Governor Brown cuts CSU's green
$500 million dollars to be cut from California State University system budget

Kaytlyn Leslie
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The California State University system could undergo a $500 million budget cut, according to Governor Jerry Brown's 2011-2012 state budget proposal released Monday. In an e-mail statement released soon after the proposal, CSU Chancellor Charles B. Reed, University of California President Mark Yudof and California Community Colleges Chancellor Jack Scott voiced their dismay over the cuts.

"Now is not the time to shrink public higher education, but to grow it," they wrote. "The road to recovery from this recession and prosperity far beyond it runs straight through our many campuses. These universities are the economic engines of California."

CSU media specialist Erik Fallis agreed. Fallis said the proposed budget cut would create a significant impact on California and students looking to attend a state university.

"Consider what this does' to us," Fallis said. "The $500 million cut puts us at $2.2 billion in funding. This is the same level we were in during the 1999-2000 fiscal year, but we have 70,000 more students. Coming after the huge number of cuts we have had in past years, we are looking at serious impacts on the (the) state economy, on students wishing to enter the university and students already at the university."

Even so, Fallis said the projected $500 million is a "best-case scenario." In addition to the budget cut proposal, Brown has also proposed fee's, shrunken enrollment and furloughs.

Governor Jerry Brown announced his budget proposal Monday, which includes a $12.5 million cut in state spending and a $1.4 billion reduction in funding for California higher education, amidst other plans.

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Scholarship students offer free help during taxing time

Alicia Freeman
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Students in the Cal Poly Orfalea College of Business will provide free tax help for low-income individuals every Saturday from Jan. 29 through March 12 with the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, a program supported by the Internal Revenue Service.

According to a Cal Poly press release from the CSU Chancellor's Office, he plans to hold a special lease from the CSU Chancellor's Office, to hold a special meeting basb where 15 to 20 Cal Poly students are "loaned" to help prepare tax returns for families or individuals with an income of less than $49,000 annually, which will then be reviewed by local tax professionals. The program will take place on the second-floor of the Business Building from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Rodney Pereira, a business administration junior, said the Cal Poly VITA program was started in 1992 to help serve low-income individuals.

"It's really geared toward low-income individuals who aren't too savvy with this kind of thing," Pereira said.

VITA programs across the country. "We've been doing it for 20 years, but the whole program has actually been in existence from the mid-1970s, so it's well over 30, 40 years old."

There is also a VITA program in Santa Maria, which is headed by Cal Poly alumna Hilda Zacarias on an appointment basis where 15 to 20 Cal Poly students are "loaned" to help prepare tax returns, Carr said.

Carr said the program is sponsored by the IRS and there are many other students in the Cal Poly Orfalea College of Business will provide free tax help for low-income individuals every Saturday from Jan. 29 through March 12 with the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, a program supported by the Internal Revenue Service.

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time consuming, to assure
who are retired or something, and they
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an amended tax
Carr said. "Everybody should keep a copy of their tax return for at least
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Carr said students should also consult their parents with tax questions before attending the VTTA program because it can speed up the pro-
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Secretary of Defense calls for unity with Chinese military

Tom Lasseter  McCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates and his Chinese counterpart called for greater cooperation between the two countries' militaries on Monday, but their talks fell short of any concrete plans to formalize ties that were broken off by Beijing last year.

China agreed to set up working groups with the U.S. on key issues such as nuclear policy and missile defense without any definite schedule. But those groups would be limited only to exploring the possibility of a future "strategic dialogue" and wouldn't actually discuss the issues themselves.

A meeting between Gates and Vice President Xi Jinping, next in line to be China's president, produced a wooden statement by Xi that noted that the U.S.-China military is a "sensitive field."

The ambiguity of Beijing's position suggested that military relations with China remain estranged and wouldn't actually discuss the possibility of a future "strategic dialogue" amid tensions between the two countries' militaries.

Gates' three-day trip to China is his second since taking office in December 2006. He is also scheduled to stop in Japan and South Korea, an itinerary that emphasizes tensions between China and the U.S. and its allies.

American officials backed Japan in a standoff with China last year over the arrest of a Chinese fishing boat captain that ended with Beijing cutting off crucial mineral supplies to Japan.

The U.S. also stood by the South Korean government when China refused to condemn North Korea after a South Korean warship was torpedoed in March, killing 46 sailors, and after an artillery barrage that killed four on a South Korean island in November.

Lian, however, tried to play down growing concerns about China's military ambitions.

"We can by no means call ourselves an advanced military force," he said. "The gap between us and that of advanced countries is at least, I think, two to three decades."

In recent weeks, U.S. officials have appeared caught off guard by a series of announcements about Chinese weapons systems that could challenge American reach in the region.

In December, the head of U.S. Pacific Command told a Japanese newspaper that the Chinese had achieved "initial operational capability" of a ballistic missile, the Dong Feng 21D, that's designed to sink aircraft carriers.

Last week, photographs of China's first stealth fighter jet, the J-20, were posted to the Internet, which many interpreted as a message from the Chinese military that it is committed to producing advanced weaponry.

In comments to reporters during the flight to Beijing, Gates acknowledged that the Chinese "clearly have the potential to put some of our capabilities at risk."

NASA scientists confirm discovery of Earth-sized planet outside Milky Way

Sharon Noguchi SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS

The place is inhospitable, with molten temperatures and possibly clouds of melted silicon. But a discovery across the galaxy is giving hope to scientists of intelligent life.

A team led by NASA Ames researchers has confirmed the existence of the first rocky planet outside our solar system. Kepler-10b is closest in size to Earth of 519 extra-solar planets discovered so far. It is in about one times the Earth's diameter and speeds around a star similar to our sun in the constellation Cygnus, about 560 light-years away.

"It unquestionably a rocky world orbiting a star outside our solar system," said Natalie Batalha, deputy science team leader for the Kepler Mission at NASA Ames.

Unlike the majority of the so-called exoplanets detected so far, Kepler-10b is solid and not gaseous. "It's something you can stand on," she said.

In size and composition are significant because an Earth-sized, solid planet is more likely to harbor water, essential for life. Kepler-10b, which is 20 times closer to its star than Mercury is to the sun in our solar system, but it still has astronomers excited.

"One reason controversies arise over planets outside the solar system is that even astronomers' most powerful tools can't see them," Gates said. Instead, scientists probe the existence of exoplanets by scanning the galaxy and searching for regular but slight dimming of light from stars. That dimming can be caused by a "planet transit," when an orbiting planet periodically blocks the star's light, like an eclipse. A planet's size can be calculated from how much light it blocks when passing in front of its star.

Kepler-10b's discovery, announced Monday at a meeting of the American Astronomical Society in Seattle, is a major dividend paid by NASA Ames' Kepler spacecraft, launched in March 2009.

From its orbit around the sun and with its view unobstructed by the Earth's atmosphere, Kepler fixes its meter-wide lens on 150,000 stars, measuring light every 30 minutes. Scientists pore over the data, searching for signs of planet transit.

In July 2009, Batalha's team members noticed those signs and stepped up observations. They ordered the spacecraft to gather data once a minute, to better assess the star Kepler-10b because they needed more information.

"Other astrophysical signals in nature can masquerade as a planet transit," said Batalha, who also teaches physics and astronomy at San Jose State University.

They gathered evidence of star turbulence, such as earthquakes, revealing the star's structure and properties. "Stars kind of vibrate and ring like a bell," said Edna DeVore, co-investigator for the Kepler mission.

By September they knew that their planet was rocky.

"Do you want me to tell you how high I was jumping?" Batalha said. In months of combing through data to watching signs steadily emerging, she said, "It was a joy to watch.

While Kepler-10b is "in our solar neighborhood," Batalha said, it would be premature to make travel plans. First, its distance from the Earth means that even whizzing there at the speed of light would take 560 years.

The planet's day side is significantly hotter than modern lava. Batalha said. Its night side is cooler, but probably still has hostile temperatures and perhaps toxic dust. The planet circles with the same side facing its star, similar to how our moon orbits Earth, but in less time than one Earth day.

While scientists mine the trove of data, the essential question remains: "We want to know if we're alone in our galaxy," Batalha said. "This is one step in that direction."
Vice President Biden to assess U.S. troop withdrawal from Afghanistan

Peter Nicholas
TRIBUNE WASHINGTON BUREAU

Vice President Joe Biden arrived in Afghanistan Monday for a series of meetings meant to gauge the progress toward a drawdown of U.S. forces later this year and an eventual handoff of security responsibilities to the Afghans.

Biden will meet with Afghan President Hamid Karzai on Tuesday and also will tour an Afghan national army training center, according to Obama administration officials.

The trip, unannounced for safety reasons, is Biden’s first visit to the war zone since becoming vice president. He was greeted by U.S. Ambassador Karl Eikenberry and Gen. David H. Petraeus, commander of the war effort. They later spoke privately for nearly two hours at the U.S. Embassy in Kabul.

The visit comes at a time when administration officials described as a “pivot point” in U.S. policy in Afghanistan.

“We moved from a (troop) surge last year to the transition to Afghan lead that we’ll be starting this year and concluding in 2014,” a senior Obama administration official told reporters aboard Air Force 2, en route to Afghanistan.

Biden will assess the progress of that effort, said the official, who was not authorized to speak publicly. The vice president has been skeptical of an expanded war effort, and last year favored a scaled-back U.S. presence combined with tough military strikes.

The centerpiece of Biden’s visit will be his meeting and lunch with Karzai. U.S. officials worry that corruption in Karzai’s government is an obstacle to a stable, self-governing country that is not reliant on outside forces.

Karzai has his own complaints about his uneasy partnership with the U.S. Last week, he warned “our foreign friends” not to interfere in the internal affairs of his government, saying the Americans don’t want any “meddling.”

The senior official said of Karzai’s remarks: “No one wants foreigners in their country. And the whole point of what we’re doing is transitioning to Afghan lead and Afghan responsibility.”

Biden last traveled to Afghanistan in July of this year, before the two were sworn in. In that visit, he came away concerned that there was confusion on the ground about the core mission. The White House hopes there is more clarity these days. In December 2009, Obama announced that as part of the 30,000-troop surge, the U.S. would begin withdrawing forces from Afghanistan in July of this year.

The more meaningful deadline is 2014, when the U.S. has vowed to end its combat mission and complete the transition to an Afghan government that is in control of its own security. The U.S. military may continue to deploy soldiers in Afghanistan after that date, however.

In a review of the war effort completed last month, the White House said that its war strategy has paid dividends, blunteting the momentum of the insurgent Taliban.

Still, the White House review conceded that “these gains remain fragile and reversible.”

Biden’s trip coincides with mounting public opposition to the war, which was undertaken after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. The goal was to rout al-Qaida, oust the ruling Taliban and prevent terrorists from using Afghanistan as a base of operations.

Nearly 10 years later, Americans are wondering if the fight was worth it. An ABC News-Washington Post poll last month showed that 60 percent believed the war was not worth fighting.
With the most recent cuts barely a year in the past, students can’t forget how they were previously impacted.

Karla Lazalde, a senior studies sophomore, said although furloughs seemed nice, students weren’t able to get the information or time needed in class. As a result, she said, students suffer. Amid the recent proposal, Lazalde said she worries about other ways in which the school will attempt to combat the restricted budget.

“It’s already getting harder for people to pay tuition because it keeps getting higher, and it’s probably just going to get higher,” Lazalde said. “And I know some people don’t get financial aid like I do, so they won’t be able to pay.”

Although previous budget cuts have been partially remedied by furloughs and tuition increases, Fallis said the CSU system has not yet decided how it will combat the reduced budget.

“It is a very large cut,” Fallis said. “There are a lot of options to consider, so there are no options that are off the table at this point. We can’t project which options we will implement at this time.”

But no matter what route the CSU system decides to take, not all students are going to be happy. Theatre arts sophomore Cadence Mitchell said with the rising cost of tuition, students in the next generation of college hopefuls are going to be left out.

“I think it sucks,” Mitchell said. “Yes, the economy is bad, but we’re the next generation and if we can’t pay the rising cost of education, we’re not going to be able to get one.”

In addition to state universities, Brown has also proposed a $570 million cut from the University of California system and a $400 million cut from the California Community Colleges. The proposed budget cut from the state’s community colleges will be even worse for them, Mitchell said, because many students who attend community colleges do so because they cannot afford a state university.

“It’s just as rigid for them to cut community college funding,” Mitchell said. “While it’s not a four-year university, it is still people trying to get an education, and a lot of the time, community colleges have students who cannot afford the high tuition at a four-year, but deserve the same education just as much.”

Total, Brown’s proposed budget will reduce support for state-funded higher education institutions by approximately $14 billion. The Chancellor’s press release said combined, the University of California system, the California State University system and the California Community Colleges educate 3.5 million students across the state.

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— Erik Fallis
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The University Art Gallery welcomed all on Friday evening to display seventy-nine-year-old photographer Santi Visalli until Feb. 19. The gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. through editon and people, but at our level.

Prior to the opening of the exhibition, Visalli accompanied just about everyone of iconic figures, such as Timothy Leary, Martin Luther King Jr., The Beatles, Mia Farrow, Leonard Bernstein and Muhammad Ali, proved his experiences with such famous figures. Art and design sophomore Hannah Garrett said, "It brought them down to our level.

"I was transfixed through the whole presentation," Belick said. "Going back in time and hearing him talk about the pictures gives them so much more importance." Belick also said she noted a piece of his advice that can help a photographer get that perfect shot. "He said that there were three important things for a picture — light, composition and message," she said. "And I think the idea of looking at a picture and not having to say anything, just getting the message right up front, really gets me." Visalli had other important pieces of advice for aspiring photographers, such as trust. He recalled one night when he spent the evening with his childhood crush Dorothy Day. And the next day, she allowed him to take a very special picture of her and her mother.

"When you photograph people, trust is very important," Visalli said. One funny story was the time when Visalli got his in with Newsweek after, well, "blackmailing" the editor.

"I was covering the Truman Capote Ball in 1968," Visalli said. "I was able to take great pictures — it was a mask ball. Capote drew people from all over the world." So, when the Newsweek editor needed those pictures, Visalli made him a little deal.

"I said, 'Look, I'm going to give you the pictures, but you have to look at my portfolio.' So he says, 'OK, come in next Wednesday.' He looked at my pictures later and says, 'How come I don't know you?'" Visalli said.

Visalli also emphasized the importance of never relinquishing the rights to your own photos. He even refused some jobs that required him to give up his rights to the photos. "You'll make less money now, but you'll see in the long run," Visalli said.

The exhibit itself includes mainly black-and-white photos, beginning with photojournalistic pictures, then going into more celebrity photos and ending with a few architectural shots. The University Art Gallery coordinator Jeff Van Kleeck said they chose a combination of pictures they

In an interview prior to his lecture, Visalli attributed his success to something common in any line of work — a good portfolio, reliability and social connections.

"When an editor goes home at night, he wants to know that the next day he'll have a picture," Visalli said. "And I did that all my life and never missed a job." Visalli also emphasized another key to succeeding in photography — taking good pictures.

"It seems like a very simplistic thing to do or say, but the main thing is you have to have the material," Visalli said. "You can talk your way through editors and people, but at the end, if you don't have the material to present — if your work is not strong enough — people may listen to you once but not twice.

Visalli’s ambition has built him a portfolio comparable to a history book of pop and political culture in the 60s, 70s and 80s. His slideshow of iconic figures, such as Timothy Leary, Martin Luther King Jr., The Beatles, Mia Farrow, Leonard Bernstein and Muhammad Ali, proved his simple advice really can take a photographer far — with a little determination, of course.

Visalli accompanied just about every picture in his slideshow with some sort of story, from his night with Dorothy Day (an admitted former celebrity crush) to teaching Robert DeNiro Italian manners he should practice for a movie he acted in.

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Photography continued from page 6.

thought the students would be familiar with, such as Martin Luther King Jr., Salvador Dali and Barbara Streisand.

Van Kleek said he was impressed both by the range of iconic figures and the history that followed the time when the photographs were taken.

"To look at these now and the history behind it, you actually look at it differently," Van Kleek said. "I like Jackie O's photograph—at the time it would meet one thing, and now in 2010-2011, we look back at her differently. We look back to Martin Luther King, differently. They had no idea that within months everything would change."-

The exhibit will continue until Feb. 19 and is free and open to the public. The gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Visalli said he secured his job as a photographer for Newsweek after the then-editor asked for the pictures Visalli took at the Truman Capote Ball in 1968.

Streisand, when the photographs were taken.

History behind it, you actually look both by the range of iconic figures you may have to wait through one or two necessary delays. You aren't likely to be as acquiescent as you had hoped. TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Your own private space when one or two choice words get the message across, it's important to be economical and efficient. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — There's no telling which doors will open for you, or which are going to close without cancellation notice. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Trading compliments may be just a matter of courtesy to won't, but if you say anything nice to someone, you mean it.

Food Column

All fruits aside, put a rutabaga on it

As a way to help visualize my diet, I started a food diary and throughout each day I jot down everything I eat. Then, at the end of the week I take a look at what I’ve consumed and see which food groups I’m excelling at consuming, and which food groups I tend to neglect. The consistent pattern I saw occurring was a plethora of fruits and cheeses — you would think I was French or something — and very few vegetables.

I sit down to brainwash why it was so easy to feast on fruits but so difficult to venture out and eat my veggies. First, I realized fruits are an easy grab-and-go snack. For example, bananas come in their very own Mother Nature packaging. Next, I evaluated flavor. Although veggies have natural sugar, fruits undeniably tempt our taste buds with an alluring sweetness many veggies can’t compete with. Now if you aren’t a sweet tooth, this is not a compelling argument against veggies, but as I’ve mentioned before, I am the owner of one rather large sweet tooth. I often feel compelled to satisfy it — without overloading my blood glucose of course.

So, in my attempt to assuage my cravings for sweetness while adding more vegetables to my diet, I am not only introducing something you must deal with immediately. Be ready.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Preparation must be complete before you put a new project into motion. You may have to wait through one or two necessary delays. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — A change of scenery can work wonders for you as you struggle to kickstart your rather sluggish imagination.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — You needn’t speak volumes when one or two choice words get the message across. It’s important to be economical and efficient.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — There’s no telling which doors will open for you, or which are going to close without cancellation notice. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Trading compliments may be just a matter of courtesy to won’t, but if you say anything nice to someone, you mean it.

Where do you take the Mustang Daily?

Food columnist Heather Rockwood, owner of The Mustang Daily, has a picture sharing the where you take the Mustang Daily. 

HINT: Little Miss Muffet sat on a buffett eating her curds and... wait! That isn’t cheese she was eating.

Scalloped Rutabaga and Apple Recipe

Ingredients

- 2 cups thinly sliced peeled rutabaga
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/4 cup brown sugar
- 1/4 cup apple juice
- 2 tablespoons chopped walnuts
- 1/2 teaspoon ground thyme
- 1/2 teaspoon minced garlic
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- Salt, white pepper, cayenne

Directions.

Place 1 in. of water in a medium; add rutabaga. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer 9 minutes or until crisp-tender. Drain. In a medium, combine the flour, brown sugar, thyme, cayenne and garlic.

In a large mixing bowl, combine the flour, brown sugar, thyme, cayenne and garlic.

In a large mixing bowl, combine the flour, brown sugar, thyme, cayenne and garlic. Spread the flour on a floured surface; cut the rutabaga into 1-in. cubes. Place the rutabaga in a large bowl; toss with flour mixture. For the apple filling, in a large mixing bowl, combine the flour mixture, brown sugar, thyme, cayenne and garlic. Spread the flour mixture over the rutabaga in a large bowl; toss with flour mixture. For the apple filling, in a large mixing bowl, combine the flour mixture, brown sugar, thyme, cayenne and garlic.

In a large mixing bowl, combine the flour mixture, brown sugar, thyme, cayenne and garlic. Spread the flour mixture over the rutabaga in a large bowl; toss with flour mixture. For the apple filling, in a large mixing bowl, combine the flour mixture, brown sugar, thyme, cayenne and garlic. Spread the flour mixture over the rutabaga in a large bowl; toss with flour mixture.
Pay off your student loan versus having a career pay them off

When I was a Mustang...

Errik Hansen is a graduate student pursuing a Master of Public Policy and the "When I Was a Mustang..." columns.

Hey kids! Does the thought of repaying all your student debt already scare you? Good, it should.

Imagine for a moment you are a dependent — undergraduate student, set to graduate from our fine institution paying all your student debt already five or six-year career here. Discount federal Direct Loans over your four, the "When I Was a Mustang..." column...

You have accumulated $31,000 in federal Direct Loans over your four years, for a Toyota Prius you're never going to see or drive, which is actually OK, because seriously, would you want to be seen driving one of those things anyways?

While there are several different loan repayment schemes, including Standard Payment, Graduated Payment, Income-Based Payment and Long-Term Payment, the best payment scheme is the "no payment" scheme.

When it is highly unlikely you'll ever be able to default on — a.k.a. "weaseled out of" — your student loans, even through bankruptcy, there are several ways to have someone else pay off your loans for you, at least partially. No, I'm not talking about your parents, and there will be some sacrifice involved. Think about it, is there anything in life that is free?

The following are some of the most common methods for having one's student loans paid off for them:

Become a teacher: If you like having your summers off — and can deal with little shits — then sign up to teach full-time. While under certain conditions your loan will be completely forgiven, most teachers are able to get up to $17,500 forgiven of their federal student loans forgiven. Some special conditions, including subject matter (math, science and foreign language) and teaching location (low income and/or "disadvantaged" areas, will net a larger benefit to the teacher. The American Federation of Teachers (AFT) maintains a database of forgiveness options in various locations.

Work as a nurse: Be like Gaylord Focker and become a nurse, or "murse." The Nursing Education Loan Repayment Program (NELRP) will repay as much as 60 percent of a student's federal loans if they work full-time, in a facility with a shortage of nursing care for two years. If they work in a shortage area for three years, they may also qualify for an additional 25 percent. This loan forgiveness program is available for those with an associate's, bachelor's, graduate degree or nursing diploma.

Work for the government: If "the man" is going to have his hand up your ass until all of your federal student loans are paid off, you might as well ask for a reach around. If you work in one of a variety of public service positions — e.g. city planner, police officer, street sweeper — you'll be eligible to have your federal student loans repaid after 10 years on the job. The College Cost Reduction and Access Act will repay the balance of government employees' student loans after 120 consecutive payments have been made. For more information, check out the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators' (NASFAA) website. Join the Military. Military service has long been a way to pay for college, or get college paid off. The military currently has a "College Loan Repayment Program." The current maximums are:

- Army: $5,000
- Army Reserve: $20,000
- Army National Guard: $20,000
- Navy: $65,000
- Navy Reserve: $10,000
- Air Force: $10,000
- Air National Guard: $20,000

Unfortunately, the Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Air Force Reserves do not offer a student loan repayment program. The military repays 33.3 percent of the outstanding principle balance of the loan annually, for each year of active service. The Army and Navy Reserves will repay 15 percent of the outstanding principle balance of the loan annually, for each year of service. The Air National Guard will also pay 15 percent annually against the outstanding principle balance.

Volunteer: Volunteering gives you the chance to give back to the world. Eh, whatever. If you spend your time volunteering with AmeriCorps or Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA), you can get your student loans repaid. If you're willing to devote a year of your life to volunteering for AmeriCorps, you'll be rewarded with $4,725 to spend on your college debts and a stipend of up to $7,400. VISTA, which is all about community development and ending poverty, homelessness and illiteracy in the United States, will pay off $4,725 of your loans if you join in on their cause for at least 1,700 hours.

So next time students seem like a debt you're not willing to take on, weigh your options. Consider giving back through a career after college that will pay back an inevitable debt.
Leticia Rodrigues is a journalism student and Mustang Daily editor in chief.

California Governor Jerry Brown released his 2011-2012 budget cut proposal today and, to the surprise of no one, I'm sure, the institutions of higher learning in this state are on the chopping block in a big way. In a press release sent out by the Chancellor's Office and on the governor's official website, it was reported that he is proposing a $500 million cut from both the California State University (CSU) and University of California systems and $400 million from California Community Colleges. Combined, these three institutions educate more than 3.5 million students across the state.

And to Brown, I would just like to say “Thank you.”

Thank you for creating an even deeper financial strain on parents who just want the best for their children.

Thank you for saying that these are “tough economic times” as if the college students and parents in California had no idea.

And thank you for in creating the divide between races and economic classes in this state.

I understand that no matter what Brown proposed in his budget, there were going to be people who were angry. When you run a state of more than 36 million people, you're bound to piss off a person or two. But what gets me is the same programs that are continuously being cut in a drastic way are the social programs such as funding for higher education, Medi-Cal ($1.7 billion) and CalWORKS ($1.5 billion) that provide essential services to students and their families.

In the end, those of you who have a few years left in college or who are just starting out in their freshman year have a long and (even more) expensive future ahead. The Chancellor said in a statement that the CSU system will undoubtedly be a large amount of compromise and give and take, the point of the matter is, in the end, those of you who have a few years left in college or who are just starting out in their freshman year have a long and (even more) expensive future ahead. The Chancellor said in a statement that the CSU system will undoubtedly be a large amount of compromise and give and take, the point of the matter is, in the end, those of you who have a few years left in college or who are just starting out in their freshman year have a long and (even more) expensive future ahead. The Chancellor said in a statement that the CSU system will

Compacency not the answer to budget cuts

Lettuce see what Brown accomplished what they couldn’t. While his released budget cuts today were just proposals and there

...
Lewis
continued from page 12

“My dad has never missed a game my entire life,” Shawn said. “Him being there all the time eases my mind during the game, just knowing I have that support. He was sitting right behind the bench that game, and it was a great feeling to turn to him after we won.”

Kermit said it was his proudest moment as a father to watch Shawn play that day.

“It was the highlight of my life,” Kermit said. “To see your child actually excel like that. You watch, you hope and you pray to actually be there and experience that. To have him come and give me a big hug after the game, and having everyone excited for him, it was a wonderful feeling.”

That game would not only propel Shawn into the State Championship but into the eyes of Cal Poly’s coaching staff.
Cal Poly had not even seen Shawn play in person. What drew Cal Poly to Shawn was the videotape of his explosive game against Acalanes-Lafayette.

Shawn has averaged 10.3 points per game while shooting 37 percent from the 3-point line during his four years at Cal Poly.

He was selected to the Big West All-Freshman team, was third on the team in scoring his sophomore year with 11.7 points per game and was second on the team in scoring his junior year with 11.8 points per game.

Shawn, the only senior on the team, said crossing the 1,000 point barrier was one of his best individual accomplishments, but he still has his eyes set on a Big West Championship or the NCAA tournament.

“It feels really good to know I reached that mark ... I hope to get past that and be the first team to make it to the NCAA Tournament.”

— Shawn Lewis
Men’s basketball guard

Playoffs
continued from page 12

free safety Chris Harris said. “They exploded offensively Saturday. I feel we are a much better team now than we were back in October.”

For those looking to draw a parallel to 2006, the Bears defeated the Seahawks 27-24 in overtime in the divisional round that year. It's interesting to note the Seahawks struggle in noon games, which start at 10 a.m. Pacific time. Since 2005, they’re 5-15 in non-division road games that begin at noon, according to ESPN.

What does that mean? The game earlier this season began at noon, so maybe not much. The ’06 playoff game also kicked off at noon. To combat the time change, the Seahawks are traveling to Chicago on Friday, as they did before the game in October.

An X-factor will be how the Bears handle inexperience. Nine starters on defense have started in the postseason but only three on offense have. Hasselbeck will be making his 11th playoff start. Carter will be making his first. Quarterbacks making their first start in the playoffs since 2003 are 5-19, including Matt Cassel’s loss Sunday with the Chiefs.

“The pace and tempo are going to pick up now,” Bears defensive coordinator Rod Marinelli said. “That’s a fun part of this thing. They understand it. They know the importance of details and execution. We’ve got some elite players who play as a team.”

Jay Cutler (right) may have his hands full this weekend with a Seahawks team that beat the defending champion Saints.

THIS WEEK IN CAL POLY ATHLETICS

THURSDAY
7:00 P.M.*

CAL POLY vs. FULLERTON
Basketball
Fullerton

FRIDAY
6:30 P.M.

CAL POLY vs. WYOMING
Wrestling
Wrestling

SATURDAY
7:00 P.M.

CAL POLY vs. UC IRVINE
Basketball
UC Irvine

Admission is FREE for all Cal Poly Students. Like us on Facebook.com/calpolymustangs

WE ARE THE MUSTANGS
From Fisher-Price Hoops to Cal Poly’s history book

Shawn Lewis’ childhood passion leads him to eclipse Cal Poly milestone

Jerome Goyhenetche
Jerome.Goyhenetche.MD@gmail.com

Guard Shawn Lewis led his team in scoring in both of Cal Poly’s games last weekend with 11 point performances. Lewis, the lone senior on the Mustangs, is averaging 13.3 points and 5.5 rebounds per game this season.

“It seemed like any other gift from father to son, but this one was a bit different. The Fisher-Price basketball hoop given by Kermit Lewis to his son Shawn Lewis would change Shawn’s life forever. "I started on that little Fisher-Price basketball hoop and it just stuck with me." Shawn said. "Ever since then I’ve been attracted to basketball and wanted to make that my career." The rest is Cal Poly history.

In the Mustangs’ 43-39 victory over Pacific this season, Shawn scored 11 points to establish himself as one of the program’s elite scorers by coming the 16th player in Cal Poly’s 85-year basketball history to surpass the 1,000-point mark. "Shawn is able to make plays that nobody else on the team can make," head coach Joe Callero said. "He has the quickness, strength, athleticism and experience that has been critical.

His success with his team stems from his parents. Shawn’s parents were his biggest inspiration growing up and he said their work ethic is what drove him to work hard in basketball. "They were very goal-oriented," Shawn said. "They work hard at what they do. That’s what you have to do in basketball and that’s what they’ve instilled in me since I was little.

Shawn took his first shots on a real hoop just a couple years later when he went to watch his dad play in an adult basketball league. At every timeout and half time, Shawn would run out on court, with a basketball almost as big as he was, and take a few shots before the team took the court again.

Kermit said Shawn became more immersed with basketball watching him play, even though he tried other sports. "He really got interested in the game watching me play," Kermit said. "I introduced him to other sports but basketball was all he wanted to play. He pretty much fell in love with it.”

Kermit said it was the love that drove Shawn to make himself better and always excel on his basketball teams. "He loved the game to the point where he really wanted to do it," Kermit said. "There wasn’t any pushing from me, he just enjoyed playing the game. It was his sheer drive that got him involved and to the point where he is now. As far as motivating himself, he wanted to get better at the game. He wanted to play college and he wanted to go beyond college and play.”

Shawn’s aspirations eventually led him to Bishop O’Dowd High School. But in his senior year, just a few months away from graduation, Shawn hadn’t landed a scholarship and was still looking for a college to play for.

A pivotal moment in Shawn’s basketball career came when Bishop O’Dowd advanced to the North California Division III Championships versus Alameda-Lafayette, a team that blew them out, 60-43, a few weeks prior. Shawn seized the opportunity, in what could have been his last game of the season or even his career, and energized, scoring 27 points to lead Bishop O’Dowd to a 67-65 victory. Shawn, who embraced his father on court after the victory, said it was the highlight of his career.

Auburn wins championship on final-minute drive

The Associated Press

Auburn head coach Gus Malzahn called the right play on the final drive, and it was Michael Dyer who ran it. Dyer took the ball 91 yards for a touchdown on the final play of the game, giving Auburn the NCAA championship.

Auburn’s 34-28 victory over Oregon in the Rose Bowl on Monday night capped a season that saw the Tigers go 12-1 and claim the national title for the first time since 1980.

Dyer, who had 10 carries for 108 yards and a touchdown in the game, said he was ready to take the ball.

"I was ready to go," Dyer said. "I knew we had the play called and it was just a matter of getting it done."