily's comic book columnist.
Big name comic brings big brand comedy to Cal Poly

Zach Lastz
MUSTANG DAILY

World famous and award-winning comic Ralphie May brings his highly-anticipated comedic performance to Chumash Auditorium tonight.

"I definitely think that this will be one of our more higher attended comedians of the year," Associated Students Inc. Program Coordinator Michelle Curro said.

May, who got his big break as runner-up for "Last Comic Standing" in 2004, is possibly the most accomplished performer to ever come to Cal Poly. May has produced three hour-long Comedy Central specials including Girth of a Nation, Prime Cut and Austin-tatious.

The buzz around campus has been big leading up to today and that excitement is felt by the staff who put it together. "We wanted name recognition that would be seen throughout campus," recreation administration junior and ASI Special Events Coordinator Dana Matteson said. "I feel like the event is going to be a success."

The selection process for picking a comic is a long one and the staff here at Cal Poly went through a lot of research in terms of watching YouTube, Saturday Night Live and late night talk shows.

"We have a group of students that get together every quarter and their sole job is to do research on up and coming entertainment that they feel would be a good fit for Cal Poly students," Curro said. "It's completely student driven."

The staff of ASI started doing research on May and other possible comics in January. "They go out and immerse themselves in pop culture by talking to students, doing surveys and other events," Curro said.

After the research is done, the student-led team submits their top selections for artists they want to see come perform. May and Justin Blue are the two comics that were approved. Both will be performing this month.

May's southern drawl adds to his observational style of comedy, which covers pop culture issues and sometimes is controversial. His first CD "Just Correct" went platinum in 2004 as May went on a one-man mission not to be "politically correct."

The staff that invited May is aware of the possible offensive nature of his jokes and urges students to research him before coming tonight.

"I think every comedian has their niche as far as what their jokes are in reference to," Curro said referencing May's no holds barred comedic style.

"I always suggest looking up the comedic act up on YouTube and doing a little bit of research for yourself to see if this is a type of comedian that you find funny."

Still, she seemed sure that students would show up for the event. "With all the events (that we put on), you can't appease (everyone)," Matteson said. "People can make their own decisions where (or not) to come to the event."

Ralphie May performs tonight at 8 p.m. in Chumash Auditorium. Blue, who was the winner NBC's season four of Last Comic Standing will also perform there at 10 p.m. on Thursday.

Both performances are open to the public and free with a PolyCard. Admission is $10 without.

6 landscape paintings stolen from Dutch museum

Arthur Max
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AMSTERDAM (AP) — Thieves pried open the emergency door of a small Dutch museum with an iron bar and made off with six 17th- and 19th-century landscape paintings — the second major art heist in 10 days in the Netherlands.

The break-in at 3 a.m. Monday set off an alarm that summoned police, who found six paintings included three on loan from the IJsselstein City Museum heist in the Netherlands was in 2002. Two paintings valued at up to $90 million, were named for the 19th century Dutch van Gogh artists. The thieves were later caught.

The paintings, on loan from the Dutch government, were mostly river scenes set in the flat countryside typical of northern Holland, a specialty of the IJsselstein City Museum. The town is a suburb of Utrecht. Police seized security cameras outside the building where thieves left behind a severe, leaving behind a severe, leaving behind a severe.

Police seized security cameras that may have captured the burglar on video, de Kok said. The museum will remain closed until Thursday while the investigation continues.

De Kok declined to put a value on the paintings, saying that could invite ransom demands from the burglars. But a Van Gogh was sold by Christie's in London six months ago for more than $126,000.

The theft occurred 10 days after an armed robbery of two paintings by Salvador Dali and Tamara de Lempicka from the Scheringa Museum for Realism in Spanbroek, a small town in northwest Holland. Security expert Tom Cremers, of Museum Security Network, a private company that advises museums on security, said the thefts reflected poor security at smaller institutions, indicating no reason to worry about bigger museums.

The Netherlands, with 16 million people, has more than 1,000 museums visited by about 30 million people a year.

Even small museums have had quality works from the abundant collection of Dutch masters owned by the government, which loaned them out.

Larger museums are usually well protected, but even they are vulnerable. In 2002, two paintings by Vincent van Gogh were stolen from the Amsterdam museum named for the 19th century Dutch artist. The thieves were later caught but the paintings were never recovered.

The largest theft in the country took place in 1988 when three Van Goghs, with an estimated value of up to $90 million, were stolen from the Kroller-Muller Museum in a park in the eastern Netherlands. Police later recovered all three paintings.
Property rights are imperative to free speech

Of all the rights embraced by Americans, free speech is probably one of the most sacrosanct and revered. Today, I have the rude and unpleasant task of reminding you that such a reverence is misplaced. For there is no such thing as free speech.

Not in the absence of private property that is. Property rights are the means by which speech is secured and thus; liberated. In the absence of property rights, free speech is greatly impeded.

It's long been a source of amusement and annoyance to me that libertarians are so often derided for their emphases on property rights as though their bias makes them carnal materialists in the manner and perhaps most cruelly, "clueless Republicans".

Let's take for instance the tragic misuse of language to which I refer; I believe that they are special creatures graced with the capacity to steal at the party and elemental thing that is property rights while endlessly praising the more intangible rights, like freedom of speech.

Given this climate of debate where the mention of property rights is seen as a crass and unwelcome faux pas, it is a natural regression for society to steadily decline into endless bucking about what can and can't be said.

Sadly, this decline is nowhere more evident than at the center stage of academics, the university. At Cal Poly, as is other universities, the right to speak freely is increasingly denigrated not only by the administration but also by the students. This is the reason libertarians place such an emphasis on private property. It is the one right that makes all the other rights possible.

Without private property, free speech is limited to whatever the government considers acceptable. This is a frightening possibility, no matter what one's political party.

Speaking of free speech, the Mustang Daily is looking for someone to take over as the libertarian columnist for next year. This year I have had the honor of establishing a precedence that even small and neglected schools of thought deserve a role in the public forum. It has been a distinct pleasure to write in this capacity and I sincerely hope that the vacated space which I leave at the end of this year will be replaced by someone who can improve upon my humble beginnings.

I might also add that, despite my clumsiness and general inadequacies as a writer, this column has been one of the most well-read columns this year. I believe this speaks to the importance and appeal of the ideals and applications of the libertarian school of thought which, in contrast to those politicians, are necessarily uncoordinated and radically the opposite of bureaucratic and passive the way we would understand them.

This is an open casting call to any writers that might be up to the challenge. I encourage you to apply to be a columnist when the Mustang Daily announces next year's columnist vacancies.

Jenny Hicks a 2008 political science graduate, is the current right-wing columnist working for the Mustang Daily and the Cal Poly libertarian club and is a Mustang Daily political columnist.

This is the reason libertarians place such an emphasis on private property. It is the one right that makes all the other rights possible. Without private property, free speech is limited to whatever the government considers acceptable. This is a frightening possibility, no matter what one's political party.
Time served, time to play again

Baseball isn’t the only sport having problems dealing with supernumer character issues. Football has its share of problems that need addressing off-season as well. One in particular is of great concern as it has the attention of the public due to the presence of Michael Vick. It wasn’t more than two years ago that Atlanta Falcons superstar quarterback Michael Vick was sentenced to 23 months for funding and supplying a dogfighting operation out of his football home. The new man was once the face of football, scarred in name and defined the game along with it. He went from fan favorite to public enemy number one.

Vick has served nearly 22 months of his sentence that ended June 29. He will be released to spend the remainder of his sentence under home confinement starting May 20. At his release date creeps closer, a tough decision is weighing in the back of NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell’s mind.

It’s serious. The NFL has a reputation to uphold in society, but it also has a responsibility to do what is fair for the player. And no matter what decision Goodell makes, it is guaranteed to be the wrong one.

During a panel discussion at Washington and Lee University, Goodell said that Vick would have to show “genuine remorse” for what he has done in order to return to the NFL.

So, say Goodell can discern “genuine remorse” and does decide that he will reinstate Vick. What then? A daily mob in front of the arena that he plays in every Sunday? Monday, Thursday, Saturday (how many days a week do they play again)?

In the eyes of some people, nothing he ever does will ever be good enough. He could wear a PETA shirt every time he is playing for the maximum revenue for Vick. Pick’s signs and protests surrounded the courtroom. The man, who was once the face of football, scarred in name and defined the game along with it. He went from fan favorite to public enemy number one.

(Vick) could go out and do some of the greatest things mankind has ever seen and I still don’t know if it would be good enough for people not to protest his getting a job in the NFL.

— Michael Strahan

Assistant to the editor: You know what? It seems he’s taking the right steps. More importantly, he’s taking the right steps in the peripheral of the public which is commendable, since being out of sight is nearly impossible these days.

It was reported earlier this week that former NFL coach Tony Dungy, who retired to dedicate his life to prison ministry, met with Vick.

Dungy explained his heart for prisoners in an interview with Tampa Tribune reporter Martin Fendly.

“When you talk to prisoners, you talk about what’s important, what you draw your identity from. We’re obsessed with winning, and here are guys who most people think aren’t winners. Our tendency is to say, ‘if you’re not a winner, you’re nothing!’ I want to tell guys you can be something.

No word has come out yet to the nature of their meeting, but it’s safe to say it was a conversation about life after prison, about rebuilding his life and finding his purpose. This meeting with Dungy can only make the decision easier for the commissioner.

What should Goodell do?

Reinstate Vick and let him play. Let him make a statement. Let him be the great comeback story that only he can be. Let him be an inspiration for others who are sitting at rock bottom, looking for a way out.

Clint McGee is a journalism senior and a Mustang Daily sports reporter.

LETTERS

Mustang Daily made right decision not to endorse a candidate

Dear Mustang Daily,

I applaud your decision to remain neutral when it came to endorsing a candidate. Contrary to Monday’s Letter to the Editor, your decision to not back any of this year’s contenders did not reflect badly upon our student population. It is not the job of the media to endorse candidates, only to inform the public of the options available to them. Failing to do that properly, which includes giving one potential ASI president more coverage than the rest, is partisan and cannot truly reflect the opinions of the student body at large.

Mercedes Rodriguez

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We’re finally “there”

In response to Mary Van’s letter to the editor: You know what? Fine. You win. I’m all for allowing underrepresented groups to have a voice within the Mustang Daily. In practice, the policy allows us to have a newspaper with a colorful writing staff that tackle a wide range of often overlooked social and political issues. Such reasoning has given us the privilege to enjoy two weekly literary columns, a comic book column, a “hipster” column, and now a bisexual sex column. So, congratulations, Jenny Ray, you and your bisexual ilk now share ranks with Ron Paul supporters and would-be Pitchfork reviewers. Nevertheless that Prop 8 passed: we’re finally “there.”

Ryan Moriarty

physic senior

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Pop Culture Shock Therapy by Doug Bratton

… and that’s how one simple logic proof turned Obi-Wan to the Dark Side.

The New York Times Crossword

Across
1 Venetian who explored for England in the 15th century
5 Paints gently
6 Matchless hair during a recession.
14 Last Oldsmobile
15 Palindrome magazine name
16 "A pity"
17 Tawda, Old World mammal
18 Land of the descendants of 67 Across
19 "Step right up!"
20 An Olympic swimmer needs a leg one
23 50-50
24 Royal Family
26 Less than 11
28 It may be over when
30 Trunks
33 Not so common
34 The Greatest

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0048

Puzzle by Joey Macedo

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it happens.

At first, it seems impossible to predict outcomes. But the All-Star break on it innevitably Exhausts the best players.

So, of course, can James. But no one could have imagined that Bryant could become the star of the All-Star game. He is the biggest of all time. The greatest of all time.

But in the NBA, the Lakers barely traded a few high picks after dispatching the Atlanta Hawks in the series final Monday night, taking their cue from their 24-year-old leader who really does play like a man among boys.

"Why should we celebrate?" James said. "We're playing for a championship. An advance is an advance. It doesn't matter if you win in four games or you win Game 7. We're happy that we're playing great basketball ... but we're not taking for granted what we're doing right now."

While Stern and company have to be salivating over a Lakers-Cavs final, they have to be happy with the underdog so far. TV ratings have been up and there have been some good storylines from the over-time excitement in Boston and Chicago to Cuban's bullfrocent in Dallas.

But it's all little more than filler before the main event begins. The Lakers, against the Lakers, but anyone who pays any attention to the star hierarchy of basketball knows it's much bigger than that.

Last year's MVP against this year's MVP. One of the greatest players of his time versus a player who somebody could become the greatest of all time.

The Nike marketing machine will kick into overdrive. Beautiful people will be at courtside, even in Cleveland. And network television will suddenly become relevant once again.

Tim Dithling is a national sports column for The Associated Press. Former NFL star and Army Ranger Pat Tillman, shown above, was killed by friendly fire in Afghanistan in 2004.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN MUSTANG ATHLETICS

BASEBALL

VS. SANTA CLARA
MONDAY, MAY 18, 6:00PM
BAGGETT STADIUM

BASEBALL

VS. UC RIVERSIDE
FRIDAY, MAY 22, 6:00PM
SATURDAY, MAY 23, 8:00PM
SUNDAY, MAY 24, 1:00PM
BAGGETT STADIUM

*Jersey Day and Senior Day - All youth, 13 and under, receive free admission by wearing a jersey to the game and the Mustang Senior class will be honored prior to the game.

WE ARE THE MUSTANGS

NBA continued from page 11

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Tina Dottling is a national sports column for The Associated Press.
SPORTS

**MUSTANG DAILY**

**SPORTS**

**Sports psychology helping Cal Poly athletes**

Clinton McGee

**W**

all of fame catcher Yogi Berra said it best, " "Twenty percent of the game is mental, the other half is physical."

Well, maybe he didn't say it best, but the meaning is understood. Contrary to popular belief, physical ability is trumped by a player's intelligence, confidence and attitude in the world of sports.

That's why sports psychologists are in high demand among athletes playing at the collegiate and professional levels. Jeff Troesch is one of them and has been working in close quarters with Cal Poly coaches and athletes for the past five years.

He has worked with every Mustang team, with the exception of football, helping student athletes balance life on and off the field. He advises them on how to develop a plan and maintain a mindset when playing the game.

"I want them to really focus on developing their skills and getting better as an athlete, rather than focusing on the outcomes," Troesch explained. "If they worry about the outcome, they are distracted from being competitive."

Troesch is currently working with the baseball and softball teams at Cal Poly. He also works with teams from UC Berkeley and UC Los Angeles. Despite living away from most of his work, he keeps busy through his phone.

He has many high-profile athletes that come to him for advice. He even works with athletes that he has never met in person.

"There are some clients that I've worked with and have no idea what they look like," Troesch said. "For the most part though, it's helpful for me to be on-site, in the dugout or on the sideline."

On site is how Cal Poly's baseball head coach Larry Lee likes it. Troesch can be seen in the dugout of either the softball or baseball teams during this time of year, talking with players after games and giving his two cents.

"As a coach I tend to work on the physical aspect of the sport," Lee said of Troesch's importance to the team. "But Jeff can address the mental part that the coaching staff neglects."

According to Lee, sports psychologists are especially important in adjusting a baseball player's mindset when playing the game.

"Baseball's a game of failure," Lee explained. "So, helping players respond positively is very helpful." Troesch's services extend beyond the just the player's needs. He also helps the coaches to connect with their teams based on the different personalities that make it up and can act as an advisor or confidant. In essence, he's a liaison between the two parties.

"Players open up more to someone on the outside than someone on the inside," Lee said. "We don't know everything that is going on in (our) players' lives and what they are dealing with. And as the head coach I'm usually the last to know."

Troesch originally became interested in the profession after working as a public relations specialist for the Seattle SuperSonics. During his time spent there, he realized there was a dire need for sports psychology in the professional arena. So he went back to school to work on his graduate degree at Washington State University, where he got his first true taste while working with athletes at the university.

Since then he has worked as for the NBA as a part of the psychological team and provided his services for some accomplished franchises in the MLB such as the Seattle Mariners and Detroit Tigers. He also works on an individual basis with some high-profile athletes.

Despite working with teams and players all over the nation, Troesch has found a home in San Luis Obispo. In what may seem like an ideal location for a person in his profession, Troesch would rather sacrifice face time with his clients than face time with his family.

"It was a family decision," he explained. "This is a great place to raise my kids and I can do what I do from anywhere."

**Tillman's parents want general's record reviewed**

Lara Jakes

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — The parents of slain Army Ranger and NFL star Pat Tillman voiced concerns Tuesday that the general who played a role in mischaracterizing his death could be put in charge of military operations in Afghanistan.

In a brief interview with The Associated Press, Pat Tillman Sr. accused Lt. Gen. Stanley McChrystal of covering up the circumstances of the 2004 slaying.

"I do believe that guy participated in a falsified homicide investigation," Pat Tillman Sr. said.

Separately, Mary Tillman called it "imperative" that McChrystal's record be carefully considered before he is confirmed.

Maj. Gen. Gary Volesky, a spokesman Geoff Morrell said Defense Secretary Robert Gates has complete confidence in McChrystal, whose hopes can be confirmed by the Senate before month's end.

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In April 2004, McChrystal approved paperwork awarding Tillman a Silver Star after he was killed by enemy fire — even though he suspected Tillman's ranger had died by fratricide, according to Pentagon testimony later obtained by the AP.

The testimony showed that McChrystal sent a memo to top generals imploring "our nation's leaders," specifically the president, to avoid criticizing the "devastating enemy fire" explanation from the general's record reviewed.

The Tillman's parents want general's record reviewed.

**Mustang's fall to Pepperdine**

NICK CAMACHO/MUSTANG DAILY

Cal Poly junior second baseman Adam Buschini throws out a runner at first during the Mustangs' 8-4 loss to Pepperdine on Tuesday night at Baggett Stadium. With the loss Cal Poly fell to 33-16 on the year. For a full recap go online at www.mustangdaily.net.

**Kobe vs LeBron: NBA finals seem to be preordained**

Tim Dahlberg

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Long before anyone ever heard of Tim Donaghy there was always a nagging suspicion among casual fans that the fix was on in the NBA playoffs. To be sure, in a league where almost every foul can be contested and almost every game is decided in the final two minutes, there are always plenty for conspiracy theorists to ponder.

David Stern knows that, which is why the league was so quick to issue a statement the other night admitting that its referees blew a crucial foul in the final seconds that might have cost the Dallas Mavericks their best shot at the Denver Nuggets.

No sense letting things simmer, not that it helped the Mavericks anyway. Dirk Nowitzki wasn't accepting any apologies and neither was owner Mark Cuban, who may be the real Big Baby of these playoffs.

There's a lot of things you can get away with when you're a billionaire and own an NBA team. But taunting the league to go to the finals anyway, and the Nuggets would be wise not to begin printing tickets for games that began in June. The Celtics are winning games they shouldn't, but they should be real, too. And the Rockets and Magic seem to exist in this postseason only to fill up hours of cable TV programming.

No, the fix isn't in. Donaghy isn't directing things from a snugged cell phone in a prison cell somewhere, and Stern isn't huddled in meetings with Nike executives to make sure we will see Kobe Bryant in the NBA Finals against the Los Angeles Lakers!