How to keep up your sex life in a long-term relationship.

IN ARTS, P. 10

Death at Oceano Dunes raises safety concerns

Amanda Sedo
AMANDASEDO.MSNB.COM

A Visalia man was killed in an ATV accident at the Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area (SVRA) last Saturday, after his Yamaha Rhino ATV toppled. Lieutenant Mike Lack, the supervising state parks peace officer at the Oceano State Parks said that while the coroner is still investigating the cause of death, the scene of the accident shows how Jose Lopez Jr. was killed.

"The vehicle basically rolled over on top of him," Lack said. "This particular vehicle is like a small car. It has safety side doors as well as full body restraints."

Other features of the Yamaha Rhino include roll cages as well as two to four seats — Lopez's model had four seats. The Yamaha Rhino SUV differs from the ATVs most people are familiar with in that most lack roll cages and full body restraints.

As of now, there is no evidence of alcohol or drugs involved in the accident pending toxicology results, according to the press release from the San Luis Obispo Sheriff's Department.

The three other people who were in the vehicle survived, but were all wearing their safety restraints — Lopez was not.

With spring break rapidly approaching and the sunny weather encouraging students to hit the dunes, Lack said following basic safety rules is important.

"Seatbelts are required not only because it is the law, but because it is the law," Lack said.

He said there are ways to prevent accidents by using a vehicle like the Rhino SUV on the dunes.

"It's normal for us to put on the seatbelts in the car, but it's the same thing in these type of vehicles," Lack said. "It's important (the drivers) to enforce the use of seatbelts more seriously. It's a very important, very important part of it."

According to ATV-Vision.org, in 2009 there were 336 ATV-related accidents.

After all of these things happening, I don't think I'll go (to the dunes) again.

— Tanya Don

Kinesiology junior
San Luis Obispo Bicycle Coalition goes to Washington

Alicia Freeman
ALICIAFREEMAN.MS@gmail.com

The San Luis Obispo County Bicycle Coalition will bike in the nation's capital this week. The group is attending the 11th annual National Bike Summit from March 7 to 14.

Garrett Farmer, the programs manager for the bicycle coalition, said the summit is a multipurpose outlet for bicycle advocates and enthusiasts.

"People from all over the country go to promote bike advocacy, attend lectures and meet other people doing similar things in their own towns," Farmer said.

The League of American Bicyclists has run the summit since 2000 to raise awareness for bicycling across America and promote bicycle-related legislation. According to the League of American Bicyclists' Web page, "there are more people riding bikes than ever, yet more than 90 percent (of trips) are made by car (which increases the) need and opportunity to improve physical activity, safety and livability in the U.S."

Meghan Cahill, the director of communications for the League of American Bicyclists, said there are many benefits for those that attend the summit.

"The National Bike Summit is a great opportunity for bicycle advocates and people in the industry and students, anyone who loves to bike, to all gather together in Washington D.C.," Cahill said. "You get to learn so much about bicycling, how you can make bicycling bigger in your community, business, university (and) get to network. The most beneficial thing besides hearing these amazing speakers is going to people on Capitol Hill and meeting with your representatives to really put our issues out there."

Cahill said over the years the summit has not only grown in attendance, but has also made a difference with legislation. Though she said this year they are not pushing a particular bill, previously the National Bike Summit has done a lot for the different transportation bills and helped gain funds for community projects and state bicycle infrastructures.

Leslie Bloom, the outreach manager for the Bicycle Coalition, who along with Bicycle Coalition Executive Director Dan Rivino, is attending the event. She said one of the most important causes to promote for bicycle legislation is funding.

"Only 1.5 percent of federal transportation dollars currently support biking and walking, despite the fact that these two modes represent 12 percent of all trips in the United States," Bloom said. "As biking and walking continue to grow, it's essential that we allocate funds to these essential and affordable modes."

Bloom said the Bicycle Coalition, a local non-profit advocating bicycling and walking in San Luis Obispo County specifically, has attended the summit five times. Bloom said the summit offers a great opportunity to learn from one another, and bring those ideas back in order to continue to improve biking in San Luis Obispo County.

"One of the best things about biking and walking on the Central Coast is the wonderful collaboration we have between multiple agencies to make so many projects a reality: it's a truly unique trait that we are proud to share with our colleagues from across the country," Bloom said. "Along with this collaboration, we also have plenty of projects currently in the works to make (San Luis Obispo) County better connected by bicycle."

Some of the coalition's projects include bike trails and lanes, as well as many bike education programs

see Bike, page 6
The burglar broke the front window at Shoesurfing.com's warehouse in San Luis Obispo, and stole an estimated 450 pairs of UGG boots, valued at approximately $50,000 total.

UGG-ly burglary takes place in San Luis Obispo over weekend

Victoria Zabel

UGG-ly burglary takes place in San Luis Obispo over weekend

Victoria Zabel

A local business was burglarized over the weekend — losing approximately $50,000 worth of merchandise. On Sunday at approximately 12:30 p.m. San Luis Obispo law enforcement were notified of a break-in at Shoesurfing.com's business address on the 3500 block of Sueldo Road in San Luis Obispo.

Lieutenant Bill Proll of the San Luis Obispo Police Department (SLOPD) said an employee of Shoesurfing.com made the call to authorities before alerting management of the break-in.

Shoesurfing.com owner Kevin Zunich said he was surprised to receive the message that his business had been burglarized.

"I had no idea — I had a message when I got out of church on Sunday to come to the warehouse," Zunich said. "Once I arrived, there were police officers waiting for me."

An early estimate said 450 pairs of UGG boots were stolen from the business's warehouse, but Zunich said the loss could be worse than originally expected.

"The thieves broke our 5 by 7 window in the front of the store and literally wiped out the entire showroom," Zunich said.

In order to transport the stolen merchandise, Proll said the thieves may have used a van stolen that day from Pacific Coast Kitchen and Bath, another local business.

"Property left at the scene was identified to be that of Pacific Coast Kitchen and Bath," Proll said. "So our officers went to the business to investigate and it was then discovered that a van was missing. That was around 2:30 p.m."

Employees of Pacific Coast Kitchen and Bath said they were shocked to hear news of the theft.

"Neighboring businesses have had problems with vandalism before, but nothing like this has ever happened," said Pacific Coast Kitchen and Bath employee, Kevin, who declined to use his last name.

While there is no known connection between Shoesurfing.com and Pacific Coast Kitchen and Bath, Proll said the pattern of the burglary is not unique.

"We've had at least one similar break-in in the past couple of weeks," Proll said. "A vehicle was stolen from one business, and then used to rob another. What's different about that crime, however, is that the van was returned to its owners. In this case, the van as well as the merchandise are still missing."

Pat Moore of Acropolis Lighting, a neighboring store near the Shoesurfing.com warehouse, said it sounds like the burglary was pre-planned, but does not believe the attack will be duplicated with his business.

"I'm not too worried about Acropolis — everything we have would need to be boxed and it didn't break," Moore said. "And, for the burglars to steal that many pairs of shoes ... it seems like the attack was planned."

Planned or not, everyone is hopeful the stolen items will be returned. The police department has put a nationwide alert out for the stolen license plates, Proll said.

Zunich also hopes for the retrieval of merchandise, and said he is lucky to have so many good friends.

"I've received a lot of phone calls from people — everyone is going to be looking out for unusually low prices or out-of-the-ordinary sales on eBay and craigslist, and also at the swap meet," Zunich said. "We tag almost all of our boxes with our logo — with any luck consumers will notice that and alert us if they find anything."

Shoesurfing.com has been in business in San Luis Obispo for more than 35 years and has never had a problem of this magnitude before. In an effort to make back some of the money lost in the burglary, Shoesurfing.com will host a sales event on Saturday, March 12 from 9:30 a.m to 6 p.m.

"We would love it if people came out to support us in the wake of last weekend's events," Zunich said. "In this economy, a loss like we encountered could be deadly. We are working hard to meet our customer needs and we hope they see and appreciate that."

In the meantime, the hunt for the stolen products will continue. Both businesses will remain open, and are hopeful individuals will come forward with any information they have about the burglary. Information pertinent to this investigation can be shared with SLOPD by calling (805) 781-7317.

We've had at least one similar break-in in the past couple of weeks.

— Bill Proll
San Luis Obispo Police Department officer
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Obama attempts to sell education reform using support of Gates family

Christi Parsons
Tribune Washington Bureau

President Barack Obama enlisted the help of billionaires Bill and Melinda Gates in selling his education reform ideas on Tuesday, a move he hopes will help convince business leaders to get behind his plans. In a speech at a Boston public school alongside Melinda Gates, Obama argued that the U.S. should put more money into advancing a "21st century curriculum" to help prepare the future work force.

"There is no better economic policy than one that produces more graduates with the skills they need to succeed," Obama said at the TechBoston Academy, a pilot school. "That's why reforming our education is the responsibility of every single American," he said, including "every business leader."

It was the second act of the new White House education strategy, in which the president has already tried to enlist Republican support by unveiling former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush as his GOP partner.

But despite the play for business and bipartisan support, the president's plan to invest in education remains politically divisive, especially against the backdrop of Middle East turmoil, skyrocketing gas prices and a looming government shutdown.

"When Republicans and fiscal conservatives hear 'invest to win the future,' they think, 'spend and tax' and 'federal intrusion,'" said Collette Beyer, press secretary for the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

"But for her part, Melinda Gates stopped short of a full endorsement for either approach to fixing schools. As she introduced the president, she attributed a principle important to the Gates Foundation and the TechBoston to the "reform" Obama highlighted Tuesday — a new agency he would set up to promote educational technology across the country.

"The administration thinks its investment message will resonate with those leaders and that their support will help the president's agenda."

"When we talk to business leaders, they tell us that this is really critical work for them," said Melody Barnes, Obama's domestic policy council director. "For them, thinking out into the future, if we are better educating our children today, it means that their businesses are going to be more competitive tomorrow."

"Many Republicans support the idea of "turnaround" schools like the one Obama visited in Florida last week. They want to see schools do a better job of turning out college-ready students. But GOP leaders are worried about spending."

As a prime example, critics point to a new program that Obama highlighted on Tuesday — a new agency he would set up to promote educational technology across the country.

"At a time when we need to focus on getting our fiscal house in order and streamlining the federal government's role in education, spending more taxpayer dollars on a duplicative program isn't a responsible choice," said Collette Beyer, press secretary for the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

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Google makes donation to preserve Mandela records

Nathan Olivarez-Giles
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Google Inc. said Tuesday that it is giving $2.5 million in the form of two equal grants to the Nelson Mandela Foundation and the Desmond Tutu Peace Centre to preserve, and get online, thousands of pages of historical documents relating to South Africa's move from apartheid to democracy.

"As one of the most influential leaders of our time, and the face of South Africa's incredible transition to democracy, Nelson Mandela's name is almost synonymous with efforts to create meaningful dialogue and promote social justice," wrote Google's Daniel Lederman and Julie Taylor in a blog post announcing the grants.

With that in mind, Google is giving a $2.5 million grant to the Nelson Mandela Foundation Centre of Memory, which will use the money to safely house and digitize thousands of archival documents, photographs and audio and video recordings documenting Mandela's life as an activist against apartheid, his time in prison and his rise to the South African presidency after the end of apartheid, Lederman and Taylor wrote.

All the digitized materials will be made available online in the future, with the archives to include Mandela's correspondence with family, friends and fellow activists, as well as his prison diaries and notes produced as he took part in negotiations to end South Africa's apartheid.

Google also granted $1.25 million to the Desmond Tutu Peace Centre in Cape Town, South Africa, to preserve and digitize Archbishop Desmond Tutu's archive. Tutu also is known as a leader in the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa, rising to fame in the 1980s and winning the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize.

In the past, Google has also made donations and given grants to other groups looking to document and share historical materials online, such as support for Yad Vashem, an archive of Holocaust documents in Jerusalem, as well as support for art museums.

Google also said on Tuesday that it had recently given other grants to educational groups, including: $75,000 to South Africa's Tertiary Education and Research Network, known as TREN, for its work helping South African universities with Internet and information technology services; $500,000 to the University of Oregon's Network Startup Resource Center, which is running projects to help multiple African countries get connected to the Internet.

Michael Doyle
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

House Majority Whip Kevin McCarthy on Tuesday denounced California's current high-speed rail plans, further clouding the political future of an ambitious project running through his own Central Valley hometown.

A fourth-generation Bakersfield native, McCarthy said Tuesday that California and the federal government would both be wise to avoid spending billions of dollars on a train he predicted would become a money sink.

"In today's world, is that the best place to put the money? The answer is no," McCarthy told reporters.

Echoing other critics, McCarthy on Tuesday characterised the initial planned 123-mile route from Bakersfield to tiny Borden in rural Madera County as a "train to nowhere." He said the train would be poorly used and would inevitably leave taxpayers on the hook for endless subsidies.

"Look at where California is right now (financially)," McCarthy said. "They don't have enough money to build it now."

The California High-Speed Rail Authority has long-term plans to build an 800-mile system connecting Los Angeles with the San Francisco Bay Area. Trains are supposed to travel upward of 220 miles per hour, in some stretches.

California voters in 2008 approved a $9.9 billion bond measure to start the project, whose final cost will end up being much more.

The Obama administration has committed about $3.6 billion to boost California's high-speed rail project. Additional money could soon become available, following Florida's recent rejection of $2.4 billion in federal high-speed rail funds.

"I know that states across America are enthusiastic about receiving additional support to help bring America's high-speed rail network to life and deliver all its economic benefits to their citizens," Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood declared following Florida's decision. The Transportation Department has not said when it will announce the redistribution of the money Florida didn't want.

One of McCarthy's colleagues, Rep. Devin Nunes, R-Viria, has authored a bill to divert high-speed rail funds to improving State Route 99. McCarthy supports the bill.

Another colleague, freshman Rep. Jeff Denham, R-Awatck, authored a short-lived amendment that would have blocked federal spending this year on California's rail project. Denham ultimately withdrew his amendment in exchange for what he described as stricter congressional oversight on rail spending.

"The project has lacked adequate cost controls, the transparency our Valley farmers deserve and the oversight our taxpayers demand," Denham declared.

Rep. Dennis Cardoza, D-Merced, added his own doubts following selection of the initial route to Borden, saying the "process used to come to this decision was deceptive and suspect at best and may be violative of the law at worst."

Among lawmakers representing the southern half of the Central Valley, that leaves only Rep. Jim Costa, D-Fresno, as an enthusiastic supporter of current high-speed rail plans. But McCarthy, whose congressional district stretches from the Valley to San Luis Obispo, also has a broad Capitol Hill wingspan that enhances the significance of his high-speed rail skepticism.

As whip, he ranks third in House leadership and serves the GOP's chief vote-wrangler.

The leadership position gives McCarthy more clout in shaping bills, best and may be violative of the law at worst.

The leadership position gives McCarthy more clout in shaping bills, such as the House's budget-cutting fiscal 2011 spending bill passed last month that would reduce high-speed rail funding by $1 billion.

"If you can't prove it's viable from a business plan, it's not a (project) the government should be funding," McCarthy said Tuesday.
Piles of clothing will be swapped, altered, embellished and recycled into new clothing or accessories at the second annual Swap-O-Rama-Rama Saturday March 12 at the San Luis Obispo Museum of Art (SLOMA).

Jennifer Alexander, the producer of San Luis Obispo's Swap, said it is an international event to encourage the community to create more and consume less.

"The purpose is to get people excited and inspired to reuse clothing and be more creative," she said.

Alexander's goal this year is to make the event just as successful as last year's held by Upcycle SLO. The organization had 200 people in attendance and raised $1,500 for Ecoslo, the environmental nonprofit chosen for the benefit last year. This year, the Swap is supporting SLOMA's children's programs.

"Art is one of the first things that kids use in schools," Alexander said. "(SLOMA) is taking the place of schools when it comes to art education."

The entirety of the gallery space will be used for the event and if the weather is nice, the swap will take some of its displays outside.

There will be demonstrations on alterations and embellishments, as well as ways to recycle materials. One example is making beads from plastic bottles and pendants from bottle caps. The event will provide craft supplies and sewing machines. There will also be a Yudu screen printing machine, which is a do-it-yourself screen printer that puts designs on flat surfaces.

Impromptu fashion shows will also be put on and sponsored by Goodwill. Attendees can make custom coffee cup sleeves and take them to Linman's Cafe on Garden Street for a free treat. Alyssa Gies attended the first swap last year, simply expecting to get rid of clothes and acquire a few new ones, since she doesn't consider herself a very crafty person. She ended up staying for the entire event and attending workshops, where she made items such as picture frames and lamp shades out of old fabric.

"I ended up making a hat, though I've never sewn before," Gies said.

This year, Gies said she plans on getting her 21-month-old son something, if she can find it. She picked up five or six things for herself last year that she still wears. The entry cost was also lower, so she ended up getting nice, recycled clothing for only $3.

"There are some clothes I plan

see Swap, page 11
Graphic designer promotes social change through art

Katelyn Sweigart
KATELYNSWEIGART.MD@CMA1L.COM

Graphic designer and social entrepreneur Mark Randall will give a lecture on how to use art and design to promote social change on Friday, March 11.

Randall is the principal of New York City's marketing and design agency Worldstudio. The award-winning agency is focused on social responsibility. Randall, along with his firm, promote a style of marketing and design that inspires changes in social problems, including the environment and spreading tolerance.

Randall is also the president of the nonprofit Worldstudio Foundation, which offers scholarships and mentoring programs for marketing and design. He co-founded Impact! Design for Social Change, which is a summer intensive program at the School of Visual Arts in New York City.

Brice Tuttle, an art-and-design senior and president of the student chapter of Professional Association for Design, formerly known as American Institute of Graphic Arts (AIGA). AIGA raised the money to invite Randall through the AIGA Valentine Grams. Tuttle said he is grateful Randall responded to their requests, since they feel the art and design programs at Cal Poly are often overshadowed by other schools.

Tuttle said he expects the lecture to be inspirational, informative and conscious about making socially-minded projects.

"A lot of times, people see graphic design as making things look nice," Tuttle said. "Mark Randall is a quality example of how it's more than that."

A socially-minded project Randall has participated in is Design Ignites Change, which is for college students interested in design and architecture and professionals collaborating with high school students creating projects with social themes. Another project, Create! Don't hate, designs billboards that deal with intolerance. The organizations provide participating students with the tools they need to send their messages.

"You can get something more than just utilitarian," Tuttle said. "It has a purpose."

Another program is the Urban Forest Project. Designers, artists and students create banners for a city with designs that use the tree as a symbol. At the end of the exhibition, the banners are recycled into tote bags and auctioned. The money raised goes toward local environmental and urban forestry projects.

Art and design senior and officer of AIGA Jasmine Kohl said she likes that project, not just for its visual appeal.

"When (Randall) thinks about design, he thinks about the greater picture and not of the visual aspects," Kohl said. "His lecture is sure to inspire and to make (the audience) think outside the box and how their thinking can impact social change."

see Social Change, page 11

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Three tips to keep your sex life fun in a long term relationship

I've had the experience of being in two long-term relationships—one in high school and the one I'm in now. The one in high school lasted a little over a year, while the one I'm currently in is inching toward the year-and-a-half mark.

Sex in long-term relationships (LTR) can take a few different routes. One path is to lead the fairytale lifestyle in which you and your partner have the same frequency of sex throughout the relationship, leaving you both satisfied. This article is probably not for you, but if you can read on if you'd like—or go have sex—that's what I would do.

Another route your sex life can take is, unfortunately, mired with mud, thickets and bramble. Essentially, your sex life gets stuck. Sometimes due to other commitments, like work, school or family, your sex life stagnates. This leads to the oft-heard complaints of having sex rarely, if ever, or having boring sex. Most sex advice columnists would be out of a job if these situations didn't exist, so don't worry—your relationship is normal.

However, there are the couples who take advantage of already knowing what sex is like with each other. They turn to experimentation and discovering new ways to get each other off, whether by introducing toys or new people to the bedroom.

Regardless of the path you and your partner have already found yourselves on, check out these three tips to maintain fun and function in your LTR.

1. Make time. It's dead week, and you have an awful finals schedule. Later in life, you may have a tight deadline on a project at work, or a new addition to your family. Should you always be putting aside your academics or career for your partner? No. It shouldn't be expected for either of you to shrink your responsibilities. However, you should be actively trying to instill romance and sexuality into your relationship.

Passivity in a LTR is the cornerstone of a bad sex life. Even small gestures, like holding hands or kissing when greeting and saying goodbye engenders a sense of physical intimacy, even if you aren't having sex frequently. Try to keep track of how often you're having sex. If you and your partner are usually getting physical a few times a week, and you realize it has been a few weeks since your last session, make the time for sexy time.

2. Be inspired. I've written about this before, but watch porn together. If you get off by watching girls use vibrators, buy one and use it on yourself or on your partner. Read not only this column, but sex articles in magazines and online to get tricks and advice on sex acts to try. Boring sex is not good sex. Period. If you are constantly using the same position (missionary, lights off), your sex life becomes routine. Formalic moves may work, but it's in experimentation where you two can discover the big orgasms.

To give some examples, let's say you and your partner always do oral before having sex. Try having sex...
Social Change
continued from page 9

Art and design senior Allie Harold worked with Urban Forest Project, a global initiative by Randall's design firm, and will attend his lecture and workshop. She said Randall's presentation will be important for students studying graphic design to attend so they can learn to use their design abilities to make a difference.

"I think it will help us get a better idea about design for social change," Harold said.

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Fondly,
- Mustang Daily
Increasing oil prices hinders economic revival

The following editorial appeared in the Dallas Morning News on Monday, March 7.

Oil has topped $100 a barrel for the first time since the financial meltdown snapped a bear trap on the U.S. economy. The nation still hasn't freed itself, and the prospect of increasingly expensive oil isn't making escape any easier.

As oil prices crossed the $100 level last week, Federal Reserve chair Ben Bernanke tried to reassure Americans that the price spike from political revolt in Libya and Egypt would not scuttle the nation's modest, tenuous economic recovery. Bernanke might be right, but that doesn't mean the nation isn't in line for more economic pain.

Some analysts warn that oil prices could soar to $150 a barrel if the unrest spreads to Saudi Arabia and other key oil producers. Even if oil doesn't reach that level, the price spike already has had an impact. After all, the last time we saw $100 oil was the start of the Great Recession. Now, two years later, we are seeing the beginnings of another recession.

It has come to our attention an editorial was recently published in the Mustang Daily that does not shine the most favorable light on our property management company, McNamara Realty. As many of the Mustang Daily readers are aware, we are a family-owned and operated company that rents more than 300 properties throughout San Luis Obispo County. Let us assure all the Mustang Daily readers McNamara Realty does not and will not "take advantage of college students" nor do we treat our tenants "like stupid college students." Without the students at Cal Poly, who voted us #1 Property Management company in 2010, we wouldn't have a business.

The recent editorial that was submitted by Victoria Zabel and published on April 26, 2010, after which we were contacted by the Mustang Daily for a response to be written by a staff member. Upon reviewing the response we were sent an e-mail from said writer who wrote, "I decided to cut the story. I didn't want to sensationalize something from nothing. But I appreciate your viewpoint. This is the first time we'll respond on our own behalf." McNamara Realty responded to all maintenance requests in a timely manner and, unfortunately, the ongoing issue of the bathroom shower不出事we were able to access the unit from the roof which was alleviated by trimming tree branches that encroached upon the top of the roof and termites were detected in the exterior wooden porch, not in the unit itself. Even though our company agreed to terminate the lease on the requested move-out date of April 26, 2010, two days later, the tenants went on to publish their Mustang Daily editorial regarding maintenance issues.

Letters to the Editor

muskangdaily@gmail.com

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opinion/editorial

Wednesday, March 9, 2011

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American ideals hard burden to bear

Leoard Pitts Jr. is a columnist for the Miami Herald.

It is not easy being America. Maybe that's why America often finds it hard to do.

Being America requires more than simply existing between certain geographic lines. Rather, it requires vindicating a set of ideals that are downright dangerous.

This would include the notion that all men and women are created equal; the right to life, to be free, and personal happiness. Also that they enjoy freedom to assemble, freedom from random search and seizure. And most dangerous of all: that they possess the absolute freedom to speak their minds.

What makes those promises dangerous as well as desirable is that they apply to everyone — not the smart people, not the good people, not the right people, but the people — with power. Enough to challenge authority, make trouble, thwart police — even enough to re-structure government itself.

So yes, sometimes America finds it hard to be America. History is dotted with the big failures: the Alien and Sedition Acts, slavery, the Trail of Tears, Plessy v. Ferguson, the Japanese internment, the red scare, COINTELPRO.

Arguably more insidious are the small failures, the everyday acts of moral cowardice that come and go in the rush of daily events: terrorist mosque patrols and Hispanic bashing, driving-while-black traffic stops and the banning of books from public libraries.

The reason it's not easy being America is that there is always a temptation to avoid the demands of dangerous ideals, a temptation to find a more expedient way. That is, what adds the taste of bitterness to last week's emphatic Supreme Court ruling in favor of Westboro Baptist Church.

Westboro, of course, is no more a church than Trayvon Martin is. It, rather, is a boil on the buttck of reason, a titty, Topeka, Kansas-based congregation of diseased minds whose entire raison d'etre is to spread the following bizarre thesis: America has grown too tolerant of gays; therefore, God has turned against America. He gets His point across by killing America's athletes.

Westboro members spread this hateful perversion of the gospel by showing up at military funerals and extending their grotesque assaults while leaving intact the constitutional guarantee of free speech. Because that's what they had. But another part of me knows we do all too often, seek, for reasons both admirable and repulsive, to conceal our own freedoms, wessel out of defending those dangerous rights.

Small wonder. Sometimes, those rights protect wrongs. But the thing is, rights too freely abridged are not rights at all, but privileges. And privileges can be taken away.

Last week's ruling, then, repul- sive as it was, disappointingly as it was, was also correct, also a needed reminder that freedom is a messy thing. It is a reminder that strips in no- ocenence away like tree bark. Yet, it's painful when America fails its own ideals. But sometimes, it's painful when America does not.

And most dangerous of all: that they possess the absolute freedom to speak their minds.

— Leonard Pitts Jr.
Miami Herald columnist

American tax returns dishonest

Peter Goldmark wrote this for Newsday.

Sometimes you really have to wonder if most of our society is still honest — or if it's a heavily corrupted religion.

I asked a friend of mine who works as an accountant why he was taking fewer clients. "Because too many of them just want to cheat on their taxes," he answered.

Now, I wasn't born yesterday. I understand the impulse to return as little as possible to the government and keep as much as possible for your favorite charity, which starts at home. But here was an old friend who has occasion to see how a lot of people behave telling me he's seen a growth in cheating. I looked up the IRS estimates of the gap between taxes paid and taxes owed — and it's north of $300 billion. That's a healthy slice of the deficit we're all worried about.

Big corporations play games with their taxes as well. It's not "tax avoidance" but it's legal. Corporations hire lobbyists to get obscure provisions written into the tax code that reduce their tax burden. In one sense it's aboveboard: The language is there to see, and technically the members of Congress vote on it, though none of them understand it and few follow it closely enough to know it's there.

But in a deeper sense it's dishonest. Even though it's done in broad daylight, the corporation and their lobbyists are still raising the public fisc for private advantage.

There were several reports that in 2009, Exxon Mobil paid no U.S. income taxes at all, but got a $156 million refund. The critics argued that upon closer examination, the picture got even worse. Exxon Mobil did pay about $15 billion in income taxes — but jiggered its books, in conformity with U.S. law, so that all those taxes went to other govern- ments and none of it to ours.

There's something wrong with that picture. Maybe a system where corporations and their lobbyists can get complicated amendments that no one understands inserted into the tax code before midnight is itself not honest. How do you measure rot by definition's end?

I remember the articles coming out of Greece last year as that country ran aground on the shoals of financial mismanage- ment. It turned out that most of the very wealthy weren't paying the taxes they owed. And some enter- prising reporter went up in a helicopter and got pictures of all the private swimming pools whose owners had failed to declare them in their tax returns. When is the rot deep enough to threaten the continued existence of the body politic altogether? I know one place I'd go to get a sense of how the rot's spreading.

I'd get a sampling of the coun- try's tax accountants in a room, swear them to secrecy and promise them immunity, and then I'd ask them to put together an estimate, from their combined practices, of how much phony-fantasy was in the tax returns their clients filed each year. I bet we'd all like to know the answer to that question.

"Everyone needs to give 51 percent for it to work," Marx said.

What is this political PR load of BS? I have not seen one thing in my four years here that makes me think the city has tried to reason with us. I hope Target puts all you small business owners out of business and all the old people move to Asat- cadero. Seeya.

— Jim Conway
In response to "Budget battle heats up in recent weeks"

Your article is ridiculous. Why do you have such a hate for McDonald's? I mean, you explained why you hate them but why do you have so much animosity against someone like and enjoy? You sound very pretentious and down right a little silly. Your facts are ambiguous.

A lot of things McDonalds does is not because of their marketing idea in because of regulation. So sit down and shut up and enjoy your hipster overpriced coffee which will dehydrate you and put a shit ton of calories for no health return.

— James Blatter
In response to "You can't fool me, McDonalds!"

Good for Gamma Phi, but why is this newsworthy to the Cal Poly community? Also, poorly written article/questions. It makes the sorority sound highly unintelligent.

— Taylor
In response to "Gamma Phi Beta sorority earns multiplied award"

I'm no fan of revoking collective bargaining rights, but the state workers have really brought it on themselves with the incredibly ridiculous concessions they won over the years. The reason they can continuously protest with impunity (you try not showing up to your job for a week and see what your boss says) is because they thumpishly exploited the collective bargaining rights their governor is trying to limit. This is all on the taxpayer's dime as well, since they're still getting paid — even while schools are shutting down because so many teachers are out protesting instead.

— Alex
In response to "Budget battle heats up in recent weeks"

Even though it's done in broad daylight, the corporation and their lobbyists are still raising the public fisc for private advantage.

— Peter Goldmark
Newsday contributor
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I GIVE UP. WE'RE NOT GOING TO FIND IT THAT BEYOND THE LAKE NOW.

Here's a list of girls who would like to see you again. Hard.

Will there be girls on my list
Four out of nine isn't too shabby.

You know me. I try more intoanity than quality.

That's true, I've seen you attack an all-you-can-eat buffet.

Last Down clue is 58

Today's Crossword Puzzle

Across
1. Feed the fire
6. Barge
10. Low-quality
14. Show fright
15. Autoahem auto
16. Mayberry kid
17. Separate
18. Laundry cycle
19. Make showre
20. Coat
23. Used thriftily
24. — and Bradstreet
26. Mythical Runness
30. Rescan
34. Lyric target
35. Dear, as memories
36. Ute hero
37. Bulging yells
38. Lone plug part
41. Narrow inset
42. Gave an edge to
43. Woodshop tool
44. One in a boat
46. Backer
48. Sudbury's prov.
49. Pantyhose color
50. Hawaii
53. Phineas and johns
59. Augury
60. Baseball family name
61. Matchmaker's oasis
62. Margarita ingredient
63. Mistresses
64. Sixth
65. Where Pima rued
66. Doon ball
67. Endevored

Down
1. Warn up for a bout
2. Masking —
3. Patron saint of
5. TV chef
6. Admires
6. Window frames
7. Golden coin
8. "Stupid —"
9. Vanhalla host
10. Win party a ga
dua
11. Cheese one
12. Barnyard sound
13. Lipstick shade
14. Snowmobile
15. Part
16. And, to Fritz
17. Where Greek met Greek
18. Antique
20. Buy a round
22. 911 responder
31. Pub throws
32. "Right" prefix
33. Tightfist
34. Attack
36. Like some mail
37. MD assistants
38. Preserve hurt
39. Squawker
42. Flashhead
43. Dangers
44. Downright
45. Noddy
49. Marden's canal's
date
50. Word on a battery
51. MidEast VIP
52. Vanne skipper
53. Pact member
54. Even once
55. Asian princess
56. Dept. store in
ventory
58. Bird food

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Direct, having recently received his Ph.D. in Psychology, re-diagnose his housemates.
AD search: Oberhelman pays a visit to Cal Poly

Karlee Prazak
KARLEE.PRAZAK.MS@GMAIL.COM

Cal Poly athletics director candidate Don Oberhelman held a 90-minute open forum in the Christopher Cohan Performing Arts Center lobby yesterday. Currently, Oberhelman serves as the senior associate athletics director at San Diego State, although it was clear he is ready to trade in the larger university lifestyle to be at Cal Poly.

"I think (my) experiences have helped me be in the position where I am today to be able to have this opportunity," Oberhelman said. "This has been a dream of mine to be in the position that I am in now."

Oberhelman then went on to hold positions in athletics departments at Florida State as a compliance assistant (1995-98), Texas A&M as an education coordinator (1998-2002) and the University of Southern Mississippi as a senior associate AD among other positions (2002-07).

It was at San Diego State where Oberhelman learned the importance of working as a team within the athletics department. The department should work as a cohesive group and focus all its energy to serving the student athlete, he said.

"We were really impressed with the spirit and the collegiate atmosphere that exists at Cal Poly," he said. "That you cannot artificially create, but it exists here."

Oberhelman would know too. He has been either enrolled or employed at six universities. He received a bachelor's degree from Kansas State and his master's from Florida State.

Oberhelman then went on to hold positions in athletics departments at Florida State as a compliance assistant (1995-98), Texas A&M as an education coordinator (1998-2002) and the University of Southern Mississippi as a senior associate AD among other positions (2002-07).

"We have to go out and talk to people," Oberhelman said. "Sell our mission, sell our mission in relation to the university and sell the student athlete. Prove we're worthy of support."

Oberhelman said the significance current hall of fame members have will depend on how much they want to have.

"We need to engage people to come support the student athletes, and if that's merely just coming and showing up at the games, that's good enough," Oberhelman said. "(Hall of fame members) are the most important form of donor base. Those are the ones who truly understand the role athletics can play in our education." Dan Morris, member of the athletes' perspective, women's softball pitcher Anna Cahn said she was initially concerned about Oberhelman moving from a larger university with a larger budget like San Diego State to a school such as Cal Poly with a smaller budget.

"I thought it'd be hard for him coming to a place with a smaller budget," Cahn said. "But hearing him speak about his experiences at Southern Miss, it seems more like he knows where we are coming from, and how understaffed we are and how a lower budget school works."

During the forum, Oberhelman said, when he worked at the University of Southern Mississippi, he remembered times when he would work the student gates at events because the staff was short.

"I do have a great understanding of what it takes to operate with a smaller budget," Oberhelman said. "There is work to be done, and if that means we're all going to pitch in one day, that's what we did. I really enjoyed that we can get this done kind of attitude."

Cahn said the other points Oberhelman brought up, such as how lucky Cal Poly teams are to have home games held on campus, impressed her as well.

"He seems really personable and down to earth, and he is a good candidate," Cahn said.
After Cal Poly's 15-point halftime lead was trimmed to one, senior guard Rachel Clancy's free throw shooting helped secure the 73-70 victory. The Mustangs will play Pacific Friday at the Honda Center in Anaheim.

Rachael Clancy scored a team-high 17 points to help lead the Mustangs to their first Big West tournament victory since 2009.

Semi-finals

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"We've been working real hard all year, all 16 (players)," Clancy said. "Whether they're injured or not, we've all been contributing. As the season's gone on, I knew we could do it, and I'm really happy we are where we are."

But Cal State Fullerton nearly turned all that joy into cold-hearted dismay.

After sinking basket after basket in the first half, the Mustangs couldn't buy a one in the second. The Mustangs saw their 53.1 shooting percentage in the first half shrink to 35.5 percent in the second. It allowed the Titans — which trailed by as many as 17 points in the half — to fight back and make it a 52-43 game with just under 15 minutes to play.

Then, with two 3-pointers by Cal State Fullerton's Lyndsey Grove, the Titans cut the lead to one at 71-70 with nine seconds remaining.

With the Mustangs on the ropes, they turned to Clancy. She knocked down two key free-throws to ice the game for Cal Poly.

"We needed her on the court at the end of the game, just to have your money player on the court knocking down free throws for you," head coach Faith Mimnaugh said. "It was a solid game again; a team effort."

A team effort indeed. Every player who saw the court for the Mustangs scored. They had four different players post double figures. Clancy scored a team-high 17 points and guard Kayla Griffin added 12 points.

All helped the Mustangs' storied season continue for at least one more game. And with Pacific upsetting second seeded UC Santa Barbara 49-45, the Mustangs will play the Tigers Friday at noon in Anaheim.

"It doesn't matter who plays," Griffin said. "We got to take the same mindset into any game. We need to go out there, we need to handle business and we need to win — no matter who it is. Every game is going to be a battle. There are no easy wins from here on out."

We have to learn from the mistakes we made, because we will not win on Friday if we play like we did in the second half.

— Rachel Clancy
Senior guard

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