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Dead zone in Gulf of Mexico still increasing

Nanci Velez
THE DAILY REVEILLE (LSU)

The dead zone off the coast of Louisiana has grown to its largest size at 20,500 square kilometers, according to a July 2007 report by Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium.

Dead zones are places in aquatic environments that cannot sustain life because of oxygen levels. Low oxygen areas, or hypoxia, in the Gulf of Mexico were first seen in 1972.

Nan Walker, oceanography and coastal sciences professor, said hypoxia is prompted by the over-blooming of phytoplankton, which is caused by certain chemicals and nutrients brought into the Gulf of Mexico by the Mississippi River. The bacteria that breaks down the phytoplankton is forced to use more oxygen in the process, reducing the amount needed by marine animals.

Terry Remaire, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries biologist, said much blame has been placed on increased agricultural activity along the Mississippi River basin. Certain fertilizers used agriculturally in the Midwest contain nitrate, a nutrient that decreases oxygen in water.

"If you look at the broad picture, though, the real culprit is the increased population along the Mississippi River," Remaire said. "Now, just about everyone has some mea-

sure of guilt."

Walker said the hypoxia has severe consequences on marine life.

"Small animals that live here die," Walker said. "Fish can get away from these areas, but crabs and other bottom-dwelling creatures can't. They're forced to swim to the surface and try to survive."

The report issued by LUMCON indicated shrimp fishing in the Gulf of Mexico will see a decline because of the area's lack of oxygen.

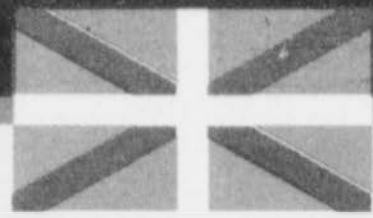
Remaire said environmentalists and researchers have put pressure on private agricultural and petrochemical companies to address the problem in the past 10 years.

The Environmental Protection Agency created the Hypoxia Task Force to reduce the size of the dead zone in the Gulf of Mexico by 50 percent by the year 2015.

The agency has put mandatory limits on the amount of specific chemicals — such as nitrogen, potassium and phosphate — found in other bodies of water that feed into the Mississippi River.

Remaire said while this is a step in the right direction, the dead zone will most likely increase in size, hindering these efforts.

"It's possible at the end of 15 years we could see a drop in the effect, but the problem is of such magnitude that it will probably take a long time to see any result," Remaire said.



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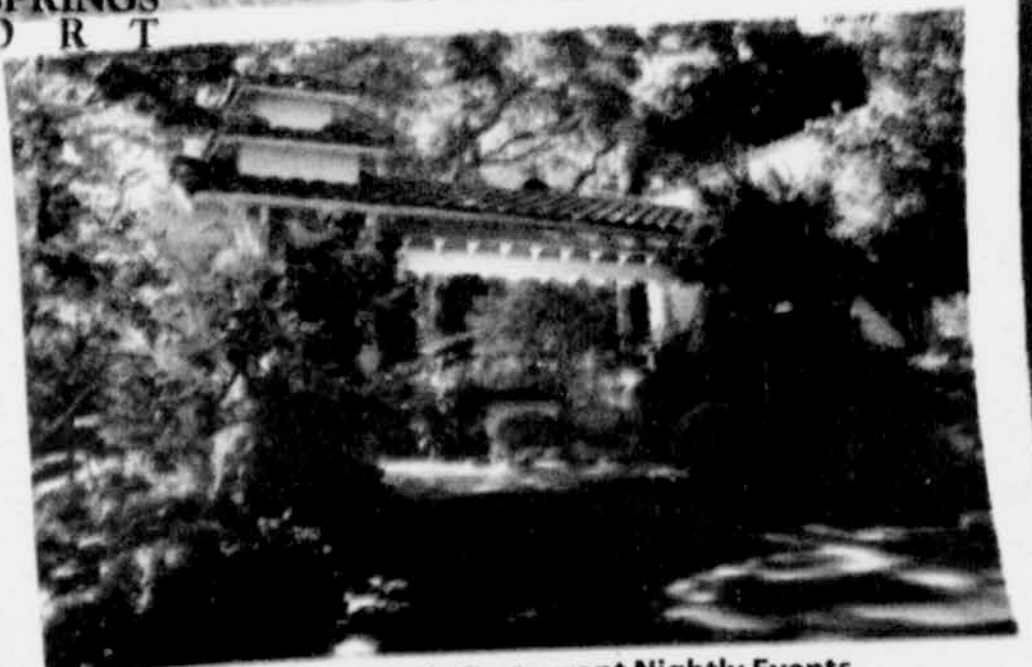
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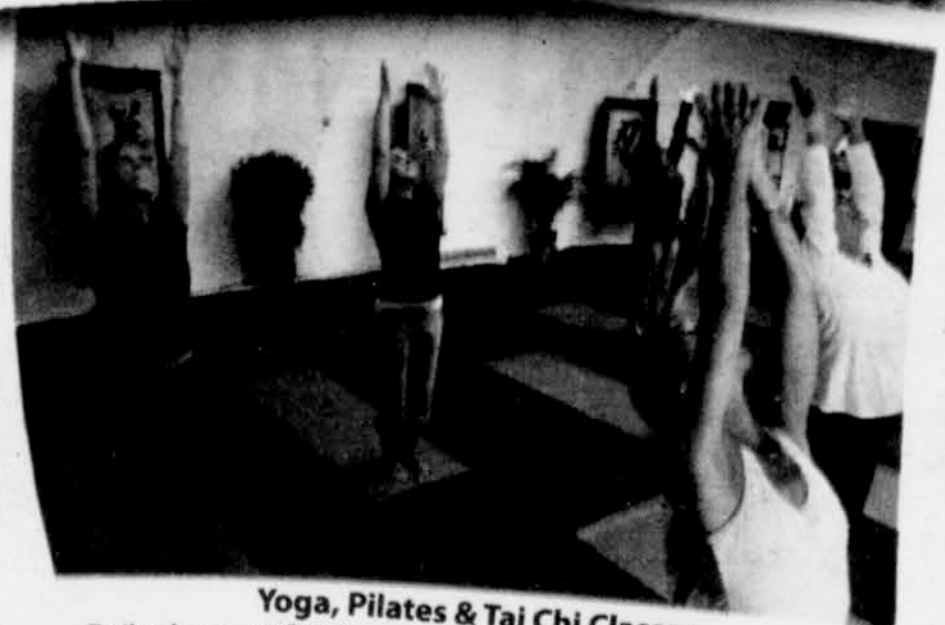
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Iraqi forces at least 18 months from independence

Anne Flaherty
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Iraq's security forces will be unable to take control of the country in the next 18 months, and Baghdad's national police force is so rife with corruption it should be scrapped entirely, according to a new independent assessment.

The study, led by retired Marine Corps Gen. James Jones, is a sweeping and detailed look at Iraq's security forces that will factor heavily into Congress' upcoming debate on the war. Republicans see success by the Iraqi forces as critical to bringing U.S. troops home, while an increasing number of Democrats say the U.S. should stop training and equipping such units altogether.

The 20-member panel of mostly retired senior military and police officers concludes that Iraq's military, in particular its Army, shows the most promise of becoming a viable, independent security force with time. But the group predicts an adequate logistics system to support these ground forces is at least another two years away.

The report also offers a scathing assessment of Baghdad's Ministry of Interior and recommends scrapping Iraq's national police force, which it describes as dysfunctional and infiltrated by militias.

These units "have the potential to help reduce sectarian violence,

but ultimately the (Iraq Security Force) will reflect the society from which they are drawn," according to the report, a copy of which was obtained by The Associated Press. "Political reconciliation is the key to ending sectarian violence in Iraq."

The United States has spent \$19.2 billion on developing Iraq's forces, and plans to spend another \$5.5 billion next year. According to Jones' study, the Iraqi military comprises more than 152,000 service members operating under the Ministry of Defense, while the Ministry of Interior oversees some 194,000 civilian security personnel, including police and border control.

The review is one of several studies that Congress commissioned in May, when it agreed to fund the war for several more months but demanded that the Bush administration assess U.S. progress in the four-year war.

Jones, a former commander of U.S. troops in Europe and former Marine Corps commandant, is scheduled to testify before Congress on Thursday. Defense Secretary Robert Gates and other officials have already been briefed on the study, officials said last week.

A senior Pentagon official said Wednesday that the military does not believe the Iraqi national police should be disbanded, but acknowledges that getting the Iraqi army up

see Iraq, page 12

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Opportunities available for local student volunteers

Laura Kasavan
MUSTANG DAILY

When Kelsey Currier isn't busy serving in the community service program AmeriCorps, she volunteers at the Avila Marine Institute.

She has worked as a feeder there, taught children about the ocean and marine life during the institute's summer program, and has accompanied classes on boat rides around Port San Luis.

The UCLA graduate is also the program coordinator for VolunteerSLO, a volunteer program based on the Cal Poly campus that hosts a Web site database of volunteer options in San Luis Obispo County.

VolunteerSLO matches interested volunteers with nonprofit agencies in more than 20 areas of service.

"VolunteerSLO made me more service-minded and opened my eyes to how much can be done," Currier said. "I volunteer at the Avila Marine Institute because I saw their listing and it sparked my interest."

Possible areas of service include animal welfare, education, human services and recreation.

Students interested in volunteer opportunities can also utilize the Web site's events calendar, or search for a specific volunteer position of interest by using a keyword search.

Currier said that the Web site is user-friendly. Another advantage is that nonprofits list available opportunities



GRAIG MANTLE MUSTANG DAILY

Students can find local volunteer opportunities through the community services office in the University Union or at www.volunteerslo.org.

and contact information for free.

Nonprofit organizations register their agency with VolunteerSLO and then post available opportunities.

Each volunteer position listed names the job and location. The listings also give information about who can get involved, the age group of volunteers needed, the dates of service, and a contact person.

Currier said that VolunteerSLO is the only county specific volunteer program in the area, and that the program is a way to broaden the college experience.

"VolunteerSLO lets participants get a feel for the community and

make connections with nonprofits that could turn into jobs," Currier said. "It's a good way to see what's out there. Nonprofits and other organizations are doing wonderful things but they need help."

Currier said that there are so many opportunities for anyone interested in volunteering on the Web site that nonprofits compete for the available volunteers.

The program was started with grant funding more than three years ago, and VolunteerSLO has evolved from a strictly on-campus volunteer program to a completely revamped

see Volunteers, page 16



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MUSTANG DAILY

News

Online dating sees popularity increase

Danielle Novy

DAILY TOREADOR (TEXAS TECH)

Forget the bar scene — increasing numbers of college students now are searching for love in the same place they do their shopping, check their e-mail and chat with friends: the World Wide Web. To meet young adults' demands, more and more online-dating Web sites are catering specifically to college students and offering free-of-charge services.

"College students comprise a group that has a natural affinity toward being online," said Gail Laguna, a spokeswoman for Spark Network, a company that created a variety of dating Web sites targeting different demographics. One such site under Spark Network's umbrella is www.collegeluv.com, a romance venue bearing the tag line "Sign Up, Look Up, Hook Up."

Laguna said www.collegeluv.com was launched in 2002 to accommodate what was viewed as a "growing market." While the those in the 25-to-35-year-old age bracket still comprise the core demographic of online daters, collegians are becoming more open to the idea of looking for romance online, Laguna said.

Furthermore, unlike their older counterparts, college students tend to seek companionship rather than life partners.

"At this point, the social aspect

plays more of a role than the marriage aspect," she said of young adults.

Joe Tracy, publisher of Online Dating Magazine, said he also has observed a trend of more and more collegians turning to both dating Web sites and social networking sites, such as www.myspace.com and www.facebook.com.

"(The popularity of) online dating continues to go up," he said. "It hasn't yet reached its peak." Tracy said he believes college students gravitate toward the Internet for romance because of the Web's combined simplicity and convenience.

"(Dating Web sites) are easy to fit into students' schedules," he said. "Plus, most college students are tech-savvy." Tracy said online dating is a safe alternative to yesteryear's dating methods as long as participants follow basic safety tips.

The dating Web site www.match.com offers potential lovebirds a string of simple tips for online dating, including: Guarding one's identity, using third-party, anonymous e-mail addresses and blocking anyone who behaves in an abusive manner.

David Bernal, a Texas Tech senior general studies major, said he still is dating a person he met through an online dating site. Online dating can be appealing to college students because it's easier than going to bars to meet potential partners, he said. Still,

see Dating, page 12

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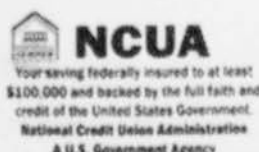
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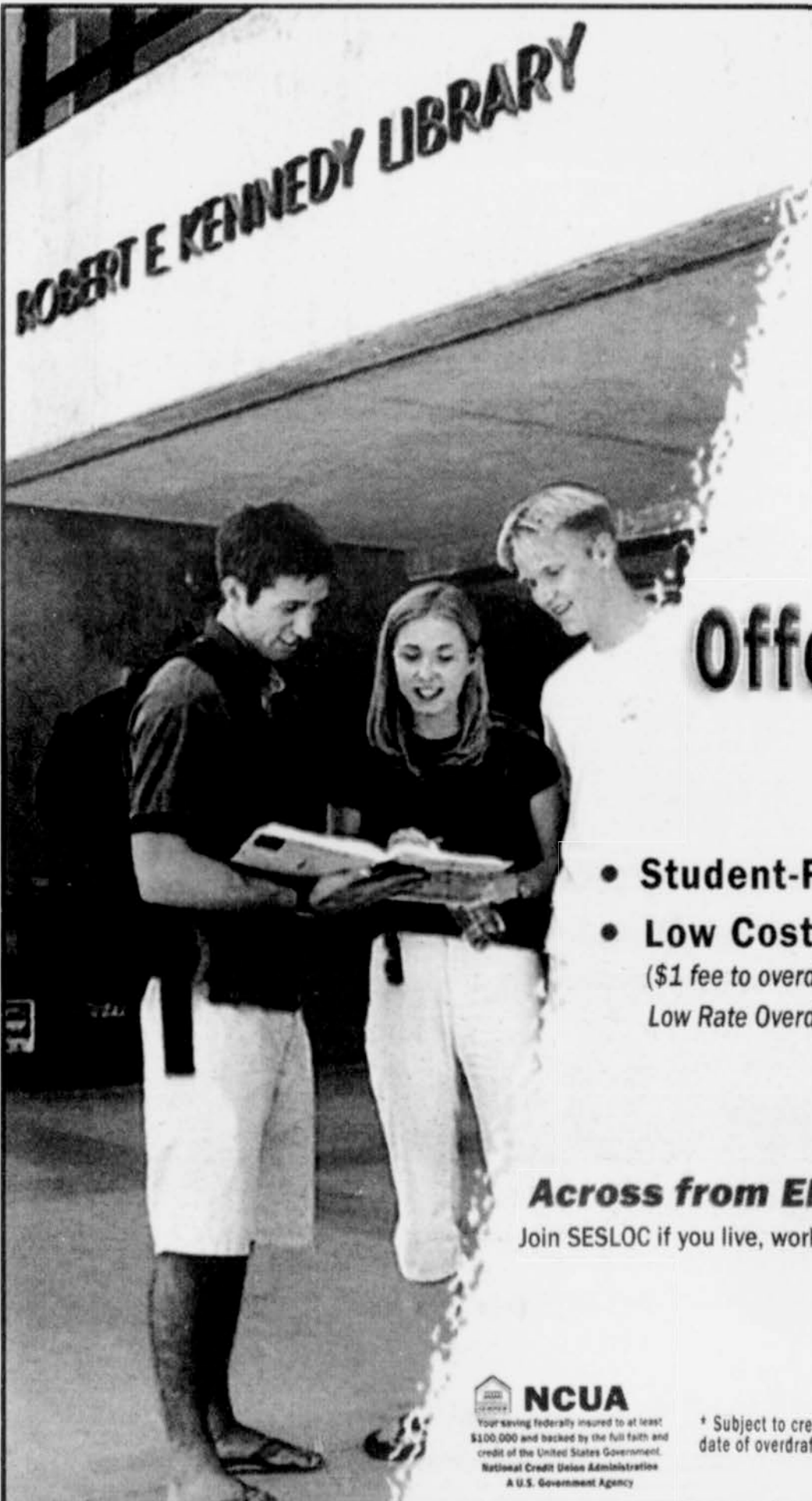


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Iraq

continued from page 7

to speed will take a while.

"We've always recognized that this was a long-term project," Pentagon press secretary Geoff Morrell said Wednesday. "Getting the Iraqi army on its feet and capable of defending the borders of the country independently is not an overnight project. He added: "It is our belief that this will come to fruition. It's going to take some time to happen."

Several lawmakers — many of whom face tough elections next year — said they would be unswayed by the Jones report and other independent assessments. Congress would fare better by finding a bipartisan solution that would bring troops home, they say.

"No matter what these reports suggest or what Congress infers from them, it is clear that it is time to develop a post-surge strategy," wrote 13 lawmakers, including three Republicans, on Wednesday to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., and Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, D-Md.

But other lawmakers were expected to take keen interest in Jones' findings, which is a rare, detailed look at individual pieces of Iraq's emerging security force. The report was called for by Sen. John Warner, R-Va., the No. 2 Republican on the Senate Armed Services Committee, who said he wanted an assessment independent of the Pentagon's findings.

According to the study, the panel agreed with U.S. and Iraqi officials that the Iraqi Army is capable of

see Iraq, page 16

Dating

continued from page 11

it's wise to be cautious when entering the online dating pool.

"You have to be kind of careful because there are some crazy people out there," Bernal said.

"Still, (online dating) is not a bad thing to try; you never know until you actually do it."

Laura Cunningham, a graduate student, said although she has not tried online dating herself, she has a handful of friends and family members who have sampled it.

"I think it is a tool mostly for men rather than for women," she said.

"Often the women are waiting for the men to take initiative."

Cunningham said her male friends have had quite a different experience than her female friends in the realm of online romance.

"My male friends have not had as much success — they've dated a lot, but they enjoyed the anonymity (online dating provides)," she said. On the other hand, Cunningham said the overwhelming sentiment felt by her female friends is that online dating can be both discouraging and disappointing.

The Web sites www.okcupid.com and www.plentyoffish.com are among the free online dating venues available to college students.

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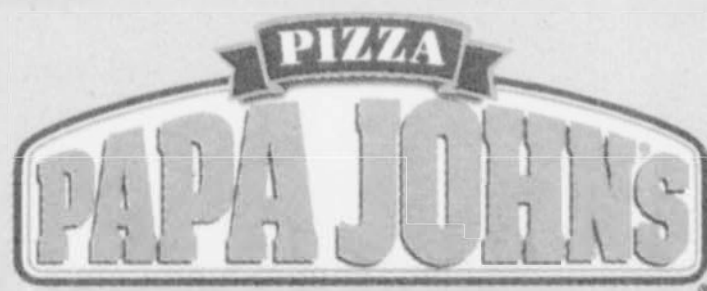
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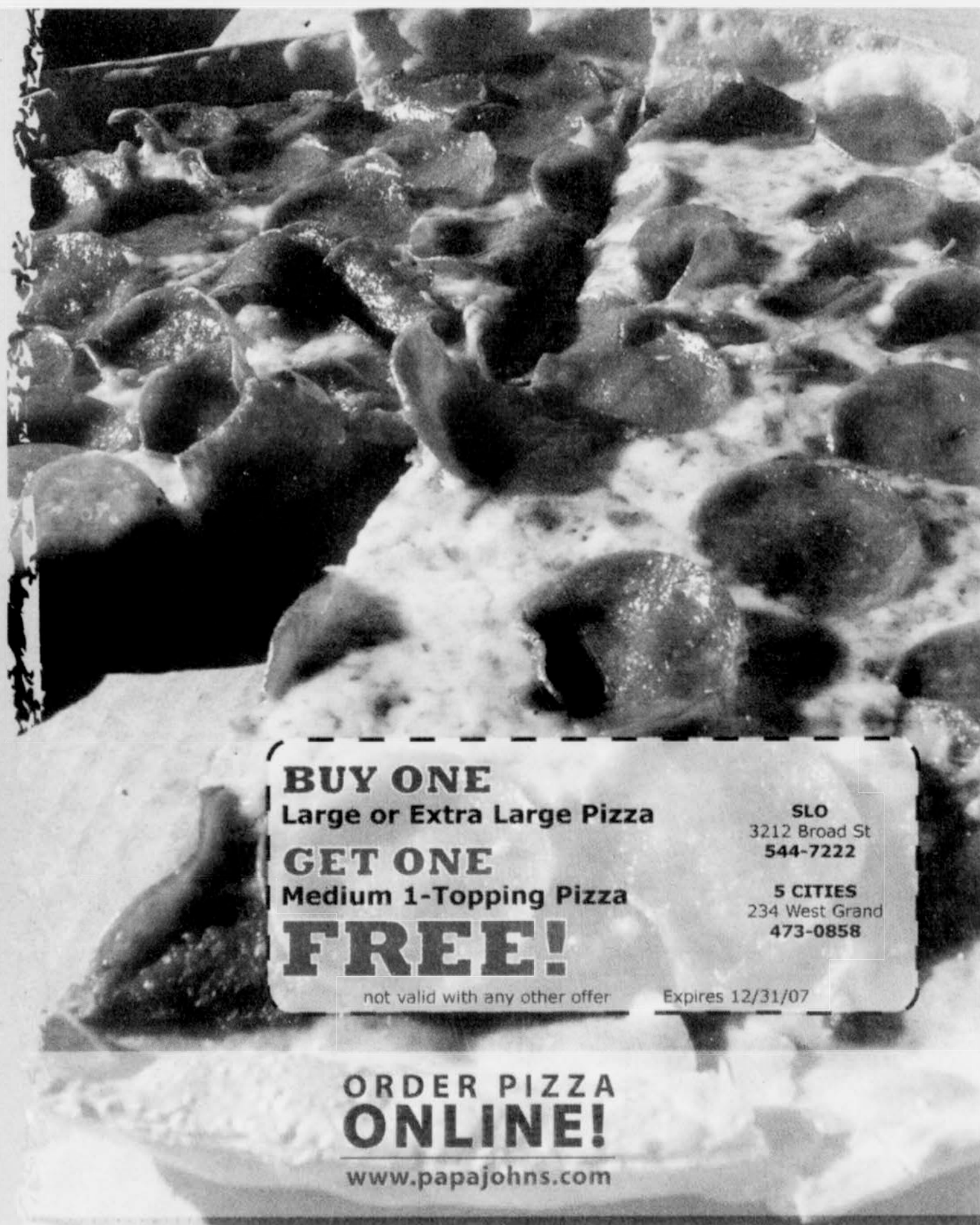
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Josh Funk
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Four of the nation's biggest microwave popcorn makers are working to remove a flavoring chemical from their products linked to a lung ailment in popcorn plant workers while reassuring consumers about the safety of the snack.

Several of the companies discussed their plans after a leading lung research hospital warned that consumers also could be in danger from the buttery flavoring diacetyl.

The three companies that sell Orville Redenbacher, Act II, Pop Secret and Jolly Time microwave popcorn said they planned to change the recipes for their butter-flavored microwave popcorn to remove diacetyl.

The chemical diacetyl has been linked to cases of bronchiolitis obliterans, a rare life-threatening disease often called popcorn lung.

ConAgra Foods Inc., General Mills Inc. and the American Pop Corn Company all promised to make the change because of safety concerns. Together those companies accounted for more than 80 percent of the market for microwave popcorn over the past 12 months, according to the research firm Information Resources Inc.

Last week, another popcorn manufacturer, Weaver Popcorn Co. of In-

dianapolis, said it would replace the butter flavoring ingredient because of consumer concern.

The Center for Science in the Public Interest, a consumer advocacy group, said the change is significant for workers who handle diacetyl and welcome for consumers even though the butter flavor may not present a significant risk for them.

"If the industry can get rid of the diacetyl, great. Why have any risk at all?" said Michael Jacobson, the nonprofit's executive director in Washington. "The real risk, the much bigger risk to consumers is the trans fat in popcorns."

The popcorn makers said consumers worried about diacetyl can buy varieties of microwave popcorn that are not butter flavored because those products don't contain diacetyl.

Diacetyl occurs naturally in foods such as butter, cheese and fruits, and the FDA has approved its use as a flavor ingredient.

A pulmonary specialist at Denver's National Jewish Medical and Research Center had written to federal agencies to say doctors there believe they have the first case of a consumer who developed lung disease from the fumes of microwaving popcorn several times a day for years, according to reports Tuesday.

see Popcorn, page 17

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Scientists investigate Beethoven's death

Jovanni Colisao

SPARTAN DAILY (SAN JOSE STATE U.)

When students think of Beethoven, the first thing that comes to mind is "Beethoven's Fifth Symphony," said Alexandra Megia, a fourth-year San Jose State University student.

Having written nine symphonies, 16 string quartets and 32 piano sonatas, Ludwig van Beethoven suffered from many illnesses throughout his 57 years of life, which included primarily abdominal problems, according to the Ira F. Brilliant Center's Web site.

Recently, in Vienna, the Vienna Beethoven Society published a German article that discusses a forensic scientist who is investigating whether Beethoven's death might have been triggered by lead poisoning from his physician, Dr. Andreas Wawruch.

Christian Reiter, a professor in the Medical University of Vienna, has been examining Ludwig van Beethoven's strands of hair that possibly could contain lead poisoning.

Once William Meredith heard about the article in Vienna, he asked Reiter if he could publish an English version of his article in this summer's 2007 issue of Beethoven's Journal.

"We knew from earlier tests, that Beethoven was exposed to lead at least by the end of his life," Meredith said, "because the lead was also in the bone fragments."

Reiter's findings may or may not be true, but Megia seems to believe so. "I think it's pretty valid because you know back in the day, not a lot of people

knew about what certain poisons did," Megia said. "I wouldn't be surprised if that's what really killed him."

According to the article, Beethoven suffered from pneumonia, which Wawruch recorded in his notes that he treated Beethoven with an "infection dissolving medication."

However the medication's side effects involved a large accumulation of fluid in the abdominal cavity, which would force Wawruch to puncture Beethoven's abdomen four times in order to drain the excessive fluid.

This procedure caused Beethoven's bloodstream to spike every time his abdomen was punctured. "Reiter's theory is that after they punctured the stomach, they used a salve, which is a type of medicine used on the area where they had cut Beethoven open," Meredith said. "And that medication used may have had lead in it."

Meredith discussed the concept of Reiter's investigation, and by simply analyzing a strand of hair, scientists can tell whether or not somebody has ingested cocaine, and if so on what day.

"Your hair grows at a certain rate and when you ingest a poison then your body tries to get rid of it. And one of the ways it gets rid of it is through your hair," Meredith said.

According to the Ira F. Brilliant Center's Web site, the study of Beethoven's lock of hair was originally bought at a Sotheby's auction in 1994 by four members of the American Beethoven Society who agreed to hold the majority of the hair strands at San Jose State's Beethoven Center.

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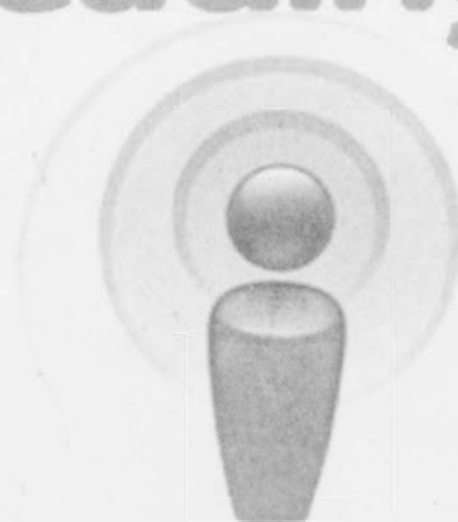
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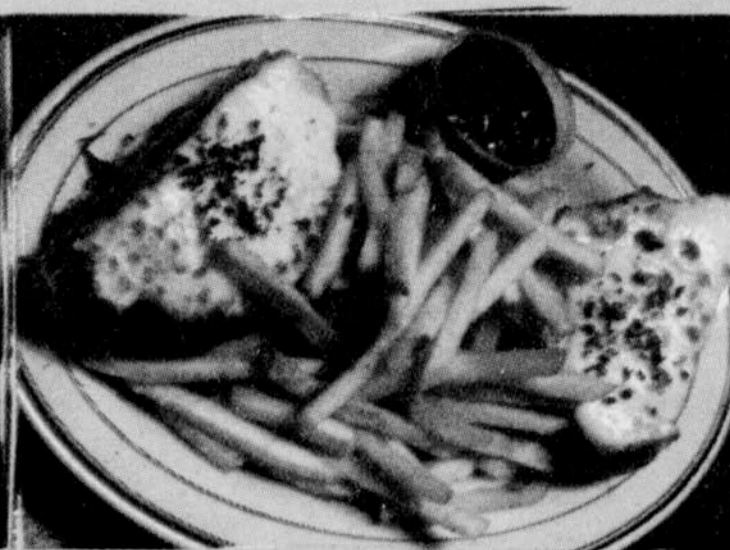


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Iraq

continued from page 12

taking over an increasing amount of day-to-day combat responsibilities, but that the military and police force would still be unable to take control and operate independently in such a short time frame.

"They are gaining size and strength, and will increasingly be capable of assuming greater responsibility for Iraq's security," the report states, adding that special forces in particular are "highly capable and extremely effective."

The report is much more pessimistic about Baghdad's police units. It describes these units as fragile, ill-equipped and infiltrated by militia forces. And they are led by the Ministry of Interior, which is "a ministry in name only" that is "widely regarded as being dysfunctional and sectarian, and suffers from ineffective leadership."

Accordingly, the study recommends disbanding the national police and starting over.

"Its ability to be effective is crippled by significant challenges, including public distrust, sectarianism (both real and perceived), and a lack of clarity about its identity—specifically whether it is a military or a police force," the report states.

A group of liberal Democrats said Wednesday the U.S. should stop supporting these forces entirely and withdraw U.S. troops.

"How can we be sure we are not putting guns into the hands of a future enemy and empowering them for generations to come?" said Rep. Maxine Waters, D-Calif. Rep. James Moran, D-Va., a member of the House panel that oversees the military budget, said an option being considered is a bill that funds the troops, but in three- or four-month installments, and directs the money pay only to bring them home.

The approach would guarantee another showdown with Bush on the war before year's end, putting Republicans squarely in the middle of the debate.

With Democrats lacking the two-thirds majority needed to override a presidential veto, they need GOP votes to force legislation ending the war.

GOP leaders say they are waiting to hear from Gen. David Petraeus, the top military commander in Iraq. But that they aren't so sure they'll lose members to the Democrats' anti-war push.

"The success our troops have had put some oxygen back in the room, both for the party and the American public," said Rep. Adam Putnam, R-Fla., the No. 3 House Republican.

Volunteers

continued from page 9

program available to serve all of San Luis Obispo County.

VolunteerSLO plans to begin a marketing campaign in the fall to raise

student and community awareness. They hope to recruit additional volunteers through the effort.

To find a volunteer opportunity, go to www.volunteerslo.org or stop by the VolunteerSLO office stationed in the student community services office in the UU.



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SLO Transit, the local bus system that is free to anyone with a PolyCard, is planning to extend its hours and add stops every 15 minutes instead of every half-hour.

GIANA MAGNOLI
MUSTANG DAILY

Bus, library hours extended

Mollie Helmuth

MUSTANG DAILY

Life will be a bit more convenient for students in the 2008-09 academic year with extensions being placed on both Kennedy Library's hours and SLO Transit's bus schedules. The new hours for both programs are largely aimed at facilitating effective student life at Cal Poly.

Kennedy Library previously closed at 1 a.m., but with the new weekday schedule to begin fall quarter, the main library will be open until 2 a.m. and the reading room will be converted to a 24-hour study room.

"Students have repeatedly asked for longer hours to support study in the library," said Dean of Library Services Michael D. Miller. "We agree and will do everything possible to make this happen."

All of the library facilities, including the Mac lab on the second floor, will be open through 2 a.m., with some possible exceptions including the reference desk. Miller hopes

that by extending the hours it will relieve some pressure students feel from their already busy schedules.

Liberal studies senior Cara Press feels that it is about time Cal Poly offered a 24-hour library service.

"I use the library regularly, but during finals week, it's essential that I have access to a quiet study area," she said. "I can't get that at home, so it would really help me out if we had that option."

San Luis Obispo is also on board to help alleviate students' hectic lives. SLO Transit has adopted an extended evening schedule, adding new trips to their rounds. The new schedule began Sept. 4 and includes later pickups Monday through Thursday.

The city received a State Transportation Assistance Grant to extend the bus schedules, but the money is discretionary and the company hopes to build ridership to show that the service is necessary to the community. "If you like the service, please use it," said Transit manager John Webster.

"If we have good numbers (of riders) and a high demand, we'll extend to Friday through Sunday."

The futures of both the Kennedy Library and SLO Transit are optimistic, with more changes on the horizon.

"We have just begun working with architects to do a complete renovation and expansion of Kennedy Library," Miller said. "The emerging plan includes a 24-hour study space, more group project rooms and expanded access to technology."

SLO Transit is also hoping to improve their availability, possibly adding stops every 15 minutes (as opposed to every 30) to reduce waiting. Webster encourages students to get involved with their local government to create the changes they want to see.

"Your community can make the difference. Get active in state politics and write to your local representative to get money for transportation," he said.

Popcorn

continued from page 14

Dr. Cecile Rose sent the letter to federal health officials in July.

The Flavor and Extract Manufacturers Association said that Rose's finding does not suggest a risk from eating microwave popcorn. The concern instead focuses on workers inhaling it in manufacturing settings — either in making the flavoring or adding it to food products ranging from popcorn to pound cakes.

The Washington, D.C.-based association has said several flavor manufacturers are either researching alternatives to diacetyl or are already marketing butter flavors free of the chemical.

ConAgra, which makes Orville Redenbacher and Act II popcorn, said it would make the change over the next year.

General Mills, which sells but doesn't make Pop Secret popcorn, said it planned to phase out diacetyl "soon," but company spokesman Tom Forsythe said he wasn't sure how quickly that could be done.

A spokeswoman for American Pop Corn, which makes Jolly Time, said the Sioux City, Iowa, company has been working on a new recipe without diacetyl for several months.

"Within the next 90 days, we will have it removed from all of our microwave popcorn products," spokeswoman Tracy Boever said.

The first government study to look at what fumes are produced by microwaving popcorn at home is due to be published as soon as this month, the U.S. Environmental

Protection Agency said Wednesday.

The two-year study by EPA researchers was completed in late 2005 and has been under wraps since then, prompting critics to charge that the agency was protecting industry interests. But an EPA spokeswoman said the delay was due to a string of requirements including scientific review, submitting the report to industry and the time it took to get into a scientific journal.

EPA spokeswoman Suzanne Ackerman said the paper was recently accepted for publication as early as this month in a major scientific journal that she would not name.

The EPA denied a Freedom of Information request last fall from The Associated Press for the report, arguing it was a draft still under review. The agency has not yet answered an AP appeal of that rejection.

Ackerman confirmed that the study had been submitted to popcorn manufacturers ahead of its release. She said that was done to let companies make sure there were no competitive secrets in the report. EPA scientists signed nondisclosure agreements with industry in return for lists of ingredients the makers use in the popcorn and the packaging.

The report, titled "Emissions from Cooking Microwave Popcorn," is not a study of the health effects of diacetyl on consumers. Instead, it looks at exactly what gases including diacetyl are produced in what amount when consumers make microwave popcorn at home.

Students not reading their textbooks

Kiera Manion-Fischer

DAILY KENT STATER (KENT STATE U.)

When Nicole Prorock, Kent State University junior molecular biology major, sits down to study for a test, it's usually the first time she opens her textbooks.


"Basically, I only use them to study off of," she said. "If we're not going to have a test, I don't just read chapters in my book."

According to a recent study, students are more likely to read textbooks if they have good visuals and if lectures and class work relate to the books. The study was presented by Regan A. R. Gurung and Ryan C. Martin at the American Psychological Association's annual meeting.

Marti Hake, sophomore food and nutrition major, said she doesn't always read her textbooks. She said the words sometimes don't make sense and one thing that might make textbooks better is pictures that explain the text.

Hake said she took general psychology with professor Benjamin Newberry. She said the tests were

see Reading, page 20



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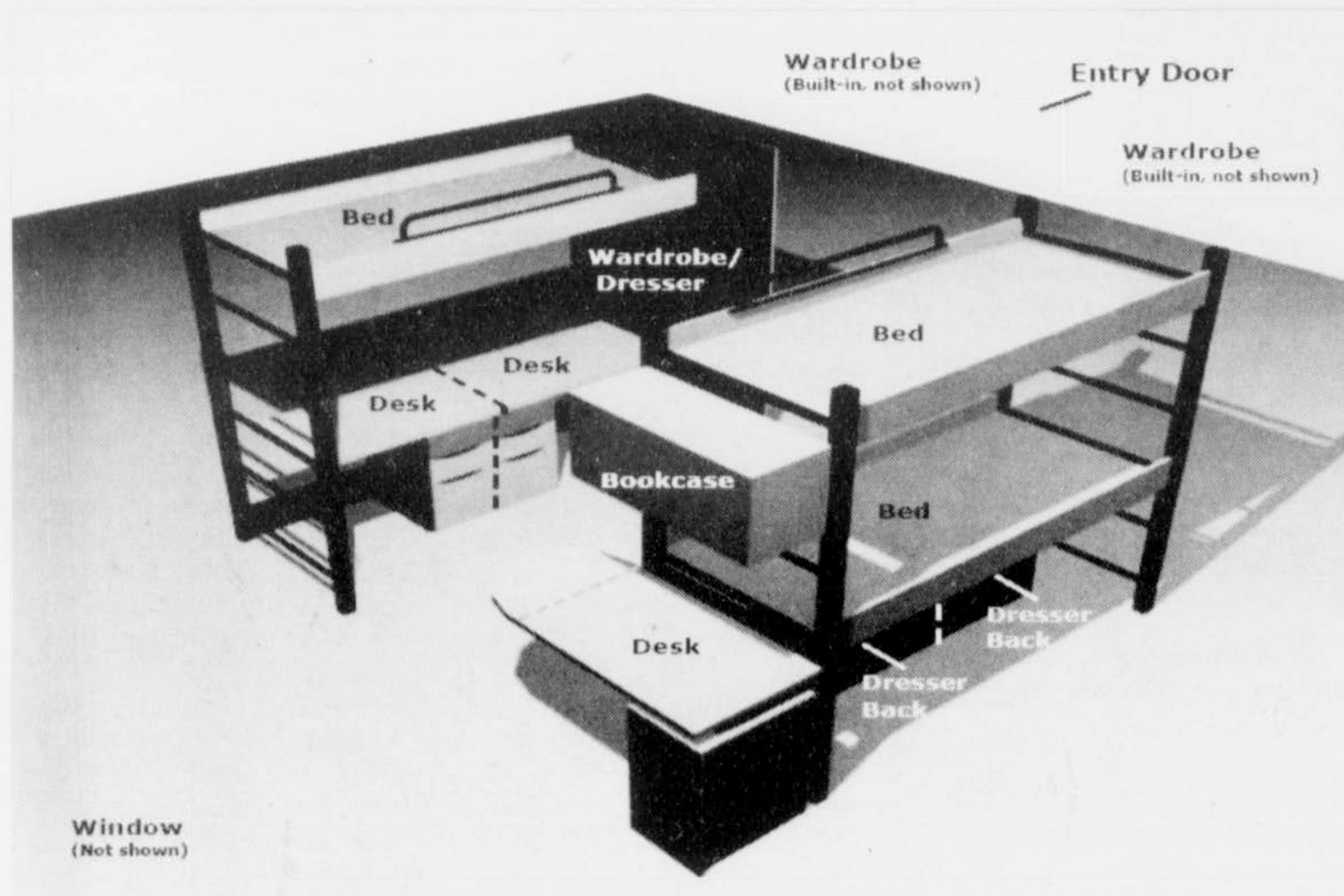
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Acceptance rates result in tripled room lottery



The diagram shown above demonstrates the new living arrangements and furnishings for the tripled residence hall rooms, which are located in the North Mountain and South Mountain dorms.

COURTESY PHOTO

Jared Cleaver
MUSTANG DAILY

In recent years, large freshmen classes have given incoming students the option of living in "triple" or "quad" rooms at a discounted rate. This year, the number of incoming students resulted in a random lottery, which deter-

mined which incoming freshmen will live in the tripled residence hall rooms.

In a June 20 e-mail sent to incoming freshmen, Preston Allen, the executive director of Housing and Residential Life, wrote: "Acceptance to the University for this coming academic year is at an all-time high, as is the demand for

on-campus housing. For 'Regular Fall Admitted' freshmen, we were only able to keep the housing application system open for two days and the amount of students who did secure housing during this short time quickly exceeded our design capacity."

As a result, the e-mail stated that a "random lottery process" will be

implemented to determine the living situations of the remaining students. According to Cal Poly's housing Web site, students living in these converted rooms will save \$747 on rent annually.

Evan Razor, a city and regional planning sophomore, lived in a triple room in the North Mountain dorms last year.

"There were three of us in a room, and honestly, it wasn't bad at all," Razor said.

"It was a tighter space, which made it a little more difficult, and we didn't have a TV, so I guess you could consider those to be cons. There's just less privacy in general, but rent was cheaper and, I mean, it worked. We didn't really have any problem at all."

Despite the downsides to the situation, Razor said that the good outweighed the bad, and he wouldn't change anything if he could.

"I definitely thought it was worth the cheaper rent," he said. "It wasn't a big deal at all. We all got along, so maybe we were lucky. I would definitely do it again; it's not that big of a complication. We were in North Mountain so our rooms were a little bigger, but I don't think that it would be much of a problem in the red bricks either."

Allen says that new living arrangements will maximize the number of incoming students who

can utilize the benefits provided by on-campus life.

"We have been asked by the university to provide as many first-year students as we can the opportunity to benefit from the whole campus experience," Allen said in an e-mail interview.

"With so many of our first-time students living on and off campus, a special focus of mine will be to work with the campus, as well as the off-campus community, to do more than house our students, but to work with us to integrate them fully into the campus life so they can experience the full sense of connection."

New furniture has been purchased to accommodate the triple rooms in the red brick dorms. To efficiently utilize the limited space, the rooms will contain a loft bed with two desks underneath. In addition, there will also be a bunk bed, a wardrobe and a third desk.

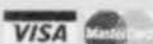
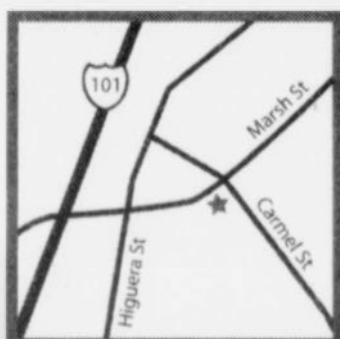
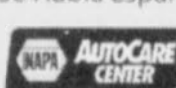
According to the housing Web site, selected double rooms in North Mountain and South Mountain Halls have been reconfigured for three residents, and rooms have been converted on the first floor of each tower in Yosemite for four residents.

The Web site also says that students who would rather opt out of the triple or quad rooms will be placed on a waiting list, and moved into a double room as spaces become available.

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Facebook shows students lack global knowledge

Kevin Kovanich

NORTHERN STAR (NORTHERN ILLINOIS U.)

Facebook applications are intended to entertain and enhance an average user's page. However, one application is challenging Americans' knowledge — or lack thereof — of world geography.

The "Traveler IQ Challenge" is a game where users are tested on their knowledge of world geography. Users are provided with a map and a city or monument. The player then must place a flag in the area where they think the named location is. The score is based on how close the guess was to the actual position of the city.

With more than 65,000 people participating, the United States has the most Facebook users of any nation. However, the United States is ranked 117th of 193 countries in terms of accuracy and knowledge of other nations.

In the application, the United States currently trails New Zealand, Norway, Scotland, Ireland, Sweden and France, among many other countries.

Ethnocentrism, explains Sarah A. Blue of the Northern Illinois University Department of Geography, is the reason many Americans opt not to learn about other nations.

"The U.S. being a political and economical superpower, we don't need to look beyond our borders," Blue said. "Because the U.S. is so big, we tend to travel within the country."

Blue said many Americans find learning geography unappealing.

"It's just one of the subjects that people find boring," Blue said.

In some cases, students are not given the opportunity to learn geography in school. Gina Colonna, a Northern Illinois University sophomore elementary education major, knows this from experience.

"I just don't think schools emphasize geography enough," Colonna said. "I know from my own experience that I was never taught geography in elementary school or high school. I don't even think our high school had a geography class."

Tyler Swanson, a NIU senior marketing major, believes many Americans just don't care enough about the rest of the world to learn about it.

"I think a lot of it has to do with how closed-minded and egocentric the general American public is," Swanson said. "As a whole, we don't care about what is going on in other parts of the world, as long as it doesn't affect us, or our gas prices, directly."

The 2006 National Geographic-Roper Survey of Geographic Literacy published statistics regarding United States citizens ages 18 to 24. According to the report, half of Americans cannot locate New York on a map.

The report also states that only 37 percent of Americans could find Iraq on a map, despite American troops having been stationed there since 2003. Furthermore, 20 percent of young Americans believe Sudan is in Asia.

However, Sudan is the largest country in Africa.

Berkeley gets grant to improve nuclear defense

Angelica Dongallo

DAILY CALIFORNIAN (UC-BERKELEY)

University of California-Berkeley researchers will be working on a new project to improve nuclear defense technology, using a \$1.4 million grant the campus received from the Department of Homeland Security and the National Science Foundation in August.

The grant, called the Academic Research Initiative, is one of the first academic initiatives by the department's Domestic Nuclear Detection Office aimed at eliminating the threat of nuclear terrorism, said Nick Prins, deputy assistant director for the office.

The UC-Berkeley interdisciplinary group, led by nuclear engineering professor Edward Morse, could potentially renew the grant for up to \$7.1 million over five years.

"We've had a long tradition of doing our part for the government when we have the right people and the right expertise," Morse said, citing his team of researchers based in different fields.

UC-Berkeley, along with Texas A&M University, received the most funding from the initiative, based on

"intellectual merit" and "broader impact" components, said Bruce Hamilton, program director for the National Science Foundation.

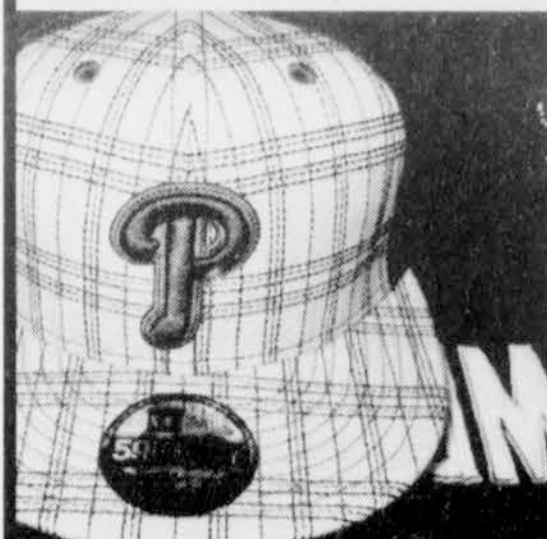
"(Out of 133 proposals), it was one set of good ideas, and the combination of those good ideas plus the integration of students in the research plan was a big plus," Hamilton said.

Morse's team includes professor Eric Norman and associate professor of nuclear engineering Brian Wirth, business and industrial engineering and operations research professor Dorit Hochbaum and physics professor James Siegrist.

Beside developing nuclear detection technology that will enhance homeland security, part of the grant will be used for scholarships and fellowships to recruit the next generation of nuclear engineers, Morse said.

"That's our product here, students," he said. "We try to do smart things ourselves, but the students are probably a big part of it."

This is the largest grant the department of nuclear engineering has received in at least 20 years to support the growing field of nuclear technology and security, said the chair of the department, professor Jasmina Vujic.

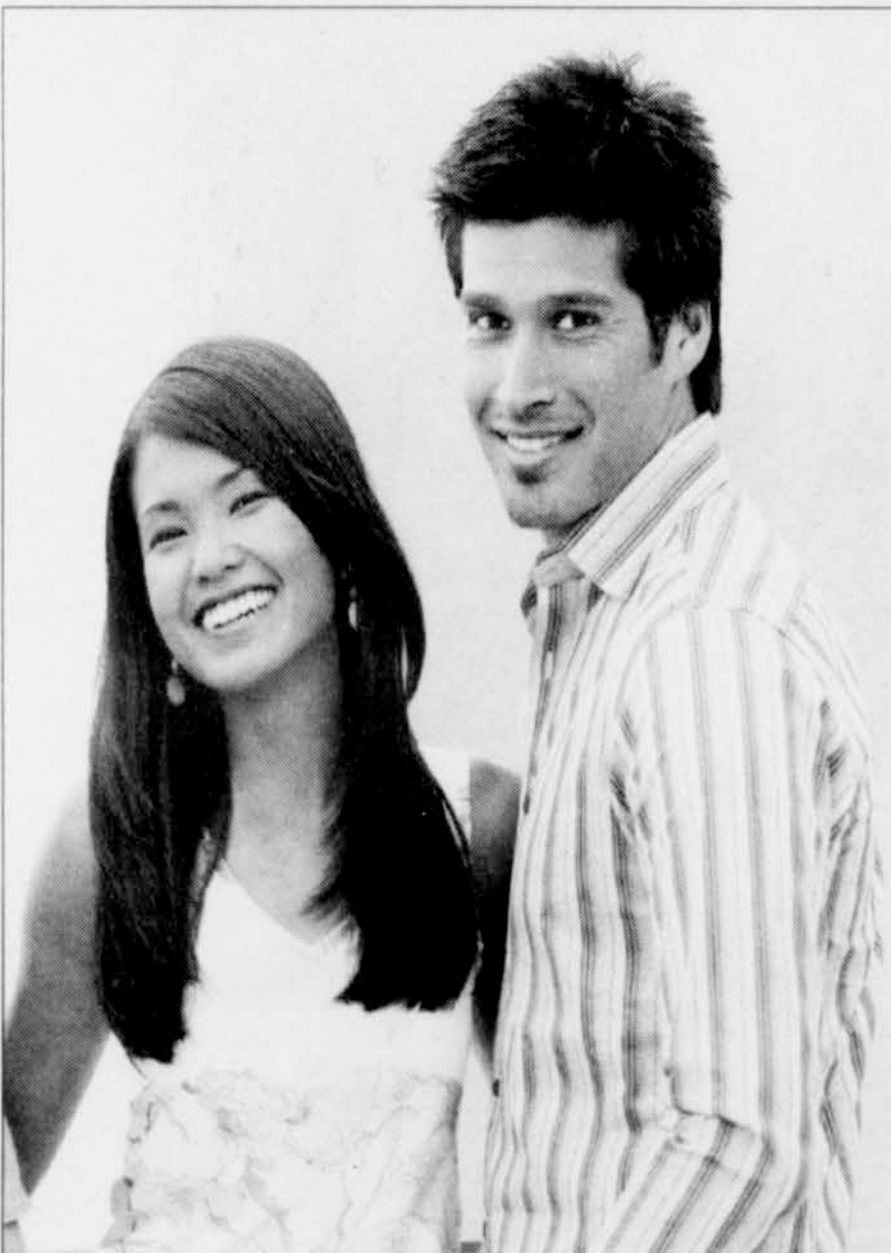


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GRE faces big change, effective '08

Mansoor Omar
TECHNICIAN (N.C. STATE)

The Graduate Record Examinations are changing to become more comprehensive, effective in 2008, including changing the computer-adaptive exams and adding on experimental questions.

The exams were computer-adaptive last year and will remain that way this year, where the computer picked the route the test-taker would take based on his or her answers to the questions, according to Duane Larick, senior associate dean of the North Carolina State University graduate school and member of the council of the graduate schools.

In 2008, Larick said the exams will still be computer-based, but all users will be able to take the same route in answering questions and will be able to go back and review their answers.

"Since (the Educational Testing Service Advisory Committee) has changed to the computer-based test, one of the problems ... or complaints was that if you have a question response that you want to come back to, you couldn't go back to it," he said.

Larick said the GREs only change drastically when the committee feels these changes are necessary.

"In the revised format, you would have the opportunity to go back whereas you wouldn't have that before ... the test will be virtually the same for grad students until 2008," he said.

Alice Ballenger, a graduate student in international studies, said she thinks the educational testing service should have variations of the GREs similar to the ACT and SAT for undergrads.

"The format of the GRE should appeal to different types of learners ... I thought that the (current) test, being on the computer was very difficult and could be revised," she said.

According to Ballenger, the people who wrote the GRE should have addressed these concerns.

Ballenger suggested that a more effective means of examining graduate students on their knowledge base is to test students based upon more than the typical verbal, quantitative and written format.

She said different formats of the GREs should be taken into consideration.

"Colleges take both SAT and ACT scores. Maybe they should change the entire format of the GRE and come up with an entirely new one just like the ACT (in regards to the SAT)."

Larick said the computer adaptive system is for the sake of the administration, and therefore, further measures are being made to make the test more comprehensive for students.

He also said there have been proposals to alter the point scale and better evaluate student performance on the GREs.

In November, the GREs will incorporate a few experimental test questions, complete and numeric entry questions, to eliminate guessing and better evaluate students on the materials.

Reading

continued from page 17

based on the lectures as well as the book.

Newberry said he tries to give his students tips on how to study with the textbook.

"I tell them 'use the chapter summaries as a guide to go back to what to look at in the chapter,'" he said.

Hake said she'll sometimes only read the vocabulary and the summaries at the back of each chapter.

On the other hand, freshman exploratory major Tashea Anderson said she started reading her

textbooks before she came to class.

"I know this isn't high school," Anderson said. "They're not going to tell you to read. You've got to read on your own."

She said she wants to know in advance what her professors are talking about.

"A lot of this is new," Anderson said. "I really don't want to be lost. I want to have some type of insight into what the teacher is talking about."

Robert Morton, sophomore music education major, said he doesn't read his textbooks unless he has to, but is starting to change his ways. He said there were questions on his exams that could

only be answered by reading the textbooks.

"You should have read the book to get a better understanding of what was going on in the course and everything," Morton said.

Amber Chenoweth, graduate instructor of psychology, said professors have freedom in choosing their class's textbooks. She said she's using a textbook co-written by President Lester Lefton.

"Most general psych textbooks are fairly similar," she said. "I kind of like how it's laid out."

Chenoweth said one thing that might make students more likely to read textbooks is if key terms are defined in the margins. Good

visuals help too, she said.

Chenoweth teaches the honors section of general psychology this semester. She said half her questions come from her lectures and half come from the book.

"Being an honors course, it's pretty much assumed they're keeping up with the reading," she said.

Freshman education major William VanDyke said he just spent \$400 on his textbooks — but his professors haven't assigned any reading.

"I'm pretty much writing everything down that's coming out of the professor's mouth," he said. "A notebook is a lot cheaper than a textbook."

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Families search for survivors in Nicaragua after Felix hits

Ariel Leon
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PUERTO CABEZAS, Nicaragua — Desperate families searched through the early morning hours Thursday for scores of missing Nicaraguans on the Caribbean coast where Hurricane Felix blew away villages, flooded rivers and killed at least 18 people.

Some 150 Miskito Indians who were adrift on the ocean clinging to buoys, canoes and slabs of wood were rescued by authorities, said Honduran federal Congresswoman Carolina Echeverria, who represents the northeastern province of Gracias a Dios, on the Nicaraguan border.

Nine of those rescued were in serious condition and were being attended by five Honduran doctors, Echeverria said.

"We believe there are many others out there floating on the sea," she said.

Far to the northwest, meanwhile, Henriette plowed into Mexico for the second time in two days, making landfall shortly before 9 p.m. EDT near the port city of Guaymas with top sustained winds of 75 mph. Seven deaths were reported from the Pacific storm, which hit Baja California on Tuesday.

Felix came ashore Tuesday in Nicaragua as a Category 5 hurricane packing 160 mph winds and heavy rains that caused mudslides, destroyed homes, uprooted trees and devastated villages.

Wednesday night, Nicaraguan Civil Defense Department spokesman Alvaro Rivas said the confirmed death toll had doubled to 18. Defense officials said President Daniel Ortega had put the toll at 21. There was no immediate explanation for the discrepancy.

Rivas also said at least 60 people were missing; more than 50 in the Matagalpa province in the north and another 10 around hard-hit city of Puerto Cabezas.

The dead included a man who drowned when his boat capsized, a woman killed when a tree fell on her house and a newborn who died shortly after birth because her mother couldn't get medical attention.

Among the missing were four fishermen whose small sailboat sank as Felix's center passed overhead. A survivor, Fernando Pereira, 24, said he clung to a piece of wood for 12 hours, despite a dislocated shoulder, and washed ashore at the village of Sandy Bay only hours after Felix made landfall there. He hadn't seen his friends since.

"I felt horrible," he said. "I was drinking salt water, and I thought I was going to die."

Others were caught in the sea as well. Jelivaro Climax, 22, said he had to swim through enormous waves to reach shore.

"Lightning flashed through a pitch black sky," he said. "I don't know how I survived. I swam with everything I had, and I was sure the sea would take me."

Felix swept over the Miskito Coast, an impoverished region where about 150,000 people live in jungle settlements. Their hamlets of

wooden shacks and coconut groves are remote even in good weather, reachable only by air or flat-bottom boats.

The Miskitos, descendants of Indians, European settlers and African slaves, live semiautonomously, much like people on Indian reservations in the U.S.



COURTESY PHOTO
Residents stand in rubble of their home after Hurricane Felix hits.

There wasn't enough fuel after the storm for boats to make long trips, and Felix snapped steel cables that guided a small ferry carrying people and cars from Puerto Cabezas to the village of Wawahum.

Felix also wiped out crops and damaged most of the 70 tons of food and emergency goods that had been flown in before the storm.

On Wednesday, it was hard to find a building that wasn't damaged. Puerto Cabezas' hospital was filled with water, and doctors attended to the injured at an improvised clinic.

The remains of Felix were still dumping rain Wednesday on Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Guatemala, and thousands of evacuees anxiously stayed away from shaky hillside slums and swollen rivers.

In San Pedro Sula, in northern Honduras, one shantytown filled with water after a river burst its bank. Police rode bulldozers to evacuate slum dwellers from water that was waist-deep and rising, but many refused to leave, fearing their remaining possessions would be stolen.

David Serato, 42, left. "Life is more important than personal belongings," he said. "If I stayed, I would die."

Many had feared a repeat of the 1998 nightmare of Hurricane Mitch, which stalled over Central America for days, causing floods and mudslides that killed nearly 11,000 people and left more than 8,000 missing.

On Mexico's western coast, Henriette moved across the Gulf of California, and at 5 a.m. EDT, its center was located over the state of Sonora in Mexico, about 400 miles southwest of El Paso, Texas, according to the National Hurricane Center in Miami. Its center later made its second landfall near the Mexican city of Guaymas in Sonora, said Jack Beven, a specialist with the Miami-based center. Hours later the Henriette was downgraded to a tropical depression as it moved inland and its sustained winds dropped to 35 mph.

Schools and ports were closed and people evacuated from low-lying areas, but the storm was expected to weaken quickly over the desert before dumping a few inches of rain Thursday on New Mexico.

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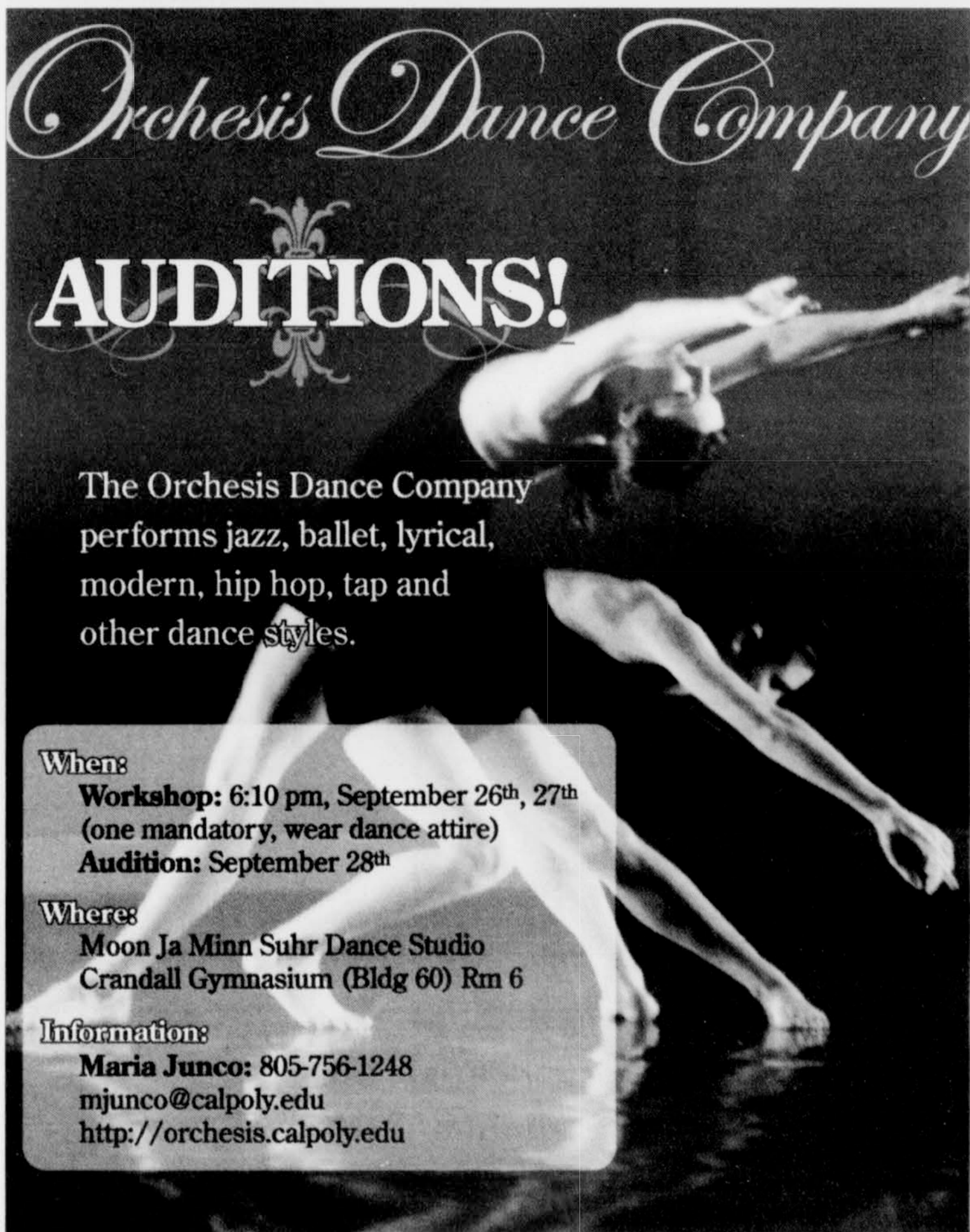
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The state of beer through a brewer's experience

J.M. Hirsch

ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOSTON — Frat boys and babes in bars are out, and you can thank the rise of Thai, Moroccan and Ethiopian foods.

That's not a connection often made, but Jim Koch thinks the beer industry — and especially the flourishing niche of craft brewers he inhabits — owes its increasingly refined image in part to the growing popularity of ethnic cuisines.

"The one common element of all these new cuisines is, they are beer cuisines. Wine is very challenged," says Koch, founder of The Boston Beer Company and Samuel Adams beer. "Wine doesn't pair well with those big, bold, spicy flavors."

That created an opportunity that brewers such as Koch haven't wasted. During the past decade, beer has regained a respectability once lost to wine, and Koch recently sat down with The Associated Press to talk about the state of his industry.

Koch is a driven innovator who describes himself and select fellow craft brewers as skilled lunatics, people pushing beer to extremes because they can. That's the lunatic part. The skill is in taking what they learn and turning it into great beers.

Take Koch's recent Imperial Pilsner, a beer jammed with 100 times more hops than the standard American brew. With pleasantly assertive notes of grapefruit and eucalyptus, it's nothing like a conventional beer.

Not so long ago, pushing something like Imperial Pilsner onto the market was all but unthinkable. But the more than \$100 billion beer industry has undergone a transformation, prompting Koch to say without irony that beer has become the new wine.

"It's where wine was 20 years ago," he says. "It's at the very beginning of appreciation and enjoyment of beer in a different way. It's not just for refreshment. It deserves a place at the table alongside great food and good wine."

For a healthy dose of cognitive dissonance, think about that while recalling the sexed-up television ads that not long ago ruled beer's image in the U.S., relegating it to the drink of the unrefined palate (not to mention col-



Jim Koch, founder of The Boston Beer Company and Samuel Adams beer pours a glass at the Jamaica Plain, Mass. brewery.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

lege party scene).

Which isn't to say Joe Six-Pack has necessarily traded in his Bud. So-called craft brews — the beer world's answer to artisanal cheeses — still account for less than 4 percent of the overall beer market (Sam Adams is less than 1 percent).

Still, Koch and his fellow crafters appear to be on to something. Sales of craft beers have increased nearly 32 percent during the past three years, according to the Brewers Association, an industry trade group.

Beer as a sophisticated drink is not a new concept. Until the '60s it was beer, not wine, that was the alcohol of moderation — what Koch calls a

country club drink

that respectable adults drank after attending the symphony.

That changed when the California wine industry began producing vintages that demanded respect.

"Well, guess what? Twenty years ago a handful of small American brewers started making world-class beer ... and have created that same revolution in understanding and appreciation in enjoyment of beer," Koch says.

He attributes a combination of aggressive education and an evolving American palate with making that possible. Few people knew, for example, that beer has a short lifespan, usually no more than four or five

months.

Getting across that message posed challenges for getting his products to market. For years, Koch refused to sell anywhere he wasn't confident of fast turnover; he didn't want consumers drinking old beer.

"I love beer commercials 'cause they're great pop art," he says. "But nobody was really educating beer drinkers about the dignity of beer, the history of beer, the tradition of beer, the brewing process, the nature and the quality of the ingredients."

Meanwhile, Americans were increasingly fascinated by the flavors of Asia and Africa, flavors that challenged conventional thinking about wine pairings. Wine connoisseurs would argue the point, but Koch says grapes just aren't up to the task.

"It doesn't have the malt body to stand up to the heat and the spice,"

he says. "It has relatively narrow range of flavors that are really best suited to more elegant, delicate, you know, Cordon Bleu and northern Italian type dishes."

Restaurateurs seem to agree (or at least cater to those who do). Beer lists have become as formidable as wine lists, and the suggestion of careful pairings of beer and food is long beyond garnering snickers.

And Koch believes there's still room for innovation, such as his Utopia, a true beer in only the scientific sense. It sells for \$120 a bottle and has the body and nose of cognac, with deep caramel flavors.

"Your definition of beer and your expectations for beer are too low," he says. "We brewers have not really elevated your expectations for what beer can be. But this now elevates your expectations of what beer can be."

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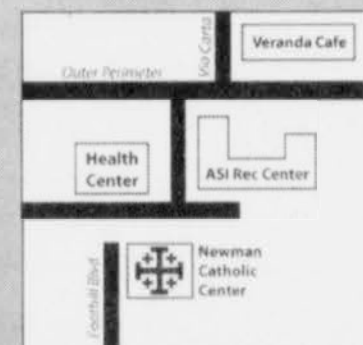
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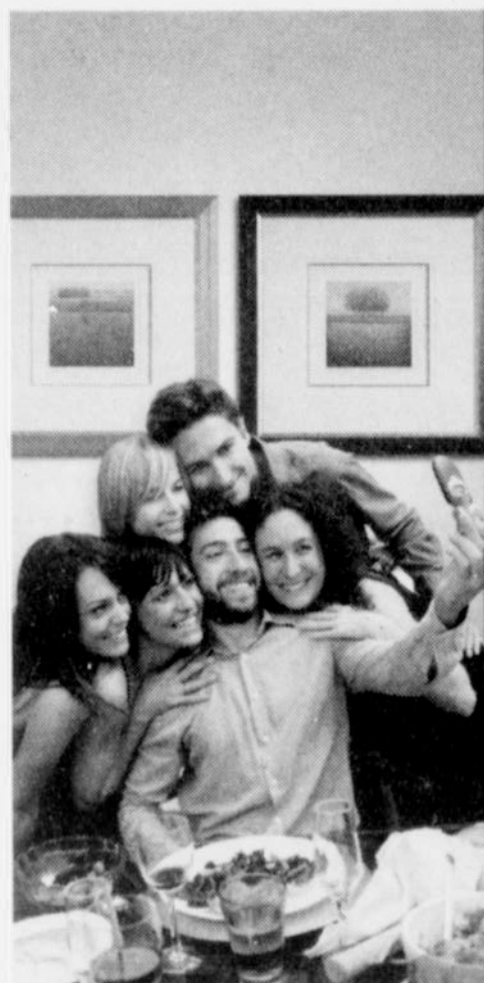
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Bush unlikely to make significant cut in troops

Matthew Lee
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Bush's senior advisers on Iraq have recommended he stand by his current war strategy, and he is unlikely to order more than a symbolic cut in troops before the end of the year, administration officials told The Associated Press on Tuesday.

The recommendations from the military commander in Iraq, Gen. David Petraeus, and U.S. Ambassador Ryan Crocker come despite independent government findings Tuesday that Baghdad has not met most of the political, military and economic markers set by Congress.

Bush appears set on maintaining the central elements of the policy he announced in January, one senior administration official said after discussions with participants in Bush's briefings during his surprise visit to an air base in Iraq on Monday.

Although the addition of 30,000 troops and the focus on increasing security in Baghdad would not be permanent, Bush is inclined to give it more time in hopes of extending military gains in Baghdad and the formerly restive Anbar province, officials said. They spoke on condition of anonymity to describe decisions coming as part of the White House report on Iraq due to Congress next week.

The plan they described is fraught with political risk. While Republican leaders on Tuesday suggested the GOP may be willing to support keeping troops in the region through spring, it is unclear whether rank-and-file party members who face tough elections next year will be willing to follow their lead.

Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell told reporters he would like to ensure a long-term U.S. presence in the Middle East to fight al-Qaida and deter aggression from Iran.

"And I hope that this reaction to Iraq and the highly politicized nature of dealing with Iraq this year doesn't end up in a situation where we just bring all the troops back home and thereby expose us, once again, to the kind of attacks we've had here in the homeland or on American facilities," said McConnell, R-Ky.

With Monday's back-to-back review sessions in Iraq, Bush has now heard from all the military chiefs, diplomats and other advisers he planned to consult before making a widely anticipated report to Congress by Sept. 15. Petraeus and Crocker are to testify before Congress on their recommendations next week.

The United States would be hard-pressed to maintain the current level of 160,000 troops in Iraq indefinitely, but Bush is not expected to order more than a slight cut before the end of the year, officials said.

Bush himself suggested that modest troop cuts may be possible

if military successes continue, but he gave no timeline or specific numbers. Options beyond a symbolic cut this year include cutting the tour of duty for troops in Iraq from 15 months back to the traditional 12 months, one official said. If adopted, that change would not come before the spring.

Speaking to reporters Wednesday during a trip to Australia, Bush restated his view that decisions about troop levels should be based on recommendations from military commanders and noted that Petraeus and Crocker would be delivering reports soon enough.

"Whether or not that's part of the policy I announce to the nation



COURTESY PHOTO

Bush greets soldiers at a base in Iraq. He made a surprise visit Sept. 3.

... why don't we see what they say and then I'll let you know," Bush said.

Adm. William Fallon, the head of U.S. Central Command, which oversees American forces in the Middle East and Central Asia, said Tuesday he saw signs of broad progress in Iraq.

"In the less than six months I've been in this job, I have seen a substantial change and it gives me some significant optimism that this place may just work out the way we had envisioned, or some had envisioned, when the tasks were undertaken," Fallon said in remarks to the Commonwealth Club of California, a public affairs forum.

A Pentagon official said Petraeus has not specifically recommended trimming tours by three months. Bush's troop increase will end by default in April or May, when one of the added brigades is slated to leave, unless Bush makes other changes to hold the number steady.

In an interview with ABC News, Petraeus suggested a drawdown next spring would be needed to avoid further strain on the military. Asked if March would be that time, he said, "Your calculations are about right."

Republican support could hinge on Petraeus' testimony next week. If he can convince lawmakers that the security gains won in recent months are substantial and point toward a bigger trend, GOP members might be more likely to hold out until next spring. They also might be more easily persuaded if Bush promises some small troop drawdowns by the end of the year, as was suggested to the White House by Sen. John Warner of Virginia, an influential Republican on security matters.

Sen. Norm Coleman, R-Minn., returning from a weekend trip to Iraq, said Tuesday a small round of

see Troops, page 24

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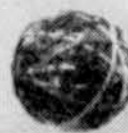
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Troops

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troop withdrawals might be the ticket to forcing political progress in Iraq. The position was a new one for the senator, who faces a tough election next year.

"I think the unmistakable message has to be sent to the Shiite leadership that there is no blank check for Iraq," Coleman told reporters on a conference call.

Also Tuesday, the Government Accountability Office, Congress' investigative and auditing arm, reported that Iraq has failed to meet 11 of its 18 political and security goals.

The study was slightly more upbeat than initially planned. After receiving substantial resistance from the White House, the GAO determined that four benchmarks — instead of two — had been partially met.

But the GAO stuck with its original contention that only three goals out of the 18 had been fully achieved. The goals met include establishing joint security stations in Baghdad, ensuring minority rights

in the Iraqi legislature and creating support committees for the Baghdad security plan.

U.S. Comptroller David Walker said the GAO did not soften its report due to pressure from the administration and reached its conclusions on its own. Walker said Congress should ask itself what it wants to achieve in Iraq and can do so realistically.

"After we answer that, we can reassess what the appropriate goal is of U.S. forces," he said in an interview Tuesday.

Democrats said the GAO report showed that Bush's decision to send more troops to Iraq was failing because Baghdad was not making the political progress needed to tamp down sectarian violence.

"No matter what spin we may hear in the coming days, this independent assessment is a failing grade for a policy that simply isn't working," said Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass.

The report does not make any substantial policy recommendations, but says future administration reports "would be more useful to the Congress" if they provided more detailed information.

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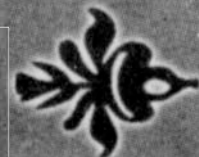
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ENTERTAINMENT

Stefani impresses with L.A.M.B.

Samantha Critchell
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Gwen Stefani had a handful of days free between the Asian and European legs of her concert tour and they just happened to be during New York Fashion Week. The window allowed her to schedule what surely will be a standing-room-only runway show of her L.A.M.B. collection on Wednesday, the first of eight days of spring style previews.

Coincidence?

"I don't know how it worked out," said Stefani. "I might have been aware way back when that it was Fashion Week. Music has come first, but I started L.A.M.B. so I'd have a creative outlet after my music career and it's just taken off. ... But I would have never done it if I wasn't going to do it for real."

It's that attitude that has given Stefani credibility in the fashion community.

The somewhat jaded editors, stylists and retailers, who've also seen splashy shows by Jennifer Lopez and Sean "Diddy" Combs and have an unfulfilled promise by Beyonce to put her House of Dereon clothes on the catwalk, seem to be welcoming Stefani back for her second big gig here with open arms.

"We think Gwen Stefani's L.A.M.B. collection is a terrific kick-off to the first evening of Mercedes-

Benz Fashion Week. As more and more celebrities enter the fashion industry we see a great synergy and energy ... the L.A.M.B. line is clearly at the top of these lines and is as unique and individual as Gwen herself," said Fern Mallis, senior vice president of IMG Fashion, which organizes the event that attracts 14,000 people daily to the Bryant Park tents.

Most of the shows, 60 of them, will once again be at the tents right in Midtown. For the past few seasons, there had been talk that the shows would move elsewhere but it seems a dormant issue for now. Some big names in fashion, however, including Donna Karan, Marc Jacobs and for the first time in recent history, Oscar de la Renta, hold their shows in what they deem more atmospheric spaces throughout the city.

Highlights this year will include Ralph Lauren celebrating his 40 years in fashion with a special show and black-tie dinner at the Conservatory Gardens in Central Park on Saturday night.

Lopez also is making a return engagement of sorts but this isn't the huge event — with a crystal-studded runway and all — that was staged for the Fashion Week debut of the Sweetface label in 2005. This show, for a line called JustSweet (described as focusing on status denim and sexy clothing) is

see Fashion, page 26

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Fashion

continued from page 25

in keeping with the lower profile that she's adopted for her fashion career. She is still involved in the business end of Sweetface Fashion Company, but not much in design.

Stefani, however, thinks fashion is likely a growing part of her life. "This is so in my heart," she told the Associated Press in a telephone interview. "I make the clothes for myself, clothes I'd want to wear. I want clothes that have quality and style."

But even if the look is her own, inspired by a combination of Jamaican rastafarians, English school girls and Orange County, Calif., teens, Stefani says L.A.M.B. couldn't happen without a larger team, especially stylist Andrea Lieberman, whom Stefani met on the set of an Eve video years ago.

"It just clicked. I found someone who got me. She grew up in New York and knows fashion. I went to the mall when I was young. She fills in my gaps," Stefani said.

And they've come a long way since that first Fashion Week show two years ago when they were scavenging for belts and shoes at the last minute. L.A.M.B. now makes its own accessories and the signature fragrance is rolling out. (In the interim she also has staged some smaller collection previews.)

"We're still learning, but we also have accomplished stuff that shocks me. I don't want to brag, but I'm pretty proud of a lot of this," Stefani said.

Finola Hughes, the former TV

soap star who has become a fixture at Fashion Week for the Style network and currently host of "How Do I Look?", likes Stefani's rock 'n' roll perspective.

"I actually think she's got a fantastic eye. Her clothing is well made and fits brilliantly," Hughes said. "She has great taste informed by Vivienne Westwood, Jean Paul Gaultier, some really good designers. And she's heavy into tailoring and detail."

Hughes says she owns some L.A.M.B. skirts and pants, and her favorite is a black suit with an intricate pirate-sleeve detail.

As for the upcoming spring looks, Stefani says she's been influenced by the whirlwind life she has led over the past year as a new mother traveling the globe. "Fashion is art, it's always affected by circumstance. ... The last collection when I was pregnant, I was totally affected by my weird body."

In general, the fall clothes on the runway last February and in stores now have a very polished look, which Hughes would like to see even more of. "I like that we're liking curves again," she said.

She probably will.

For example, designer Tracy Reese's spring collection continues the more fitted styles that are longer and leaner. The earlier trend of billowy minidresses weren't a match for her own figure so she's happy to see the closer-to-the-body silhouette making a lasting impression. "It's nice to see the waist again, but it won't be so bound and cinched. ... There'll be bias slips, sort of a 1930s meets the '70s," Reese says.

Rugby as art? Paris says yes!

Angela Doland

ASSOCIATED PRESS

PARIS — There's no question that great athletes take their sports to the level of art.

But as the French host the Rugby World Cup, they're pushing that concept a step further by bringing rugby into an art museum. It's a genteel Parisian touch to a sport more often associated with muscle, body-crunching tackles or even incidents of ear-biting.

To coincide with the Sept. 7-Oct. 20 tournament, the Quai Branly museum is hosting rugby-related exhibits, visits and roundtables with archaeologists, historians, sociologists and former players. The museum also covered its roof with green turf and turned it into a mock playing field with a close-up view of the Eiffel Tower.

"Rugby is actually very close to what we're showing here," said Pierre Hanotau, the general director of the museum that is normally devoted to the so-called primitive arts of Africa, Asia, the Americas and Oceania.

If that seems like a stretch, he adds, "We can't kid ourselves. It's also our way of bringing in people who never come to museums, because they find museums boring."

The first event of "La Melee des Cultures" ("Scrum of Cultures") comes Saturday, with a day of conferences ranging from rugby's origins to how the body works during a match.

One highlight throughout the program is workshops on the ritual tattoos of cultures in the Pacific. Other workshops will teach the haka, the traditional Maori war

dance that New Zealand's All Blacks perform. The All Blacks, the World Cup favorites, do the haka before the kickoff, chanting and stomping on the field.

The museum commissioned artist-in-residence Greg Semu, who is of Samoan heritage and grew up in New Zealand, to create an original art piece for the series. He took his inspiration from a team photo of the All Blacks doing the haka in a dark forest in their Adidas uniforms — a photo rife with themes to explore, such as the appropriation and commercialization of traditional cultures.

Semu's own photo — huge and breathtaking — hangs in the museum's entryway. It shows Maori warriors clashing in a forest clearing. Some wear British army uniforms, others wear loincloths or armor. Many have traditional tattoos over their faces. It's a reflection on colonization, war and modern sports.

Those themes were not immediately apparent to Arthur Boguslavsky, a 16-year-old visitor, who suggested another message: "The All Blacks will destroy all the teams on their way."

The artist didn't mind that interpretation. "The more people look at it they'll start to think about it more," Semu said. "It's a slow-burner piece."

The Quai Branly series is not the only Parisian cultural event timed for the World Cup. An exhibit at Paris City Hall, called "Rugby, a World of Emotions," explores a day in the life of a rugby team. For the Festival Ovale, in Saint Denis, north of Paris, artists from 12 countries will perform in 30 free concerts.

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Cal Poly alumna sculpts against the odds

Jared Cleaver

MUSTANG DAILY

When Cal Poly graduate Laurie Tossy started stone sculpting, she didn't know that it would eventually become her livelihood. After overcoming a battle with carpal tunnel syndrome that sidelined her for more than a decade, she is back in the studio doing what she loves to do.

"I actually started when I was in college. I have a bachelor's degree in fine arts from before I went to Cal Poly," Tossy said. "I went to a small school in France, and that's where I was exposed to stone sculpting. Like most people who have training in fine arts, I didn't go into sculpting as my livelihood."

At Cal Poly, Tossy got a degree in graphic communication. She says that she spent most of her time working with other artists, helping them get their work promoted and printed, while doing some sculpting on the side.

"I developed carpal tunnel syn-

drome, and had to have surgery done on both hands. At the time, the doctor said I really shouldn't sculpt anymore," Tossy said. "I gave it up for about ten to fifteen years, and only about three years ago seriously took it back up. I started again about seven and a half years ago. I was in New Zealand and I was carving with some people there. I was trying to figure out how I could incorporate sculpting back into my life. Three years ago, I quit my job, and now I work for myself."

As a result of the surgery, Tossy has had to learn new techniques and exercises to make the sculpting tolerable.

"I have learned how to do certain exercises to help. And that's one thing I've really been working on with other artists, learning some tips on how to survive, because it's a really repetitive disorder. There's a lot of vibration involved with sculpting, and I do my sculpting mostly by hand with old fashioned chisels and hammers. Mostly because a lot of the power equipment produces so much vibration, it would be too hard on me. So, between do-

Typically, the stone tells me what it wants to do. I really view myself as more of a translator than a dictator.

—Laurie Tossy

Cal Poly graduate and stone sculptor

ing my exercises and limiting my time in the studio, it seems to be working okay."

Whereas many people would assume that stone sculptors must creatively decide what to do with a specific piece, Tossy says that the individual stone usually dictates what she chooses to sculpt.

"Typically, the stone tells me what it wants to do. I really view myself as more of a translator than a dictator," she said. "So, a lot of times when I see a stone, I'll know immediately what it's supposed to be, or have a good idea. Other times, I know I'm supposed to work with it, but I don't know what it's supposed to be. So, I'll take that stone, and have it in my studio. Sometimes, just by sitting with it, working on other pieces, I get ideas. Or, I start sketching and I go back into my studio

and say, 'Oh my gosh, that sketch fits perfectly for that stone.' So, a lot of the time, it's on a really subconscious level. But basically, I'm just releasing whatever is already in the stone, because stone sculpting is a subtractive process, and you're taking away the extra stuff."

Tossy has found that, much of the time, finding a perfect stone to work with is the most difficult part of the process.

"There's a couple different ways that I can categorize stone. You can get a rough, more natural looking stone, whether it comes from a quarry, or it's been found on the surface," Tossy said. "And then there are some stones that are very precision-cut from a quarry; cubes of stone. If I buy a cube of stone, then that lends itself much more to a preconceived idea, and then evolves from there. If I go with a more naturally-shaped stone, then I really am much more influenced by the stone itself, and what's in it already. But sometimes, even with the cubed quarry stone, there will be a flaw or something about it that makes me change my idea about the piece. So, they're always evolving. Even if I have a sketch beforehand, it's more like an idea. Kind of like an outline for a story, the storyline might change a little bit along the way."

After graduating from Cal Poly, Tossy took a job in Loveland, Colorado. She has since worked in the printing industry as well as local government. She converted her basement into a studio, and now spends most of

her time sculpting and attending various shows.

"I was recruited from Cal Poly to go to a company in Colorado, and I just love it there, and so I've stayed," she said. "My studio is there, in my basement, so that kind of limits the size that I can work on because I have to be able to carry the stones up and down the stairs."

Tossy was recently involved with the Sixteenth Annual Loveland Sculpture Invitational Show & Sale, in her hometown. According to the show's Web site, "over 340 artists from across the nation display over 3,500 sculptures." Tossy included three of her own sculptures in the show.

"I had a variety of pieces in various stones. One was a green marble from Utah and it's actually got a lot of white in it, with green striping. That piece is called 'I Know Dogs Go to Heaven Because I See Them in the Clouds.' It had this white and green dog face, actually there were multiple dogs, and it was on a steel rod and pinned onto a green piece that was shaped like a mountain. So, it was like looking at the clouds over the mountain."

The Loveland Invitational isn't technically a competition, but artists display their pieces in an attempt to attract potential buyers and showcase their artwork.

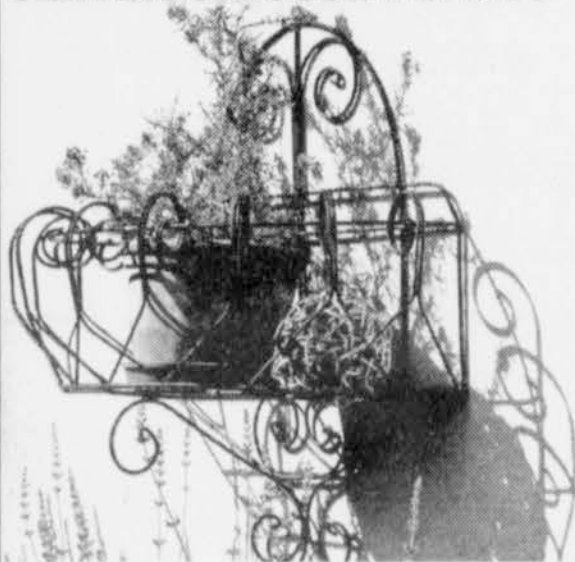
"It's not a competition. There were about 350 artists and there were eight different huge tents; you have many different artists in each tent showing their sculptures," Tossy said. "Plus, there's a

see Sculpt, page 28

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COURTESY PHOTO

Clive Owen and Monica Bellucci star in the new action flick parody 'Shoot 'Em Up' which landed in theaters Sept. 7.

'Shoot 'Em Up' clever, but mostly mind-numbing

Christy Lemire

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Certain people are certainly going to be offended by the intentionally over-the-top action flick "Shoot 'Em Up," with its objectification of women and its juxtaposition of sex and violence.

Clive Owen, as sharpshooter Mr. Smith, helps a woman deliver her baby with one hand (to the tune of Nirvana's "Breed") while fending off a bevy of bad guys with the other; later, he rolls around naked with Monica Bellucci (as the film's obligatory hooker with a heart of gold) while firing bullets at an onslaught of attackers, followed by a pun that you can probably figure out for yourselves.

Any junior high school kid with video-game expertise and a dirty mind could have written this stuff (Michael Davis, a grown-up, did, and he also directed) so it's really not worth getting worked up over. It's a parody of a genre that wasn't all that deserving of parody: the mindless, John Woo-style cornucopia of carnage.

Looking for plot amid the gunfire is also pointless; it has something to do with saving the aforementioned infant from a hit man named Hertz (a growling Paul Giamatti) and his henchmen, who are after the baby for his bone marrow.

But longtime Woo cinematographer Peter Pau, who won an Academy Award for Ang Lee's "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon," is responsible for the camera-work, so at least "Shoot 'Em Up" is a gritty visual feast. And much of the choreography can be inventive, with Smith sliding under tables, across conveyor belts and into moving vehicles to get his shot.

A mysterious, mild-mannered man whose pet peeves include drivers who refuse to use their turn signals when changing lanes, Smith is a stickler about eating his carrots (they're good for the eyes) but he's also happy to use his favorite vegetable as a weapon in a pinch. (This maneuver serves as one of the film's many sources of dark humor.) An intricate shootout in a gun factory, which Smith orchestrates by pulling a series of strings attached to the triggers of countless automatic weapons, is unexpected fun.

After about an hour, though, it all becomes a mind-numbing barrage.

Maybe that's the point but that doesn't make it entertaining. And the in-joke references to other movies, including the works of Sergio Leone and even Giamatti's own "Sideways," are only vaguely cute.

Owen is coolly charismatic, as always, and looks like he's having a blast in the rare role that allows him to show some comic flair. Bellucci doesn't get to do much besides look buxom in her bustier. (Her character and Smith have some sordid history together, naturally, and so she agrees to help him tote the baby around through every elaborate showdown.) And Giamatti, who's repeatedly proven himself capable of bringing nuance to villainous characters who might otherwise have seemed two-dimensional, chews up the scenery real good but his shtick gets old real fast.

"You know why a gun is better than a wife?" he asks a couple of his minions. "You can put a silencer on a gun."

No one ever bothers to use the silencer in "Shoot 'Em Up." That would be an example of subtlety.

Sculpt

continued from page 27

large common area for people who have life-sized or monumental-sized sculptures. It's all set in a park setting with a view of the Rocky Mountains. People come from all over the country, and others come from all over the world, to see this show. I talked to a lot of people who come to the show almost every year, and schedule a vacation in the area because it's such a unique show."

Tossy isn't planning on entering any other shows in the near future. Instead, she is sculpting, and working on her Web site.

"After the show, some of the pieces go home with their new buyers. We bring our pieces back home if they aren't sold," she said. "Loveland has a

great history of buying sculptures for the community. Typically, they buy the monumental-sized pieces and install them in various places in the community. For me, my pieces are now back home, and I'm building a Web site so that I can exhibit them. It's www.successinstone.com, and it's very much in progress. The computer is not my first art form!

"Basically, working with stone is just such an incredible thing because it's a natural product. I'm working with things that are thousands, if not millions of years old. One of the most exciting parts is the happy accidents that come along the way. You know what color it's going to be, but you don't know where the variations color are going to happen. Sometimes, I end up getting these beautiful color variations exactly where they're supposed to be."

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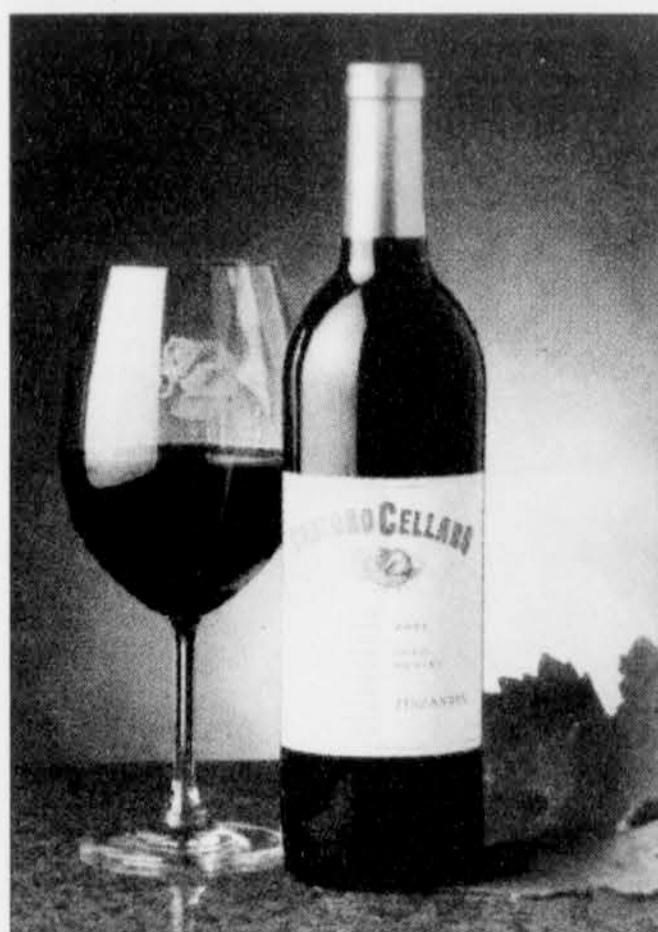
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Castoro Cellars is one of many wineries located in Paso Robles' wine country.

Jennifer Ingan
MUSTANG DAILY

Suitable for its ideal microclimate and distinct soils, and soothed by moist air flowing directly from the Pacific Ocean, wine grape vineyards flourish in San Luis Obispo County.

Experienced or not, wine tasting in San Luis Obispo County is a great place for beginners and wine aficionados alike.

With more than 26,000 vineyard acres and 170 wineries, 100 of which offer tastings, the Paso Robles wine country is the fastest-growing wine country in the state of California, behind Napa and Sonoma.

Situated just north of San Luis Obispo along U.S. Highway 101, turn off on Highway 46 and make a right or left. Either way you will hit an array of wineries that offer wine tasting.

"Paso Robles wine country is gaining notoriety among the wine press and critics for quality wines," said Chris Taranto, communications manager at the Paso Robles Wine Country Alliance. "We have diverse and distinct wines because we don't specialize in a single type of wine, which offers a great variety. This region is fun and exploratory, and is welcoming for first-timers. The wineries still hold traditional values and have a welcoming atmosphere."

There are more than 40 wine grape varieties grown in Paso Robles, ranging from Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot to Syrah, Viognier and Zinfandel. Some also feature the area's heritage and specialty wine varietals. Paso Robles and the Greater San Luis Obispo County Wine Country internationally distribute about 3.2 million cases containing a dozen 9-liter bottles per case.

Niels Udsen, a Cal Poly agribusiness alumnus, along with his wife, Bimmer Udsen, established Castoro Cellars with the same Gold Medal winemaking team for more than 20 years.

Castoro's wine tasting room is located off Highway 46 West toward Cambria. Their flagship wine is Zinfandel, or Zinfusion, and they produce a custom wine for Trader Joe's called "TJ Coastal." They also offer Cabernets, Chardonnay, Merlot, Pinot Noir, special blends and dessert wines, to name a few.

Castoro Cellars produce about 60,000 to 65,000 cases of wine a year, and are well represented locally and

throughout California, the U.S., Japan and in some countries in Europe, said Greg Phifer, a tasting room employee at Castoro for five years.

Wine tasting is fairly inexpensive, even for a 21-year-old college student on a budget. At Castoro, you get seven tastes for only \$3 or seven tastes for \$5 if you want to keep the wine glass. But, if you buy any wine, you get a free tasting.

"This is a fun atmosphere and a fun way to become knowledgeable about wine," Phifer said. "We're not snobs... We make the experience fun for first-timers so they want to come back again."

"We have high quality and affordable wines," Phifer said. "Castoro Cellars is family-owned by husband and wife for 24 years, and the same winemaker for 18 years, which offers a consistency in the wines and winemaking."

Castoro also has picnic grounds and holds concerts up to twice a month.

Summer and fall are the busiest times of the year for wine tasters to get their sip on in Paso Robles wine country, Taranto said. October marks the beginning of the vintage, and wineries celebrate during the Harvest Wine Tour from Oct. 19-21 this year. At the weekend event, wineries hold open houses and feature grape stomps, music, art and barbecues.

"The Harvest Wine Tour is great for first-timers," Taranto said. "It's a good chance to experience Paso Robles wine country for the first time."

Along the back roads from San Luis Obispo to Arroyo Grande, you will uncover wineries on Orcutt Road and Highway 227. Located in the heart of Edna Valley on Biddle Ranch Road, in-between Orcutt Road and Highway 227, is the quaint wine tasting room of Saucelito Canyon.

"We're very friendly, casual and our craftsman-style tasting room is charming and smaller in size for intimacy, and highlights the taster's experience," said Nancy Greenough, co-owner of Saucelito Canyon. "We're family-owned, and we live next door, so we're always at the tasting room."

Nancy co-owns Saucelito Canyon with her husband, Bill. The Greenoughs possess a 125-year-old vineyard in Arroyo Grande near Lopez Lake. Their flagship wine is Zinfandel, and they also offer a specialty of red blend wine such as Hi Mountain, and other varieties such as Cabernet, Tempranillo and Sauvignon Blanc. They are also affiliated with the Ortman Family Vineyard and offer tasting of their wines, including Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Sangiovese.

Saucelito Canyon offers six tastes for \$5. They produce about 3,000 cases of wine per year, and distribute mostly in California, nationally, and export to countries such as Japan and Switzerland.

On Sept. 19, Saucelito Canyon will be a participant at A Taste of San Luis Obispo, which will be held at Mission San Luis Obispo de Tolosa, featuring the best wineries and restaurants in San Luis Obispo.

This year marks Saucelito Canyon's 25th harvest, and on the week-

end of Nov. 3-4, they will celebrate the Vintners Harvest Celebration in Avila Beach on Saturday, and will hold an open house on Sunday at the vineyard, which will feature music, Ray Cataneo Bros. sausage and more. At the tasting room, they will commemorate the Ortman Family for their 40th year in the industry.

Tickets for the 17th annual Harvest Celebration in Avila Beach are \$75 per person and can be purchased online at www.slowine.com. A map of San Luis Obispo tasting rooms is also available on the Web site.

Wine tasting for the experienced and newcomers can be fun if taken with precautions. "First you want to identify what it is you're attempting to do," Taranto said. "Always have a designated driver, and don't be afraid to spit. Some people feel they will look stupid if they spit, but wine tasting is not about looks, it's about the experience."

For first-timers, it's helpful to join a structured tour with someone to guide you, Taranto said. Taranto suggests having a small group of four to six people. With larger groups you

may feel disconnected, so it's best to be in a smaller group and talk about the wine.

But if you don't want to join a tour and would rather travel with your buddies, first designate a driver, Taranto said. Get a map of the wineries, plot your course and try to work a meal into your tasting.

There are a number of companies offering tours of the Paso Robles wine country, which can be viewed on www.pasowine.com, along with a printable map of the wine country and profiles of wineries in the area.

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Promoting a culture of sound

KCPR music directors balance school, work and a social life while ensuring culture prevails on Central Coast airwaves.

Brooke Robertson
MUSTANG DAILY

Posters, stickers and other music memorabilia congest the four white walls of the cramped office, swelling onto the ceiling. CDs waiting to be listened to, categorized, timed or replaced explode out of narrow wooden shelves. Amidst the organized chaos of boxes and packaging sit two men listening to albums and making notes on an aged computer.

For the next year, architecture junior Paul Cambon and English senior Brian Cassidy will spend approximately 20 hours a week in this cramped office, sorting through mail, listening to albums, talking to promoters and record labels, keeping everything organized and holding music meetings for the 100+ DJs who make up KCPR, San Luis Obispo, 91.3 FM. They are the music directors for the radio station, and they come with a mantra: "Make KCPR the best station we can," Cassidy said.

What started as a senior project in 1968 has morphed into one of the most widely respected college radio stations in the country. KCPR is one of 40 stations in the United States and Canada hand-picked to compile the album charts of Dusted Magazine, an online publication devoted to independent radio and new sources of alternative music.

This is in part due to KCPR's diverse programming, which boasts a varied mix of mad jazz, sweet pop, underground hip-hop, dance break-beats and lots of indie-liciousness. "You can listen for 20 minutes and hear so much," Cambon said.

Cambon and Cassidy were appointed by the previous music directors to sort through and add new music boasting a variety of sound generally not heard on mainstream radio. "College radio stands for 'non-corporate, real art' or 'good music,'" Cassidy described. He doesn't feel "good music" can be found on mainstream Ameri-



GRAIG MANTLE MUSTANG DAILY

Above, music director Brian Cassidy plays new music on his weekly show on KCPR, San Luis Obispo. Next page, Cassidy and fellow music director Paul Cambon take a break from evaluating new music from artists hoping to be added to the library at the on-campus radio station.

can radio, which doesn't like to challenge its listeners with different forms of art. "America would rather see a Thomas Kinkade painting than something good," he emphasized.

A true English major at heart, Cassidy cited Matthew Arnold's 19th-century essay, "Culture and Anarchy," as his motivation for ensuring culture prevails through KCPR. "KCPR educates the Philistines," Cassidy jokingly emphasized. "At no other point in our lives can we risk being idealistic without compromise."

Neither Cambon nor Cassidy have an interest in going into the music business, yet have taken on a 20-hours-per-week commitment as music directors, a workload about to increase with the impending fall and winter quarters, when most artists write, tour and release albums.

"We're not in this for personal gain," Cassidy said. "We're both trying to sustain what we love." Plus it's fun. "There's a lot of work, but there's a lot of fun stuff, too."

see Directors, page 31



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Directors

continued from page 30

What's their game plan for balancing school and their roles as music directors? "No social life," Cassidy said.

Cambon said the transition would be difficult, but that his work as music director trumps class work. To him, being a music director is more important than school. "Music has always been a large part of my life," he said. "Music isn't a separate interest or hobby; it's more of a way of looking at things or understanding."

Cambon and Cassidy sort through approximately 200 CDs per week, listening to each one, recording it on KCPR's database, and writing a brief review of the recording. From these 200 albums, only 10 to 15 ("20 on a good week," Cambon said) are chosen to be added to KCPR's new music rotation, which will eventually be filtered into the greater music library.

What makes Cambon and Cassidy write off approximately 185 new albums each week as "bad" is what makes KCPR a respected radio station among aficionados of all musical categories. However, this willingness to chuck out bands is also what gives the station a bad reputation among record label promoters.

"We're a very difficult station to get an add with," Cassidy said. "Promoters generally think we're assholes and difficult to deal with."

As Cassidy explained, KCPR is one of the only college radio stations in the country where DJs could have a debate over whether to add the newest album from Interpol, a band with a major label and a reputation for producing hits glorified on popular television shows such as "The O.C."

At most other college radio stations, the CD was an automatic add. "We have a high standard," Cassidy said. "We don't just add everything they tell us is good." (For the record, they added the album.)

Cassidy can tell if an album is going to be notable in the first 30 seconds of its first song. For him, the opening moments of a CD reveal its value, image, genre and production. "The first note of an album is akin to the first sentence of a short story," the English major described. "I can tell if it's going to be worth my time."

So what makes an album addable in Cambon and Cassidy's book?

"There's no template," Cassidy described. "What's great about one album is what's terrible about the next." For example, he said the quality that made recent

albums from New Young Pony Club and The Klaxons great was how catchy they were; yet that's exactly what drives Cambon and Cassidy to dismiss other albums.

They described an addable album as one that does something different, uses interesting influences (usually older than 10 years), challenges listeners and has a lot of interesting things going on.

"Good or bad isn't really our job," Cassidy said. "We deal more with relevance, pertinence and progressiveness."

Cambon said, "The most challenging part of the job is determining what's good and interesting compared to what music you like."

When Cambon listens to music he focuses more on the "sounding of everything," not necessarily on the song aspect. "What I think is a beautiful CD may not be that interesting and could be a task for the average San Luis Obispo listener to listen to," he said. "A lot of it doesn't have a place in regular format radio," which he emphasized could do more harm than good if added by scaring away potential listeners.

Cassidy described Cambon's preferred genre of music as electronic, himself favoring blues and experimental. "You couldn't get two people coming from two (more) different spectrums," Cassidy said.

But adding music isn't about their personal tastes. "We can't just add everything we want; that's not our job," Cassidy emphasized. "It's not about making 'Paul and Brian's playlist dream' every week."

While going through their pile of albums each week, Cassidy will often say, "I don't like it. But, it's good. We should add it."

Although they have no qualms about turning down bad music, it seems to be harder for them when the artist is DIY.

"Sometimes people call and want to know what we thought of their album, and you can't tell them the truth," Cassidy said. "You just tell them it's not for us."

"If you think about how much time and how much of their lives it takes to make an album, it's crazy," Cassidy said. "It gets put in a pile and it gets a minute of our time, we put it on the computer, write a note about what we think, and send it to Boo Boo's," he described of the rejection process. Boo Boo Records generally takes and sells albums not worthy of KCPR's stamp of approval.

But not everyone always agrees with Cambon and Cassidy about what's worthy and what's not.

"So far there have been several DJs that have criticized what we add or like an album that we don't think

see Directors, page 32



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GRAIG MANTLE MUSTANG DAILY

Cambron (left) and Cassidy (right) will each spend about 20 hours each week under the mantra "Make KCPR the best station we can."

Directors

continued from page 31

would fit into the station's programming," Cambron said. "With programming as diverse as KCPR, it's bound to happen. ... That's one of the drawbacks of having a diverse station."

But even though Cambron and Cassidy have the final say on what gets added, Cambron said there's still a sense of equality between DJs and music directors. If someone wants them to add an album, they'll take that suggestion into account. "We definitely give it another listen, and sometimes we think there are good qualities to it and maybe we didn't spend as much time on it as we should have," Cambron said. "Other times it reaffirms our initial opinion of the CD."

The pair has added albums they initially rejected at the requests of DJs. "If you're in a bad mood and listen to 30 CDs a day, you might make a bad judgment," Cassidy said. "The whole idea is to be open-minded about every CD you put in the CD player."

But sometimes questioning DJs can get annoying. "It's easier to deal with people questioning why we didn't add something than questioning why we did," Cassidy said.

Cassidy compared his job as music director to that of an art director at a museum. "I like art, but I don't know what art is good for me," he explained. DJs and listeners alike may like or even love music, but may have trouble knowing where to begin when tackling the huge array of new, available music. "I hope they trust we know what we're doing," Cassidy said. "Critics be damned."

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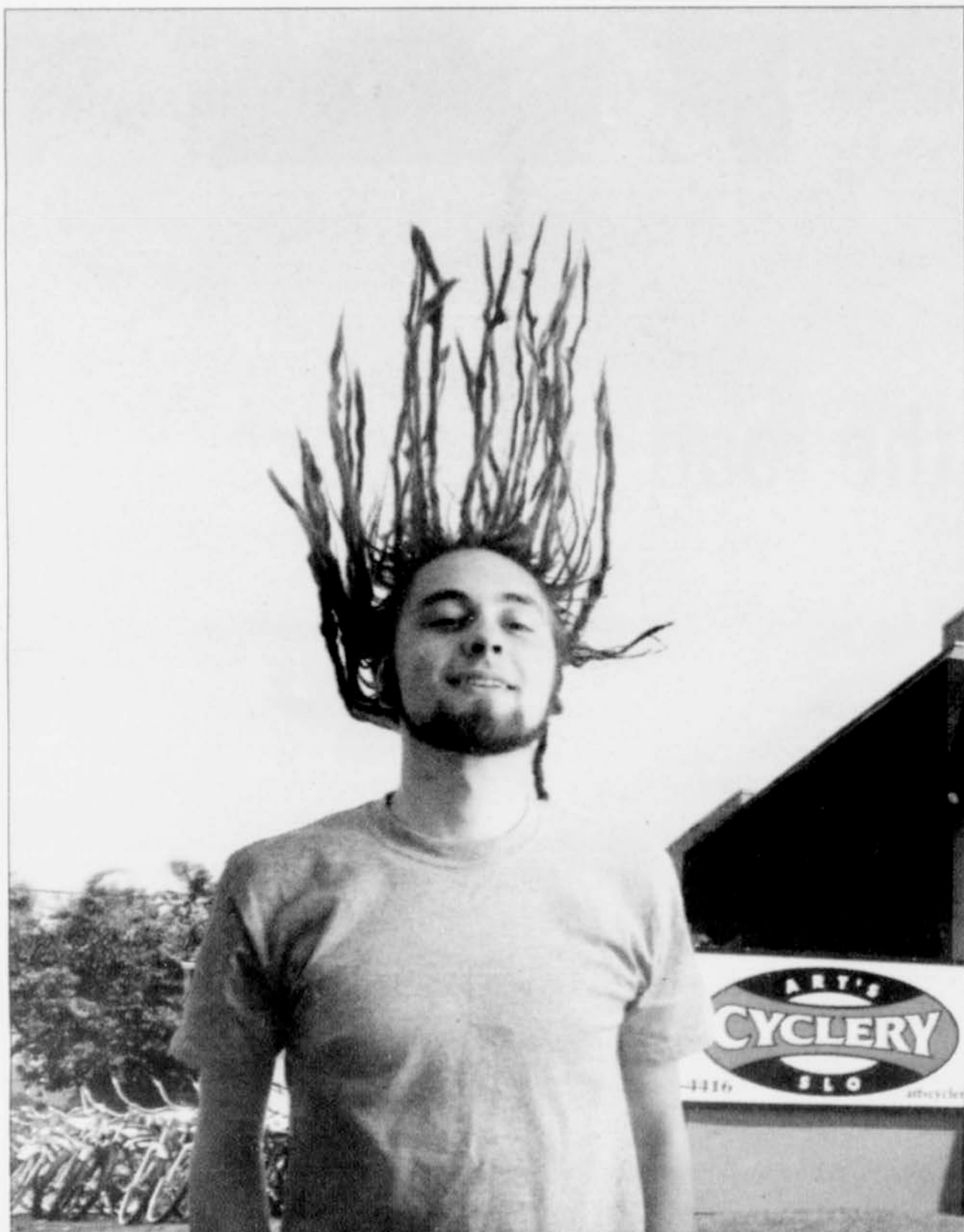
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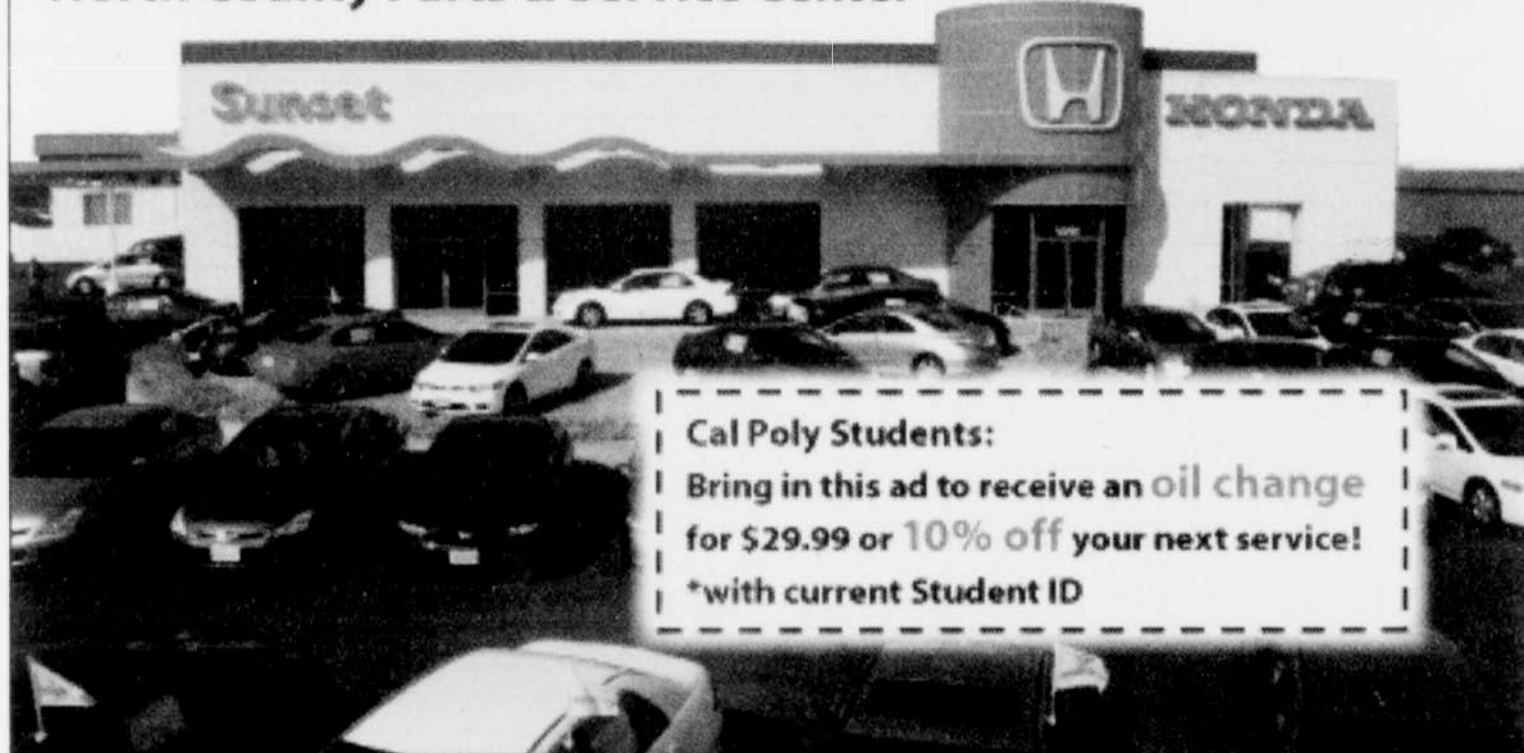
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MUSTANG DAILY

ENTERTAINMENT

Risqué read covers taboo topics of adolescence

Christina Stritzinger
THE DAILY GAMECOCK (U. SOUTH CAROLINA)

Motivated by Julia Cameron's "The Artist's Way" and a midlife crisis-esque drive to express himself through his first novel, columnist Marc Acito tackles his story with every bit of humor, wit and charm as he does in his columns. Acito never hesitates to say anything and leaves no taboo topic untouched, from white-collar crime to spontaneous three-ways.

"How I Paid for College: A Novel of Sex, Theft, Friendship, & Musical Theater" is exactly what it sounds like — a humorous account of a high school senior on a mission to follow his dreams. The book tells the story of determined Edward Zanni, his quest to attend Julliard and his wrestle with every obstacle in the way.

Any college student will be able to relate to Edward's frustration with his father, who doesn't approve of his desire to pursue acting as a career and refuses to let him study anything but the one field he considers practical: business.

Having to cope with a transient, free-spirited mother who seems to be on a permanent pilgrimage to her inner-self, and a father who would rather throw his money at his European girlfriend than fund Edward's dreams, this main character has enough drama in his life to make even the most emo teen feel a bit better.

Follow Edward as he auditions at Julliard, blackmails a politician, sings at a piano bar, skips school, questions his sexuality, spends a drunken night in New York City, falls in love and just about discovers the meaning of life.

Despite the rollercoaster plot that makes even the craziest nightlife seem boring, Acito's gift as a writer allows him to explore the adolescent mind in a way that's every bit as light-hearted as it is risqué. Acito's honest, first-person narrative starts out like a classic coming-of-age novel, but Edward's adventures with criminal activity and experimentation with bisexuality make it hardly a "safe" choice for your traditional high school summer reading list.

However, Edward's encounters with these interesting things are hardly distasteful and are actually quite inspiring. Perhaps even more striking is the amount of intellectual food for thought that is wound into this novel. In no way boring or cynical, Acito often includes some interesting and quite profound references to music, drama and even classic literature.

If you're really well informed, you might even catch the parallels between Edward Zanni and Oedipus or notice the subtle references to another would-be outlawed book, Salinger's "The Catcher in the Rye."

Edward Zanni's dramatic, over-the-top personality will certainly win your heart. Don't miss this rare, intelligent, emotional and hilarious novel — you won't be disappointed.

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Welcome Back
Cal Poly Students

Arts Lineup



Megan Priley

MUSTANG DAILY

The campus wouldn't be complete without the imaginative touch presented year-round by the Cal Poly Arts program.

With acts, plays and performances in just about every genre you can think of, the performing arts world comes alive inside the Cal Poly Performing Arts Center.

So what shows are creating the buzz around campus this year?

"I would suggest that students check their calendars for 'Weird Al' Yankovic, comedians Caroline Rhea, Tom Papa and Marc Maron," marketing coordinator Lisa Woske said.

"Weird Al" Yankovic, a Cal Poly alumnus who gained notoriety from spoofing popular songs, will be performing Oct. 9, so students better make sure to reserve their spots fast. His first single, "My Bologna," was recorded in the men's bathroom on the second floor of the graphic arts building.

Rhea, known for her role on "Sabrina, The Teenage Witch" and for appearances on other comedic television shows and movies, will be performing Oct. 13. Papa, known for multiple appearances on late-night talk shows and for starring in the NBC sitcom "Come to Papa," will be performing the first week in winter quarter.

Also, singer and Broadway star Sam Harris, kung fu troupe Shaolin Warriors and "The Wedding Singer," a Broadway musical based on the popular Adam Sandler movie, are expected to hit the PAC with a bang.

However, before seats can be filled, there is a tremendous amount of hard work that goes into the production of Cal Poly's arts programs. Interim Director Peter Wilt attends three booking conferences a year where he gets the chance to scout out available talent and watch short fifteen-minute artists' showcases.

"We look for a good balance between music, dance, theater, Broadway, comedy and so forth," Wilt said. "We also consider what artists the music and dance faculty might like, and we seek their input."

When it comes to the creative aspect, the arts department surpasses expectations. "Every year we try and add something new and different," Wilt said. "Generally, we have at least three or four Broadway musicals, two or three dance companies, a symphony orchestra, some world music, dance and traditional theater."

However, the professors and arts staff can't be given all the credit. There is a student who serves on the board of directors whose input is always taken into account.

"We have a small staff for a big program. We do almost as many events as UCSB and they have double our staff," Wilt said.

No matter who is responsible for picking the events and perfor-

see PAC, page 35

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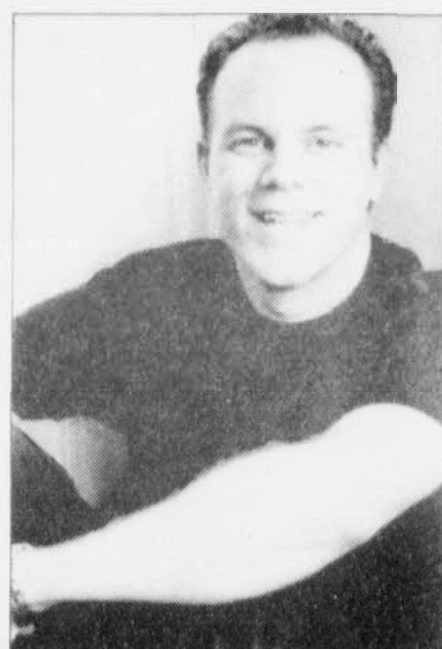
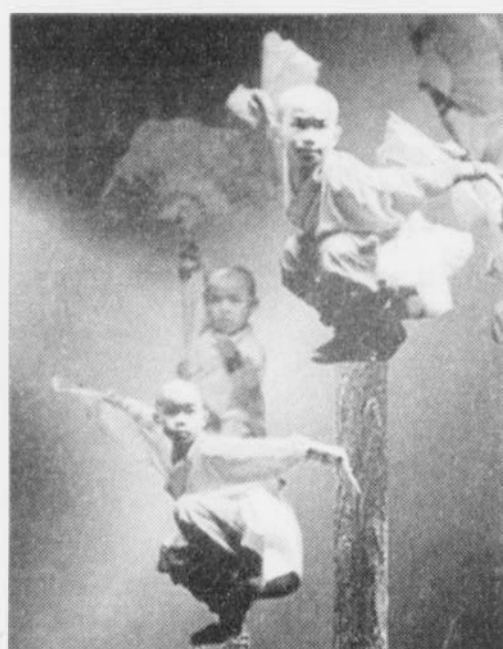
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COURTESY PHOTOS

Comedian Caroline Rhea, Michael Flatley's "Lord of the Dance," comedian Marc Maron, kung fu artists Shaolin Warriors and comedian Tom Papa are among those scheduled to perform during the 2007-08 season at the Performing Arts Center.

PAC

continued from page 34

mances, the Cal Poly arts department can be expected to present a little something for everyone.

Between their presentations of music, dance, classical, world culture, pop, blues and so much more, everyone is guaranteed to walk away with a favorite show from the season.

"Michael Flatley's 'Lord of the Dance,' coming up on Nov. 13, is something to keep a look out for," Wilt said. "This program features Irish step dancing, à la Riverdance. I plan to add three or four more events throughout

the season, but I am not ready to announce any more at this time."

For students enjoying residential life here on campus, there's more to expect than ready-to-serve meals and an easy walk to class, for the arts department has an arrangement with the housing office in which they purchase tickets that are then given out to dorm residents.

"The residential life program has their staff choose a few shows throughout the season, and they purchase a block of tickets for students, hoping to expose them to the various live performances at the Performing Arts Center," Woske said.

This cultural student outreach program is coordinated through dorm

residential advisors and staff. Students can learn more about opportunities by speaking with their RAs.

"We also offer student rush on many of our shows. This means that one hour prior to curtain students can purchase tickets to one of our events for only \$5," Wilt said.

Students should check the Cal Poly Arts Web site to see if rush tickets will be available for particular events that might interest them.

"This past season we sold more rush tickets than every season before, partly due to the fact that we were able to offer them for 'Hairspray,'" Wilt said. "It was the first time we had been able to offer rush tickets to a Broadway musical."

Another perk that Cal Poly Arts offers to students is the chance to become a subscriber. To be a subscriber, you have to purchase tickets to at least four of the 40 events that Cal Poly Arts offers.

Students receive a discounted price already and then can get an additional 10 percent off by purchasing the package.

"This past season we also had more student subscribers than ever before," Wilt said.

There are five different ways you can go about ordering your tickets for shows. To see all five ways go to www.calpolyarts.org/tickets/ordering.php.

Fall Performances at the PAC

Friday, Sept. 28	Franz Liszt Chamber Orchestra
Saturday, Sept. 29	George Carlin
Tuesday, Oct. 2	Birdhouse Factory
Friday, Oct. 5	BodyVox
Saturday, Oct. 6	SLO Symphony
Sunday, Oct. 7	James Welch
Sunday, Oct. 7	Forbes Pipe Organ Lecture
Tuesday, Oct. 9	"Weird Al" Yankovic
Thursday, Oct. 11	Shaolin Warriors
Friday, Oct. 12	Solid Blues
Saturday, Oct. 13	Phantom of the Opera (silent film)
Saturday, Oct. 13	Caroline Rhea
Friday, Oct. 19-20	Un Ballo In Maschera
Saturday, Oct. 20	Fall Concert: Let's Go Europe
Sunday, Oct. 21	Curtis Adams: Magic that Rocks
Wednesday, Oct. 24	Crooked Road Project
Saturday, Oct. 27	Choirs' Debut Concert
Sunday, Oct. 28	Seussical
Thursday, Nov. 1	Mike Birbiglia
Tuesday, Nov. 6	Movin' Out
Thursday, Nov. 8-17	The Arabian Nights
Saturday, Nov. 10	SLO Symphony
Tuesday, Nov. 13	Lord of the Dance
Saturday, Nov. 17	Bandfest 2007
Sunday, Nov. 18	Symphony Fall Concert
Sunday, Nov. 25	The Producers
Thursday, Nov. 29	Toy-ing With Science
Friday, Nov. 30	Fall Jazz Concert
Saturday, Dec. 1	Sister's Christmas Catechism
Saturday, Dec. 1	"A Christmas Celebration"

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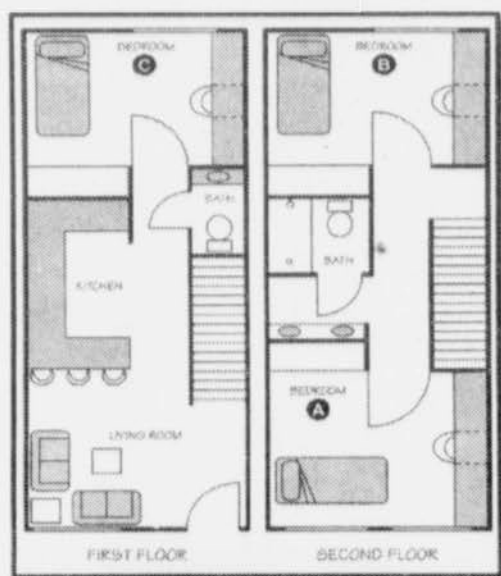
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MUSTANG DAILY
ENTERTAINMENT



COURTESY PHOTO

"Flight of the Conchords," which debuted on HBO in June, stars Jermaine Clement (left) and Bret McKenzie (right) as members of a two-man band trying to find success in New York City.

'Conchords' soar

Fernando Dutra
THE DAILY CAMPUS (U. CONNECTICUT)

Placed conspicuously after "Entourage," "Flight of the Conchords" has amassed a substantial cult following since its HBO debut June 17 due to its awkward humor and the performance of satirical songs. The show follows the mundane lives of Bret McKenzie and Jermaine Clement, as they try to make their New Zealand band a household name in the United States.

With direction from their manager, Murray (Rhys Darby), Bret and Jermaine have lo-fi video shoots, gigs and band meetings. None of these are of the grandeur they expected, as they are always comparing their expectations to those of other musicians,

including Daft Punk and David Bowie. These three characters take Flight of the Conchords seriously, leading to humorous dialogue between themselves regarding how to save the band from going under.

Other characters include Mel (Kristen Schaal), an obsessive fan who stalks Bret and Jermaine, and Dave (Arj Barker), Jermaine and Bret's instructor on vulgar subjects.

Throughout each episode, Bret and Jermaine break sporadically into songs, which the episodes are written around and for which trite dialogue or a hackneyed plot can be forgiven. While episodes like "Bowie" strive to be overly awkward, most are rooted in reality,

see Conchords, page 42

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Networks tuning into concept of online TV

Erinn Connor
DAILY ORANGE EXPLORER STAFF

It sounds archaic, but before the days of TiVo and DVR, there were the days of making sure you were home at exactly 8 p.m. to watch your favorite television show.

But now, even those television devices might seem outdated.

Online technology has improved by allowing viewers to watch all sorts of videos on the Internet, from movies to interviews to television shows, simply with the click of a button.

The increasing popularity of streaming videos online makes it easier to find quality shows that otherwise wouldn't make it on television because the shows have a small-niche audience.

Online videos are not a new trend in technology.

Before he helped create the popular "Saturday Night Live" short "Dick in a Box," "SNL" cast member Andy Samberg and his comedy troupe, "The Lonely Island," created and produced an eight-episode series called "The 'Bu,'" a parody of teen soap "The O.C." The episodes were only available for streaming at the group's Web site and helped launch Samberg's comedy career.

Streaming videos are not downloaded to a viewer's computer, but the viewer must go to a certain Web site and watch the video online. This format appeals to the producers of streaming videos by making the content less vulnerable to piracy and illegal distribution.

As watching videos online grew in popularity, some complaints arose. The picture can be shoddy, and load times are occasionally lengthy.

"Computer screens don't have as good of quality, and it hurts my eyes," said Dani Houghton, a junior biology and television radio film major at Syracuse.

But with computers getting faster and being equipped with improved technology, the troubles of streaming videos online have diminished.

With the rise of enhanced online technology, companies are already making a move to gain a larger audience with the Internet.

In the past year, Netflix launched a new program where subscribers can stream full-length movies and television episodes on the company's Web site without downloading. Users simply hit a "Click Now" button and the movie or show starts almost instantly.

"I like that movies and shows are available both online and on television," said Alex Kruse, an undecided freshman in the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications. "I'd like it if it stayed that way because sometimes I just like watching TV and being comfortable, and sometimes I like the convenience of watching things fast online."

Though watching movies online has become increasingly popular, television shows have been gaining momentum.

iTunes has added more television networks to its library with hundreds of TV shows available to download at \$1.99 for a single show. Web sites like peekvid.com give users links to sites where other users have ripped, uploaded and hosted episodes of television shows.

Fearnet.com is one of the first Web sites to offer streaming video for a niche audience. The site hosts a myriad of horror films and programs available for free to registered users.

"Watching streamed shows would probably be useful for people with laptops," Kruse said. "If networks started switching to putting their shows online, I would probably lose interest."

The major networks are already taking advantage of streaming video. ABC puts up entire episodes of its hit shows, such as "Lost" and "Grey's Anatomy," online for streaming. The catch is only that the user must



COURTESY PHOTO

Episodes of ABC's "Lost" are available on the company's Web site. Each episode has four 30-second commercials.

download ABC's media player.

"Broadcast and cable networks need to use a lot of different platforms that are available to them," said Bud Carey, a television, radio and film professor at Newhouse. "The Internet offers a way for networks to promote

current shows and to get the word out about new shows."

"I think watching shows online will appeal to die-hard fans," Houghton said. "But if you're just a channel flipper, then it probably wouldn't be very useful."

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iDon't like this computer

Jon Gold
THE DAILY IOWAN (U. IOWA)

We are a divided nation, a people split by unremitting strife and bitter rivalry. Our wars of words have turned brother against brother, daughter against father, and everyone against Mom. (It's not a convivial family dinner in imaginary America, especially when Mom wields the barbecue fork.)

I speak, of course, of the Mac/PC divide.

While ephemera such as disastrous war and congressional subpoenas conveniently distracts the public, the Maccist insurrection's latest setback has passed with relatively little notice. Its devastating secret weapon, the iPhone, has been compromised by a heroic teenager named George Hotz. May ruin find his foes!

Seriously, though, I've been a partisan of PCs since I was old enough to wield a mouse. Initially, my allegiance was due mostly to the fact that all the good computer games took forever to come out for Mac, and I needed to play me some TIE Fighter right then. However, I find more reasons to dislike the white-plastic machines as I age. For one thing, their commercials are annoying as hell:

"Hi, I'm a Mac! I look like a guy who cries during sex!"

"And I'm a PC! I look like a guy who's never had sex!"

Unfair, I know. John Hodgman (the PC guy) is really funny.

Apple has a long history of keeping its code and technology under

strict private control, which, while effectively making its computers more secure than Windows machines, stifles the ability of users to customize the functions and performance of their computers. The extra money you pay for your Mac goes toward cool design and user interface, not performance.

As another example, take the iPod. While it is undoubtedly a dandy little gadget, with its clean lines and intuitive user interface, it has some serious issues, as you iPod users out there will know. Music you buy from the Mac online store can't be played on non-iPod digital players. Some models had problems with battery life and reliability. And so on and so on. From there, we arrive at the iPhone, which is the same sort of beast: lots of really cool features hamstrung by Apple's curious aversion to playing with others in that it only works with one service provider, AT&T. Though Hotz's successful hack means that the über-Phone can be reconfigured to work with any network, the fact that Apple opted for such a blatantly anticompetitive deal with AT&T defies logic.

The increasingly prominent role that computers play in our society will produce a widespread surge in the average person's understanding of how they work. I'd bet anything that, along with that increased knowledge, people will be more willing to forego a lot of the "user-friendliness" in favor of more computing bang for their bucks. Why buy the bells and whistles when you know how to make them yourself?

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Take a walk on the *wild* side

Explore seven different spots in San Luis Obispo County

Megan Priley
MUSTANG DAILY

The last word anyone would use to describe the gorgeous scenery and quaint life of San Luis Obispo County is unusual. However, if we venture out and look hard enough, unusual places do indeed exist.

For our first adventure, we take a journey out to Mission San Antonio de Padua. The mission itself is nothing peculiar, but the drive there makes it unique.

Easily the most off-the-beaten-track of the 21 missions, Mission San Antonio de Padua sits on the middle of the Fort Hunter Liggett Military Reservation, about halfway between U.S. Highway 101 and California Highway 1.

In order to reach your destination, you must endure something of an Indiana Jones adventure as unexpected obstacles such as winding country roads, military units, road blocks and

delays due to road closures tend to pop out of nowhere.

Drivers are expected to show a valid driver's license, vehicle registration and proof of insurance in order to enter the fort and see the mission.

Once parked, you will step out of your vehicle and set your eyes on William Hannon's statue of Blessed Serra.

According to personnel, the unusual tradition is to rub the statue's toe for good luck. Once you have done so, there are extensive grounds to cover around the mission. Just be careful. Precautions are posted on the door just in case you have an encounter with a rattlesnake!

Those who seek a different type of adventure with a little twist may find it at Pirate's Cove in Avila Beach.

Only the bravest and those willing to bare it all should attempt this quest.

Pirate's Cove was once a secret spot where cargo was diverted from Harford Pier in Port San Luis. Smugglers brought

large quantities of liquor ashore from cargo ships.

Just as they did then, locals today pay no mind to the activity formed around Pirate's Cove as it has developed into a "naturist beach," or in modern terms, a "nude beach."

Despite no rules existing as to how much clothing to bring, the single most important rule asks of all guests: do not stare.

If the rather free spirit of the beach doesn't fit your taste, don't worry. A lavish hiking path runs from a rocky hill that will lead you to a sandy cove.

You can also enjoy the sights from tall cliffs that overlook Pismo Beach and the Guadalupe Dunes. Feel free to bring along fishing gear or simply enjoy watching the seals resting on the rocks.

The next site will entice those with a desire to shop and gain a little history lesson at the same time — there's nothing like a mix of fashion and education to make the most unusual blend of sightseeing.

The Ah Louis Store is a two-story brick rectangular building that can be found on the corner of Palm and Chorro streets. The entrance is painted white, has two windows and a door on both the first and second floors.

To make the scene appear even less like a place made for entering, the windows have iron shutters and the windows and door on the first floor are larger than those on the second floor.

The outer shell is enough to make any history buff quiver with anticipation to enter. However, what makes this location extraordinary is the fact that it was originally surrounded by the Chinese-American community.

As the first Chinese-American store in San Luis Obispo County, the Ah Louis Store was founded in 1874 by On Wong,

see County, page 41



COURTESY PHOTO

Mission San Miguel's haunted graveyard, where pirates brutally murdered citizens in search of gold, is one of San Luis Obispo County's unusual locales.

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County

continued from page 40

who was known as "Ah Louis." He was a labor contractor who also sold dry goods, tea, sugar, rice and Chinese goods.

Today, the store is rarely open. But if you're lucky enough to enter, you can browse the clutter of Asian merchandise. The property is currently listed as a California State Historical Landmark.

For the true nature-lover at heart and perhaps even hopeless romantics, Shell Creek Road in San Luis Obispo is the ultimate getaway.

Among the vast fields, you will see gorgeous wildflowers, such as baby blue eyes, tidy tips and goldfields. This breathtaking scenery will have you yearning to get out your hiking shoes and take a stroll through the wildflowers.

If outdoor activities and nature are not your calling, Fremont Theatre in San Luis Obispo can offer an old flare assorted with modern times.

This venue on Monterey Street has earned its historic honor. Built in 1940, the vintage-style architecture takes us back in time.

Don't let the exterior fool you. When you enter, a more modern-day touch has transformed the interior. However, the painted inside of the large main theater helps retain its vintage touch.

"It's a fun experience where you get to feel as if you are back in the olden days," Ryan Torres, 20, said. "I like how you get to see modern movies in a historic atmosphere."

According to locals, in the mid-'70s the Fremont began to show more independent, artistic films on a one-night basis to attract the college crowd. Those who experienced the theater's essence back then are glad to see that the theater has not been changed architecturally.

Even today, the theater is still used as a location for the International Film Festival. Fox, National General, Mann and the Edwards Cinemas have operated it at different times.

Haven't found the location that properly

quenches your sense of adventure? Perhaps you need more of a spook than anything else. Mission San Miguel will send shivers down your spine with just one glimpse.

According to the Mission San Miguel Historic Web site, John Reed bought this mission from the Mexican government and turned it into an Inn for travelers in the mid-nineteenth century.

One night in 1848, a band of English pirates broke into the Inn looking for rumored gold. When they were unable to locate the gold, they went mad and brutally murdered everyone present.

The bodies were so badly cut up that all the bloody remains were buried in one mass grave behind the church. The 13 ghosts of John Reed, his family and guests are said to still be wandering restlessly around the mission grounds.

You can witness firsthand the eerie sensation of walking along the mission's graveyard, which still remains intact today.

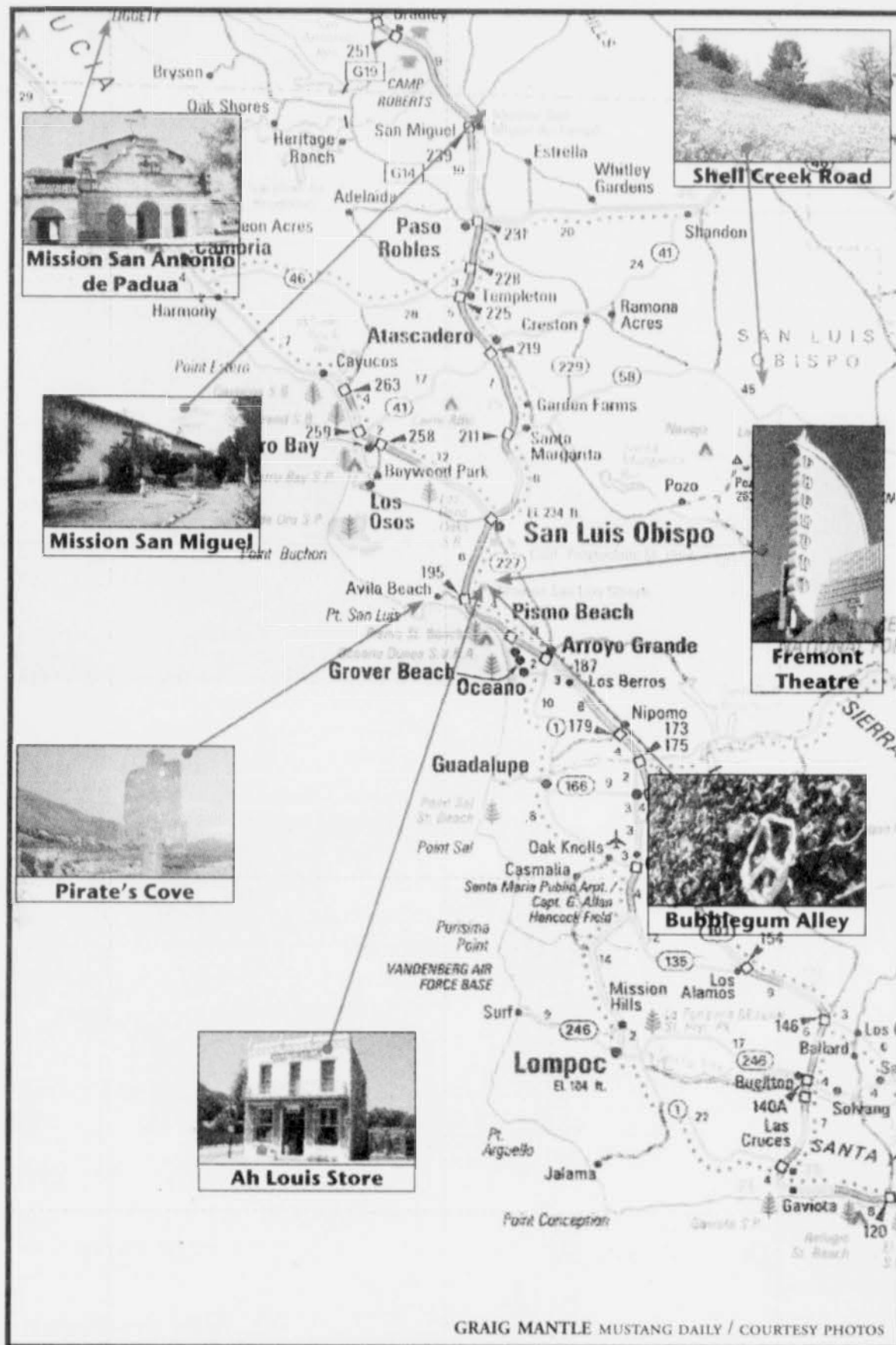
Finally, in order to lighten the mood after that last location, there is a place for those who appreciate a good laugh and don't mind sticky situations.

Located in downtown San Luis Obispo, "Bubblegum Alley" might be a tight space that is hard to find, but don't underestimate just how many people have left a token behind in the alley.

With both walls covered from top to bottom with gum, you will want to watch your step and keep hands close at all times. Gum started appearing on the walls of this alleyway in 1960.

"I went to 'Bubblegum Alley' when I first moved here last year," 22-year-old Laura Marquez said. "My first reaction was that it was kind of gross, and I didn't want to walk through it. Once I started looking at the gum in detail, I noticed that people actually made things out of their gum."

Locals complained about the less-than-appetizing site, but the gum kept on coming. If you want to contribute to "Bubblegum Alley," a few shops near the alley have gumball machines. Just chew and stick.



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Nintendo trumps Sony in new releases

Bill Rix

THE UNIVERSITY STAR (TEXAS STATE U.)

It's a good time to be a console gamer.

"BioShock," 2K Games' X-Box and PC first-person shooter powerhouse, garnered high praise from nearly all corners of the reviewing world and Nintendo's "Metroid 3 Prime: Corruption," for the Wii, only a few days old, has been hailed as one of the best games for the console.

For those owners of Sony's PlayStation 3, however, the outlook isn't so sunny. Few worthwhile games have come out and the system is lacking a killer title. "Lair" looks promising, but it's been shown off well before the PS3 landed in stores, so at this point, it may as well be regarded as a tech demo with some game-play shoved in.

The recent price drop of the PlayStation3 might spur sales, but for the time being, the console can readily be found in stores across the nation.

Meanwhile, those looking for Nintendo's offering are still having problems locating a Wii almost a year after release.

It's not as if Sony isn't trying, though. Price cuts aside, the PlayStation Network — Sony's foray into the world of downloadable games — updates often in an effort to keep pace with Nintendo's Virtual Console and Microsoft's Xbox LIVE Arcade. It will have to constantly and aggressively change its marketing in order to catch the elusive online gamer. However, it's evident a viable online multiplayer presence is finally becoming a feature important to many



COURTESY PHOTO

The \$600 Sony PlayStation 3 hasn't lived up to its hype. Without many big games, gamers are turning to the Xbox 360 and Nintendo Wii.

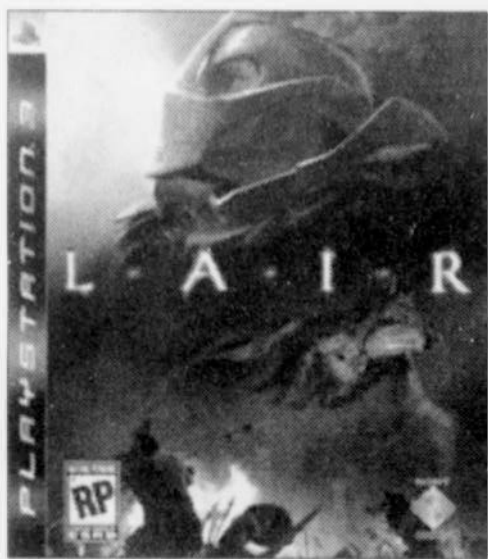
gamers.

This is a facet of the gaming experience Nintendo — for lack of better phrasing — just gets. It was evident when the Nintendo DS first came out. The DS' operating system allows for voice chat as well as traditional text messaging via Wi-Fi. This usability has transferred well to the Wii, which allows players to send messages to friends and store address book information. It's a giant cell phone, in a way, something the PS3 isn't.

It's been said the PlayStation 3 is a hardcore system for hardcore gamers, but even the hardest players need games with mettle, not just fine graphics. Such amazing heights of gaming could be accomplished with the PS3's Blu-Ray drive — imagine the depth of gameplay a traditional, sprite-based role playing game could achieve given the right team. Or, consider the ramifications of emerging software, such as John Carmack's newest masterpiece, the megatexture, a texture-streaming method able to render massive environments based on a single texture map with relatively small file size.

With the right developers and producers, the PlayStation 3 could prove to be a gaming revolution in and of itself, or it could go the way of the 3D Interactive Multiplayer 13 years before it — intensely powerful, but not marketed or priced correctly and so doomed.

As it stands, the PS3 isn't faring as well as its Nintendo and Microsoft brothers, a shame considering the potential. With any luck, a stellar team will come together and breathe life into the still-fledgling console.



COURTESY PHOTO

While Nintendo and Microsoft celebrate the releases of "Metroid 3 Prime" and "BioShock" respectively, Sony awaits the release of "Lair" to keep them in the race.

Conchords

continued from page 36

sardonically dealing with issues of love, racism and band relationships.

The shows become increasingly more predictable throughout the season, with a basic premise that is something along the lines of: Bret and Jemaine have a problem, talk about it a little with Murray, burst into song, have Mel obsess or

Arj protest, and then confront the problem.

While this is fine, hopefully the second season will see "Flight of the Conchords" experiment more with different ways of delivering a story line.

Overall, the show delivers a "Napoleon Dynamite"-meets-Tenacious D style that is worth checking out, regardless of whether Bret and Jemaine have a cult following or become household names.



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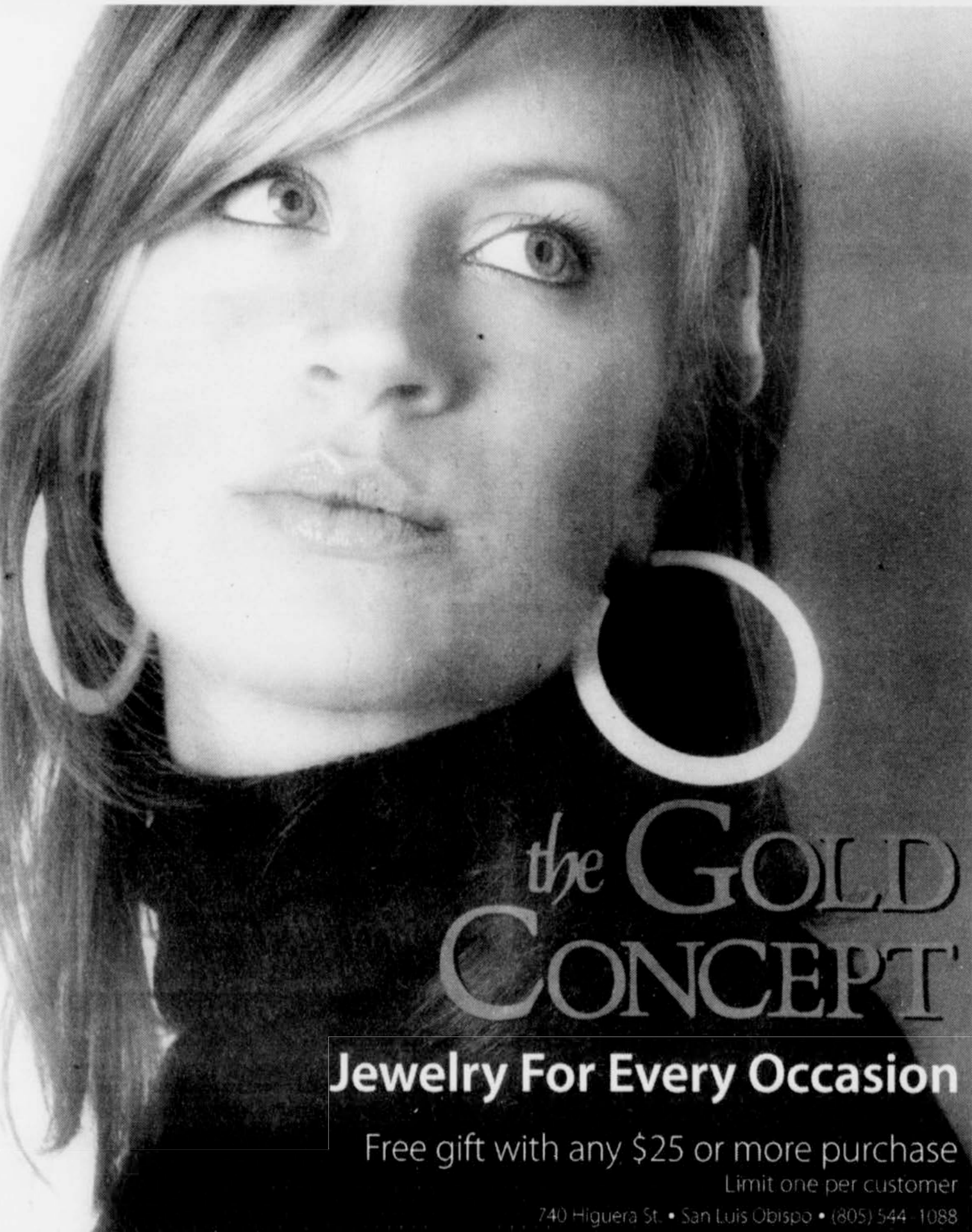
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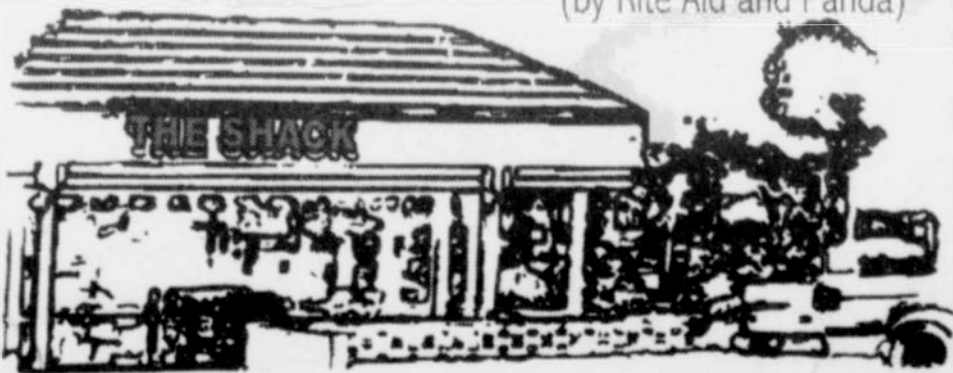
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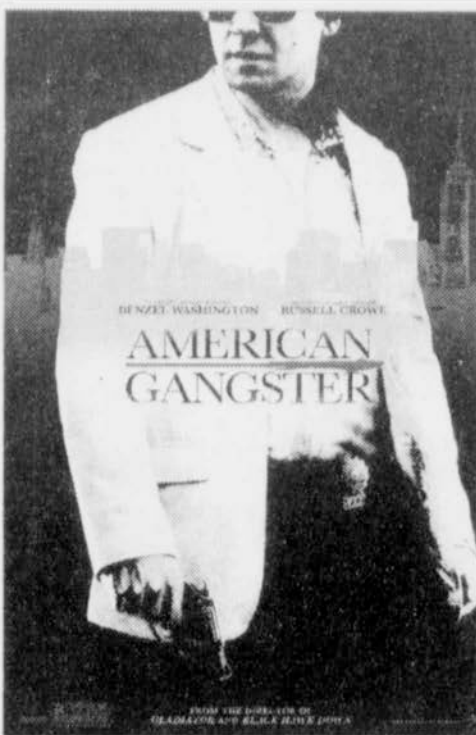
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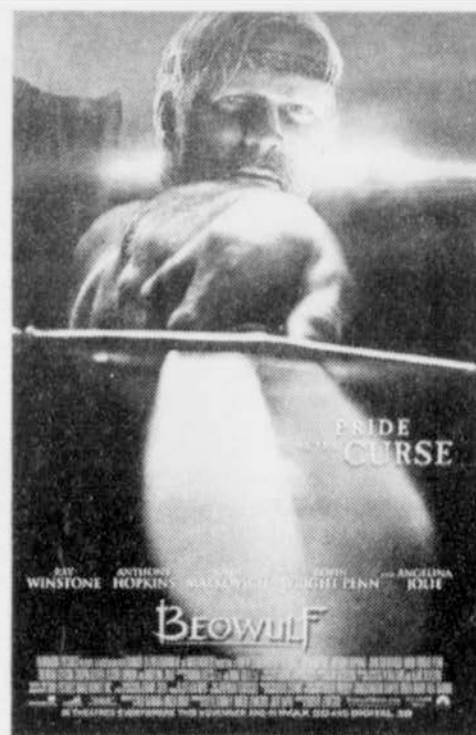


Ryan Chartrand
MUSTANG DAILY

American Gangster

From director Ridley Scott, the man responsible for such blockbusters as "Hannibal," "Black Hawk Down" and "Gladiator," comes "American Gangster," a film that will only need the names of Denzel Washington and Russell Crowe to get an Oscar.

Based on a true story, Washington plays a drug lord who smuggles heroin into Harlem by hiding it inside American coffins coming back from Vietnam. In other words, he gets to be the ultimate badass (as if he wasn't already) as Crowe attempts to stop him. Great director, great actors, great story. What more do you need?



Beowulf

If only you were still in high school, you'd not only get to read the poem, but watch what looks to be a great, innovative film to go with it.

Director Robert Zemeckis brings his digital enhancements to "Beowulf," much like he did with "The Polar Express." This time, however, it has a frighteningly amazing look to it.

Not only is it entirely digital (and possibly ahead of its time), but it sports an impressive cast: Angelina Jolie, Anthony Hopkins and John Malkovich.

And did I mention Neil Gaiman, the legendary fantasy writer whose recent film work includes "Stardust" and "MirrorMask," co-wrote the screenplay? Hopefully, "Beowulf" delivers.



I Am Legend

Oh God, it's Will Smith in another futuristic film about the end of the world. Or is it?

In "I Am Legend," a man-made virus takes over the world, and Smith is the only non-mutant human left alive. The plot is adapted from a novel by Richard Matheson.

"I Am Legend," even with Smith as the only real actor involved, has potential in its current stage. No trailer has shown what these mutants look like, but judging by the CGI in the current trailer, there is a good chance that they won't ruin the already painfully uncomfortable mood that the film sets.

Whether Smith can carry the entire film on his own is yet to be seen.

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An album not to miss...

Trembling Blue Stars — "The Last Holy Writer"

Jesse Bo Widmark
SPECIAL TO THE DAILY

View this record as the latest chapter in an epic starting in southern England in 1988, when Robert Wratten and Micheal Hiscock started a band with a drum machine. This band, The Field Mice, released a seven-inch single on Sarah Records called "Emma's House" that would, years later, be considered a landmark piece for the seemingly contradictory sound of what was eventually dubbed indie pop — what I'd describe as jubilantly remorseful music. Postmortem, The Field Mice were mythologized as lost heroes of the genre (well, to a extremely small group of music geeks anyway). But Bobby Wratten never really stopped making music.

"The Last Holy Writer" is the seventh release from Wratten's current vehicle, Trembling Blue Stars, and seems to have more in common with "Emma's House" than with the prior TBS discography. The common architecture is this: consistently gorgeous melodic arrangements surrounding some seriously downtrodden lyrical content. Surmising the feel of this beautifully depressing legacy is the breathtaking second track, "Idywyld," which engages in a nearly celebratory indulgence of disappointment: a parade of crucified friendships, shattered dreams, wasted lives and the inevitability of growing old alone but for your own agonizing, ever-present regret (mandatory listening for all my fellow Cal Poly super-seniors). But the best thing about this song — what really sells it — is Beth Arzy.

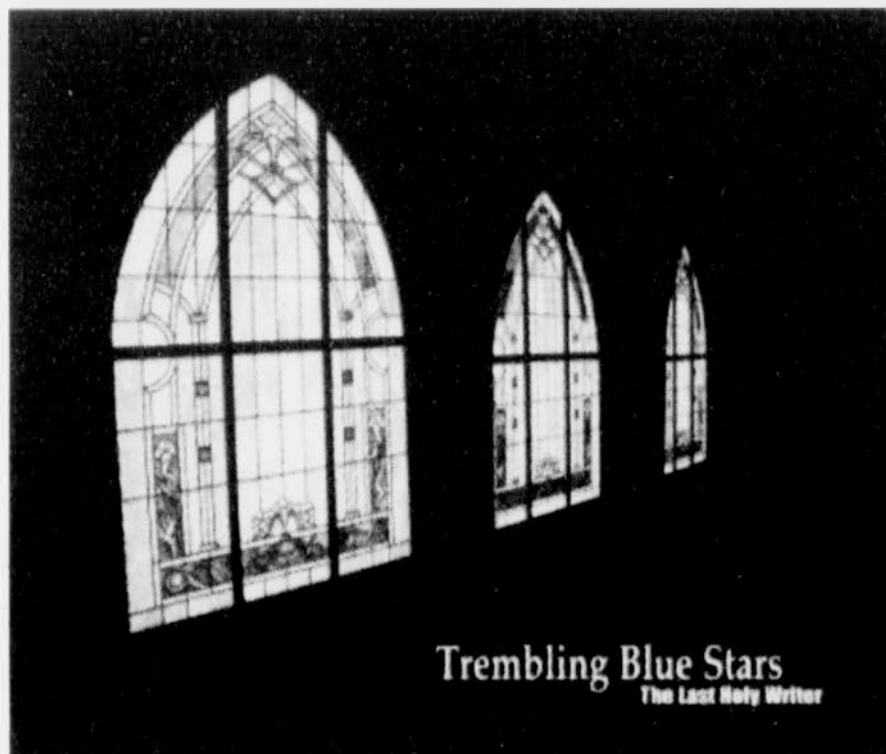
Formerly of Californian indie-pop outfit Aberdeen, Arzy provides backing vocals on nearly all present tracks, and lead vocals for a total of three songs on "Holy Writer" — all of which are definite high points. Though her voice is of the breathy variety, her delivery is powerful and clear, soaring above the instrumentation in a kind of distant, angelic perfection. This trait is particularly notable on the near-eight minute "A Statue to Wilde." You'll have to de-

cide on your own whether to smile or cringe at the Oscar Wilde shout out.

This isn't to say that the Wratten-voiced numbers are to be skipped. The record actually holds its momentum even at its most predictable points, namely the requisite break-up song, titled indicatively, "The Coldest Sky." Remember that Wratten doesn't only write break-up songs (just as Volvo doesn't only build station wagons) but the first couple of TBS records were composed of little else. The counterpoint to this is "November Starlings," which is somewhat of an oddity in its relatively happy, optimistic lyrics and reminded me of one of my favorite old Field Mice songs, "Coach Station Reunion." This record is the best executed recording TBS has made to date and the first to equal any of the old Field Mice releases.

On that note of nostalgia, I'll mention that the production is handled by Ian Catt of Saint Etienne. (Catt has produced the majority of Wratten's work, starting with the "Emma's House" demo back in '88, working out of his parents' spare bedroom.) Whether or not you've heard any earlier records, I'd recommend "Holy Writer" to anyone who's a fan of pretty songs. Or sad songs. Or music.

Jesse Bo Widmark is an architectural engineering senior and a business director at KCPR, San Luis Obispo, 91.3 FM.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Beth Arzy lends her vocals to "The Last Holy Writer" (top left), the latest from Trembling Blue Stars. Top right: Arzy sits with band members (from left) Keris Howard, Harvey Williams, Jonathan Akerman and Bob Wratten.



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Turnovers prove costly in Idaho game

Cal Poly Jon Hall rushes to a season-high 114 but the Mustangs drop their second straight to the Vandals 20-13.

SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT

MOSCOW, Idaho — Cal Poly lost four of its seven fumbles and Idaho turned three of them into scores — a touchdown and two field goals — en route to a 20-13 victory over the Mustangs in a non-conference football game Sept. 8 in the Kibbie Dome.

Cal Poly, playing its first two games on the road for the first time since the 2000 season, fell to 0-2 on the year.

The Mustangs were ranked No. 17 in the Football Championship Subdivision Coaches Poll and No. 22 in The Sports Network Poll coming into the game.

Idaho, a Football Bowl Subdivision team from the Western Athletic Conference, improved to 1-1.

Cal Poly closed a 14-point deficit to seven at 20-13 with 4:51 to play when Jonathan Dally hooked up with Tredale Tolver on a 69-yard touchdown pass and Andrew Gardner kicked the extra point. The drive was kept alive on an Idaho five-yard face mask penalty

on fourth down.

The Vandals were able to drive 63 yards in nine plays and run out the clock to clinch the victory, their second in two tries against Cal Poly. The two teams also met in 1996 — a 38-33 Idaho victory in Moscow.

Idaho jumped to a 10-0 lead in the first 11 minutes of the game.

Nathan Enderle hooked up with Max Komar on a 36-yard touchdown pass and Tino Amancio kicked a 51-yard field goal for the Vandals.

Gardner kicked a 20-yard field goal for Cal Poly early in the second quarter and the 10-3 score stood up to halftime.

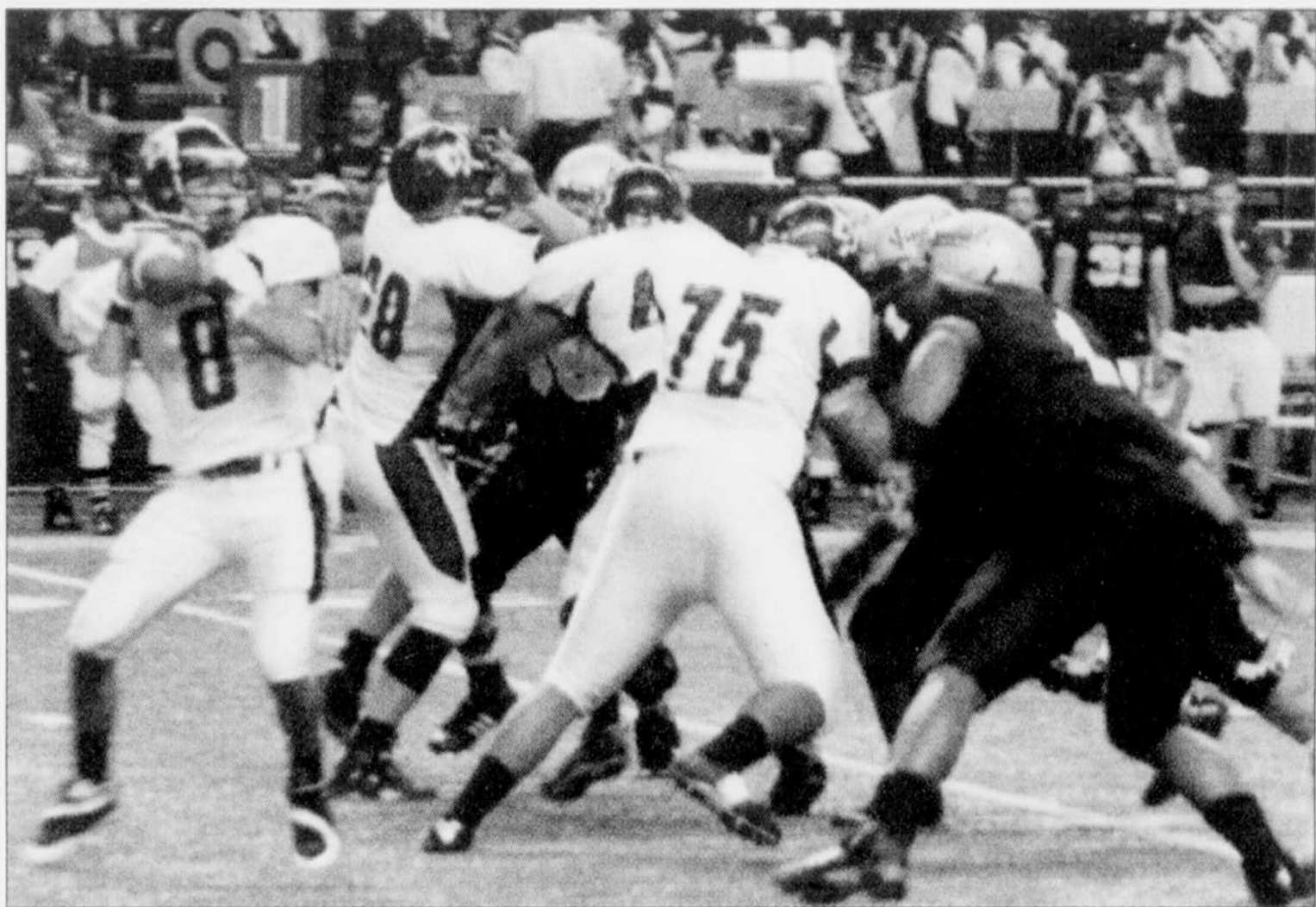
Amancio kicked a 25-yard field goal for Idaho in the third quarter and Gardner answered with a 30-yard three-pointer six seconds into the fourth quarter.

Deonte Jackson ran 11 yards for what proved to be the clinching score with 8:31 to play following a Cal Poly fumble.

Jackson finished with 214 yards on 30 carries while Enderle completed seven of 22 passes for 101 yards. He was sacked once by Carlton Gillespie, for Cal Poly's first sack of the season.

Lee Smith caught four passes for 41 yards for Idaho.

Cal Poly's offensive leaders were fullback Jon Hall with 114 yards on 20 carries, Tolver with



ROGER ROWLES COURTESY OF THE ARGONAUT

The Mustang offensive line offers Jonathan Dally time to throw in Cal Poly's 20-13 loss to Idaho on Sept. 8.

five catches for 120 yards and Ramses Barden, had 207 yards receiving the week before, had four receptions for 46 yards.

Hall entered the game with nine carries for 25 yards in his Mustang career.

Dally completed 10 of 24 passes for 175 yards and the one score

to Tolver.

Neither quarterback threw an interception.

Defensive leaders for the Mustangs were linebacker Mark Restelli with 11 tackles (eight solo) and linebacker Marty Mohamed with 10 (seven solo).

see Idaho, page 54

Coverage of the Cal Poly football game against Weber State on Saturday will appear in the Sept. 18 edition of the Mustang Daily.

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Shotwell plans for life after football

Josh Ayers

MUSTANG DAILY

Being cut at any level in athletics is a tough situation to handle. The athlete may dabble in depression, participate in risky behavior or make excuses about what went wrong and what could have been.

Then there's the Kyle Shotwell approach.

The former Cal Poly linebacker and Buck Buchanan Award recipient received a call from the Oakland

Raiders on Sept. 2 that informed him that he would not be on the team's eight-man practice roster. But despite the disappointing news the humble and confident Shotwell is already taking what he has learned from the experience and looking ahead to a future away from football.

"It was a good experience," Shotwell said. "It was a really challenging experience but I think I learned a lot about football in that short amount of time. I learned a

lot but I also learned a lot about myself and I learned a lot about the differences between, you know, college and professional football (of) which there are many."

Displaying no animosity toward his experience, Shotwell said that student athletes at a smaller school like Cal Poly rarely, if ever, see the business elements of the game such as television contracts. However, at the NFL level, Shotwell said he saw business decisions about the team and its players being made every day.

"That's really what a lot of the cuts come down to is that a lot of them are just business decisions and when you're talking about that much money ... at the end of the day it's all about the bottom line," Shotwell said. "I realize that that's how it is. I didn't necessarily hear it from when you first start going but I got to see it first hand and it made me realize what's important about football."

Before the phone call, Shotwell played in four NFL preseason games for the Raiders and participated in their training camp. In the four games played, he made 10 tackles — eight of them solo. Seven of the 10 tackles came in the Raiders' 19-14 preseason finale loss to Seattle. He had five solo tackles in the game.

Though Shotwell hasn't completely given up on football, he's not banking on it either. The

see Shotwell, page 55



MUSTANG DAILY FILE PHOTO

Kyle Shotwell makes a tackle on a South Dakota State player during Cal Poly's 29-28 homecoming loss on Oct. 21, 2006.

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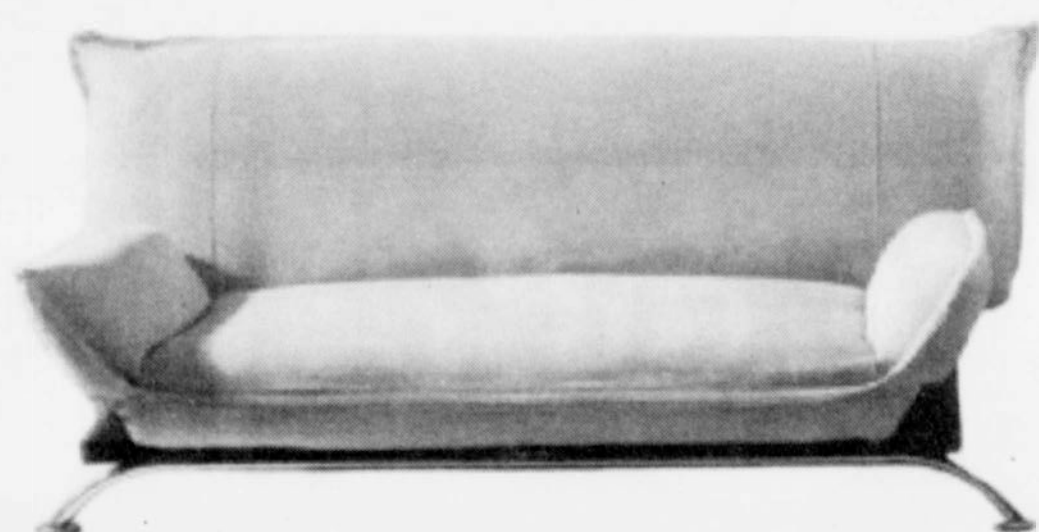
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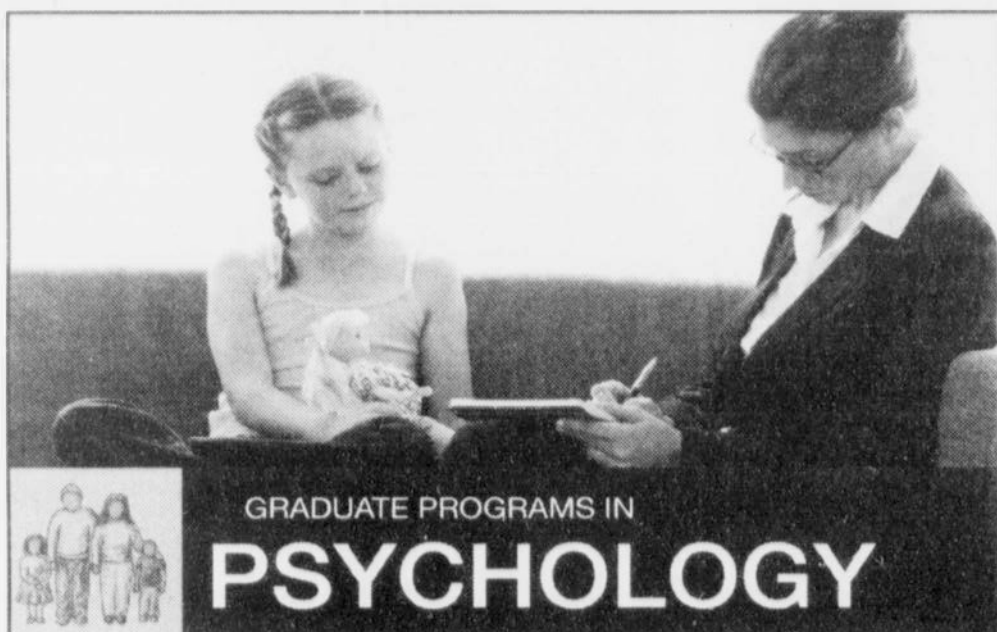
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AP revises poll process to include FCS teams

**Schools in the Football
Championship Subdi-
vision such as Cal Poly
could potentially make
the AP's top 25.**

Paul Newberry
ASSOCIATED PRESS

After pulling off one of the greatest upsets in college football history, Appalachian State is still shaking things up.

The Associated Press said Sept. 6 that lower-division schools are now eligible for its 71-year-old poll.

"It's great they opened the door," Appalachian State coach Jerry Moore said from his office in Boone, N.C. "Certainly we're not going to be the No. 1 team in the country. We know that. We're not even going to be in the top 10. But if you have a win over a nice football team, I like that it's not out of the realm of possibility for a school like us to be one of the top 20 or 25 teams in the country."

Several AP voters expressed interest in putting Appalachian State on their ballots after a shocking 34-32 upset at then-No. 5 Michigan on Sept. 1. But the poll guidelines, which mirrored the coaches' rank-

ings conducted by USA Today, limited eligibility to teams competing in the former NCAA Division I-A, now known as the Football Bowl Subdivision.

The Mountaineers compete in the Football Championship Subdivision, known before this season as Division I-AA.

The AP decided to make the change because schools that show they can compete with big-time teams on the field should have a chance to be recognized with them in the top 25, AP Sports Editor Terry Taylor said.

"Why not?"

The poll was always intended to measure teams that compete against each other, regardless of division, based solely on on-field performance," she said. "It was that way long before Division I was divided into I-A and I-AA in 1978."

One poll voter, Adam Van Brim-

mer, said he wanted to put Appalachian State at No. 25 after their win over the Wolverines, largely as a symbolic gesture.

"If I have any openings in my poll, they would certainly be strongly considered," said Van Brimmer, who works for the Georgia-based Morris News Service.

**The poll was al-
ways intended to
measure teams
that compete
against each
other regardless
of division...**

—Terry Taylor
Associated Press sports editor

In a previous job, he covered longtime Division I-AA powerhouse Georgia Southern, which, like Appalachian State, is a member of the Southern Conference.

"Having spent so much time watching those Georgia Southern teams, I'm sure the top teams in the Southern Conference are as good as any mid majors in the upper division," Van Brimmer said. "They're probably as good as anybody in the MAC (Mid-American Confer-

see Poll, page 49

go greek

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Poll

continued from page 48

ence). They're probably better than most in the Sun Belt."

Joe Giglio of The News & Observer in Raleigh, N.C., said he would have voted for the Mountaineers following their win over Michigan, though he never considered where to put them after being told they weren't eligible.

He's not sure if Appalachian State will get another chance to crack his top 25 since the school doesn't face another big-time opponent, which affects strength of schedule.

"They could go unbeaten the rest of the way, which is certainly a possibility," Giglio said. "But that would be a problem, particularly in the methodology I use. They would never have a chance to improve their ranking."

Still, the Mountaineers were fired up just to have a shot at the rankings — something none of them expected when they signed on to play at the picturesque school in the Blue Ridge Mountains, most of them overlooked or underrated by the bigger programs.

"It shows what a team can do when it believes," Appalachian State senior cornerback Jerome Touchstone said after practice. "We believed in ourselves at Michigan and, as a team, we've changed the way that a lot of people think about us and about football that we play at our level."

USA Today plans no change in its poll, which will continue to be limited to schools in the division formerly known as I-A.

As Giglio pointed out, the Football Championship Subdivision has its own poll and a playoff system to determine its champion (the Mountaineers have won the last two titles).

"We're probably better off just separating church and state, so to speak," he said. "How long is the shelf life for beating Michigan? At some point, it wouldn't be enough" to keep them in the top 25.

"It would be pretty difficult to evaluate some of the I-AA teams they play, because they don't have the same exposure as I-A teams," said AP voter John Heuser, who covered the Sept. 1 stunner in Ann Arbor. "We know how good Appalachian State is because they beat Michigan. But I would not really be able to assess how good their opponents are the rest of the season."

Taylor said those sort of issues should be up to the voters, not the news cooperative that organizes the poll and tallies up the ballots.

"This was an issue we never had to face before," she said. "But we thought about it and decided there should be no rule against ranking a I-AA team, as long as that team competed against a I-A opponent."

"Oddities of one sort or the other frequently crop up where the poll is concerned, and it's not unusual for us to make adjustments. This one was just the fair and right thing to do."

Heuser said the Mountaineers were certainly deserving of being in the top 25 for at least one week.

"They are an impressive team," he said. "I thought they were Michigan's equal on the field. I didn't think it was a fluke at all."

Poly wrestling hires former Olympian

SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT

Olympic silver medalist and two-time national champion, Sammie Henson joins the Cal Poly wrestling program.

Henson, the latest addition to the Mustang coaching staff, comes to Cal Poly after



Sammie Henson

serving as a volunteer assistant coach at the University of Nebraska. Henson brings a wealth of national and international experience to Cal Poly. The 1995 graduate of Missouri received a bronze medal in 2000 and 2005 at the Yarian International Tournament; he was the 2003 Dave Schultz International champi-

on, and the 2001 Poland International champion. Henson won the Yasar Dogu Championship in 1997 and 1999 and the 1988 Junior World Team Trials.

Henson was a member of the U.S. Olympic Wrestling Team in 2000 where he took home the silver medal in Sydney, Australia.

Henson won the World Championship in 1998 for the U.S. in the Islamic Republic of Iran. During the 90's, Henson placed at multiple U.S. Opens and World Team Trials.

Henson competed for Gil Sanchez while attending college at Clemson University in 1993

and 1994. During those years, Henson was a two-time NCAA National champion at 119lbs and was undefeated with a record of 71-0 in 1993. In 1994 he was the ACC Conference champion. Before attending Clemson Uni-

see Henson, page 54

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Women's soccer has rough start

Mustangs open season 0-3 for the first time since 2004 before picking up their first win against Providence on Sept. 9.

Rachel Gellman
MUSTANG DAILY

The Cal Poly women's soccer team kicked off its season with a lead foot in a non-conference match against Dayton University Friday evening as they lost 2-0.

The Mustangs kept control of the ball early on in the match and seemed to be on their way to a victory. A hand ball 10 minutes into the game diminished Poly's momentum.

The lady Flyers were awarded a free kick for the Poly error.

Midfielder Kristen Persichini faked a kick seconds before midfielder Jerica DeWolfe blasted the ball from five yards beyond the top of the penalty box past Poly goalkeeper Alli Tramel into the lower right corner of the net.

Action stood at a standstill for the rest of the first half. Poly midfielder Erica Zumahlen had two shots on goal while midfielder Kaleena Andruss and forwards Sharon Day and Ashle Vallis each had one. Poly had eight fouls at the end of the half while Dayton had four.

Seven minutes into the second half, Day-



GRAIG MANTLE MUSTANG DAILY

Sharon Day attempts to head the ball toward the goal in Cal Poly's game against Arizona. The Mustangs lost 4-3 in overtime.

ton cut into Poly morale again as forward Mandi Back scored off of a Tramel deflection.

Poly head coach Alex Crozier said his team did not pick it up until they were down and beforehand the Mustangs were too tentative in their attack.

Day had three shots on goal in the second half to no prevail. Dayton goalkeeper Niki Reed had to get down and dirty to keep Poly attempts from hitting net, but she was successful with 11 total saves.

"We have a lot of potential and a lot to work on also," said Day after the loss.

Along with her increased shot attempts, Day also picked up a yellow card at the 80 minute mark.

Crozier said "The result is disappointing."

The Mustangs met the following day to discuss areas of their game which need improvement.

"We need to do a better job taking care of the ball...we still have some work to do," Crozier said.

Dartmouth Tournament

Sept. 7.

Dartmouth 1, Cal Poly 0

Sept. 9.

Cal Poly 1, Providence 0

Coverage of the women's games at San Diego State and the University of San Diego will appear in the Sept. 18 edition.

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Facebook, athletes like oil and water

Zach Berman
DAILY ORANGE (SYRACUSE)

The best-kept secret in college football was going to be revealed last Saturday. Then Facebook got in the way.

The secret was Notre Dame's starting quarterback job, which went to sophomore Demetrius Jones. Three quarterbacks competed for the job and head coach Charlie Weiss guarded the new starter like it was his ATM pin number. Weiss responded with a sly smirk on his face as reporters pestered him for the starter, maintaining his best Phil Hellmuth impersonation.

Jones' friends, however, wrote congratulatory notes on his Facebook wall. Paired with his high school coach saying Jones will start, the news leaked and the Facebook profile was used in stories around the country.

In college football, online sites like Facebook and MySpace allow reporters — or better said, bloggers — to stay informed.

It's important to note that because of restrictions on viewing profiles outside of a given network, the information about these Facebook profiles come from second-hand sources. Screenshots are often taken and posted online, although the cynic can answer that one who is computer savvy — which most bloggers are — can recreate a Facebook profile.

Regardless, these profiles have been used as evidence in respected publications.

Even Syracuse's opponent this weekend, Iowa, has run into its own Facebook problems. Hawkeyes receivers Dominique Douglas and Anthony Bowman allegedly used a stolen credit card for online shopping. Then someone went lurking around Facebook, and it was discovered that Douglas and Bowman had photos with backup quarterback Arvell Nelson — who was also fighting legal problems — that included the players flashing a few hundred dollars with liquor in hand.

Naturally, this created intrigue for Iowa reporters. The Iowa City Press-Citizen reported 20 underage Iowa football players having Facebook photos involving alcohol — everything from holding a bottle to shotgunning beer. The Des Moines Register went on to name five starters under age 21 holding alcoholic beverages — and that was only among the starters with available Facebook profiles.

"It's a sign of the times first and foremost," Iowa coach Kirk Ferentz said Tuesday. "Coaching is no different than being a parent. You can't take it for granted."

Ferentz labeled the situation as players who exercised poor judgment. He said the irony is the football team has had two presentations in almost the past year — one last August and one in May — with social Web sites as the topic.

Yet if you picked up the student directory, selected a random student and went to the Facebook profile, it wouldn't be a shock if that student had photos featuring activities that aren't rare for college students.

Essentially, the players on the football team are just that — college students.

The difference is there are no blogs devoted to history classes, and those who visit message boards multiple times a day don't discuss Chemistry 101. Instead, they care about a football program's bowl history and team chemistry.

Legendary Alabama coach Bear Bryant said it best: "It's hard to rally around a math class."

The rules are different depending on sports, too. The curiosity isn't as prevalent for volleyball and rowing as it is for football and basketball.

There are thousands of people who care about the quarterback and the point guard. If photos of players standing on the sideline draws excitement, it can explain why the obsession transcends to something substantive — like a provocative photo. That's simply the double-

see Facebook, page 54

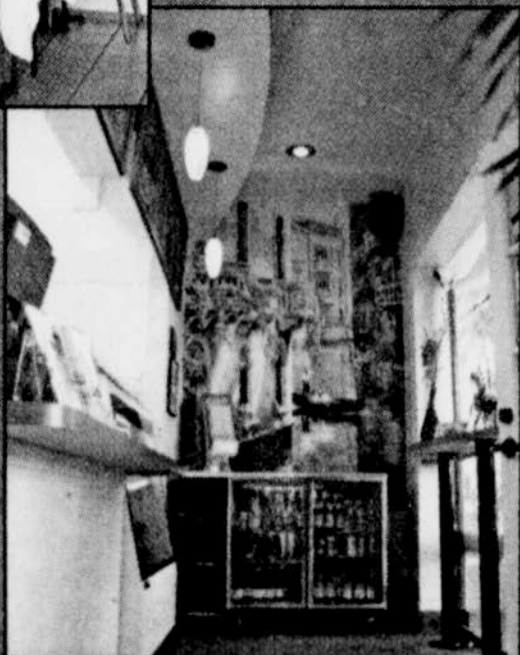
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Men's cross-country off to strong start

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

The Cal Poly men's cross country team took the top two spots at the UCSB Open on Sept. 1 in Goleta, leading the team to a 20-43 season-opening win over the Gauchos.

Cal Poly senior Phillip Reid finished first in the 8k race with a time of 24:50. He was followed closely by junior Troy Swier, who took second with a time of 24:52.

Evan Anderson finished fourth with a time of 24:59, edging out UCSB's Scott Smith, who also had a 24:59.

Anderson followed up on Sept. 8 with a first-place finish at the UC Irvine Invitational at the UC Irvine Recreation Center, in which the Cal Poly men's team took first.

Anderson bettered his time to 24:34 and teammate Leif Anderson finished about five seconds later with a 24:39 to take second place.

Kim Donatelli finished in seventh place in the women's 5k race with a time of 18:28.

The Gaucho women won the meet 15-53.

The Mustang women took third in the UC Irvine Invitational with Bridie McCarey being the top Cal Poly finisher in eighth place with a time of 18:26 for the 5k event.

The cross country teams will

send runners to Bill Dellinger Invitational in Eugene, Ore. and the Stanford Invitational on Sept. 29.

Mustangs go 2-2 in exhibition down under

The Cal Poly men's basketball team lost the first two games of its four-game exhibition tour in Australia but came back to win its final two games.

The Mustangs lost their first game to the West Sydney Razorbacks 88-69 on Sept. 3, and then followed up with a 123-91 loss to the Razorbacks on Sept. 5.

Dawin Whiten and Chaz Thomas each scored 18 points in the second game and Matt Hanson chipped in with 18 points.

The Mustangs defeated the Gold Coast All-Stars 127-97 on Sept. 6, and then followed up with a 119-102 win over the Logan Thunder on Sept. 7.

Whiten led the Mustangs in scoring against the Thunder with 26 points and Trae Clark had 17 points and six assists.

The team was scheduled to return on Sept. 11.

Volleyball goes 2-1 at Stanford Invitational

Cal Poly senior libero Kristen Jackson surpassed Michelle Hansen's all-time career dig record by contributing 17 in Cal Poly's 30-24, 28-30, 30-10, 30-26 win over St. Mary's on Sept. 8 at the Stanford Invitational.

Hansen's digs record stood at 1,694 prior to the game and Jackson was only six short of tying the record after the Mustangs were swept by No. 2 Stanford, 30-20, 30-18 and 30-28 on Sept. 7.

The then-No. 17 Cal Poly volleyball team recorded its first upset of the 2007 season with a 22-30, 30-26, 30-21, 30-14 win over No. 9 BYU on Sept. 6.

Junior Kylie Atherstone recorded 17 kills and 17 digs in the match while junior outside hitter Ali Waller added 16 kills and 10 digs.

Senior setter Chelsea Hayes made 53 assists in the match.

Wagner wins Ventura County championship

BYU was unbeaten prior to the match.

Fifth-year Cal Poly senior Brycen Wagner won the Ventura County Golf Championship on Sept. 3, finishing the event with a 12-under par.

Wagner finished five-under with a 67 in the final round.

The men's team opens its season at the 2007 Water Chase Invitational at the Waterchase Golf Course in Fort Worth, Texas on Oct. 1.

Cal Poly women's soccer gets first win of 2007

The Cal Poly women's soccer team defeated Providence 1-0 on Sept. 9 at the Dartmouth Tournament in Hanover, N.H. to pick up its first win of the season.

Julianne Grinstead accounted for the game's only goal by putting a header into the net in the eighth minute following a Kaleena Andruss corner kick.

Alli Tramel made three saves in the game.

The Mustangs lost to tournament-host Dartmouth 1-0 on Sept. 7.

Cal Poly had eight shots on goal during the game but couldn't get past Dartmouth goalkeeper Laurel Peak.

Tramel had four saves.

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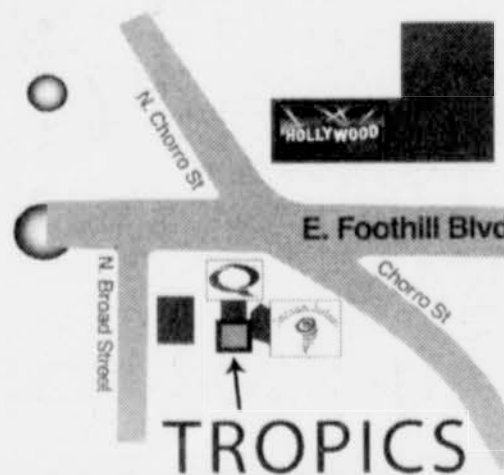
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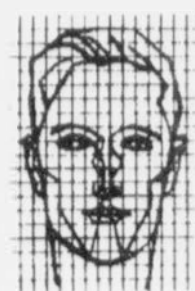


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Mustangs swept by 'Huskers, went 1-3 at Nebraska tourney

Junior opposite Kylie Atherstone and senior libero Kristin Jackson named to the all-tournament team.

SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT

LINCOLN, Neb. — No. 1 Nebraska limited 17th-ranked Cal Poly to a .120 team hitting percentage on the afternoon of Sept. 3 as the Mustangs fell to the defending-national champions in the finale of the Holiday Inn Downtown Classic, 30-20, 30-19, 30-18, at the NU Coliseum.

Reigning Big West Conference Player of the Week and junior opposite Kylie Atherstone paced Cal Poly (3-3) with nine kills while junior Jaclyn Houston recorded a match-high three blocks and hit .444. The Cornhuskers (5-0), who led wire-to-wire, received a match-best 17 kills from 2006 AVCA National Player of the Year Sarah Pavan.

The Cornhuskers raced out to a 6-1 advantage in the opening game. The Mustangs were able to whittle the Nebraska lead to 16-13, but the Cornhuskers earned nine of the ensuing 13 points to outdistance Cal Poly.

The Mustangs held Nebraska from taking a quick lead in the second game, but the Cornhuskers steadily pulled away during the set.

A Pavan attack error shortened Nebraska's advantage to 22-17, but the Mustangs pulled no closer.

Cal Poly fell behind in the third game, 9-3, before posting an 8-5 run to halve the deficit.

The Cornhuskers, however, compiled a 7-2 run en route to eliminating Cal Poly.

A day after an NCAA-record 13,081 spectators saw Cal Poly sweep Creighton as part of doubleheader at the Qwest Center in Omaha, 4,068 fans packed the NU Coliseum for Monday's match. The ticket allotment for Nebraska's 14 regular-season home matches sold out in 45 minutes when released Aug. 1.

Cal Poly finished the Holiday Inn Downtown Classic with a 1-2 mark. The Mustangs began the competition Aug. 31 with a five-game loss to No. 3 Penn State, a match in which Cal Poly dropped the initial two sets before rallying to push the Nittany Lions to the limit.

Atherstone, who averaged 4.64 kills per game during the competition, was named to the all-tournament team, along with senior libero Kristin Jackson, who compiled 4.82 digs per game.

Atherstone player of the week

SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT

SAN LUIS OBISPO — A stellar offensive week in which she led the No. 17 Cal Poly volleyball team in five statistical categories and established a new single-match high of six aces helped Mustang junior opposite Kylie Atherstone earn Big West Conference Player of the Week honors Sept. 3.

Atherstone, the 2006 Big West Co-Player of the Year, averaged 5.25 kills, 1.00 aces and 2.75 digs per game as Cal Poly (3-2) earned a split against No. 3 Penn State

(L, 3-2) Aug. 31 and Creighton (W, 3-0) Sept. 2 at the Holiday Inn Downtown Classic, hosted by top-ranked Nebraska.

Against Penn State, Atherstone recorded 25 kills — one shy of her career high — and compiled 12 digs as Cal Poly, which dropped its first two games against the Nittany Lions, rallied to tie the match before falling short of an upset.

Two days later, Atherstone landed a career-best six aces, produced a match-high 17 kills and recorded 10 digs to help the Mustangs sweep Creighton and im-

prove to 3-2.

Atherstone was the lone Mustang to produce consecutive double-doubles (kills and digs) and paced all Cal Poly hitters in kills (42), kills per game, attempts (101), aces (eight) and aces per game.

Among Big West players this season, Atherstone ranks fourth with 0.53 aces per game, sixth with 3.89 kills per game and ninth with 3.16 digs per game.

The Sept. 3 honor was the fourth of Atherstone's career and first by a Cal Poly player this year.

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Idaho

continued from page 45

Gillespie recovered an Idaho fumble.

Despite the loss, Cal Poly had the edge in first downs, 20-19, and in total offensive yards, 346-

336.

The Mustangs, seeking their fourth win over an FBS school since moving from Division II in 1994, are now 3-17 against FBS schools since 1980. Cal Poly beat New Mexico State in 1997, UTEP in 2003 and San Diego State last year.

Henson

continued from page 49

versity, Henson was enrolled at the University of Missouri. Under head coach Wes Roper, Henson was the Big Eight Champion in 1991 as a freshman. In addition, Henson also received NCAA All-American status, placing fifth.

He attended Francis Howell High School in St. Charles, Missouri and wrestled for Roger Hodapp and Jud Hoffman from 1987-1989. During his high school career he was a three times Missouri State champion 4A and a three times District champion.

Henson was born January 1, 1971 in St. Louis, Missouri. Henson and his wife, Stephanie, have three boys: Jackson, Wyatt and Ruby.

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Facebook

continued from page 51

edged sword of playing major college athletics: You get the adoration when things go well and the humiliation when they don't.

Syracuse football players know this well, too. Defensive tackle Art Jones said the team has been informed of the dangers of posting too much information.

"You just gotta be smart about it, Facebook and MySpace," Jones said. "I'm on it, but I don't put pictures of me. We have meetings where they talk about the issues and be smart about it."

"It's just another reminder that

what they do is very public," Ferentz said. "Like it or not, that's part of the responsibility of being an athlete, and they need to keep it in mind."

Even something as arbitrary as one of those chain-letter questionnaires you filled out in middle school can gain attention. Take Michigan defensive lineman Marques Slocum who had one on Facebook in August. All it took was one curious onlooker for the interview to become news.

Slocum didn't exactly endear himself to fans with his answers. Here is an example, according to the popular college football blog EveryDayShouldBeSaturday.com:

Q: Do you own any pets, and if so what do you have?

A: i got a (expletive) lion now come (expletive) wit me

Unfortunately for Slocum and Michigan, none of the questions asked how to contain Appalachian State. Although if that was a question, Slocum could have answered with his response to the question of his most memorable past:

"(expletive) i couldnt tell u cuz i dont know"

But this is simply the reality of being in the public eye. It's not fair, although neither is Louisville playing Murray State. One solution could be players exercising more caution. At the same time, they're 20 year olds living under a worldwide microscope.

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Men's soccer opens 2-0

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

After defeating No. 7 California 3-1 in an exhibition match on Aug. 21, the Cal Poly men's soccer team followed up with a pair of shutouts to start the season 2-0.

The Mustangs opened up their regular season against Loyola Marymount on Sept. 1.

"I was very impressed with our preparation and the maturity of the players," head coach Paul Holocher said of the Loyola Marymount game on Sept. 6. "You could get a sense in our travel down there that they were very focused."

Freshman forward and Costa Rica transplant David Zamora has been silent since scoring a hat trick in the exhibition against the Golden Bears.

As of Sept. 9, Daniel Cumming has been the only person to score goals for the Mustangs.

In the season opener against Loyola Marymount he scored two second-period goals off the bench to help shut out the Lions and then on Sept. 9, Cumming scored Cal Poly's only goal in the 1-0 win over Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Kyle Montgomery had the assist on the goal in the Wisconsin-Milwaukee game.

Even with the team winning, Holocher is still looking for improvement from the team.

"I think it's real important that we start scoring from more



Daniel Cumming moves through two Wisconsin-Milwaukee defenders to take a shot. He scored the only goal in the Sept. 9 game.

positions on the field," Holocher said on Sept. 6. "Getting midfielders into more advanced positions, getting them into the 18-yard box, getting them in on crosses and scoring goals."

The Mustangs worked the crosses well in the game against

see Soccer, page 56

Coverage of the Cal Poly men's soccer team's games against UNLV and Cleveland State at the UNLV Tournament will appear in the Sept. 18 edition of the Mustang Daily.

Shotwell

continued from page 46

immediate future is still somewhat unknown but he expressed a thorough interest in pursuing a master's degree and possibly a teaching credential.

"I would like to come back and do it at Cal Poly if I could," Shotwell said. "I love San Luis (Obispo). I love Cal Poly athletics and I love the school. And, I have two younger brothers who are here right now so it would be fun to be back here with them."

As for the long term, Shotwell said he would eventually like to move in the direction of becoming an athletic director at the university level but he's open to other opportunities as well.

"I could very easily see myself getting into coaching too," Shotwell said. "I feel really fortunate because football has opened a lot of doors for me, as far as the connections and people I've been able to meet. I'm going to try to exercise some of my opportunities."

Shotwell hasn't ruled out football completely, but he's not banking on it either. He feels fortunate to have reached the level of play that he did.

"For a lot of my friends, it ended in high school," Shotwell said. "I got to go on to college and play ... I got to do some cool stuff like play in a cool All-Star game, move up to a new area and go through an NFL mini-camp and OTAs (organized team activ-

ities) and training camp and play in four NFL preseason games.

"It's been almost a year since I finished playing for Cal Poly but I'm still going. I got to do it a lot longer than most people do it," Shotwell added.

The Oakland coaching staff told him to "stay ready because you never know what can happen in the season." Though he's not sure whether he will get a call, Shotwell said he plans to stay in shape not so much for football but primarily to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

"There's going to come a point where I'm going to have to close the door on football," Shotwell said. "Football is going to have to come back to me. I'm not going to keep banging on the door but I'm going to keep myself available and ready."

Shotwell is Cal Poly's all-time record-holder for tackles in a season with 158 in 2005 and he is second all-time in career tackles (392) behind Jordan Beck. In addition to the Buck Buchanan Award, Shotwell played in the 82nd Annual East-West Shrine Game where he picked up seven tackles, five of which were solo, and the Pat Tillman Award.

"I feel my body of work that I've compiled in college, then the All-Star game (East-West Shrine Game) and Pro Day, and at training camps and my games that I've played, I think it speaks the fact that I can play football," Shotwell said. "Whether people are going to want to give me a chance is up to them."

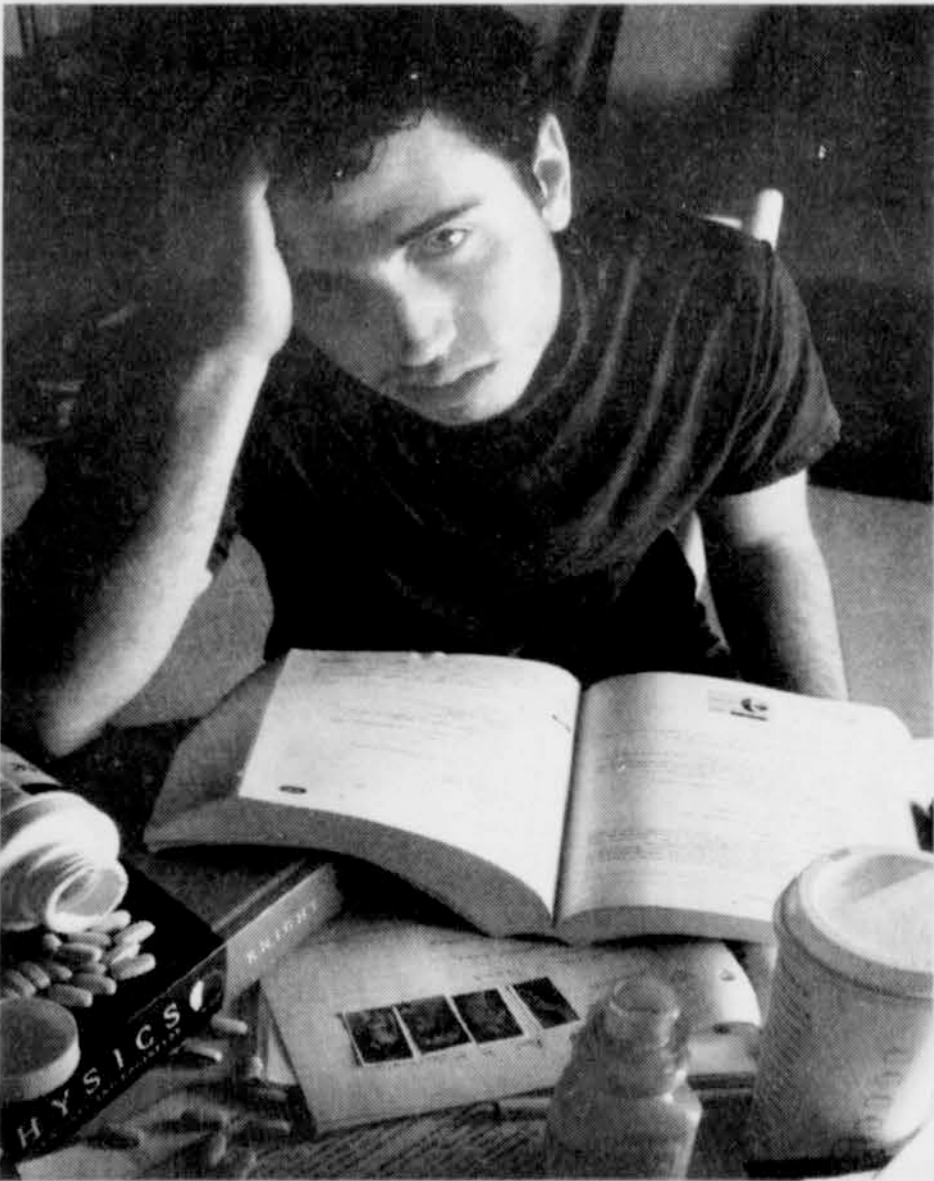


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Friday

Cal Poly vs. Long Beach State
Mott Gym 7 p.m.

Saturday

Cal Poly vs. Northridge
Mott Gym 3 p.m.

FOOTBALL

Saturday

Cal Poly vs. Western Oregon
Alex G. Spanos Stadium
6:05 p.m.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Thursday

Cal Poly at Utah
6:30 p.m.

Saturday

Cal Poly at BYU
6 p.m.

MEN'S SOCCER

Tuesday

Cal Poly vs. Wright State
Alex G. Spanos Stadium
4 p.m.

Sunday

Cal Poly vs. Bakersfield
Alex G. Spanos Stadium 1 p.m.

Soccer

continued from page 55

Wisconsin-Milwaukee but couldn't pick up a second goal.

"We made the game a little bit too difficult on ourselves by not putting away a second goal — and we had numerous chances," Holocher said following the game with Wisconsin-Milwaukee. "We've got to do a better job of controlling the game when we have a lead."

Holocher was pleased with the chances that the midfielders created in the Wisconsin-Milwaukee game but he would have liked to have seen a goal scored from the midfield.

"Julian Alvarez did a good job of getting behind," Holocher said after the Wisconsin Milwaukee game. "We had two or three good opportunities but we weren't good enough in the final third and in the box to really put that second goal away."

In spite of the lack of goal production from the midfield, Holocher remains optimistic.

"Every game we learn, we learn a lot," Holocher said. "We learned a lot from this for sure about our defenses' shape and compactness and every game I think our relationships are getting a little bit better on the field."

Cal Poly controlled the ball the best in the final ten minutes according to Holocher.

On Sept. 4 the NSCAA/Adidas Far West regional poll ranked The Mustangs in a three-way tie with San Jose State and Stanford for the No. 10 spot.

The Mustangs traveled to Las Vegas for the UNLV Tournament where they squared off against UNLV on Sept. 14 and Cleveland State on Sept. 16.

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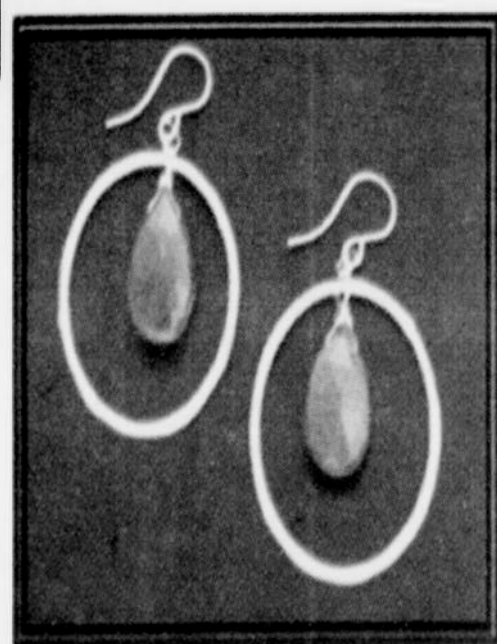
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MUSTANG DAILY

SPORTS

Web site gives fans a say in football rankings

Josh Dubow

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN MATEO, Calif. — From the weekly media and coaches polls to the preseason rankings in a bevy of magazines to the annual end-of-season debate about the Bowl Championship Series, no sport is tied to polling as much as college football.

Now there's a Web site that is giving fans a chance to have their say in a virtual futures market for college football teams.

ProTrade.com recently added college football to its roster of sports this season, giving fans a chance to predict how well teams will do this season.

While there predictably are many similarities between the major polls and ProTrade's rankings — Southern California and LSU are the top two teams in all three — there are also some major differences.

ProTrade users are more bullish than the pollsters on teams like Wake Forest and Hawaii and more bearish on UCLA and Nebraska.

The most notable difference for now is that of Michigan. The Wolverines fell out of the major polls after losing its opener to Appalachian State, the first time a ranked team has ever lost to a team from the Championship Subdivision (formerly Division I-AA).

But Michigan fell from only fifth to 13th in ProTrade's rankings as of early Friday, Sept. 7 — unlike the traditional polls, ProTrade's rankings can change every minute. Many traders apparently believe the Wolverines can recover from that historic loss and still have a successful season.

"The biggest difference is the AP poll is more about how a team has done up until now, while our market predicts how Michigan will be until the end of the year," said ProTrade co-founder Jeffrey Ma.

Launched in 2005, San Mateo-based ProTrade treats professional athletes and teams like stocks to be bought and sold in a theoretical currency that can be redeemed for prizes.

After the value of teams or players are set by ProTrade in an IPO of sorts, the price then changes constantly depending on whether the community of traders are looking to buy or sell that stock.

The scoring on ProTrade is simple. Each regular season win, including conference championship games, is worth 15 points. Teams get an additional five points for beating a team in the AP Top 25 and another five if the team is in the Top 10.

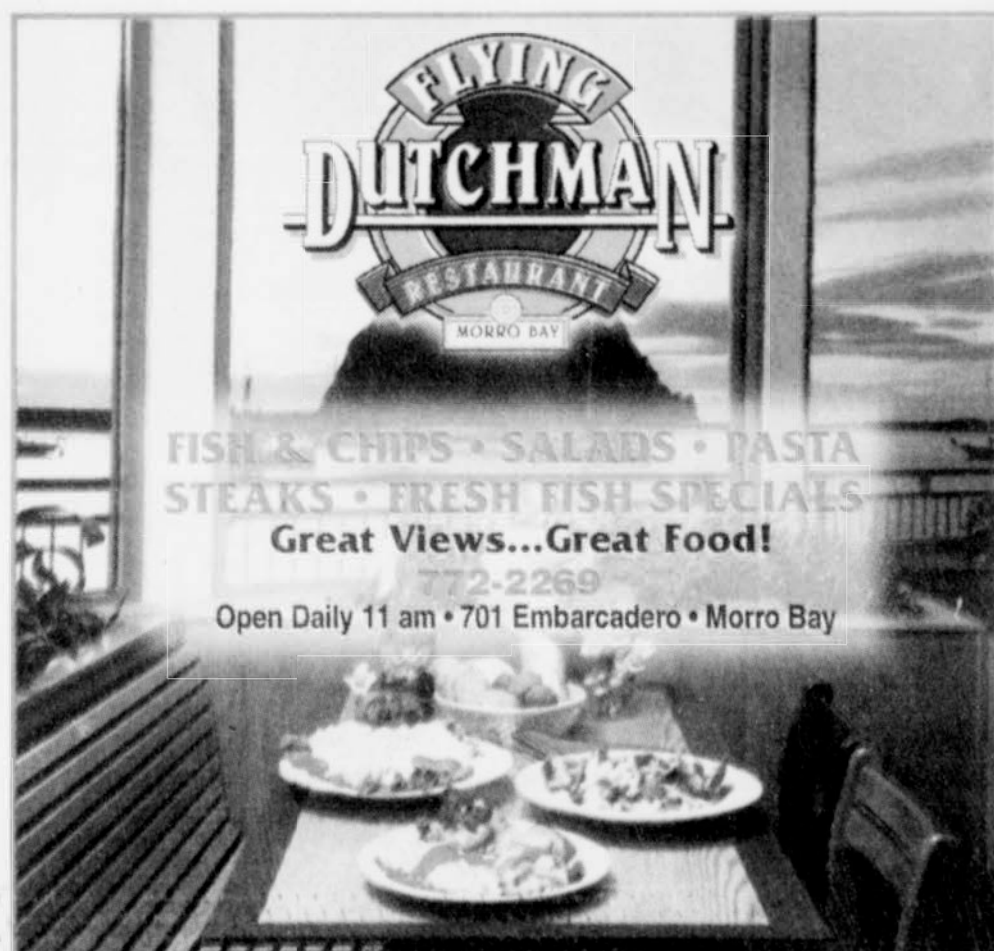
A win in a bowl game is worth 20 points and teams that qualify for a BCS bowl get 15 points. Making the BCS title game is worth another 15, and winning it all is worth 30.

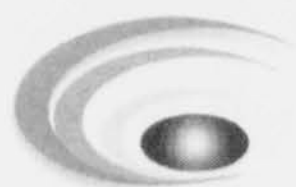
The price of a team was set before the season as the company pored over all sorts of data to determine a starting point. After that, it's up to the traders — and how a team performs — to determine which direction the price goes.

"It's like an IPO. We set the price and never touch it again," Ma said.

For example, USC opened at \$205.02, peaked at more than \$260 — which meant the Trojans likely would have had to go undefeated and win the national championship to earn a profit — before falling back to just more than \$220 on Friday.

see ProTrade, page 58

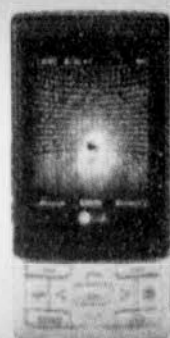




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ProTrade

continued from page 57

Ma and co-founder Mike Kerns said interest in the college football has been high, with some users trading teams possession by possession as if they were short-selling stocks. One user learned that the price of teams usually falls when they're on defense and rises when they're on offense.

ProTrade also offers markets for the NFL, Major League Baseball, the NBA, the PGA Tour, NASCAR and college basketball. The site originally relied on new-age statistics inspired by Michael Lewis' best-selling book "Moneyball" to determine values of players and teams.

But when that proved to be too confusing to the average fan, the site switched last year to traditional fantasy sports stats. That helped increase traffic to the site fifteenfold and ProTrade now generates more than 20 million page views a month from its more than 100,000 registered users.

Because of regulatory issues, ProTrade can only use virtual dollars instead of real money. But users can redeem those ProTrade dollars for various prizes, including gift cards, signed memorabilia or the opportunity to play a game of H-O-R-S-E with Phoenix Suns guard Steve Nash.

Ma became famous while in college at MIT when and his buddies became so proficient at counting cards in blackjack that they carted away millions of dollars from Las Vegas casinos. Their feats inspired the best-selling book "Bringing Down The House." (Ma is Kevin Lewis in the book).

Kerns, who is the CEO of the company, came to ProTrade after working for noted sports agents Leigh Steinberg and Jeff Moorad.

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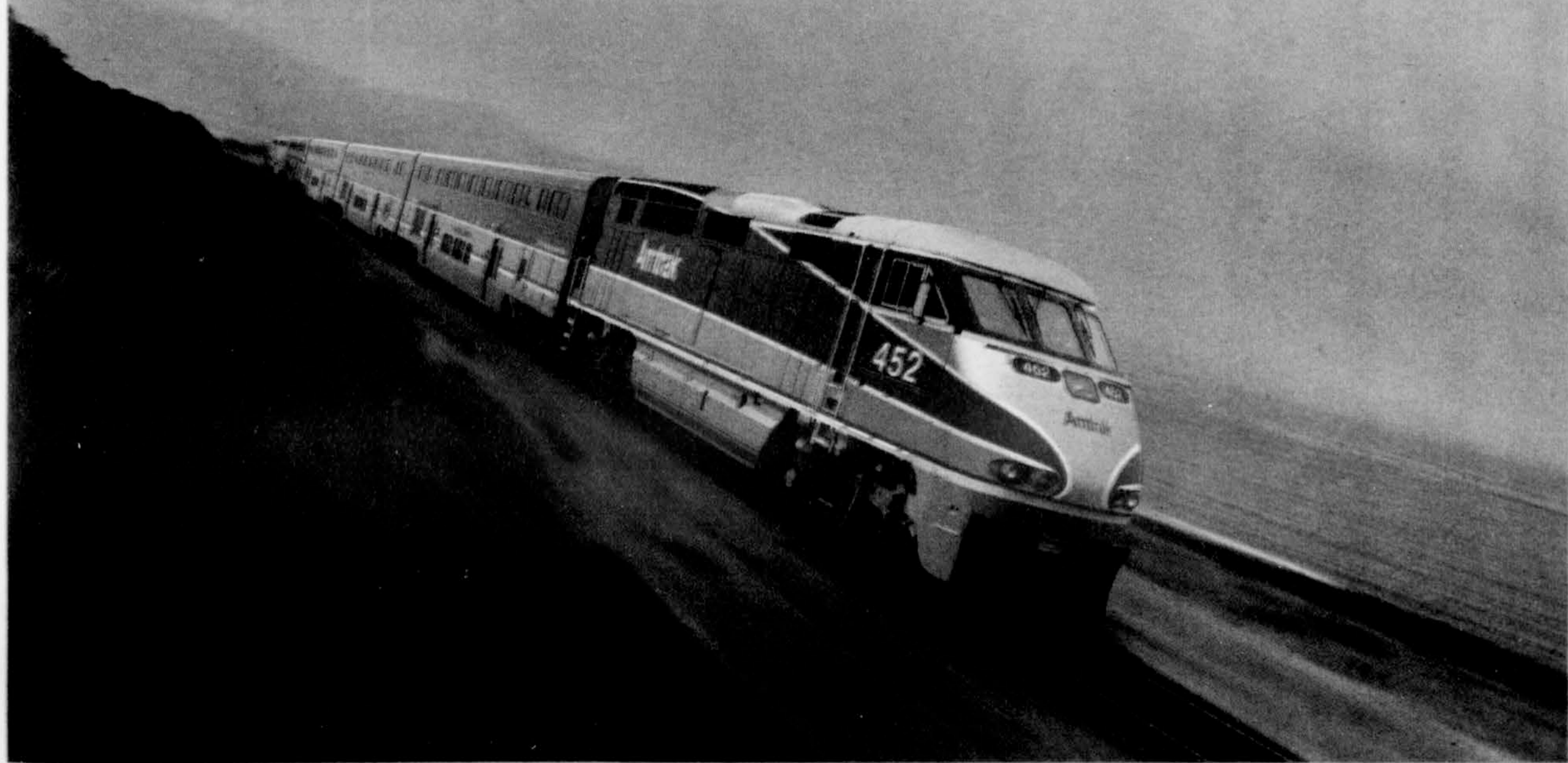
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