Student fights rare form of cancer; community, family band together

Katelyn Sweigart

Delaney Lemus completed her first year at Cal Poly as an agriculture business major without knowing she wouldn’t be returning back in the fall.

Up to the point, she was very active and athletic. She was a very happy person, always joking around, and before recent events, enjoyed playing volleyball and hanging out at the beach with her friends, her father Luis Lemus, Jr. said.

But Delaney is one of the many college-aged young adults who find themselves battling cancer while attempting to get a start on life.

According to the Livestrong Young Adult Alliance, a program started by the Lance Armstrong Foundation, there has been no improvement in survival rates for young adults since 1975. This is also complicated by whether they are put into adult or pediatric care — in the world of cancer research, the term "young adult" encompasses anyone from 15 to 39 years old, with about 70,000 cases each year.

Resources for young adults with cancer can be found over the Internet, from the National Colleague Cancer Foundation, which provides financial support for college students going through treatment; each focuses on the under-represented young adult cancer patients and survivors, helping them get through not being able to go to school, to work or to live the life they dreamed of before cancer reared its ugly head.

For Delaney, there were no signs of the cancer at first. She was very active but complained about back pains and couldn’t eat much before getting full. There was also the tiny lump in her abdomen. Her parents finally took her to see a doctor. In August 2009, the tests revealed she had a rare form of childhood cancer in the kidneys. It came as a total surprise to her father.

"The only thing I know about cancer is it’s bad," Lemus said.

She had a rare form of cancer called Wilms’ tumor. There are only about 500 new cases each year of Wilms’ tumors, which accounts for five percent of all childhood cancers, according to the American Cancer Society.

The cause is not from the environment or her lifestyle, and it couldn’t be prevented. What sets her apart is that the average age of a child diagnosed with Wilms’ tumor is 3, and it becomes less common as the child ages. Delaney was 19 when she found out.

"She was getting her education and just trying to get a good start in life," Lemus said.

They took her to the University of California, San Francisco Benioff Children’s Hospital, where she had the tumor and her family and community, family band together.

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We're melting pots. So why isn't that a part of the pot?

— Kerry Pacheco
Cuesta Community College student

DOMA
continued from page 1

history of America.

"I think it's the basis ... for which we are able to flourish as a country," Johnson said. "Our government has flourished because it's free from tyranny of religion, and religions have flourished and prospered here because they're free from any oppressive government control. The trouble with laws like this is that they seem to blur that distinction."

As a "man of faith," Johnson said the act was based on moral and religious reasons rather than on lawful reasons. In fact, Johnson said if another religious group besides Christianity came into power and passed laws like this is that they seem to blur the act was passed based on moral and religious reasons, "more traditional individuals.

Johnson also felt the stigma. Individuals might struggle with the thought of same-sex marriage because of the way they were taught, he said. "I don't think it's a difficult issue for the younger generation, but there are people, again, who are very, very entrenched who have been taught that this is an...abomination," Johnson said.

However, Johnson said he felt people are always evolving in their way of thinking about same-sex marriage, along with other past issues such as civil rights, women's suffrage and slavery. In fact, Johnson said scripture was used as rationale for many of the country's past social issues.

"In scripture, you have a flat earth; you have slavery being an accepted part of society; you have women as property of their husbands," Johnson said. "And you have a process of evolution in the Bible, an evolving understanding within the scripture that things change over time, so that it's very hard to pick those passages out if you're not using the same standard for other passages."

Johnson said those who use scripture as evidence against homosexuality, which he called "proof testing," do not consider the totality or underlying message of the scripture. The Canterbury Club, with the help of To See Our Hope on Christ released by the Episcopal Church, holds Bible study in order to look at the Bible in a safe place without proof testing and appreciate it as a total work.

"We don't take a passage of scripture and pull it out from its original context and use that to exclude and condemn people," Johnson said. "We have to look at the totality of the scripture and look for those overarching themes."

With that, Pacheco said that though she understood the other point of view against same-sex marriage, she felt America must evolve and learn to accept same-sex marriage just as it has accepted many diverse issues before.

"We're melting pots," Pacheco said. "So, why isn't that a part of the pot?"

Johnson also said, quoting Dr. Martin Luther King, history moves toward acceptance, though it may be a struggle.

The act of history bends toward justice, so we are continuing becoming a more just society," Johnson said.

Cancer
continued from page 1

knee removed. After months of chemotherapy and radiation, Delaney's cancer went into remission, and she resumed her old pastimes. "She bounced back and played in a volleyball city league," Lemus said.

In December 2010, after nine months of remission, they found the second tumor in her other kidney, bigger than the last.

"We had a few setbacks, (the doctors) tried to do aggressive chemotherapy to shrink it," Lemus said. "(It was) applying pressure to her lungs and heart."

During treatment, she got an infection that led to kidney failure. On Jan. 31, they operated to remove the tumor. She suffered severe blood loss and was in critical condition.

"It was a desperation surgery, they had no choice," Lemus said. "They were able to get 95 percent of the tumor out."

Despite all that has happened, Delaney has held on. She is still in the hospital, about to undergo more chemotherapy and radiation. She's been going through physical therapy and has started eating small amounts, smiling and laughing.

She didn't speak for seven weeks while on the ventilator but now can talk with her sisters, who visit her often, Lemus said. Her father called the whole thing an "emotional rollercoaster" where they didn't know what was around the next turn. Things are starting to go her daughter's way again, though.

The community recently came together in support of the young woman and her family. Her friends banded together and created a Facebook group, Twitter and website called "Let's Support Delaney." Will-o-wishers can post fundraising events and comments for Delaney on the website. There are currently 565 members of the Facebook group.

Other than Web page backing, Delaney is also garnering support through a website.

In the pouring rain last week, people came to the small parking lot by the Nipomo Mason's Hardware store, between a drive-thru Starbucks and Taco Bell, to pay for drinks, chips and tri-tip sandwiches with $10 donation tickets. Carol Mahoney, a relative on her mother's side, has been overseeing fundraising efforts for Delaney.

"They were drenched trying to get these tickets," Mahoney said.

Her husband and other family members cooked 1,000 pounds of sandwiches and sold about 2,200 sand­wiches altogether that day.

There will also be a blood drive during the second week of March at the United Blood Services Center for Delaney, who will need approximately 80 units of blood. On March 12, they will hold another barbecue and silent auction at St. Patrick's Catholic Elementary School in Arroyo Grande.

Monica Wilson, a hair stylist at T exertan Bella Salon in Arroyo Grande, is participating in the silent auction. She donated hair products and a haircut for the fundraiser because, she said, everyone should do their part since every little bit helps.

"I just hope somehow they can help her," Wilson said. "It's got to be really hard for her and her family."

In the end, she Lemus family is grateful for all the help the community has given.

"It's a good, positive feeling for Delaney, and we just can't say thank you enough," her father said. Any donations can be sent by checks to "Delaney Lemus Benefit c/o Rabobank, 615 Tefl St., Nipomo, CA 93444.

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Obama defends public employees' rights

Michael Muskal
LOS ANGELES TIMES

President Barack Obama on Monday waded into the labor standoff in Wisconsin and warned that the rights of public employees should not be infringed upon.

Speaking to the National Governors Association, Obama noted that many states as well as the federal government face tough economic choices. But the president, who has been criticized by some labor allies for not speaking out more forcefully on the Wisconsin situation, noted the fight between Wisconsin's public unions and the Republican administration in Madison.

"I don't think it does anybody any good when public employees are denigrated or vilified or their rights are infringed upon," Obama said in televised remarks. "We need to attract the best and brightest to public service. These times demand it."

Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker has proposed increasing the amount of money that public employees would have to pay to receive both health care and pension benefits. The Republican governor has also sought to limit collective bargaining rights for most public employees.

The plans, which have passed the Wisconsin Assembly, are stalled in the state Senate, whose 14 Democrats have fled to Illinois, making it impossible to have a quorum.

On Monday, Walker gave the Democrats 24 hours to return. He said that if his proposals weren't passed, the state would be unable to finance part of its debt, leading to some layoffs.

"Now they have one day to return to work before the state loses out on the chance to refinance debt, saving taxpayers $165 million this fiscal year," Walker's spokesman Cullen Werwie said. "Failure to return to work and cast their votes will lead to more painful and aggressive spending cuts in the very near future."

Initially, Obama had questioned Walker's proposal to curb collective bargaining, saying in a television interview that "generally seems like more of an assault on unions."

Some Democratic allies had also urged Obama to make good on his campaign comments in 2007 that he would picket if workers were denied their right to organized and collectively bargain.

But the White House last week argued that Obama could speak forcefully on the issue without having to join the demonstrations himself, which have been going on for more than two weeks.

As he has in the past, Obama distinguished between the need to cut budgets and deficits and putting the onus on public employee unions to carry the financial load. Facing his own budget battles in the forthcoming weeks, Obama again called for shared sacrifice on the state and federal levels to achieve savings.

Tuesday Tunes

What are you listening to?

"Waiting" by Ralph
— Scott Shires, civil engineering junior

"The Way I Am" by Ingrid Michaelson
— Aviva Duong, biological sciences freshman

"Dirt Off Your Shoulder" by Jay-Z and DJ Danger Mouse
— Sara Adams, nutrition freshman

"Someone's Missing" by MGMT
— Prashani Jayaraman, computer science junior

"I Gave You All" by Mumford & Sons
— Jacob Ruiz, construction management freshman

"Fire" by 2no1
— Odessa Quezon, materials engineering junior

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Libyan refugees fleeing from increasing violence

Jeffrey Fleishman
David Zucchino
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Fighting between rebels and government loyalists in Libyan cities intensified Monday as the United Nations reported that more than 100,000 refugees had fled from Libya into Tunisia and Egypt over the last week to escape the bloodshed that had drawn international condemnation.

Rebels in the city of Misrata, about 120 miles east of the capital of Tripoli, reportedly shot down a government plane and pushed back an offensive by forces loyal to Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi to retake the city. In Zawiya, about 30 miles east of Tripoli, government forces surrounded rebels but had not forced them to retreat.

The fighting across Libya came as international concern over days of bloodshed deepened. Catherine Ashton, foreign policy chief for the European Union, said: “What is going on in Libya — the massive violence against these peaceful demonstrators — shocks our conscience. It should spring us into action.”

French Prime Minister Francois Fillon said his country was dispatching planes carrying doctors and medical supplies to the eastern Libyan city of Benghazi. Meanwhile, the United Nations warned of a worsening humanitarian crisis as refugees, many of them migrant workers, fled Libya into Tunisia and Egypt.

“We call upon the international community to respond quickly and generously to enable these governments to cope with this humanitarian emergency,” said Antonia Guterres, the United Nations high commissioner for refugees.

On Sunday, Zawiya, a city of 210,000 just 30 miles west of Tripoli, was shaping up to be a potential focal point for clashes as anti-government forces with tanks and antiaircraft guns massed throughout the city center, and Gadhafi forces surrounded the outskirts with tanks and military checkpoints, residents said.

From the east, small bands of armed men traveled in the direction of the capital from Benghazi.

The developments in Libya occurred as the wave of unrest continued Sunday throughout North Africa and the Middle East, enveloping the usually sleepy Gulf state of Oman, where government forces were blamed for at least two protesters’ deaths.

But the world’s attention remained focused on Libya as military and civilian leaders in Benghazi, the city that gave birth to the uprising, said they had no immediate plans to send large groups of fighters to Tripoli to assist other rebels besieging the capital. Instead, individual fighters have gone on their own.

Khaled ben Ali, an organizer of the provisional government in Benghazi where the eastern uprising against Gadhafi erupted Feb. 17, said Sunday that a total of about 300 men were traveling in small groups in private cars, with little or no coordination among them or with protesters in Tripoli.

At a Benghazi army barracks, rebels collected weapons — including antiaircraft guns and Kalashnikov rifles — taken from Gadhafi loyalists. There was continuous talk about going to Tripoli, but no serious effort had been mobilized, air force Col. Ahmed Omar said.

“Our bodies are here, but our hearts are in Tripoli,” he said. “We are thinking, the idea has been there since the first day Benghazi was liberated, trying to get to Tripoli.”

A few men plotted the provisional government center in Benghazi’s central courthouse Sunday to report that they had arrived on the eastern outskirts of Tripoli, Ben Ali said. But the vast majority of men have not been heard from since leaving Benghazi over the last several days, other officials said.

Most of the fighters are impassioned young men eager to play a role in derailing Gadhafi, who has ruled for 41 years. A few are soldiers who defected from Gadhafi’s army, Ben Ali said, adding that leaders of the rebellion don’t fully trust them.

Inside Tripoli, the situation was grim. Two-hour lines awaited people seeking bread or fuel. Official forces melted away to be replaced by young men or teenagers who were armed by Gadhafi, giving the city a sense of wild unpredictability.

“The city is controlled by these mad dogs. They make it absolutely impossible to even try to get to the government,” a sobbing 62-year-old businessman said by phone.

The Gadhafi government attempted to appease the uprising with an announcement on state television Sunday that $400 grants would be distributed to Libyans. But long lines of people at the banks were turned away, residents said.

Efforts by foreign governments inside Libya were isolated and aimed at bringing relief to their own citizens.

Germany said it performed rescue missions when planes ferried more than 100 people from a private runway, in foreign minister announced Sunday. The British said they again used their aircraft at multiple locations in the eastern Libyan desert to spirit away an additional 150 Britons. A similar, earlier operation also was successful.

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Libyan refugees fleeing from increasing violence

Jeffrey Fleishman
David Zucchino
LOS ANGELES TIMES

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Hey, we’ve got a real news feed too.
Learn to accommodate sweet potatoes into your daily diet

Heather Rockwood is a food science junior and Mustang Daily food columnist.

Wake up to a sweet note this week. No, I’m not talking about your roommate’s off-pitch songs coming from the shower — I am talking about waking up to a delicious bowl of sweet potato oatmeal.

That’s right — this versatile tuber is not just for Grandma’s Thanksgiving pie anymore. It is time to welcome this root into the world of everyday eating.

The sweet potato is native to Central America and is a scrumptious component of the traditional dish picarones, a pumpkin and sweet potato doughnut. Columbus and his expedition members were the first Europeans to eat sweet potatoes. They brought them back from the New World, and they eventually made their way to all corners of the earth. Even our first president grew these sweet roots on his Mount Vernon, Va. farm.

Currently, just over 90 percent of the sweet potato crops grown worldwide are produced in Asia — and it is the sixth principal world food crop. The sweet potato’s growing requirements are not too stringent — they will grow in almost any soil condition, as well as a variety of harsh environments. This makes it a great crop for all places; however, the nutritional value and health benefits of the sweet potato make it the perfect food for all people. The Center for Science in the Public Interest, an organization promoting a healthier American diet, lists the sweet potato as one of the ten best foods to consume.

Sweet potatoes are excellent sources of beta-carotene, which the body can convert to vitamin A. They also have a good source of vitamin C, potassium, fiber and contribute a small amount of your daily caloric intake. As with some other vegetables, the sweet potato can be prepared and eaten in a certain way to obtain the most nutritional benefits.

Luckily, my college cooking favorite, microwaving, is one successful way to maintain the most nutrients. Pop the sweet potato in

see Sweet Potatoes, page 8

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) — You may not be able to practice what you need to do successfully, which means, of course, getting it right the first time.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — You are likely to be contacted by someone who has a plan but no real knowledge about how to get it off the ground. You can help.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Things may get rather confusing for you, regardless of the careful instructions you likely received. Trust your instincts.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — You may not remember the last time you felt the way you do; you can use this to your advantage when next you are caught off guard.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — You may have to insist that someone do all he can to protect from the spotlight at this time. You’re not ready for such attention just yet.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — You’ll reach the halfway point of a personal journey. Look back at the path you have taken: Could you have taken an easier one?

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — You don’t have to do everything all at once. Indeed, a step-by-step approach is not only safer but also more productive.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — You’ll have most of the pieces of a complex personal puzzle in place, but much depends on the one or two you have yet to find.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — It’s time for you to take a trip down memory lane, not for the enjoyment of it but in order to learn a lesson that is long overdue.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — You and a friend may be trading information more freely now than you have in the past. Today’s developments mean a great deal.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Adjust your thinking to be more in sync with those who are at the forefront of a group effort. It’s time to be one of the team.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — You may be surprised by someone who is obeying the environment that he or she has been placed in at birth, when all evidence seems to point to the contrary.
**Charlie Sheen makes headlines with crazed actions**

Mary McNamara

**Los Angeles Times**

**So now we know.**

If you are the star of a hit comedy on CBS, you can keep your job in spite of accusations of threatening your pregnant second wife, holding a knife to your third wife's throat on Christmas Day, and indulging in cocaine-fueled weekends during which your bizarre behavior causes your female companion to fear for her life.

But say mean things about Chuck Lorre and You Are Toast.

It is difficult to feel anything but relief regarding CBS' recent decision to officially halt production of its hit comedy "Two and a Half Men." A crazed Charlie Sheen once again took to the radio airwaves this week, this time to denounce the show's creator, whom the network has treated with varying degrees of respect.

Perhaps because Lorre also produces "Mike and Molly." This is a change to City ordinance 17.17.075 Neighborhood preservation.

This is a change to City ordinance 17.17.075 Neighborhood preservation.

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**And that's not Sheen's problem.** That's all on us.
Sweet Potatoes
continued from page 6
the microwave, and in just a few minutes you can mix the warm flesh with a little pineapple, applesauce or coconut milk to make the perfect study break snack.

Other successful ways to maintain nutrient benefits are steaming and roasting. Boiling is successful at softening the flesh, but studies have shown boiling is more likely to reduce the antioxidant content and thus provide less nutrient benefits.

When preparing the sweet potatoes to cook, keep in mind that the bright color of the potato’s flesh will undergo oxidation and darken after contact with air. Therefore, they should be cooked immediately after cutting. If that isn’t possible, you can place them in a bowl completely covered by water or water mixed with pineapple juice to prevent browning.

When eating these tubers, you can increase your body’s absorption of the beta-carotene by pairing them with 3 to 5 grams of fat. This can easily be accomplished by adding a small amount of olive oil or butter to your cooked potatoes. Consuming sweet potatoes with other foods (such as meats, carrots, etc.) in a meal can also provide the fat necessary for the best uptake of beta-carotene.

When selecting from the market, look for sweet potatoes free from cracks and soft spots. Avoid choosing any potatoes that are displayed in the refrigerated produce sections since colder temperature negatively alter the potato’s flavor characteristics. After you bring your tubers home, make sure you store them in a cool, dark, ventilated place for up to 10 days.

What a sweet song the sweet potato sings to not only our stomachs, but our taste buds and health as well. Breakfast, lunch, dinner, or snack — it doesn’t matter what time of day, sweet taters can easily be added to any meal to add a punch of nutrients in their own subtle sweet way.

Hint... is the third most preferred flavor in the world, preferred only by vanilla and chocolate.

Simple Sweet Potato Oatmeal

1/2 c. cooked oats
1 medium sweet potato
1/2 banana, sliced
2 Tbs. peanut butter (peanut or almond: chunky)
1 Tbs. honey
1 Tbs. maple syrup
1 tsp cinnamon

Slice sweet potato in micro­wave to cook. Remove cooked flesh from skin, mash and place in a bowl. Immediately place muffin­ter in the potatoes (which should be hot enough to melt the peanut butter). Add orange juice and cinnamon. Mix until well blended. Combine cooked oats and stir until consistently mixed. Garnish with remaining banana and maple syrup, serve warm. Add any extra toppings you prefer (including dried/fresh fruits or nuts). Enjoy.

When it comes to the 2011 Oscars, the third best movie of the year’s show demonstrated, Hollywood isn’t so easily stereotyped. It may be a town full of liberals, but women and men of the military who risk their lives every day in Iraq and Afghanistan.” That was hardly anybody’s reaction to “The Hurt Locker,” which won four Oscars, including the climactic one for best picture, is a profoundly conservative film, paying tribute to King George VI, an aristocratic English monarch who, bumbled by a ha­militating stutter, develops a deep friendship with a commoner, his speech therapist.

The film portrays the king as a man of noblese oblige — he sacri­fices for the common good by will­ingly assuming the heavy mantle of leadership, even if it will expose his most embarrassing flaw. He is, in other words, resolutely Old School.

The same can be said for “The Social Network,” which won three Oscars last night and was the sea­son’s other prime best picture can­didate. Even though it is set in the rarefied air of Harvard, “Social Net­work” is far from a liberal critique of capitalism’s excess. It’s a thoroughly pro-business film that celebrates the rise of Facebook co-founder Mark Zuckerberg, who for all his new media hipster veneer is just as much of a cunning, ambitious, thoroughly cold-blooded entrepreneur as — gasp — Rupert Murdoch.

Yet the film was written by Aar­on Sorkin, a flaming liberal who spends much of his time online hurling poison darts at Sarah Palin. And the film was financed and dis­tributed by Sony Pictures, whose co­chairmen, Amy Pascal and Mi­chael Lynton, are both outspoken advocates for various Hollywood progressive causes.

This is hardly a fluke. Just last year, the academy gave its best pic­ture honor to “The Hurt Locker,” which many conservatives praised as a pro-military film, and not just because director Kathryn Bigelow, when accepting her Oscar for best director, dedicated the film to “the men and the military who risk their lives every day in Iraq and Afghanistan.” That was hardly anybody’s reaction to “The Hurt Locker,” which won four Oscars, including the climactic one for best picture, is a profoundly conservative film, paying tribute to King George VI, an aristocratic English monarch who, bumbled by a ha­militating stutter, develops a deep friendship with a commoner, his speech therapist.

The film portrays the king as a man of noblese oblige — he sacri­fices for the common good by will­ingly assuming the heavy mantle of leadership, even if it will expose his most embarrassing flaw. He is, in other words, resolutely Old School.

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Labor union debate sparks controversy

Eric Baldwin is an electrical engineering union and Mustang Daily libertarian columnist.

Whatever unions may be or do, they are a fine topic for bitter arguments. If you want to divide a family, a region or an entire nation, bring up labor unions.

Unions are based on beliefs about the working world of the future: that the future is broad and deep. To be neutral on the topic of unions is, to be neutral on many of the greatest questions of our age: What are human rights? What is ownership? What is the proper relationship between human beings?

Historically, unions organized workers to act as a unit to pursue two primary objectives: to collectively negotiate with employers and to pursue orchestrated political activism internally as well as externally — usually of a socialist bent.

The central divide idea behind the trade union is the idea of worker exploitation. So how are workers exploited? History has its share of abuses, ranging from clearing the illiterate to gross safety violation to contractual exploitation, muscle force, and right to debt guarantee in a captivated workforce. But now that laws have been enacted (in many cases due to unions) to address most such problems, and any holes or omissions can be easily rectified.

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has driven tirelessly to ensure that not even the simplest task can be done without onerous and debilitating restrictions.

The use of strikes and other such tools of organized labor are no longer needed to protect workers from such exploitation.

Unions identify something else as exploitation as well — a larger and far more basic idea than disregard or deception. The idea that the free market system is itself exploitive, the belief that as informed and conscious contract between employer and employee still contains an element of subservience. In this belief the concept is normal is to raise some very serious questions about the nature of human society — that coercion is a healthy element of a properly-functioning world.

This may come as a surprising take on the situation, but look at the problem clearly: unions do not exist to promote a more consensual world, they exist to thwart that. Further, more, they exist under the assumption that business is and will always be an evil coercive entity, which must be countered by the eternal and externally good coercion of unified labor.

The idea of a more cooperative world where all players voluntarily associate for mutual benefit is simply alien; it is not worth pursuing.

To accept the view that coercion is normal is to raise some very serious questions about the nature of human society — that coercion is a healthy element of a properly-functioning world.

First, it is based on the assumption that the world is necessarily dichotomized into two static, and distinct groups — the powerful few and the disenchanted many. These groups are necessarily antagonistic and possess a single vehicle of interaction — exploitation. For example, if the poorest do not rob the rich, the rich will rob the poor. The only alternative to bad coercion is good coercion.

While this view has some observational support (see: all history ever), it is unwise to assume that something is means that it must be. If two parties are locked in war, one side or the other must eventually conquer — but war is not a third possibility.

Social and wealth classes are more fluid than ever before in history. More education is available for a lower cost than ever before. Methods of resolving conflict are more accessible and more diverse than ever before in history. Science and philosophy present the underlying unity of human society with greater clarity than ever before. If the American experiment has quested for any single truth, it is that a world can exist where all persons are equal beings that can all live under the same principles. Yet, the union is based on the belief that the rich and the poor are fundamentally alien; it is not worth pursuing.

Unions have practical as well as philosophical consequences. By dictating the terms of employment, unions create a disconnect between compensation and accountability. Employers are not just contractors for employers for "working" the union's rules, but not for doing a good job. By unionizing large segments of industries, unions force workers to participate in political agendas that they may not agree with; unions were developed for political as well as labor objectives, and their political activities far exceeds the issues of employment — it is very difficult to discover any political issue whatsoever on which the California Teachers' Association does not have a position.

By demonizing employers in principle, unions perpetuate a negative view of the engines of wealth. By perpetuating a perception of victimhood and vulnerability, unions teach people to view themselves as powerless and ineffectual individuals, destined to be integrated into one of two giant machines.

The central divide idea behind the trade union is the idea of worker exploitation.

Please include your name, year and major.

Write a letter to the editor!

Send your letter, in 250 words or less, to mustangdaily@mustangdaily.com. Or submit it at mustangdaily.com.
Today's Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS
1. Sally comedy       4. Carriages of Evans
10. WWW addresses    14. Sky hunter
15. Now — — IF
16. Lowest high tide
17. Colosseum
18. Violent disturbance
20. Frenchman's
decided
22. Wondrous
23. Scrapboard films
24. AMA member
27. Grammy-winning
napper
28. Hats
29. — — "banging"
34. Type of therapy
36. Spinal molecule
38. Woeful cry
37. Nonobjective
39. Hader, Gobi
explorer
40. Palm off
41. Hindu god
42. Hits of old films
43. Opinionated
44. Mean rider
45. Stem flaker
46. Boxer
47. Take advantage of
50. Granola tin
52. Tall flower
54. Incessancy
55. Trade edges
56. Oral lump
59. Dinner home
61. Necklace part
62. Dolphin habitats
63. "My Bye Bye" band

DOWm
1. Driving hazard
2. Onassis nickname
3. Eighties

1. Restrictions
2. Salad followers
4. U.S. platters
8. Overseas loan
10. Not so smart
12. Library slogan
15. Bathe
16. West swampy
18. Phi Bets
23. Fortify
24. Exhale again
28. Aviator Earhart
29. Sufi, Native
32. Golf or tennis
33. Sneeze in
uninvited
35. Emboss
36. Recommend
37. Old
38. "Kubla Khan"
toupee
39. Settled
40. Treasure one
41. Steakhouse
42. Quickfisch
43. Landed
44. Undergrad
45. Dog
46. Lap dogs
47. Ina's house
40. Goal for the
Gluck of
the opera
50. Why face
51. Bruins
53. Thousands of
paces
55. England's tide
56. Miss Piggy's
atlas
57. Elms, to Bugs

SUDOKU

3 7 2 6 1 8 9
4 3 5 9 7 8 2
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7 5 6 3 4 9 2
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6 7 6 4 3 8 9

Why Rooster Cogburn Never Gets Hired
by Day Care Centers

The Worst Baseball Team Ever Seen!
Guard Jonae Ervin returned to the court last weekend after missing two games with a torn meniscus. Ervin scored 13 points in her return against Cal State Fullerton.

"It doesn't look like five individual players; it looks like one team." Grunow said. "They're still going to make it to the playoffs, and they're going to get back into the swing of things for the season."

Cal Poly will host the first round of the Big West Tournament at Mott Gym, on Tuesday, March 8. Cal Poly is in a great position coming into the home stretch, head coach Faith Mimnaugh said. The team still holds the first seed and has a chance to win the Big West Championship for the first time ever.

"We're shooting for the big-time here," Mimnaugh said.

Mimnaugh, who has been coach for 14 years, said she is especially eager to see the team win because she's witnessed how far women's basketball has come.

"It's been quite a journey," Mimnaugh said. "From having this progress into making the tournament to potentially being first seed."

Whether or not the Mustangs are the first seed still depends on their performance down the stretch. The Mustangs have earned at least a share of the Big West title, but will win the championship outright if they defeat UC Santa Barbara this weekend.

"Everybody wants to win," Mimnaugh said. "I can't guarantee that we're going to win, but we're going to prepare to win."
Women's basketball aims to avoid late-season misfortunes

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The Cal Poly women’s basketball team (16-10, 12-3 Big West) remains optimistic about its chances in the upcoming Big West tournament, despite two recent losses to Cal State Northridge and UC Riverside.

The losses mirror the team’s end-of-season performance last year, when it lost the top seed in the Big West Conference after losing two of its last three games — only to be knocked out of the tournament in the first round.

Guard Rachel Clancy said those parallels between last season and this year’s are unrealistic. The team held on to the top seed with a record of 10-3 despite the losses, in which last year’s team dropped to the second seed before the tournament.

“From my perspective, we haven’t lost three of the last five,” Clancy said. “We’ve won 10 of the last 13.”

The two losses don’t mark a streak of bad luck, Clancy said. They are results of a knee injury and a case of pneumonia to two players off the court.

The players’ absences meant the rest of the team had to fill the open spots. Many of the players were worn out because they couldn’t take a breather when they needed it, Clancy said.

Player fatigue took its toll when Cal Poly lost to Northridge, which was 3-22 and at the bottom of the Big West at the time of the loss.

“Northridge went down to the last second,” Clancy said.

The Mustangs lost by eight to UC Riverside. The reason: points from the free-throw line, Clancy said.

The missing players will be back in upcoming games, and Clancy said this is good news as the Big West Tournament approaches. The first tournament game is March 8. Only time will tell if the tournament will be a repeat of the previous season.

Political science junior and basketball fan Sara-Rachell Grunow remembers last season’s late losses and doesn’t want to see the team suffer the same fate.

“I got to know the team last year really well and that was the heartbreaker because I knew how much the girls wanted it,” Grunow said.

Grunow attended many of the team’s practices last season and said the losses came from a lack of team unity, not talent. This season won’t be a repeat of last year because of the strong group dynamic this time around, Grunow said.

“They have really good camaraderie and a good court sense with each other.”

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