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TODAY'S WEATHER

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Ex-Cal Poly softball star, Roni Sparrey, pursues a career in coaching

IN SPORT, 14

ASHLEE!

The adventures of five grown men in a sea of adolescent infatuation

IN ARTS&CULTURE, 9



Volume LXVIII, Number 84

Thursday, March 3, 2005

Mustangdaily@calpoly.edu

For the Peace Corps, achievement comes with great sacrifice

From Armenia to Bangladesh, Cal Poly students and recent graduates share the benefits and drawbacks of enlisting

Caitlin Donnell
MUSTANG DAILY

This is the second installment of a three-part series about the Peace Corps. It examines the experiences of Cal Poly students and faculty who have been involved with the Peace Corps.

Shannon Alberta Maloney is a current Peace Corps volunteer serving in Bangladesh. She graduated from Cal Poly in June 2002 with a major in applied art and design and a concentration in photography.

Maloney has been in Bangladesh for 18 months as a Youth and Community Development officer which has her working as an English teacher at the Bangladesh Department of Youth Development.

"My experience with the Peace Corps has been overall very positive," Maloney said. "Peace Corps is the greatest challenge that I have ever faced and I know that they warn people that they'll be faced with many cross-cultural differences

but I was not prepared for the shock of living in Bangladesh."

Although working for the Peace Corps has been demanding, Maloney said the opportunity to live in a new culture, learn a new language and have the support of the Peace Corps through training and medical services has been incredible.

"It has been a challenge that many times, I have thought about quitting, but I continue for my students and for the people that I have become friends with," Maloney said. "This experience has also changed my life in the fact that I met my husband in Bangladesh, he is a fellow Peace Corps volunteer that I met during our training."

Unlike other volunteer activities, the Peace Corps is a two-year commitment, which students must be sure they can fulfill before volunteering.

Richard LeRoy volunteered in the Peace Corps in Armenia. LeRoy graduated from Louisiana State



COURTESY PHOTO

Dana Carson is an agriculture volunteer serving in Nicaragua. She works with farmers and agronomists to improve soil conservation.

University before going to Armenia. He then entered Cal Poly's graduate education program in counseling and guidance. LeRoy now works at Cal Poly as the Pacific Programs Director with International Education and Programs.

"Two years seems like a heck of a long time, but looking back now, for me, that two years was a blink of an eye," LeRoy said. "After the training I felt like I could survive, after a year I felt like I could be effective."

see Volunteers, page 2

Fighting a fat nation

The lack of healthy food in low-income communities prompted the creation of a program to educate children about nutrition and dieting

Amanda Samonte
MUSTANG DAILY

Thirty-one-year-old activist, author and chef Bryant Terry spoke at Cal Poly about poor diets and the accessibility of healthy food in low-income communities Thursday.

Inspired by the tactics of Black Panther's free breakfast program from the 1960s, Terry founded b-healthy!, an organization that educates children about cooking, diet, nutrition and social activism. He encourages young

people to take initiative to live a healthy lifestyle and influence policy changes to work toward a "more just food system."

Terry stressed that people in poor urban areas are not starving, but are deprived of healthy food resources. The quality of food available in markets reflects the affluence of the area.

"In all the primarily low income neighborhoods, I would see the same thing. No access to healthy food," Terry said. "I would go to a corner store, and all they would have was the highest sugar, commercially-processed junk food, and that bothered me."

He cited West Oakland as an example of a low-income area that lacked necessary resources for a healthy diet.

see Overweight, page 2



COURTESY PHOTO

Overweight children and minorities in low-income communities is mostly caused by unhealthy fast-food chains.

EVENTS CALENDAR

What: State of the Student Address. University President Warren Baker and ASI President Blake Bolton will speak on campus issues and goals for the year. The State of the Student Address is an opportunity for the community of San Luis Obispo to hear the ASI and university presidents address the current issues facing the student population, future endeavors of ASI and budget and academic issues.

When: Today, reception at 6:30 p.m. and speakers at 7 p.m.

Where: Chumash Auditorium

More Info: Call the ASI Student Government office at 756-1291

What: CSU Budget Summit. ASI Student Government, Cal Poly students and leaders and allies of education in the state of California will attend a meeting to discuss a response to the governor's proposed budget and a strategy to restore funding to education in the state. It's a great opportunity for students to engage in the statewide budget discussion, get involved with ASI Lobby Corps and communicate with our legislators and community on this issue.

When: Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Where: CSU Channel Islands (Camarillo)

More Info: Contact ASI Vice President Tylor Middlestadt at tmiddles@calpoly.edu or 756-1291. RSVP by 5 p.m. Friday. People will meet at ASI Student Government office at 6 a.m. Saturday to drive to Channel Islands, and will return to San Luis Obispo at about 10 p.m.

What: Open House Clubs Representatives meeting. This meeting is mandatory for all clubs planning on running a booth during Open House. Please come prepared to take notes and report back to your club. Attendance is taken and a raffle is held for all those in attendance.

When: Today, 11 a.m.

Where: Bldg. 3, Room 213

More Info: Call the Open House office at 756-7576 or visit the Web site: orientation.calpoly.edu/open-house

What: Emmy award-winning filmmaker to speak. The Cal Poly Young Democrats club will bring Saul Landau, an internationally-known scholar, author, commentator and Emmy award-winning filmmaker, to campus. He will show his latest short film, "Syria: Between Iraq and a Hard Place" and will discuss U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East and other areas of the world. Landau is known for his work on foreign and domestic policy issues, Native American and South American cultures and science

see Calendar, page 2

Volunteers

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LeRoy had gone to Mexico to do service trips when he was a freshman in college and said that he loved the experience of helping people. Having never traveled before, joining the Peace Corps was an altruistic kind of idea, he said.

"It was challenging going to a developing country," LeRoy said. "It wasn't so much the physical side of not having hot water or the cold weather, it was getting used to a different culture and learning about their intricacies and trying to be adaptable."

LeRoy volunteered in a small town with about 25,000 people inhabiting an area about the size of Cal Poly's campus. He taught English, had an after school English club and an English resource center where he was able to help three students earn scholarships to come to the United States during their junior year of high school.

Some of his best experiences and memories from the Peace Corps are from the relationships he made with the people of Armenia.

LeRoy said that Armenia was a hard place to be, not exotic like some of the other countries, but where a lot of people were facing a very hard life.

"I was very fortunate enough to meet and become friends with some of the most amazing people I've met in my life. Even though there were many people who were complaining about their hard life and who were down and difficult to be around, I was able to befriend some people who were really survivors, who had beautiful spirits, and they were hopeful and progressive and believed in the changes that are happening in their country and the education for their children," LeRoy said. "To form friendships with them meant a lot to me and it was like an oasis to me in that a lot of my experiences were challenging but then I had these little treasures."

LeRoy said that when he was a recruiter at Cal Poly in 1999, he would tell interested students that the Peace Corps is an incredible opportunity. To open your eyes to a new way of thinking, learn about a culture and share yourself is something most people do not get to experience.

Overweight

continued from page 1

"There is one supermarket serving 25,000 residents, these people don't have cars and they can't take a grocery cart onto a bus," he said. "There is one supermarket to 36 convenience/liquor stores and only three of which have fresh produce to provide a balanced meal."

The percentages for overweight children and minorities, especially African Americans and Latinos in low-income communities, are rapidly increasing. He said that fast-food chains are the culprits with lures that people, especially kids, cannot resist.

"Kids see like 100 ads for food every day," Terry said. "I ask, what do these things have in common? Sugar. Fast food. Junk food. None of these ads promote healthy food."

He also discussed peer pressure to eat unhealthy fast food. Coca-Cola and chain restaurants like McDonalds

are identifiably "American." Immigrants that come into the United States want to fit in, and therefore they consume these products regardless of health effects.

"When McDonalds infiltrated Japan there was this dramatic increase in obesity and skin problems," he said.

The Japanese were accustomed to eating whole, nutritious foods. When these fatty, processed foods are consumed on a regular basis, the outcome is always detrimental.

Diet-related diseases and health problems due to fast food are apparent, especially in the United States. Roughly one in four Americans will eat fast food on any given day.

Terry is working hard to counteract the influence of fast-food chain propaganda.

"I want to teach kids that food comes from the ground, not wrapped up in plastic."

His goal is to "create social change" starting with healthy eating habits.

Calendar

continued from page 1

and technology. He is an Emmy-winning documentary filmmaker who has made more than 40 films on social, political and historical issues as well as worldwide human rights.

When: Today, 7 p.m.

Where: Bldg. 52, Room B05

More Info: Call Shannon Ponak at (661) 716-11613

What: Student recital. Cal Poly instrument students will perform in recital. The performance is free and the public is invited.

When: Today, 11 a.m.

Where: H.P. Davidson music building, Room 218

More Info: Call the music department at 756-2406

What: Cal Poly's theatre and dance department will stage William Shakespeare's best-known tragedy, "Macbeth."

When: Today, Saturday and Sunday, 8 p.m.

Where: Spanos Theatre

More Info: Call Josh Machamer at 756-5560

What: Hearst Lecture Series. "Women in Architecture + Design.2," continues with award-winning architect and professor Mary-Ann Ray of StudioWorks. She will lecture on her work with Robert Mangurian. StudioWorks has also received multiple PA Awards and recognitions.

When: Friday, 4 p.m.

Where: Bldg. 3, Room 213

More Info: Call the CAED office at 756-1131



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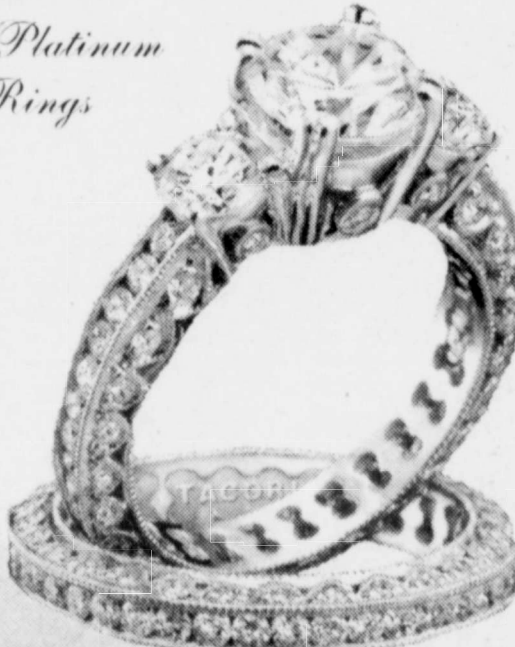
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STATE NEWS

RIVERSIDE — A Riverside County judge agreed Wednesday to let a former smoker sue Philip Morris USA, meaning a jury could hear the case as early as next week, the man's lawyer said.

Bruce Coolidge, 53, a former truck driver who began smoking Marlboro cigarettes when he was 12, filed suit against the Richmond, Va.-based tobacco giant

in July 2001 after he was treated for small cell lung cancer.

Coolidge is seeking to recover more than \$1 million in medical costs, as well as damages for pain and suffering. If he wins, he will seek punitive damages in a subsequent phase of the case, his attorney Timothy Prince said.

SANTA MARIA — Jay Leno has been subpoenaed for Michael Jackson's child molestation trial and he wants the judge to lift or limit the

gag order on participants because it's his job to comment on such matters.

Lawyers for the star of NBC's "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno" made the request in a motion filed in Santa Barbara County Superior Court on Feb. 18 and released by the court on Wednesday.

Applying the gag order to Leno would be prior restraint in violation of the First Amendment and the California Constitution, the motion said.

HALF MOON BAY — The vicious Northern California surf break called Mavericks played host to the world's most dangerous wave riding contest Wednesday, with Anthony Tashnick, 20, of Santa Cruz, taking top honors and claiming a cash prize of \$25,000.

Tashnick beat out some of the world's best big-wave surfers who were called to the once-secret surf spot by contest organizers just a day before the event.

—Associated Press

IN OTHER NEWS

ESCONDIDO — A man who recently had received radiation treatment for a medical condition set off a nuclear alert detector on a fire engine, prompting police to close down a roadway in Escondido while authorities searched for a nuclear weapon.

The Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District engine crew's radiation monitor sounded Tuesday when the man and his friend walked past the crew on their way to fill a gas can.

The Nuke Alert monitor sounded again as the men walked back to their vehicle.

Firefighters notified the San Diego County Sheriff's Department after they drove by the men's vehicle and the monitor sounded a third time.

Sheriff's deputies pulled over the driver and detained him and his passenger for about one hour while they confirmed that the man was not carrying a nuclear weapon and that he had received radiation treatment, according to Sgt. Robert Healey.

The man was described as a Valley Center resident in his late 40s or early 50s. His name and medical condition were not released.

The radiation monitor was purchased with Homeland Defense Department grant money and is used 24 hours a day on each fire truck in the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District, according to Capt. Dale Mosby.

—Associated Press

NATIONAL NEWS

WASHINGTON — With demonstrators shouting religious slogans outside, Supreme Court justices questioned, argued and fretted Wednesday over whether Ten Commandments displays on government property cross the line of separation between church and state.

Back-to-back arguments in cases from Texas and Kentucky were the

court's first consideration of the issue since 1980, when justices ruled the Ten Commandments could not be displayed in public schools.

WASHINGTON — President Bush increased pressure on Syria Wednesday, demanding it withdraw its troops from Lebanon, while Iran and its nuclear weapons program drew fresh U.S. criticism. Overall, the American rhetoric toward Damascus and Tehran was combat-

ive, reminiscent in some ways of the tough talk that preceded the U.S. invasion of Iraq two years ago.

WASHINGTON — House Republicans will propose tacking about \$1.8 billion in extra defense spending onto the \$81.9 billion package President Bush wants for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, according to data obtained by The Associated Press.

At the same time, GOP lawmak-

ers will propose cutting about \$2 billion from the State Department and foreign aid portion of the measure, including some Afghan reconstruction aid, said a congressional aide familiar with the emerging bill.

The measure also includes disaster-relief aid for Indian Ocean countries hit by last December's tsunami and other foreign expenses.

—Associated Press

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Talks aimed at forging a coalition government faltered Wednesday over Kurdish demands for more land and concerns that the dominant Shiite alliance seeks to establish an Islamic state, delaying the planned first meeting of Iraq's new parliament.

The snag in negotiations between Shiite and Kurdish leaders

in northern Iraq came as clashes and two car bombings in Baghdad killed at least 14 Iraqi soldiers and police officers — the latest in a relentless wave of violence since elections Jan. 30.

BEIJING — A cache of explosives at the home of a coal mine manager blew up in a town in northern China, killing at least 20 children at a nearby grade school, news reports said Thursday. The explosion occurred Wednesday in Kecheng, a

town in Shanxi province, one of China's biggest coal-mining regions, newspapers reported.

VIENNA, Austria — Declaring some sites off-limits to U.N. inspectors, Iran said Wednesday it fears that leaked information gathered by them could help those planning a possible strike on its military installations.

Meanwhile, the United States, which has not ruled out such an attack on Iran urged the U.N. Security Council to take action

against Tehran, saying the Islamic Republic is "cynically" pursuing nuclear arms while hiding its intentions from the world — an allegation Iran denies.

Jackie Sanders, chief U.S. delegate to the board of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the U.N. nuclear watchdog, made the comments in response to an update on Iran's nuclear record after more than two years of examination by the agency.

—Associated Press

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Academics, artists, others back file-sharing firms before court

Alex Veiga
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — Some of the nation's leading computer scientists and chip maker Intel Corp. are siding with file-swapping companies against the music and movie industries.

They were joined by tech firms and consumer groups, among others, in urging the U.S. Supreme Court on Tuesday to side with two online file-sharing firms in their high-stakes battle with Hollywood and the recording industry.

The tech firms and others argue that a court victory by the entertainment companies will stifle innovation in the technology sector.

The recording companies and movie studios are appealing to the high court to reverse lower court decisions that absolved Grokster Inc. and StreamCast Networks, which distributes the Morpheus file-sharing software, of responsibility when their customers illegally swap songs and movies.

The justices are scheduled to hear arguments in the case March 29.

In briefs filed Tuesday, Grokster, StreamCast and their supporters urged the court not to reinterpret the legal doctrine it established in the 1984 Sony Betamax case. At the time, the court ruled that Sony's

video recorder was legal because it had legitimate uses apart from making unauthorized copies of movies and television shows.

The entertainment industry has asked the court to reconcile the 20-year-old ruling to protect copyright holders it says are hard-pressed to safeguard their intellectual property in today's digital and online world.

"A rule like this will make it almost impossible for anyone to innovate or create new products unless they have the blessing of the copyright holders," said Grokster attorney Michael Page during a conference call with reporters Tuesday. "And when the copyright holders also control the distribution systems, that blessing will not be forthcoming."

A group of 17 computer science and engineering professors at nine universities, including Harold Abelson of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Edward W. Felten of Princeton and David J. Farber of Carnegie Mellon, stressed in their brief that they feared if the court sided with the entertainment companies it could chill technological progress in computers and the Internet.

"If this court should announce a more restrictive rule, those who cre-



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Eagles bandmember Don Henley testifies on Capitol Hill, Jan. 30, 2003 before a Senate hearing on a bill that would slow consolidation in the radio and concert industries

ate the latest advances in technology will halt or significantly scale back their work, for fear of massive copyright infringement damages," the professors' brief asserts.

Four consumer and public-interest groups also weighed in, arguing that any steps to change the Betamax doctrine would give Hollywood and other copyright owners the power to censor information technology that ultimately could benefit consumers.

Giving to colleges inches up

Despite a recovering economy, donations to universities are at a record high, with Harvard leading the pack in highest gifts

Justin Pope
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOSTON — After two years without growth, charitable contributions to U.S. colleges and universities rose 3.4 percent last year to a record \$24.4 billion, according to a report released Wednesday.

The increase was driven by a 9.7 percent increase in giving from individual donors, including a 21.5 percent surge in giving by non-alumni individuals. That offset a 6.1 percent decline in giving by foundations.

Among alumni, total giving rose slightly, but the percentage of alumni donating fell, as it has every year since 2001.

Harvard University led the list by raising \$540 million, according to the latest annual survey by the Council for Aid to Education, a unit of the RAND Corporation. UCLA, 10th overall, raised the most of any public university — \$262 million.

Alumni donations last year accounted for 28 percent of university giving, non-alumni individuals 21 percent, corporations 18

percent and foundations 25 percent. Foundations generally ramp up giving more slowly than individuals when the economy recovers, as it has in the last two years.

The remaining 8 percent was contributed by religious and other organizations.

Though the increase in overall contributions barely outpaced inflation, survey director Ann Kaplan of CAE called the results "not too bad," considering the decline in foundation grants,

which she expects to turn around.

The overall increase followed zero growth in 2003 and a decline in 2002.

Kaplan credited a stronger economy and more effective fund-raising.

"Fund-raising behavior has a strong effect," she said. "The No. 1 reason people make gifts is being asked. Without that, the economy's not going to have much of an effect on giving." Perhaps the best news for colleges and universities was the 21.5 percent increase in gifts from non-alumni donors often parents of alumni, community members or donors who want to back specific research. The increase suggests schools are succeeding in expanding their donor pools.

"The No. 1 reason people make gifts is being asked."

— ANN KAPLAN
director of CAE

The Seeking Christian Our Life in the Organism of the Christ

The book of First John is extraordinary. It is far outside the natural realm. It is written from within the body of Christ. John has not written it as an individual Christian but as a member of the organic, corporate Christ. This organism is Christ Jesus who is both the head and the body.

The Christian life was never intended to be an individual life but a life lived as an organic member of the body of Christ. You were born into this organic Christ when you believed in Jesus. It is a life where each member's life is a part of every other member's life. It is where your life is mine and my life is yours. Your sin is mine and mine yours. Your joy mine and mine yours. Your victory or defeat is mine. It is the you-life. Paul says it. You are members one of another.

So when John talks about fellowship in the first chapter, he is talking about this organic entity of God and man, Christ and His body. The Greek word fellowship (koinonia) literally means "common being." So he says that "our common being is with the Father and with His Son." John and those with him were living in the reality of that corporate and living entity of Christ and the body.

Most Christians believe that Jesus is the head of the body of Christ. How many know that Christ is also the body? When Paul was struck down to the ground and the Lord Jesus appeared to him, Jesus said, "Why do you persecute Me?" This shows clearly that the Lord Himself reveals that not only is He head but also the body. This is also clearly revealed in 1 Cor. 12:12 (For even as the body is one and yet has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is the Christ.)

John's desire, which is the Father's desire, is that all those whom He has called would also live in this reality. The genuine Christians were not called to live in a worldly, religious system. Nor were they saved to live an individual Christian life struggling to rise up to a standard that would please God.

They were designed to live in a free flowing life that elevated them above any kind of effort and simply bore them along. God intended and still intends to do it all. Jesus Christ was appointed and is the anointed One to accomplish everything God intended in every Christian. Any kind of effort is not acceptable. Remember the priests in the Old Testament were not allowed to wear wool because it caused sweat. Only linen was acceptable clothing for the priests.

As the New Testament priests, we too must not "wear wool." We are not to be perfected by the fleshly effort but by the free flowing Spirit in the body. (Gal. 3:1) It is the free supply of the eternal life which flows as a life-stream in the body that does it all.

But just like the blood in our physical bodies gives us life, the moment any member is cut off, it dies and decays. Since the Lord says through Paul that this organic Christ is the head and the body, the moment we are separated from the reality of the flowing Spirit in the body, we too die. Only in the organic Christ are we able to go on living, growing and being built up. Only there will we truly know God.

First John begins by showing John's desire that what he has seen and heard and his eyes have gazed upon and even his hands have handled, concerning the Word of life would be made known to every Christian. That is the eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to John.

To most believers the Christian life is a life outside of them made up of doctrines, regulations, methods, service, giving, preaching, prayer, Bible study, etc., etc. The most zealous one will give themselves to attend Bible school or seminary and become pastors or missionaries. Others serve in many other ways. But almost all do it in an outward way.

Few realize that the Christian life is the person of Jesus Christ who lives in the depths of their being as life. The Word of life is this Person whom John heard, saw and touched. The Christian today should live the same way by hearing, seeing and touching Jesus' life within them.

The big hindrance to living this life is sin. According to John if we say we have no sin we lie and the truth is not in us. What does John mean here by sin? The original word means to miss the mark. What is the mark John is talking about?

Romans 3:23 says, "All have missed the mark and come short of the glory of God." So the mark according to Paul is the glory of God. Glory is when God is expressed or displayed. When we live in spirit we hit the mark. Then we are expressing God and we are His glory.

It is not a matter of behavior but a matter of being. Christ is the organic divine life in the depths of our being. When we remain in Him, as the branch remains in the vine and express what kind of a vine it is, so we, by remaining in Christ, express what kind of person He is. (John 15:1-8) One of John's main burdens is that his little children abide in Christ and love one another. By this abiding they will love one another. Love is the expression of the life of God. Come, live this organic life of Christ with us.

The Seeking Christian

For Bible study information call 441-7665 | www.SeekingChristian.blogspot.com

Blacks, Hispanics more likely to be searched at traffic stops

Texas racial profiling study finds minority motorists are subject to a higher rate of random consent searches

Kelley Shannon
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN, Texas — Two out of three Texas law enforcement agencies searched black and Hispanic drivers at higher rates than white motorists at traffic stops in 2003, according to a racial profiling study released last week.

When searched, however, white motorists were at least as likely as blacks or Hispanics to be found with illegal items such as drugs or weapons, the report found.

The data were compiled from information more than 1,000 Texas law enforcement departments were required to record under state law. Most of the agencies responded to public information requests for the study.

The findings show large disparities between minority and white motorists who were stopped and searched, said Scott Henson, spokesman for the American Civil Liberties Union of Texas. "Now the question becomes: Why is that?" he said.

James McLaughlin Jr., executive director of the Texas Police Chiefs Association, said he hadn't seen the study, but that the findings didn't sound new.

"It's a replay of the reports that were put out a year or so ago," he said.

Such studies are generally flawed, he said, because they don't take into account factors such as the time of day a stop is made, the part of town and other variables.

"Does racial profiling occur? Yes, I'm sure it does and that's sad. Do I think it occurs to a great extent? No, I do not," he said.

The study's recommendations include adopting uniform reporting standards for racial profiling data; requiring extra data to be collected by police agencies; and establishing an independent statewide repository for reports.

The report also recommended banning consent searches — when an officer seeks a motorist's permission to do a search to look for illegal items, even if there is no probable cause. The study found three out of five Texas police agencies were more likely to ask blacks and Latinos than whites for a consent search.

The report conducted by Steward Research Group was commissioned by the ACLU of Texas, NAACP Texas, the Texas Criminal Justice Coalition and the state chapter of the League of United Latin American Citizens.

"This report confirms what communities of color live with on a daily basis," said Ana Yanez Correa, spokeswoman for the League of United Latin American Citizens.

College officials angry over Bush's cuts to farm research

Under the president's proposed plan, funding for programs at land-grant institutions would be phased out by 2007

Malia Rulon
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Bush budget cuts would hit important research programs that examine everything from soybeans and dairy production to cattle viruses, agriculture school officials complained to Congress on Tuesday.

Frederick Cholic, dean of the agriculture college at Kansas State University, said the cuts threaten the original mission of the 75 land-grant schools, which were created by Congress in the 1800s to use public money on shared agricultural research.

Under the Bush plan, funding for three programs on farming, forestry and animal health, mainstays at land-grant institutions for decades, would be slashed from \$200 million this year to \$100 million next year and nothing in 2007.

Some money — about \$70 million — would be available to schools through competitive grants, but school officials say the change would be so sudden that about 2,000 jobs nationwide would be lost immediately. The cuts also would destroy a network of research collaboration that allows states to work together to thwart agriculture diseases and develop better practices.

"If everything goes competitive, then it's everybody for themselves,"

"It's not just about farmers. Anybody who eats ought to be concerned about this."

— BEN STEELE
Penn State dean of agriculture

said Bobby Moser, dean and vice president of the agriculture college at Ohio State University. "We lose the network."

Moser and about 120 other school officials and agriculture research supporters fanned out across Capitol Hill to lobby their hometown lawmakers in favor of the programs. The schools use the money to study both national priorities — food security, pest control, obesity, waste management — and local issues, such as cattle diarrhea in Wyoming, dairy breeding in Pennsylvania and which pesticides to use at macadamia nut farms in Hawaii.

"What kind of partnerships would

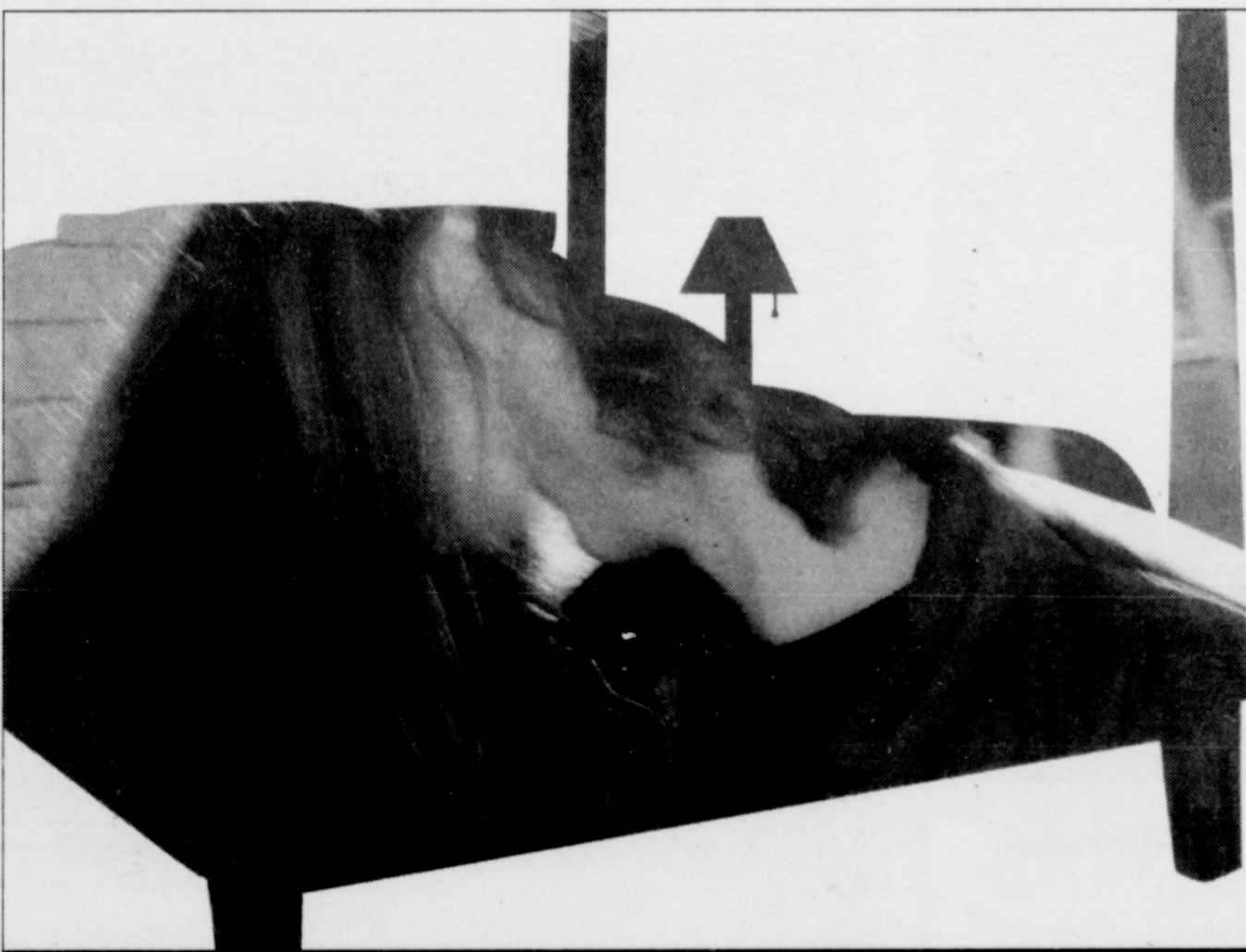
we have in the future?" Cholic said.

He said the network paid off last November when the first U.S. case of soybean rust, a fungus that can reduce harvests, was found in two Louisiana State University research fields. The school was able to get word immediately to researchers across the country for what to look for and how to stop the spread.

"If we don't have a network, a system, then we don't know what's here and we can't respond," Cholic said. "These formula grants are the glue that holds the system together."

Bob Steele, dean of the agriculture college at Pennsylvania State University, said the cuts also would affect students and, ultimately, consumers. "You are putting at risk an abundant food supply and an affordable food supply and a safe food supply," Steele said. "So it's not just about farmers. Anybody who eats ought to be concerned about this."

Agriculture Department spokesman Ed Loyd said the Bush administration is proposing the two-year transition to competitive funding because it would eliminate duplication. "We believe we can attract the highest caliber scientist and also be able to focus on a lot of more critical research issues by going to a competitive grant system," Loyd said.



UNDER FOUR? OR SAYING "I DID WHAT?"

52% of students never experience memory loss due to drinking. The average CP student drinks less than 4 in a sitting.



Stewart: Out of jail and back to the kitchen

April Vitello
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ALDERSON, W. Va. — From scrubbing floors to raking leaves, Martha Stewart spent the past five months performing the sort of tasks ordinarily done by the hired help.

She also foraged for dandelions and other wild greens, concocted recipes in a microwave, even ate from the vending machines, heaven forbid.

That could all come to an end as early as Friday, when the foremost authority on gracious living gets out of prison in time for the spring gardening season.

Instead of working for pennies a day at the Alderson Federal Prison Camp, Stewart will once again collect her \$900,000-a-year salary while serving five months of home confinement at her Bedford, N.Y., estate for her part in a stock scandal.

Margaret Roach, editor in chief of Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia, tells fans that Stewart has passed the time in prison much as she does at home.

The terms were just redefined: "Exercise" has meant walks around the prison grounds with daughter Alexis and a nightly yoga class with fellow inmates. "Crafts" became crocheting, creating a ceramic Nativity scene and taking part in a Christmas decorating contest.

During her stay at the women's prison in the Appalachian hills nearly 300 miles from Washington, Stewart was on maintenance duty, scrubbing floors and cleaning offices. Some inmates complained to the tabloids

that she was given a cushy job, claiming the 63-year-old Stewart was spared snow-shoveling duty.

Some of the tabloids said Stewart skirted the rules behind bars, stealing crabapples from trees and taking eggs from the dining hall to make egg salad in her room. Some inmates even took to calling her the Contraband Queen for allegedly hoarding items off-limits to prisoners in their rooms. (Her lawyer David Chesnoff said he had not heard such allegations.)

By many accounts, prison workers found her to be a pleasant inmate. She even posed for pictures with fellow inmates' families.

"So what if she lost the decorating contest or took some condiments?" said Alderson store owner Betty Alderson. "I think people are looking for dirty laundry."

TV producer Mark Burnett, who is working on a new show with Stewart, said recently on "Oprah": "She hasn't complained once about being in jail. The afternoon I was there, she was going to get a job cleaning the floor waxing machine. Imagine that job. But Martha didn't complain. She said, 'Gimme some paraffin, turpentine and a wire brush and I'll get right to it.'"

The celebrity homemaker also showed a softer side, writing about the plight of some of the 1,100 other inmates. "Many of them have been here for years — devoid of care, devoid of love, devoid of family," she said, urging people to press for reforms



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Martha Stewart attends the CFDA Fashion Awards, at the New York Public Library, June 7, 2004

in the sentencing guidelines for non-violent first-time offenders.

Alderson resident Neta Roush said she is interested to hear what Stewart has to say about mandatory sentencing. "I really feel she will open a dialogue into this, which is a long time coming," Roush said.

Stewart entered prison on Oct. 8 as federal inmate No. 55170-054. Among her visitors were Barbara Walters.

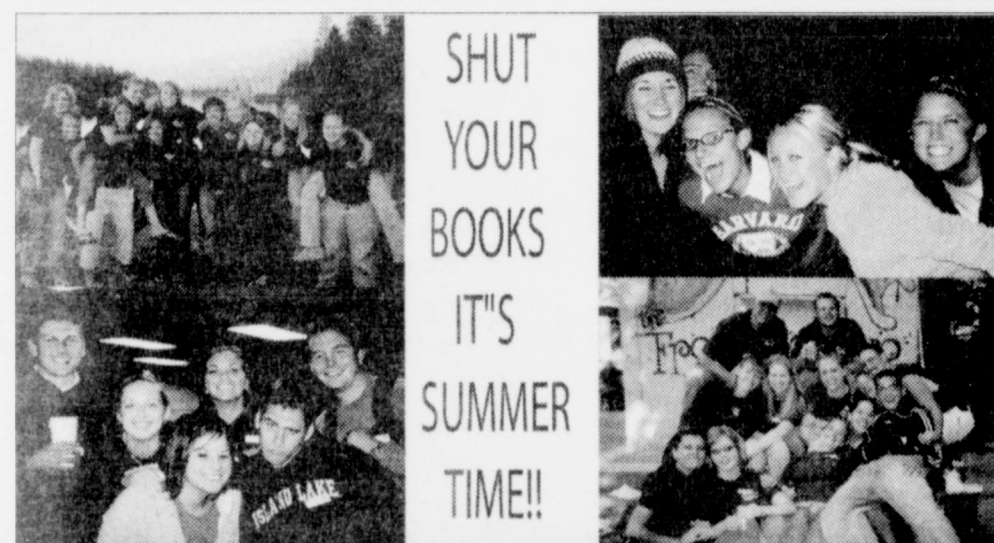
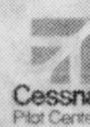
Stewart posted a few letters on her Web site, www.marthataalks.com, thanking fans "again and again, for your support and encouragement." Her last posting was at Christmas: "I am fine and looking forward to being home, getting back to my valuable work, to creating, cooking and making television."

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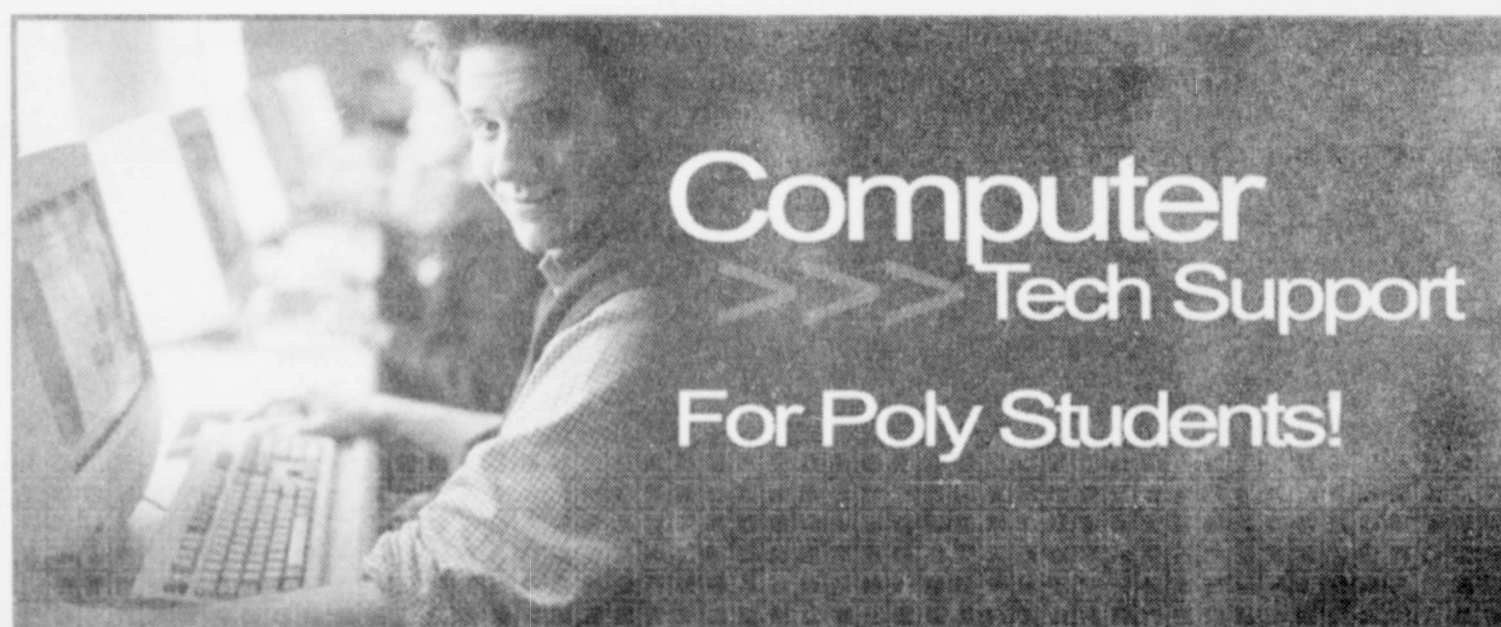
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Division Day's SLO debut

ARTS&CULTURE

Thursday, March 3, 2005 7



NICK COURRY MUSTANG DAILY

Los Angeles-based Division Day played the Dwelling last week and filled the place with spontaneous rock off of its album, 'The Mean Way In.' The album was recorded at Tiny Telephone Studios in San Francisco.

Nick Courry
MUSTANG DAILY

The show ended with frontman Rohner Segnitz falling into the drum set.

Division Day, a rock quartet from Los Angeles, introduced themselves to San Luis Obispo Friday night at the Dwelling. Its set was beautifully out of sync, making up song titles on the spot and loud bouts of controlled noise with Rohner Segnitz hitting drum cymbals with his hands.

The band, who took its from an Elliot Smith song, consists of Segnitz (vocals and keyboards), Ryan Wilson on guitar, Seb Bailey who plays bass and auxiliary guitar and drummer Kevin Lenhart.

Three of them met at Los Gatos High School, and added Wilson when he and Lenhart roomed together at UCLA.

Its latest music effort, "The

Mean Way In," is a six-song record full of haunting melodies and imagistic lyrics. It was recorded and produced at Tiny Telephone Studios in San Francisco with friend and producer/engineer Alex Oana. The album consists of mixed abstract allegories and metaphors.

"I've always written in terms of imagery," said Segnitz. "This record was made during a period of intense struggle. For me, that context colors its contents more than any one factor. It's about the transition into adulthood." There is complex simplicity to the art of music.

The band makes use of a highly underappreciated instrument, the electric piano. Segnitz uses it to further the atmospheric quality of the music.

The simplicity on the album is also heard in the style of Wilson's guitar.

"Mick Jones, of the Clash, was a

big influence on my guitar playing growing up. He played a lot on one string, really minimally, but he knows how to place guitar riffs, Wilson said. "I think that's sort of what the guitar on "The Mean Way In does," is just there to help the song do what it needs to do to be a good song and nothing more."

Aside from its own instruments, Division Day adds sounds from relatively anywhere, even from television.

"There's a melody during the keyboard part in Bad Black Moon, (they are chamberlain strings on the record), that's lifted straight from the "Twin Peaks" soundtrack."

With funk-style drums and several flowing melodies, "The Mean Way In" is a good listen for fans of any genre.

Division Day plans on releasing a five-song record toward the end of spring.

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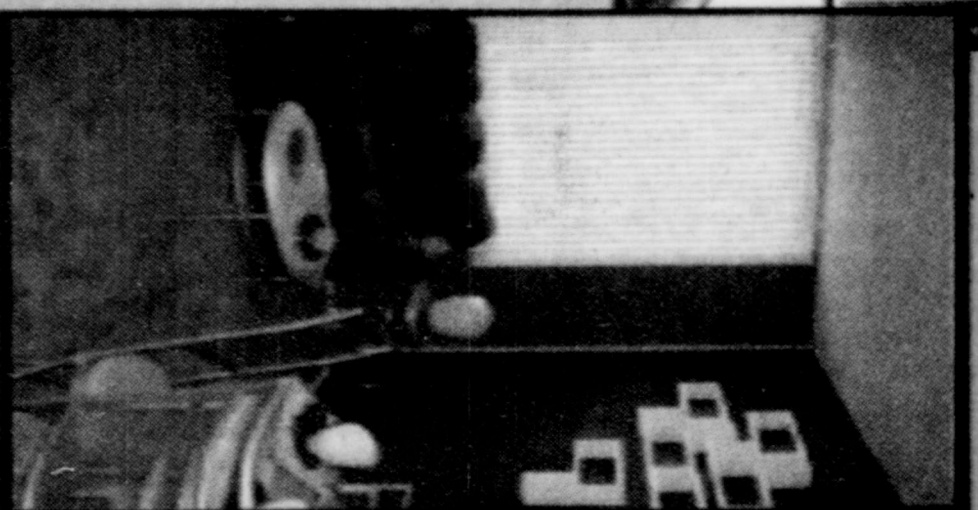
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THE ASHLEE EXPERIENCE

5 Dudes

2,173 Girls with braces

1 ASHLEE!



Like Lewis and Clark before us, our trip would prove to be the adventure of a lifetime
By Devin Kingdon

I went to an Ashlee Simpson concert, OK? There, I said it. Many that are reading this story are already feeling sick to their musically-snobbish stomachs and are probably turning to the next page. But for those of you that stick around, I will explain just how brilliant the "Ashlee Experience" was.

From the initial planning stages, to the ticket purchase, to the drive to Los Angeles and the thousands of little girls in braces, "Ashlee Simpson Live In Concert" was an event we will not soon forget.

Our slightly sick love for Ashlee was born back in the summer of 2004. The "Ashlee Simpson Show" filled those lazy summer days with images of Ashlee not knowing how to clean the kitchen, making out with Ryan Cabrera and her debut album, "Autobiography," opening at No. 1 on the Billboard Charts. But our true love for her didn't blossom until we first heard "LaLa."

After drinking a 40 or two of Old English, we'd proceed to "lala" on the kitchen floor, kicking and screaming, wishing we were the ones throwing her "like a lineman."

We masked our obsession for Ashlee with bands such as the Killers, Arcade Fire, the Futureheads and Phoenix, but we followed Ashlee closely from the shadows.

We secretly hoped she would make it through the Saturday Night Live backing-track fiasco and we silently cursed the thousands of football fans who booed her half-time show during the Orange Bowl

— granted, she did sound terrible, but that's inconsequential. We enjoy Ashlee for her semi-hot looks and slightly large nose. We like her silly personality and her "pseudo-punk" hair and attitude, not because of her vocal abilities.

The idea of going to see Ashlee was born in early January. While looking at Ticketmaster's Web site for Franz Ferdinand tickets, I saw that our favorite dark-haired pixie was hitting the road, probably as part of a PR campaign to salvage her tarnished image. I called around and quite a few friends were interested. We didn't want to go just to hear her sing, we wanted to go for the pure joy of saying we went.

The final crew consisted of business senior Darren Key, history senior Nate Hamm, political science senior Bryan Esterly and UC San Diego senior Greg "Bilbo" Tolan, known for his hobbit-like good looks and tremendous "lala-ing" skills.

As I returned to Ticketmaster's Web site, I hesitantly typed in my credit card number, feelings of anticipation and guilt rushing through my fingers as I entered each of the 16 digits. As the confirmation appeared on the screen, I let out a deep breath; I was going to an Ashlee Simpson concert.

see Ashlee, page 9



10 Thursday, March 3, 2005

Ashlee

continued from page 9

In the weeks leading up to the concert, every Friday night at 8:15 while at a pre-party, party or bar we'd look at each other and say, "In exactly four weeks, we will be there."

People would ask what I was up to this coming weekend and I would simply answer, "I'm going to an Ashlee Simpson concert."

Everyone thought I was joking — until they saw the tickets.

Most reacted negatively; they couldn't believe we would spend money on someone like Ashlee. I got a couple "Wow, I hate you right now" looks, and also a few "You are f---king ridiculous." Girls were jealous, and others reacted with only slight bemusement.

However, regardless of their reactions, they all wanted a phone call during the show, most of which even had specific songs they wanted to be called during. For example, civil engineering senior Robert Moody wanted to be called during "LaLa" and history senior Jessica Dickinson wanted her call during "Autobiography" or "Pieces of Me" (They both got their wishes).

Next on our pre-concert agenda were custom T-shirts for the show. Seeing as we would probably be the only twenty-something males not escorting girlfriends to the concert and were going to stick out like sore thumbs over the minions of small children, why not do it in style?

We bought iron-on paper from Staples the day of the concert and brainstormed various puns and double entendres based on her song titles for the shirts. Five were finally decided on. Mine read "Ashlee, I want a 'Piece' of You." Key's read "I am your 'Shadow,'" Esterly's said "ashlee is my homegirl," Hamm's said "Ashlee, be a part of my 'Autobiography'" and Bilbo's read "You make me want to 'LaLa.'"

That done, we loaded up the car and headed down Highway 101, blasting the Ashlee Simpson MP3s we downloaded.

With all the negative press she had been getting lately (petitions asking her to stop singing, the Orange Bowl incident, bashing courtesy of Avril Lavigne, etc.), we weren't sure whether we actually wanted her to sing live or not. We all preferred that she lip sync so she had sound just like the illegal MP3s on our iPods.

Three and half hours later, we pulled into the Universal Amphitheater parking lot and began our tailgate party, featuring two fifths of rum and some hot Frisbee action.

Upon finishing the rum, we strutted down the Universal Citywalk, flaunting our Ashlee T-shirts. We got some funny stares, some screams of excitement from



COURTESY PHOTO

Ridiculousness abounds as five college seniors hang out with brace-faced teenagers at an Ashlee Simpson concert in Los Angeles. The youngsters were fascinated by our age and undaunting zeal for Ms. Simpson.

teenage girls and some requests for photos. We stopped at a Mexican restaurant filled with brace-faced girls and their parental chaperones.

We took our shots — they drank Shirley Temples.

We paid our bill and continued our hazy march toward the amphitheater, stopping to take pictures with various security guards and Ashlee-look-alikes.

We handed our tickets to the attendants and headed for the beer line (a really short one at that), which was filled with parents.

I recognized one of the moms from the Mexican restaurant and rushed up to her, sensing a free drink in my future.

I asked her what was going on and she said, "I need to get liquored up fast 'cause I'm not going to make it through this show sober."

I agreed wholeheartedly and laid on the charisma.

"Why would I buy you a drink?" she said.

"Cause you are the coolest mom ever. All the cool moms buy drinks," I replied.

She gave me a look of hesitation, but still purchased me a Jack and Coke.

She got a hug — I saved \$9.

Drinks in hand, we headed to our seats, located in the very last row. We pushed past a few couples and a lot of small children to our seats. A group of 13-year-olds in front of us were enthralled by our age and our t-shirts. All of them looked up at us with their gleaming metallic smiles, and were filled with questions about what exactly we were doing there. A simple "We freakin' love Ashlee, don't you?" sufficed.

Around 9:15 (we think) the lights came down and pubescent screams filled the building.

Our sweet Ashlee emerged

singing "Autobiography." We rushed down to the railing, attempting to sing along, but mostly laughing at the ridiculousness of the situation.

She hopped and jumped around through her roughly hour-long set that included multiple costume changes. It didn't appear that any lip-syncing took place, but the use of a backing track on some of the chorus' might have been implemented.

We forced our way down to a lower level, but security threatened to call the "sheriff" and have us thrown out. We moved to another section, listened for a bit and encountered security again. We tried to convince them to let us go down further, but they could smell the booze on our breath and weren't having any of it.

The concert featured highlights such as the whole venue singing "Happy Birthday" to her father, and spotting Nick and Jessica near the sound booth. TV crews from her show wandered around and even filmed a few of our T-shirts. As the concert drew to a close, we walked into the lobby with dreams of getting backstage and meeting up with her. We got backstage passes from ThermaSilk shampoo (her tour sponsor) but alas, like the promises in its commercials about heat-blocking, "Passes to Heaven" were just shampoo samples.

This, however, didn't stop Esterly and me from throwing them around our necks and stiff-arming little girls as we yelled "Move it, we've got backstage passes!"

After the novelty of pushing little girls around wore off, we headed

outside. Key found an abandoned wheelchair and demanded that I sit in it. More than happy to oblige, I plunked my bum down and he pushed me toward the exit. Security stopped us about three minutes into the ride and yelled, "Hey, you can't be pushing that."

I was about to jump out of the chair, but instead another security guard came to push me the rest of the way.

He asked, "How'd you injure yourself?" My only response: "I hurt myself lala-ing. I lala-ed way too hard."

He looked slightly confused, but he took my statement as fact and away we went to the parking lot. Along the way, I giggled with delight as I asked random people to "High-five the cripple with stupid sunglasses on?" and "Give it up for Ashlee!"

As we neared the lot, I knew I couldn't let him escort me all the way to the car so I jumped up and sprinted through the crowd, leaving my chariot behind. My friends, unaware this was going to happen, had a nice, awkward moment with the wheelchair pusher. Had it been completely silent, they could have heard crickets.

As we pulled out of the parking lot, heading toward Hermosa Beach with Ashlee's sweet voice echoing in our ears, we knew our adventure had come to a close.

While no real physical encounter with Ashlee ever occurred, we did at least get to breathe the same air as her. And that, in itself, is something we'll savor for years to come.

"I need to get liquored up fast 'cause I'm not going to make it through this show sober."

— RANDOM MOM
chaperone to six girls at the concert

PEOPLE
IN THE NEWS

All the hot celebrity action you want



ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — It's not always easy to cast an Oscar winner in a TV role, but Oprah Winfrey did just that for "Their Eyes Were Watching God."

Although they're friends, Winfrey said she was "a little nervous" about asking Halle Berry to star in the film — which airs Sunday on ABC (9 p.m. EST) — because she had won an Oscar for "Monster's Ball."

"I don't know what happens to you once you win an Academy Award," Winfrey told reporters recently, according to AP Radio. "I didn't know whether she was going to be, like, 'Now I have an Oscar. I'm sorry. I cannot talk to you.' No, she's too sweet to do that. But I didn't know whether or not she would be interested in doing television."

Winfrey, who frequently champions books on her daytime talk show, produced the TV movie adaptation of the novel by Zora Neale Hurston.

"My grandmother taught me to read, and the information that I received in books allowed me to see at a very early age that there was a life beyond my front porch," she said.

...

ALICE SPRINGS, Australia — Ozzy Osbourne sent his congratulations to Prince Charles on his upcoming marriage to Camilla Parker Bowles.

Charles was in Alice Springs Wednesday during a five-day tour of Australia that has been overshadowed by scrutiny of his wedding to Parker Bowles, which has fazed some observers because the couple's romance began before Princess Diana died.

Osbourne weighed in on the issue while in Sydney to host the first MTV Australia Video Music Awards, calling Charles a "mate" and saying he should be allowed to marry Parker Bowles in peace.

"It's his business you know. His first wife got killed so what's he expected to do, be single for the rest of his life? If he likes her and she likes him or whatever, good luck on them," Osbourne, the former lead singer of Black Sabbath, told reporters.

Charles, the 56-year-old heir to the British throne, has a hectic agenda on his last official trip before his April 8 wedding, cramming five Australian cities into as many days.

—Associated Press

Download of the day

Jesse McCartney
"Beautiful Soul"

Sure, 17-year-old McCartney may not write his own songs or play his own music, and he may be a former member of the ridiculous boy band Dream Street, but the first single off his debut solo album picks up where "MmmBop" and "I Want It That Way" left off — and it's as addicting as it is sugary-sweet.

Courtesy of Ashlee "The Bodie" Ventura

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COMMENTARY

Students unite to act locally, globally

As tsunamis pounded Asia and East Africa last December, sweeping hundreds of thousands of people to their deaths and displacing millions of others, Americans were left to wonder: How can we help the victims and why should we care?

In a world of midterms, papers, cell phones and partying, the weight of such a question might seem hard to grasp for Cal Poly students who are isolated and removed from the devastation of the tsunamis.

The waves annihilated entire villages, orphaned thousands of children and destroyed the resources of completely impoverished areas. News organizations report that roughly 280,000 died, which is 16 times the student population of Cal Poly.

"That picture of how many people died scares me," political science junior Melanie Rhoads said. "Regardless of culture or location, we are all human beings and with that I believe we have an obligation as citizens of this world to help others."

Rhoads is one of the many Cal Poly students who have taken action locally to help provide aid for victims across the globe. Rhoads helped organize the "5-km Tsunami Fund Run-Community Helping Community," which takes place at Laguna Lake Park from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and costs \$25 per person.

Two speech communications classes, taught by professor Nina Truch, abandoned their curriculum this quarter to raise funds for the relief effort. They will host a poker tournament Friday and a 5-km run Saturday.

One hundred percent of the proceeds, which are being handled by VeAhavta, a local relief organization that focuses its efforts in Sri Lanka, will be used primarily for medical and immediate humanitarian relief.

"Every person who is helping with this has the perspective that students in San Luis Obispo can in fact do something to help those across the globe in Sri Lanka," Rhoads said.

Erik Parkinson, founder and president of VeAhavta (which means "you shall love" in Hebrew), said that helping those in need not only benefits the deprived, but also helps Americans find meaning in their own lives by establishing perspective about what matters most in human existence.

"Our society has fallen off track — materiality and possessions are valued over people," Parkinson said. "If that's all you have, then it's a very hollow life. People should get involved because there's nothing more meaningful than relationships."

Parkinson, a local attorney in town who works unpaid for VeAhavta, got involved in relief efforts in 2000 after he met a Sri Lankan priest who asked him to raise \$20,000 for an orphanage in Sri Lanka. Within five years, Parkinson established the non-profit, raised hundreds of thousands of dollars more to help those in the impoverished area and said he realized that anyone was capable of making a difference.


"It's not just about writing a check," said Parkinson, who returned from Sri Lanka Sunday on a tsunami relief trip. "Anyone can do it. They don't have to have money, only the desire to help."

Parkinson is planning another trip to Sri Lanka with VeAhavta this summer, and said that Cal Poly students interested in relief work may join him. The only expense volunteers would have to pay is airfare, which is anywhere from \$700 to \$1200.

"It's a huge chance to help others, as well as help themselves," Parkinson said. "They'll find that relief work will hugely enrich their life in ways they won't be able to imagine."

For more information about the poker tournament this weekend and the 5-km run, contact Nina Truch at 756-5683 or ntruch@calpoly.edu. To register for the run, sign up at www.you-shall-love.org.

Carrie McGourty is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily columnist. E-mail her at cmcgourt@calpoly.edu.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ASI fee increase not worth the students' money

It has come to my attention that ASI is going to hold another fee referendum next quarter. This fee will be used largely to renovate the UU and provide more club services. While that sounds nice, there is not enough student voice in the fee proposal. These things are not important enough to raise fees.

I recall taking a survey early in the year about club services. The survey compared two different ideas about refurbishing the UU and creating new buildings, and asked the survey taker to choose between the two. The survey taker did not have the option of choosing neither, or choosing not to raise fees. I'm guessing this survey will be used to say that students approve of the changes ASI is proposing, but students taking the survey never had the option of saying "this whole thing is too ridiculously expensive — to hell with it all." We will only get this opportunity next quarter — we did not have the opportunity to stop ASI before they started.

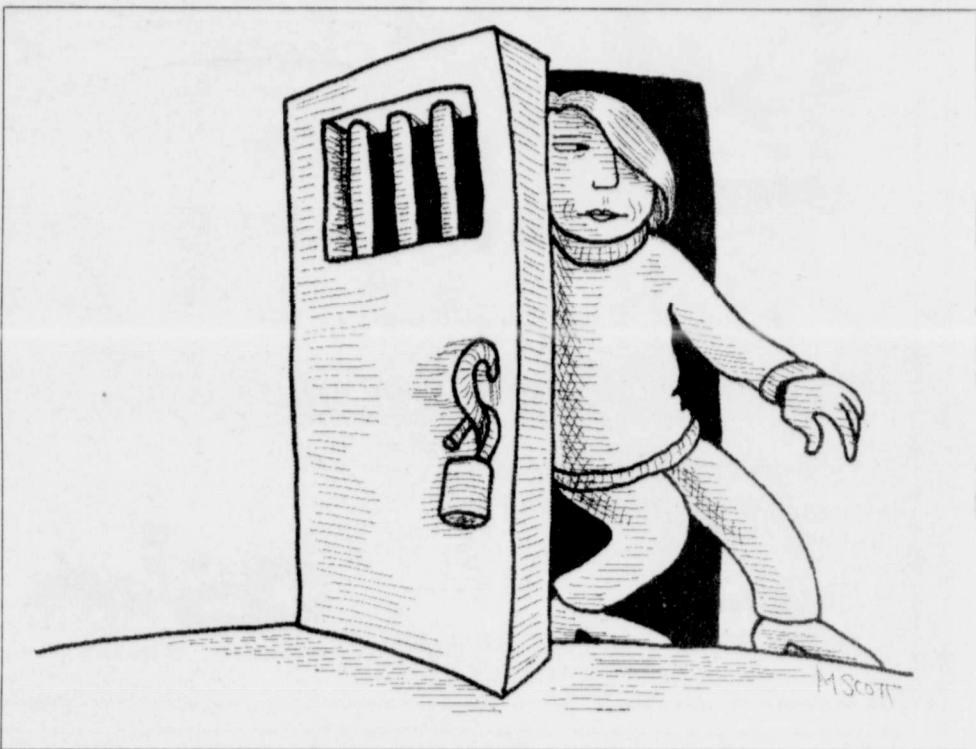
When I started here as a freshman, I paid less than \$800 a quarter to attend Cal Poly. This is a huge jump compared to this year's fees, and fee raises like this only contribute to that. It will not be too long before it's damn near impossible for a working family to afford to send their kids to college. We have a responsibility to put a dent in that.

When you get the opportunity in the next few weeks, vote no on the fee increase.

Matt Sutter
History junior

Nazis were more than the authors of the Holocaust

I think it's interesting that Ms. Saltoun, the community director of the Anti-Defamation League, managed to take offense to a disclaimer



MARGARET SCOTT NEWSART

that it would seem was meant to do the very opposite. I would argue that the Nazi symbol is not a universal symbol of the Holocaust. The Nazi symbol is universally understood as the symbol of the Nazis. The distinction isn't actually that subtle.

While the Nazis are most remembered for the atrocities they committed in the Holocaust, they were more than simply the authors of said atrocity. To reduce them to so simple a definition is to forget entirely what led up to the Holocaust. They were evil. They were geniuses. They suppressed democracy and human rights. They were methodical. And they were very, very evil.

The cartoon may or may not have been out of taste. However, that does not keep the Nazis from having qualities other than being the most evil, vile mass murderers in history. It would seem that the cartoon in question was invoking these other qualities. People may need more education about the Holocaust, but this is an elementary point.

Jeff Comer
Polymers and coatings graduate

Sanitized expressions water down serious problems

Collateral damage, non-combatants, preventive war, regime change, ethnic cleansing, globalization, free trade market, global

warming and bioengineering.

Euphemisms ... rattling off just a few of today's favorites leaves my head spinning. In our modern era of technical jargon and comforting sissy speak, it is no surprise that the most pressing issues of the day have been watered down for PG audience approval. These so called euphemisms, pervaded by today's television broadcast networks, are dangerously subversive. Speaking analogically, this euphemistic system functions like sunscreen at the beach — protecting us from the natural, yet harmful UVA and UVB sunrays, while still allowing us to enjoy the pleasant beach environment.

Unfortunately, most good things don't last. Just like sunscreen at the beach, you always need to reapply. Avoiding the reality of a situation tends to become expensive, metaphorically speaking that is. Take global warming, for example. Euphemistic terms like this are far too pleasant to warrant a manifested response. The word global, right away renders the subject of discussion irrelevant. Any topic of such broad scope is too far fetched for the average self absorbed American to really be concerned with. And warming is such a nice word.

After all, who wouldn't want a few more beach days?

Peter Keegan
Political science senior

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The Mustang Daily staff takes pride in publishing a daily newspaper for the Cal Poly campus and the neighboring community. We appreciate your readership and are thankful for your careful reading. Please send your correction suggestions to editor@mustangdaily.net.

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opinion@mustangdaily.net

By mail:
Letters to the Editor
Building 26, Room 226
Cal Poly, SLO, CA 93407

MUSTANG DAILY

Graphic Arts Building, Suite 226
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March 3, 2005
Volume LXVIII, No. 84
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printed by University Graphics Systems

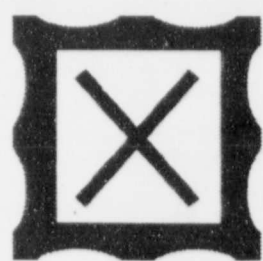
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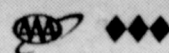
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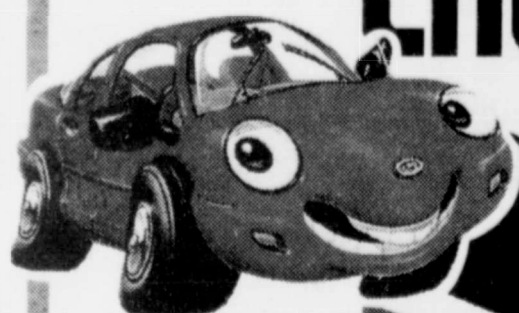
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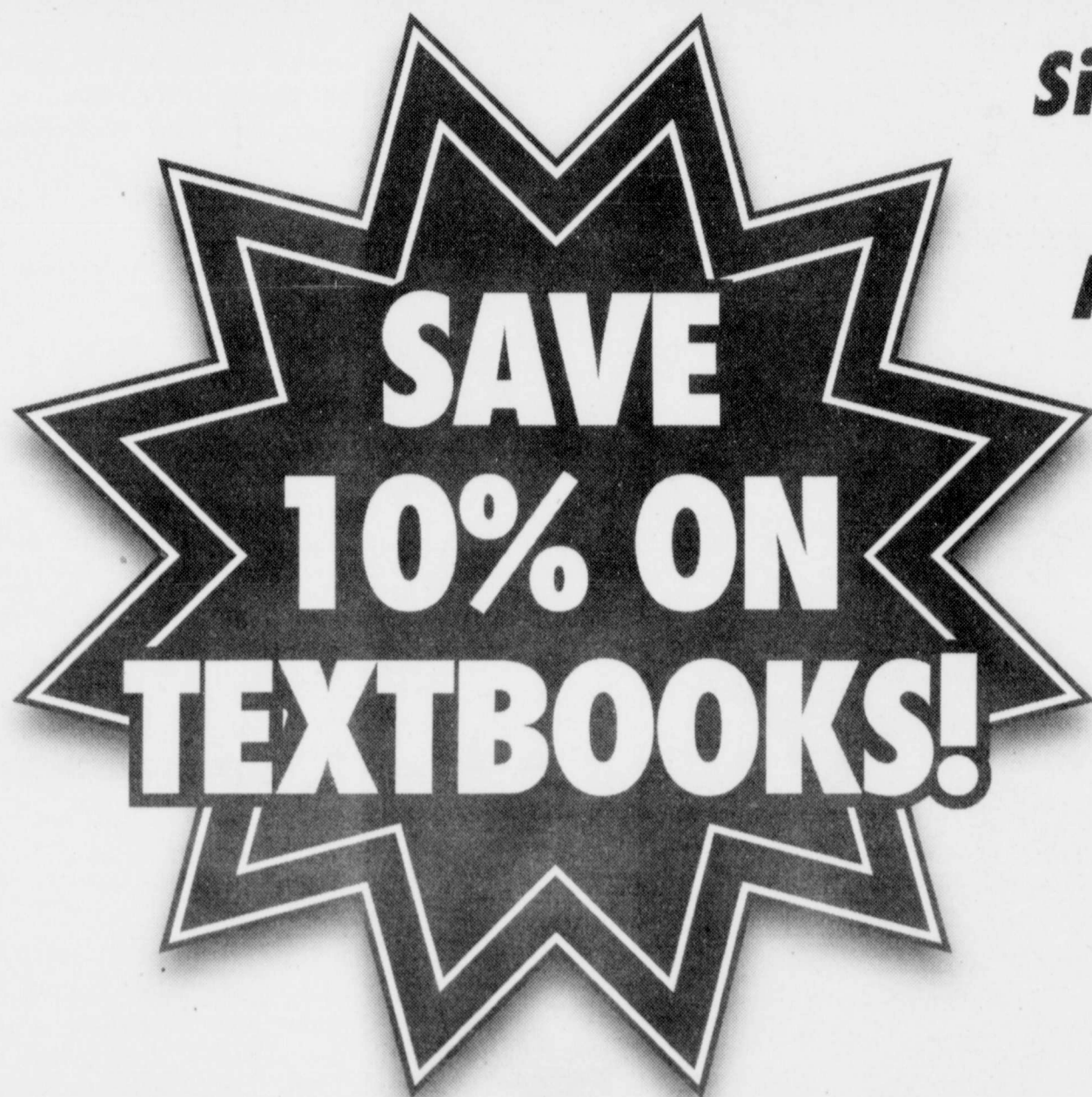
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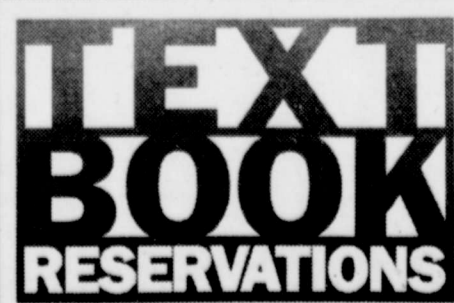
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Sparrey stays on the field of play

One of Cal Poly's most talented ex-softball players is still contributing to the team as a student assistant coach

Kristen Oato

MUSTANG DAILY

At 13 years old, Roni Sparrey discovered her passion. Although she didn't know at the time, Sparrey would eventually play and coach college level softball.

Though she cites her dad as her primary influence to begin playing softball, the game took on a life of its own. Little League games soon turned into much more. Within a year, Sparrey was hooked. She joined a traveling softball team, as well as her school's teams.

"My dad was my coach when I started. He was the driving force behind playing; he kept me going," Sparrey said.

Sparrey played softball throughout her high school career. When it came time to apply for colleges, she had little doubt about the Cal Poly team.

"I liked the team a lot. Although there are a lot of reasons, I just knew Cal Poly was a really good fit for me," Sparrey said.

The softball team was very different back when Sparrey joined as a freshman more than four years ago. While she had a couple peers on the team, Sparrey joined a pre-established tight knit group of girls who had been playing together for a while. Sparrey was undeterred.

"When I first started, the girls were so close and really good friends ... It was obvious from an outsider than the girls had fun on and off the field. Their chemistry was awesome," Sparrey said.

Instead of being intimidating and cliquey, the intimate nature of the team immediately warmed to new players like Sparrey.

"The transition from high school to college was so easy. They



MATT WECHTER MUSTANG DAILY

Roni Sparrey immediately found a closeness with Cal Poly starting freshman year prompting a desire to one day coach. Now, she's pursuing it.

made us feel very comfortable," Sparrey said. "All the players were so encouraging. There was no element of jealousy or tenseness that is sometimes present on college softball teams. It made it easier to come in as freshman."

As time passed, the team's closeness only intensified. Today, many

of the girls are still good friends. Sparrey loved the atmosphere so much, she contemplated a future in coaching. Freshman year was the first time she had actually seriously considered a career as a softball coach.

"I just knew I loved the sport so much," she said. "I watched the

coaches, and could see they all shared the same love for the game I had. I've known for awhile this was something I wanted to pursue."

Throughout her time as a Recreation Administration major at Cal Poly, Sparrey never lost sight of her focus. When she graduated at the end of winter quarter, Sparrey stuck with her plan. She applied and became the student assistant coach for the Cal Poly softball team.

"It's different because the coach's voice can be heard. It can be a very rewarding job. It's nice to see something that happened directly as a result of something that you did," Sparrey said.

This season, Sparrey entered into the unique position of coaching her

teammates. Although she was a little apprehensive, Sparrey has not had a difficult time conducting her internship as coach.

"It's awesome. I love the girls. There are some seniors on the team who have played with me since high school," Sparrey said. "The job is definitely a lot easier than I expected, in terms of coaching and interacting with people."

Seniors Chelsy Stoufer, AmyJo Nazarenus, Eva Nelson and Erin Myers have all played alongside Sparrey for a number of years.

"Roni is a great coach. She's calm and relaxed, and doesn't take anything too seriously," Stoufer said. "She really does lead by example. It's not that different for me as a player, just because I've known her as a teammate as well."

Sparrey agrees that coaching her old teammates isn't difficult. However, the view from the side-

lines has given Sparrey a completely new perspective on the game.

"The way I look at things has definitely changed a little since I took this position. Now I can see all the work that goes on behind the scenes," Sparrey said. "As a player, I did not really have a firm grasp on all the paperwork, and other things that go on outside of practices and games. I didn't know all the hard work that goes on concerning things like the budget or the recruiting process."

Coaching the team instead of playing also allows Sparrey to experience a different type of gratification.

"It's rewarding to just be out there, and be able to watch them play. The feeling I get from seeing someone get a hit is deeper as a coach," she

said. "So much time goes into coaching, and it's a great feeling to know that the things I'm doing are helping the team's performance."

There are other new additions to the coaching staff this year. Coach Jenny Condon and assistant coaches Keira Goerl and Ali Viola complete the softball team's staff. Both Sparrey and the players said the coaches have significantly contributed to the team's dynamic outlook.

"The new coaches have significantly changed the team. They brought a more energetic, vocal approach to coaching," Sparrey said. "I've learned so much from them already. They have fresh, new ideas that really contribute to the team attitude. Just working in that atmosphere has really helped me learn."

see Sparrey, page 15

COMMENTARY

The party's on hold for linebacker Jordan Beck

Jordan Beck knows better than to start celebrating.

When the NFL Draft takes place in New York, April 23-24, the middle linebacker and all-time leader in tackles for Cal Poly will quietly watch at his apartment to see if he is among the 224 players selected over seven rounds. After all, he wouldn't want to be embarrassed.

"I had a friend who had a draft party and didn't get drafted," Beck said. "I don't want to be like that. I'll just be low key."

Beck's definitely a laid-back guy, simple enough to not have a cell phone, cable television, or a car until this quarter. The Santa Cruz Sentinel reported that Beck wore a suit for the first time in nearly four years when he accepted the Buck Buchanan Award, in December, as the best defensive player in Div. I-AA.

Still, it wouldn't have been surprising to see someone with Beck's credentials gloat during the past few

months. Heck, Tuesday night, when I spoke with Beck, he had only been home for half an hour after returning from the NFL Pre-Draft Combine in Indianapolis, where he had four busy days.

They went well.

"If what I'm hearing is correct, then he helped himself," said Mustang coach Rich Ellerson, who has received second-hand reports and speculated that Beck's combine performance moved him up half a round as a pick, possibly into the latter part of the fourth round.

Beck withstood the drug, psychological and physical tests, bench pressing 225 pounds 25 times (an average showing, he said), scoring a respectable 32 out of 50 on the NFL's IQ exam, the Wonderlic Test

and running his best 40-yard dash in 4.6 seconds, unofficially.

He also talked to several linebacker coaches and had a meeting with Philadelphia Eagles' head coach Andy Reid, a laid-back guy, Beck said. Then on the combine's final day, Tuesday, Beck endured five-and-a-half hours of workouts, after getting up at 5:30 a.m.

"We were kind of scheduled like cattle, herded around," Beck said.

It was different than the East-West Shrine Game that Beck played in Jan. 15. There he spent the preceding week practicing for the game, initially unsure if he belonged, and occasion-

ally working with the offensive scout team. He also bonded with his roommate Wendell Hunter, a defensive tackle from Cal.

Whereas Hunter and Beck had philosophical discussions late into the night following Shrine practices, Beck only saw his roommate at the combine, Howard cornerback Rommie Bartell, a couple of times. Beck talked more, every night via cell phone, with his Cal Poly roommate and Mustang teammate, Kyle Shotwell.

"I was kind of like his correspondent for all these people who wanted to know how he was doing," Shotwell said.

There is no guarantee, however, that Cal Poly football's prodigal son will be drafted. Although an NFL scout assured Beck at the combine that it would happen, Beck faced scores of players there and was among a minority from little-known football schools.

Among 967 players listed on the Draft Tracker on ESPN.com, Beck is

ranked in the middle, one of nearly 400 players (including fellow Mustang Ben Cobian) who have a scout score of 30 out of a possible 100, although it's worth noting that barely a hundred players scored above 70.

Additionally, it could be harder for Beck if he is drafted in the sixth or seventh round by a team already packed with linebackers, as opposed to if he is not drafted and gets to pick a club as a free agent, like former Cal Poly cornerback David Richardson did last year.

"The draft is one day, it doesn't guarantee you anything," Ellerson said. "You still gotta go make the club."

Perhaps there will be a party when that happens.

Graham Womack is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily assistant sports editor. Email him at galexand@calpoly.edu or catch him on KCPR 91.3 FM on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. as part of "That Freakin' Sports Show."



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Sparrey

continued from page 14

Stoufer said, "The coaches have changed everything this year. They have made a huge difference in the way we play and interact on and off the field."

As for her future, Sparrey would like to continue to coach softball.

"I'll stick around for spring, but

after that I'm going to try to get my foot in the door. I would love to get a job as an assistant coach in California somewhere," Sparrey said.

"Honestly, I'd be grateful for the opportunity to work as a coach anywhere. As for now though, I'm in a great place. This is right where I want to be."

friday
FLASHBACKThe New York Times
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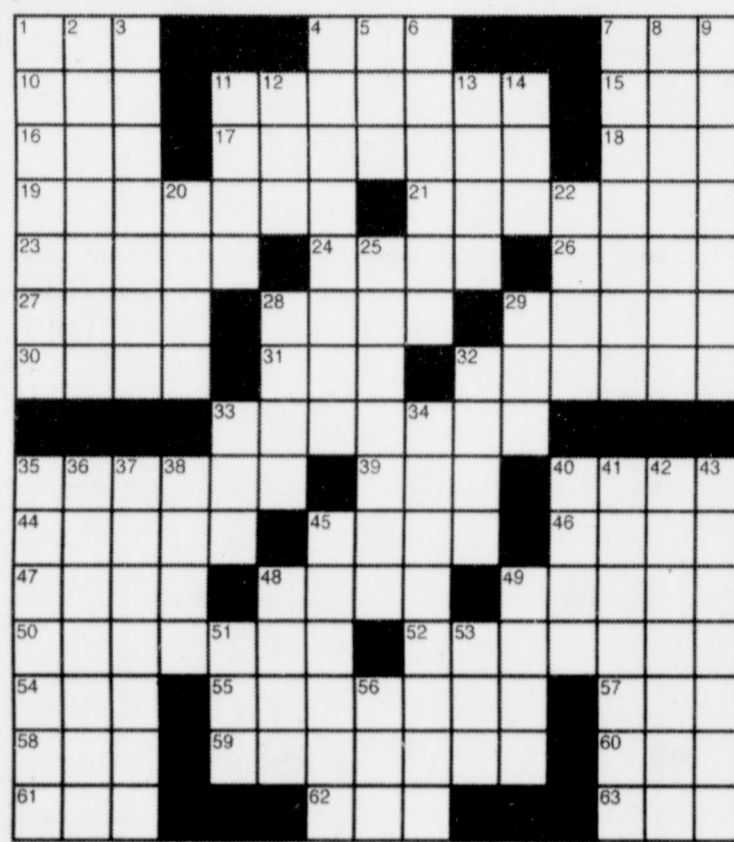
ACROSS

- 1 Appear
4 KLM competitor
7 Promulgate
10 Help the crew
11 Paprika-powdered serving
15 One doing checks and balances?
16 Election day: Abbr.
17 "Not true!"
18 TV cartoon dog
19 Stain
21 Bicycle maker since 1895
23 Some sports cars, for short
24 "Out of Africa" novelist Dinesen
26 Niche at Notre Dame
27 Baltic Sea viewer, maybe
28 Rudiments
29 Cleaning cloths
- 30 Letters in Icelandic
31 "Yay, team!"
32 Patronizes, as a restaurant
33 Make compact, with "up"
35 Groups on horseback
39 Parking place
40 Particle flux density symbols
44 Quechua-speaking
45 79 for gold, e.g.: Abbr.
46 Neither this nor that, in Peru
47 Rob Reiner's father
48 Chichén _____ (Mayan city)
49 Hearts
50 Gossipy group
52 Lug
54 In place
55 Horace's "Ars _____"

- 57 What's brewing, perhaps
58 Tolkien monster
59 Tempers
60 Knave
61 _____ degree
62 Lily Tomlin character Edith
63 Shaker _____, O.

DOWN

- 1 Gallery event
2 Terse verse
3 Like L, alphabetically
4 Where to order tekka maki
5 Like
6 Some dips
7 Newspaper publisher who founded the United Press
8 Briny expanse
9 Most pale
11 Beats it, out of the city
12 Not needing a prescription: Abbr.
13 Twisted
14 Restrained laugh
20 Some are wild
22 "You're going too fast for me!"
25 "Hogan's Heroes" sergeant
28 Meteor paths
29 "Do _____ Diddy Diddy" (1964 #1 hit)



Puzzle by Manny Nosowsky

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

NOV BIOTA SOAPY
ERA IDIOM TOMEL
ZEN BALLOON PARK
DCL SEEN DDE
ONE HIT BULBOUS
WALLOON PAPER
STLO DEI VISA
CARTOON WRIGHT
HSIA TOA IATE
DRAGOON STRIP
SWEEPER DETECT
OHM RUSH NEW
LAMP POON POST IQS
OMAHA GAMER TON
NOSIR ENEMY HMO

- 32 Opposite of endo-
33 Upper body: Abbr.
34 Occidental, e.g.
35 Harasses
36 Ready for anything
37 No-go at the track
38 A dash, maybe
40 Kitty
41 Time for one doing time
42 Words of emphasis
43 Some pot scrubbers
45 Acropolis figure
48 Pointer's target
49 The New Yorker cartoonist Addams
51 Marienbad, for one
53 D with 50% off
56 Number of one-voweled, seven-letter words in this puzzle

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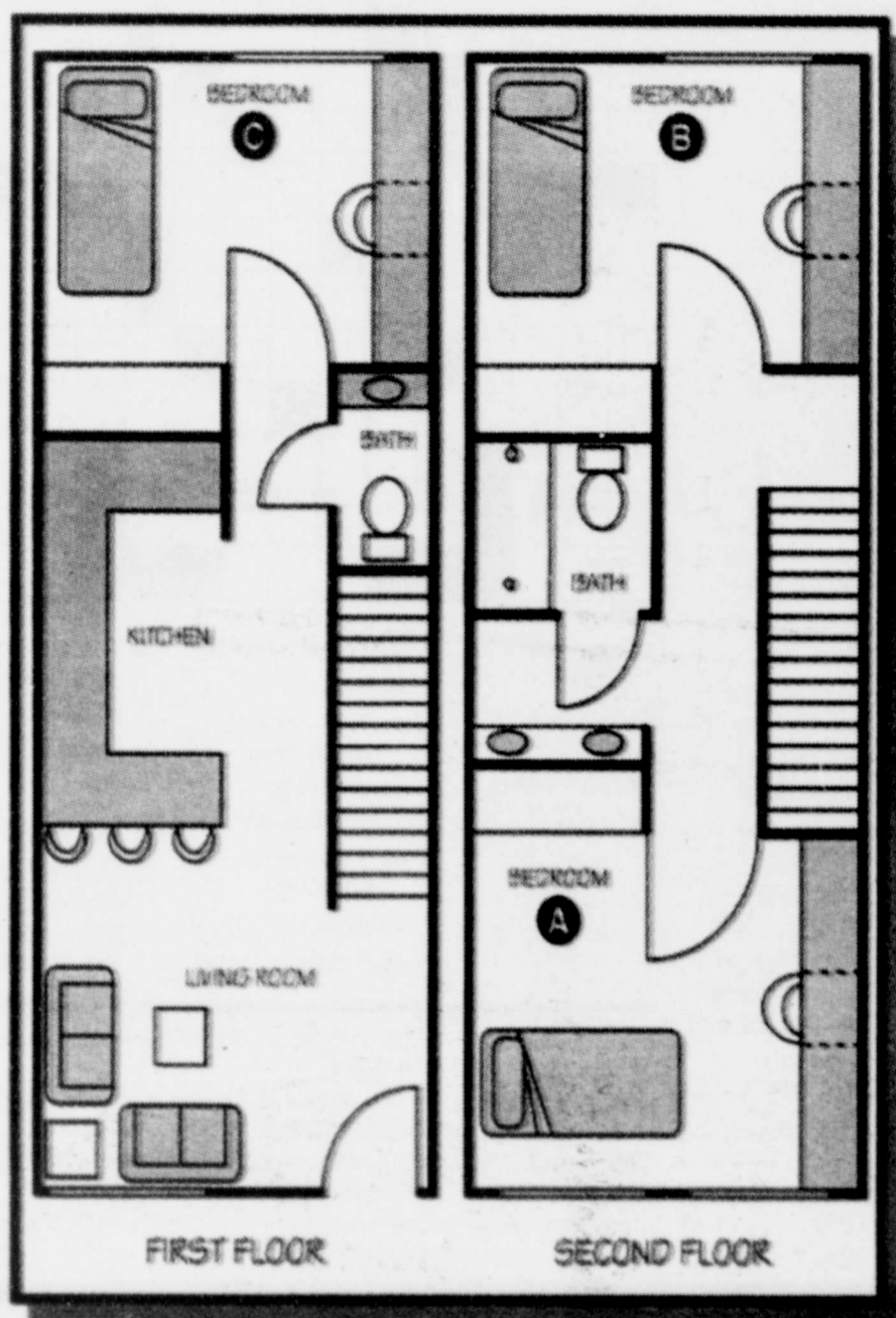
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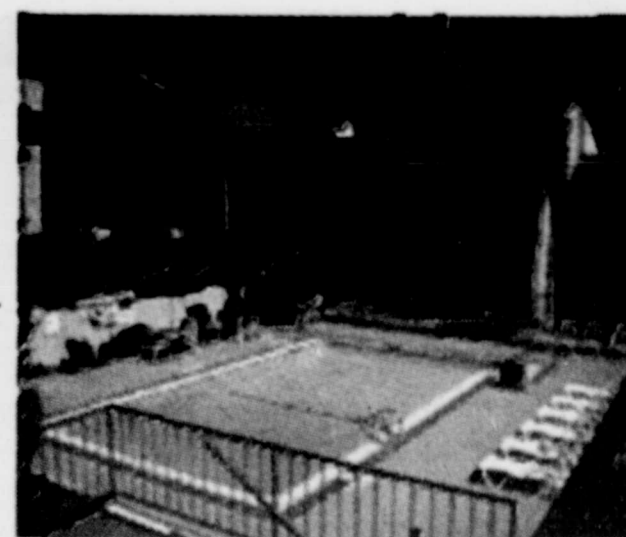
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