

MUSTANG DAILY

1916

CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY

2007

Today's
weather



Partly sunny
Low 44° High 59°



Poly women's
basketball team
continues to roll

IN SPORTS, 12

'Pirates' ship docks
in Morro Bay harbor

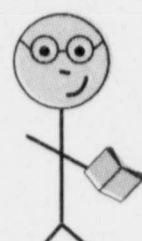
IN SPOTLIGHT, 7



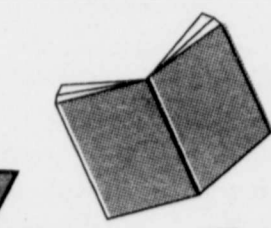
Volume LXX, Number 94

Monday, February 26, 2007

www.mustangdaily.com



Publisher



Bookstores

El Corral

Alternatives

Web sites
Aidas
Facebook

MONICA YAMAMOTO MUSTANG DAILY

The truth about textbooks

Amanda Retzer
MUSTANG DAILY

On average, students pay about \$900 per year on textbooks, according to a survey done by the California Student Public Interest Research Group (CALPIRG). This is equivalent to 20 percent of in-state fees, not to mention five percent of a new

2007 Ford Mustang or 128 Gus' Deli sandwiches. Obviously \$900 can be used in many different ways, so why are students forced to pay so much on textbooks?

The textbook process is long and complicated. The journey begins with the publisher. Big monopolizing corporations set high costs, making it hard to lower these prices as the textbook chain continues. From the publishers, we travel ahead to book outlets such as on-campus, off-campus and used bookstores. Here the prices are modified even more to account for convenience, quantity and availability.

Then we reach the question: Where should students buy their books to get what they need at a reasonable price?

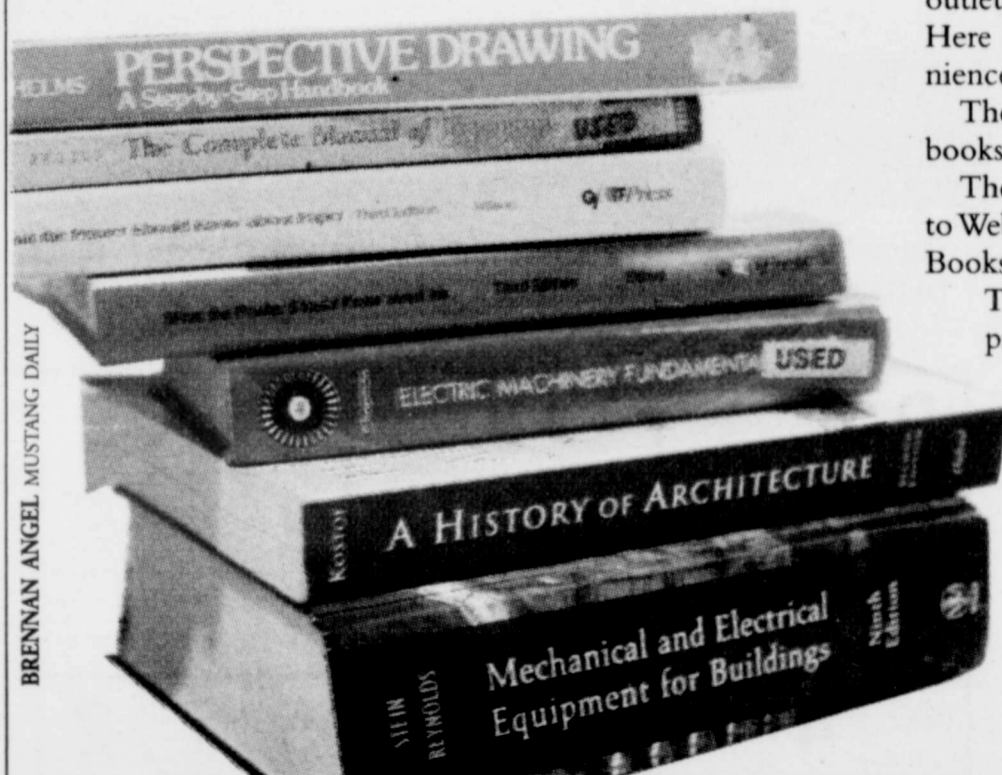
The options are no doubt endless, from El Corral Bookstore to Web sites like half.com and even facebook groups such as "No Bookstore: Buy Back from Each Other."

This is where students can make their final decision, with price being one of the main concerns.

For Cal Poly specifically, main contenders for textbook competition are El Corral Bookstore, Aidas and online Web sites. Prices vary among them and a common misconception is that the bookstore is out to rip off students. However, the bookstore is not necessarily behind the high prices.

"The bookstore is only making pennies on the dollar from book sales," said Associated Students Inc. President Todd Maki.

see Textbooks, page 2



BRENNAN ANGEL MUSTANG DAILY



BRENNAN ANGEL MUSTANG DAILY

Mark Marchesseault, an aerospace engineering major, works with two VITA volunteers and business students to prepare his tax returns for free.

Locals put taxes in the hands of accounting students

Taylor Moore
MUSTANG DAILY

Free income tax preparation prepared by Cal Poly business accounting students, faculty and community certified public accountants continues this month through the Orfalea College of Business educational and community program Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA).

The program aims to give students vital learning experience while helping the community. VITA provides its services only to community members who are unable to pay for tax services, non-English speakers, the elderly, the disabled and those with a low income (under \$40,000).

"(The program) is for people who cannot generally afford tax assistance," said business administration junior Mark Skeehan.

The program is run nationally and sponsored by the Internal Revenue Service. Cal Poly's program receives additional sponsorship from the Cal Poly business department and the California Franchise Tax Board.

VITA was established more than 30 years ago and has been present at Cal Poly for 15 years.

At Cal Poly, VITA is run as a business course, which requires many prerequisites before students can participate. The class is only offered during winter quarter, when most people are preparing for tax season.

More than 90 students are involved in the program, and all of them receive senior project credits for their involvement, said Norinne Morris, the administrative assistant for the accounting concentration.

see VITA, page 2

Clock ticks to approaching financial aid deadline

Donovan Aird and Dustin Pritchard
SPECIAL TO THE MUSTANG DAILY

For students struggling to make ends meet, or are wondering how they're going to be able to pay their way through next quarter, the Financial Aid Office is there to help.

The time to apply for aid is now, says Mary Ann Hinkle, Cal Poly's Federal Family Education Loan Program Manager.

The deadline for completing a Free

Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for next year is March 2, and according to Hinkle, it is something all students should consider.

"There is no reason not to complete a FAFSA," said Hinkle, who has worked in the Cal Poly Financial Aid Office for 28 years. "It's the perfect time to be applying. There's no excuse; it's free to apply. You can always say no to what we offer, but you'll never know if you don't apply."

Those who miss the deadline will miss

certain grant aid, work study, and Perkins loan opportunities, and will not be eligible for scholarships from the school.

While a loan must be repaid, scholarship money is a student's to keep. The school's scholarships, which average \$1,000, are from many sources. Students who complete the FAFSA on time will be considered for general scholarships and others that are specific to their major Hinkle said.

see FAFSA, page 2

COMING
UP...
EVENTS
CALENDAR

What: Take part in a health professions potluck, hosted by the Health Professions office. A public health nurse will be guest speaking. Sign up with the center in advance.

When: Monday, Feb. 26 at 6:30 p.m.

For more info: Contact the College of Science and Math Advising Center at (805) 756-2615.

What: Compete in the Rec Center's Racquetball Tournament, which is open to anyone for a fee of \$2. Sign up online or at the Rec Center's front desk.

When: Tuesday, Feb. 27 from 6 to 11 p.m.

Where: The Rec Center's racquetball courts

For more info: Call Fallon Frye at (805) 756-6044.

What: Hear "Full House" actress Jodie Sweetin speak on her struggles with alcohol and methamphetamines during her college years.

When: Tuesday, Feb. 27 at 8 p.m.

Where: Chumash Auditorium

For more info: Contact ASI Events at (805) 756-1112.

What: March downtown with Cal Poly's Black Student Union as a part of Black History Month.

When: Thursday, March 1

Where: Farmers' Market in downtown San Luis Obispo

For more info: Contact the Black Student Union at bsu@calpoly.edu.

VITA

continued from page 1

Business senior Michael Bonfante said that not only does the program give him the necessary senior project credits but also allows him to figure out what he wants to do after he graduates.

"It's given me a better understanding of the process of preparing returns," Bonfante said.

Janice Carr, a business professor and VITA program coordinator has been running the program since its start at Cal Poly. She said the program has been a huge success at Cal Poly because students are not only practicing what they have learned in classes, but they are gaining self-confidence in communication and their tax skills as well.

"Students work in pairs and change partners every week. We (the faculty) are there to help students if they have questions, but we do not deal with clients," Carr said.

The program begins with a four-week training course for students. Two classes — taught by business professors Carr, Michelle Bissonnette and Jack Robison — provide the enrolled students with mock tax situations, essential software training and allow students to get familiar with the tax preparation process.

After only two weekends, VITA has had a successful turnout. During the second VITA session, students completed close to 103 returns and word about their services is spreading throughout the local community.

Being so early in the tax season, Bonfante and other students are expecting an even bigger turnout in the next few weeks. Carr said that last year, near the end of the program, VITA was assisting 150 to 160 people a day.

For those participating in the program, VITA mirrors what a real job after graduation will be like. Students are required to abide by a professional dress code and converse with each individual person as they would a client.

Cal Poly's VITA offers assistance in Spanish as well. This quarter, there are nine business students fluent in Spanish who are able to help the non-English speaking community. All forms are available in Spanish as well.

VITA takes place every Saturday until March 17, from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Business building, room 306. Anyone in the community can participate if they meet the requirements. No appointments are necessary.

Textbooks

continued from page 1

The main factor behind the range in textbook prices lies in the hands of the professors. The bookstore asks teachers for their textbook requests two months before the quarter begins. This gives the bookstore enough time to "know which books to order and to buy books earlier so they can go through used bookstores," Maki said.

Only 15 to 20 percent of faculty request textbooks by the deadline, resulting in higher prices for students.

"If we get a requisition form two weeks before classes, we might be able to get them here by the first day of classes, but that doesn't leave time to order from used bookstores," said Cindy Giambalvo, the courseware division manager for El Corral Bookstore. "We are competing with all the other schools at used bookstores."

This means that if teachers don't put in their order forms on time, most of the used books are already gone, leaving the bookstore knocking at the doors of the original publishers, a much more expensive option. This then pushes up the prices for students, hence the \$900 per year average spent on books.

This is also a problem at local popular bookstore Aidas, located on Foothill Boulevard.

"Teachers could save students a lot of money," Aidas manager Jane Rasmussen said. "When they place their orders only a couple weeks before the next quarter starts, it affects how long we have to search for used books, then we run out of the time and we have to buy new textbooks."

This also affects the ability for the bookstore to buy back student's books at a reasonable cost. If they don't know if a professor will require the same book of his students for the following quarter, then the bookstore can't invest in buying back the books at a higher price.

And while teachers can ultimately lower the prices of textbooks for their students, it is not yet the perfect solution.

"They ask for our book orders by week three (of the previous quarter), and sometimes you haven't decided what you want to use yet for the next quarter," philosophy professor Rachel Fern said. "They want you to decide, and once you order the books, you're

committed to that material."

A textbook solution

ASI has been looking at all sides of this issue, and has developed a task force that will "look into the feasibility of developing a central publicly accessible Web site which will provide information about textbook requirements and alternative formats and pricing of textbooks for Cal Poly courses," according to the "Resolution on Textbook Pricing," from the Cal Poly Academic Senate.

In addition, students have many other places to look for lower prices. Aidas offers textbooks at cheaper prices than El Corral.

"We try to carry as many used books as we can and with the used books come lower prices," Rasmussen said. "But we also compare each price to make sure the books are lower than what the students are getting on campus."

Web sites like www.screwthebookstore.com and www.half.com give students a convenient online option with perks such as free shipping and future discounts.

"The primary function of screwthebookstore is to save students money both on the buying and selling end," cofounder Kirk DeClark said. "While we don't have exact figures on the dollar amount saved, our best estimates lie somewhere around \$600,000 since the site started."

Ancillary benefits include avoiding lines at the bookstore, selling editions that the bookstore will no longer buy back, meeting new people, and letting the bookstores know that it's not OK with Cal Poly students that they gouge them on prices.

Other ways to help lower book prices is for teachers to avoid automatically requiring new editions of books that have minor and mainly insignificant changes. This also applies to books that come in large packages with CD-ROMs and one-time-only passwords. Faculty can suggest these packages but not require them, making it easier for bookstores and students to purchase used texts.

Blackboard and e-reserves can be used to post sections of books and scanned material so an entire book doesn't need to be purchased. Other schools have even looked into providing bookstore credit to teachers as an incentive to turn in their textbook request forms on time.

FAFSA

continued from page 1

The starting point to fill out a FAFSA is online, at www.fafsa.ed.gov. If students are dependent, they must have a parent assist in the process, requiring a PIN for both. The process can be lengthy, but "well worth the time," according to Beverly Sunseri, FFEL's assistant loan manager.

"It's a win-win situation for a student," Sunseri said. "A student stands to gain a better chance at free money for college expenses in the way of grants, scholarships, work study, and subsidized Stafford Loans where the government pays the interest while the student is in school."

As paying for college has become increasingly more difficult and complicated, it is important for students to consider all options at their disposal, as the average debt incurred by a Cal Poly graduate is \$16,000, Hinkle said.

Though dependence on private loans has increased in recent years, a development Hinkle called "unfortunate," she encouraged students to take advantage of Stafford Loans the school offers.

A Stafford Loan is a federal loan given to students as a form of financial aid, but students often turn to private loans because a Stafford Loan may not be enough.

"We never run out of Stafford Loan money or parent loan money," Hinkle said. "The banks are willing to loan — but students

qualify for certain amounts at each grade level."

Starting July 1, sophomore students can borrow up to \$4,500, juniors and seniors up to \$5,500, and graduates up to \$8,500. The maximum students can borrow through Stafford Loans during their college careers is \$23,000.

An advantage of a Stafford Loan is that its interest rate is fixed at 6.8 percent, 4 percent less than the average private loan, where an interest rate constantly fluctuates with the market. Additionally, Hinkle said students should research outside scholarships online.

"Students shouldn't be afraid to ask questions," said Hinkle, called by Sunseri the school's best financial aid counselor. "Many come in to explain special circumstances, such as parents dying or separating, or even more common situations like entering credentials or master's programs."

Financial aid is complicated, with many programs, rules and regulations, but the Financial Aid Office is here to make sense of things.

Counselors are available from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday, except for Wednesday, when they are closed for processing. Located in the administration building, room 212, its phone number is 756-2927.

"I love helping people find out how to get financial aid and helping students stay in school and graduate," Hinkle said.

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Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

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V. EASY

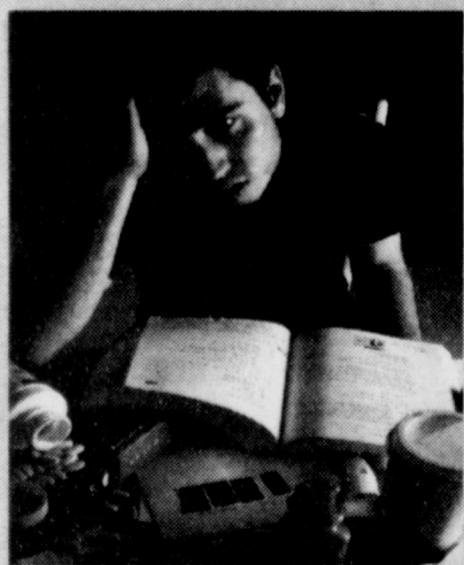
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Briefs

State

SIMI VALLEY (AP) —

The City Council is weighing whether to ban panhandling in certain parts of the city that is home to the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library.

The city earlier this month approved an ordinance banning sidewalk peddlers. This new rule, to be debated March 5, would target panhandlers who ask for money from people in stopped cars at street intersections, shopping center drive-ways and highway medians.

Police say the ordinance is necessary because panhandling poses a traffic safety risk. But critics counter that it unfairly affects the poor.

...

PALO ALTO (AP) —

Ronald Hilton, a noted Latin American scholar who uncovered preparations for the Bay of Pigs invasion, has died. He was 95.

Hilton died of cancer Tuesday at his longtime home on the Stanford University campus, said his daughter, Mary H. Huyck of Greenwich, Conn.

As director of Stanford's Institute of Hispanic American Studies, Hilton reported that it was common knowledge in Guatemala that the CIA had established a base there to train Cuban exiles for an invasion of Cuba.

...

BERKELEY (AP) —

European universities working to improve the continent's higher education system have been trying to recruit professors from the University of California, Berkeley, increasing the already heated competition there for top faculty talent.

At least five Berkeley professors have received job offers from European institutions this year amid an overall spike in bids to lure Cal faculty to other campuses. At least 17 professors have received outside job offers in the first two months of 2007, compared to an average of 42 annually.

Three pending offers to Berkeley faculty members in engineering and science are from the Eidgenossische Technische Hochschule in Zurich, Switzerland.

National

DETROIT (AP) — A huge winter storm plowed toward the East Coast on Sunday after dumping as much as 2 feet of snow in the upper Midwest, grounding hundreds of airline flights and closing major highways on the Plains.

Eight traffic deaths were blamed on the storm, seven in Wisconsin and one in Kansas.

Utility crews labored Sunday to restore power after the storm blacked out hundreds of thousands of homes and business in Iowa, Illinois, Minnesota, Nebraska and Ohio. One Iowa utility alone had more than 500 miles of power lines down.

...

DETROIT (AP) — Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan stressed religious unity Sunday during his final major speech, saying the world is at war because Christians, Muslims and people of other faiths are divided.

The 73-year-old Farrakhan told the tens of thousands at Detroit's Ford Field that Jesus Christ and the Prophet Muhammad would embrace each other with love if they were on the stage behind him.

"Our lips are full of praise, but our hearts are far removed from the prophets we all claim," he said. "That's why the world is in the shape that it's in."

The fiery orator spoke for the first time since ceding leadership of the movement last year because of illness. The speech at the home of the National Football League's Detroit Lions capped the Nation's three-day convention in the city where it was founded in 1930.

...

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Local market player Station Casinos Inc.'s board of directors has accepted a revised buyout offer from its founding family and a unit of real estate firm Colony Capital LLC for \$90 a share in cash, or about \$5.5 billion, according to people familiar with the matter.

The revised offer came after an initial bid Dec. 4 by Colony and a group that included chief executive Frank J. Fertitta III and President Lorenzo Fertitta for \$82 a share.

International

CUILAPA, Guatemala

(AP) — Four imprisoned Guatemalan policemen were killed Sunday during a rebellion by inmates, days after the officers were arrested in connection with the deaths of three Salvadoran politicians, police said. The warden and other prison officials were being held hostage.

Riot police gathered outside the jail in Cuilapa, about 40 miles east of Guatemala City.

"It's confirmed, they killed the four of them," national police spokesman Maria Jose Fernandez said. The four killed included Luis Arturo Herrera, head of the Guatemalan National Police organized crime unit, and three of his officers.

...

MEXICO CITY (AP) — A Los Angeles court has no legal right to try Mexico's most prominent cardinal for complicity in the alleged rape of a child by a Mexican priest, the cardinal's lawyer said Sunday.

Bernardo Fernandez, who represents Cardinal Norberto Rivera, said only a Mexican court has the authority to rule on the lawsuit.

"The plaintiff is Mexican, complaining about alleged acts that happened in Mexico City in 1994, and the suit is against Mexicans," Fernandez told reporters after Rivera gave Sunday Mass in the capital's downtown cathedral. "Mexican tribunals should oversee this case."

...

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said Sunday his country's disputed nuclear program was like a train without brakes or a reverse gear, prompting Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice to respond that Iran needs "a stop button."

The comments came as senior officials of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council — Britain, the U.S., France, China and Russia — and Germany prepared for an emergency summit in London on Monday to discuss increased international pressure on Iran to suspend its uranium enrichment program.

California's HPV vaccine bill concerns residents

Kim Le

THE POLY POST (CAL POLY-POMONA)

POMONA, Calif. — A new bill has been proposed to California legislature that would require sixth grade girls to receive the Human Papilloma Virus vaccine, Gardasil, before entering middle school. The vaccine is meant to prevent 70 percent of HPV cases.

Approved by the Federal Drug Administration in June 2006, many parents feel that the decision to get the vaccine should not be up to the legislature; they believe that vaccinating girls against a sexually transmitted disease will promote promiscuity and may not be safe.

"At this point, I haven't formulated an opinion either for or against the HPV vaccine," said Carla Jackson, health educator of Student Health Services at California State Polytechnic University-Pomona. "I think that more time needs to pass before we know for sure what the implications are for this vaccine. That said, I definitely don't think that having an HPV vaccine is going to promote promiscuity. That is like saying that having condoms available is going to encourage young people to have sex, which has been shown in scientific studies to be untrue."

The vaccine is covered by most health care programs for low-income children and families, making it virtually free for people who are uninsured or under-insured.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, HPV infects approximately 20 million people in the United States with 6.2 million new cases each

year.

The only available treatment is for related health problems, not HPV itself.

While there are more than 30 strains of HPV that affect at least half of sexually active people in their lifetime, most strains of HPV do not produce any symptoms and disappear on their own.

HPV causes approximately 90 percent of cervical cancer cases, according to the Center for Disease Control.

The American Cancer Society reports that cervical cancer is the second-leading cancerous killer of women worldwide.

In the United States, nearly 10,000 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer each year, killing 3,700 of those women.

"Not requiring the vaccine is almost like asking if the polio vaccine should be mandatory or not," said Josh Escobedo, a political science senior at Cal Poly-Pomona.

Kathy Spofford, associate director of Student Health Services, believes that the vaccine is a wonderful new discovery, but she feels that people should make their own health care choices.

She said that they need to be educated on the subject before they decide what to do.

The vaccine comes in a series of three shots, the first of which is given at the well-child appointment most children go to when they are around 11 or 12.

The next two shots are given over a period of several months, while the FDA does not know the length of protection that Gardasil provides' there may be another booster needed after that series.

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Pirated movie company BitTorrent launches legitimate movie, TV download service

Gary Gentile
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BitTorrent Inc., makers of a technology often used to trade pirated copies of Hollywood movies, is launching a legitimate Web site that will sell downloads of films and TV shows licensed from the studios.

The BitTorrent Entertainment Network was set to launch Monday with films from Warner Bros., Paramount Pictures, 20th Century Fox, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer and Lionsgate and episodes of TV shows such as "24" and "Punk'd."

The service is squarely aimed at young males who regularly use BitTorrent to trade pirated versions of the same films and who more often watch such files on their computer instead of a big screen TV in the living room.

The San Francisco-based company is betting that at least one-third of the 135 million people who have downloaded the BitTorrent software will be willing to pay for high quality legitimate content rather than take their chances with pirated fare.

"The vast majority of our audience just loves digital content," Ashwin Navin, president and co-founder of BitTorrent told The Associated Press.

"Now we have to program for that audience and create a better experience for that content so the audience converts to the service that makes the studios money."

To help wean users to paying for content, BitTorrent is featuring content and pricing that appeals to

its target demographic — males between the ages of 15 and 35.

TV episodes are \$1.99 to download to own, which is typical for competitor sites such as Apple Inc.'s iTunes.

The new site will rent movies for a 24-hour viewing period for \$3.99 for new titles and \$2.99 for older films.

But the site has decided not to sell films for now because the prices demanded by the studios were too high.

"We're really hammering the studios to say, 'Go easy on this audience,'" Navin said. "We need to give them a price that feels like a good value relative to what they were getting for free."

The service also will offer Japanese anime and high definition video, which is popular with its users. Individuals will be able to publish their works to the site, which will compete for attention beside studio content.

The BitTorrent technology pioneered by Bram Cohen assembles digital movies and other computer files from separate bits of data downloaded from other computer users across the Internet. Its decentralized nature makes downloading more efficient, meaning that a full-length movie should download in about a half hour, about twice as fast as some other sites.

Navin said TV episodes should download in about one-third that time.

BitTorrent's decentralized structure also frustrated the entertainment industry's efforts to find and identify movie pirates.

In 2005, after the studios won a key legal decision against another pirate software company, Grokster, Cohen agreed to remove links to pirated files and start talks to license legitimate content.

Studios also got more comfortable with the idea of distributing content over peer-to-peer networks after they adopted strong digital rights management safeguards created by Microsoft Corp.

BitTorrent's content is protected by Windows Media DRM and will only play back using Windows Media Player.

Studios striking deals with peer-to-peer networks is a good first step toward allowing users to more freely distribute films and TV shows on the Internet, something it may take another five years or more for Hollywood to become completely comfortable with, one analyst said.

"Their biggest concern is that an anonymous person passes it to an anonymous person," said Les Ottolenghi, chairman and president of Intent Mediaworks Inc., a company that helps content owners protect their works on peer-to-peer networks.

Ottolenghi recently chaired a task force that looked at digital watermarking, a technology that helps content owners track the route of its files as they make their way around the Internet.

"Their greatest hope is that someone at home passes it on to someone at home, from one device to the next, and that becomes a value to the consumer," he said.

Suicide bomber strikes Baghdad college; Shiite cleric condemns U.S- Iraqi security sweep

Brian Murphy
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD, Iraq — A female suicide bomber triggered a ball bearing-packed charge Sunday, killing at least 41 people at a mostly Shiite college whose main gate was left littered with blood-soaked student notebooks and papers amid the bodies.

Witnesses said a woman carried out the attack at the business school annex to Mustansiriyah University. Interior Ministry officials said they were still investigating those reports. The school's main campus was hit by a string of bombings last month that killed 70 people.

The attack came as the powerful Shiite militia leader Muqtada al-Sadr said an ongoing security crackdown in Baghdad was doomed to fail because of

“Here we are, watching car
bombs continue to
explode... in the middle of
a security plan controlled
by an occupier.”

—a statement from the Iraqi government

U.S. involvement and suggested he was rethinking his cooperation. He bitterly complained that “car bombs continue to explode” in the capital despite the new security push.

The political situation in Iraq was further thrown into question after President Jalal Talabani, a 73-year-old Kurd, was taken to Jordan for medical tests after feeling ill. Talabani's son, Qubad Talabani, said his father was suffering from fatigue and exhaustion. “He did not have a heart attack” or a stroke, he told CNN.

The statement issued in the name of the radical cleric al-Sadr put increased strains on the U.S.-Iraqi security sweeps aimed at restoring order in the capital.

Al-Sadr's Mahdi Army militia pulled its fighters off the streets under intense government pressure to let the 12-day-old security plan proceed. But a relentless wave of Sunni attacks — six alone in the Baghdad area Sunday — has apparently tested the patience of al-Sadr as well as many ordinary Shiites.

A return to the streets by the Mahdi Army forces could effectively block the security effort and raise the chances of Baghdad falling into sectarian street battles — the apparent aim of Sunni extremists seeking any way to destroy the U.S.-backed government.

“Here we are, watching car bombs continue to explode to harvest thousands of innocent lives from our beloved people in the middle of a security plan controlled by an occupier,” said a statement read to hundreds of cheering supporters by an al-Sadr aide in Baghdad.

The cleric was highly critical of the U.S. role and urged leaders to “make your own Iraqi (security) plans.” He said “no security plan will work” with direct U.S. involvement.

Al-Sadr — who has not appeared in public in more than a month — is no friend of Washington and his forces fought fierce battles with U.S. troops in 2004. But he has largely cooperated in the Iraqi political process to avoid strains with Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki and the Shiite leadership.

The statement was the first public word from al-Sadr since U.S. assertions earlier this month that he fled to neighboring Iran to avoid arrest. Al-Sadr's aides and other loyalists insist he never left Iraq.

Shiite anger at the United States is running high since American soldiers on Friday detained the son of the most powerful Shiite political leader for nearly 12 hours after he crossed from Iran. U.S. officials claim Shiite groups, including the Mahdi Army, receive weapons and aid from Iran. Iran denies the charges.

“To my Shiite and Sunni brothers, I say, ‘Let us scorn sectarianism and hoist the banner of unity,’” said the statement from al-Sadr, whose militia is blamed for frequent execution-style slayings of Sunni rivals.

Since the security crackdown began, the number of bodies thought to be victims of Shiite death squads has gone down dramatically in Baghdad, but there has been no respite from violence blamed on Sunni insurgents.

In other developments, Talabani's office said he had fallen ill due to “continuing hard work over the past few days.”

A doctor said Talabani was being treated at the heart center at King Hussein Medical City in Amman because the facility has modern equipment, not necessarily because the president suffers from a heart ailment.

The president's son said he was “up and about” and able to communicate.

Under Iraq's constitution, the president serves as the country's titular head of state. The prime minister runs the government.

Besides the college blast, at least 18 people were killed — mostly in Shiite districts — in bombings and rocket attacks in the Baghdad area.

Security guards at the Mustansiriyah University annex scuffled with the bomber before the blast, witnesses said. Most of the victims were students, including at least 46 injured, said police.



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11-day festival aims to make Hawaii romantic music capital

Brian Charlton
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HONOLULU — While Chicago has the blues and Monterey hosts the jazz world annually, a group of Hawaii musicians is launching an ambitious festival aimed at making Honolulu the nation's romantic music capital.

The islands already are famous for hula dancers, ukuleles and the traditional Hawaiian music genre that's now got its own Grammy for a prolific recording industry.

Now, organizers of the first Return to Romance festival have booked the soothing sounds of Natalie Cole, Michael McDonald, Kenny Loggins and past American Idol winner Ruben Studdard to appear at indoor and outdoor sites around balmy Oahu over 11 days starting March 1.

Promoters have enough confidence in the ambitious festival that they've got plans to hold it annually for at least the next five years, expanding performances beyond Oahu to neighboring islands and adding more big-name performers each year.

About two dozen artists are scheduled this year, to be backed up by the 40-piece Matt Catingub Orchestra of Hawaii for the event produced by Allen Sviridoff, who has pro-

duced 25 albums and earned 11 Grammy nominations.

"This is the most romantic place in the world, and we want to scream about that," Sviridoff said. "We're amazed no one else has done this yet."

The new festival is meant to promote Hawaii musicians, celebrate different genres of romantic music and market Hawaii to more music loving visitors from around the world.

The world needs to start paying attention to the talent and music we have here in Hawaii," said Sviridoff, former long-time manager of singer Rosemary Clooney.

"And it's not just hula music. There is some world class contemporary music here," Sviridoff said.

Traditional Hawaiian folk music has long been featured on Hollywood soundtracks and on film in some of the most romantic scenes and locations.

But music from the islands using the slack-key guitar and ukulele also continue to gain popularity. The Grammys took notice in 2005 when it introduced an award for best Hawaiian album, and Hawaii artists have routinely surfaced at the top of Billboard's World Music chart.

Besides traditional music sung in the Hawaiian language, other types of music are

growing island roots, including a popular reggae style called Jawaiian and Don Ho's twist on traditional Hawaiian songs using a crooner style from the 1950s.

Organizers of the festival say they hope to introduce fans to other talented vocalists that they might not have heard of yet.

The festival was conceived by Sviridoff and Catingub, who last teamed up to create the soundtrack of "A Beautiful Mind" and "Good Night, and Good Luck," which won a Grammy.

Catingub, conductor of the Honolulu Symphony Pops for nine years, founded the Matt Catingub Orchestra of Hawaii with Sviridoff and hired many of the same musicians to help them focus on music instead of second jobs.

The festival will be divided into sections, each featuring a different style of music — standards, rhythm and blues, pop and jazz.

Broadway actor Brian Stokes Mitchell, singer Patti Austin, jazz musician Peanut Whalun and saxophonist Wayman Tisdale are also slated to perform.

The concerts will be held across Oahu with new themes each night.

Movie star George Clooney's parents, Nick and Nina, who Sviridoff met through Clooney's aunt, the late Rosemary Clooney,

will host some of the events. Catingub also plans to produce an album each year with some of the top 100 most romantic songs as voted on people in the music industry.

Plans for future festivals include romantic movies, contests for the most romantic food, a TV version of the event and a romance hall of fame.

The festival will use the popular Waikiki beach, the outdoor Waikiki Shell, the historic Hawaii Theatre, the Neal Blaisdell Center's big arena, several more intimate jazz clubs and the Iolani Palace, a residence for Hawaiian royalty.

Performers will develop unique shows instead of the common sets they perform on tour, Catingub said.

Amy Hanaiali'i Gilliom, a revered traditional singer who usually performs in Hawaiian, will do a set of romantic songs in English on March 9 when she shares the stage with crooner Jimmy Borges and popular island groups Na Leo Pilimehana and Cecilio and Kapono.

"Being part of this festival is really allowing me to travel outside my box," said Gilliom, who has been nominated for two Grammys and is currently working on her first English album. "With the orchestra, it's such a bigger, fuller sound. To have my own originals played with them is an unreal feeling."

Israeli troops raid West Bank city, put under curfew

Ali Daraghmeh
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NABLUS, West Bank — Israeli soldiers sealed off this city on Sunday, placed its densely populated center under curfew and conducted house-to-house searches for Palestinian militants in the largest military operation in the West Bank in months.

Israeli officials said the wide-scale raid was crucial to stopping future militant attacks against Israel, but Palestinian officials said the offensive threatened nascent efforts to restart the peace process.

"We condemn this military incursion," said Saeb Erekat, aide to Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas. "This will undermine the efforts that are being made to sustain the cease-fire with Israel."

It was first large-scale operation in the West Bank since Israeli forces entered Nablus last July and surrounded a security compound to arrest suspected militants.

The raid began early Sunday morning, when about 80 jeeps, armored vehicles and bulldozers poured into Nablus, which is known as a hotbed of militancy, witnesses said. Soldiers closed the main entrance to the city and bulldozers erected huge piles of rubble to block off key roads.

The operation was focused on Nablus' Old City, or casbah, a densely populated area of narrow alleyways, apartment buildings and markets. About 50,000 people were placed under curfew, residents said.

The military took over local TV and radio stations and ordered people to remain indoors, warning the clampdown would remain in effect for several days, residents said. The army said the road closures and curfew were necessary to avoid civilian casualties.

Soldiers then moved from house to house in search of suspects. At one point, a small group forced a Palestinian youth to lead them into a home. Afterward, the soldiers

placed him, along with several young Palestinian men, into a military vehicle.

Israel's Supreme Court in 2005 banned the practice of using Palestinian civilians as "human shields" to search homes for explosives or militants ahead of soldiers. The army had no immediate comment on Sunday's incident, which was filmed by AP Television News.

Sporadic clashes were reported as soldiers were pelted with stones and cement blocks and exchanged fire with Palestinian gunmen, the army said. The army responded with rubber bullets and stun grenades, witnesses said. In one incident, soldiers entered a cemetery to search for Palestinians who had pelted their vehicle with stones.

The army said two soldiers were slightly wounded by a Palestinian bomb; Palestinian medical officials said four Palestinians were wounded by rubber bullets.

The raid came a day after Israeli troops discovered an explosives lab in the city, the West Bank's commercial center. Maj. Avital Leibovich, an army spokeswoman, said troops uncovered another explosives lab and small caches of weapons on Sunday.

Area commander Brig. Gen. Yair Golan said the offensive was necessary because of the increased militant activity in Nablus. "We entered the city to lower the threat level to Israel and hit terror infrastructure," he said in a phone interview.

Palestinian officials said the raid threatened new peace efforts.

Abbas met last week with Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice in Jerusalem. Though the meeting yielded little progress, participants said they discussed the possibility of extending an Israeli-Palestinian cease-fire in the Gaza Strip to the West Bank.

The raid came at a sensitive time for the moderate Abbas, who is trying to cobble together a unity gov-

ernment with the radical Hamas group.

Hamas and Abbas' Fatah party reached a power-sharing deal earlier this month in Saudi Arabia, which Abbas had hoped would pave the way for ending international sanctions imposed on the current Hamas-led government. Palestinian officials said Sunday the economy contracted 21 percent in the fourth

quarter because of the boycott.

Israel and Western donor nations, however, have warned they will not lift the sanctions if the new government does not agree to renounce violence and recognize Israel's right to exist. The unity accord pledges only to "respect" past agreements.

Ghazi Hamad, spokesman for the Hamas-led government, said the Nablus raid was part of an Israeli

effort to destroy the unity deal.

Also Sunday, a smugglers' tunnel under the Gaza-Egypt border collapsed, injuring three people. Security officials said it belonged to a clan known for drugs and weapons dealing. Israel says the Palestinians have smuggled in a steady stream of weapons from Egypt since Israel pulled out of Gaza in 2005.

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JANUARY 26TH ONLY IN THEATRES

All Wines Considered



by
Lauren Jeter

Everyone has gone through Paso Robles while traveling north, venturing to Target or perhaps even to tour the wineries off U.S. Highway 46. Believe it or not, Paso Robles is one of the most up and coming wine regions in California.

The number of wineries has increased nearly five fold in the last 10 years, from a measly 35 to a bolstering 170 wineries. Paso Robles has a long history of grape growing. The infamous founder of many California missions, Father Junipero Serra, planted the first vines at the San Miguel Mission in 1797. The oldest varietal and the heritage specialty in Paso Robles is the Zinfandel grape. Abundant throughout Paso Robles, the short,

stumpy, twisted vines of the Zinfandel boast up to a hundred years of graceful aging. Celebrating these graceful beauties, the Zinfandel Festival takes place every March in Paso Robles.

The largest production grape in Paso Robles is the Cabernet Sauvignon. With nearly 38 percent of production, the Cab grapes dominate most of the 26,000 acres of planted vineyard acres in this acclaimed American Viticulture Area (AVA).

Before and during the Paso Robles designation of the AVA, many larger wineries were established, including Eberle Winery, J. Lohr, Wild Horse and Meridian. Today, viticulturists have begun to focus their energies on Rhône

Is Paso Robles the new Napa?

varietals. These pioneers in the field are called "Rhône Rangers," planting Syrah, Viognier and Rousanne. In fact, these Rhône Rangers were the first to plant Syrah in all of California. These Rhône varietals are all "le buzz" in Paso Robles and are celebrated at the Hospice du Rhône in May. This festival constitutes the largest celebration of Rhône Varietals in the world (www.hospice-durhone.com).

Speaking of wine festivals, which many readers know are my favorite kind of festivals, the Paso Robles Wine Festival takes place in May. This shindig is held outside and is comprised of nearly 70 wineries from Paso Robles.

Paso Robles has been the source of several debates lately. There have been several moves toward dividing the 614,000 acre-wide AVA. The proposed division could split Paso Robles into two or up to 11 different pieces. The more popular proposition is that Paso Robles be split from the east and west side.

The west has always been well-known for its prize wines developed closer to the ocean at cooler temperatures. While the east dominates the bulk production of grapes, enjoying warmer and drier

temperatures. The push for division may be desired to duplicate Napa's AVA. While imitation may be the sincerest form of flattery, several east-side Wineries feel that splitting Paso Robles could be marketing suicide.

But, it's no wonder Paso Robles has wanted to replicate another Napa — the pinnacle of success for

ning wines that don't necessarily fetch prices like wines from Napa and Sonoma.

Some local favorites of mine are: The Eberle 2005 Viognier (Eberle Winery, \$20), which takes a 94 Point rating. It is light, airy and emits a sweet honeysuckle and peach odor. It is perfect paired with a seafood or creamy pasta dish.

Why not have it with some shrimp Alfredo?

My second pick is the Sylvester 2004 Kiara Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon (Albertson's, \$8). This beautiful red has an exquisite black cherry smell drifting from a sexy dark body and has some cinnamon notes sprinkled along with hints of black pepper. I would recommend a nice juicy steak with this gorgeous wine.

Paso Robles vineyards are abundant in limestone, but soon they will be headed towards the limelight.

Take advantage of these wines now, and one day, you might be able to say, "I knew that wine way before it got famous."

Lauren Jeter is a 2005 wine and viticulture graduate and is pursuing a master's degree in agribusiness.

Feel free to submit any recommendations, wine festival tickets, favorite wines or recipes to laurenjeter@gmail.com

The west has always been well known for its prize wines developed closer to the ocean at cooler temperatures. While the east dominates the bulk production of grapes, enjoying warmer and drier temperatures.

wine in California.

Robert M. Parker Jr., famous wine critic and innovator of the wine point system, said, "there is no question that a decade from now, the top viticultural areas of Santa Barbara, Santa Rita Hills and the limestone hillsides west of Paso Robles will be as well-known as the glamorous vineyards of Napa Valley" (Wine Advocate, 2005).

So before Paso Robles is "discovered," it might be prudent to take advantage of these award-win-

Local band Hot Beef Injection brings new mix of funk/rock to San Luis Obispo

Jackie Pugh
MUSTANG DAILY

Hot Beef Injection, a local band that started October 2005, recently brought in a new drummer and for the past five weeks has been jamming at house parties and bars around San Luis Obispo.

This rock-jam band, with occasional hints of blue grass and classic rock, is made up of four Cal Poly students who have been steadily gaining in popularity.

The band, whose original drummer moved to Hawaii, now has Aaron Morales, a philosopher junior.

"I'm stoked (about) Aaron; I think we connect on a musical level," said Chris Stephens, guitarist and electrical engineering senior. Although HBI rarely finds time to practice, the group seems to be making progress.

"We're a lot better because time has passed and we've become tighter," Stephens said.

Yet, HBI has a style all to its own, which the band said is all over the place.

"We're not 'emo,'" said lead bass and business junior Bart Powers. "We all have our own separate influences; Chris is into the hippy starter bands; me, I'm more about the funk stuff, but I like everything."

HBI pulls from famous artists like Led Zeppelin, Tank Fluid, Phish and



COURTESY PHOTO

The band Hot Beef Injection, which is composed of several Cal Poly students, has been busy lately playing local gigs. The group is mostly influenced by rockers like Led Zeppelin, Phish and others.

the Red Hot Chili Peppers. Music junior James Martinez leads the band in vocals, keyboard and piano. Martinez is classically trained in piano and brings a unique sound to HBI's already colorful pallet of style.

"My sister had a big influence on my work. She spent a lot of her money on CDs," Martinez said.

As for Morales, being the newest member, he supports the band fully and tries to listen to what HBI has done in the past for practices.

"I've listened to a lot of new music in the last five weeks," Morales said which, helps him when the band decides to pick up new songs. "It helps that we listen to very similar styles of music, it's a progression that you hear."

Martinez added that one of the strongest ties the band members have is coming together "just by listening to music."

Besides Martinez, who has had

see HBI, page 8

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'Pirates of the Caribbean' ship sails into Morro Bay harbor

Janelle Eastridge

MUSTANG DAILY

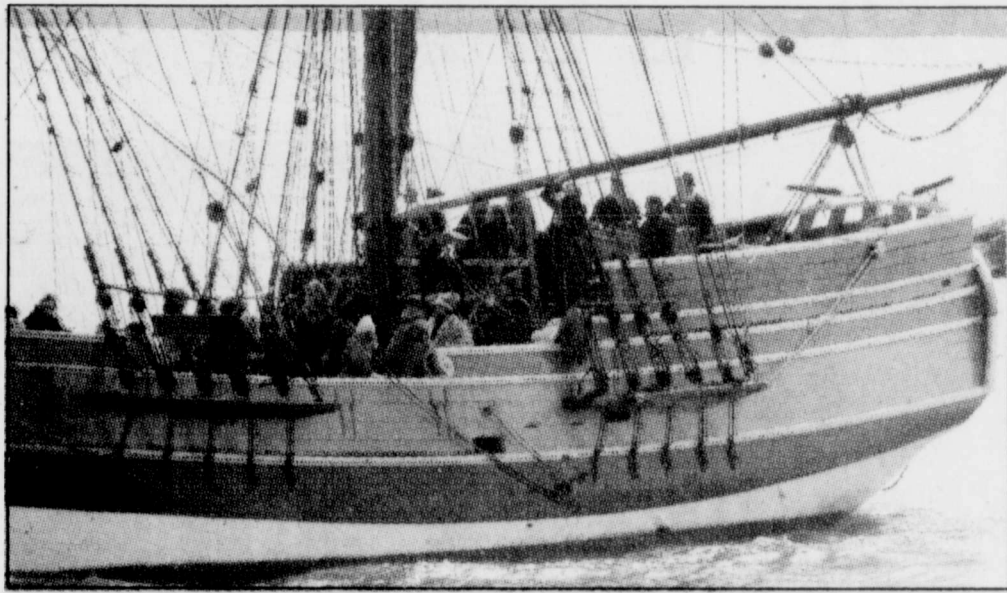
Rachel Paolucci's dream is to be a pirate. Well, maybe not a pirate per se, but the psychology junior is quite the Johnny Depp and "Pirates of the Caribbean" fan.

Even the oh-so-reliable source that is facebook is a testament to this. Her profile picture: dressed up in Depp-worthy garb, complete with thick black eyeliner, for a spur of the moment "Pirates"-inspired passion fruit rum drinking game. Her activities: pirating. Her classes: AG 324, Origins of Rum, HUM 221, Pillaging and Plundering.

"Wouldn't it be cool to sail down the Pacific — and ultimately go to the Caribbean — on a pirate ship? Forget sailboats and yachts!" Paolucci chuckled. "Wine? No, no — rum!"

But all jokes aside, Paolucci was ecstatic when she found out that the Lady Washington — i.e. the Interceptor, "the fastest ship in the Caribbean," (behind the Black Pearl, that is) from the first "Pirates of the Caribbean" movie — and the Hawaiian Chieftain, two 18th century vessel replications, were scheduled to dock in Morro Bay for the weekend.

Sponsored by Grays Harbor Historical Seaport, a Washington-based group seeking to preserve the Pacific Northwest's maritime history, the ships sailed into port Thursday, staying until today. Their presence was an effort to educate local residents about sailing in the 1700s, giving the general public



PATRICK TRAUTFIELD MUSTANG DAILY

For \$60, Central Coast residents traveled out on the Pacific Ocean for a three-hour battle reenactment on Lady Washington, which was used as "The Interceptor" in "Pirates of the Caribbean."

touring opportunities and local schoolchildren alternative history lessons.

On Saturday's beautiful, clear day, Paolucci and many other Central Coast dwellers made the trek out to Morro Bay to catch a glimpse of the ships, take a free dockside tour or pay \$60 to travel out to sea for a three-hour battle reenactment.

The crew, dressed in semi-traditional apparel (including Converse and modern-day sandals), provided the mainly young family- and elderly-infused crowd with detailed tours of the whimsical ships.

Some even joyfully sung the "Pirates" theme song: "Yo ho, yo ho, a pirate's life for me."

The group, which has been coming to Morro Bay on its tour for the past eight or so years, trav-

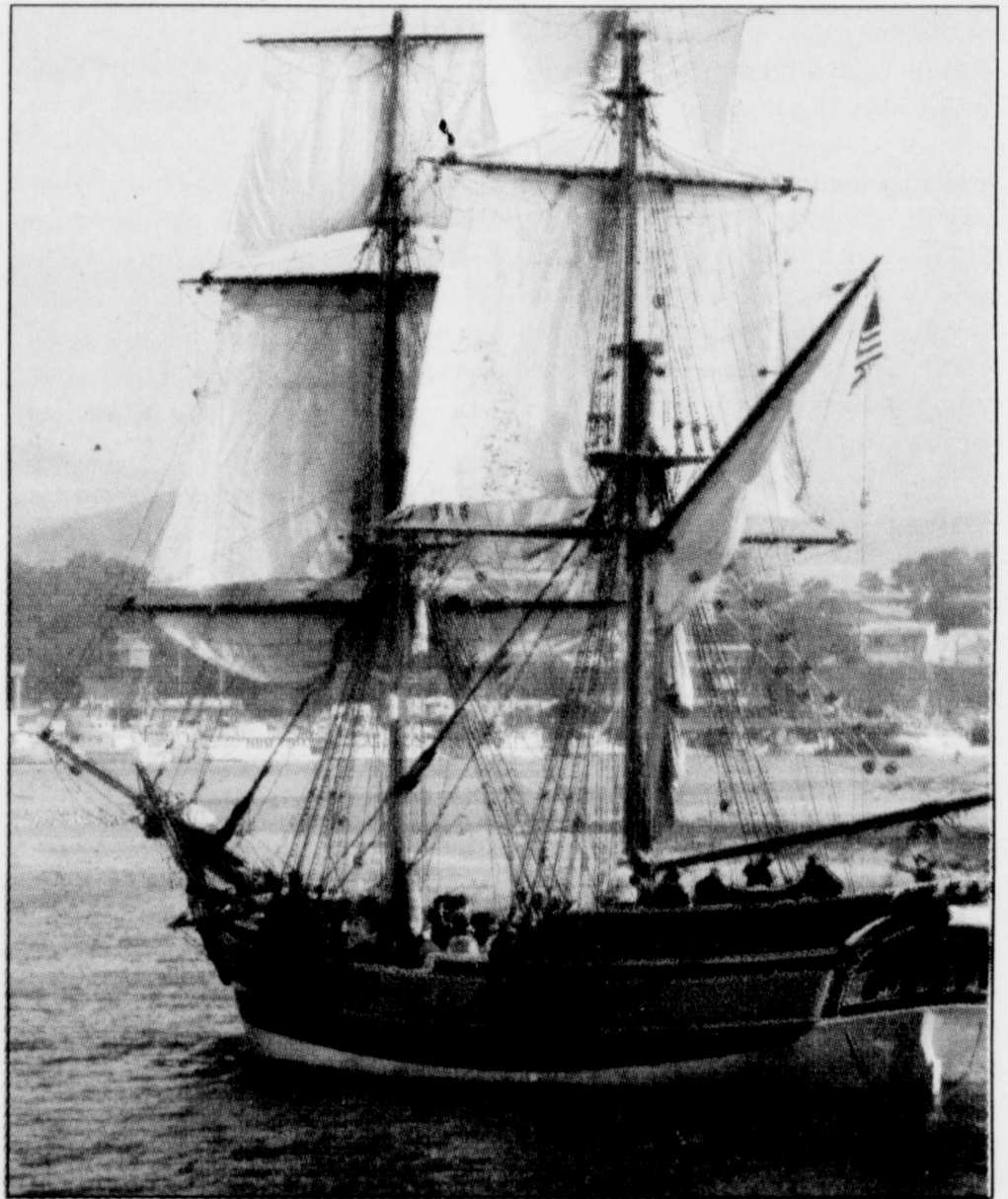
els the West Coast, from Canada to Mexico, docking either by cities' invitations or by default in bad weather.

Though fitted for 28 people to live onboard, the Lady Washington plays host to a constantly changing crew membership of about 15.

In addition, each year, between 75 and 100 two-week volunteers, ranging in age from 18 to 92, try their hands at swabbing the decks, navigating the high seas and educating youngsters on maritime history.

"You get cut up, scrapped, bruised, but it's worth it," Lady Washington engineer Nick Williams said. "It's so much fun."

With this many people in such tight quarters, becoming a closely knit family is inevitable, said nine-year veteran "Evil" Ryan, a man who considers the ocean his permanent residence



PATRICK TRAUTFIELD MUSTANG DAILY

Morro Bay has docked the Lady Washington from Thursday through today, much to the delight of local "Pirates of the Caribbean" fans. The ship sails up and down the Pacific Coast with a rotating crew of 15.

and worked with Depp in "Pirates."

"The crew grows into a family and if you're not pulling your weight, the family lets you know," he said. "We're always looking for new people to come and play."

The Lady Washington and

Hawaiian Chieftain will be heading up to San Francisco next.

For more information regarding Grays Harbor Historical Seaport, including volunteer information and scheduled ports of call, go to www.historicalseaport.org.

'Departed' departs with best picture; Scorsese best director

David Germain

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — Martin Scorsese's mob epic "The Departed" won best picture at the Academy Awards on Sunday and earned the filmmaker the directing prize that had eluded him throughout his illustrious career.

"Could you double-check the envelope?" said Scorsese, who arguably had been the greatest living American filmmaker without an Oscar.

He received his Oscar from three friends, Steven Spielberg, Francis Ford Coppola and George Lucas. "So many people over the years have been wishing this for me."

In an evening when no one film dominated as the Oscars shared the love among a wide range of movies, three of the four acting front-runners won: best actress Helen Mirren as British monarch Elizabeth II in "The Queen"; best actor Forest Whitaker as Ugandan dictator Idi Amin in "The Last King of Scotland"; and supporting actress Jennifer Hudson as a soul singer in "Dreamgirls."

The other front-runner, Eddie Murphy of "Dreamgirls," lost to Alan Arkin for "Little Miss Sunshine."

"For 50 years and more, Elizabeth Windsor has maintained her dignity, her sense of duty and her hairstyle," said Mirren, who has been on a remarkable roll since last fall as she won all major film and television prizes for playing both of Britain's Queen Elizabeths.

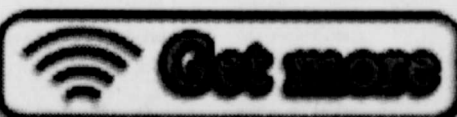


ASSOCIATED PRESS

Martin Scorsese finally arrived on-stage to receive Oscars for best director and best picture for "The Departed," a blockbuster crime drama.

"She's had her feet planted firmly on the ground, her hat on her head, her handbag on her arm and she's weathered many many storms. ... If it wasn't for her, I most certainly wouldn't be here. Ladies and gentlemen, I give you the queen," Mirren said, holding her Oscar aloft.

Arkin played a foul-mouthed grandpa with a taste for heroin. "Little



Get the complete list of Oscar winners at www.mustangdaily.com

Miss Sunshine," a low-budget film that came out of the independent world to become a commercial hit and major awards player.

"More than anything, I'm deeply moved by the open-hearted appreciation our small film has received, which in these fragmented times speaks so openly of the possibility of innocence, growth and

connection," said Arkin.

Hudson won an Oscar for her first movie, playing a powerhouse vocalist who falls on hard times after she is booted from a 1960s girl group. The role came barely two years after she shot to celebrity as an "American Idol" finalist.

"Oh my God, I have to just take this moment in. I cannot believe this. Look what God can do. I didn't think I was going to win," Hudson said through tears of joy. "If my grandmother was here to see me now. She was my biggest inspiration."

"Little Miss Sunshine" also won the original screenplay Oscar for first-time screenwriter Michael Arndt.

The film follows a ghastly but hilarious road trip by an emotionally messed-up family rushing to get their darling girl (10-year-old supporting-nominee Abigail Breslin) to her beauty pageant.

"When I was a kid, my family drove 600 miles in a VW bus with a broken clutch," Arndt said, describing a road trip that mirrored the one in the film. "It ended up being one of the funnest things we did together."

The nonfiction hit "An Inconvenient Truth," a chronicle of Al Gore's campaign to warn the world about global warming, was picked as best documentary.

"People all over the world, we need

to solve the climate crisis. It's not a political issue. It's a moral issue," Gore said, joining the film's director, Davis Guggenheim, on stage.

"An Inconvenient Truth" also won original song for Melissa Etheridge's "I Need to Wake Up."

Earlier, Gore appeared with best-actor nominee Leonardo DiCaprio to praise organizers for implementing environmentally friendly practices in the show's production.

DiCaprio set up a gag with Gore, asking the 2000 presidential candidate if there was anything he wanted to announce.

"I guess with a billion people watching, it's as good a time as any. So my fellow Americans, I'm going to take this opportunity here and now to formally announce my intentions ...," Gore said, his voice trailing away as the orchestra cut him off.

Composer Gustavo Santaolalla won his second straight Oscar for original score for "Babel," a film "that helped us understand better who we are and why and what we are here for," he said. He won the same prize a year ago for "Brokeback Mountain."

The dancing-penguin musical "Happy Feet" won the Oscar for feature-length animation, denying computer-animation pioneer John Lasseter ("Toy Story") the prize for "Cars," which had been the big winner of earlier key animation honors.

"I asked my kids, 'What should I say?' They said, 'Thank all the men for wearing penguin suits,'" said "Happy Feet" director George Miller.

HBI

continued from page 6

training in piano, Morales participated in his high school marching band; Powers was in an orchestra playing stand up bass; and Stephens just picked up the guitar.

HBI's ability to feed off one another just by listening to music and using their different backgrounds has shown the band's versatility. They've played at 12 to 15 gigs since HBI got started, and has had six performances just this year.

Their latest show at Frog and Peach last week was a success, with the bar staying crowded until last calls.

"There was a lot of energy because there were a ton of people in the bar," Stephens said. "It basically was a fill in gig for the Arch Dukes, but we got in there and just played."

Martinez noted that about three-quarters of the nearly 100-person crowd was made up of their friends who heard about the show by word of mouth.

"We like to be a part of the crowd, especially at Frog and Peach," Morales said. "It was all so close and compact; you were literally standing three feet from your friends."

HBI is now looking forward to

playing more gigs at Frog and Peach after getting an invitation to come back and play roughly every five weeks.

While the band is planning to play at a house party on Stafford Street, next week HBI will normally hear of gigs on a Wednesday or Thursday and have to be prepared to play by Friday.

The band typically has two -three-hour shows in which they allot a large portion of time for free form. Before Morales joined, HBI would play 80 percent original works and 20 percent covers. But now it is split half and half between the two.

"Putting the words on top of the good stuff we already have is the hard part," Powers said. With lyrics not being a strong point for the band, even their singer was forced into the position at the initiative of the band.

"I'm new to it, but I think we've gotten better within the year," Martinez said. "There's also no direction when we come up with a song," he added; a testament to their laid-back and free style nature that is perhaps the genius to the spontaneous creativity that has sparked the band's popularity.

"Right now we are trying to have fun; we're not trying to make it," Stephens said.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Why is O'Reilly even a factor?

Veronica Hilbring

DAILY EGYPTIAN (SOUTHERN ILLINOIS U.)

It's a real rarity that I get involved in political issues. But what else can you do when politics consistently make its way into music?

When I was watching the Grammys a couple of weeks ago, one of my favorite rappers, Ludacris, won the award for best rap album. During his acceptance speech, he gave a special shout-out to political commentator Bill O'Reilly.

Ludacris and O'Reilly have had an ongoing war of words since 2002 when O'Reilly's rants were able to get Ludacris dropped from his endorsement deal with Pepsi.

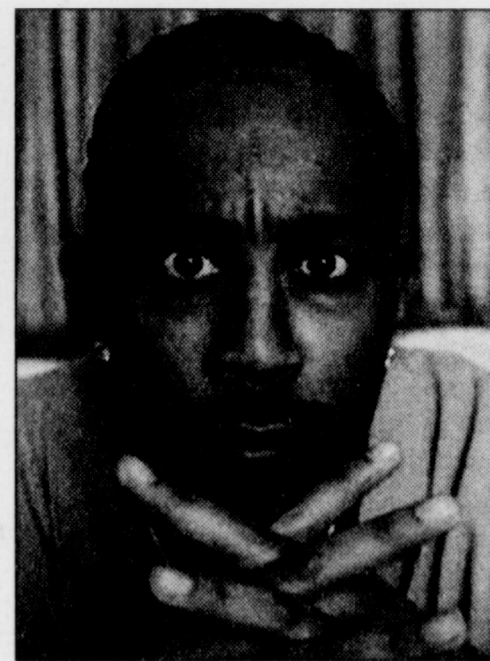
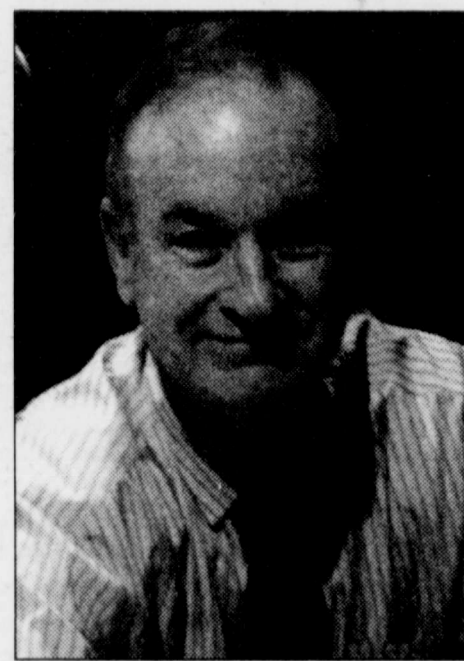
Who is Bill O'Reilly?

I guess he is someone not to be fooled with.

Before I decided to write about this issue, I conducted my research. I listened to a couple of Ludacris CDs and forced myself to watch nearly a week's worth of "The O'Reilly Factor." Yes, it was as hard as it sounds.

After the awards, O'Reilly criticized the Grammys for giving Ludacris the award. He cited a song on the album called "Slap."

In a section of the song on the first verse, Ludacris describes feeling stuck in a dead-end job and



COURTESY PHOTOS

After the Grammys, FOX News commentator Bill O'Reilly criticized rapper Ludacris for winning the best rap album award. O'Reilly said that music like Ludacris' can lead children into a life of destruction.

feeling like he wanted to kill his boss.

O'Reilly said he doesn't understand how that would merit a Grammy. Maybe if O'Reilly had listened to the rest of the song, he would have learned that the song was about feeling overwhelmed by life's hardships. It's also one of Ludacris' most personal and political songs.

Other nominees in the best rap category included T.I., The Roots, Pharrell and Lupe Fiasco. I guarantee that if anyone else had won, there would have been no mention of it on his show the next day.

He seems to have this fixation on Ludacris. He uses every opportunity to say how Ludacris is corrupting the youth.

But he doesn't talk about how Ludacris has never sold drugs, never been to jail, owns his own label and created a charity foundation.

He said that he believes that listening to rap music, such as Ludacris', can lead young children into a lifestyle of destruction that can ruin them for years to come.

I'm living proof of that contradiction. My friends and I grew up listening to my brother blasting what was labeled as the most offensive music on the planet: N.W.A, Snoop Doggy Dogg and Tupac.

But we also had parents and

teachers who taught us discipline and values. No song or lyric can change that.

O'Reilly has said, and I quote, "This rap stuff has destroyed music."

What?

Who is he to say something has destroyed anything? He's obviously one of those music critics who judges music before he listens to it.

Since the conception of rock 'n' roll, music has been considered to be harmful to the youth.

But only since the emergence of "gangsta" rap, have we seen such an assault on music. It's blamed for everything wrong in every community.

Gangsta rap is the reason people are in gangs. It's the reason why there's so much crime and it's the reason why drugs continue to devastate many communities.

Are you serious?

Where did this notion of a rap role model come from? How does any medium of entertainment, whether it's video games, movies or music, cause anyone to do anything?

We need to realize that rappers aren't role models. Then, we need to realize that people such as Bill O'Reilly shouldn't be in the business of popular music.



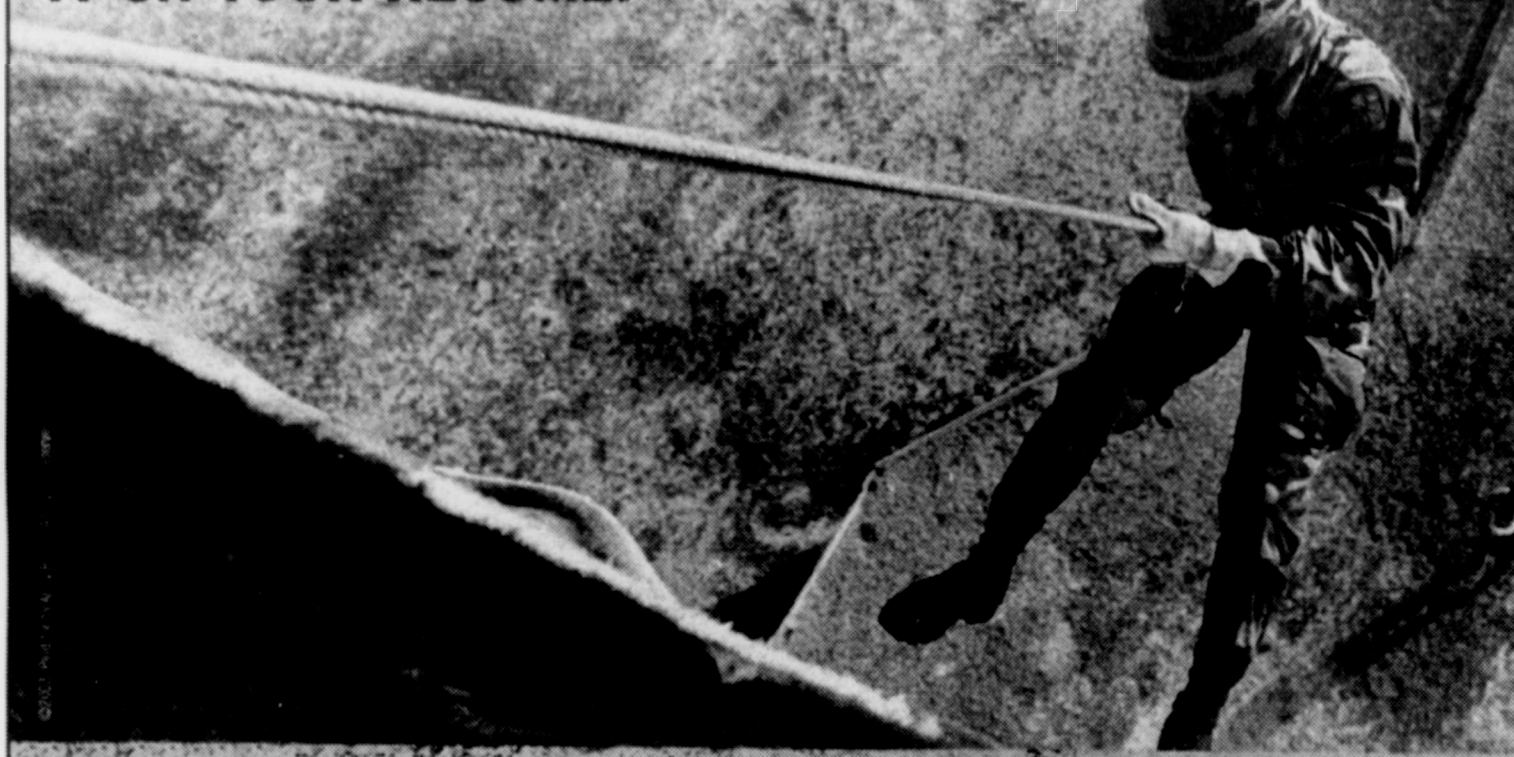
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(805) 756-1796 editorial
(805) 756-1143 advertising
(805) 756-6784 fax
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Editor in chief: Emily Rancer
Managing editor: Jennifer Hall • mustangdaily@gmail.com

9

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POLITICAL COLUMNIST

Why does George Bush love Paris Hilton?

One of George Bush's main goals in his six years in office has been the permanent repeal of the estate tax. For those of you not completely up to date on the federal tax code, the estate tax applies to wealth in the form of money or property that is passed from one generation to the next.

It also only applies to individuals with estates of \$2 million or higher. Last year, the estate tax applied to 48,000 Americans — less than 2 percent of those who died in the United States in 2006. The 4,000 individuals with estates valued at \$5 million or higher paid nearly half of the revenues received by the federal government.

One may wonder, then, why Bush has put so much of his political weight behind repealing a tax that affects so few Americans while the middle class has seen its relative tax burden increase during his time in office.

Bush may have answered that question himself when he told a group of some of the wealthiest people in America, Republican fundraising all-stars, that "you're my base: the haves and the have mores." It is entirely clear that Bush does not represent the lower and middle classes of this country. Instead, he works to serve Donald Trump and Paris Hilton.

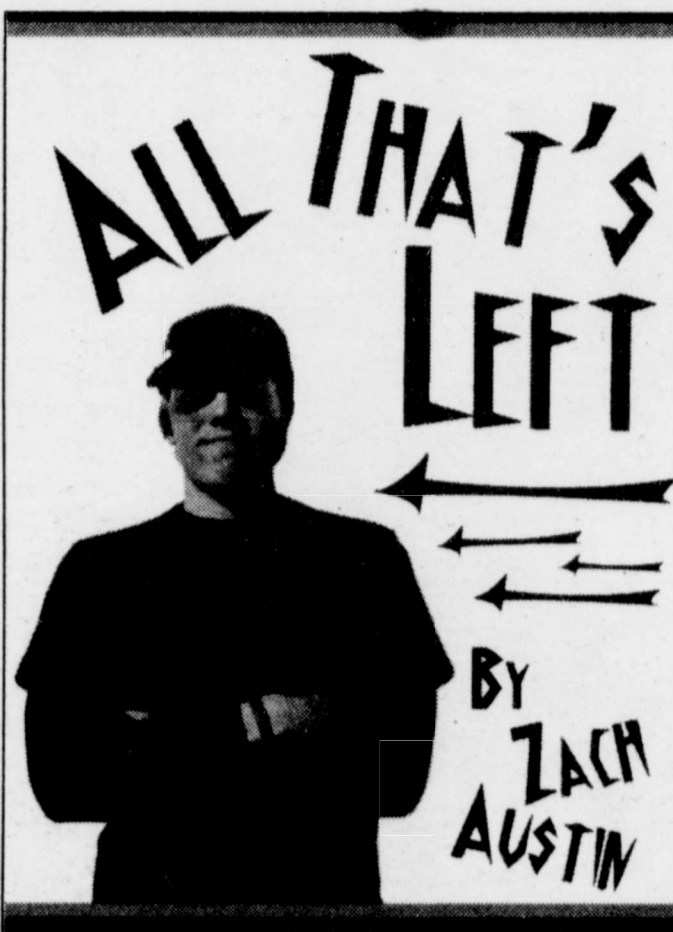
Nowhere is the president's love affair with the obscenely wealthy more apparent than in his submit-

ted budget for the 2008 fiscal year. In it, Bush assumes a complete repeal of the estate tax, as well as the permanent extension of his own tax cuts. The estimated gap in government revenue from the elimination of the estate tax over the next 10 years is about \$442 billion, just slightly less than our annual defense budget. What really shows off Bush's love affair with Hilton and her ilk is how he plans to pay for it.

If the estate tax was eliminated, the Walton family (heirs to the Wal-Mart fortune) would save nearly \$32.7 billion over the next decade. Meanwhile, Medicare would see its budget slashed by \$28 billion over the same time period.

The family at the head of the Mars candy corporation would stand to receive \$11.7 billion in tax breaks. At the same time, the Veteran's Administration (VA) would see its budget cut by \$3.4 billion, a quarter of the colossal handout given to the candy conglomerate.

Headlines ran across the country last week about the horrid condi-



tions that veterans returning from Iraq face at VA hospitals. The Bush administration's solution? Cutting the VA budget. Talk about supporting our troops.

There are scores of more examples of wealthy families receiving huge tax breaks while vital social programs see their budgets slashed to ribbons. The Cox family (Cox Cable) would receive \$9 billion in tax breaks while education budgets would be cut by \$1.5 billion. The Nordstrom family, of department store fame, would receive \$826 million in tax breaks.

Meanwhile, \$420 million would be cut from programs that distribute heating oil to the poor.

Although Bush has made it clear throughout his presidency that he puts the interests of the mega-rich ahead of average Americans, his proposed 2008 budget is a perfect crystallization of that mindset. It demonstrates a failed presidency, one that has absolutely no hope of saving itself and has resigned to submitting budgets that have no hope of getting through Congress.

Democrats have already indicated that they will give Bush's budget the exact same treatment that he proposed be given to the budgets of Medicare and the VA.

It's not just liberals who see this budget as a colossal failure, either. According to The Washington Times, the shining example of unbiased, impartial journalism that it is, Bush's 2008 budget continues a trend that has seen domestic governmental spending rise by 1.6 percent of the gross domestic product since 2000 and governmental revenues drop by 2.6 percent.

Bush's budget isn't a liberal one, or a conservative one. It is utterly irresponsible and designed to funnel more and more money to the super-rich, while cutting vital programs for ordinary Americans.

It's why George Bush loves Paris Hilton.

Zach Austin is a political science

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Mustang Daily

"Desperation is a sticky cologne."

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All published letters must include author's name, year and major, and are subject to editing for grammar, style and spelling.

LETTERS
TO THE EDITORWhere's the line between
TV reality and reality?

In Thursday's guest commentary on television (How television is destroying America), "Arrested Development" and "The Office" are referenced once after the initial paragraph. I'm guessing the author of the article has never watched either since they are lumped together with pixelated-trash like "24" and "Lost." "Arrested Development" lasted three seasons, won many awards and was loved by critics and fans alike, but was pulled because it didn't get high enough TV ratings. It boasted brilliant casting and writers, resulting in intelligent humor — on TV.

Wow. What a contradiction! "Arrested Development" didn't exactly conform to the "Friends" formula so it was given the Old

Yeller treatment. That's right, I said it, "Friends" was generic bull. "The Office" isn't exactly for idiots either.

The author goes on to say that in "24," "George Bush then attempted to persuade the actor who portrays (the president) to enforce stricter regulations on suspected terrorists." WTF! Paradox: real president telling fake president to tighten restrictions on fake terrorists. Only in the blessed U.S. of A does the president of a TV program's fake domestic policy carry enough importance to draw the special attention of the EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF OUR GOVERNMENT.

The way things have been going in Iraq, our commander in chief shouldn't be allowed the time to indulge in Orwellian fantasies of a "clean, safe" America over an episode of "24" and its saga of the anti-terror super soldier Jack Bauer, while real American soldiers are dying by the dozens daily in what is now a civil war.

However, I do agree that TV in general is a vehicle of sedation.

apathy and fear that operates for the benefit of the corporations that own them, advertise through them and dominate the political, social and economic agendas for this country.

Christopher Sahms
Philosophy freshman

Eller excludes facts to
promote his argument

Brian Eller supports President Bush's handling of the war in Iraq, which though contrary to my own opinion, is a valid viewpoint — after all, a staggering 26 percent of Americans share this view (Jan. 9 Gallup/USA Today poll).

My problem is not Mr. Eller's opinion, but rather his method of presentation. I would like to discuss all the problems with this column, but since there is a limit to the length of the letters, this endeavor would be impossible without a center spread.

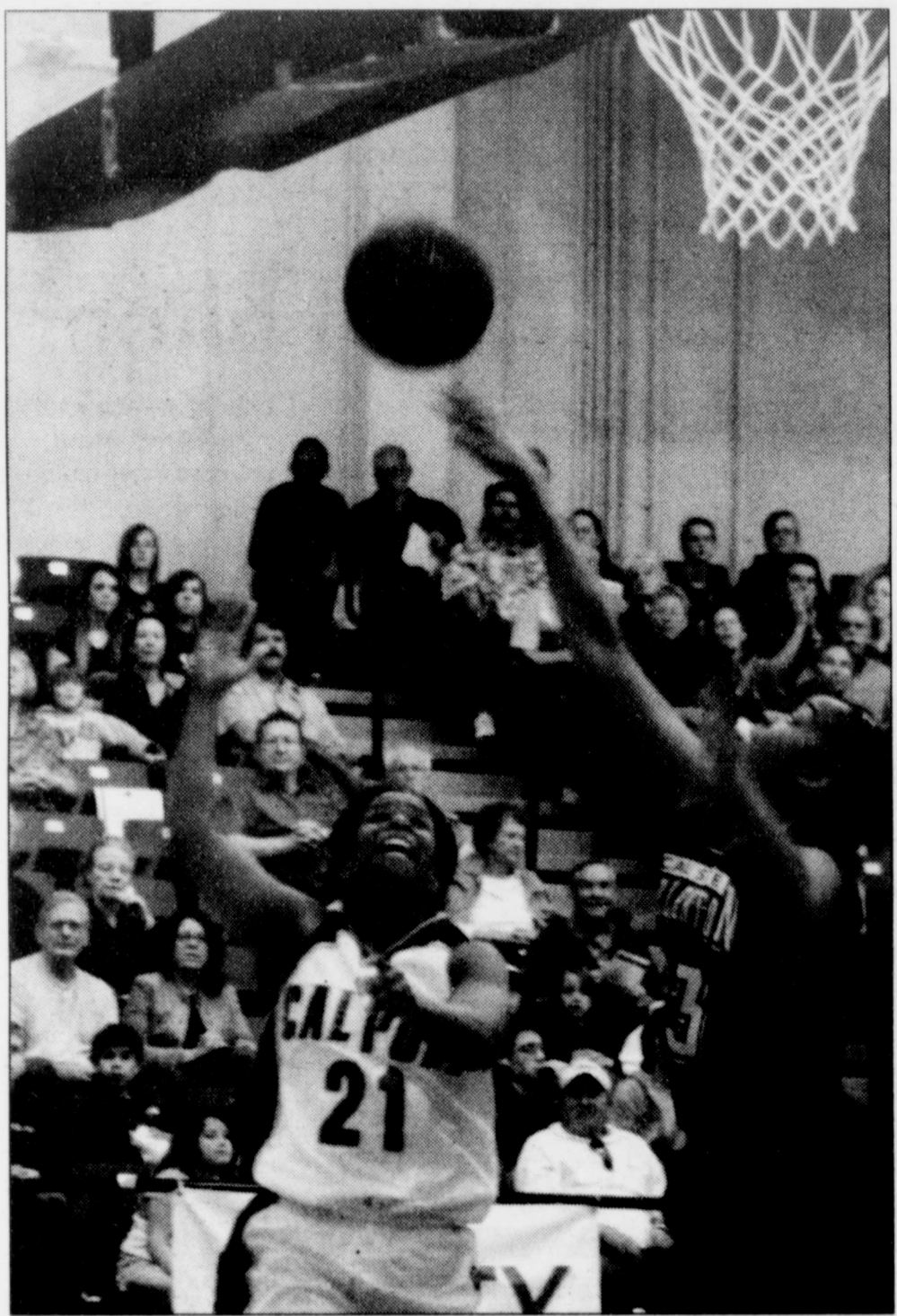
Ignoring for the moment Mr. Eller's ignorance regarding Vietnam (if he wants to simplify war to the terms "winning" and

"losing," it was Nixon who withdrew from Vietnam; he was the one "for defeat"), let's look at Mr. Eller's implication that Democrats have been in for defeat throughout history.

Last time I checked, the American presidents who led us to victories in WWI and WWII were Wilson, FDR and Truman — some of the Democrats who "consistently oppose successful strategies that help America." As for the vague and biased poll question from Fox News which Mr. Eller quotes to support Democrats wanting to lose in Iraq (define "succeed"), I am fairly certain that if I constructed a question in a similar manner and asked Cal Poly Republicans: "are you in favor of Americans dying in Iraq?" a majority would say that they are not.

By Mr. Eller's definition, these Republicans would be in favor of American "defeat" in Iraq, since an American "victory" is impossible without the loss of more American lives.

Johannes Lichtman
English junior



NICK CAMACHO MUSTANG DAILY

Cal Poly senior guard Ardia Kelker (21) goes up for a layup against Cal State Fullerton senior forward Charlee Underwood on Saturday in Mott Gym. The Mustangs won the Senior Day game 75-64.

Basketball

continued from page 12

Junior guard Toni Newman also finished in double figures, scoring 10 points on 4-of-8 shooting. Kelker added six, shooting 4 of 4 from the stripe. The Titans got 22 from Thomas, who shot 10 of 11 from the line. Senior forward Charlee

Underwood added 14 points and five boards.

For the contest, Cal Poly had edges in shooting (45.5 percent to 34.4) and rebounding (44-31).

The Mustangs visit Cal State Northridge in a crucial Big West game at 7 p.m. Thursday before capping the regular season at Pacific at 4 p.m. Saturday.

Poly men's tennis team wins 4-3 at UC Santa Barbara

SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT

SANTA BARBARA — The Cal Poly men's tennis team won its first road Big West Conference match of the season 4-3 over UC Santa Barbara on Saturday.

Cal Poly (4-4, 1-0 Big West) recorded three doubles wins to clinch the doubles point.

The Mustangs' Darryn Young

recorded a win over the Gauchos' Max Taylor, 2-6, 6-3, 6-4, in the No. 3 slot.

Cal Poly freshman Rob Foy picked up a win over UCSB's Nigel Barton, 4-6, 7-6, 6-3.

Young and Foy both recorded victories in singles play and as partners in doubles action. Cal Poly's Nick Berger beat Grant Robertson, 7-5, 4-6, 6-1. UCSB is 1-7.

Poly softball team wins for 6th time in last 7 games, off to best start since 1997

The Mustangs are 7-3 since beginning their 25-game road trip.

SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT

CATHEDRAL CITY — Senior catcher Jackie Gehrke-Jones' 3-for-3 effort included a solo home run and junior right-hander Robyn Kontra improved to 3-0 in 2007 by retiring the final 14 Illinois-Chicago batters she faced as the Cal Poly softball team completed the Palm Springs Classic on Sunday with a 4-1 victory against the Flames at the Big League Dreams Sports Park.

Cal Poly (10-4), off to the pro-

gram's best start since the 1997 Mustangs began their campaign 15-0, opened the scoring in the first inning as designated player Sarah Iwata drove home Lisa Modglin with a single to right field. Cal Poly added another run in the second as Modglin's double to left field plated Jessica Rogers.

UIC (2-8) earned a run back in the top of the third before Cal Poly answered in the bottom half of the inning with a double steal that scored shortstop Melissa Pura. Gehrke-Jones capped Cal Poly's scoring in the sixth, homering to right field for her first extra-base hit of the season.

Kontra, who didn't allow an earned run in 14 innings at the Palm Springs Classic, held the Flames to

three hits Sunday. Additionally, Modglin went 2 for 3.

Cal Poly recorded a 4-1 mark at the Palm Springs Classic with the only blemish being a 3-2 loss to No. 7 Northwestern on Saturday. Individually, Gehrke-Jones went 9 for 14 (.643) while Modglin was 9 for 15 (.600) at the tournament. The pair each hit safely in Cal Poly's five games.

Cal Poly resumes action March 2 to 4 at the Worth Invitational, hosted by Cal State Fullerton. The Mustangs open tournament play against Oklahoma State — whom they defeated 5-3 Feb. 16 — at 9 a.m. Friday. The doubleheader continues against No. 11 Stanford at 11:15 a.m.

Mustang baseball team wins 8-0 at Santa Clara

Cal Poly has won 10 of its last 12 games since starting the season 0-5.

SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT

SANTA CLARA — Junior right fielder Grant Desme belted his second grand slam of the season and sophomore right-hander Thomas Eager pitched a three-hitter as Cal Poly clinched its three-game nonconference baseball series against Santa Clara with an 8-0 victory Sunday at Stephen Schott Stadium.

Desme, who also hit a grand slam against Nevada two weeks ago, hit his sixth home run of the season and raised his RBI total in 17 games to 21 with his four-run shot to right-center field, giving the Mustangs a 7-0 lead in the fourth inning.

Cal Poly coasted from that point on to earn its 10th win in its last 12 games after an 0-5 start. The Mustangs are 10-7 for the season and Santa Clara, which had won three-game series against Cal Poly each of the last three seasons, two games to one, fell to 8-9 with Sunday's loss.

The Mustangs have won four straight series since being swept by San Diego on the opening week-

end of the season, beating San Diego State, Nevada and Santa Clara two games to one and sweeping Washington last weekend.

Eager pitched Cal Poly's first nine-inning complete game in two years. The Mustangs had three complete games in 2006, but all were eight-inning losses.

Eager struck out nine — one short of his career high set last week against Washington — and walked one while throwing 108 pitches. He pitched Cal Poly's first complete-game shutout since April 16, 2005, when Jimmy Shull blanked UC Davis 2-0 with a five-hitter.

Santa Clara grabbed the early lead in the first two games of the series, but Cal Poly struck first Sunday with a three-run second-inning rally.

Senior designated hitter Bryan Kepner led off with a home run to left field, his first round-tripper of the season. Two singles and a walk followed, loading the bases before junior second baseman Pat Pezet singled through the right side of the Santa Clara infield, scoring two runs.

Desme broke the game open with his grand slam in the fourth. Sophomore first baseman Adam Buschini singled, freshman left fielder Adam Melker walked and sophomore center fielder Logan Schafer was hit by a pitch, setting the stage for Desme's clout.

The home run also extended

Desme's hitting streak to 10 games. He had a 13-game hitting streak with the Mustangs a year ago.

Desme is only the second Mustang to hit two grand slams in a season since Cal Poly moved to Division I in 1995. Boyd Dodder also accomplished the feat in 1997.

Cal Poly added another insurance run in the seventh. An infield error, a hit batsman and an infield hit by sophomore third baseman Brent Morel loaded the bases before a passed ball allowed the run to score.

The Mustangs collected eight hits, including two singles each by Morel and Pezet.

Freshman shortstop Kyle Smith's eight-game hitting streak came to an end as he went 0 for 5 with four groundouts and a line drive right back to Santa Clara starting pitcher Justin Kuehn.

With Desme's grand slam and Pezet's two-run single, Cal Poly is now 7 for 16 with the bases loaded for a .438 average. Last year, the Mustangs hit just .198 with the sacks full.

Cal Poly, which lost its first five road games of the season, is now 2-5 away from Baggett Stadium and 8-2 at home.

The Mustangs return home to host Loyola Marymount for a three-game nonconference series next weekend.

Friday's game starts at 6 p.m. and the first pitch for both the Saturday and Sunday contests will be at 1 p.m.

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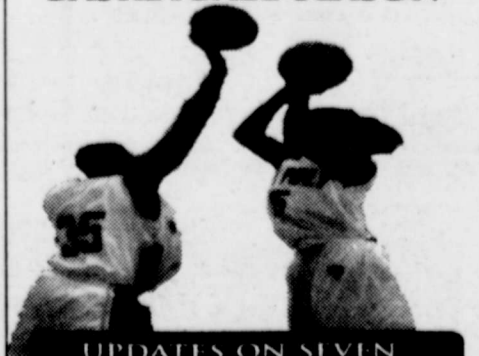
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Leipheimer edges Voigt by 21 seconds to win Tour of California

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONG BEACH — Levi Leipheimer won the Amgen Tour of California on Sunday having never trailed in the eight-day race.

Leipheimer, a three-time top-10 Tour de France finisher, completed 639.2-mile race with a 21-second advantage over Jens Voigt of Germany.

The Discovery Channel rider took the lead with a 1-second win in the prologue Feb. 18 in San Francisco. He maintained a lead of no more than 3 seconds until he dominated the individual time trial fifth stage last Friday

in Solvang.

"We knew that the other teams would be aggressive and that it just wasn't going to be parade-laps around-the-circuits day," said Leipheimer, who finished sixth last year. "We counted on the other teams wanting to win the stage. We just tried to keep the gaps close."

His teammate, Jason McCartney, was third overall, 54 seconds back.

Cuba's Ivan Dominguez won the final stage, surging in the final 25 yards to edge Australia's Graeme Brown by less than a foot in the 77.5-mile, seventh-stage circuit race in 2

hours, 39 minutes and 28 seconds.

Gerald Ciolek of Germany was third in the same time as the top two

finishers.

"When we were on the podium, I thanked Jens for such a great race,"

Leipheimer said. "The race was more aggressive this year and it's one of the most satisfying wins of my career."

Mustang women's tennis team downs LMU at home, 4-3

SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT

The Cal Poly women's tennis team won its second consecutive home match of the season, 4-3, over Loyola Marymount on Friday.

Cal Poly (4-6) recorded four singles victories to clinch the win. This is the first victory of the season for the Mustangs over a ranked opponent in five attempts.

At the No. 2 position, senior Carol Erickson recorded a win for the Mustangs over LMU's Tamara Tanner, 6-3, 6-0.

Cal Poly freshman Steffi Wong won her match in the No. 3 slot over Erin Ivey, 6-2, 6-2.

Mustang freshman Diane Filip cruised to her seventh victory of the season when she defeated Serena Fermin of the Lions, 6-1, 6-2.

Cal Poly's Maria Malec lost the first game in her match at the No. 6 spot, 4-6. She then rebounded in the sec-

ond and third games to record the 4-6, 6-1, 6-3 win over Bliss Nixon.

The Lions swept the three doubles matches to record one team point.

The Mustangs will be on the road for the next four weeks after the match starting with UC Riverside on March 2.

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The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0115

ACROSS

1 Church recess

5 Wallop in the boxing ring

9 Catcher's position

14 Deception

15 "Movin' ____"

("The Jeffersons" theme song)

16 What marks and francs have been replaced with

17 Singer Braxton

18 Cunningness

19 German word of appreciation

20 Special occasion

23 Atty.'s org.

24 ____ constrictor

25 Arctic bird

26 Oz musical, with "The"

29 Beatles movie

33 State Farm's business: Abbr.

34 Cry loudly

35 ET transporters

36 Bank contents

39 Unilever soap brand

40 Film critic Roger

41 Wide-eyed

42 ____ Lingus

43 Roman 111

44 Winner of the first Super Bowl

50 Sushi fish

51 Dadaist Jean

52 Motorist's way: Abbr.

53 "Shucks!"

54 Where to find the colors in this puzzle

57 Gather, logically

60 Home of Città del Vaticano

61 Fit of temper

62 Capital of Ecuador

63 Spoken

64 Raced (through)

65 Cast about

66 Nerve

67 S-shaped molding

DOWN

1 Off course

2 One of the friends on "Friends"

3 Beach footwear

4 1928 Oscar winner Jannings

5 Acts obsequiously

6 Singer Bryant and others

7 Christmastime

8 Area from which to hear an aria

9 Pop crooner Neil

10 Waterfront site

11 Vase

12 "Thumbs up"

13 Mao ____-tung

21 Piano key wood

22 Boneheaded

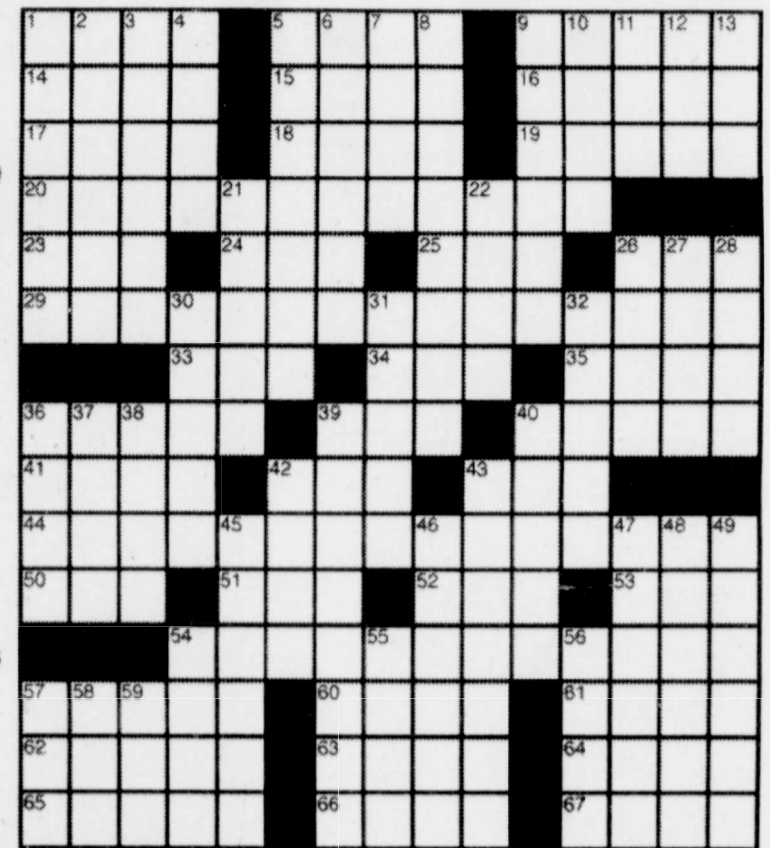
26 Bride, after the vows

27 "Are you ____ out?"

28 Spiciness

30 Feudal lord

31 Unconscionably high interest



Puzzle by David Pringle

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

T	E	A	R	G	A	S	F	I	E	S	T	A	S	
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LA Area Summer Camps
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or email:
classifieds@mustangdaily.net

HELP WANTED

Part-Time AG SERVICE REP
Responsible person w/ good driving record. Flexible time 10-30 hours/ wk. Physical work & mechanics involved. Fax resume 805-987-5837 or e-mail jim@cool-pak.com

Day Camps Seek Summer Staff.
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CMRG is actively looking for Research Candidates to participate in a clinical trial. If you are 18 years or older, diagnosed with a Sinusitis Infection and have had symptoms longer than 7 days and less than 28 days with two of the following: Facial Pain, Purulent Nasal Discharge, Frontal Headaches, Maxillary Dental Pain, or Fever, you may qualify for this clinical research study. Please call Coastal Medical Research Group at 805-549-7570 for more information. Time and travel may be reimbursed for qualified patients.

If you like working with children and are interested in tutoring at local elementary schools, come by the SCS office in UU 217 or e-mail scsyouthprograms@gmail.com

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Sex trafficking, Darfur, Invisible Children and more . . .
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RaisetheRespect@gmail.com

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Free List of all Houses and Condos for sale in SLO. Nelson Real Estate (805) 546-1990 or email steve@slohomes.com

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\$1000 REWARD for info on stolen 1999 silver Volvo S70 model
Contact: 431-2972

REWARD: Lost TI 89 Calculator
Call Joe at (805) 234-3934

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Please call (559) 824-5218

FOUND: Amanda's Ford Keys
Call Bryan 805-234-4337

LOST Silver Tiffany bracelet with heart. Please call 705-6090

FOUND ring in Bldg 26 on Feb 15
Please call (408) 821-6253

FOUND: Sunglasses in Bldg 13
Call 909-633-8022

REWARD \$50 for LOST dog "Nacho" Bulldog, Male, White/brown. Call: 438-5424

FOUND Woman's watch near Foothill Blvd. Call (916) 214-5090

FOUND scarf in University Cashier
Call Betty: 756-2310

FOUND: Silver Crescent - shaped hoop earrings. (646) 483-9647

REWARD for lost gold bracelet with heart and "Frances" engraved
Please call: (805) 464-1000

LOST Motorola cell phone
contact: hduong@calpoly.edu

Lost and Found ads are **FREE**

Eggleston reaches 1,000 points, helps Mustangs win 8th straight

With at least three games remaining this season, Cal Poly senior forward Jessica Eggleston is only 65 points away from becoming the third-leading scorer in program history.

Devan McClaine
MUSTANG DAILY

Senior Day is a celebration of career accomplishments.

Nobody in Mott Gym had more reason to celebrate Saturday than Cal Poly senior forward Jessica Eggleston. In a 75-64 win over Cal State Fullerton — Cal Poly's eighth straight victory — Eggleston surpassed the 1,000-point mark for her collegiate career in the first quarter of her final home game.

Despite becoming just the seventh player in program history, which dates back to 1974, to reach 1,000 points for a career, Eggleston remained humble afterward.

"Now that I've got it, it doesn't feel any different," Eggleston said. "It's a good accomplishment, though."

Eggleston was even surprised to learn she tallied her second straight double-double, finishing with 16 points and 12 rebounds.

Cal Poly head coach Faith Mimnaugh praised the Mustangs' team leader.

"Jessica is a champion," Mimnaugh said. "She is driven and a competitor at anything she tackles. It's been an amazing career."

Mimnaugh presented Eggleston with a commemorative ball after the game. The two embraced at halfcourt, surrounded by teammates and fans.

Individual accolades aside, Cal Poly (13-12, 8-4 Big West) moved into a three-way tie for second place with UC Santa Barbara and Cal State Northridge.

The top two teams in the eight-team conference's standings receive an automatic berth in the semifinals of the Big West tourney, which runs from March 7 to 10 in Anaheim. The top four seeds receive a bye in the first round.



NICK CAMACHO MUSTANG DAILY

Cal Poly senior forward Jessica Eggleston (32) looks to pass against defensive pressure from Cal State Fullerton junior guard Dayana Frias on Saturday in Mott Gym. The Mustangs won 75-64 on Senior Day.

After a dismal 3-10 start, the Mustangs have won eight straight and nine of their last 11 contests to shock everyone, including themselves.

"That's just an incredible story for anybody to even believe or to see from where this program has struggled through the season and where we are right now," Mimnaugh said, adding, "we want to finish as high as possible and get a bye."

Through 25 games, Cal Poly is above .500 for the first time since it

was 4-3 in early December.

The Mustangs dug deep to put away Cal State Fullerton, sending the Titans to third place.

Both teams came out firing in the first half, with Cal Poly attacking from the outside.

Meanwhile, the Titans (13-15, 7-7) established their presence inside with center Toni Thomas, who finished with 22 points and nine rebounds.

After setting a torrid pace in the opening minutes, Cal Poly settled

into a rhythm behind Eggleston and sophomore post player Megan Harrison. Harrison paced the Mustangs with 25 points, shooting 5 for 8 from the floor and adding nine rebounds.

"I just wanted to win for my seniors," Harrison said. "They mean so much to me."

Harrison attributed her recent surge to a combination of confidence and being healthy for the first time all season.

After a Harrison free throw made the score 22-16, the Mustangs closed the final 7 minutes, 3 seconds of the first half on a 16-8 run.

Eggleston and Harrison combined to score 10 of the Mustangs' 16 points during the run and 24 in the first half. Eggleston hit a baseline jumper as time expired to give the Mustangs a 38-24 halftime lead.

In the second half, the Titans employed the press, forcing the Mustangs into several bad passes and turnovers. The Titans stormed to a 16-7 run of their own, riding the press to cut the Mustangs' 14-point lead to four (45-41) with 13:18 remaining.

"(The press) took us out of our offense, it was very effective," Mimnaugh said.

Cal Poly took a more aggressive approach in the final 10 minutes of the contest, employing screens and attacking the center of the defense.

"I'm pleased with how we handled it, we kept our poise," Mimnaugh said.

Senior guard Ardia Kelker turned in a determined performance in the second half. The undersized guard was instrumental in keeping momentum on the side of Cal Poly, continually splitting the Titans' press and taking a key charge late in the game. Fittingly, Kelker also set a career high with six points on Senior Day.

Again, it was the duo of Eggleston and Harrison that carried the Mustangs in the latter minutes of the game. The pair scored seven of the Mustangs' last nine points.

see Basketball, page 10

Poly men's hoops squad wins for 10th time in last 12 games

The Mustangs upset Cal State Fullerton 90-80 in a game televised on Fox Sports Net Prime Ticket to move into a tie for third place in the Big West Conference.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

FULLERTON — Tyler McGinn scored 16 points and Titus Shelton had 14 to lead Cal Poly to a 90-80 victory over Cal State Fullerton on Saturday.

Trae Clark and Dreshawn Vance added 12 points apiece for the Mustangs (16-10, 7-5 Big West), who have won five consecutive games and 10 of 12. Dawin Whiten contributed 10 points and a career-high seven assists.

Bobby Brown scored 26 points for the Titans (19-8, 9-5 Big West), who have lost three of four. Marcus Crenshaw added 20 points and Scott Cutley had 15 points and 14 rebounds.

Crenshaw's 3-pointer gave Cal State Fullerton a 42-40 lead with 44 seconds left in the first half. But Cal Poly's Derek Stockalper made two free throws with eight seconds remaining to force a 42-42 halftime tie.

Stockalper then scored five points and Shelton added four during a 14-2 run that put the Mustangs ahead 56-44 with 13 minutes, 53 seconds to play.

Cal Poly led by as many as 13 points before Cal State Fullerton narrowed the deficit to 70-66 with five minutes left. Whiten and Vance each made two free throws to extend the lead to 74-66 with 4:03 remaining.

The Mustangs converted 18 of 24 free throws in the final 4:15 and made 53.7 percent of their field-goal attempts.

Poly men 5th, women last at BWC swimming finals

SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT

LONG BEACH — The Cal Poly swimming and diving team competed for the fourth consecutive day Saturday in the Big West Conference Championships at Belmont Plaza Olympic Pool.

At tournament's end, the Mustang women's team sat in last place with 323.5 points and the men had 315 points, good for fifth place among six teams.

Cal Poly's McKenna Long placed third in the women's 1-meter dive competition with a final score 201.05. Daniel Lara placed seventh in the 3-meter dive with a score of 202.15.

In the women's 1,650 freestyle,

Julie Demers placed 11th in 17:58.92. Corwin Di Dio placed 12th in the men's event in 16:02.20.

Cal Poly's Stacey Sorensen placed fourth in the women's 100 freestyle final in 51.4 and teammate Christina Shilling placed two spots behind Sorensen with a mark of 51.96.

Two Mustangs placed 12th in the men's and women's 200 breaststroke event — Alyssa Rogers for the women in 2:28.18 and the men's Kellen Ranahan with a mark of 1:52.88.

Cal Poly's team of Sorensen, Shilling, Erin Musgrave and Erin Moody placed fourth in the 400 freestyle relay in 3:31.

Mustang wrestling team finishes 4th in Pac-10; Vasquez takes 133-pound title

Cal Poly's other two ranked wrestlers lost in their respective championship matches.

SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT

BAKERSFIELD — The Cal Poly wrestling team completed the Pac-10 Championships with 84 points, which was good for fourth place Sunday in the Icardo Center on the campus of Cal State Bakersfield.

Cal Poly senior Darrell Vasquez was crowned Pac-10 champion.

At 133 pounds, Vasquez won by injury default over Oregon State's Bobby Pfennigs in the championship match. For the season, Vasquez, a Bakersfield native, was undefeated in Pac-10 competition.

Cal Poly senior Matt Monteiro, who was seeded No. 1 in the 197-pound bracket, was upset in the championship match by Cal State Bakersfield's Brandon Halsey.

Within the first 30 seconds of the match, Monteiro was fighting off a potential fall from the aggressive Halsey. Monteiro fought back to tie the match 6-6 at the 1-minute mark in 2:00, but Halsey, who was named the tournament's Most Outstanding Wrestler, controlled the match for the last period and a half to make the final score 10-7.

Mustang senior Cody Parker lost in the championship match, 9-2, to No. 5 Ty Watterson of Oregon State at the heavyweight division. Parker prevented the shutout by recoding a

reversal as time expired in the third period. Parker earned his third trip to the NCAA Championships.

Cal Poly's Chase Pami suffered a fall in the third-place match of the 157-pound bracket by way of Boise State's Tyler Sherfey.

Dave Roberts placed fourth at 141 pounds. Roberts was pinned in the first round of the third place match by Cal State Bakersfield's Matt Schumm. Roberts only suffered two losses in the tournament and both were delivered by Schumm.

Also for the Mustangs, Yuri Kalika (184) and Nick Hernandez placed sixth in their respective brackets. Kalika injury defaulted in his final match to Ernesto Ancona of Cal State Bakersfield.