Armstrong salary confirmed

Leticia Rodriguez

The California State University (CSU) Board of Trustees approved the annual salary for newly appointed Cal Poly President Jeffrey Armstrong today.

Armstrong, who begins his presidency on Feb. 1, will receive $350,000 as an annual salary, $12,000 in a yearly car allowance and a $30,000 annual salary supplement provided by the Cal Poly Corporation. In addition, Armstrong will be provided a to-be-determined monthly housing allowance until he moves into the University House on May 1.

Stacia Momburg, public affairs team leader for university administration, said Armstrong’s finalized salary will save the state approximately $8,000 a year compared to former President Warren Baker’s $400,000 a year salary.

Toward the end of his presidency, Baker lived in a house off campus and in addition to his flat salary of $350,000 and a $12,000 car allowance, he also received $60,000 a year in a housing allowance.

“By living in the house not only is Armstrong closer to the students and the campus community, but we are also in turn having salary savings by Armstrong choosing to live in the house,” Momburg said. “So by doing that, we are also benefiting.”

However, Momburg and Vice President for Administration and Finance Larry Kelley said the additional $30,000 will not come from the state and will not have a financial impact on students. The additional funds come from an unrestricted section of the Cal Poly Corporation through private donations that are available for the benefit of the university.

“There’s always a rule on money that we get, but the difference between restricted and unrestricted would be if the donor had a scenario to go to biology, for example, then that would go to biology only,” Kelley said. “If the donor gave money in an unrestricted manner then that money can go to the benefit of the university. In other words, they’re not tagged for any specific program.”

The additional money was approved by CSU Chancellor Charles B. Reed in an effort to keep the salaries of the 23 CSU presidents on roughly the same level. When asked why there is such a difference in salary scales between the presidents, Mike Uhlenkamp, a spokesman for the CSU, said the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor determine the “value” of the position based upon the operating budget of the university, the size of the university, the cost of living in the area, student enrollment and the level of experience a candidate brings to the position.

“The idea is that they’re trying to keep the salaries within the same level or roughly within the same ballpark as the other presidents,” Uhlenkamp said.

— Mike Uhlenkamp
Spokesperson for the CSU

They’re trying to keep the salaries roughly within the same ballpark as the other presidents.

— Mike Uhlenkamp
Spokesperson for the CSU

Health care provision to extend student coverage

Ariane Ayler

Prescription costs for Alisha Axsom’s migraines have racked up a bill in the tens of thousands of dollars in the past 13 years. Health insurance helped cover most of these costs and became essential to Axsom’s well-being. But because she graduated with her bachelor’s degree in June, she was no longer covered by her mother’s health insurance. She dropped from her mother’s plan, only to be put back on three months later when the Affordable Care Act was signed into law.

The act allowed her to stay insured until age 26 and alleviated the mounting worry and pressure Axsom and her mother felt to find her own provider so soon after graduating.

“I didn’t get a job in the field (after graduation), so it was nice to know that I would still have insurance for the next three years,” Axsom said. “My mom was just shocked. I’ve had migraines since I was 10 and we’ve been dealing with this for a long time. She was really happy that we weren’t going to have to look into getting my own health insurance.”

Axsom would have paid approximately $2,985 annually for her own insurance, the average premium cost for single coverage, according to a report in 2009 by America’s Health Insurance Plans Center for Policy and Research.

The Health Reform Bill that eased Axsom’s financial burden is the largest change to health care policy since the implementation of Medicare and Medicaid more than four decades ago. Its effects vary in magnitude and many aspects are still unknown or confusing to Americans.

Some major revisions include policies mandating health insurers cannot deny children health insurance because of pre-existing conditions or revoke someone’s insurance when he or she gets sick.

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Health care
continued from page 1

The provision that potentially af-
facts Cal Poly students the most ex-
tends the age limit that a dependent
can remain on their parents' health
plan until age 26, up from 22.

Part of the Patient Protection
and Affordable Care Act, the afore-
mentioned provision stipulates that
health care providers must enforce
this new age limit, provided that
the dependents are claimed on tax
reports and are not already insured
by an employer. Even those who have
outgrown dependent coverage
were removed from their par-
ents' plan before the bill was passed
last September can re-enroll, a policy
that started on Jan. 1.

Previously, health insurance com-
panies dropped those who reached
the age of 22, did not live with their
parents or were not students. All of
these restrictions have been lifted,
even if the dependent is married.

The cost of adding children to
existing health plans has now in-
creased 0.7 percent, or $28, for all
dependents, regardless of age. This
translates to an average $3,400 (tax-
deductible) policy for each depen-
dent, according to the Department
of Health and Human Services. It
estimated 1.83 million uninsured
young people would be affected by
the law.

Considering the targeted age group
of the provision, the local impact was
minimal when approximately half of
the population is under 26 years of age.

"Most (Cal Poly) students are under
their parents' plan until graduation
and then move out of the area or are
provided for by an employer," said Megan
Maloney, communications specialist
at French Hospital Medical Center. Malo-
ney said he suspects that, so far, the law
has had little effect on Cal Poly students.

Students don't need insurance to
receive medical attention at any of
the major health facilities in San Luis
Obispo.

The Health Center neither re-
records nor accepts insurance; all ex-
penses not covered by the Health
Service Fee included in tuition are
paid out of pocket.

Local hospitals also don't require
insurance to be treated, because an-
other part of the Health Care Reform
Bill makes hospital emergency rooms
open to anyone, including those who
are uninsured.

"It doesn't matter if you have in-
surance or not," Maloney said. "We're
going to see you in our hospital."

Spokesman for Sutter Vista Re-
ional Medical Center, Ron Yukel-
son, said while the new law is a tre-
mendous step toward better health
coverage for everyone, he doesn't
think it's been enacted long enough
to notice anything substantial.

"We have not noticed more Cal
Poly students coming to the emer-
gency room," Yukelson said.

Many students have no knowl-
dge of these services or provisions at
all, much less have experienced its
implications, before or after. Younger
students between the ages of 18 to 21,
remain relatively carefree about their
health insurance, unless they and
their parents are without it altogether.

Kinesiology junior Ryane Daddy
said the necessity for health insur-
ance is too far in the future to be
concerned with now. When her par-
ents were notified of the changed
law, they had neither a positive nor
negative reaction to its benefits.

And when her 26-year-old sister was
dropped from her parents' plan a few
years ago, she was not even in a situation
lightly interested, often joking about it,
Daddy said, and now receives insur-
ance through her job. She has insurance
that covers out of network, out of state.

Health coverage has never been
an issue for her family, but Daddy is
comforted by the extra security.

"It's nice to know I have time to
search around for jobs with health insurance when I graduate," she said.

Salary
continued from page 1

did and it was determined that
this would be the salary for this
position.

Despite the Chancellor's deci-
dion to offer Armstrong a sum not
tied to the state's budget, not ev-
everyone is pleased with the number
of his annual salary. Computer en-
geniering junior Slava Markyev
said although he assumes the role of
president is exhausting, at the
moment he does not think the sal-
ary of the president is entirely fair.

"If he does well, and we'll find
out in a year's time, I wouldn't say
it's unfair, but I don't know how
much work it actually is," Mark-
kyev said. "At the same time, with budget cuts, he needs to be
hurting because the rest of the university is hurting too."

"At the same time, with budget
cuts, he needs to be hurting
because the rest of the university
is hurting too."

— Slava Markyev
Computer engineering junior

The biggest benefit is that gradu-
ating college students are not
losing their insurance.

— Shana Levarreda
Director of Health Insurance studies at UCLA

Even some older graduate stu-
dents have had few issues with keep-
health insurance. Psychology
graduate student, Callie Boller, 25,
aged out of her parents' health plan
three years ago, but qualified for low-
income coverage through Health
Works. She is now insured through her
husband's employer and said she
was unaware this law had been
enacted, having never before had
health care.

While the bill has been in effect
for almost four months, there are no con-
cclusive studies or surveys to show ex-
actly how the Affordable Care Act has
been affecting the nation, and more
specifically, young adults under 26.

The University of California Los
Angeles (UCLA) Center for Health
Policy Research recently conducted a
classified survey with the top seven insur-
ance companies in California. When
asked directly how many people have
been affected by this policy, none
were able to give a concrete answer.
Their survey showed that no one in
the nation has compiled this par-
ticular data. The UCLA center itself
won't have hard facts until the end
of the year.

"It's just too soon to be able to as-
 sess the impact," Director of Health
Insurance studies at the UCLA cen-
ter Shana Levarreda said.

She has, however, noticed a lot of
interest regarding the change in pol-
icy and heard personal stories from
parents who have already felt the ef-
ects, she said.

"The biggest benefit is that their
graduating college students are not
losing their insurance," she said.

Assum, comforted by the support
the Affordable Care Act has given
her, is relieved to have extra time
searching for the right options when
she will again outgrow dependent
coverage. "I definitely hope to find a
job that offers benefits and, if not, I
can have a little bit of cushion to at least
look for my own insurance," she said.

She also commented on the
largely unaffected student body, sug-
gestng that without a great need for
health insurance, it's not a pressing
concern.

"If I didn't have migraines, it
wouldn't be that big of a deal," As-
sum said.
Google to hire 6,000 employees in 2011

Mike Swift
SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS

Extending a surge that began last year, Google Inc. says 2011 will be its largest hiring year ever. The Internet giant announced it will add more than 6,000 new workers over the balance of this year.

With the hiring plans, Google will have more than 30,000 employees by the start of 2012, a workforce still significantly smaller than Silicon Valley giants like Intel Corp., Cisco Systems Inc. and Hewlett-Packard Co., but more than double the size of rivals like Yahoo Inc., and more than six times the size of the company that has become its most formidable competitor — Facebook Inc.

"Obviously, we’re optimistic about the future," Google Senior Vice President Alan Eustace said in an interview Tuesday. "The growth that we’re seeing across a lot of different areas is really based on seeds that we’re seeing across a lot of different areas, and the exciting part is that we’re seeing those seeds are coming into fruition. I think it’s unusual for a company to see so many opportunities align."

Among those major investments were Google’s $1.65 billion purchase of YouTube in 2006 and its $3.1 billion purchase of the display advertising network DoubleClick in 2007. The surge reflects Google’s ambitious plans to become a powerful force in areas of the Internet far beyond its traditional sweet spot of Web search.

The company is rapidly increasing the number of engineers working on initiatives such as its Android operating system for smart phones and tablets, its maps and location-based services that could deliver advertising to users based on their location, and in its Chrome browser and operating system areas.

"I’ll be pretty much across the board," Eustace said of Google’s hiring plans.

While much of the hiring will happen in and around Google’s headquarters in Mountain View, Calif., the company also plans to add more than 1,000 workers in Europe, many of them in and around its hub in Munich, Germany, outgoing CEO Eric Schmidt said at a conference in Europe on Wednesday. Google now has over 60 offices in 30 countries.

About one-third of Google’s workforce is in the San Francisco Bay Area, and Eustace said the company’s 2011 hiring would be weighted at least in that ratio — meaning Google plans to hire at least 2,000 people in that area.

Google last week reported fourth-quarter revenue of $8.44 billion, a 26 percent jump compared with the fourth quarter of 2009. Google notched profit of $2.54 billion, or $7.81 a share, a 29 percent jump over the same quarter in 2009. Google added 4,565 workers in 2010, a 23 percent jump in its global workforce. It was the company’s biggest personnel expansion since 2007, Google’s biggest year for hiring, when the company added about 6,100 workers.

"We had a fantastic 2010; we had a fantastic 2009, given the situation," Eustace said. "I feel like given what we know now, the prudent decision is to actually expand."

As Google continues to grow, incoming CEO Larry Page’s biggest challenge will be to recapture the nimbleness of a startup that characterized the company’s early days. While Google says two-thirds of the startup founders who joined Google through an acquisition are still with the company, some longtime employees who have left the search giant say a company of more than 20,000 people by its nature can’t move with the speed of a startup.
STATE

Sacramento (MCT) — A freshman Republican state assemblyman in California is challenging Arnold Schwarzenegger to "show all Californians your apolog- ogy was genuine" for commuting the manslaughter sentence of a po- litical ally's son without telling the victim's family first.

Schwarzenegger reduced the sentence of Ethan Nuss, who had pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter, on his last day in office without notifying the family.

Assemblyman Allan Mansoor of Costa Mesa is carrying legislation to require that victims' families and district attorneys are given at least 30 days' notice before a governor can commute a sentence or grant a pardon. Mansoor's sharply worded letter calls on Schwarzenegger to "put yourself in the victim's shoes."

Santa Cruz (MCT) — A 24-year-old jail inmate who sent threatening letters calls on Schwarzenegger to pardon. Mansoor's sharply worded letter calls on Schwarzenegger to "put yourself in the victim's shoes."

National

Illinois (MCT) — An Abraham Lincoln researcher in Virginia has admitted that he altered the date on a pardon to make it appear that the document was among the last official business handled by the 16th president before his assassination.

Thomas Lowry is said to have admitted he changed the date from April 14, 1864, to April 14, 1865, the day of Lincoln's assassination at Ford's Theater in Washington.

Lowry gained a measure of fame from the document pardoning a Union soldier court-martialed for desertion when he claimed in 1998 that it was one of the last official actions Lincoln took before his death.

This month, Lowry admitted to investigators that he used a fountain pen with "fadeproof, pigment-based ink" to change the date.

Florida (MCT) — Here's a mystery that gives a whole new meaning to the phrase "piano bar." A grand piano recently appeared on a sandbar in Biscayne Bay. Whoever put it there placed it at the highest point of the sandbar so that it's not underwater during high tide.

How and why the piano got there is a mystery. A grand piano might weigh at least 500 pounds and is unwieldy to move, said Bob Shapiro, a salesman at Piano Music Center in Pembroke Park, Fla.

This much is clear, however: The piano isn't going anywhere anytime soon. Unless it becomes a danger to wildlife or boaters, authorities have no plans to haul it away.

International

Tunisia (MCT) — The top U.S. diplomat for the Arab world gave Washington's firm endorsement of the uprising that ousted Tunisia's longtime ruler, even as a crisis over the North Af- rican country's transitional government continued to simmer.

Jeffrey D. Feltman, assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern affairs, also said Washington had offered the fragile new government "whatever support is appropriate and requested" in a na- tionwide election.

The transitional government has promised to hold balloting in six months. But for now, it faces a mounting protest movement op- posed to the inclusion in the Cabi- net of former figures in the deposed regime of President Zine el Abidine Ben Ali, who fled the country for Saudi Arabia on Jan. 14.

Israel (MCT) — A senior Palestinian official held discussions with Israel about possibly assassinating a Palestinian national in Gaza, according to the latest secret Palestinian Authority documents that the Al-Jazeera sat- ellite TV network released Tuesday.

Handwritten notes in Arabic translated by the network record an alleged conversation between Israeli Defense Minister Shaul Mo- fazz and Palestinian Interior Minis- ter Nasser Yousef in which Mofazz urges Yousef to kill a figure in Gaza.

The document has Mofazz pressing Yousef to explain why there hadn't been an effort to assassinate Hassan al Madhoun, whom he identifies as a well-known Palestin- ian terrorist.

White House climate expert Browner will resign post

Neela Banerjee (AP) — Carol Browner, President Barack Obama's controversial climate and energy czar, will step down soon, White House officials said Tuesday, in a move that some energy lobby- ists saw as another signal that the Obama administration wants to make amends with an alienated busi- ness community by reconsidering environmental regulations.

Many environmentalists, for their part, said that Browner's resigna- tion in itself did not signal a retreat from environmental protections. But both sides said they are watching closely for the White House's next steps, including whether a succes- sor to Browner will be named, who that person is and what the mandate would be.

"Browner has been the President's clean energy and climate conscience," wrote Frank O'Donnell, president of the Center for Science and the Environment. "No one else in the current administration has come close to his record in this area."
A look at nature's Rubik's Cube: the clitoris

Caitlyn Harkins is an English sophomore, Mustang Daily copy editor and sex columnist.

If you're a girl, or even remotely interested in girls, you should have a healthy understanding of your tiniest hot spot in any sexual rendezvous.

The clitoris is a sex organ only found in female mammals and its function is to make ladies orgasm. If you're a girl, or even remotely interested in girls, you should have a basic understanding of this critical piece of information that can make or break your love life.

The clit is a little bundle of nerve endings, making it a critical hot spot in any sexual rendezvous. Clitoral stimulation provides strong sexual pleasure — oftentimes, it's the only way women can achieve orgasm. However, nature's Rubik's Cube can be a frustrating puzzle. Without being the owner of a clit or having previous experience with one, finding the damn thing is hard enough, let alone being able to manipulate it to orgasm.

So, a rough guide to finding the little come machine: the tip of the clitoris is located at the top of the labia majora, partially concealed by a hood of skin. While it may seem tiny, the clitoral tissue actually internally arches along both sides of the vulva. This means that when the clit is stimulated, the clit becomes engorged (it becomes erect, similarly to penile stimulation) and the woman's entire vagina begins to contract with excitement.

I can't recommend strongly enough how important it is for people to have a thorough knowledge of their own bodies. If that means busting out the hand mirror and sitting spread eagle on your bed just to find your clit, so be it. Once located, you can experiment with masturbatory techniques or methods of sex to figure out what feels best for you.

When masturbating, starting with manual stimulation is the simplest way to go. Make sure you're in a comfortable position and turned on (check out last week's article on foreplay if you need inspiration) with some lube handy.

First, find your clit. Second, using one or two fingers, alternate between circular rubbing motions and tapping either directly onto the clit, or on the base of your clit if you are more sensitive. Another good method is rolling your clit between thumb and forefinger. Take your time, and don't worry if it takes a while to get yourself off. Learning what is the best way to make you come is an invaluable piece of information that can and should be shared with future partners.

Another way to pet the kitten is with a vibrator. It is increasingly common to see finger-vibrators sold in pharmacies alongside condoms and lubricants. The Internet also provides a wide variety of multi-shaped, multi-speed vibrators fit for any budget. If you're worried about becoming desensitized (the female equivalent of a guy using death grip while jerking it), just make sure to only use your vibrator occasionally, and keep the buzz to a lower setting.

Now comes the fun part: you've found and messed around with your clit, got off and your partner has read this article and has a basic idea of where it is. The next logical step is teaching your partner how to finger your clit. Don't be afraid to tell your partner if they need to increase or decrease the tempo, should switch to a clockwise motion or if you need more lube. Talking through it is a few times teaches your partner what's going to have you writhing in pleasure. Eventually, your partner will be able to slip their hand down your pants, no directions required. And who doesn't want that?

Since it's so important to reach orgasm, clit stimulation should be incorporated as much as the lady wants. The clit shouldn't be relegated to a foreplay-only item. While some women prefer getting off beforehand, others like a dick inside and a finger firmly on the clit throughout the session.

If you know your woman gets off with a vibrator in her downtime, try using one while you're going at it. She can hold onto the vibe and guide it while you are hitting it from behind or in missionary position. Talk it out, couple, and definitely experiment.

Last (but certainly not least), the clit is the Holy Grail during oral. My favorite sex article is the Vice Guide to Eating Pussy, and while I wish I could republish the entire column here, I'll leave it to you to look it up. If you like getting eaten out or if you're a fan of taking a dive, it is a must read.

This advice won't seem helpful, but it's true: women vary more than condom styles. Sometimes may get your current partner off like a firecracker but will leave your next woman unimpressed. Ladies, for the love of God, tell your partner what makes you wet so that you can get a mind-blowing orgasm and your partner gets the satisfaction of a job well done.

And after, make sure to return the favor. Happy exploring!
Victoria Zabel
VICTORIA.ZABEL@MUSTANGDAILY.COM

Business administration senior Laine Riley is the artist currently featured at the University Union (UU) Gallery located in the UU Epicenter. Riley's work, a gallery exhibition entitled "Around the World," opened at the UU Gallery on Jan. 13, and features photos she took abroad in Europe that emphasize her personal perspective. The exhibition will be displayed from January until March. ASI Events Gallery and Outreach Supervisor Brittany Lipson said she chose Riley's work because it stood out. "Laine's work is really clean," Lipson said. "I don't even have a favorite piece — they are all awesome.

The UU Gallery advertises the opportunity for artists to be featured at the beginning of the year, and submissions roll in quickly after that, Lipson said. She then looks at each artist's work, compares their vision to what she sees for the gallery and then chooses an artist three months in advance. Lipson said one reason Riley caught her eye was because she was not primarily studying photography. She said she likes the UU Gallery to feature a "diverse body of work" and provide opportunity for other majors to participate in the shows. Individuals from every major have an equal opportunity to be chosen.

Journalism senior and fellow photography minor Krista Scarbrough said she's a fan of Riley's work. One of Riley's biggest assets is her unique approach to photography, she said. "Laine is able to capture subjects in a way that's interesting to viewers by using framing, natural light and personal perspective," Scarbrough said. "Laine brings life to her subjects, and her work sometimes has an almost dreamlike quality." Showing the creativity and photography skills referenced by Scarbrough was something Riley had been interested in for a while.

Riley used to visit exhibits in the UU Gallery and feel jealous of the exposure such artists were getting. That friendly-envy is what pushed Riley to be proactive in the promotion of her work, she said. "I was always curious of how the featured artists were chosen, and I always wanted to be one of them," Riley said. "Last spring when I was in the UU, I saw Brittany (Lipson) setting up an exhibit and I asked her how to get involved. She gave me her e-mail, and I sent in my portfolio in early fall."

Riley submitted her entire portfolio, including both photos that were chosen and others. Although see Gallery, page 8 Laine Riley's photography exhibit is special to the UU Gallery because the photographs were not taken by someone primarily studying photography.

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If you have ever heard the song "Do You Believe in Magic" — whether sung by Ronald McDonald in a McDonald's commercial, playing in "The Parent Trap," the Lindsey Lohan version of course, or even serving as a musical accompaniment in the movie "American Pie" — then you have heard The Lovin' Spoonful.

The song is one of those classics heard in commercials, on soundtracks and covered by artists from every genre of music. It's only one of The Lovin’ Spoonful’s many hits from when the band first became popular in the '60s.

The New York-based band first played in San Luis Obispo in 1965 during its first tour in California. Now the group is back and will play at SLO Brewing Co. tonight at 6:30 p.m.

"We started touring again in early ‘92 and have been going at it ever since," said the band's bassist and songwriter Steven Boone.

With a recent induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and more than 20 years of touring under its belt, the band has not only proven experience, but proven success.

In 1965, the group wrote and recorded five albums in just four years, creating hits in both America and Europe. The band's music quickly spread to the young adult population and soon began playing at college campuses, a rare happening at the time.

"Prior to The Beatles invasion and Spoonful's rise to popularity, college campuses were mostly only entertained by jazz or folk music," Boone said. "Our manager started putting us into colleges to see how it would go over." Boone said the band was one of the first rock groups to have a fan base in the college audience.

The shows they played in those days were at bigger venues, with excited crowds waiting to hear hits like "Daydream" and "Did You Ever Have to Make Up Your Mind." Paso Robles resident and former San Jose record store manager Lisa Lien said she was an original fan of The Lovin' Spoonful and was pleasantly surprised to hear the band is touring again.

"I remember my sister had all their records," Lien said. "I love all their music. It brings back a lot of memories." Although the vibe of current shows is different from tours in the '60s, the band is still enjoyable, Boone said.

"The audiences seem to really enjoy hearing the songs that we created 40-some years earlier," Boone said. "Touring is just as fun or maybe even more fun, especially since the equipment and sound systems are a lot better than they were in the '60s." The band separated in 1969 because of a dispute with its record company, but even during the break from The Lovin' Spoonful, the band members continued their involvement with music.

In addition to being a producer, Boone fulfilled his lifelong dream of living on a sailboat, never leaving music behind.

"Even when I was living on the sailboat, I wrote music and played at clubs in The Virgin Islands," he said. "The Lovin' Spoonful's lead vocals and guitarist Joe Butler landed lead roles in Broadway productions and appeared in movies. Jerry Yester, also on lead vocals and guitar, performed with other groups and produced music as well. After the band made a deal with its record company in 1991, original members Yester and Butler, along with Boone, decided to get the band together again.

"This time, they are joined by new members Mike Aruri and Phil Smith. Central Coast '60s rock 'n' roll cover band Unfinished Business will open for The Lovin' Spoonful at SLO Brewing Co." When Unfinished Business heard that The Lovin’ Spoonful was playing in San Luis Obispo, the band thought it would be the perfect fit.

"We're excited about it," said Ed Miller, lead guitar and vocals for Unfinished Business. "We would love to see more bands from that era come through." Miller said they are fans of The Lovin' Spoonful — Unfinished Business even plays its hit "Summer in the City" in its shows.

And Millar said, although it is arguable, the band considers '60s rock 'n' roll to be the best music of all time.

Tickets can be purchased for those 21 and older at Boo Boo Records and at the door for $29, plus cover bandUnfinished Business even plays its hit "Summer in the City" in its shows. And Miller said, although it is arguable, the band considers '60s rock 'n' roll to be the best music of all time.

Tickets can be purchased for those 21 and older at Boo Boo Records and at the door for $29, plus cover band Unfinished Business even plays its hit "Summer in the City" in its shows. And Miller said, although it is arguable, the band considers '60s rock 'n' roll to be the best music of all time.
The reality of economic theory today

Jeremy Cutcher is a political science senior and Mustang Daily liberal columnist.

A couple of months ago, I wrote an article about the fundamental issue at odds in most political disagreements: namely, the political pursuit of liberty versus equality. It is an issue that is rarely discussed in political discourse, but does most to shard light on political disagreements.

There is a similar fundamental issue in the economic realm, and understanding the underlying conflict in economic disputes fosters a better ability to grasp the real consequences of economic issues. However, this conflict centers on the values of efficiency versus equity.

Neoliberal economic theory, namely the belief in private, free markets, has risen to supremacy in many industrialized nations because of its theoretical power. With complete information and low transaction costs — assumptions that questionably reflect reality — free markets achieve allocative efficiency, meaning resources go to the individual who values the resource the most, and in so doing, the invisible hand guides the market to the efficient price and quantity.

The importance of efficiency in markets is that it maximizes total net benefits for society, utilizing all resources within the market. However, this theory stresses the full allocation of resources, but makes no normative judgments on how those resources are distributed within society.

In essence, resources could be primarily allocated to a wealthy few, but as long as that's what the free market dictates, capitalist ideology makes no value judgment either way. But economic inequalities inevitably lead to social and political inequalities. And that's where equality becomes an important value to pursue in economic affairs, but one that's more often than not must be pursued through policies outside the marketplace.

Although conservatives often condemn the New Deal reforms following the Great Depression as socialism, the true story is that Franklin Delano Roosevelt introduced programs such as Social Security, the FDIC and the SEC to save capitalism and prevent the destitute from turning hard left.

No doubt the depth of the Depression refused to take a strategic approach. In fact, socialists holding office in other countries at the time of the Depression refused to take actions to manage the crisis because they saw the Depression as the final downfall of the capitalist system. In the United States, however, the benefits of industrialization and capitalist enterprise were everywhere, but progressive leaders knew it to provide some protections from the irrational exuberance that often characterized markets.

According to Harvard sociologist Daniel Bell, "Between 1910 and 1930, the United States became an effective national economy, but it had few institutional mechanisms to deal within an economy of that scope. In historical retrospect, the salient meaning of the New Deal was the creation of institutions to manage a national economy. What Franklin D. Roosevelt did was to match the scale of economic activities with a new political scale."

This is what financial reform aspires to do. Our financial system had become so large in scope and so complex in detail that we lacked the regulatory structure necessary to control it. Yes, even setting the need for regulation — given that the market failed and thus did not reach allocative efficiency as evidenced by the financial crisis — Republicans still refuse to even consider government "intervening in the economy." Not only do they prefer "private" efficiency over "public" equity in the economic discipline, but they will stubbornly oppose any legislation that even aims to correct inequities in the marketplace.

Given that the government must step in to correct inequities in the marketplace, it is questionable whether markets even achieve efficiency at a given price and quantity. In finance, a market exists that profits off of wrong prices, either selling when securities are overvalued or buying when they think they are undervalued. Apparently, reality does not reflect theory.

As I mentioned above, one of the assumptions of neoliberal economic theory is that supplier and demander have all the information necessary in the marketplace, but this does not seem to be the case. In fact, it seems to be to the advantage of the supplier to provide consumers with only information they deem necessary, perhaps to influence prices. Looking at the financial crisis, academics are still trying to sort through all the factors to understand exactly how it occurred.

It follows then that at the time transactions were actually taking place in the markets, the participants must not have been fully informed. Borrowers were not fully informed about their mortgages, investors were not fully informed about the toxic assets they were buying and banks were not aware of the risk they were taking on, but prosperity was everywhere so no one really cared to ask.

Favoring government regulation when markets demonstrate that they are not operating properly does not mean you are a socialist. Nor does favoring equity in some instances mean you desire some socialist utopia. Some government official making decisions about prices and levels of production within the marketplace makes no sense given the frequency in which economists are wrong. But knowing that the government cannot operate the full economy does not mean that it should not intervene when a particular market is clearly failing. And the conservative ideal of completely free markets is just as utopian as its liberal counterpart.

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most weekends.

"What we do is we try to keep them out of Friday classes," Stephens said. "(The football team) missed three days of classes in the fall."

The athletic department also writes letters to the professors of classes in which athletes are registered and lists which days they will miss. However, this does not mean they are excused from that day's work.

"If something is due, they have to have it in before they leave," Stephens said.

The athletes have a study hall in Mott Gym to give them a quiet space to finish class work.

Student athletes make good use of the study room, said Alex Phillips, a political science freshman on the women's golf team.

"Some of the teams are required to go to study hall to keep their grades up," Phillips said.

The athletic department also offers one-on-one tutors to athletes by request. If a student is struggling in a subject, advising can also set him or her up with a tutor.

Biological sciences senior Moni-ca Mills was asked to tutor athletes by the athletic department because of her major and grade point average (GPA).

"I tutor on average three athletes a quarter, one to two times per week, one-on-one," Mills said.

The athletes she's worked with have requested a tutor not because they were struggling, but because they wanted to stay ahead in their classes, she said.

"All the athletes that I've tutored have chosen to get tutored," Mills said. The result of these efforts is a group of student athletes that academically perform almost as well as the average for the student body.

The last time the average Cal Poly GPA was calculated it was approximately 2.8, and the average athlete GPA was around 2.75. Stephens said.

For Clancy, keeping grades up comes down to being proactive.

"It's better to be way ahead than to fall behind," Clancy said.

and informally, Carl Douglas, an attorney representing Johnson, said during a news conference in Beverly Hills announcing the filing of the suit. "Regrettably, they were not successful, so we were left with no other option but to file this lawsuit."

USC, in a statement issued after the news conference, said it "firmly believes it was not at fault in Stafon Johnson's unfortunate weightlifting accident. We are sorry that Stafon was injured. USC and the entire Trojan Family have been exceptionally supportive of Stafon from the minute the accident occurred. We are disappoointed to learn that Stafon has decided to file a lawsuit against USC."

Yanchar could not be reached for comment. A message left for him with a Seahawks team spokesman was not returned.

Johnson read from a prepared statement but did not take questions during the news conference.

Johnson was taking his turn on the bench press, he said, when "something very unexpectedly happened. The bar actually was hot. It fell on my neck from there."

The pain, he added, "was horrific — something that you can never really explain the only thing you know is it felt as if you were closer and closer to death."

But, he noted, "This lawsuit does not in any way reduce my love for the cardinal and gold."

"The lawsuit alleges that Yanchar, acting as a spotter, "was distracted and not paying attention" to Johnson.

"Because he was negligently and carelessly inattentive to properly placing the bar into Mr. Johnson's hands and making sure that Mr. Johnson was ready for the bar to be placed into his hands," the suit alleges, "Defendant Yanchar hit the bar with his own body before Mr. Johnson had a grip on the bar with both hands."

"I don't think he did it on purpose — it was an accident. But still he was responsible for the bar falling from Stafon's hand onto his neck."
Poll: Cal Poly athletes receive no special academic treatment

Victoria Billings

57 students said yes, but more than half said they believe this favoritism is fair, given that student athletes devote so much of their time to their sport.

Keeping grades up can be more of a challenge for athletes because they are often on the road for a game when other students are in class. For women's basketball player Rachel Clancy, a biological sciences graduate student, missing a few classes is unavoidable.

"In the winter, every second week we miss all day Thursday and all day Friday," Clancy said.

Some students.

Cal Poly picked to finish fourth in conference play

The athletic department tracks each athlete's grades and sends out grade checks in the fourth and eighth week of the quarter. It also closely follows the athletes' degree progress, said Shannon Stephens, director of academic services for Cal Poly athletics.

"Literally every quarter we track how many degree applicable units a student took, how many they passed and what percent of their degree is completed," Stephens said.

If a student doesn't have 40 percent of their degree completed at the end of their second year, Stephens said, then they're ineligible to play for Cal Poly.

With two advisors for approximately 550 students, the athletic department is able to focus more individually on each student than any of Cal Poly's colleges. Each athlete is required to meet with his or her academic advisor quarterly.

"For me, advising is kind of like your navigation map for your entire academic career," Stephens said. The advisers help athletes stay on track in their schoolwork, but Stephens said athletics are ultimately responsible for their own education.

Student athletes also receive priority registration when they are in season to help minimize absences. For example, football players receive priority registration in the fall, when they are on the road.

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Johnson seeks damages for accident

Gary Klein

LOS ANGELES — A USC strength and conditioning coach negligently caused a weightlifting bar carrying 275 pounds to fall on the neck of former USC running back Stafbn Johnson, the former Trojan running back alleges in a personal-injury lawsuit filed Monday in Los Angeles Superior Court.

Johnson was injured during an on-campus training session on Sept. 28, 2009, and underwent multiple surgeries to repair damage from near-fatal neck and throat injuries. Sidelined for the remainder of the 2009 season, he was signed as a free agent by the Tennessee Titans after the 2010 NFL draft. Johnson suffered a season-ending ankle injury during an exhibition last summer and was placed on injured reserve by the Titans.

"There have been efforts in the past to resolve this matter quietly," Clancy said.

Teachers require that she turn in their work before the due date.

If a midterm is scheduled at the same time as an away game, Clancy speaks with the professor to take it ahead of time. It's easy to fall behind in the quarter system, Clancy said.

"I just like to stay on top of things, because if you put a midterm off because of a road trip, when you get back it's (already) the second midterm," she said.

To help them manage schoolwork, student athletes have academic advisors, priority registration when they are in season, a special study hall and a tutoring program. Cal Poly athletes receive several extra resources to help them keep up with course work because maintaining good grades is necessary for athletes to stay on the team.

"I just like to stay on top of things, because maintain­ ing good grades is necessary for ath­ letes to stay on the team."