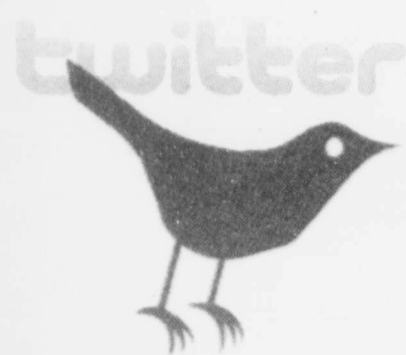




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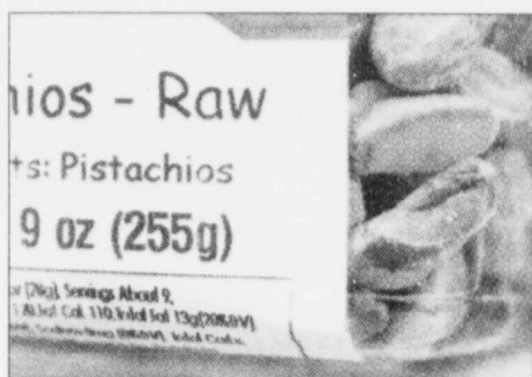
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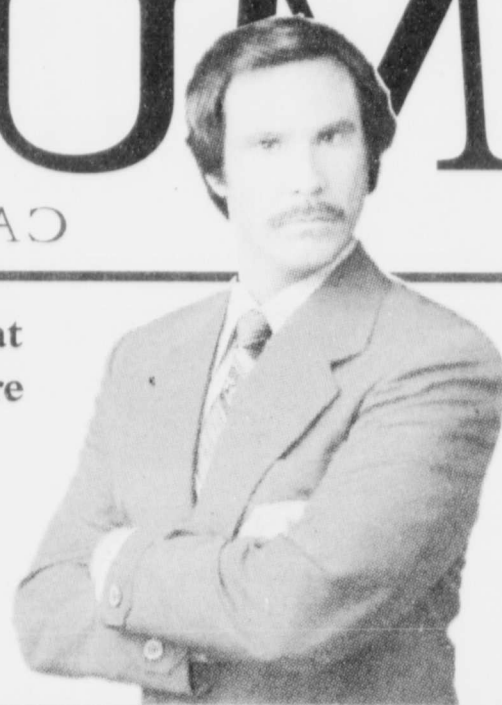


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Off the straight and narrow

Exploring Cal Poly's spectrum of sexuality

Genevieve Loggins
MUSTANG DAILY

Adjusting to Cal Poly can be challenging for new students, but those whose sexuality falls outside the heterosexual sphere often have even more hurdles to overcome.

When history senior Jay Ledbetter walks into an elective course, it doesn't matter whether the professor refers to Ledbetter as a he or a she, the student prefers to be referenced as both.

"I use both he and she interchangeably, and I don't correct anybody because I like both; I don't want one or the other, but it's hard when people don't know what to use," Ledbetter said. "I really don't care what you call me, most people switch all the time and I never correct them."

Ledbetter came to Cal Poly as a transfer student, and by the end of the first quarter, came out as a lesbian. About a year later, she realized that her gender identity was fluid and began identifying as a transgender or gender queer person.

"Basically I told everyone that I knew I was a lesbian, and the more people that knew, the better," Ledbetter said. "Once I was out, I was fine not hiding it, but my gender identity was something I needed to understand."

When Anthony Rust came to Cal Poly as a freshman, he found that adjusting to college life was almost like starting all over again. The Pride Center helped him with coming out and acted as a place for acceptance.

"I wasn't out in high school, so coming to college made it interesting," Rust said.

Ledbetter quickly became involved in Cal Poly's Pride Center, an organization in

Student Life and Leadership whose aim is to support and raise awareness about issues of gender identity and sexuality.

Once students become comfortable with their sexuality, the Pride Center helps in the beginning stages of adjusting to a new LGBT lifestyle. However, before that establishment is made, people often feel lost and hopeless, Ledbetter said.

"Cal Poly is good once you have that queer connection; for a lot of students it can be a scary place, and a very homophobic space," she said. "I like wherever I turn on campus I know at least someone will have my back."

For students interested in being involved in the queer community, and how to handle coming out, PRISM, a project Ledbetter has been working on for two years, acts as a counseling tool to deal with coming out issues.

"Some people who have been out in high school come to college and it makes them feel like they're back in the closet," Ledbetter said. She started PRISM as a side project in the Pride Center as a place for students to feel comfortable with expressing their identities. When students find a community they're comfortable in, a burden is lifted,

she said.

"You don't have to fit in one box or another, and we try hard to break down stereotypes," Ledbetter said. "People who seek out help from PRISM don't have to share their identity, and e-mailing has become a popular way to face issues people are dealing with."

For the more serious issues, there are experts ready to handle any situation that existing counselors can't.

"There is always a group of people ready to counsel and a group of people that are in training," Ledbetter said.

The speaker's bureau, or "gays on display," are members of the center who come to different classes to discuss sexuality and gay issues, Ledbetter said.

"After we come to these events it feels really good, because these students didn't know these issues and now they do from a c -

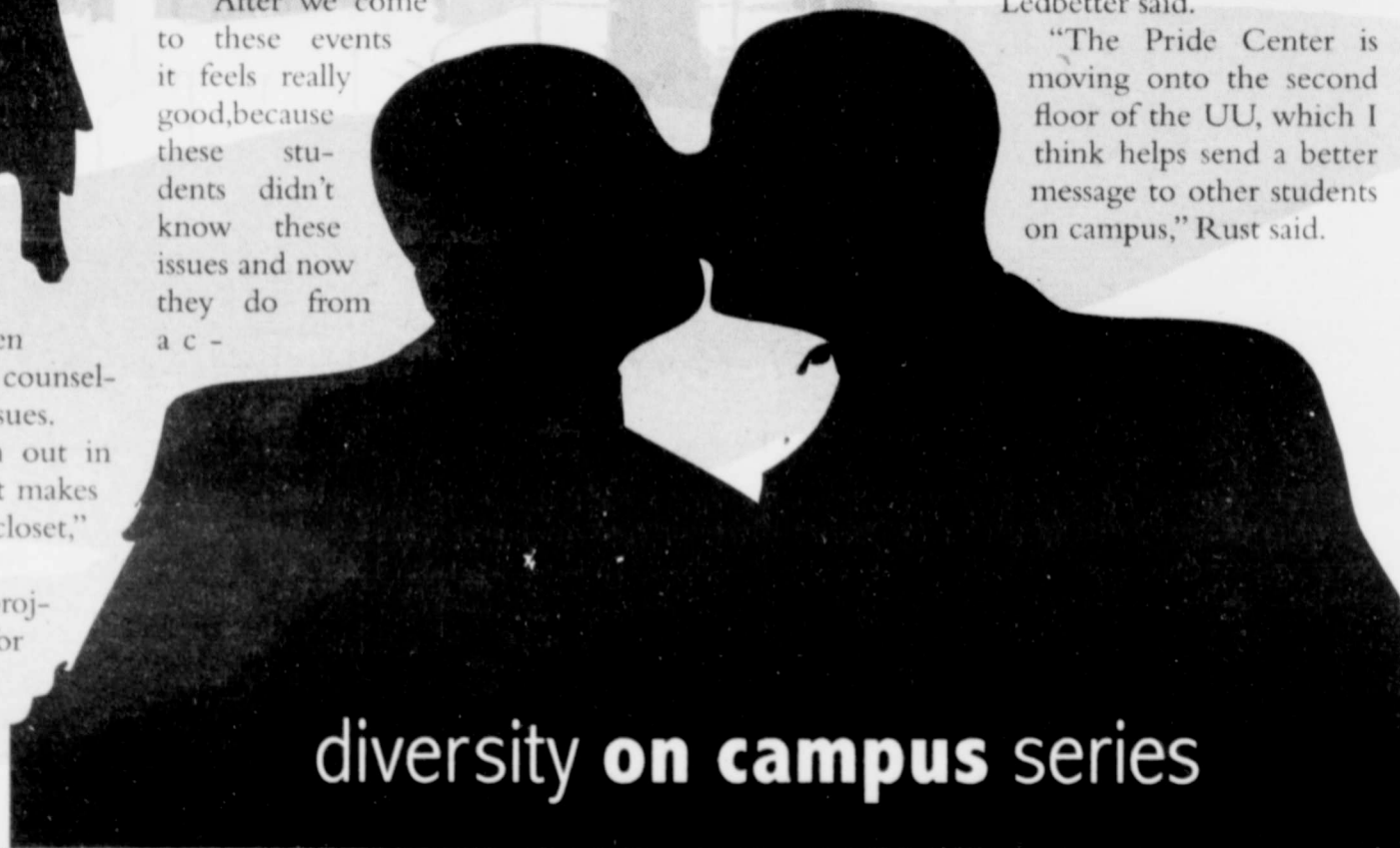
tual queer people," Ledbetter said. "Which is much better than from text books."

Rust is a member of the speaker's bureau and active in PRISM, helping students seek out their identity and counseling services.

Cal Poly continues to make the experience of being an LGBT student more acceptable, and there are incredible amounts of support from the community, Ledbetter said.

Another way Cal Poly continues to expand its programming is by hosting the Western Regional queer conference next February. The conference will hold workshops with various events, speakers and performances put on by students, graduate students and members of the community, Ledbetter said.

"The Pride Center is moving onto the second floor of the UU, which I think helps send a better message to other students on campus," Rust said.



diversity on campus series

Big summit, small hopes; leaders meet on economy

Tom Raum
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONDON (AP) — Desperate but divided on ways to lift their nations from economic misery, world leaders converged for an emergency summit Tuesday holding scant hopes of finding a magic-bullet solution for the crisis that brought them hurrying to London.

Even as President Barack Obama and the others were arriving, the U.S. acknowledged its allies would not go along with a massive burst of stimulus spending, while Europe was forced to backpedal from hopes for tighter financial regulation.

Instead, leaders are trumpeting the limited common ground they could reach, including more money for the International

Monetary Fund and closer scrutiny of hedge funds and tax havens. As for the broader issues, they're hoping for the best — or at least that they will do no harm.

With turbulent world markets watching closely, the stakes are high, especially for America's new president, stepping onto the world stage for the first time to deal with the economic crisis and to meet face-to-face with many other leaders.

One global change is being acknowledged: The forum for grappling with world economic problems has grown beyond the established eight post-war economies that dominated previous economic summits — the U.S., Britain, Germany, France, Japan, Canada, Italy and Russia. Now, 20 nations are coming together in London, with fast-growing developing economies such as

China, India, Brazil and Saudi Arabia — important players in any effort to coordinate economic policy — sitting as full negotiating partners.

"For the first time, there's a recognition that major emerging markets and developing countries have a critical role at the table," said Mike Froman, a White House international economic adviser.

But will that mean action to stop a global downward spiral?

Froman acknowledged that there have been few examples of international gains in times of crisis. "The depression was made 'great' by the lack of cooperation," he said, noting that nations like to keep control over their own fiscal and monetary policies.

And global leaders were quarreling up to the last minute before the summit.

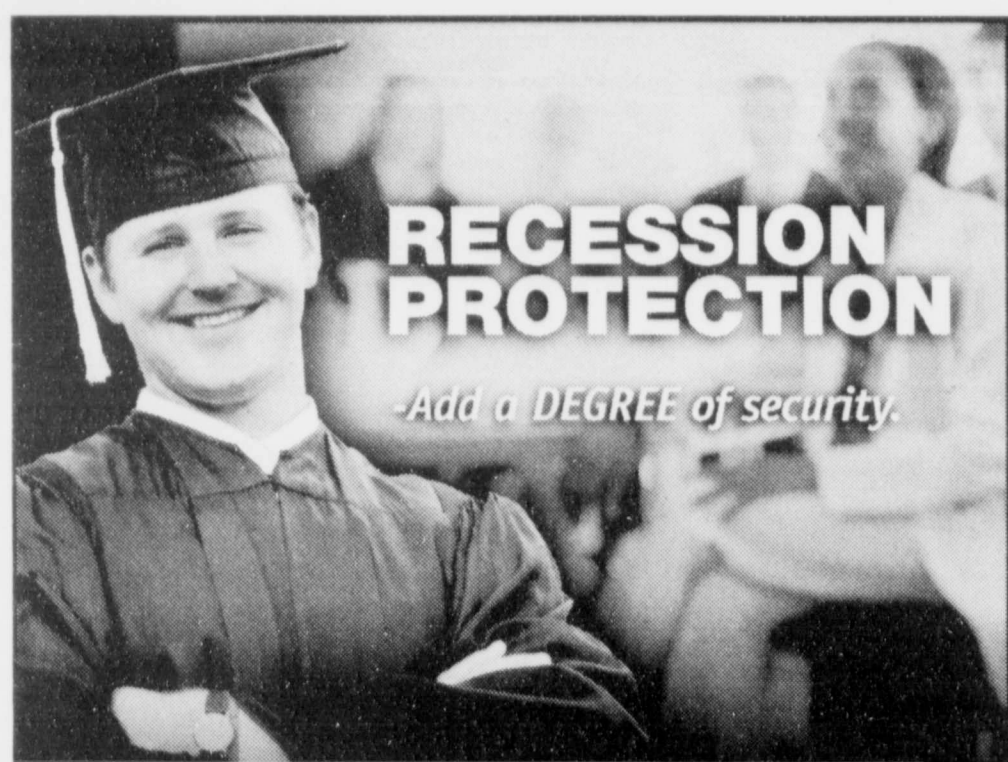
Adding to the pressure, French President Nicolas Sarkozy said Tuesday the leaders cannot afford to let the week pass without making substantial progress in fixing the world's economy.

"We have to obtain results, there is no choice, the crisis is too serious to allow us to have a summit for nothing," he said.

European countries are pushing for a tougher regulatory system for global finance, while the U.S. is emphasizing more spending — an idea that holds little interest for Europeans wary about debt.

Obama planned a round of meetings with leaders on Wednesday, including Queen Elizabeth II, summit host British Prime Minister

see Summit, page 2



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Summit

continued from page 1

Gordon Brown and the presidents of Russia and China.

The world economy is in far worse shape than when the group of rich and developing countries last met in November and set lofty goals for international cooperation.

Trade is deteriorating, protectionism is on the march and joblessness is rising. Street demonstrations have increased, and widespread protests are expected in London this week.

Brown, the host, had initially trumpeted the gathering as "a new Bretton Woods — a new financial architecture for the years ahead." But the meeting was shaping up as bearing little similarity to the 1944 conference in New Hampshire where the winners of World War II gathered to set postwar global monetary and financial order.

Brown's spokesman said the prime minister had spoken briefly by telephone on Tuesday with Obama, who was on Air Force One.

"It's an opportunity for both of them to take stock of where we were," Brown's spokesman Michael Ellam said.

World Bank President Robert Zoellick called for the G20 to back a \$50 billion liquidity fund to keep global trade moving. In rich countries, he said, "people talk of bonuses or no bonuses. In parts of Africa, South Asia and Latin America, the struggle is for food or no

food."

London does not have a good history for successful economic summits. One held in London in 1933, attended by more than 1,000 world leaders and financial officials — although not President Franklin D. Roosevelt — met for six weeks and then gave up.

Still, most leaders were upbeat Tuesday as they headed to London.

"It is important and necessary for the summit to take credible decisions which will help to halt and reverse the current slowdown and to instill a sense of confidence in the global economy," said Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh.

Summit partners will meet for dinner on Wednesday evening, then hold a business meeting on Thursday.

A draft of the communique circulating ahead of the meeting suggested that global leaders will embrace stimulus spending totaling about \$2 trillion. But that includes a number of measures already announced.

Leaders of European countries, led by Germany's Angela Merkel, continued to resist calls for more stimulus and for printing money as the U.S. Federal Reserve and the Bank of England have done to try to jump-start a recovery.

Memories of the hyperinflation in the 1920s in Germany that gave way to the rise of Adolf Hitler's Nazi party still haunt modern-day Germany.

On Wednesday, Obama will have separate meetings with Brown, Russian President Dmitry Med-

vedev, and with Chinese President Hu Jintao.

With Moscow, the agenda will include disputes over energy, Russia's continued opposition to U.S. missile defense sites in Eastern Europe and warhead cutbacks. Obama has indicated less enthusiasm for the missile system than predecessor George W. Bush, raising hopeful expectations in Moscow. But Russian leaders have engaged in tough talk lately in terms regaining their own status in the world, posing an early test for Obama.

Obama's meeting with Hu is likely to touch on recent Chinese concern about the safety of its vast holdings in U.S. Treasury bonds, given dollar-eroding U.S. stimulus programs. China surpassed Japan last year as the largest holder of U.S. debt, and any Chinese flight away from those investments would rock global markets.

On the way to Europe, Obama aides made clear expectations have been lowered.

Instead of focusing on the additional stimulus spending the U.S. had sought, White House press secretary Robert Gibbs emphasized what already has been accomplished. G20 nations have spent so far an amount equal to 1.8 percent of their collective gross domestic product, he said, calling that "a significant commitment."

Gibbs also said he expects a joint pledge that the leaders will act further if developments warrant, and he said that commitment satisfies Obama. He also touted new regulatory proposals and the intention to boost contributions to the IMF.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Non Profit:

Americorps/Cal Poly Student Life and Leadership
 Dept. of Social Services, County of San Luis Obispo
 Peace Corps
 Economic Opportunity Commission of San Luis Obispo
 Family Care Network
 Options Family of Services
 SARP Center
 Student Conservation Association
 Teach for America
 Transitions Mental Health Association

School Districts:

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 Los Gatos – Saratoga High School District
 Hanford Elementary School District
 Campbell Union High School District
 Cupertino Union School District
 San Benito High School District
 Edison School District
 Franklin McKinley School District
 Kern High School District
 Cupertino Union School District
 Morgan Hill Unified School District
 Mt. Diablo Unified School District
 Santa Clara Unified School District
 Bakersfield City School District
 Salinas Union High School District

Government:

Tri-Counties Regional Center
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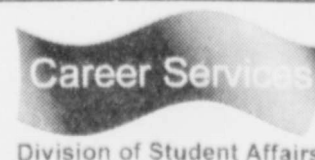
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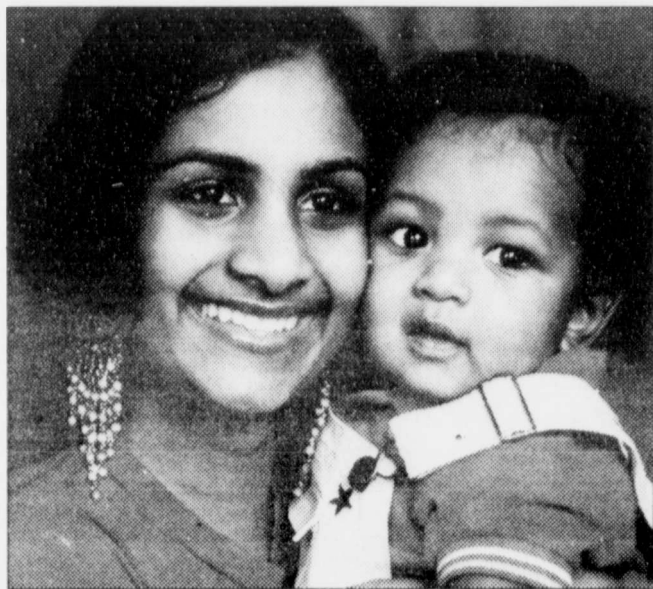
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Experts: Cult member not insane despite odd plea

ASSOCIATED PRESS/
COURTESY OF SEETA
KHADAN-NEWTON

Ria Ramkissoon and her son Javon Thompson, who who was involved with a group that calls itself 1 Mind Ministries, is going on trial in Baltimore Circuit Court.



Ben Nuckols
ASSOCIATED PRESS

A former religious cult member who helped starve her son to death believes he will be resurrected, but legal experts say her extreme faith doesn't make her criminally insane.

The mother made an extraordinary deal with prosecutors Monday that her guilty plea to child abuse resulting in death will be withdrawn if her 1-year-old son, Javon Thompson, comes back to life. Law experts and psychiatrists said there was no problem with the agreement because Ria Ramkissoon, 22, was mentally competent and freely entered into the deal, and extreme religious beliefs aren't deemed insane by law.

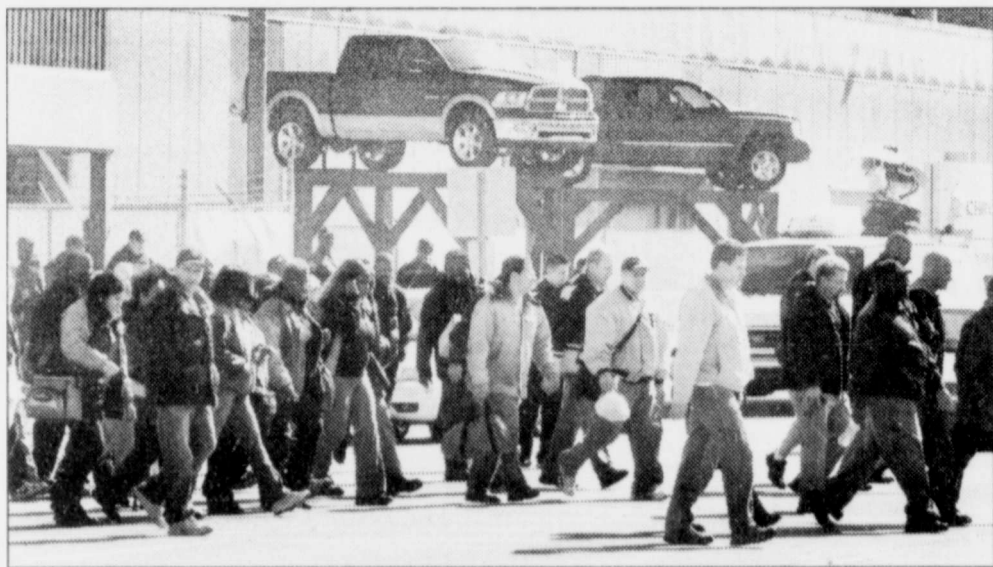
"To say that someone is crazy because they have be-

liefs is very difficult," said Dr. Jonas Rapoport, a retired forensic psychiatrist and the former chief medical officer for Baltimore Circuit Court. "If I believe that God wants me to starve my child, that gets close to the edge, but it's very questionable as to calling that an illness that would exonerate someone for a crime."

The boy died more than two years ago when cult members stopped feeding him because he refused to say "Amen" after a meal, according to a statement of facts. His body was hidden in a suitcase packed with mothballs and fabric softener sheets behind a home in Philadelphia for more than a year.

On Monday, Ramkissoon answered a series of questions from Baltimore Circuit Judge Timothy J. Doory about whether she understood what she was doing when she pleaded guilty. A court psychiatrist wrote she was both competent to stand trial and criminally responsible for her son's death.

Workers say Obama treated autos worse than Wall St.



CARLOS OSORIO ASSOCIATED PRESS

United Auto Workers members leave the first shift at Chrysler's Warren Truck Assembly in Warren, Mich., Monday, March 9, 2009. Members of the Obama administration's auto task force visited the plant that builds the Dodge Ram truck.

Jeff Karoub
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Many assembly line autoworkers reacted with skepticism and anger Monday to the Obama administration's tough tactics, which stoked long-simmering feelings that the people who put the country on wheels get treated differently than the wizards of Wall Street.

"It's the age-old Wall Street vs. Main Street smackdown again," said Brian Fredline, president of UAW Local 602 at a plant near Lansing. "You have all kinds of funding available to banks that are apparently too big to fail, but they're also too big to be responsible."

"But when it comes to auto manufacturing and middle-class jobs and people that don't matter on Wall Street, there are certainly different standards that we have to meet — higher standards — than the financials. That is a double standard that exists and it's unfair," Fredline said.

Many workers — not generally known for their affection toward executives — even sympathized with Rick Wagoner, who was forced to step down as chief executive of General Motors Corp. He was by turns called a "sacrificial lamb," "scapegoat" and "fall guy."

"We knew someone was going to have to take the proverbial 'bullet,' and it would have made it a lot easier to accept that had the CEOs of the banks also been required to give up their jobs," said Jim Graham, president of a union local in Lordstown, Ohio, where GM produces the Cobalt and Pontiac G5 fuel-efficient cars.

While CEO oustings haven't been widespread among the bank-

ing industry, the government did in September reserve the right to remove senior management at American International Group Inc. as part of its agreement to give the insurer \$85 billion in emergency aid. AIG Chief Executive Robert Willumstad stepped down as part of that company's bailout package, and the government hand-picked his successor.

Also, banks don't have the union and legacy costs that the automakers do, which make their products more costly versus foreign rivals.

President Barack Obama said he was "absolutely committed" to the survival of a domestic auto industry that can compete internationally. He raised the possibility of controlled bankruptcy for one or both of the troubled automakers.

Obama said the administration will offer GM "adequate working capital" during the next 60 days to produce an acceptable reorganization plan. The government gave Chrysler LLC 30 days to overcome hurdles to a merger with Fiat SpA, the Italian automaker.

Many workers say the government hasn't dictated such terms to insurance giant AIG or the banks in which it's taken an ownership stake. Obama's actions come amid public outrage over bonuses paid to business leaders and AIG executives.

"To see the very people that drove this economy into the ground be rewarded through bonuses while receiving tax dollars is just galling," said Dan Maloney, a machine repairman at auto supplier Delphi Corp.'s plant in Rochester, N.Y., and a union local president. "In light of that, the administration is taking it out, I believe, on the automotive sector."

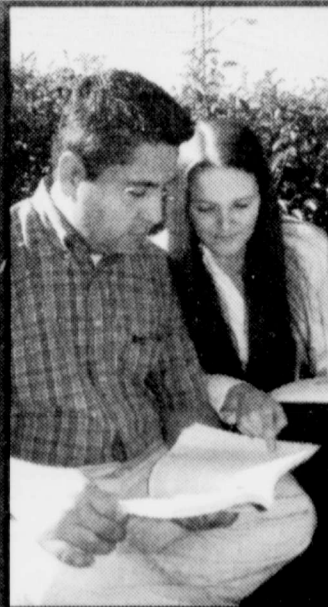
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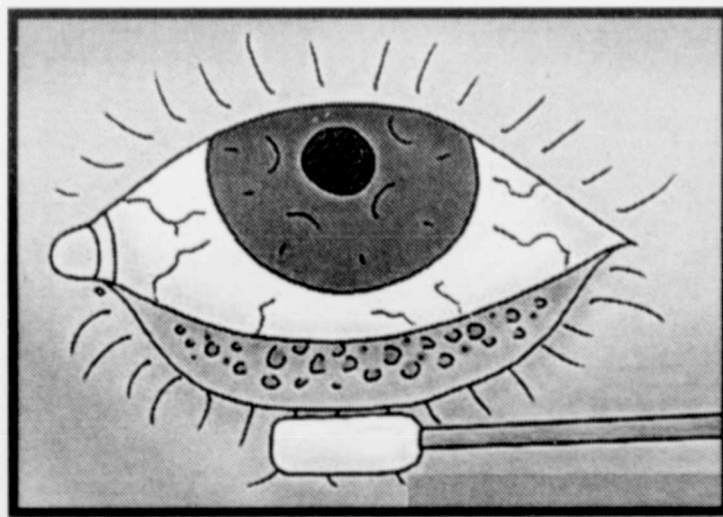
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Pistachio warning could signal food safety shift



GARY KAZANJIAN ASSOCIATED PRESS

Workers at Setton International Foods Inc. head back to work after a break Tuesday in Terra Bella, Calif. The company at the center of a nationwide pistachio recall says it believes the salmonella contamination is likely not from a human or animal source inside their plant.

Garance Burke
ASSOCIATED PRESS

It could take weeks before health officials know exactly which pistachio products may be tainted with salmonella, but they've already issued a sweeping warning to avoid eating the nuts or foods containing them.

The move appears to indicate a shift in how the government handles food safety issues — from waiting until contaminated foods surface one-by-one and risking that more people fall ill to jumping on the problem right away, even if the message is vague.

Officials wouldn't say if the approach was in response to any perceived mishandling of the massive peanut recall that started last year, only that they're trying to keep people from getting sick as new details surface about the California plant at the center of the pistachio scare.

"What's different here is that we are being very proactive and are putting out a broad message with the goal of trying to minimize the likelihood of consumer exposure," said Dr. David Acheson, FDA's assistant commissioner for food safety. "The only logical advice to consumers is to say 'OK consumers, put pistachios on hold while we work this out. We don't want you exposed, we don't want you getting salmonella.'"

Dr. Joshua Sharfstein, the president's new acting commissioner who started Monday, made it clear staff needed to move quickly, Acheson said.

The agency announced Monday that Setton Pistachio of Terra Bella Inc., the second-largest pistachio processor in the nation, recalled more than 2 million pounds of its roasted pistachios.

Suspect nuts were shipped as far away as Norway and Mexico, Acheson said Tuesday. One week after authorities first learned of the problem, they still had little idea what products were at risk, he said.

As federal health inspectors take swabs inside the plant to try to identify a salmonella source, a whole range of products from nut bars to ice cream and cake mixes remain in limbo on grocery shelves.

Company officials said Tuesday they suspected their roasted pistachios may have been contaminated by salmonella-tainted raw nuts they were processed with at the hulking facility.

Roasting is supposed to kill the

bacteria in nuts. But problems can occur if the roasting is not done correctly or if roasted nuts are re-exposed to bacteria.

The firm sells its California-grown pistachios to giants of the food industry such as Kraft Foods Inc., as well as 36 wholesalers across the country.

"We care about our business and our customers greatly," said Lee Cohen, the production manager for Setton International Foods Inc., a sister company to Setton Pistachios. "We've never had an illness complaint before but obviously this affects the whole industry. It's not good."

California supplies 99.99 percent of the U.S. pistachio market, according to the California Pistachio Board.

"What's scary is that it's after the nuts have been processed that this stuff is getting into it, so it really makes you wonder," said Marcia Rowland, an avid pistachio eater in Apopka, Fla.

The FDA learned about the problem March 24, when Kraft notified the agency that routine product testing had detected salmonella in roasted pistachios. Kraft and the Georgia Nut Co. recalled their Back to Nature Nantucket Blend trail mix the next day and expanded the recall to include any Planters and Back to Nature products that contain pistachios Tuesday.

Kraft spokeswoman Laurie Guzzinati said her company's auditors visited the plant early last week, and "observed employee practices where raw and roasted nuts were not adequately segregated and that could explain the sporadic contamination."

She said she didn't know specifically what they saw.

Federal inspectors last visited the plant in 2003, and the California Department of Public Health was there last year, Acheson said. Federal officials made note of several problems — an open door into one of the nut rooms, and an employee wearing street clothes that weren't adequately covered — but nothing that posed a food safety threat, he said.

Acheson said management corrected the problems that day, and said he did not have access to California inspectors' records.

Cohen said the plant had never had an illness complaint, followed industry health guidelines and had its huge metal silos and warehouse inspected regularly, but refused to provide additional details or records.

see Nuts, page 5

Auto

continued from page 5

Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm called Obama's moves "a bit of tough love," yet recognized a disconnect between the financial and auto industries.

"Yes, I do think that there has been a different look at those who manufacture than those who make money by flipping paper and I'm hopeful that the financial industry gets as tough a scrutiny as the auto industry has," she told reporters after an event Monday in Macomb County's Clinton Township, about 20 miles northeast of Detroit.

Despite Granholm's criticism

and what many workers saw as the president's unduly harsh treatment, Obama's actions might not have a lasting effect on voters.

"It will be accepted, grudgingly perhaps, but accepted by anybody and everybody with a brain in their heads," said Bill Ballenger, editor of a Michigan political newsletter and a former Republican state lawmaker.

Still, Bill Rustem of Public Sector Consultants, a Lansing-based nonpartisan think tank, said Obama's actions carry some risk.

"I think this could have some impact four years from now if the state's economy doesn't begin to turn around," he said. Michigan's unemployment rate rose to 12 percent in February, marking the

eight straight monthly increase.

Workers watched Obama on large-screen TVs in the lobby bar of a hotel in Detroit's Renaissance Center, home to GM's headquarters. Several wearing GM badges declined to comment afterward, but one man whose fortunes are nearly as tied to GM as its employees expressed hope for the future of the company and industry.

"It's definitely a move in the right direction," said Tony Keros, who owns a restaurant and real estate development firm in the building. "Something has to happen."

In Ohio, Graham agreed that Washington just might get it right — if only because the stakes are too high to fail.

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Thomas Cheapshot

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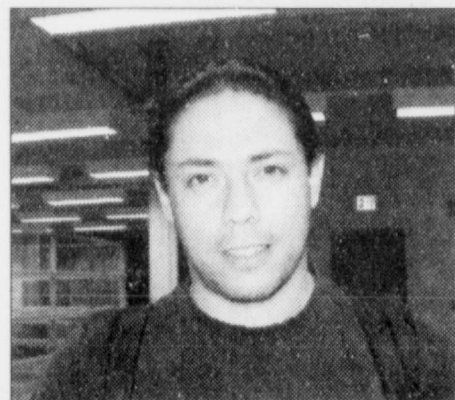
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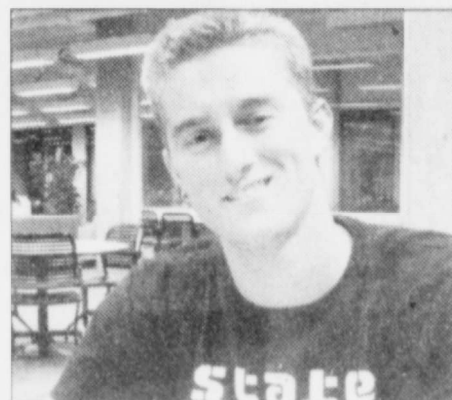
"I don't have Internet so I came to use the Internet to do some research for my architecture project and Skype with my parents."

-Paul Diaz,
architecture sophomore



"I laid out in the front of Yosemite Hall and read a book for nutrition and went to the gym."

-Heather Donovan,
nutrition freshman



"I went to Pismo and played volleyball, barbecued and visited with friends."

-Zachary Dietz,
philosophy senior



"I spent it at the beach and came to work (at Julian's Café)."

-Shannon Allen,
animal science senior

Nuts

continued from page 4

Several plaques on the firm's office walls showed the firm won industry awards for food safety excellence.

No illness have been tied to contaminated pistachios. Two people called the FDA complaining of gastrointestinal illness that could be associated with the nuts, but the link

hasn't been confirmed, Acheson said.

While consumer advocates praised the government's swift action, they said the pistachio recall illustrated that more oversight was needed.

"It is encouraging that this response was so quick, but we need to move to a system that focuses on prevention through the entire food production process," said Jeff Levi, executive director of Trust for America's Health.

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State

SPRECKELS, Calif. (AP) — A violent sexual predator has been released from a state hospital and is living in a Salinas Valley vineyard home about eight miles south of Spreckels.

James Lamb molested more than 50 children in rural Spreckels.

Superior Court Judge Richard Curtis says Lamb will be monitored by a GPS system and he's prohibited from using a computer or a car.

It's been nearly two years since the 51-year-old Lamb was ordered released under California's Sexually Violent Predator program.

...
SACRAMENTO (AP) —

California has banned use of a voting machine produced by a Texas company, saying it contains serious software flaws.

Secretary of State Debra Bowen announced Tuesday that she had withdrawn approval for Premier Election Solutions' Global Election Management System version 1.18.19.

She said the machine contains a software error that can delete a first batch of optically scanned ballots without alerting election officials.

National

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — One family offered their home to anyone left homeless by flooding, even sharing their security entry code. When another couple lost their house, total strangers showed up at their hotel with chicken dinners, brownies and quilts.

In the neighborly spirit synonymous with North Dakota, some people have given out their phone numbers on radio talk shows, offering shelter to any listeners in need.

...

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — High wind expected from the storm was the biggest worry for flood-weary Fargo on the eastern edge of North Dakota. Monday's storm closed hundreds of miles of highway and shutting government offices and schools. At least five deaths were blamed on the storm.

The National Weather Service posted blizzard warnings across sections of the Dakotas, Wyoming and Montana. It said more than 16 inches of snow had fallen by early Monday night in the Bismarck area, only about 2 inches away from tying the record 101.06 inches set during the winter of 1996-1997.

International

MOSCOW (AP) — Imprisoned former oil tycoon Mikhail Khodorkovsky returned to a Moscow courtroom cage on Tuesday for a new trial on multibillion-dollar embezzlement and money-laundering charges that his lawyer called "crazy."

The politically charged trial will go a long way toward forging the image of Russia under President Dmitry Medvedev.

...

BEIJING (AP) — China on Tuesday denied a research report's contention that a China-based computer spy ring stole sensitive information from thousands of hard drives worldwide, calling the accusation a lie meant to feed anxiety over Beijing's growing influence.

In the government's first reaction to the report, Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang said the conclusions were symptoms of a "Cold War virus" that causes people overseas to "occasionally be overcome by China-threat seizures."

The report by the Information Warfare Monitor added to growing concerns that China has become a center for cyber-warfare, spying and crime.

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CT scan reveals hidden face under Nefertiti bust

Patrick McGroarty
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BERLIN — Researchers in Germany have used a modern medical procedure to uncover a secret within one of ancient Egypt's most treasured artworks — the bust of Nefertiti has two faces.

A team led by Dr. Alexander Huppertz, director of the Imaging Science Institute at Berlin's Charité hospital and medical school, discovered a detailed stone carving that differs from the external stucco face when they performed a computed tomography, or CT, scan on the bust.

The findings, published Tuesday in the monthly journal *Radiology*, are the first to show that the stone core of the statue is a highly detailed sculpture of the queen, Huppertz said.

"Until we did this scan, how deep the stucco was and whether a second face was underneath it was unknown," he said. "The hypothesis was that the stone underneath was just a support."

The differences between the fac-

es, though slight, creases at the corners of the mouth, a bump on the nose of the stone version, suggest to Huppertz that someone expressly ordered the adjustments between stone and stucco when royal sculptors immortalized the wife of Pharaoh Akhenaten 3,300 years ago.

"Changes were made, but some of them are positive, others are negative," Huppertz said.

John H. Taylor, a curator for Ancient Egypt and Sudan at the British Museum in London, said the scan raises interesting questions about why the features were adjusted, but that answers will probably remain elusive.

"One could deduce that the final version was considered in some way more acceptable than the 'hidden' one, though caution is needed in attempting to explain the significance of these changes," Taylor wrote in an e-mail.

The bust underwent a similar CT scan in 1992. But the more primitive scanner used then only generated cross sections of the statue every 5 millimeters, not enough detail, Huppertz said, to reveal the subtlety of

the carving hidden just 1-2 millimeters under the stucco.

Egyptologist Ludwig Borchardt discovered the bust in 1912 and added it to Berlin's Egyptian collection on Museum Island, a cluster of five neoclassical art halls that make up one of the city's most familiar landmarks.

Currently on display at the Altes Museum, the bust will move next door when the Neues Museum re-



FRITZ REISS
ASSOCIATED PRESS
The Nefertiti bust is seen here displayed in Berlin. Researchers in Germany have used a modern medical procedure to uncover a secret within one of ancient Egypt's most treasured artworks — the bust of Nefertiti has two faces.

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opens in October after a lengthy restoration by British architect David Chipperfield.

In 2007, Wildung denied a request from Egypt's antiquities chief to borrow the bust for an exhibition, saying it was too fragile to transport. Huppertz said the results of his scan added credence to that claim.

Taylor, the British Museum cu-

rator, said the better understanding of the bust's structure will also help preserve it.

"The findings are particularly significant for the information they shed on the constructional process and the subsurface condition of the bust, which will be of value in ensuring its long-term survival in good condition" Taylor said.

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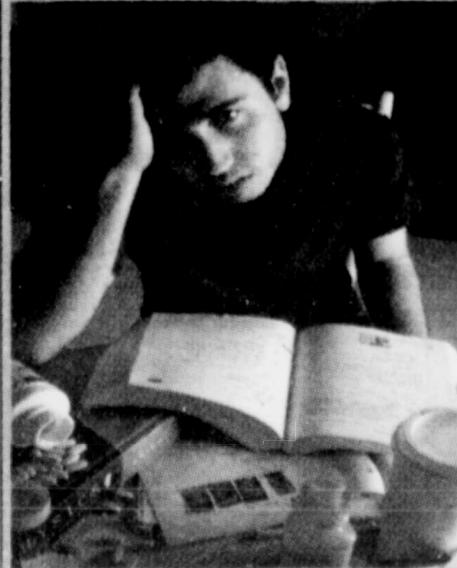
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Twitter could be the demise of tabloid magazines

twitter

Home Profile Find People Settings Help Sign out

Lauren Rabaino
MUSTANG DAILY

Candid photos, home-made video, details of their personal lives— what more could celebrity-crazed America want from their favorite stars? And even better, all that voyeuristic content is being produced by the celebrities themselves, posted to the Internet instantaneously.

With the publishing-made-easy format of the social network, Twitter gives celebrities their own voices and the ability to connect directly with their fans — instantly and whenever they want.

Back up, what is it?

Twitter is a micro-blogging Web site. Unlike Facebook or Myspace, there are no photo albums or walls, just 140 character status updates that can be made from the web or a cell phone. It's painfully simple, but highly effective.

Once you sign up for Twitter, you can "follow" other people. You don't have to know them personally, you just have to be interested in what those people

are talking about. Twitter is all about the conversation.

Celebrities on Twitter

By using Twitter, celebrities don't have to go through a public relations person or hold a press conference or a backstage event to talk to fans or clear up rumors. Celebrities can just be themselves and say what's on their minds.

And that's just what they do. "You have two choices on a boat rocking in rough seas," musician song-writer John Mayer tweeted Monday evening while traveling. "Think about getting sick or play Van Halen and pretend it's an amusement park ride."

Mayer twitters so frequently that it cost him his relationship with Jennifer Aniston (a non-twitterer), but that's another column in and of itself.

Other stars in the Twitterverse are Ashton Kutcher and his wife Demi Moore, P-Diddy, Jimmy Fallon, Shaquille O'Neal, Lance Armstrong and Ellen Degeneres, just to name a few of the most popular.

Authentic vs. ghost twitterers

First we need to make a distinction. There's a difference between true celebrity Twitterers and celebrities who hire public relations staff to update their Twitter (and you can always tell the difference). All of the aforementioned twitterers update their own accounts from their computers and cell phones.

Britney Spears and Barack Obama are examples of famous people who don't maintain their own accounts.

"Make sure you guys vote for Britney in Time Magazine's 100 most influential people!" tweeted her manager, Adam Leber, last week.

Spears' account is updated very infrequently and by people other than herself, thus eliminating the freedom factor. It's far less interesting than authentic twitterers who let us into their minds and lives without the oversight of managers.

How celebs are connecting to their fans

see Twitter, page 8

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comic column

More than Marvel's Batman clone

So I figured that it is a new quarter and it's time for me to do something new: Review a Marvel comic. For all of you Marvel comics fans out there I'm sorry, but most of the comics that Marvel puts out are, well, crap.

I understand the appeal of big-name heroes, like Captain America, Spiderman, and the like, but when you get right down to it, modern Marvel comics have been plagued by awful writing. Marvel isn't alone in this endeavor, but it seems to be the rule rather than the exception for Marvel comics as of late. I mean, how many X-Men titles can you possibly have at once? And don't even get me started about the recent universe-wide event, "Secret Invasion."

However, I have to admit, I've been a big fan of Marvel's re-examination of an offbeat character dating back to superhero comics' weaker years, the '70s and '80s, that of Moon Knight.

Moon Knight appears to be a direct knockoff of DC's greatest detective, Batman. Like Batman, Moon Knight fights crime at night, uses an array of gadgets, like the all too similar moon shaped "batarangs," has a secret lair under his mansion and so on.

But there are some immense differences between Moon Knight and Batman that set him apart, like his origin. Prior to Moon Knight's hero days, he was an ex-military mercenary, working for men without a conscience. On his last such mission, the would-be Moon Knight, whose real name is Marc Spector, refused to bow to the whims of his would-be nemesis Bushman, and was murdered in an Egyptian tomb of the god Khonshu, the god of Vengeance. Lying in the tomb, Khonshu offered Spector a second chance at life, his avatar in this world, at the price of enacting his vengeance upon evil men.

Thus Moon Knight is at a moral quandary: To keep the blessing of Khonshu, he must kill evil men, but in doing so he questions the justice of his own actions. And the questions continue. Is Marc Spector truly speaking to a long forgotten Egyptian god of vengeance, or is he merely mad? Are the alter-egos Spector has created beneficial to his battle against evil, or are they helping him lose his grasp on reality? Can Moon Knight bridge the gap between his

command to kill evil men, and his own moral concerns?

As you can probably see, Moon Knight is not just a crappy Batman, but a glimpse into the human psyche. I was really astonished by this when I first picked up issue No. 1 of the new Moon Knight series back in 2006. I was even more taken aback when I picked up the collected issues of the first Moon Knight series, and realized how good they were back when Marvel and DC were plagued with mullets, anti-drug propaganda and horrible plot lines.

If you're like me and have a grudge against recent Marvel comics, or just want to read something a little different than the typical superhero story, where villains get punched in the face over and over, then pick up a copy of collected Moon Knight stories, either "Moon Knight Volume 1" or "Moon Knight: The Bottom." You won't be disappointed. Well, unless you think comics are dumb. Then you might be.

Jon Monteith is a history senior and Mustang Daily's comic book columnist.



COURTESY PHOTO

Moon Knight struggles against evil villains and his own personal demons in Marvel's recent comic.

COMIC BOOK RELIEF

POW!

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BY JON MONTEITH

PRODUCED BY MUSTANG DAILY

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BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER #24
CHRONICLES OF CONAN TP VOL 17 CREATION QUEST
HELM TP VOL 1
STAR WARS OMNIBUS EMISSARIES & ASSASSINS

DC:

BATMAN #686
BATMAN BATTLE FOR THE COWL MAN BAT #1
FLASH REBIRTH #1 (OF 5)
JONAH HEX #42
JUSTICE SOCIETY OF AMERICA #25
SUPERMAN BATMAN #57

IMAGE:

ASTOUNDING WOLF-MAN #14
SAVAGE DRAGON #146

MARVEL:

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #590
AVENGERS INVADERS #9 (OF 12)
CABLE #13
CAPTAIN AMERICA COMICS 70TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL #1
X-MEN FIRST CLASS FINALS #3 (OF 4)

Twitter

continued from page 7

Katie Tamse, a student in Maryland, recently received a custom-made Twitter background from Mayer himself.

"I am looking for someone that I can design a Twitter page for," Mayer tweeted. "Best reply wins a hand-drawn, scanned and e-mailed background for their page."

Tamse's winning response: "I should win because I wrote a three page paper based (off) something you said about iPods!"

Shortly after Mayer announced that Tamse was the winner, he asked her via Twitter to tell him more about herself so he could incorporate personal elements into the art.

In no other medium would a celebrity be able to interact with fans so directly and easily.

And he's not only doing it in the

cyberworld.

Last week, Mayer posted a photo of his friend and his brother on Twitter with an address and said the first two to find them get free tickets to his Mayercraft concert — including backstage access. The two winners had their photos taken by Mayer and posted to his Twitter.

What it means for tabloids

There's a whole new relationship developing between the common people and the stars.

Although it won't be enough to put the tabloids out of business yet, the potential is there.

Celebrities are filling the voyeuristic void fans crave without being filtered through the sensationalism of mass media.

From their cell phones and within their homes, celebs are posting photos and videos from their lives. The best example of this is Ashton Kutcher and Demi Moore,

who stream live video from their home via a cell phone camera.

Through Twitter, celebrities are showing us the thoughts that tabloid-based "friend-of-a-friend" sources could never reveal. We're hearing about their lives straight from their mouths (or keyboards, rather).

And then there's the flip side: They're reading about our lives at the same time. Unlike a tabloid that exploits the famous in a one-way channel, Twitter allows for the two-way interaction.

So while the death of the tabloid or "E!" news may still be decades in the distance, it's not impossible. As the Internet continues to evolve, it will only open more doors for the famous and the rest of us to communicate freely.

Lauren Rabaino is a journalism sophomore and the Mustang Daily online and multimedia editor.

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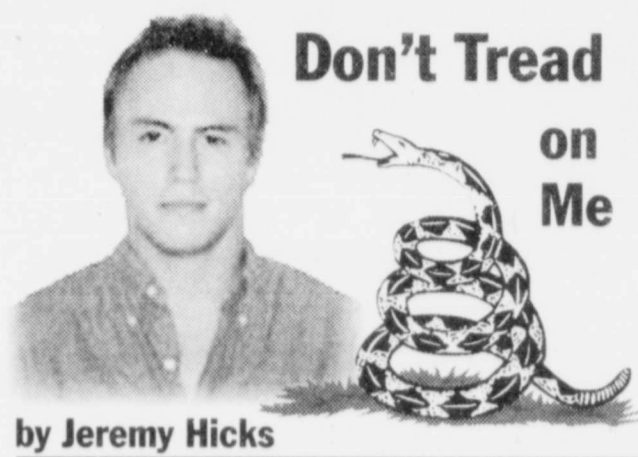
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Mustang Daily

"I want my nuts to be good for me."

What's in a degree?

An education by other means could be worth as much



by Jeremy Hicks

Today, let us be bold and venture a question which is almost taboo to our social class: Is the college degree worthwhile?

Many more students are attending college than any time in history. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, almost 70 percent of recent high school graduates matriculate at some college or another. Politicians and educators hail this as an absolute success, a trend which we should devote our nation's resources towards accelerating and increasing.

But such an endeavor lacks some basic ingredients of common sense. Believe it or not, the college degree holds little utility for most careers. It is best reserved as a special and costly option for those with particularly keen academic appetites or those in pursuit of careers requiring years of rigorous specialization, like medicine.

For the rest of us, those of average intelligence, average aspirations, and fated to toil in average careers, the college degree is a bit of a waste, to put it mildly. The majority of college graduates will tell you this without hesitation. Their degree has little to no relevance to what they spend their careers doing. Whatever particular knowledge and skills required are generally imparted by the employer himself.

So why make such extraordinary sacrifices, both in time and money, to earn a degree which has little relevance to your future?

Maybe you are an academic purist, here for enlightenment? Splendid. But I have to ask the obvious question. Why do you spend thousands on an education that could be obtained for free at the library? Perhaps you're not the most sensible intellectual.

For the rest of you, the great majority of you, you're here for a very simple reason: to improve your career prospects. You've been told that there is an unshakeable correlation between a college degree and a successful, comfortable career.

But there is little guarantee, despite all the shrill rhetoric, that a college degree will lead to a certain income bracket, and that guarantee is worth less now than ever. The supply of college graduates has grown by leaps and bounds, but one must ask, do jobs suiting and rewarding these applicants' credentials just magically appear? Is the creation of college graduates balanced by a similar number of jobs requiring college degrees? An increase in supply does not necessitate a concomitant increase in demand.

But that can't be true! You've been told that you live in a "knowledge-based economy." We all know that this unclear phrase is meant to imply that a college degree is a good thing, even a requirement for many jobs, and, as if by some

dark, secret magic, the need for college graduates is only going to grow. Superficially, this might appear so. After all, more and more jobs insist on a college credential to even be considered for employment.

But this prejudicial practice on the part of employers is not so much an endorsement of the college degree as it is a rebuke against the high school degree. The college degree serves as a screen to potential employers, a stamp or certification if you will. Formerly, high school served as a sufficient screen, and a high school degree was perfectly respectable and capable of opening many doors of opportunity.

But high school is no longer the factory it once was, putting out useful, educated young adults, ready to be incorporated into productive society. Now, it is merely an institution where decent, intelligent children are inputted at the beginning and are released four years later, astonishingly unprepared for life, unnaturally ignorant, offensively insolent and plagued with enough STDs to warrant a mass quarantine.

Employers are perfectly aware of this development, or this decline, rather, and most refuse to grant the high school degree any more respect than a piece of toilet paper. And who can blame them?

But for just about all of us, particularly liberal arts majors, a decent high school education would have been perfectly sufficient to equip us for our future career. We certainly have very little claim to a higher salary because of our college degree.

The simple, sad reality is that a college degree has become a necessary credential in our age because the high school degree has lost almost all value.

I hate to bruise that expansive sense of elitism that has been so carefully cultivated along your trajectory to college, but despite what you may have been told, you're not getting ahead in college. You're simply making up for the backwardness of your high school education, graciously provided at no cost to you by the ever generous spirit of the taxpayer.

Jeremy Hicks is a 2008 political science graduate, the founder of the Cal Poly Libertarian Club and a Mustang Daily political columnist.



BAPRIE MAGUIRE NEWSART

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Don't be fooled by Liberal Lens arguments

Liberals use the same argument every time teacher performance pay comes up. Either they're just stupid, or they are getting paid off by the teachers union. Teachers are the only people in the entire country who don't get reviewed on their performance, and the result shows in the quality of our public educa-

tion system. Making teachers work is not a bad thing, unless of course you're a teacher.

Despite what liberals claim, our state, and our country as a whole, spend a lot of money on education, but sadly money doesn't fix education by itself. The prime example of this is Washington, D.C. which has one of the highest per-pupil expenditure rates and also has the abso-

lute worst public school system in the entire country. The other liberal argument that galls me is that charter schools help widen the gap between rich and poor. This is utter bollocks; the places that charter schools have worked the best are in poor minority areas like Chicago, New York, and Washington, D.C. Even if there is a shred of truth to the argument that wealthy areas are

helped disproportionately, so what? Shouldn't every student get the best education he or she can, no matter what? Holding back certain kids in order to keep the gap narrow between good and bad students is a disastrous policy for everyone, no matter what their income level is.

Richard Vinson

business administration junior

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comics and games

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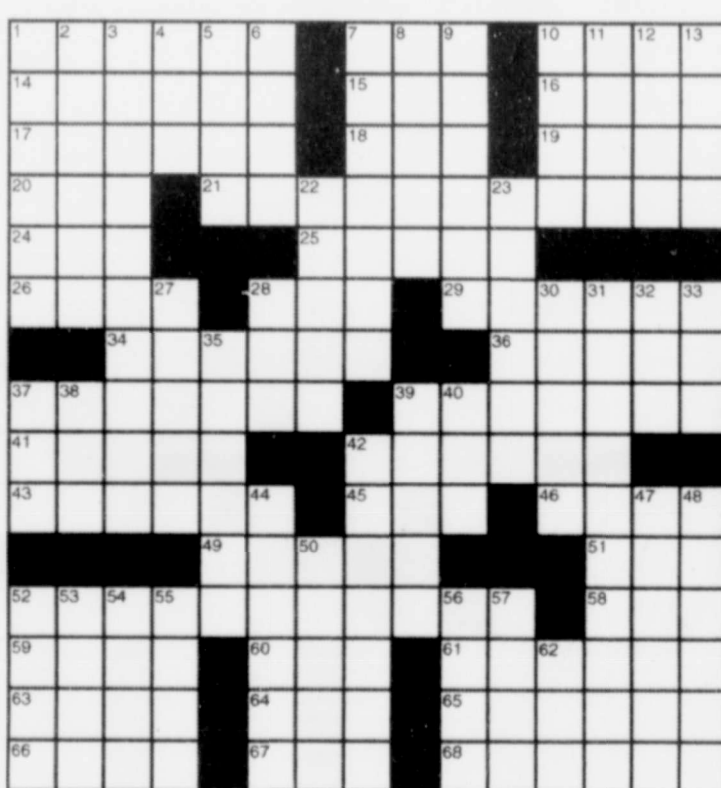
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No. 0225

- Across**
- 1 Base coat
 - 7 "More than I need to know," in modern lingo
 - 10 Turn over
 - 14 U.S./Mexico border city
 - 15 Games org.
 - 16 Tiny bit
 - 17 Is nuts for
 - 18 Chart shape
 - 19 Littlest sucker
 - 20 Component of bronze
 - 21 Pulitzer Prize entries
 - 24 Big lug
 - 25 Web-footed animal
 - 26 Ride with runners
 - 28 ___ Zion Church
 - 29 Makes evolutionary changes
 - 34 Brand of clothing or energy drink
 - 36 Tickle
 - 37 Stand that a speaker might take
 - 39 Randomizing device
 - 41 Burgers on the hoof
 - 42 Meal on a blanket
 - 43 Even chance
 - 45 Old spy org.
 - 46 Resistance units
 - 49 Muhammad's pugilistic daughter
 - 51 Some jazz
 - 52 They may be served at the beach
 - 58 "... quit!"
 - 59 ORD or LAX figs.
 - 60 Above, to bards
 - 61 Indian encountered by Columbus
 - 63 When tripled, a 1970 war film
 - 64 My ___, Vietnam
 - 65 "___ Nacht" (German carol)
 - 66 Boarding pass datum
 - 67 Pro-___ (some tournaments)
 - 68 Dissed verbally
- Down**
- 1 "___ Republic"
 - 2 Michelin offering
 - 3 Some ornamental barriers
 - 4 Fruits de ___ (menu heading)
 - 5 Scene of a fall
 - 6 Sommelier's selection
 - 7 One with the inside track at the track?
 - 8 Like a towlette
 - 9 Summer cooler
 - 10 Singer Vikki
 - 11 Place for a thimble
 - 12 Ready to serve
 - 13 Rescue crew, briefly
 - 22 John's ode to Yoko
 - 23 Make a father of
 - 27 Spoils, with "on"
 - 28 ___ Lingus
 - 30 Prenatal test, for short
 - 31 Party servers
 - 32 Philosopher Lao-

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

TOPAZ MAAM TWERP
AMIGO OMNI IONIA
LATIN WIGGLEROOM
CRANEONESNECK
GRR TOOL LEG
MAP STYX NIAGARA
ITES HOBO SODOM
SWALLOWONESPRIDE
HIREE XKES PEER
ALLDONE PEGS SSS
PLY PEST TAX
HAWKONESWARES
PAPERTIGER ONENO
FJORD MAIN UDDER
CAPOS OSLO TOAST



Puzzle by Kelly Browder

- 33 Sun. speech
- 35 Schoolmaster's rod
- 37 W.W. II transport: Abbr.
- 38 Arena where 37-Downs were used: Abbr.
- 39 Rope fiber
- 40 CD burners
- 42 Star in Ursa Minor
- 44 Radio no-no
- 47 It may need boosting
- 48 What 21- and 52-Across and 3- and 31-Down might be
- 50 Construction girder
- 52 Checks out thoroughly
- 53 Oklahoma tribe
- 54 Zhivago's love
- 55 Aspiring atty.'s exam
- 56 Bonny one
- 57 Mex. miss
- 62 Grafton's "___ for Alibi"

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MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

Junior Robert Foy was the only victorious Mustang as Cal Poly was dominated by Stanford in Palo Alto yesterday.

Foy defeated Ted Kelly 6-4, 3-6, 10-7 at No. 6 singles to prevent the Cardinal (13-4) from a sweep of the day's matches.

The Mustangs (6-9) were able to keep the doubles matches competitive as Foy and his partner senior Darryn Young fell to Bradley Klahn and Ryan Thacher 8-5 at No. 1 doubles while the 34th

ranked team of Blake Muller and Richard Wire defeated senior Andrew Gerst and sophomore Alexander Sonesson 8-6 at No. 2 doubles. Freshman Andre Dome and Foy dropped a close 9-7 decision against Gregory Hirshman and Kelly.

The only other Cal Poly player to take a set was Sonesson at No. 4 singles as he fell to Muller 5-7, 6-4, 10-8.

The Mustangs, who are in the midst of three duals in three-consecutive days, play this afternoon at UC Santa Barbara.

Spartans

continued from page 12

time on the clock, Izzo missed the front end of a 1-and-1.

Every day since, he shoots 100 free throws to remind himself not to let another opportunity slip through his fingers. The young men who play for him learn that lesson early.

"He probably wants more for me than I want for myself," said senior Travis Walton, who's borne the brunt of Izzo's tough love for four years.

"I love him. I'm pretty sure he loves me the same. We're going to hopefully continue to ride each other," Walton added, "and ride this team."

Truth be told, it's mostly a one-way street, which is why Izzo seems perpetually gruff and his voice always hoarse. But he's not afraid to ask for help, either.

Last Monday at 9 a.m., already back on campus after the win over Southern California, Izzo made the short walk from a conference room to the video library to return the Louisville game tape he had been studying. The Spartans had to beat Kansas in Friday's Midwest Regional semifinal just to get a shot at the Cardinals, but Izzo believes in doing his homework early. When he ran into a visitor in the hallway, instead of being embarrassed by the prospect of looking too far ahead, he was uncharacteristically upbeat.

"I like our chances," he said breezily about a possible matchup against Louisville, the overall No. 1 seed.

But it was more than a hunch. Izzo's teams were a very impressive 29-10 overall in the NCAAAs at that point, but downright scary — 13-2 — in the second game of every round. He

revised the game plan for Louisville several times, including just ahead of Sunday's tip, but had no problem selling it to his players.

"One thing coach does is stick to his promises," Walton recalled. "He said, 'You get me through Friday, I'll do my best to get you through Sunday.'"

The Spartans cracked Louisville's vaunted pressure and minimized turnovers with smart guard play, then sliced up the half-court defense by deploying Goran Suton in the high post as a shooter or passer, depending on where the Cardinals' rotation broke down.

"It was a grind 'em game," Louisville coach Rick Pitino said afterward. "They're probably a little bit better at that style. We couldn't get out on a break as much as we wanted. The tempo was definitely in their favor."

Pitino knew what he was getting into. Leading up to the game, he couldn't have said more flattering things about Izzo if he tried. He praised him not just for doing things right on the court, but for the Michigan State program at every turn — subjects Pitino knows plenty about.

Louisville is his sixth head-coaching stop while Izzo, who's had almost as many suitors from the NBA and other top-shelf colleges, is still at his first. Soon after taking over from Jud Heathcote, he convinced his first big-time recruit, Mateen Cleaves out of gritty Flint, Mich., to stay home and help him build something to rival Kentucky, Kansas, North Carolina and Duke.

Izzo kept that promise, too. Every kid that stayed four years has made it to a Final Four. Michigan State can't boast the tradition those programs have, but he's making up ground in

a hurry. After Sunday's win, you only had to see him hugging Magic Johnson — who won the Spartans' only pre-Izzo title 30 years ago — to know how much he appreciated East Lansing's native son showing up to cheer the current crop on.

College basketball is a better place because Izzo is in it. For the week, Detroit might be, too.

The tough economic times have been reflected in the thinned-out crowds at nearly every tournament site this year. Until his Spartans made their reservations, predictions that crowds of 72,000 would fill up Ford Field for next weekend's game sounded like wishful thinking.

Now, maybe not.

Another Michigan State title, even in front of a packed house, won't begin to make a dent in Michigan's decades-long slump. You can't eat pride, after all. But if only for a short while, it would make everything else on a less-than-full plate taste just that little bit better.

Jim Litke is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press.

Movies

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fers the most recent James Bond films to get his heart racing.

For some of the softer hearts out there, because they still exist in the sports realm, a few recommended movies are "Love and Basketball" and "Hitch."

"I also like chick flicks like 'Hitch,'" Hanson said. "Just kidding, but I do like 'Hitch.' Is that a chick flick?"

If Cal Poly athletes are any indication, athletes enjoy the same films as people who have bricks for hands, weights for feet and Slinkies for arms. There is a common ground, where laughing is just as important as calling a play, and squeezing your palms with anticipation is just as real as shooting a game-winner.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Will Ferrell, left, poses with his wife. Ferrell is a favorite among many Cal Poly athletes who enjoy his offbeat comedy.

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TODAY'S SOLUTIONS

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

THURSDAY

MEN'S TENNIS

VS. OREGON

12PM, MUSTANG COURTS

FRIDAY

BASEBALL

VS. CAL STATE NORTHRIDGE

6PM, BAGGETT STADIUM

SATURDAY

TRACK & FIELD

INVITATIONAL MEET

11AM, MUSTANG TRACK

MEN'S TENNIS

VS. SACRAMENTO STATE

12PM, MUSTANG COURTS

SENIOR DAY!

SOFTBALL *

VS. UCSB (DOUBLEHEADER)

4PM, BOB JANSSEN FIELD

*POWER IN PINK DAY!

All fans may purchase two tickets for the price of one on game day by wearing pink to the Field.

BASEBALL

VS. CAL STATE NORTHRIDGE

6PM, BAGGETT STADIUM

SUNDAY

SOFTBALL

VS. UCSB *

12PM, BOB JANSSEN FIELD

*JERSEY DAY WITH MUSTANG SOFTBALL

All youth, 13 and under, receive free admission by wearing a jersey to the game!

BASEBALL

VS. CAL STATE NORTHRIDGE **

1PM, BAGGETT STADIUM

**JERSEY DAY AND POST-GAME PARENT-CHILD TOSS

All youth, 13 and under, receive free admission by wearing a jersey to the game! Be sure to stay for the whole game as parents and their children will be invited down to the field to toss the ball around with the Mustangs!

Ryan Lee
Los Altos, CA

Jenna Maiden
Santa Maria, CA

Athletes bit by comic bug



Clinton McGue
MUSTANG DAILY

Laughter is a well-known remedy for pain and stress, so it's no wonder why Cal Poly athletes across all sporting fields appreciate the release therapy that comedy provides.

Between juggling the pressures of life, school and sports, athletes have little time to themselves, and even less time to ditch the anxiety that comes along with it.

But when they throw on "Pineapple Express," or even just a clip of "Frank the Tank" streaking down the halls into the gymnasium, everything is suddenly forgotten as laughter ensues.

"Movies like that help me relax before a big game," junior baseball player Adam Buschini said.

Included as a beneficial side-affect of comedic relief is bonding. Many friendships were started because of a shared laugh and

some of those laughs were evoked because of a hilarious quotation. Some of the most recognized and enacted lines come from comedic giant Will Ferrell. Senseless ramblings like, "If you ain't first, you're last," "Honey, is KFC still open?" and "shake and bake" are ranked near the top of the athletes' list.

Among the preferred movies listed were "Dumb and Dumber," "Step Brothers," "Old School," "Tropic Thunder," "Anchorman," "Superbad," "Pineapple Express," "Burn after Reading," "Knocked Up," "Mean Girls," "Talladega Nights" and "Tombstone."

After a careful examination of the list, many can agree that most of the films mentioned have little redeeming social value. Unless, of course, two brainless buddies traveling across the country to return a briefcase to a Mary Samsonite, whose name is confused with the manufacturer of the luggage piece,

has some underlying theme that was never recognized. In short, it's the dumb movies that get the best response.

"My favorite movie out right now is 'Step Brothers,'" junior baseball player Wes Dorrell laughed. "We all like it on our team. We like all the dumb movies."

And most other athletes would agree. The unrealistic, outrageous, "did they just say that?" comedies are among the most-loved genres. Action movies come in a close second, followed by sports-drama and a lone vote cast for horror films, but even that was for the laugh.

"Me and my friend in high school used to go to the movies to make fun of (horror films)," junior basketball player Becky Tratter said.

The most celebrated sports film among Mustangs' athletes is "Remember the Titans." Whether this movie made them tear up, boil up, or get up, the players got some kind of rise out of it.

"After seeing a movie like that, it definitely makes you want to go out there and try harder," freshman basketball player David Hanson said of movies like "Miracle" and "Remember the Titans."

For those ruling the court, "He Got Game" is a motivating film.

"Remember the Titans" always gets me really emotional and 'He Got Game' gets me really pumped up," sophomore forward Nicole Anderson explained.

For the baseball team, as should be expected, the baseball classic "Bull Durham" was echoed as a driving force behind their goals.

"Bull Durham" is what playing in the minor leagues is all about and they have it to a T," Dorrell expressed.

Movies like "Braveheart," "Gladiator," "8 Seconds" and "Any Given Sunday" were also considered as some of the best inspirational movies.

Before a game, though, players don't want to have to sit through all the dialogue and uneventful scenes to get their adrenaline pumping. They want riveting scenes from opening to closing credits.

According to freshman basketball player Dylan Royer, one of the best movies to satisfy that need is "Rambo." However, sophomore football walk-on Joe Burrell pre-

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A Hoops stimulus: Spartans come home bearing gift



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Michigan State head coach Tom Izzo surprised many skeptics by taking his Spartans to yet another Final Four appearance.

Jim Litke

ASSOCIATED PRESS

So he blew up your brackets. Get over it and root for Tom Izzo anyway. His Michigan State Spartans are the only ones coming to the Final Four bearing gifts. A stimulus package, you might even say.

"I'm just hoping," Izzo said after his team beat Louisville to punch its ticket to Detroit, "we're a silver lining in what's been kind of a cloudy year for us. I'm hoping that we're the sunshine ... something to embrace."

Nothing against the other coaches and teams arriving in the Motor City later this week to decide college basketball's champion. Jim Calhoun, Jay Wright and Roy Williams are good guys all, and their squads, Connecticut, Villanova and North Carolina, respectively, are better than Michigan State — on paper. Of course, so were the Louisville Cardinals.

Besides, none of them can do as much for the city, state and even the NCAA this year as Izzo and his kids already have.

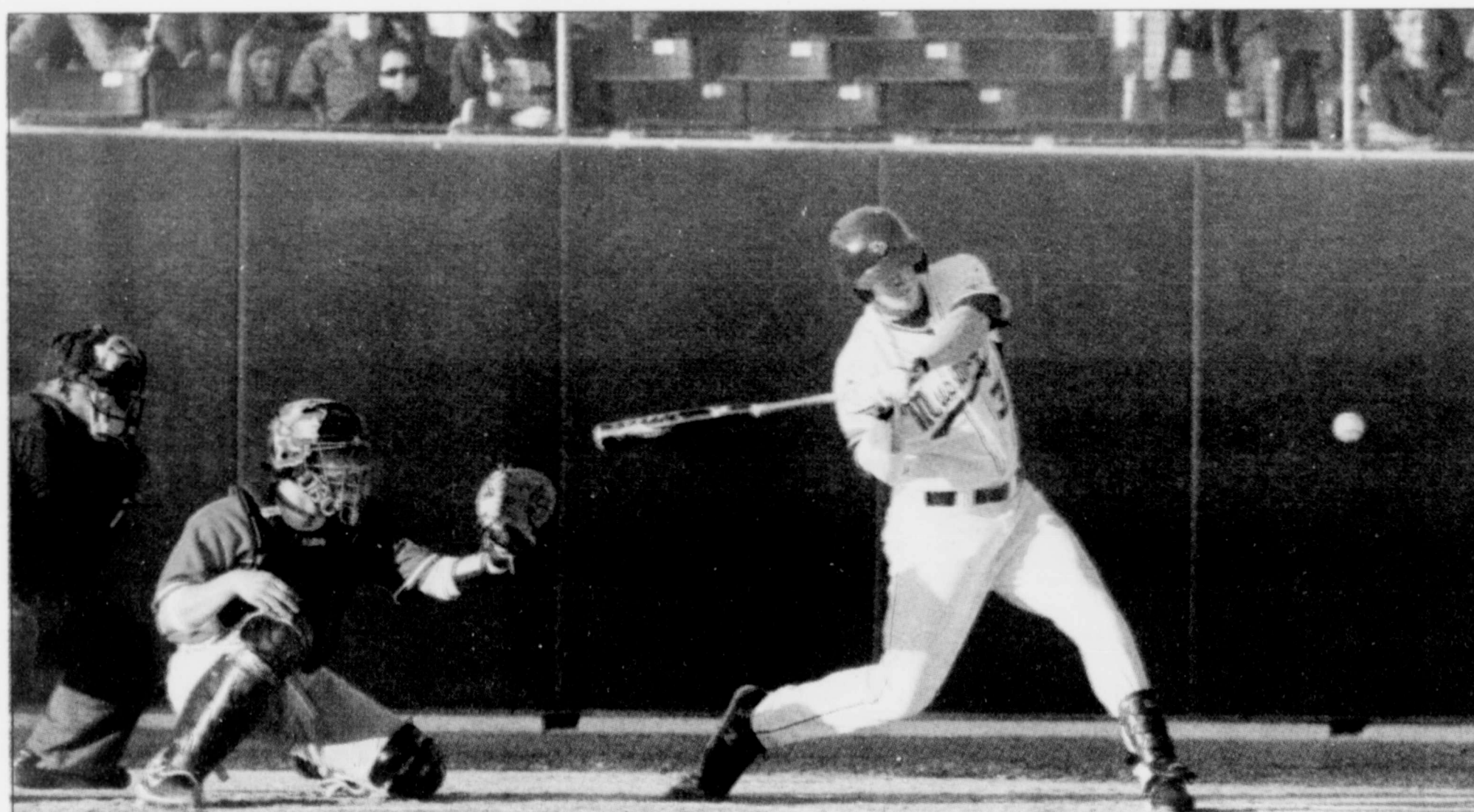
In a corner of the world all too familiar with bad news, he's been nothing but good since the day he got the job in East Lansing about 90 miles from Detroit. Izzo won a national title in 2000 and is taking Michigan State to the Final Four for the fifth time since 1999, mostly with recruits drawn from the upper Midwest. But he was doing his part to boost the state's fortunes even before that.

Izzo grew up in a town of 15,000 that sits hard by the mines in the Upper Peninsula's Menominee Iron Range. The place was about hard work, a habit Izzo comes by honestly. His great-grandfather was a miner, his grandfather a shoemaker and his father a handyman.

In high school his best friend was Steve Mariucci, who went on to coach the NFL's 49ers and Lions and now works as a TV analyst. Together they took Iron Mountain High to a regional final as juniors, but with his team trailing by one point and no

see Spartans, page 11

baseball | NO. 16 CAL POLY 7, USC 5



Cal Poly handles the Trojans

NICK CAMACHO MUSTANG DAILY

The Cal Poly baseball team got back on track with a 7-5 win over USC last night at Baggett Stadium. The victory stops a three-game skid for the Mustangs (18-7), who had been swept by UC Irvine over the weekend. Junior Adam Buschini led Cal Poly with three hits, including a homerun.