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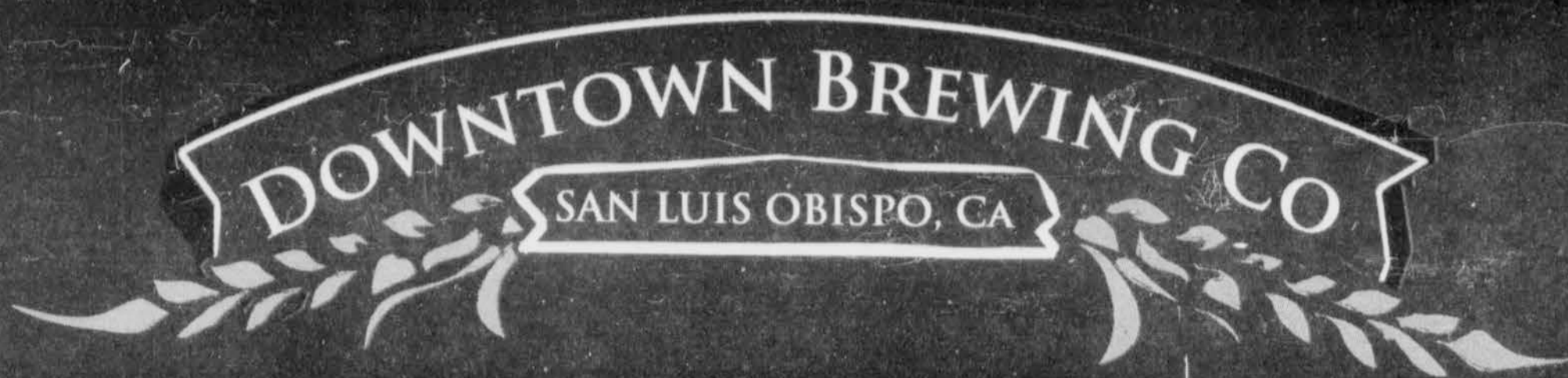
MUSTANG DAILY

Tuesday
April 11, 2006

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Pismo Beach now charges for most parking



Shannon Boren

MUSTANG DAILY

Say goodbye to free parking in Pismo Beach.

Since March 18, drivers have been required to pay for parking in downtown lots between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Visitors looking to park in the pier lot or lots on the 100 and 200 blocks of Pomeroy and Hinds avenues must now pay \$1 an hour. Those who choose to park in the outlying city lots pay 75 cents per hour, while the Addie Street lot remains free.

"The money is going to be used to provide funding for parking projects and maintenance," said Aveda Stafford, a visitor's host at the Pismo Beach Chamber of Commerce. "It's meant to eliminate the parking problems we currently have, and perhaps go toward building a parking structure in the future."

It is estimated that the city will collect \$564,000 a year after imple-

menting the parking fees, which will apply to drivers seven days a week, including holidays.

Many students on campus were surprised to hear about the new expense, and most thought it was unnecessary.

"I'll probably try to park somewhere else depending on how long I'm staying," said journalism junior Karen DeRoss. "If we go to the beach, it's usually Pismo, so it'll probably affect me and my friends a lot."

However, the idea of parking somewhere else presents the possibility of overcrowding and parking problems in residential neighborhoods surrounding the downtown area.

Other students, including electrical engineering freshman Andrew Palchak, said they will now use alternative beaches with free parking.

"I had no idea they were doing this, but I think it's ridiculous," Palchak said. "I go surfing there in the morning and I'll probably start go-

ing to Morro Bay more often. It's better to surf at Morro anyway, but it's still nice to go to Pismo sometimes, and now I probably won't."

Though most feel the new fees are unnecessary, there are other students who believe the change isn't such a big deal.

"I don't really go that much in the first place, and when I do go, I don't think a dollar an hour is that much," said Amanda Kwiatkowski, a modern languages and literatures senior. "It's really not that big of an inconvenience."

Drivers now pay at kiosks located in each of the charging lots, which accept credit and debit cards as well as cash and coins.

Only time will tell what effect parking fees will have on students and the surrounding Pismo Beach community, but according to Stafford, it will likely change very little.

"I don't think it will affect people coming; it might, but I doubt it," she said.

5 years into war, women's role debated

Shannon Daily

THE LARIAT (BAYLOR U.)

WACO, Texas — Women have been fighting for equality for centuries, but controversy still surrounds how that fight translates onto the battlefield.

Earlier this month, the U.S. Army War College released a survey of over 200 students regarding women in combat. The survey assessed the students' knowledge and opinions of ground combat restrictions for female soldiers.

The Army Policy for the Assignment of Female Soldiers states that women are allowed to serve in any position they're qualified for, provided that they're not in a unit given a mission to routinely engage in direct combat.

Seventy percent of students surveyed felt this policy should be revised. This is partially due to changes from row-by-row wars fought on a battlefield, to smaller and more mobile groups moving to wherever the fight may be at the moment.

With this style of combat used in Iraq and Afghanistan, it's difficult to know where exactly the front lines are, making it harder to assign women to units that won't be engaging in direct combat, said Col. Danny Leonard, chairman of the Baylor Air Force ROTC.

An example Leonard gave of this was of a woman actively serving as a chemical officer for the Army.

"Being a chemical officer, she goes out, she carries a weapon, but there's not combat going on right where she's at. That doesn't mean she can't be shot at at any moment," he said. "There's no clear line of good guys, bad guys, so where's your front line? Where are you placing women that they're not in harm's way? The answer is there's no place. If they're in the theater, they're in harm's way."

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SLO County's best surf spots ready for action

Coral Snyder

MUSTANG DAILY

Surfing along the Central Coast can be exceptional at certain spots, and many of them are easily accessible.

PISMO BEACH

Pismo Beach offers a variety of surfing spots, though the pier is a popular spot that typically has a good break at high tide, with the best swell direction from the southwest.

Pismo Beach is usually the most consistent and shapely of all beach breaks in the county and is suitable for all ability levels. The bottom is sandy with no protruding rocks.

The pier is 1,250 feet long and is usually fully lit, allowing for night surfing. It is located in a slightly northwest swell and is not as exposed as many other sandbars in the area, making the area less windy.

The south side of the pier is usually better for surfing than the north side, and the further south you walk from the pier, the more secluded the surf tends to be. Nice rides can also come from the south and the waves tend to be best when they range from knee-high to a few feet overhead.

Pismo Beach is approximately a 10-minute drive from Cal Poly traveling south on U.S. Highway 101.

MORRO BAY

Morro Bay is another surfing location that offers a clean break along the Central Coast. Surfing is usually best on the north side of Morro Rock, the 576-foot-tall remnants of a volcano. The Rock, as locals refer to it, has been designated as a state preserve because of the endangered peregrine falcons that nest in its cliffs.

The beach faces due west; because of this, swells hit the sandbars and create a variety of different breaks. The waves tend to have more consistency and power further north.

The best-sized waves for surfing are knee-high to several feet overhead, and the best swells come from the west when the wind is coming from the east. The optimum time to surf is when the tide is medium to high. Surfing at Morro Bay is best for beginners to intermediates.

Tourists typically flock to Morro Rock and the nearby campgrounds, but the water itself is not usually crowded. Morro Bay is approximately a 15-minute drive from Cal Poly.

CAYUCOS

Cayucos is a beach town (the name means "kayak" or "canoe" in Aleutian) and during certain swells can provide adequate surfing. The town was founded in 1867 by Captain James Cass. He and his brothers built the 953-foot long pier.

The town itself is sheltered from

winds that come from the north, so it is usually warmer than other local seaside towns. The pier at Cayucos also provides a nice break off the pilings.

The surf is best when the tide is high and the swells come from the southwest while the wind comes from the northeast. The cleanest wave size is waist-high to a few feet overhead, and the break is good for beginners to intermediates.

The bottom is all sand, but there are a few protruding rocks far to the south. Cayucos is less crowded than Pismo Beach and is approximately 20 to 25 minutes north of Cal Poly on California Highway 1.

MOONSTONE

Though the town of Cambria attracts its fair share of tourists, nearby Moonstone Beach is one of the more secluded Central Coast surfing locations. The best spot is on Moonstone Beach Drive near the mouth of the Santa Rosa Creek.

The waves are usually best when there is a strong swell from the west to southwest while the tide is low and the winds are from the east to northeast.

The best waves are waist-high to about two feet overhead, but when the tide is high, the conditions are not as conducive to surfing as there is typically a shore break. The bottom is sandy, but there are protruding rocks in certain areas, making this location more appropriate for intermediate surfers.

Moonstone is approximately a 30- to 40-minute drive up California Highway 1.

San Simeon is just 10 to 15 minutes north of Moonstone on California Highway 1. The coastline in this location is unpredictable and changes often. Also, parts of the beach are often closed to the public when elephant seals come ashore.

PICO CREEK

The best surfing spot is Pico Creek, found south of San Simeon. This spot has a reef break that can be nice on both big and small days.

The reef is located just in front of a creek mouth and allows for a smooth ride that peaks on the outside and often reforms on the inside. This spot is most reliable when the swell is bigger than chest-high to a few feet overhead.

The waves are best when the tide is low and there is a southern swell with wind from the northeast. The bottom is sandy with intermittent rocks, which makes this another location best suited for intermediate surfers.

Wave cameras and current surf condition reports can be found on Web sites such as Surf Line (www.surfline.com) and Wave Watch (www.wavewatch.com). Reports are typically updated throughout the day to provide accurate conditions.

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GRAIG MANTLE MUSTANG DAILY

San Luis Obispo offers art, music, theater and wine at many locations.

Angela Watkins

MUSTANG DAILY

Believe it or not, San Luis Obispo is actually a vacation destination for many people. Bill Watkins, executive director for the UCSB Economic Forecast Project, told an audience last year that the amount of tourism this county receives will keep it afloat during the uncertain future of 2008's economy.

If San Luis Obispo County can attract tourists from Europe, it can definitely offer you something to do during spring quarter.

OUTDOORS

Explore the amazing outdoor world of the Central Coast with Central Coast Outdoors. It offers 10 day-trips to choose from, including biking the Pacific Coast Highway, hiking Big Sur and kayaking among the renowned bird life in Morro Bay.

Day trips depart most Saturdays and Sundays. Weekday private tours are also available.

All trips include necessary transportation, a gourmet picnic lunch and knowledgeable guides. Bike rentals are available and reservations are required.

For more information, go to www.centralcoastoutdoors.com.

If you're looking for something cheaper, Avila Beach/Port San Luis is the place to go. They have first-come, first-serve bonfire pits so you and your friends can express your inner pyromaniac tendencies while watching a beautiful sunset.

There are only seven pits, so if you want to use one on the weekend, you need to claim a space before the sun goes down.

HISTORY

Get your butt away from the TV and the History Channel and see some history firsthand — and I don't mean the California missions we've all seen a million times.

Every Saturday and Sunday at the Estrella Warbird Museum in Paso Robles, you can visit a memorable collection of military aircraft from props to jets and artifacts from weaponry to a Links

trainer. You can also see the F14A Tomcat, which was just added to the collection.

For more information, go to <http://www.ewarbirds.org>.

ART

The San Luis Obispo Art Center offers a permanent museum collection as well as constantly rotating exhibits of works by popular local artists. Paintings, sculpture, photography, prints, jewelry and woodwork are all featured. Admission is free to the center, which is located near the mission at 1010 Broad St.

MUSIC

You're so money, baby, and you don't even know it; that's why you should check out big band music at Mother's Tavern.

On most Sunday afternoons, you can enjoy great live big band music by a local band and get your swing dance on, all in a refurbished, upscale 1900s tavern located in the center of downtown.

Mother's Tavern is located at 725 Higuera St. — as if you didn't already know.

THEATER

Just in case you didn't know, San Luis Obispo County has its own vaudeville theater in Oceano, and it just began its 33rd season.

The Great American Melodrama, which Sunset Magazine called "an excellent year-round company," is currently performing "The Road to Oildale." It's the story of a second-rate vaudeville act that concocts a scheme to get rich in California oil.

Reservations are recommended, and you can find more information at www.americanmelodrama.com.

FOOD

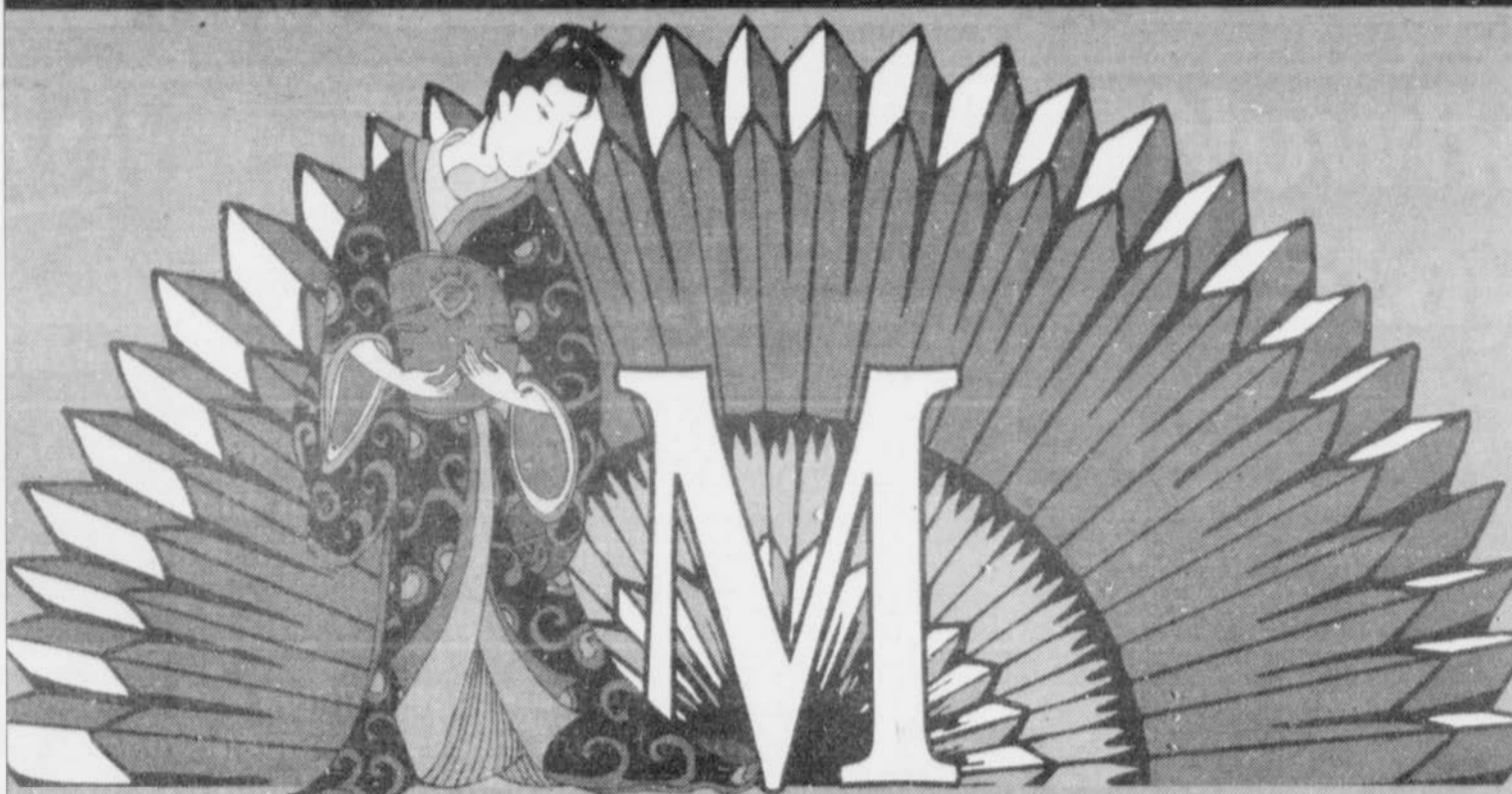
If you love cheese — and who doesn't? — Cal Poly will offer "Cheese Short Course I" April 1 through April 4. Participants will learn the basic scientific information and practical skills needed to understand and manufacture

see Activities, page 6

APRIL 11 — MAY 4, 2008

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Activities

continued from page 5

cheese. The course includes one day of hands-on cheese-making, and you won't even have to leave campus.

The course will be held at the Cal Poly Dairy Products Technology Center.

For more information, contact Laurie Jacobson at (805) 305-5056.

WINE TASTING

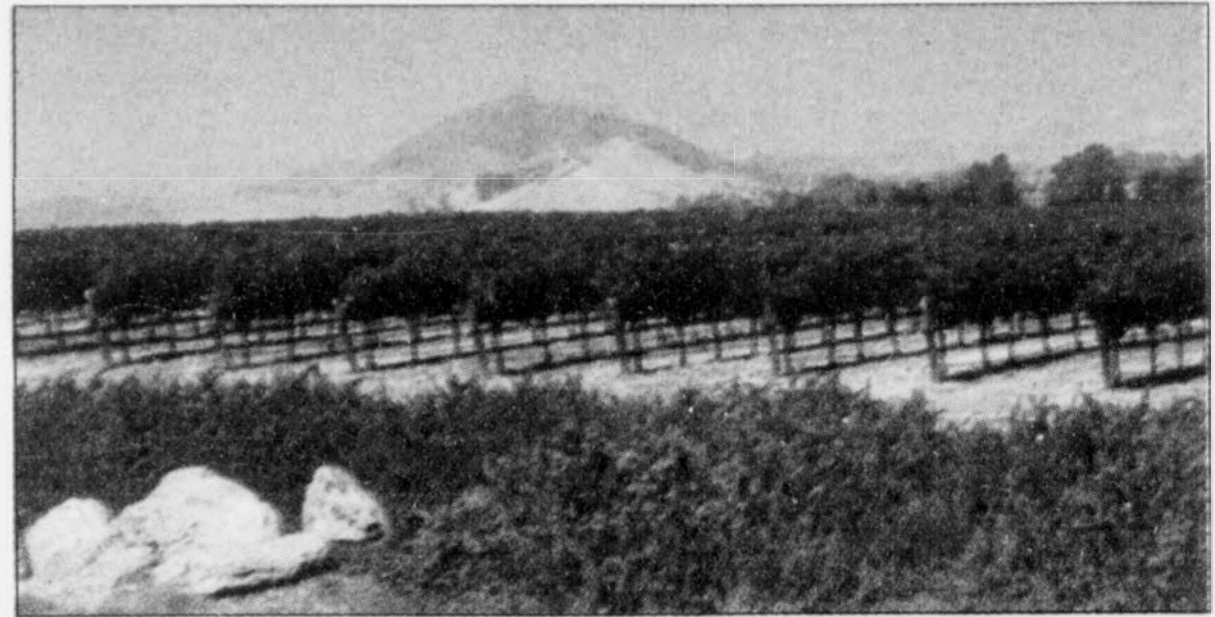
San Luis Obispo County is the third-largest producer of wine in California, surpassed only by Sonoma and Napa counties. Wine grapes are by far the largest agricultural crop in the county, and the wine production they

support creates a direct economic impact and a growing wine-country vacation industry.

As a college student, wine — or booze in general — is probably an important part of your life.

For a unique adventure, you can enjoy incredible views of North County's wine country by hot air balloon. The view is reportedly incredible as you float over Paso Robles, Atascadero, San Miguel and Templeton at 2 to 3 miles per hour from an altitude of just a few feet to several thousand feet above the ground.

After the journey through the air, visit some of San Luis Obispo County's hundreds of wineries that offer daily wine tasting. For more information, check out www.sloballoon.com/pages or www.pasowine.com.



COURTESY PHOTO

San Luis Obispo County is the third-largest producer of wine in California.

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Survey: Americans financially illiterate

Teresa Gorman

THE DAILY FREE PRESS (BOSTON U.)

BOSTON — A quarter of Americans think their debt is "unmanageable," according to a Harvard Business School survey, and experts are suggesting financial illiteracy may be the cause of many students' money woes.

The February survey of 1,000 people by Harvard University, Dartmouth College professors and TNS, a marketing and research survey company, found that 11 percent of those surveyed did not even know if they had a "large" debt.

"In the past, you could not survive in this country without being able to read or write," Dartmouth College economics professor Annamaria Lusardi said. "In today's world, if you cannot read or write financially, you will not succeed."

She said the survey did not have enough participants to provide data on the differences in financial literacy by age, but said young people are among the most "illiterate" and that college students can solve the problem through further education.

"Students have a great opportunity," Lusardi said, suggesting all students should take economics and finance courses and "exploit the opportunities" to learn while in college.

Greg Johnson, executive director of Bottom Line, a Boston-based organization that assists students from low-income families with college admission and graduation issues, said last year the group

started a one-day financial literacy program for their students.

Johnson said just one mistake could mean dropping out of college for students lacking financial knowledge. Students need to educate themselves about loans and credit cards, he said.

"Often there is no room for error, especially for students with parents who are unable to bail them out financially," he said.

Johnson said Bottom Line often advises students to avoid colleges with high tuition costs because of the heavy debt students can have after graduation.

The responsibility for college students' debt should be placed on students and the credit companies that take advantage of them, said Americans for Fairness in Lending student representative Matthew Goldman in an e-mail.

Goldman, a Boston University College of Arts and Sciences junior, said loan companies "love to prey" on college students and said students should be aware of what could leave them with large amounts of debt. Goldman said third-party lenders "attempt to wiggle their way into the hearts and back pockets of vulnerable students" with promotions and giveaways.

Though lender education is important, federal regulation of the lending industry is necessary for the economy's well-being, he said.

"Self-regulation simply does not work," Goldman said. "In fact, it is detrimental to the American dream."

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State Briefs

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Several new squadrons of the V-22 Osprey will be permanently based at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar starting in 2010, officials confirmed March 18.

Officials estimate there will be 10 to 15 Ospreys per squadron. It was not immediately clear how many personnel would accompany the new aircraft, said Marine Maj. Jason Johnston.

The Osprey, which takes off vertically like a helicopter and flies like a plane, replaces some squadrons of the CH-46 Sea Knight, a 39-year-old assault helicopter used in the Vietnam War. The Osprey, which can travel twice as fast and three times farther than the Sea Knight, is equipped with radar, lasers and a missile defense system. Each can carry 24 combat-ready Marines.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Patients won't be allowed to have cell phones and laptops at UCLA's neuropsychiatric hospital to protect patients' privacy, hospital officials said March 18.

Dr. Thomas Strouse, medical director of Resnick Neuropsychiatric Hospital, said concerns over the "covert use" of phones and laptops with built-in cameras led to the new policy.

Strouse said a patient recently posted photos of adult patients posing for a group picture to a social networking Web site. The photos were spotted by a nurse's family member.

The patients in the photo agreed to pose for the photo, but Strouse

was worried about patients who did not give their consent, or "circumstances where someone's agreement to be photographed might not be well-reasoned or fully competent."

DAVIS (AP) — After the repeal of Prohibition in 1933, the University of California, Davis established a research department that led to the flowering of the California wine industry.

Now, it hopes to do the same for olive oil.

The challenges to the emerging industry are significant. They include finding economical ways to produce fine oil, dealing with unscrupulous importers and educating unsophisticated palates.

While California olive oil makers have begun to use fine techniques developed in Europe to capture the pungent taste of fresh olives, the American palate may not be ready for it.

MENLO PARK (AP) — A new study puts the projected property damage from the next big earthquake on the Hayward Fault at more than \$165 billion.

Previous estimates have ranged as low as \$20 billion, said Tom Brocher, a seismologist with the U.S. Geological Survey and coordinator of the Northern California Earthquake Hazards project.

The new analysis, by USGS and the consulting firm Risk Management Solutions, estimated that \$1.5 trillion in property value would be "exposed to strong shaking," Brocher said.

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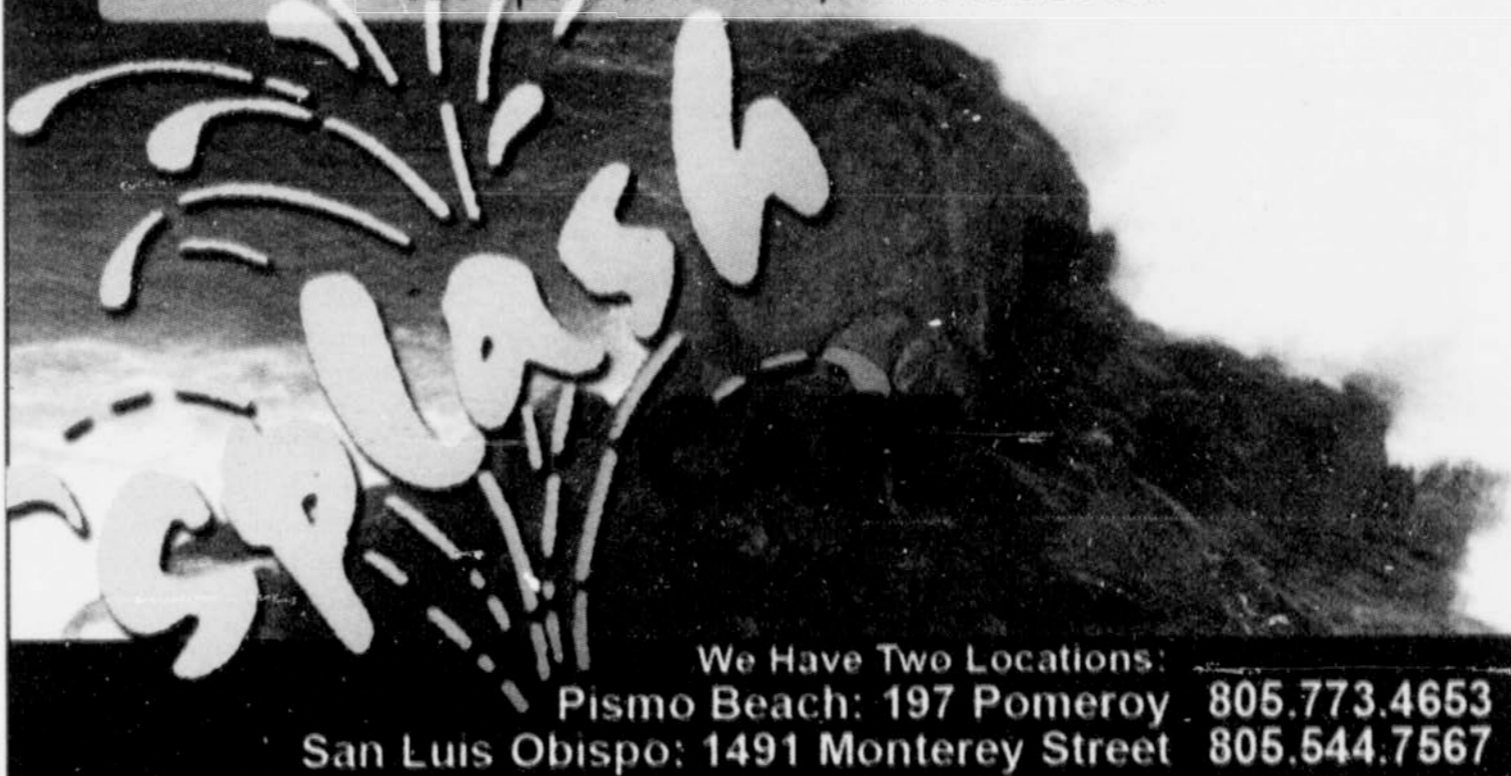
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club profile

A new look into WOW

Jessica Ford
MUSTANG DAILY

If you hear the word "WOW" and your mind fills with countless acronyms, songs and traditions, then you are probably one of the hundreds of students on campus who devote themselves to the Week of Welcome (WOW) orientation program.

Cal Poly's orientation program is one of the largest in the nation and is becoming a model for other universities, said Andrene Kaiwi-Lenting, Cal Poly's director of orientation programs.

WOW is a program designed to familiarize new students with the campus and San Luis Obispo community.

"Our general goal for WOW is to have students know how to navigate the campus... Having a smooth transition is really the key," Kaiwi-Lenting said. "It's really just a fun way to introduce students to what the university and town have to offer."

The program is broken into the WOW Board, WOW TEAM and Orientation Leaders (OLs).

The Board is made up of five to seven members who plan out the week's events and oversee TEAM members in training the OLs. The Board, elected every spring, begins their work at the end of summer.



COURTESY PHOTO

Spring Training begins today at 7 p.m. and lasts throughout the quarter.

WOW TEAM, which currently has 48 members, consists of facilitators and a production crew. Facilitators lead small groups of leaders-in-training during spring quarter, who are working to "graduate" from the program to become official OLs. The production crew assists facilitators and works behind the scenes of the training sessions.

TEAM goes through advanced leadership training during winter quarter before they are able to train the new OLs in the spring.

Board members head committee groups that are made up of TEAM members. Each committee, such as Awareness and Events & Entertainment, focuses on a different aspect of WOW. Through committee work, the presentations and activities of WOW are planned each year. OLs do have freedom in the activities their WOW group participates in, but there are some mandatory events during the week.

WOW would not be possible without the new students who are referred to as WOWies. OLs spend five days with a group of WOWies before fall quarter begins in hopes of helping them transition into their new lives at Cal Poly.

Alex Dunks, WOW Board member and business senior, said WOW "has been a great way to get involved in the campus."

"It gives me a lot of campus knowledge, but it has also given me a lot of leadership skills... I like giving back to the school and feeling involved — like I'm making my time here worthwhile," he said.

Last year, there were 758 leaders-in-training participating in WOW spring training, a program high, Kai-

wi-Lenting said.

"Leaders are really signing on to what they are signing on to, and they know what they are getting themselves into on the front end," she said. "I feel like they want something from the experience besides having this group of 15 to 20 students that are going to do whatever they say to do."

Those participating in WOW spring training meet from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. every Tuesday in Chumash Auditorium for the 10 weeks of spring quarter.

Each training session simulates a day of the week that will occur during the actual WOW.

"We go through each day and what the leaders can expect to do that day. We try and do a lot of different activities," Dunks said. "We cover awareness presentations, leadership styles and we process in small groups."

WOW is known for its many traditions that are passed down each year, especially those of spring training. These traditions include Board singing a song, and a weekly top 10 list given by three TEAM members, Dunks said.

"A lot of people think WOW is all fun and games, but it's not. There's so much more that goes into it. But, we definitely try and make everything fun as long as it's an appropriate time to do so," Dunks said.

Spring training begins tonight at 7 p.m. in Chumash Auditorium. Students can sign up through their Mycalpoly portal or can just show up at the first training session to check it out. However, to participate in the program, students must attend the first meeting.

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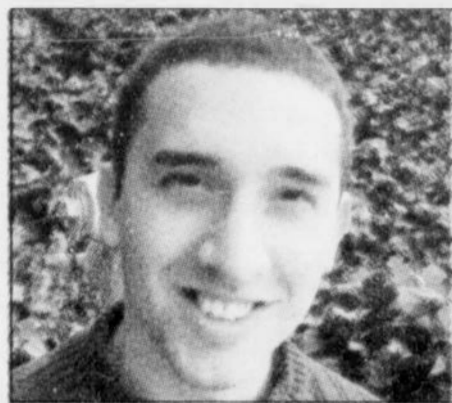
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WORD ON THE STREET

"What part of spring quarter are you looking forward to most?"

Compiled and photographed by Rachel Gellman



"Starting my music minor finally. I'm excited to start taking piano classes."

— Mark Woods,
aerospace engineering
sophomore

"Going to the pool."

— Mary-Lynn Zweers,
social science sophomore



"Getting out of class at 12 on Thursday and having no class on Friday."

— Cammie Schlemmer,
industrial engineering
junior

"The fine-ass ladies."

— Joel Glen,
forestry freshman



National Briefs

LANCASTER, Pa. (AP) — A hotel and grocery store are assessing the damage after a naked man ran amok and allegedly did thousands of dollars' worth of damage.

West Lampeter Township police said they were dispatched to the Willow Valley Resort, and later Darrenkamp's Market, on March 14 amid reports of a nude man on a rampage.

Some office space at the resort was trashed, and a forklift was driven into an interior wall, also damaging an overhead sewer pipe.

...

VIRGINIA CITY, Nev. (AP) — History re-enactors posing as Old West gunslingers here need to follow some modern rules, the sheriff says: Guns and alcohol don't mix.

A Storey County ordinance prohibits alcohol consumption by history re-enactors wearing a gun, but Sheriff Jim Miller said he's going to increase enforcement of the ordinance because some people have abused it.

...

NEW YORK (AP) — A businessman claims in a lawsuit that he

was injured when a stripper giving him a lap dance swiveled and smacked him in the face with the heel of her shoe.

Stephen Chang, a securities trader, said in court papers filed March 14 that he was at the Hot Lap Dance Club near Madison Square Garden and was getting a paid lap dance when the accident occurred early Nov. 2, 2007.

According to the lawsuit, as the dancer swung around, the heel of her shoe hit him in the eye, causing him "serious injuries."

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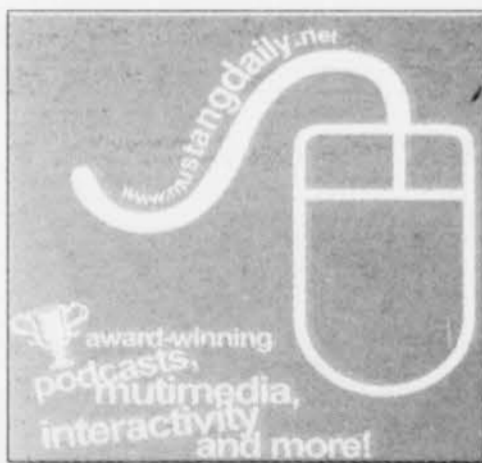
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winter quarter.

Feb. 21, 23:40 - Officers investigated a complaint that someone had urinated on a room door at a tower apartment.

Feb. 15, 19:56 - Officers conducting a follow-up investigation on a report of battery learned from the "victim" that he had lied, filed a false police report, and that his injuries were sustained in an attempt to evade contact with a police officer.

Feb. 10, 01:38 - Officers responded to a complaint of vandalism, involving four subjects throwing Mustang Daily newspaper dispensers into the street. Subjects fled upon officers' arrival, but were caught by other officers in the area.

Feb. 10, 00:42 - Officers responded to a complaint of a subject yelling and kicking a state vehicle in the area of the Performing Arts Center. The subject was contacted and calmed down.

Feb. 6, 11:09 - Officer took a report of vandalism of the Tenaya Hall Laundry Room. A door of one of the washers appeared to have been beaten in.

International Briefs

LONDON (AP) — A Lloyd's of London syndicate said March 18 it is insuring the nose of winemaker Ilja Gort for \$8 million.

The Dutch winemaker and taster took out the policy after hearing about a man who lost his sense of smell in a car accident.

"I thought it must be a horror to lose your smell," Gort said. "It would mean that you cannot taste wine anymore. Tasting wine is something you

do with your nose, not your mouth."

Gort, 47, said his nose is essential for him to produce top quality wines at his Chateau de la Garde vineyard in the Bordeaux region of France.

BERLIN (AP) — A long love story is over at a German zoo: Petra the swan and her swan-shaped paddleboat are parting ways.

Petra, a black swan, became a minor celebrity in 2006 when she

became so attached to the boat — which is shaped like an oversized white swan — that she refused to leave its side.

Officials in the western city of Muenster decided to let her stay with it over the winter, bringing both bird and boat into a city zoo.

However, Petra met a live swan this winter. Zoo director Joerg Adler says she and her new mate — a white swan — are building a nest together.

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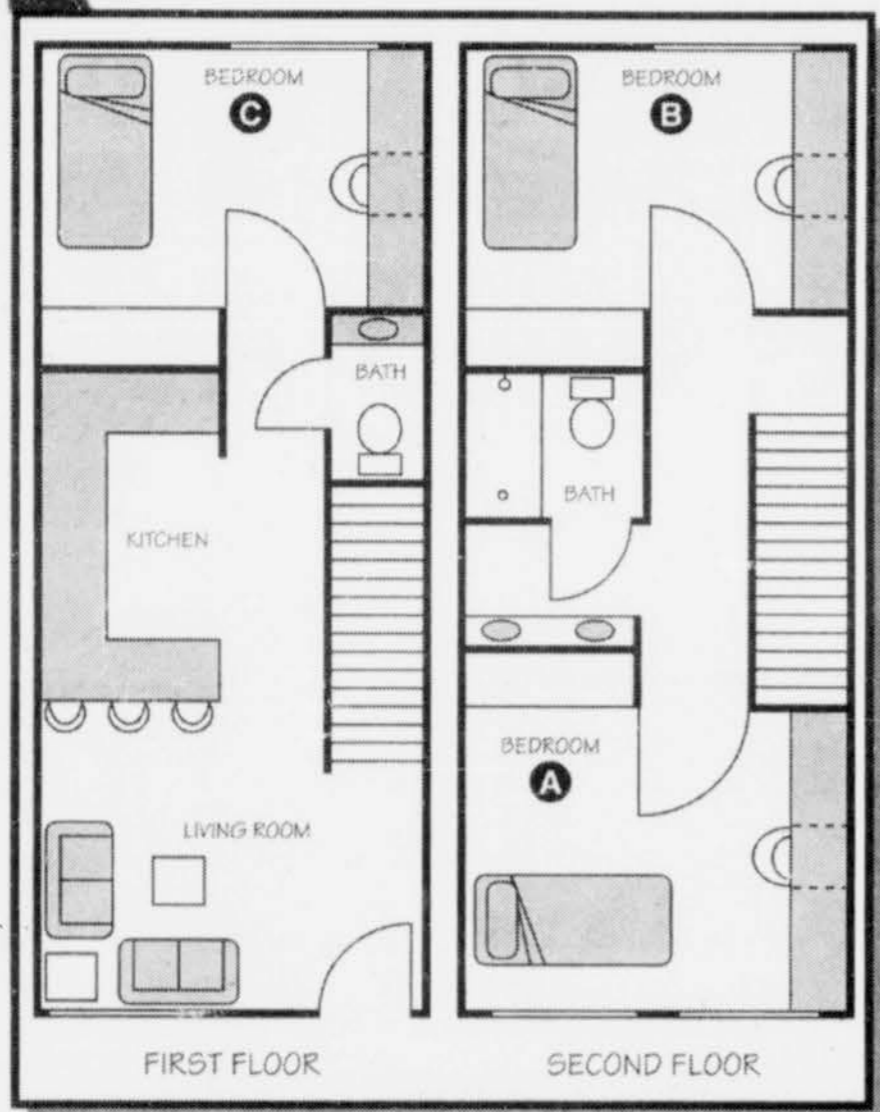
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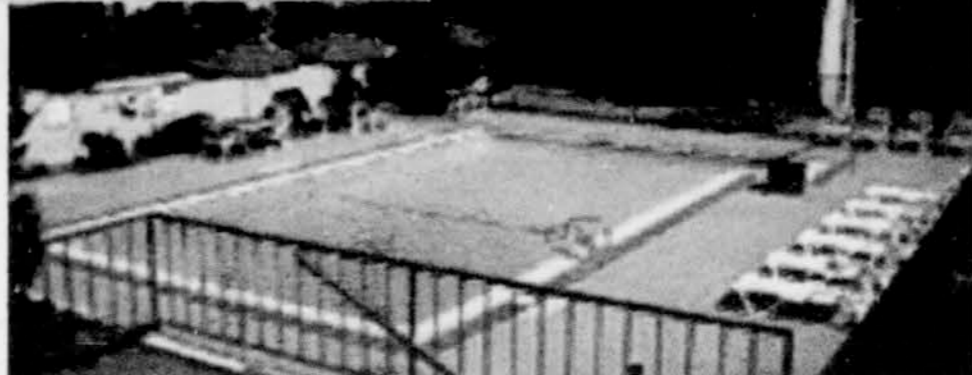
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Since it was built in 1994, well-known acts such as Jay Leno, Bill Cosby, "Cats" and Faith Hill and Tim McGraw have appeared at the Performing Arts Center. PAC staff members, though, say smaller, lesser-known events — like graduations held for kids with troubled pasts — are just as vital to the community.

BENJAMIN ROZAK
MUSTANG DAILY

Behind the scenes at the PAC

Patrick Barbieri
MUSTANG DAILY

If you're like most students, you probably know little about the hulking mass of stone, metal and glass overlooking campus that is known as the Performing Arts Center. But don't let the sleek, spaceship-like appearance fool you — the people who inhabit the PAC are very down-to-earth, and some of their stories are as unique as the building itself.

A storehouse of stories

"Most people think we're just a symphony hall that hosts upscale concerts, but we get a lot of strange shows here," said Nancy Cochran, the PAC's theatre operations manager.

Unknown to most, the PAC is actually a very busy place, hosting about 150 public events and half as many smaller, private events each year. Fortunately, the center has a full-time staff of 13 employees, as well as many part-time workers and volunteers who help facilitate business.

"Two out of every three days are taken up with some kind of activity," managing director Ron Regier said. "They don't happen automatically; there's a lot of preparation and planning that goes into it."

Being the only venue of its kind situated between Los Angeles and the Bay Area, the center has been graced by many big names in entertainment. Performances ranging from comedy acts such as Jay Leno, George Carlin and Bill Cosby to musical performances such as "Stomp," "Cats" and

Tony Bennett have all come to the center. Behind the scenes, each show has its own unique story.

One memorable show involved comedian "Gallagher" smashing large fruits onstage with a sledgehammer as part of his routine. Patrons seated in the first two rows were given plastic rain gear to protect them from the splatter, but the ruckus didn't stop there.

"He also began hitting hard candy out into the audience with a tennis racket," Cochran recalled. "One of the candies ricocheted off a patron's eyeglasses, causing them to chip or break. Of course, he was very apologetic and said he'd take care of it," she said with a laugh.

Other shows are memorable from a planning perspective, like when Jay Leno insisted on entering the stage on a motorcycle.

Then there are shows noteworthy for things that weren't planned for, like when pop-country singer Faith Hill headlined a show at the PAC just after having a baby with husband Tim McGraw. Apparently, McGraw was backstage babysitting but surprised everyone, including his wife, by joining her onstage for a duet.

"Nobody knew he was going to come out," Cochran said. "One of our stage techs had to find a Barney video for the baby while he and his wife took the stage."

And then there are the incidents best left forgotten, like the time one

pushy patron insisted he be let backstage to meet pianist and musical composer John Tesh so he could show him a picture of his wife, who he felt resembled Tesh's wife. After initially being denied backstage, the man became insistent, claiming he was a part of the Special Forces in Vietnam and that he would, no matter what, find a way inside the building.

"We had to involve campus police, but the situation was diffused," Regier said. "Those kinds of things go on behind the scenes all the time."

A short history of the PAC

Originally conceived in the '80s, the PAC is the result of cooperation and collaboration between the university and the local community. With the understanding that the PAC must satisfy the needs of both groups, it was decided that the structure could be nothing short of extraordinary.

Early on in the design process, it was recognized that sound quality would be the predominant role of the center. Architects and engineers strived to obtain the best acoustics imaginable, requiring them to basically design the building from the inside out.

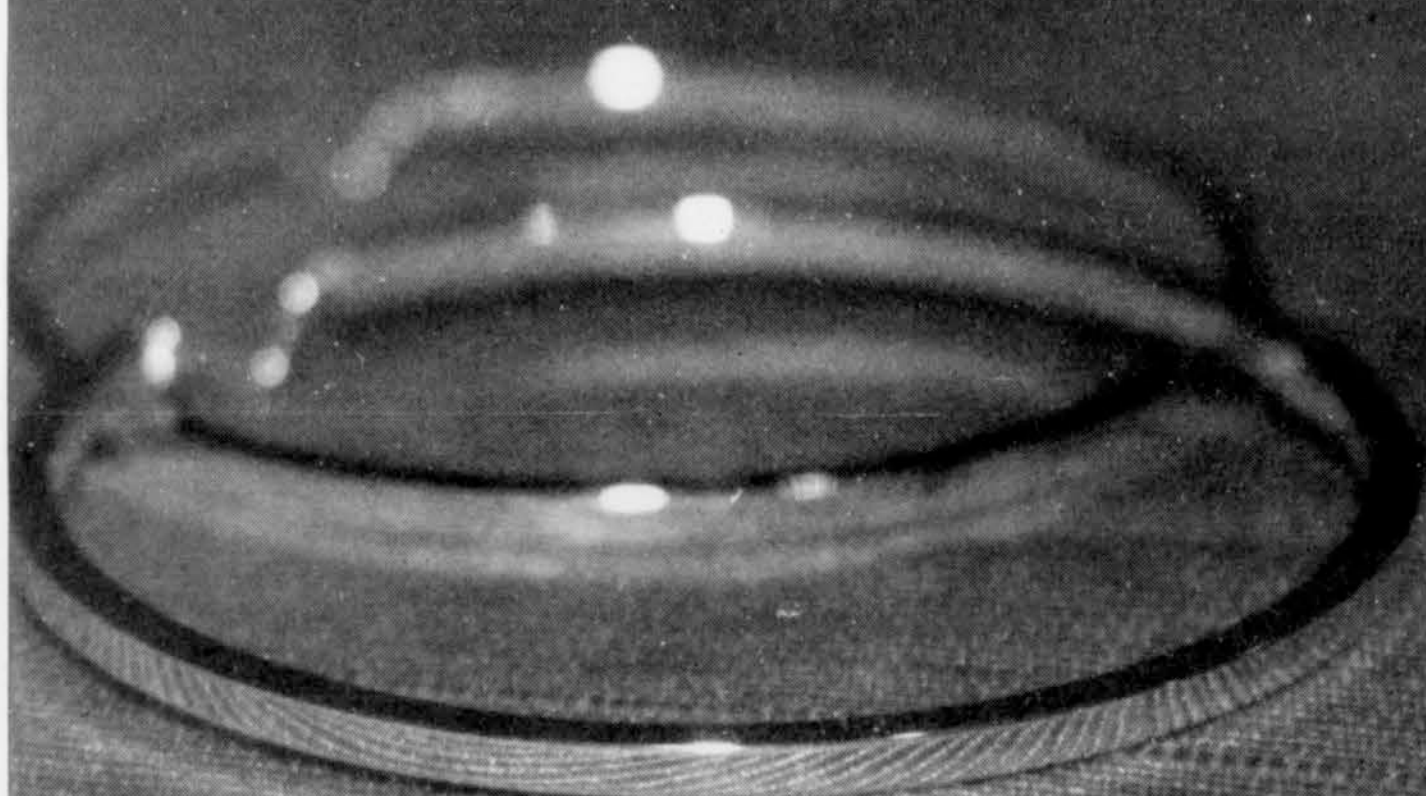
"The main hall was designed for natural acoustic sound," Regier said. "There were budget issues, but that never compromised the acoustic characteristics of the hall. That's something that we're really proud of."

see PAC, page 15

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PAC

continued from page 14

Designing around acoustics requires certain volume, height and width measurements, so functionality played a large part in the center's outward appearance. However, architects also wanted to make the building aesthetically pleasing. The result was a structure with a silhouette actually designed to mimic that of Bishop Peak.

Built in 1994, construction was heavily funded by donations from the community, most notably local media-owner Christopher Cohan, who made a significant gift of \$2.1 million. The PAC is officially named the Christopher Cohan Center in honor of his charity.

But if the building is the center's body, the organ is undoubtedly its heart. Named after the family that donated the money to make it a reality, the Forbes pipe organ was manufactured by C.B. Fisk, the "Ferrari" of organ makers.

Built on the same grand scale as organs typically found in cathedrals and concert halls of the world's largest cities, the 20-ton, 2,767-pipe or-

gan uses primitive technology from medieval times that, when combined with the PAC's advanced acoustic and technological features, creates the ultimate setting for musical performances. When it finally arrived in 2006, the PAC and the community eagerly welcomed the pipe organ.

"The organ is truly incredible," said Paul Woodring, accompanist and curator to the Forbes pipe organ. "It puts us on the map for artists looking to perform in a superior hall with a superior instrument."

Being such a unique instrument, not just anyone can hop on and play the organ like a piano. Organists typically have to rehearse for days prior to an event simply to learn the instrument's unique characteristics.

"An organ recital is more about the organ than the artist," Woodring said. "The instrument itself is the attraction, so recitalists choose the best instrument available for their performances. Having an organ like ours attracts first-rate talent from around the world."

The heartbeat of the community

While many of the center's acts are well known, some are not. Ask staff members, however, and they'll

say that some of the smaller-scale events are the most important.

Among these are the annual Grizzly Academy graduation ceremonies, where kids with troubled pasts graduate from a rigorous boot-camp program in hopes of gaining a second

chance. Rather than simply holding the ceremony at a gymnasium, the students' families and friends are invited from all over California to the PAC. While not as noteworthy to some as a Broadway tour, events like these are just as special to staff.

"It's a very important part of the process for these kids psychologically, and it reinforces that this is an important time of change," Regier said.

"For us to be part of the heartbeat and service of the community — it's a role that I relish for our building."

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MUSTANG DAILY

ARTS

Presidents kick out the jams



David Wagner

DAILY CALIFORNIAN (UC-BERKELEY)

COURTESY PHOTO

While other Seattle bands were often downers during the '90s, the Presidents of the United States of America was a fun pop-punk group that wrote songs about peaches and swamp-dwelling lumps. If Eddie Vedder and Kurt Cobain were the mysterious hipsters sitting in the back of the class, then the Presidents were the lovable pranksters asking the teacher hilariously inappropriate questions.

With the release of their new album "These Are the Good Times People," drummer Jason Finn took a moment to talk with The Daily Californian about politics, Weird Al and the appropriate musical backdrop for doing crossword puzzles.

The Daily Californian: Would you ever want to have another huge hit like you had with "Peaches" and "Lump," or do you like being under the radar better?

Jason Finn: Dude, we would love to have our songs all over the radio again! But there are a bunch of reasons why we could never be that big again, so we just put out records when we want to, tour when we want to ... I guess we're just too lazy to be huge again! We get to be more in touch with our own little world this way instead of having to find a way to fit into pop culture.

DC: What do you think of bands who take themselves really seriously and have an implicit no-fun policy at the core of their music?

JF: I listen to records like that, too, and I would say that introspective and somber music has its place. I would never tell anyone to listen to our music all the time. It would drive me nuts! It's kind of like books. I always have both a novel and a non-fiction book on my nightstand, and, ultimately, I just don't think rock music is that important. If you're in a mood for something fun and funky, put on a PUSA album; if you want to do the crossword, put on some Iron and Wine.

DC: The latest album covers some new stylistic territory for PUSA, like swing, country and funk. Where did these influences come from?

JF: Yeah, the song "Flame is Love" has a real swingy feel, and "Deleter" is the funkiest number of our entire career. When we practice or play shows, sometimes we start making fun of a genre, so we parody something and before you know it, we will have been playing a funky song for like five or 10 minutes. That's how we end up going in these directions.

DC: Tell us about your past and present collaborations with Weird Al.

JF: We were honored that Weird Al came out to direct our new music video for "Mixed Up S.O.B." We know him from back when he parodied our song "Lump" (turning it into the Forrest Gump-themed "Gump"). I remember back when we were at a gig and Al walked onto our bus with a cassette. According to him, he had never before played one of his songs for the artist he was parodying prior to the song's release. In other words, by the time Al would meet people like Snoop Dogg, they would've already heard his parody. So he played it for us and we loved it and now whenever we're in town, we go mow his lawn.

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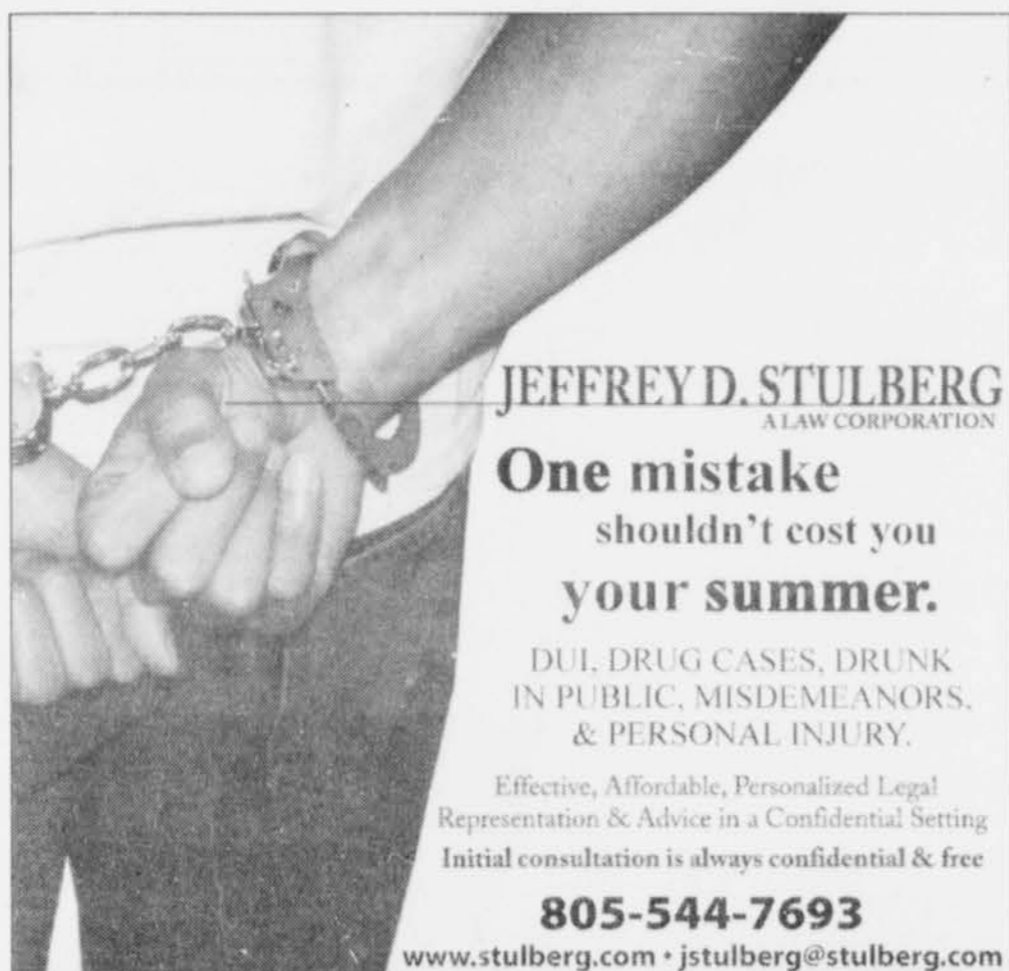
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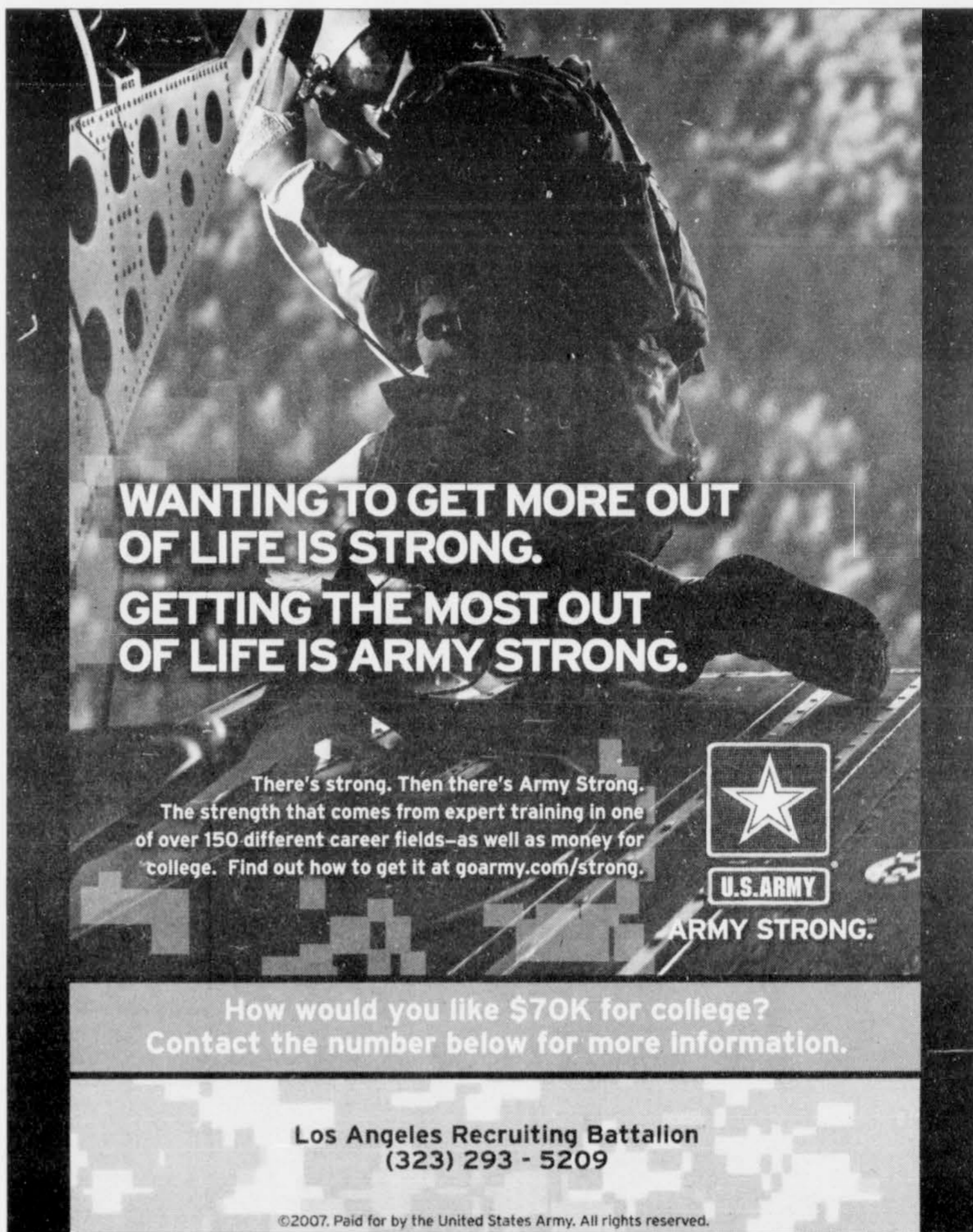
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Getting artsy at the Craft Center

Rachel Gelliman

MUSTANG DAILY

Spring quarter is a time to relax, soak up some rays and show some skin, so why not complement that tan with some homemade jewelry, a souped-up bike or a hand-shaped surfboard?

Registration for the Craft Center's spring quarter classes — six weeks of instructional courses taught by Cal Poly students — begins today. Prices vary according to the specific class, ranging from \$30 to \$50.

A quarterly studio pass is also available for purchase for experienced crafters who need little to no supervision or guidance. Unlike the more expensive classes, students with this pass have open access to equipment and tools in one or more of the studio's areas.

Manufacturing engineering senior Adam Wegener has taught at the Craft Center for almost three years and will teach a beginning ceramics class this quarter on Thursdays from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

He said with ceramics, students can take something from the earth and make it into everyday objects.

"Very rarely do people get the chance to go through that whole process of creation, where you start with nothing and then you go through these steps that you learn in my class and you make something that you can keep for the rest of your life," he said.

In his class, students can learn basic steps to make mugs, bowls and plates on the pottery wheel. Wegener hopes students will take the skills they learn in the six-week period and continue to pursue the hobby afterward.

Mechanical engineering senior Kevin Sill will teach jewelry smithing this quarter on Wednesdays from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. and on Thursdays from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

"It is an incredibly fun class," he said, wearing a necklace adorned with three shades of metal. "We start with metal sheet and metal wire and hit it with hammers, bend it and shape it, and drill holes in it. Then the most interesting thing we do is learn how to silver-solder it together."

He said the class works in a fun, interactive environment and learns a skill that few people have.


Once students learn the basics, they can connect different metals together to create pendants, rings, small statues or really anything, he said. Plus, "it's all

see Crafty, page 19

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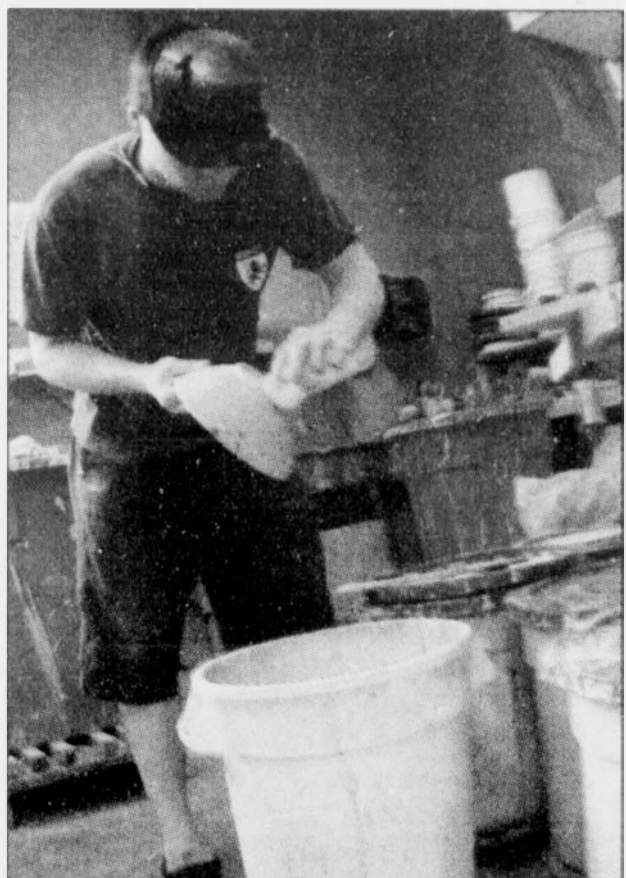
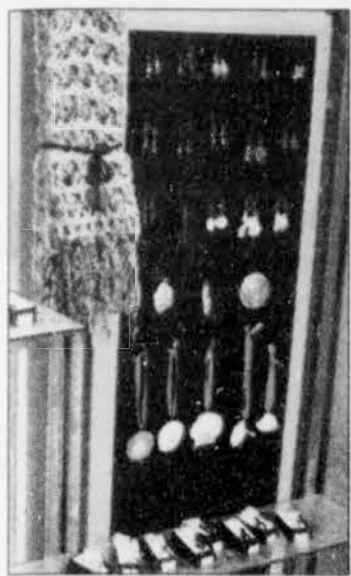
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RYAN POLEI MUSTANG DAILY

Top right, graduate student Kirk Waltz shapes a bowl at the Craft Center. Bottom right, civil engineering sophomore Richard Harte and child development freshman Melissa Husband cut foam board for a fish tank. The Craft Center offers six-week-long classes in jewelry smithing, glassblowing, ceramics and woodworking. Prices range from \$30 to \$50, and with the exception of the center's surfboard-shaping class.

Crafty

continued from page 18

made of metal, so it's permanent and impressive," he added.

Architecture senior Victoria Ciesiul has taught classes with metal and jewelry for three years at the Craft Center and will teach jewelry casting on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. this quarter. She has also taken several jewelry classes in the art department.

In her class, students learn how to shape jewelry out of wax and then put that wax in a plaster mold. Students melt out the wax to make a void in the plaster to be filled with molten metal.

"So it's a really fun process because we get to melt metal and watch it shoot into this plaster mold," she said.

Students can make pendants, rings, earrings, bracelets or figurines. Last quarter, Ciesiul encouraged students to incorporate stones or beads into their molds in hopes of making the jewelry a little more exciting. She said she'll continue to encourage students to do this once again during spring quarter.

"People have been coming up with really cool stuff from that," she said, after describing a previous student's ring with a piece of jade on the back, modeled after his pet snake.

Kinesiology senior Matt Ishler will teach bike repair in his Build a Beater Bike class this quarter. He will also teach a custom skateboard deck-making class, and beginning and intermediate glassblowing courses. All classes will take place in the evening.

In the Build a Beater Bike class, offered Tuesdays from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., students can bring in any bike to work on. "We work on everything

— your \$10 garage-sale special to fixed-gear bikes," he said, his greased hands showing commitment to bike excellence.

Students learn the ins and outs of bikes and how to do repair work that would normally cost about \$200 to \$250 at a bike shop, he said. While in his class, students learn how to do this work on their own, "which is badass, more or less," he said.

In his intermediate glassblowing class, which is rarely offered, students learn more advanced glass techniques; the class is recommended for people who have already taken the beginning class.

Industrial engineering senior Tim Sleeper will teach a surfboard-shaping class this quarter. In the course, students start by picking out a blank Styrofoam board and then follow the steps all the way through shaping the board.

The class doesn't cover glassing the board, which makes it hard, or painting it, but Sleeper said he'll assist students with both of these processes.

Aerospace engineering graduate student Seth Silva will teach woodworking this quarter, both an introductory course and an "extreme" class. In the introductory class, he will ask students what they want to make and then proceed to help them.

"It's going to give people the opportunity to be creative," he said.

He said the extreme woodworking class, "if anything, will be extremely cool."

Silva is also thinking about teaching a custom framing class in which students can take a picture they really love and make a frame around it so as to become part of the picture.

"It's a lot of work, but it's definitely worthwhile," he said, adding that satisfaction comes from making something by hand as opposed to purchasing it at a store.

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corrections

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Mustang Daily

"Oh no, I couldn't possibly eat the whole endzone."

MUSTANG DAILY

OPINION/EDITORIAL

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Editor in chief: Kristen Marshall

Managing Editor: Ryan Chartrand

mustangdaily@gmail.com

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Welcome to THE FRIEND ZONE

It's a question we all want to know the answer to, but can we ever really know? Can men and women be JUST friends?

This brings to mind a friend we have. He is slightly lacking in the romance department and he always seems to find himself in the elusive "friend zone." Since we're women, we're here to say that there is no "friend zone." When put in this mysterious realm, people tend to chalk it up to holding back too long or not being aggressive enough in the beginning of the relationship, but do they ever consider that the other person is just not that into them?

It takes two to be in a relationship, and if you feel any sort of sexual attraction toward the opposite sex (or same sex), there can never truly be a platonic friendship. Most women scoff at this statement, but they also underestimate the attraction men have toward women because of a lack of self-confidence, etc.

Don't be coy; friendships with the opposite sex never seem to pan out the way we want them to. It's guaranteed that at one point or another, one person will look at the other as much more than a friend and this feeling is rarely reciprocated.

So let's go back to our friend, he wants this kind of friendship to somehow develop into a whirlwind romance like some romantic comedy that makes you want to gag yourself with a spoon. This is never going to happen for most people and purely for the reasons stated above.

Yes, most people have their good friends of the opposite sex, but there is always a crossroad at which you need to choose one path:

THE nakedTRUTH

by JESSICA FORD & ELIZABETH YI



friends or lovers? It is that moment of clarity in which you find yourself discovering this person as more than just a friend. Like we said, more often than not, this person will not feel the same as you. Your relationship will end in heartbreak and so on, but if nothing developed in the past, why do you think there would be hope for something more in the future?

As pessimistic as it sounds, this word "friendship" is a crafty tool ladies use all the time. It becomes a woman's best excuse to avoid breaking some guy's heart by flat-out rejecting him or smoothing over a breakup. And in each case, women do mean it to some extent, but what it should mean to the receiving end is that she is no longer

attracted to you. The label of "friend" is a safety net women use to keep options open, or to get away from defining a relationship which is obviously more than a platonic friendship. (And just to get it straight, friends with benefits are not friends — they are f*** buddies.) It's hard to gauge where a relationship is going, but make sure you know what you want.

So as you sit in the stuffy classrooms with new people who you will see every week for the next three months, think about this: don't look to that attractive person next to you as your latest "study buddy." Instead, make them your next hot date.

Journalism senior Jessica Ford and animal science senior Elizabeth Yi are the new Tuesday columnists. Their column "The Naked Truth" will focus on love, sex and dating. E-mail them your questions for future columns at thenakedtruthcolumn@gmail.com.

GUEST COMMENTARIES

Harmless typo not so harmless

I just wanted to comment on one of the articles in the March 10 paper. I cannot remember the exact title of the article, and I do not have a copy, but it had to do with the cost of the war in Iraq and Afghanistan. The news teaser on the front page said the cost of the war would exceed \$27 trillion! Now I know this was probably a harmless typo, but the thing is, it's not so harmless!

I found this fact hard to believe, so I flipped to the page of the article and read further because I knew there was no way the cost of the war could exceed \$27 trillion by 2017. However, I know many of my fellow students might not have the time to read more. Some people might just look at the front page and think, "Oh, that's typical of the Bush administration, he's going to cost us \$27 trillion!" Now don't get me wrong, I don't think Bush is the best president ever, but he is far from the worst. The last thing this country needs is for the media to paint more negative pictures into the public's minds. People are too easily influenced in today's increasingly lazy society to have people in authority feed them false truths.

Instead of running articles that focus on projections of things that have not happened, why not look at the facts of today? I want to know how many people are leaching OUR (this means all tax-paying people in this country) country dry. I want to know how much the lazy, drug-addicted, free-loading bums suck out of the social security, medicare and welfare systems. I admit that there are some people that truly do need the help of their fellow mankind, but what happens when more and more people start using and abusing these systems? A few hard working tax paying people cannot pay for the laziness of others! Please publish more articles that help people realize what is going on today, and how we can fix things, not some bologna that prejudice lazy politicians concoct.

Nic Vanherweg is a crop science junior and a guest columnist for the Mustang Daily.

There's always another side to the story

This is in response to the March 11 letter to the editor titled "Jewish lives not worth mentioning." I would never condone the ideology that one life valued more over another. Nor do I agree with the few Palestinians who think the only way of sending a message to Israel is through violence. There are people on both sides who want to see the violence stop. With naming the defense of the Palestinians of their OWN LAND from occupying Israel "Arab terrorism," are you implying that all Arab-Palestinians are terrorists and therefore stories of their deaths should be pushed aside to those of Israelis because Arabs are the "bad guys"? Or, are you just responding to the false connection the Israeli government has been successfully pushing on us since we went "terrorist" crazy on Sept. 11, 2002 that an oppressed people choice of defense is highly organized attack on an innocent country?

The fact that you complained about the LACK of coverage on Israeli deaths in the media (i.e. Mustang Daily) proves to me you are uninformed of the current political situation in Israel/Palestine. I noticed you said "Jewish" rather than Israeli in your letter and this too fosters false

information. Israel does not equal all Jewish people. The apartheid taking place in which Christians, Jews and Muslims die every day is centralized to the Middle East. It is fallacy to connect a world religion with a hugely political issue.

Israel gets more "positive spin" and media coverage than any other area in the world under similar conflict. And they spend a lot of money and effort to keep it that way. Watch any news report on TV and I promise they will take the time to let you get to know the tearful family of a dead Israeli soldier, rather than see the Palestine house bulldozed by Israelis while families were still in them or the shooting of Palestinian school children throwing stones with bullets, or the bomb raids dropped on Palestinian cities by Israel.

Go back and read your history book. Go way back. Say, around 63 B.C., not just the ones that start with the World Wars or with the war of 1967 waged by Israel.

Israel has and is illegally colonizing the land of the Palestinians even as I write this. With the U.S. as one of their biggest supporters in the media and politically, the Israeli

see Commentary, page 21

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Response to the "atrocities" of abortion (March 12)

I read your opinion and respect it, but there are some points which I disagree on.

One that personally struck a chord with me was your last statement about Iranians not discussing the Holocaust as an atrocity. I don't know where you got this idea or how it relates to the displays really. I am an Iranian-American and I for one think that genocide is not something to be taken lightly. In middle school, my grandmother who lived in Iran wanted to tear up my poster for a project on the Holocaust.

Also, I think people on the pro-life side of things, especially the people who put up the display, need to realize that there is more to a decision of abortion. There is no need to add guilt to the issue because people who do so are not coldhearted but have circumstances that make them have to face a difficult choice. The word "my" in my choice is no way selfish; no one doubts that more than one life is affected by the decision but the concept is that the decision doesn't belong to some third party.

Lastly, it's ignorant to think that all abortions are a result of people making a decision to have sex for pleasure. My same grandmother had an abortion while married. When I first found out, I really was outraged but I later was told the reason was because they did not have the financial means to support another child nor the contraceptive to prevent pregnancy in Iran. Putting myself in her shoes, I realized that despite how much I am against abortion, there are many factors that need to be taken into consideration before judging a person who makes this choice. Hopefully you will learn the same.

Leyla Naimi

Construction management sophomore

Abortion response mostly irrational (March 13)

First of all, I would like to thank Diana Watkins for bringing to our attention that the enormous posters of aborted fetuses do not show both sides of the issue. She is definitely right about that.

That's pretty much where she stops being rational.

Where are the stories about teenage mothers dropping out of high school? She asks. I don't know what planet Ms. Watkins is from, but I have been hearing arguments and anecdotes about pregnant teenagers in high schools my entire life. I applaud the people who put up those posters for finally showing the real other side of the argument.

Also, as far as life-threatening pregnancies, and those of "severely retarded rape victims" go, we don't hear about them much because they don't happen much. Abortions that actually save the life of the mother or are a result of rape are a very very small minority. It's like one in a hundred. No truly rational person would want to stop a 13-year-old rape victim from having an abortion. The issue is the 95 percent or so of abortions which consist of people pretty much using it as birth control.

Lastly, no, it cannot be said that masturbation and menstruation are the same as abortions. No sperm or egg has the capability of becoming an individual person. In fact, they contain less genetic information than any other cell in the body.

Tim Wolf

Physics junior

How do you define abortion? (March 13)

I think that the abortion display on campus did an excellent job defining the debate! The dialog must be asking the question, "is the fetus human?" Too often have we Americans sidestepped this.

Logically, if one accepts that the fetus is human, then he or she has as much right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness as does the mother. It is easy to see that people who accept this would say that it is the parents' obligation to provide for any children whom they conceive, even if they don't think they are ready.

On the other hand, if one accepts that the fetus is merely the mother's tissue, it makes perfect sense that she can do with it as she wishes since she is not hurting another individual by having an abortion.

From a scientific perspective, eight and a half months before my daughter was born, she had a beating heart. Nine months before she was born she has her own DNA, unique from both of us. Even at the moment of

conception, can we really argue that she was just part of my wife's tissue?

Perhaps we can argue that only once she was capable of living outside of the uterus was she "enough like us" to be considered human and have the rights of one. Do we value people based on what they have accomplished (ability to live outside the womb, be wealthy, etc.) or based upon whom they are, a human?

Matthew Gilbert

Forestry and natural resources senior

Sorry Mr. McCarthy (March 14)

I would first of all like to say shame on you for discrediting an outstanding writer for Mustang Daily. I enjoy Sarah's articles every week, and when I made the mistake of reading yours, I had to find out the truth for myself behind the calorie scandal.

I failed to find your Web page labeling the calorie count for long island iced teas. Wherever you got that magic number of 226, it cannot be accurate. Notice Sarah's 8-ounce size for her calorie count, which is a full-size cocktail. Your "number" was probably from some 4-ounce uncredible source. Considering the high calorie count for alcohol and the fact that long island iced teas are pretty much syrup, I didn't doubt Sarah's number. I found Sarah's source, Webmd. Here is the link if you are interested: <http://www.webmd.com/diet/features/low-calorie-cocktails?page=4>.

So get the facts straight before you attempt to discredit others.

Rudolph Zacher

Biomedical engineering graduate student

Commentary

continued from page 20

government has been hugely successful in its illegal and aggressive apartheid. It's a well organized, armed and funded government against a few gorilla groups (like Hamas) and people just trying to survive each day. Don't mistake the attackers for the defenders. How can an occupier defend itself when it is the aggressor? Unless you count having to defend itself from people demanding human rights and freedom. When you make such a grand statement please have some facts that back it up (no, Fox

News doesn't count). Remember, there is ALWAYS another side to the story.

And take HIST 214, political economy of Latin America and the Middle East, with Prof. Manzar Foroohar. She herself is Iranian and brings a unique perspective of the politics in the Middle East that is very different to the one we are spoon fed by our national media. It has opened my eyes and allows me the luxury of now feeling somewhat informed enough to respond to your false complaint.

Soquel Schafer is a social science sophomore and a guest columnist for the Mustang Daily.

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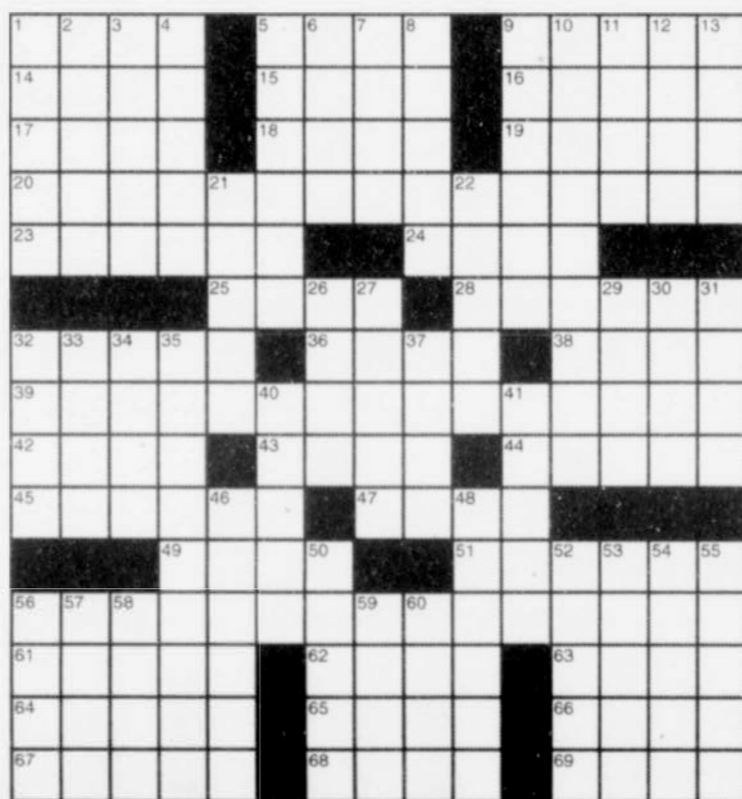


The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0219

- Across**
- Puppies' plaints
 - Cobb of "12 Angry Men"
 - Icy look
 - Oratorio highlight
 - Di or da preceder in a Beatles song
 - Moves like sludge
 - "What ___ Did" (classic children's book with a punny title)
 - ___ Spee (old German warship)
 - Catcher's position
 - Enjoying an outing, of sorts
 - "Gets the red out" sloganeer
 - Italian auto, for short
 - Scientology founder ___ Hubbard
 - For no profit
 - Sister of Marge Simpson
 - Forsaken
 - Get ___ the habit
 - Enjoying an outing, of sorts
 - Homecoming figure, for short
 - Yin's counterpart
 - Checking out
 - Michelin offering
 - Flagston family pet
 - Gin flavoring
 - Edit
 - Enjoying an outing, of sorts
 - Like wild tigers
 - Drought relief
 - Hi Flagston's wife, in the comics
 - Garden plant support
 - One hired by a corp. board
 - McCann of country music
 - Cheated, slangily
 - One of "The Addams Family," informally
 - Comrade in arms



Puzzle by Victor Fleming

- Down**
- Comic Smirnoff
 - Tehran denizen
 - Actress ZaSu
 - Greet cordially
 - Paul Bunyan, e.g.
 - River of Spain
 - Mideast airline
 - Port of Israel
 - Treat leniently, with "on"
 - Talkativeness
 - France's Côte d'
 - Actor Stephen and kin
 - Renaissance family name
 - China's Zhou ___
 - Trolley sound
 - Gymnast Korbut
 - Ad infinitum
 - "The ___ Love" (R.E.M. hit)
 - British W.W. II-era gun
 - Chinatown gang
 - Exchange jabs
 - Former Connecticut governor Grasso
 - Speak well of
 - "I can't blame anyone else"
 - Latvia's capital
 - Fishing line material
 - Georg who wrote "The Philosophy of Right"
 - Trued up
 - Twist badly
 - Everglades wader
 - Home overlooking the sea, maybe
 - How some tuna is packed
 - Dexterity
 - Lamb or Bacon piece
 - ___ browns (diner fare)
 - Analogy part
 - Havana aunts
 - Kind of stand
 - Doesn't dally

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

BOBUP FLUB GEAR
ABASE IOTA OMNI
LIBERAL BENEFITS
KEY FLIES VERSE
LEIA PER
RADICALS SIGN ALT
ALERTS MEAT STEW
ILIA OAR LANA
NOTSOFAR POURIN
STY LEFT HANGING
ADZ AYES
STYLE PATTY HAT
PROGRESSIVE LENS
IOWA LAIN AORTA
NYSE STAG RYDER

Pop Culture Shock Therapy by Doug Bratton



Mrs. "The Frog" catches her husband and Miss Piggy in bed--totally naked.

su | do | ku

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

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Ski and snowboarding team rides on

Patrick Barbieri

MUSTANG DAILY

The unofficial Cal Poly ski and snowboarding team is faring well in this season's Southern California Collegiate Ski & Snowboard Conference competitions, despite a lack of funding from the university.

"We're getting more recognition," said team member and materials engineering junior Stefan Grandi. "We have a lot of really dedicated people on our team right now."

The 15-person team competes in men's and women's events including giant slalom, skier and boarder-cross, slope style and half pipe.

All the competitions take place on Mammoth Mountain, but the team also finds time to get together and make its own trips to practice.

For the past three years, the team has been competing as part of the Cal Poly Pomona joint team, ever since the San Luis Obispo campus' official ski and snowboarding team was discontinued in 2004 for raucous behavior.

Since then, re-establishing the local team has been an uphill battle.

"It's been tough because the school is skeptical and doesn't have the trust for the new team," Grandi said.

The new team emphasizes it is not associated with the Central Pacific Ski Club, which focuses more on social events than competition.

This season Cal Poly Pomona placed first in its league in the giant slalom event, and third overall in the regional competition.

In March, Grandi even went on to compete in nationals in Maine.

However, members don't have to be of pro caliber to belong to

see Ski, page 25

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Dufresne a discus dynamo

Cal Poly junior discus thrower and shot putter continues to dominate competition

Angela Marie Watkins

MUSTANG DAILY

Julieann Dufresne can intimidate anyone with her tall physique, wild, dirty blonde hair and piercing blue eyes.

The shot putter and discus thrower for the Cal Poly track and field team has given her competition reason to fear her this season, and is focusing on sending the discus more than 175 feet and the shot beyond 50.

"It's a big leap from what I'm throwing now but I should get there by the end of May," says Dufresne, a forestry and natural resources junior.

At Fresno State on March 14, she won the discus throw at 47.85 and 49.45 meters, and finished second in the shot put at 14.65 and 15.1 meters.

Prior to that, on March 8, Dufresne had a strong performance at the UCLA Invitational at Drake Stadium in Los Angeles, winning the shot put with a mark of 48 feet, 1 1/4 inches, and the discus with a throw of 157 feet.

Both marks, not too far from her goals, met the NCAA West Regional qualifying standards.

Dufresne, a Santa Cruz native, was also a member of her high school's basketball and water polo teams before committing to track and field at Cal Poly.

"I kind of miss being a multi-sport person," she says. "It's weird doing one sport."

However, she has adapted well to the single-sport schedule and spends one to four hours a day lifting to keep herself strong for throwing.

Yet this wasn't the type of practice Dufresne saw herself doing in high school, at which point in time she planned to play college basketball, before her high school throwing coach, Tony Ciarelli, encouraged her to pursue throwing.

Dufresne is glad she did, and loves being a part of Cal Poly's team.

see Dufresne, page 27



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COURTESY PHOTO

The unofficial Cal Poly ski and snowboarding team, which consists of 15 members, competes in several events at Mammoth Mountain.

Ski

continued from page 23

the team. Riders of all skill levels are welcomed, since they are able to compete against other riders within their level.

"Some people get pushed away by thinking they're not good enough to compete, but there are people at all different skill levels within the league," Grandi said. "Everyone's super friendly and the schools are really supportive."

The team hopes by next spring it will have established its own name under Cal Poly San Luis Obispo.

Issues like insurance and budgets need to be worked out, but the team is determined to continue developing and having fun in the process.

"It's a blast," said team member and materials engineering junior Alden Moore. "It's a great opportunity for us to get together and take our sport to the next level."

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A 128-team tournament? Great!

Adam Littman

THE PITT NEWS (U. PITTSBURGH)

PITTSBURGH — Calling my trophy room a room is an insult to rooms all over the world.

It's unfortunate but true. The room in question is nothing more than a tiny, plastic bin filled with roughly seven baseball trophies.

Out of those seven, my various Little League teams finished in first place exactly zero times.

What does this have to do with anything, besides the pathetic-ness of my Little League teams, in which I certainly played a helping hand?

Well, back in the glory days of most people's athletic careers, a trophy was given to everyone.

Thanks for showing up. Really, we don't care that in your first at-bat you stood on home plate, or that after you were hit by a pitch you ran to third base. You don't believe us? Here's a tiny, gold-colored guy holding a bat! Just don't drop it, cause it will break, even if you drop it in the mud or sand or anything, really.

And if Bobby Knight and Virginia Tech coach Seth Greenberg have their way, many more student-athletes might be getting some sort of trophies in the future.

During ESPN's Selection Sunday coverage, Knight, who has been nothing short of brilliant as an ESPN analyst, suggested expanding the NCAA Tournament to 128 teams.

Knight thought the expansion from 65 teams to 128 would help to weed out the pretenders earlier in the tournament.

When the ESPN crew interviewed Greenberg, he, too, thought an expansion to 128 teams seemed like a good idea. He compared it to the large number of bowl games in college football, and said that playing in the NCAA Tournament can be one of the best experiences a college basketball player can have. Therefore, as many students as possible should have the opportunity to compete.

This seems like a nice spot to mention that Virginia Tech missed out on the tournament this season. Maybe Greenberg has felt this way for years, but waited until one of his teams narrowly missed a bid so he could be interviewed on national TV and start the revolution.

One might think that 65 teams is a lot of teams, but really, it's only kind of a lot of teams. There are 341 schools in Division I NCAA men's basketball. That's a lot, not 65.

So would doubling the amount of teams in the tournament give the fans more upsets, and another round of exciting basketball? Or would all the higher seeds continue to



Kraidon Woods, left, Steve Jones and the rest of the Arizona State men's basketball team were left out of the NCAA Tournament despite going 19-12, sweeping Arizona and beating Stanford.

dominate the new opening round, and it would become the Papajohns.com Bowl of basketball? Tough to say.

If there's one positive about doubling the number of teams to 128, it is hearing Jim Boheim's post-Selection Sunday rant about how Syracuse's RPI of 119 should have been more than enough to get

the Orange in the tournament.

But Knight and Greenberg bring up an interesting point in that we don't often hear people suggest changes to the NCAA Tournament, which is widely viewed as one of the better sporting events in professional or collegiate athletics.

But now that the idea is out there, in what ways could the tournament improve?

I think Greenberg was on the right path with wanting to allow more students to experience playing in the tournament. So how about a rule that states every player has to play at least eight minutes a game?

Sounds good to me. I also think that every player on the court should have to touch the ball before a shot goes up.

Also in the name of making things fair, a 16 seed has never beaten a top seed, so that needs to change.

All 16 seeds should be able to play seven men at once. If that doesn't shake up the brackets a little bit, then we bump it up to eight.

This next one isn't solely tournament-related, but everyone seemed to love how the NBA raised its age limit to 19, preventing players going straight from high school to the pros.

This in turn has made the NCAA more competitive by forcing players who might've entered the draft to go to school, albeit for only a year in some cases.

Well, why not raise the age limit again? How does 28 sound? The NCAA could then give players 10 years of eligibility in college. Imagine the great basketball in the tournament then.

Yeah, the NBA might suffer a bit, but wouldn't it be great to see student-athletes become graduate student-athletes, or go to law or medical school while still playing?

And, of course, it's time to center the NCAA logo. Come on now, it's really bothersome. Just put the four letters in the center of the blue circle already. Please.

With these additions the tournament improves from one of the greatest American sporting events of the year to a worldwide holiday.

And I don't want the tournament renamed after me, even though I know it's tempting. Really, I don't need to do interviews about how I saved the NCAA Tournament and receive all types of recognition.

A trophy, on the other hand, would be quite nice.

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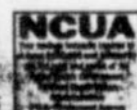
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Top schools in tournament aren't tops in classroom

Travis Reed

ASSOCIATED PRESS

North Carolina was the only school among the four No. 1 seeds in the NCAA men's tournament to graduate at least 50 percent of its players.

A report released March 17 found 86 percent of Tar Heels men's players earned diplomas during a six-year period. The other top seeds were far worse: 45 percent at Kansas and 40 percent at UCLA and Memphis.

The study was conducted by Richard Lapchick, head of the University of Central Florida's Institute for Diversity and Ethics in Sport. It evaluated four different freshman classes for a period beginning in 1997-98 and ending with 2000-01. Though the players evaluated are no longer on campus, the report intends to provide a snapshot of academic trends.

Lapchick's primary concern was the disparity between black and white players. Thirty-three schools graduated at least 70 percent of their white men's basketball players; only 19 graduated that many black players. At least 50 percent of white players earned degrees at 45 schools, but black athletes had that much success at only 36 schools.

But the study found that the achievement gap was shrinking. At 34 percent of tournament-bound teams there was a 30-point or greater difference in graduation success between black and white players, down from 49 percent last year. Black players continued to succeed in higher rates than black nonathletes.

"Higher education's greatest failure is the persistent gap between African-American and white basketball student-athletes in particular, and students in general," Lapchick wrote. "The good news there is that the gaps are narrowing slightly."

According to NCAA data, graduation rates for black men's basketball players have improved 14 percent overall since 1984.

"We've seen some real improvement over time," NCAA spokesman Erik Christianson said. "There's always room for more improvement, but we're pleased with the progress."

The NCAA Tournament field is 65 teams, but not all could be included in the analysis. Cornell, like other Ivy League schools, doesn't report graduation rates. Gonzaga had no black players and 10 schools had no white athletes.

Two of the No. 2 seeds, Tennessee and Texas, graduated only 33 percent of their players for the period studied. The other second seeds, Georgetown and Duke, had success rates of 82 percent and 67 percent, respectively.

Academically, this year the Final Four would include five teams: Western Kentucky (100 percent graduation success), Butler (92 percent), Notre Dame (91 percent), Purdue (91 percent), and Davidson (91 percent). Xavier, a No. 3 seed, was close behind with a 90 percent success rate.

UCLA said the report failed to show its recent academic success, and a better indicator was the NCAA's new Academic Progress Rate. Lapchick has been waiting to use that data, collected since 2004 under the NCAA's academic reforms, until four years are available. The fourth year was expected to be released in April.

Dufresne

continued from page 24

"It's like having a little family at college and the coaches are kind of like parental figures," she says.

Comforted by her relationship with her coaches, she finds traveling to meets tiresome but memorable nonetheless.

"It really takes a toll on your body and it was hard for me to adjust to it," Dufresne says. "But it's worth it because you get to see places and meet people."

In her free time, Dufresne describes herself as an outdoors lover and a "beach bum" who likes to boogie board and take her dog on walks. She also likes to sleep in when she can, considers Saturday morning practices a "bummer" and has a sense of humor, especially about her sport.

"My little joke, when people ask me what I do in track, is I tell them I do the mile," she says with a laugh.

Regardless of whether she plans to make a profession of her throwing ability, she would like to inspire younger athletes, especially women considering throwing for track.

"I'd like to be a role model for other athletes starting up," Dufresne says. "I think there's a lot of talent out there and they just don't know it."

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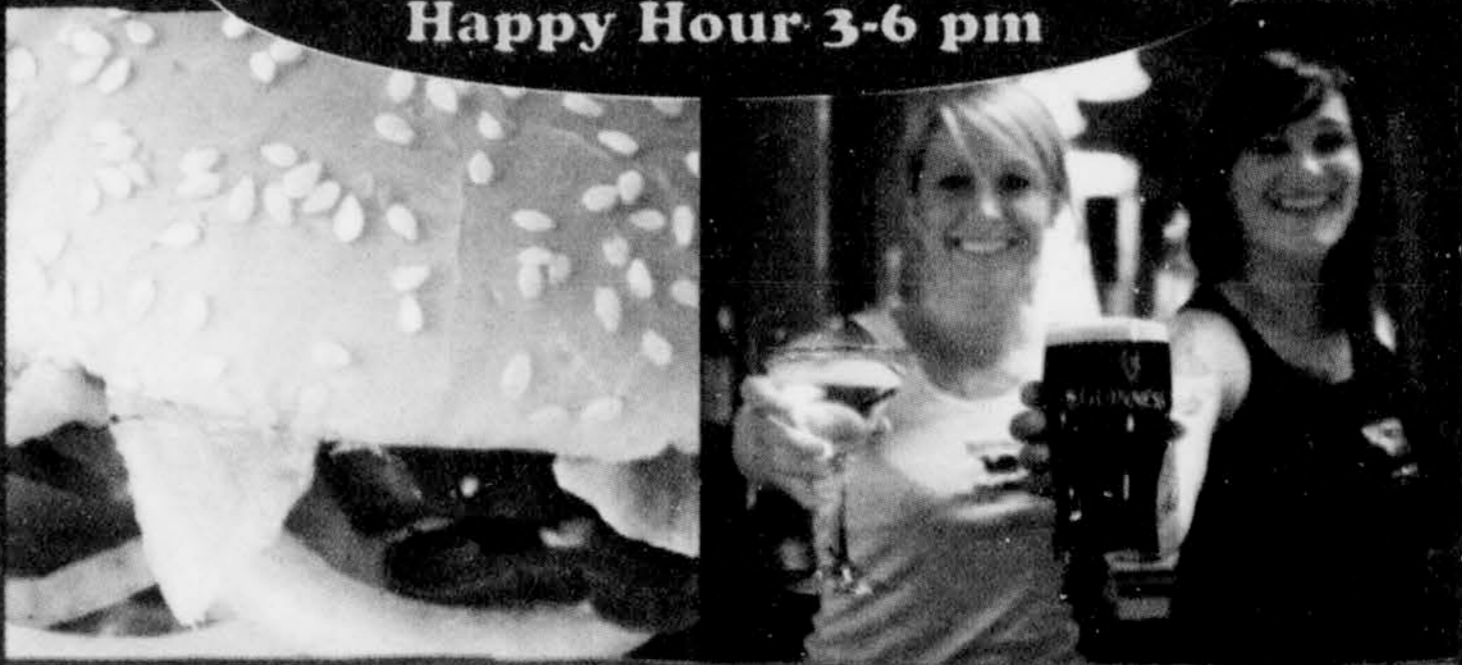
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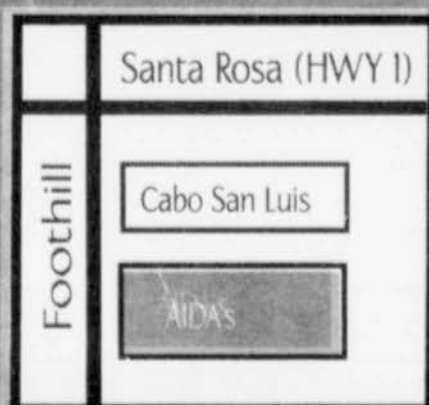
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