

# MUSTANG DAILY

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**Oprah to leave  
broadcast TV after  
25 years.**

IN ARTS, 7

**Obama welcomes  
Indian Prime Minister  
Manmohan Singh to  
maintain key U.S  
relationships.**

IN NEWS, 3

**The Silvey Lining  
asks 'who's afraid of  
Peyton Manning?'**

IN SPORTS, 12



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## Federal money to be used in spring

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

The federal money allocated to the California State University (CSU) system will be used to add courses and sections enabling students to graduate on time. Because the university just received the \$1.3 million, Cal Poly Provost Robert Koob said some of the money will be used to supplement winter courses but most of it will be used in spring. He added that the money will be used to make sections available for courses with waiting lists and for both major and general education classes.

The California State University (CSU) system received a one-time allocation of \$77.5 million in federal money, according to a press release from the Chancellor's Office released Oct. 22. The 23 CSU campuses were to receive \$25 million this year; the Chancellor's Office will withhold the rest to safeguard against future financial troubles.

The money is for courses of-

fered in winter and spring, as well as student support services. The release noted that system wide, CSU campuses will add up to approximately 4,000 additional course sections and potentially retain up to 800 lecturers for winter and spring quarters.

Many students are understandably worried about graduating on time, according to feedback from students during ASI's four-day budget debate last week. Koob said the money will help keep students on track.

"We're going to try to use it for our goal of getting people to graduate," Koob said.

He added that the average unit load increase by .35 units in fall, meaning students were able to take more classes than ever before. This is partially due to the block scheduling of freshmen.

"We want to continue the momentum we had in fall," he said.

The CSU budget deficit for the

see Money, page 2

## Games connect students in HR

Katrina Burges

SPECIAL TO THE MUSTANG DAILY

With the down economy, it can be harder for recent graduates to find their way in the professional world. If only it was as easy as playing a game.

What if it is?

Those planning on pursuing a career in human resource management have heard of the PHR Exam: a test that certifies professionals in management practices, selection and recruitment, training and development, compensation and benefits, employee/labor relations, and health, safety and security. Nobody is required to

take it, but if you do well on it, it can significantly increase your chances of getting a job.

"It's growing in importance," said Rebecca Ellis, adviser for Cal Poly's Human Resource Management Association. "It's a small function in any organization, but every organization has to have a HR function."

Sounds intimidating? Not to worry—that's what the HR Games are for.

"It's set up like a game show," said Rosemary Wild, head of the department of management at Cal Poly. "We try to have at least three undergraduates per team. It's kind of a fun way to prepare

and practice answering questions on the spot."

The HR Games are set up in a Jeopardy-style format, with each team having a call bell to ring when they know the answer. For example, the board may say "A situation where an employer makes working conditions so disagreeable that a reasonable employee would quit," and the team or teams that know the answer would ring their call bell and say "What is a constructive discharge?"

The games cover all six areas that the PHR Exam consists of,

see HR games, page 2

## Twitter co-creator comes out from behind the computer

Tim Barker

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

ST. LOUIS — One night in mid-September, a man named Jack Dorsey stood on the pitcher's mound at Busch Stadium, clutching a baseball in his left hand, about to realize a childhood dream.

The Cardinals were playing the Cubs. And he was there to toss out the first pitch.

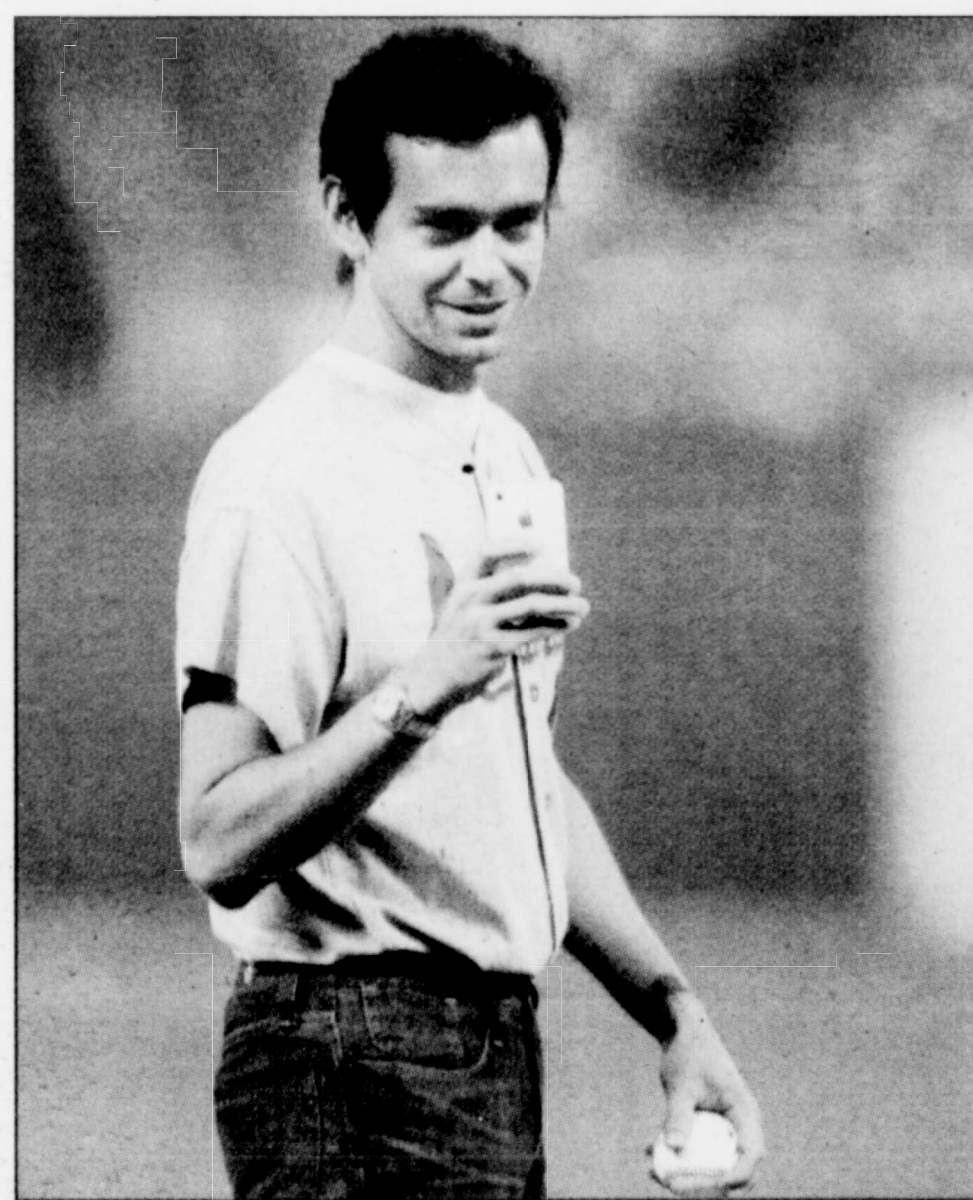
What a sight it was, as 46,000 fans shrugged and asked each other: "Who's Jack Dorsey?"

Hard to blame them. After all, Dorsey isn't among the best known tech celebrities. But it's difficult these days not to know about Twitter, the social networking phenomenon he helped create. Dorsey may very well be the most important St. Louis native you've never heard of.

And considering the power of Twitter, where millions of people communicate in short bursts, one has to assume that Dorsey's anonymity is by choice: "He could build himself into an idol, 140 characters at a time if he wanted to," said Matt Carlson, assistant professor of communications at St. Louis University.

Fortunately for Dorsey, he's quite well known in tech circles — a must, given his current push to start a new company using Twitter's technology. He won't offer details, but says the venture will deal with the health care and financial service sectors, and will involve St. Louis.

While men like Apple founder Steve Jobs seek the limelight, Dorsey has always kept to the quiet edges of life. He's stylish, without being flashy.



MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE

**Jack Dorsey, the creator of Twitter, records a video on his iPhone as he takes the mound to throw out a ceremonial first pitch before a game between the St. Louis Cardinals and the Chicago Cubs.**

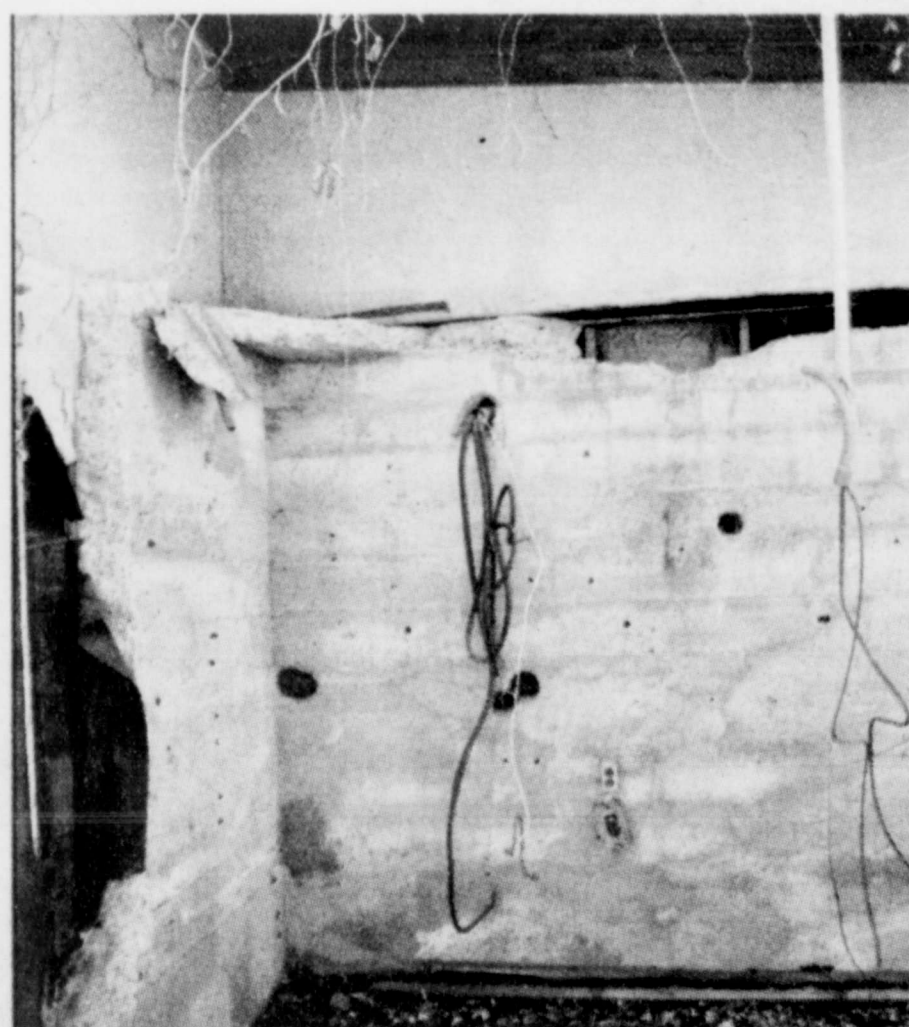
He loves to sail and enjoys driving. But he has neither boat nor car. He's never owned a television.

He maintains apartments in San Francisco and New York, but shies away from material possessions — saying he'd rather not waste brain

power worrying about them. His most prized possession? A tote bag he bought 10 years ago for \$89.

If they made a movie about his life, you get the distinct feeling he'd

see Twitter, page 2



**picture of the day**  
by Daniel Trinnari  
"Exposed"



## HR games

continued from page 1

so it's typically business students that participate, but they're open to everyone, Ellis said.

"We actually get students from psychology a lot," she said.

The HR Games take place every year during the last weekend in February, and 2010 marks Cal Poly's 14th year in participation.

Cal Poly has made it to the finals twice, Wild said.

"We won first and third in 2003, and in 2006 we got third in state," she said. "They won a trip to Honolulu."

The games take place at a different university every year. Any school can volunteer to host them, so long as they have enough people to run the event. During the competition, everybody splits up into different classrooms, each room containing two teams, a timekeeper, a scorekeeper and a

judge. The three officials sit in the first row of the room and the teams sit in two tables of three.

The winners of the state competition then move on to the regional competition, and the winners of that receive a prize, which is usually money. Up until two years ago they had nationals, but stopped because the competition was getting too "cutthroat," Ellis said.

Ellis is already recruiting for the 2010 HR Games.

"We talk it up at meetings, and in my classes I'll look for people who are smart," she said. "I told them I'd give them extra credit in one of my classes."

Students can even go if they're not sure yet whether or not they want to compete.

"We bring not just competitors, but people thinking about competing," Ellis said.

Finding participants isn't always easy, however.

"We're always looking for competitors," Ellis said. "It's a lot of fun, but it doesn't sound like it. Everyone who does it goes 'Man, I wish I'd known how much fun it was gonna be.' You really bond with your teammates. Everyone keeps in touch."

Of course, there's more to it than just having fun.

"HR professionals are judges of the HR Games," Ellis said. "So that sort of gives us a chance to rub shoulders with them. We get to meet industry people, who hopefully are hiring."

Because the PHR certification process requires two years of experience in addition to passing the PHR Exam, nobody actually receives job offers at the HR Games, though participants are often given business cards, or other forms of contact information.

"It's pretty much networking," Ellis said.

Round one of the 2010 HR Games will take place on Feb. 27 in Bakersfield.

## Twitter

continued from page 1

be played by John Cusack, an actor who's made a career of playing quirky characters.

It's always been like this for Dorsey, who has never really been the typical anything.

His uncle Dan Dorsey, a Catholic priest in Cincinnati, remembers a visit some 22 years ago, when his nephew proudly handed over a business card. It read, simply: Jack P. Dorsey, consultant.

"How many 10-year-olds have that? He's always seen life a little differently," his uncle said.

Jack Dorsey remembers the card. But he has no idea what, exactly, he was planning to offer his advice upon. He just knew he was ready for something.

"I was eager to grow up and get started," Dorsey said. "I knew I'd be working and working very hard some day."

While Dorsey hasn't lived in St. Louis since 2003, he returns several times a year to visit friends and family — his parents and two brothers still live here.

It was the September visit that gave the city a chance to claim him as one of its own.

There was the trip to Webster University, where he was named the 2009 Person of the Year. He spent time with Mayor Francis Slay, who gave him a key to the city. And there was the ceremonial first pitch.

His parents, who still live in Compton Heights, were there every step of the way.

"I was nervous for him. But I was really happy with the whole weekend," said Marcia Dorsey, his mother. "It was like St. Louis acknowledged him."

Indeed, it would be hard to top the praise lavished on Dorsey by Webster's Benjamin Ola Akande, dean of the communications school, who compared him to revolutionary inventors Johannes Gutenberg and Alexander Graham Bell. "In every generation, we produce individuals who come along and make life better for those around them," Akande said.

But does Dorsey really fit in the history books alongside a man like Gutenberg, whose printing press brought the written word to the masses? That's a tough one to answer when you consider Twitter has been around fewer than four years.

Some communication experts stop well short of putting Dorsey and his partners on such a lofty shelf, saying they simply found a new way to use existing technology. Twitter allows users to post brief — 140-character maximum — missives or "tweets" that essentially say: This is what's on my mind right now.

"None of this is as revolutionary as the printing press," said Steve Jones, professor of communication at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

"It's evolutionary. I'd say it's probably more analogous to the invention of the Post-it note."

It's not even certain, yet, that the company — which doesn't produce any revenue — could survive without being propped up by venture capitalists, who have pumped more than \$150 million into the firm. The latest round of funding valued the company at \$1 billion, according to The Wall Street Journal.

Dorsey, who resigned last year as Twitter's chief executive and took the role of chairman, routinely faces questions about the company's financial prospects. And he routinely deflects them with comparisons to Google, another company that focused first on building a strong network before worrying about profits.

But even if Dorsey isn't the next Gutenberg, there's no denying he

**I think you'll see Jack being a little bit more out there in the future. He's built a lot of confidence with Twitter.**

—Fred Wilson

Board member of Twitter

has played a major role in reshaping today's social landscape. Nearly 19 million people used Twitter at some point last month, according to data from the Nielsen Company. Among them were celebrities, politicians and corporations all looking for new ways to reach people.

Aside from a six-year stint in Colorado, Dorsey spent most of his younger years in St. Louis. It was after he moved back to St. Louis, and into Compton Heights, that he developed what he recalls as his first true love.

It was 1991. He was a freshman at Bishop DuBourg High School. He remembers walking about the city, falling in love with the way everything moved.

That love would later spawn a fascination with the coordinated movements of taxi cabs, couriers and emergency vehicles throughout a city. Their constant need to provide location updates formed the foundation for Twitter.

Old friends remember Dorsey as a quiet kid, with a love of music, whose eyes lit up when talking about computers and something called the Internet. He was, in the words of his good friend Tim Brouk, one of "the more popular unpopular guys in our class."

He shows up on three pages in his senior year book. One identifies him as Jack Dempsey. Another lists one of his defining moments — the day he dressed up as Ed Haessig, the school's religion and tennis instructor.

"That was kind of a big high school moment for him in terms of status," said Brouk, a newspaper reporter in Indiana.

Funny thing is, Haessig was at a loss when word began spreading around campus that a former DuBourg stu-

dent was behind Twitter. "I had to go back to an old yearbook to jolt any memory of him," Haessig said.

It's a theme that carried over into the two-plus years he spent at the University of Missouri at Rolla, where he started work on a still unfinished degree in computer science. The school's public relations staff recently asked Dorsey to name a couple of professors — in case anyone came along trying to learn more about his past. Neither of the two he selected could remember him.

"The name rings a bell, but I can't bring a face to mind," said Arlan Dekock, the former dean of the school of management and information systems.

The same cannot be said for Dorsey's first employer, Jim McKelvey, president of Mira Digital Publishing in St. Louis. Dorsey was still in high school, but McKelvey said he quickly realized the teen had a lot to offer with his programming skills and understanding of the Internet.

Despite his inexperience, Dorsey was soon supervising full-time workers. Projects were designed for him.

"I was the president of the company and he was the summer intern. But that doesn't necessarily mean I wasn't the one running errands," said McKelvey, who recently agreed to join Dorsey's new venture.

Life for Dorsey has become complicated and demanding.

He travels from coast to coast, lining up investors as he works to get his new company off the ground. Gone is the nose ring. It's been replaced by worries about how he's perceived by the world around him.

It's a transition that's going well, said Fred Wilson of Union Square Ventures in New York, one of the original investors in Twitter and a member of its board.

Wilson uses terms like "craftsman-like" when describing Dorsey's attention to detail in the way he presents himself in social and professional settings. He suggests the rather anonymous version of Dorsey could soon be a thing of the past.

"I think you'll see Jack being a little bit more out there in the future," Wilson said. "He's built a lot of confidence with Twitter."

Maybe that's why Dorsey spent nearly three hours the night before that Cardinals game, practicing his pitches with a couple friends at a small lighted baseball field in Clayton. His mind was a jumble of memories and worries — not the least of which was his fear that he'd put the pitch in the dirt.

He remembered summer nights spent with his grandmother, listening to Cardinals games on the radio and dreaming of what it would be like to play on a big league field. He thought of his family. And the thousands of strangers watching him represent his company.

"It all just kind of boiled up into that one moment," said Dorsey, who ended up putting the pitch high and outside. "It could have been better. But I was happy."

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## Money

continued from page 1

2009-10 year is \$564 million. The system is in the process of implementing an action plan that includes employee furloughs and workforce reductions; enrollment cuts; increased student fees, and additional cost cutting measures on campuses. The guiding principles behind the

plan are based on serving as many students and preserving as many jobs as possible while maintaining academic quality and fiscal balance, according to the press release.

The provost said that while the \$1.3 million is certainly helping Cal Poly stay afloat, it's just a temporary patch.

Katie McIntyre contributed to this report.

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# Singh's visit an effort to reassure India about partnership

Steven Thomma  
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama rolls out the red carpet Tuesday for India in the first official state visit of his presidency, but the stresses of a key relationship in a tinderbox part of the world will

lie just beneath the glitz and glamour of a state dinner.

Obama will welcome Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh with an elaborate state greeting on the South Lawn of the White House, meet with Singh through the day, then host him and his wife at a formal dinner for 400 under a

tent erected on the South Lawn.

A key reason for giving the visit the highest diplomatic status is to assure India that it remains a key U.S. partner in South Asia.

"This is a very important relationship with a very important country," said White House press secretary Robert Gibbs. "That's

why India was chosen to be the first visit."

Obama's administration in recent weeks has focused intensely on countries on either side of India — Pakistan as part of the war on terrorism and China as a key player in everything from the world economy to stopping the spread of

nuclear weapons. India regards both neighbors warily, and was keenly aware that Obama played up relations with China during his visit to Asia last week.

Still, the U.S. looks to India as a regional counterweight to China

see Visit, page 4

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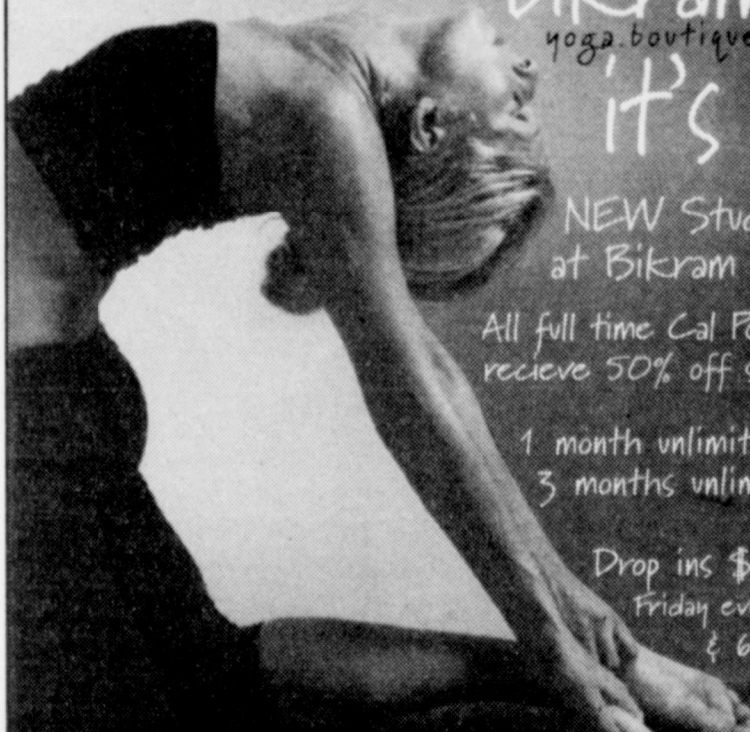
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## Visit

continued from page 3

and would like to see India ease tensions with Pakistan so that Pakistan would feel free to move some of its military away from the Pakistan-India border toward Afghanistan to fight the Pakistani Taliban.

Prospects for a thaw between India and Pakistan — and a shift of Pakistani troops — appear dim, thanks to the terrorist attacks in Mumbai, India, last November.

"The peace dialogue that started in 2004 was torpedoed by the attacks on Mumbai," said Teresita

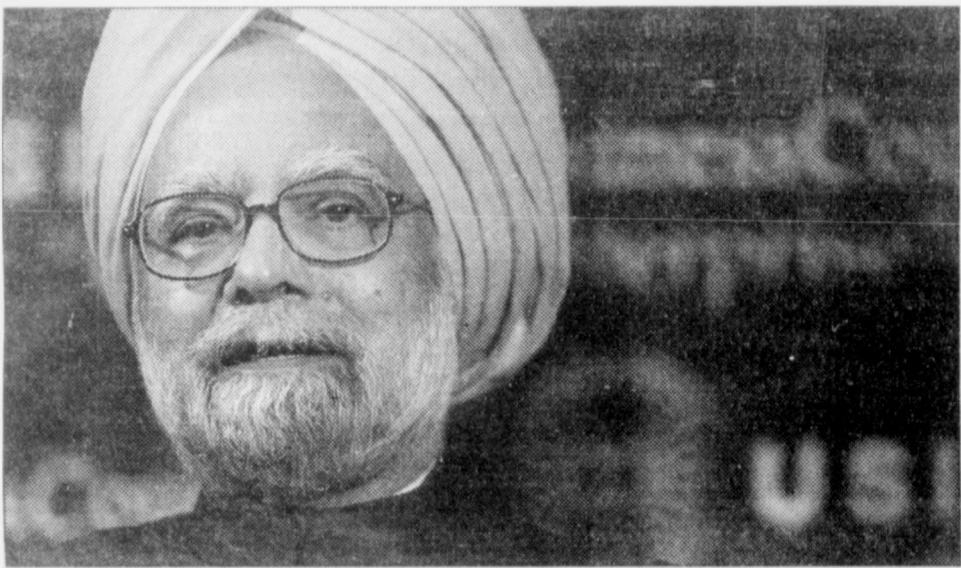
C. Schaffer, a scholar at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, a center-right policy organization.

"India and Pakistan have been exploring ways to restart their back-channel discussions. ... The principal hang-up is the slow and erratic progress of Pakistan's legal actions against major figures accused of involvement in the Mumbai attacks."

India three times has refused to host Obama's special envoy to Afghanistan and Pakistan, U.S. officials said.

The two leaders are expected

see Visit, page 5



MCCLATCHY-NEWSPAPERS

Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh discusses the importance of bilateral trade and investment between the two largest free market democracies in the world in a speech to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in Washington, D.C.

# Flu fears prompt many Muslims to skip Hajj

Elizabeth Llorente  
MCCLATCHY-NEWSPAPERS

HACKENSACK, N.J. — The spread of the H1N1 flu, in addition to worries about the struggling economy, is expected to keep many Muslims from participating this month in the holy pilgrimage to Mecca known as the Hajj, say community leaders and Saudi officials.

The Saudi Ministry of Health is urging senior citizens, children 12 and younger, pregnant women and people with serious health conditions to forgo the Hajj because of H1N1, the predominant flu virus in most countries. In addition, some nations, such as Tunisia, are banning their citizens from attending the Hajj — where millions of people stand in close proximity — because of fears that people will return infected.

Saudi health officials on Saturday announced four pilgrims had died from swine flu.

Last year, travel agents who arrange Hajj travel saw a drop in the number of people going and attributed it to the ailing economy. Now, travel agents say they have booked even fewer trips than last year.

"I've booked about 450," said Willie Ammar, manager of Apollo Travel in Paterson, N.J. That number, he said, is down from the roughly 600 trips he arranged around the same time last year.

"A lot of people are scared of the flu," Ammar said. "At the Hajj you have 1 million or 2 million people in one spot. Hopefully, things will be OK."

"We were hoping to recover from last year's drop in travel (to the Hajj)," he said, noting that before last year, he'd book more than 800 flights each year to the Hajj. "Then we got this."

Saudi officials say that normally 1.7 million pilgrims arrive for the Hajj from overseas each year.

The most critical days of the Hajj this year are from Nov. 25 to Nov. 29. But many people arrive well before, often about two weeks in advance, Muslim leaders say.

Saudi officials were instructing people planning to attend the Hajj to receive shots for the H1N1 flu as well as the regular flu. In addition, they were dispatching medical teams to different gathering spots to monitor health conditions and check anyone with flu symptoms.

Normally, some 14,000 Hajj visas are issued each year to people living in the United States, said Nail Al-Jubeir, spokesman for the Saudi Embassy in Washington. But last year, that number dropped to about 11,800.

"There were earlier indications that (attendance) might be lower

(this year)," Al-Jubeir said, adding that they have not yet counted the number of Hajj visas issued this year. "How much will have to do with the global economy, the U.S. economy or the swine flu, we don't know."

However, some Muslims are casting aside concerns about the flu and attending anyway.

Mufeed Lahham is one of them.

He recalled that once, his doctor responded to a concern he expressed about catching a virus by asking him if he drove.

"I said yes, and he said, 'If you drive a car, there's 10 to 15 times more danger,'" Lahham said before he left for the Hajj. "Any action you do in your life can carry a little bit of danger."



MCCLATCHY-NEWSPAPERS

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad throws stones to the Jamarat column symbolising the Devil as he performs his religious duties during the annual Muslim hajj pilgrimage, in the Mina Valley near the holy city of Mecca, Saudi Arabia. Ahmadinejad is the first Iranian leader to take part in the annual Muslim pilgrimage.

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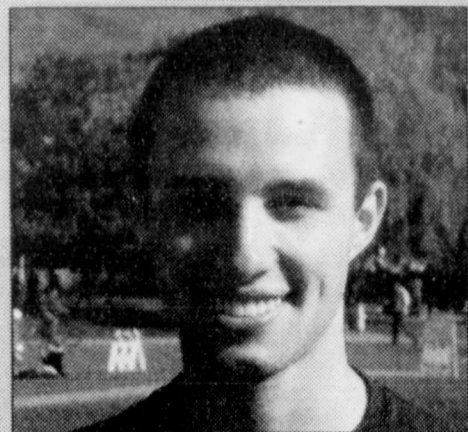
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## WORD ON THE STREET

### "What are your plans for Thanksgiving break?"



"Catching up with family I haven't seen all quarter. I'm excited for the food especially pecan pie and it will be a nice break from school."

-Steven Hunt, *business junior*

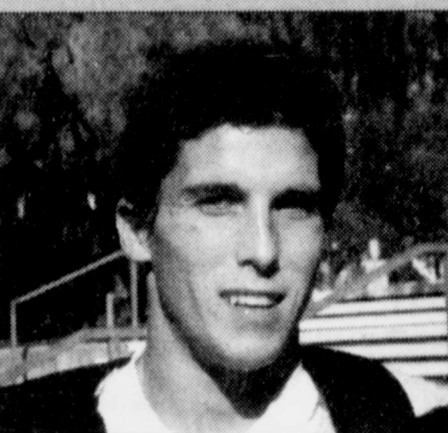
"I'm going home to hang out with the family and study."

-Amee Warner, *mechanical engineering sophomore*



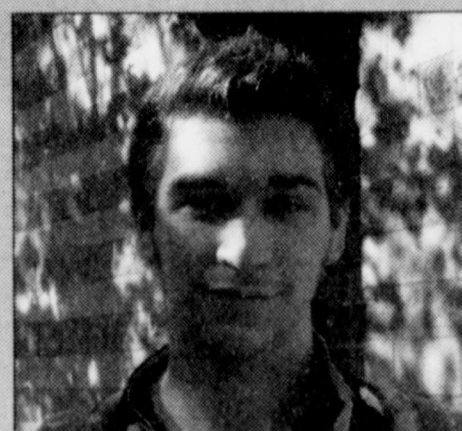
"Every year we go to Nipomo with family and friends and have a huge feast. It is the best holiday of the year."

-Brandon Shirck, *recreation junior*



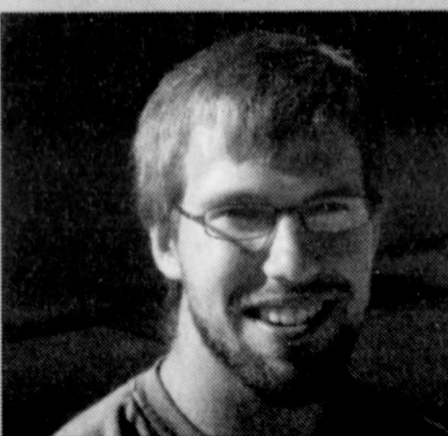
"I'm going home to see the family and sleep."

-Austin Flemming, *mechanical engineering senior*



"I'm going home to the Sacramento area and going to eat with my family and a family from church."

-Greg Stratton, *aerospace engineering senior*



"I'm going home to eat some of my mom's good cooking and bringing back the leftovers."

-Tyler Benham, *journalism junior*

COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY JENNIFER TITCOMB

## Visit

continued from page 4

to announce at least one agreement, designed to improve cooperation on clean energy, climate change and energy security.

"This will provide a framework for pursuing bilateral cooperation in specific areas," Singh said Monday during an appearance at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

He didn't reveal details of the agreement. Obama is trying to build momentum toward an international climate conference in Copenhagen next month, but has been unable to deliver either a solid U.S. commitment to cut its emissions — a bill is tied up in the Senate — or win pledges from developing countries such as India to cut its emissions at the same level as already developed countries.

## State

### SAN LUIS OBISPO (MCT)

— The developers of the planned Walmart in Atascadero are expected to once again revise the project — but this time make it smaller.

WalMart Stores, Inc. representatives met with city leaders this week to discuss revised plans that would scale down the size of the project off Del Rio Road by nearly 40,000 square feet.

The new plans eliminate a tire-and-lube center, a drive-through pharmacy and some space for merchandise. The project will still include groceries, company spokesman Aaron Rios said.

### MARYSVILLE (MCT)

— Cadaver-sniffing dogs searched for body parts Monday along the Feather River in south Sutter County after a human leg was found in the area.

Paintballers found the unclothed limb shortly after noon Sunday at Beer Can Beach near the intersection of Garden Highway and Lee Road west of Nicolaus.

The leg was from a white male adult and had not been there for more than seven days, said Sutter County Sheriff's Department spokeswoman Brenda Baker.

"This is not something you find every day," Sheriff J. Paul Parker said at the scene.

## Briefs

## National

### MINNEAPOLIS (MCT)

— Terrorism charges were filed Monday in Minneapolis against eight men from Minnesota in connection with an ongoing FBI investigation into the recruitment and training of up to 20 local Somali men believed to have returned to their homeland to fight for the terrorist group, Al-Shabaab.

The eight were also charged with providing financial support and fighting for Al-Shabaab, designated by the U.S. government as a terrorist group with ties to Al-Qaida.

### MIAMI (MCT)

— What thousands of homeowners nationwide have believed about Chinese drywall was validated Monday, when the Consumer Product Safety Commission said there is a link between the imported material and problems with corrosion in homes that have it.

The conclusion followed testing at 51 homes in Florida, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi and Virginia that found "a strong association between the problem drywall, the hydrogen sulfide levels in homes with that drywall and corrosion in those homes."

Homeowners have been complaining for about a year to federal and state government agencies that their homes smell of sulfur or rotten eggs.

## International

### LONDON (MCT)

— Revolutionary plans are being drawn up to develop a high-speed rail network from London to Birmingham, Manchester and Scotland with track capable of carrying trains at a staggering 250 mph.

A government-created company called High Speed Two (HS2) has been working on various routes and the related costs for more than a year.

It is understood that the alternatives will be presented to government on December 31 and a decision on the exact routes is expected by April.

The routes will then be published in an announcement which is likely to blight huge swathes of land.

### KABUL, Afghanistan (MCT)

— Afghan President Hamid Karzai's pledge to root out political corruption in his second term faces a quick test from government attorneys, who have asked for new powers to pursue some of the country's top leaders.

Officials in the attorney general's office said Monday that they wanted Karzai to take decisive steps so that they could pursue corruption cases against as many as 15 current and former government officials, including at least two in the president's Cabinet.

## Support gathers behind proposal to split up too-big banks

Jim Puzzanghera  
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

WASHINGTON — Momentum is growing to deal with financial institutions deemed too big to fail by breaking them up so they're not so big in the first place.

"The era of the big bank is over," said Simon Johnson, a professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and former chief economist at the International Monetary Fund.

A proposal in Congress carries important ramifications for the economy's future and the ability of U.S. financial institutions to compete abroad, experts said. Critics point out that only a handful of the world's largest financial companies are U.S.-based, and they say megacorporations need megabanks to meet their needs.

The call to limit the size of financial firms has come from former Federal Reserve Chairmen Alan Greenspan and Paul Volcker, as well as some economists. Europeans are considering a similar move, and the Fed's British counterpart, the Bank of England, said it would force three bailed-out giants — Royal Bank of Scotland, Lloyds Banking Group and Northern Rock — to downsize.

A House committee last week voted to give regulators the power to break up large financial institutions that pose a "grave threat to the financial stability or economy of the United States."

The plan goes further than the so-called resolution authority the Obama administration has request-

ed. Under that plan, the government would be able to take apart large companies if they were on the brink of bankruptcy and were so interconnected that their failure could cause economic chaos. That was the case with American International Group last year.

But many lawmakers say the government needs the ability to break up companies engaged in risky behavior before they get to the point of collapse.

"The American mind is asking ... 'Are we going to allow institutions to put their lives, their children's lives, the entire country at risk? Or

can we take preventive action to prevent this risk?'" said Rep. Paul Kanjorski, D-Pa., who wrote the breakup provision.

The concept is simple, supporters said: The bigger you are, the harder you fall.

"When small guys screw up, we shut them down," Johnson said. "We're good at managing failure. What we can't do is deal with the failure of big guys."


Kanjorski's proposal would require regulators to give special attention to the 50 largest financial institutions, those with more than \$17 billion in assets.

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sex & dating column

## Intact: Tales of an uncircumcised life

Warning: I say the word "penis" seven times in this column and imply it almost constantly.

Here's something you didn't need to know about me: I've never had any sort of body modification. When using that phrase, the mind travels first to piercings and tattoos, since these are the modifications most people choose. However, for

about three-quarters of guys my age, their first, and possibly only modification was an unwilling removal of a few inches of skin.

In many countries, especially those with high Arab and Jewish populations, circumcision is nearly universal for religious or cultural reasons. In others, such as most of South America and Europe, it is

quite rare. In the '60s, American circumcision rates reached 85 percent, declining only moderately to the current 65 percent rate.

One of the main reasons for circumcision's persistence in this country is its popularity. Even though the American Academy of Pediatrics decided in 1971 that circumcision was unnecessary, par-

ents immediately thought forward to locker room showers and chose the option that will give their sons the ability to fit in.

Locker room showers seem to have been abolished by the time I entered high school, but I was already acutely aware that I was not in the majority. As much as everyone loves to blame things on pornography, I think it even preceded my exposure to the world of porn, in which "uncut" is a subcategory that must be specifically sought out.

More likely culprits were the sex education classes I took in fifth grade, with their diagrams of circumcised men and possibly a small picture comparing them to a natural penis. In junior high, during my obsession with Greek mythology, I remember looking at a picture depicting a battle between Greeks and tribal Africans. The exposed glans of the foremost African was greatly exaggerated and brightly colored, as the Greeks

see Intact, page 7

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## Talk show queen Oprah to end her run on broadcast



MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE

Oprah Winfrey's popular daytime talk show will make the switch from broadcast television to her own cable network, the Oprah Winfrey Network, in Sept. 2011.

John Timpane

THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

This is not the end of Oprah Winfrey.

Maybe not even the end of her TV show.

True, in a tearful announcement Friday, the self-made media mogul — host of the highest-rated talk show for 23 years, seen in 145 countries, worth a breathtaking \$2.7 billion — confirmed for her audience what had been rumored for weeks: that the show would be ending.

"I love this show," said the 55-year-old Winfrey. "This show has been my life, and I love it enough to know when it's time to say goodbye."

But when she ends her run at ABC on Sept. 9, 2011 — 25 years to the day since she began — she'll be taking her stuff to cable. To the Oprah Winfrey Network (OWN), to be exact, which will debut in 80 million homes. At OWN, she'll try to extend the Oprah brand as far as she can.

But it may well be the end of broadcast Oprah. And that says much about her and the state of conventional TV.

Betting on the future: This move

amounts to a big wager on the future of TV. Winfrey is betting that the migration of viewers from broadcast (free and open to all) to cable (not and not) will continue.

Even Oprah's stalwart audience — an estimated 42 million U.S. viewers a week — is eroding. It's still the most popular talker on midday TV, but its viewership is half of what it was 10 years ago. Doubtless Winfrey is pondering ways to keep growing her empire.

So what will she do in 20 months? She and her company promise big, vague things. The original announcement Thursday by Tim Bennett, president of Harpo Productions Inc., Winfrey's company, said, "If you think the last quarter century has been something, then 'don't touch that dial' as together we plan to make history in the next 20 months ... and beyond."

Cable TV presents many tantalizing options. She could do a daily or weekly show. As Robert Thompson, director of the Bleier Center for Television and Popular Culture at Syracuse University, put it: "It's hard to imagine that you'd launch an Oprah Winfrey Network without

see Oprah, page 8

## Intact

continued from page 6

almost never circumcised. It was comforting to think that there was a culture, or there had been, in which I would be considered normal.

Of course, my discomfort in those days was one of being abnormal, like a more embarrassing left-handedness. However, almost immediately after I had my first kiss, I realized that being uncircumcised was going to be quite a hassle. One of the perks of having man-to-man sex is that it is almost certain that your partner has many years of knowledge of how to pleasure a penis. Depending on the girl, she may have had plenty of years, too.

However, when they have never dealt with your type of penis before, this practice becomes useless, the passion stops and you

have a short window to give a lesson on how to please you, before the mood is ruined.

Circumcision exposes the head of the penis (the glans) to the environment, and it protects itself by becoming less sensitive. Therefore, the head can be touched relatively casually, although a little spit or lube never hurt anyone.

There won't be a positive reaction if you try this on a head that has been protected by its foreskin since birth. More sensitive does not imply more pleasure. Pleasure and pain have a complicated relationship, which can definitely be explored, but most people are interested in conventional pleasure, so that's what we'll shoot for here.

So what's to be done with an uncut penis? The idea is still to stimulate the head, but by using the foreskin as a go-between. Its two-sided nature makes it a natural simulator of this sensitive re-

gion.

Later, with sufficient arousal and copious amounts of lubrication, it is possible for direct stimulation to feel good, so it wouldn't hurt to try it out if you think things are going well.

As far as actual techniques go, there are no rules, as each guy will prefer a different touch. If all else fails, there's never anything wrong with a sultry "Show me how you like it," assuming that we're still talking about hand jobs.

This is not an argumentative column. My thesis is not that circumcision is wrong. I can't really say which I prefer without experiencing both situations. I don't even know what I'd choose for my son. But arguments over which is "better" are fruitless. When the goal is pleasure, the key is knowledge and, of course, practice.

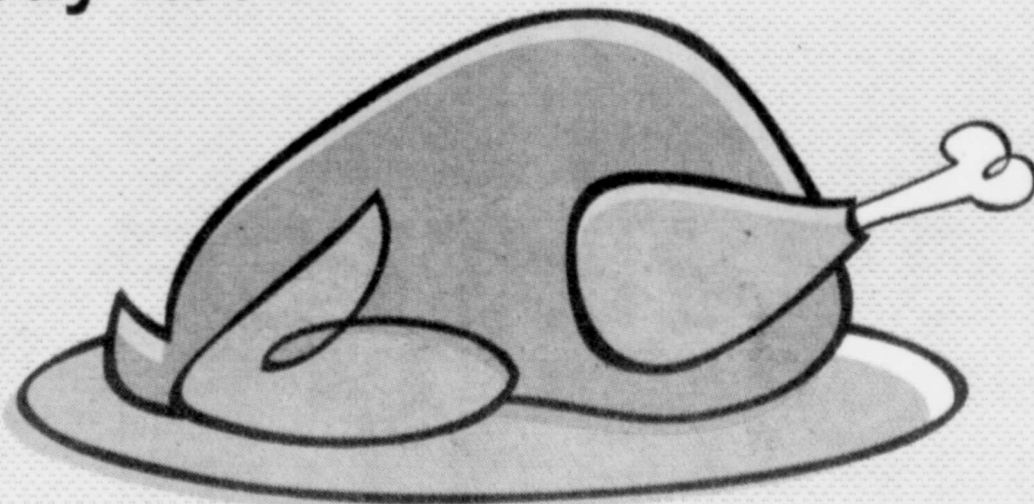
Anthony Rust is a biology junior and Mustang Daily sex columnist.

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## Oprah

continued from page 7

an Oprah Winfrey Show."

But Winfrey doesn't need to have a show; she just needs to have a presence. On OWN, she can be like Macy's at the mall: the anchor that draws viewers to all the other content. If OWN is the only place viewers can see her, and they want to see her, OWN may attract the subscriptions and ad revenue that spell cable success.

Broadcast loses: Broadcast TV loses one of the biggest shows in its history. ABC loses the revenue from "Oprah" — estimated at hundreds of millions annually — and CBS may lose the syndication rights. (CBS says it's negotiating to keep working with Winfrey.) Local stations take a major hit, too, losing the audience and revenue that carry over from "Oprah" to local shows.

The sofa that changed the culture: What has Winfrey accomplished? She remade the daily TV talk show, that's all, and created a phenomenally influential force in American culture.

The show concentrated at first on sensationalistic topics. Winfrey is often credited with (or blamed for) inventing "tabloid TV," which gave the world Jerry Springer and

## 'Aha moments'

Memorable events from "The Oprah Winfrey Show": Winfrey is ending her top-rated talk show in 2011 after a 25-year run that she spun into a media empire that includes TV, radio, movies, a book club and a popular magazine:

- 1986** Hosts piano showman Liberace, the last interview before his death
- 1988** Sporting size 10 Calvin Klein jeans to show off her 67-pound weight loss, wheels a wagon loaded with fat onto the set
- 1993** Interviews Michael Jackson on a live prime-time special seen by almost 100 million worldwide
- 1996** Introduces Oprah's Book Club, giving publishers a boost and her choices a place on the best-seller list
- 2001** Takes back her invitation to writer Jonathan Franzen to appear on her show after he dismisses her book club selections as "schmaltzy"
- 2004** Kicks off the season by giving a car to nearly 300 people in her studio audience; later in the year, interviews former President Bill Clinton, who reads a selection from his autobiography
- 2006** Sued by a group of cattlemen for remarks about mad cow disease; moves her show to Amarillo, Texas, for the trial, which she wins
- 2008** Endorses Barack Obama for president, giving his campaign a boost
- 2009** Gets the first interview with former GOP vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin about her new autobiography; announces she will end the show, which is seen regularly by 7 million viewers in the U.S. and is broadcast in 145 countries

Source: Oprah.com, AP, ABC News, MCT Photo Service  
Graphic: Pat Carr

© 2009 MCT

entire shows, Whitney Houston recounted her addiction and marital problems.

If that were all, Oprah might have remained a midday sobfest aimed at women. But the show's huge, loyal audience gave it unprecedented impact.

Winfrey took that audience into culture. Beginning with "The Book of Ruth" by Jane Hamilton in 1996, her book club, in which Winfrey selected a book and often interviewed the author, created instant best-sellers. Viewers that might otherwise not have heard of hundreds of deserving books and authors now did — and went to buy them, even in an era of the decline of publishing.

With spectacular judgment, Winfrey embraced celebs, issues and figures in the news. Viewers saw both Chesley Sullenberger (who landed US Airways Flight 1549 on the Hudson River) and Beyonce, both George W. Bush (talking about his past drinking) and Mike Tyson. She led her audience where most shows feared to tread, and millions followed.

Michael Delli Carpini, dean of the Annenberg School for Communication, said: "Oprah began to discuss race, family issues, public policy, bringing experts and people involved, getting them to speak knowledgeably about them. Her

show became a way many people learned about the issues and the news."

Newsmakers clamored to be on her show. Now, not only did Tom Cruise come leaping over the couch — but also power-brokers and presidents, self-improvement gurus and generals, supermodels and spiritual guides sat with her. And Nobelists (Nelson Mandela). She launched the television careers of doctors — Phil and Oz. She gathered clout. And her support of Barack Obama was a signal event in the election of 2008. The recent appearance of Sarah Palin on Oprah drew the show its highest ratings in two years.

"Politicians tried to get on her show, just as people now clamor to be on Comedy Central's 'The Daily Show' or on MTV," Delli Carpini said. "Such shows have now become crucial venues on which public figures can get issues out. And they get longer face time, more time to explain themselves on these shows than you can on nightly news sound bites."

Her viewers trust Winfrey as guide, said Delli Carpini, "so a lot of information and culture reaches people who would normally not get that information."

Oprah created an alternative community, its own social world. Its host has parlayed that into a media empire, including O magazine (2.37 million circulation as of 2008), Oprah.com (70 million page views a week), books and a 24-hour satellite radio channel, Oprah & Friends, on XM Satellite Radio. Her move to cable is just that — one more move.

A gamble that's a gamble: "Oprah is taking a risk," Thompson said. "She was on a network you could find anywhere, and now she's going to be on one of those numbers on your cable box that sometimes can be hard to find."

"Oprah" is the foundation of her empire because millions see her five days a week. "It's an important part of people's daily ritual," Thompson said. "I wouldn't want to bet the farm that she can replicate that."

Thompson also points out that 20 months makes for a long goodbye — "longer than most talk shows run."



## Sandra Bullock steps out of comfort zone in "The Blind Side"

Rick Bentley

MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

LOS ANGELES — Despite her lofty Hollywood status, Sandra Bullock's ready to take a break from acting.

She's had a very busy year with "The Proposal," "All About Steve" and, now, "The Blind Side" hitting theaters.

"I am so happy how I wake up now that I don't want to rush off and do something else. I am very happy being Sandy in Sandy's world. I want to enjoy her world for awhile," Bullock said during an interview at the Four Seasons Hotel to discuss "The Blind Side."

Bullock's especially happy that break comes on the heels of such a positive project.

"The Blind Side," based on the book "The Blind Side: Evolution of a Game," is the story of a wealthy Memphis family — particularly the feisty matriarch Leigh Anne Tuohy — who takes a homeless teen into their home and how it changes all of their lives.

"The Blind Side," said Bullock, will entertain and has the potential to make a difference.

"I hope someone will walk away from this film and think that they have had a very good life and are now willing to share it with someone," she said.

Bullock got to know the opinionated, headstrong and no-nonsense Leigh Anne Tuohy while

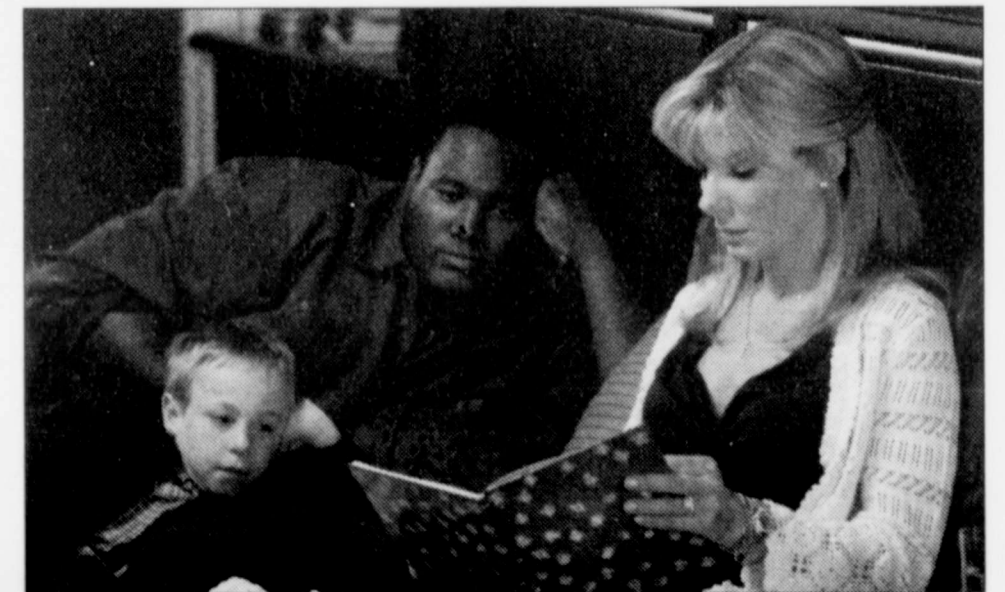
getting ready to play her in the movie. She knew from their first meeting that Tuohy had a very distinct personality.

"She is not impressed by titles. She's only impressed by people's actions," Bullock said. "That's why I do enjoy being around her. If you don't step up to the plate she has no time for you."

Playing such a character — especially one with a heavy Southern accent — can be a challenge for an actor. Play the role too soft, and all of the determination and strong will are gone. Play the character too hard, and it comes across as a bad Foghorn Leghorn impersonation.

Bullock initially didn't feel she could do justice to the story, especially bringing Leigh Anne Tuohy to life on the screen. That feeling stayed with her through the first days of filming. She said she didn't feel comfortable with the role until the second week. It was the family element that finally resonated with Bullock.

"I love kids more than anything, and I could've been a mother at 17. But I was smart enough to know how selfish I was. I knew I was not going to bring a child into this world until I knew my world could be all about the child," Bullock said. "Then life blessed me with this family that was unexpected. That's when I realized I was ready and I didn't even know I was ready."



MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE

Jae Head, Quinton Aaron and Sandra Bullock (from left) star in "The Blind Side," a Warner Bros. Pictures release.

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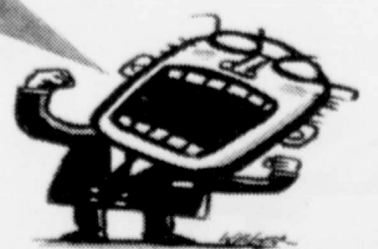
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# OPINION/EDITORIAL

Tuesday, November 24, 2009

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9

## Predictor of the economic crisis a friend of the freedom movement

In this time of economic turmoil, people seem to reference "economists" as if there's almost always a consensus among them. I know one economist who stands apart from the pack, both in his understanding of the economy and in his ability to predict the direction we are heading. If you search for "who predicted the economic crisis" on either Google or YouTube, this economist will appear as the first listing. He is currently running for the U.S. Senate in Connecticut and is considered a good friend of the freedom movement. His name is Peter Schiff.

There's a video on YouTube called "Peter Schiff was Right 2006-2007(2nd Edition)" which summarizes Schiff's rise to an iconic status in the freedom movement. He was predicting the current financial meltdown far ahead of the crisis and at the time he was laughed at for those predictions. Even leading economists laughed at him for saying that there was an imminent housing crisis that would go well beyond the sub-prime market. Time after time he was pushed aside as being off-base, inaccurate and even mildly crazy.

We can now see that Schiff was spot on. Though as bad as things are now, Schiff has predicted that things will worsen with the current policies. People are still laughing at him



and his predictions.

Among the problems Schiff sees is the Federal Reserve. At the beginning of former President Bush's first term in office the country was facing a recession. Alan Greenspan was the chair of the Federal Reserve and decided to lower the interest rate to 1 percent to try to stimulate growth. It worked, but the price of borrowing money being that low led to the creation of a bubble — the housing bubble.

The housing bubble burst right as Obama was coming into office and the current chair of the Federal Reserve, Ben Bernanke, has been doing exactly what Alan Greenspan did under Bush: lower the interest rate. This time the interest rate is even lower than it was before — it's near 0 percent. Such an interest rate is made possible by the powers of the Federal Reserve. Low interest

rates encourage spending over savings, but that's exactly our problem: too much spending and not enough saving. The housing crisis was caused by too many people buying houses they couldn't afford, made possible in part by the Federal Reserve but also through government guarantees to institutions like Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, that would later hemorrhage taxpayer money.

Interestingly, the chairman of the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs is Chris Dodd, who is from Schiff's home state of Connecticut. Schiff sees a lot of policies coming out of Congress and Dodd's committee in particular as being integral parts of the crisis we are currently facing, a crisis that will become even worse if we don't turn things around. This has created an opportunity for Schiff to step up to the plate, go to Congress and

try to change the things he sees as harming the American public. It seems nobody in Congress is willing to face the reality of our recession. Instead, they're trying to re-inflate the bubble again by encouraging more spending through programs like the stimulus plan and cash for clunkers. Both these programs have put Americans deeper into debt, which is digging our hole even deeper. It's time we work our way out of this hole through savings.

If you're interested in learning more about what Schiff thinks about the economy and the government's effect on it, he posts video blogs regularly on the YouTube channel SchiffReport. He explains time and time again how he looks at the current economic and political situation and understands how the actions we are taking now will affect our future. What he says is typically not the mainstream view, but with his accuracy in predicting the current crisis, I think it would be foolish to dismiss his predictions for the future. Sometimes the truth can be difficult to face, but the sooner we do, the better off we'll be in the long run.

Aaron Berk is a computer engineering junior and Mustang Daily political columnist.

## Diversity suffering due to economy

Diversity has always been a major issue on college campuses like Cal Poly. With drastic budget cuts and measures to limit enrollment, it can be expected that the already small populations of women and minorities among higher education faculty and students will also diminish.

CSU Chancellor Charles B. Reed has said that the percentage of minority students is not expected to drop if the CSU system cuts the number of transfers and existing students by almost 1,600. But increasing educational costs will limit the options for many non-white students with limited incomes. They now will be forced to live at home or attend community college. And by putting off acceptance to a university, they could hinder their chances of being enrolled as their application will be placed in the transfer pile that is already looking to be cut.

Even if minorities do decide to go to the school of their choice, the limited federal funding could be a factor. Beginning in 2008, caps were placed on the amount of money available through financial aid and scholarships. According to the Cal Poly Factsheet of 2008, of the \$89,815,419 distributed in financial aid, 44 percent went to women and 34 percent went to minorities. Despite the reassurance of

Reed, the increasing cost of tuition is still obviously a major deliberator for minorities applying for college and attaining a degree.

We must also look to new faculty who bring new curriculum that broadens the topics for students to explore and challenge. In 2008, 29 percent of higher education faculty were non-white and within this year alone women will earn 59 percent of bachelor's degrees and 61 percent of master's degrees this year, as well as half of all Ph.D.s, according to the National Center for Education Statistics. Yet for many looking to teach on CSU campuses such as Cal Poly, the opportunity

will not be available.

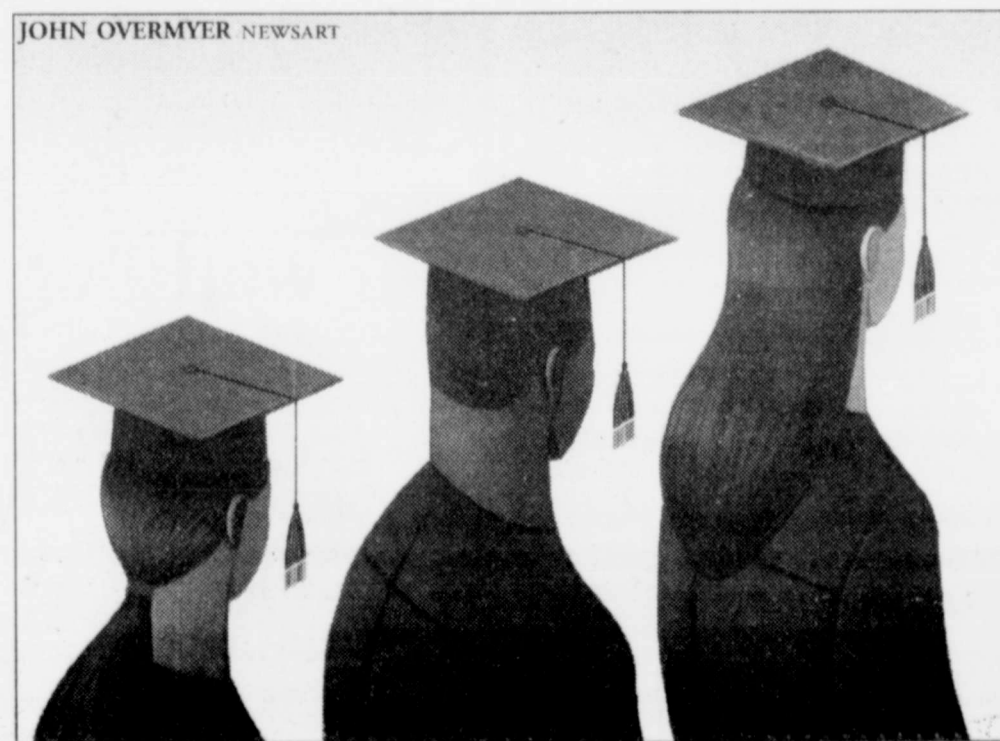
According to the 2008 Cal Poly Factsheet, only 34 percent of the teaching faculty were women and only 13 percent were non-white. However when examining statistics of those working as lecturer non-tenure position, 45 percent were women and only 6 percent were non-white. Ultimately, if the furloughs are not extended to next year CSUs qualified minorities and women working as associate professors and lecturers will be among the first let go. By following the 'first hired, first fired' protocol, Cal Poly student and faculty can expect to see less diversity.

On a campus such as Cal Poly where diversity is already minimal, just the presence of a diverse faculty reminds students of the contributions of minorities and women as well as the conflicts in existing policies. As individuals, they bring new ideas to develop curriculum and discussion intended to develop well-rounded individuals entering a society that is becoming increasingly more multicultural.

Structural problems within the education system will also develop without faculty of various ages, genders and ethnicities who give the students a variety of material and teaching methods. Professors will be taken away from teaching their specialty in an upper division course and be asked to teach a more general lower division class. Also as more courses are being cut, overcrowded students will be forced to follow a one-size fits all curriculum.

Compared to other CSU campuses, Cal Poly's diversity level pales in comparison. As administrators cope with cutbacks while still providing a quality education, we may ask ourselves if diversity should be something we're willing to let go.

Jessica Barba is a journalism junior and Mustang Daily guest columnist.



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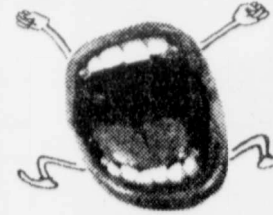
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## Let it out!



Post a comment or send a letter to the editor

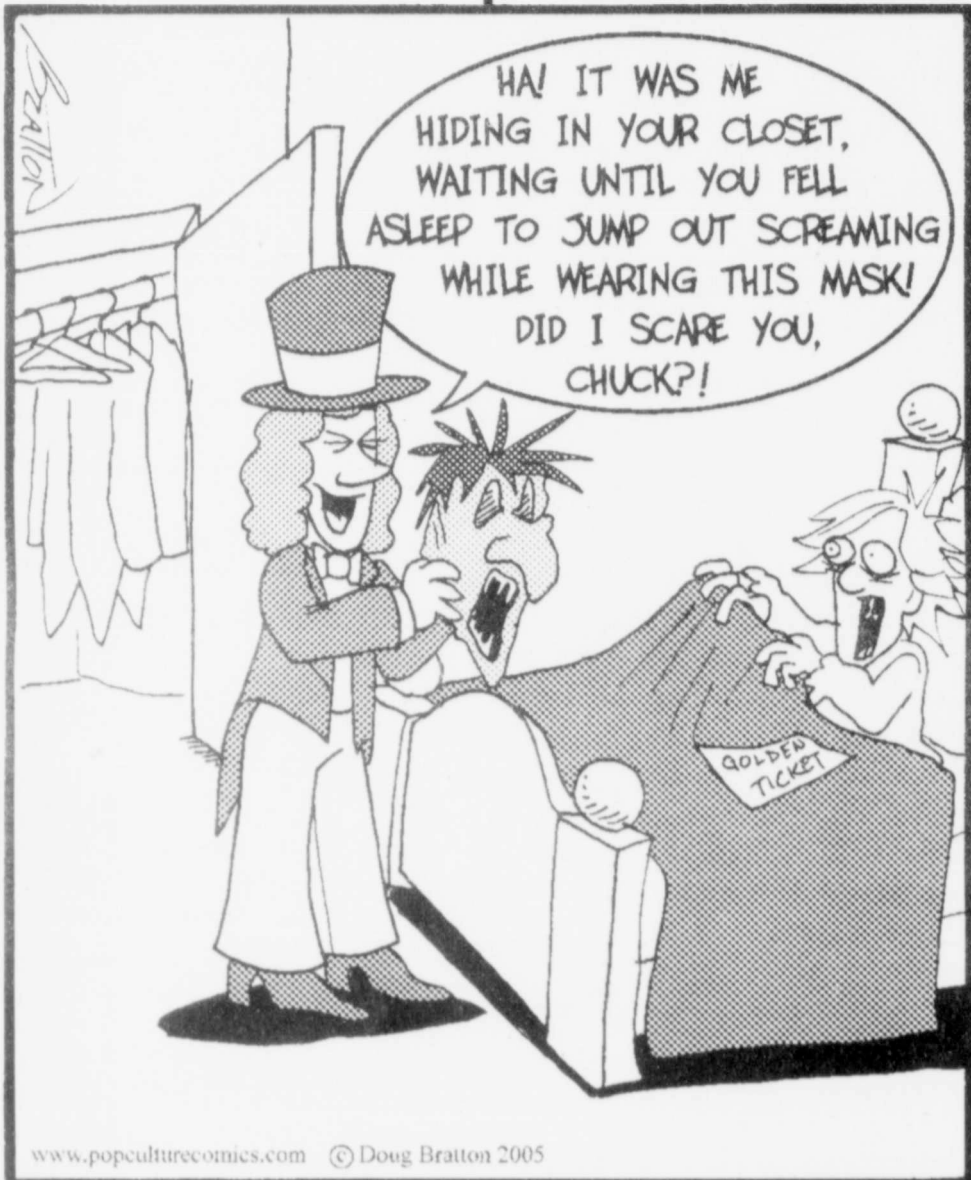
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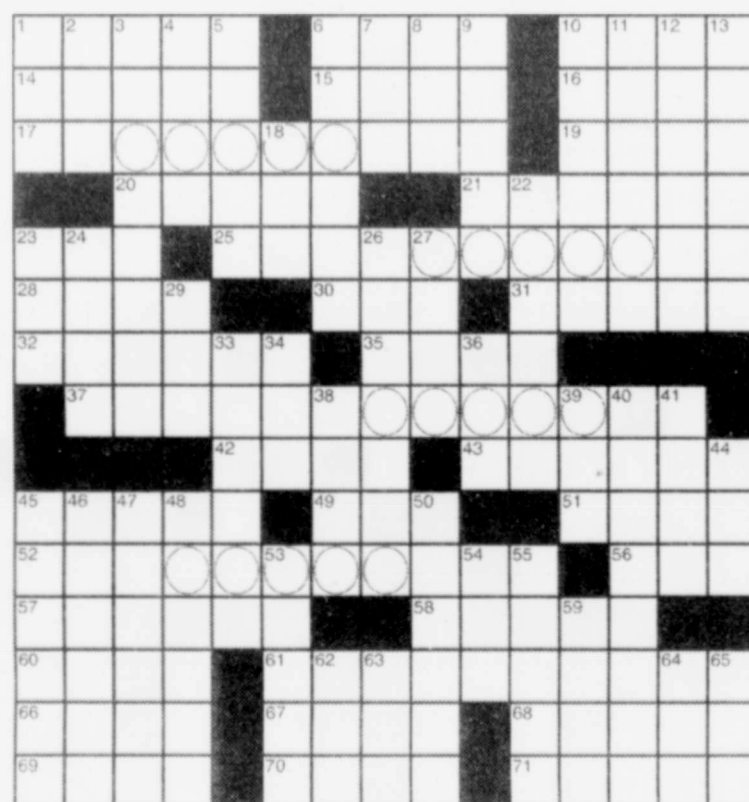
## The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 1020

- Across**
- Composer Kurt
  - Basketball backboard attachment
  - It's the truth
  - "Are not!" retort
  - Dame who's a hoot
  - Jacob's twin
  - View from the Oval Office
  - Madams' partners
  - Grab \_\_\_ (eat on the run)
  - Wrecks beyond repair
  - Stay-at-home
  - Premium Scotch whiskey
  - Sportscaster Hersher
  - Sip from a flask
  - Greeted the morning
  - First-rate
  - Tandoori-baked bread
  - Event featuring sports stars of yesteryear
  - Not a copy: Abbr.
  - New York's \_\_\_ Square
  - "Your 15 minutes of fame \_\_\_!"
  - Litter box visitor
  - Sushi bar soup
  - Pastry sold at pizzerias
  - Safety device eschewed by the Flying Wallendas
  - Levels of society
  - Like an unborn baby's position
  - 10 C-notes
  - Make an abrupt change ... and a hint to this puzzle's theme
  - Passbook amts.
  - Smooth, as the way
  - Kovacs of early TV
  - Word after Bay or gray
  - Eyelid woe
  - Aid in pulling an all-nighter
- Down**
- It was hell, to Sherman
  - Punk rock subgenre
  - "You're on!"
  - Leopold's 1920s co-defendant
  - Mr. Spock's forte
  - Found on this page
  - Like a "Ripley's Believe It or Not!" item
  - Cyclops eye count
  - Trousers
  - Addams Family uncle
  - Panini cheese
  - France's Bruni-Sarkozy and others
  - Bit of a fight
  - Greece's capital, in its airport code
  - Tropicana fruit
  - Holiday
  - Folkie Guthrie
  - Partner of oil
  - On \_\_\_ with (equal to)
  - Drug sold on blotting paper
  - Visit while on the road, as a motel
  - Broadcast

### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

LIMO BAWL WHIM  
ODOR OBOE SHONE  
BOONDOCKS HOODS  
NORMS SERAPES  
COSTA SEGA LEE  
ASH NEUTRON ADS  
BLOCKAGE IKE  
SOTS SHEDS ABED  
TEE PETSTORE  
NET GOULASH USC  
EDU RUNE ORFEO  
PICKETS SERIF  
ASSET OOHANDAAH  
LOONS LEIS ENDS  
INNS DRAT STAT



Puzzle by Gary Cee

- Wednesday
- #2 in a prosecutor's office: Abbr.
- Tennis do-over
- Three-star U.S. Army officer
- Newsman Dan
- Chunnel's home
- Patriotic chant
- Chewy coating for an apple
- Says while choking
- Ipanema's locale
- "who?"

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# 29

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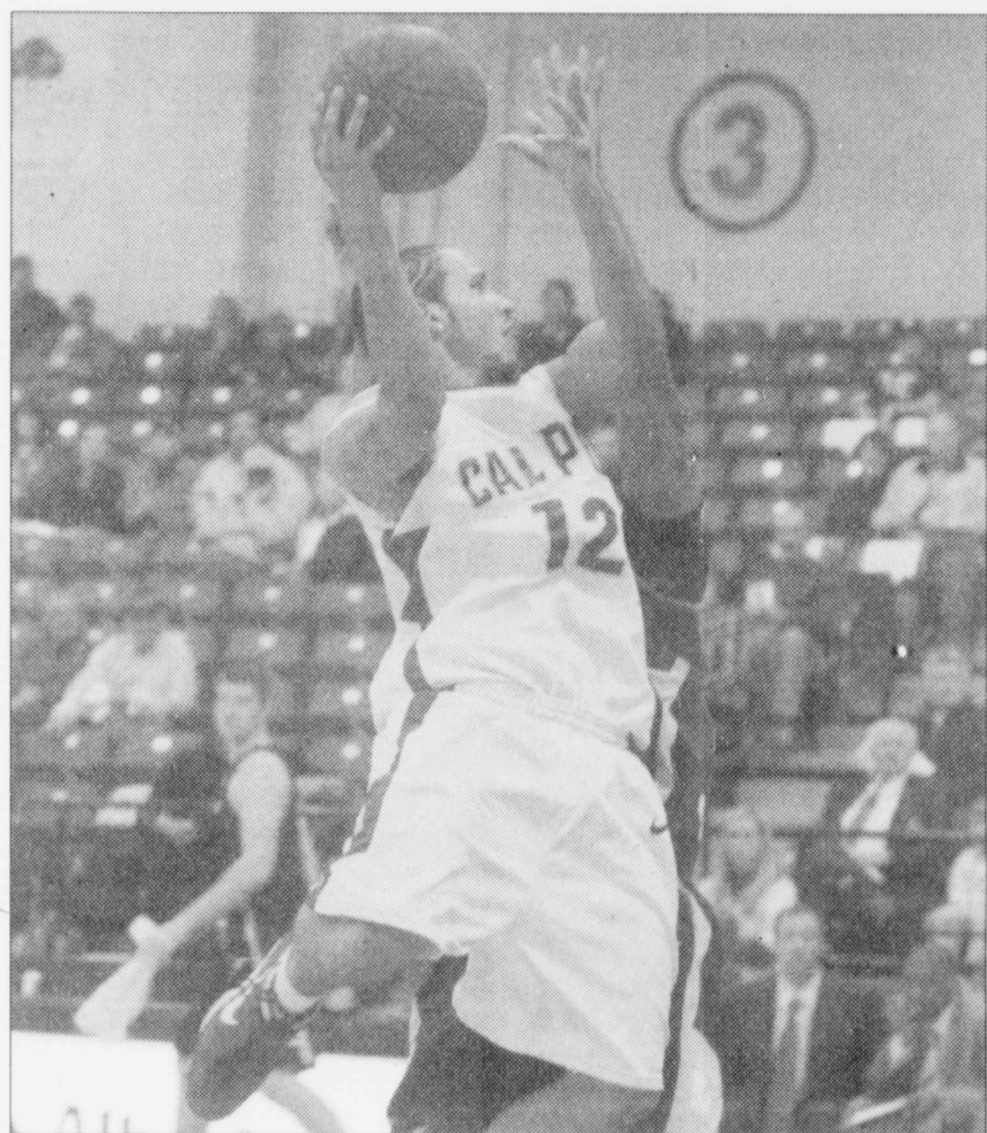
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# Men's basketball falls to Saint Mary's



NICK CAMACHO MUSTANG DAILY FILE PHOTO

In the fourth game of a five-game road trip, Cal Poly fell to Saint Mary's 92-67 at the McKeon Pavilion in Moraga. Cal Poly (0-4) will face Arkansas-Little Rock before heading home for a contest against Joe Callero's old squad, Seattle University. Senior guard Lorenzo Keeler (above) was held to four points. The Mustangs have allowed 92 points for two consecutive games. Jordan Lewis led the offensive effort with a career-high 14 points.

# Mark Sanchez should be benched

Wallace Matthews  
NEWSDAY

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — For the Jets and their emotional coach, Rex Ryan, this was their benchmark game.

As in, bench Mark Sanchez. Because if you don't pull a struggling rookie quarterback early in the fourth quarter of a game like Sunday's, with only 10 points separating the two teams and the hopes, however dim, for an entire season hanging in the balance, when exactly do you pull him?

The answer, apparently, is never. With 10:37 left in a must-win game, the Jets had all the necessary reasons, three interceptions accounting for 10 first-half Patriots points and one aborted second-half drive, and they had the perfect opportunity, a game still close enough to justify a move that might have resulted in a victory.

For whatever reason, Ryan chose to stick with Sanchez.

"No, absolutely not," Ryan adamantly said when asked if he had considered replacing Sanchez with Kellen Clemens before the eventual 31-14 loss got out of hand. "I don't think he's going to get any better sitting on the sidelines."

Maybe not, but on the field, Sanchez clearly is getting worse. And taking the Jets with him.

You can talk all you like, as Ryan did, about the Jets getting outplayed by the Patriots and outcoached by Bill Belichick, but the No. 1 reason the Jets lost was their own No. 6.

From throwing a pick-six to Leigh Bodden to fumbling the ball away on the Jets' final possession, no player did more to ensure the Jets' sixth loss of the season than Sanchez.

After a stunningly impressive start to his rookie season, including a win over the Patriots at Giants Stadium in Week 2, it is clear to anyone not drawing a Jets paycheck that Sanchez is regressing.

Ten games into his pro career, the game is not slowing down for him, it is speeding up. Never did he look more like an overmatched rookie than on his fourth and final interception, but not turnover, of the day, when under pressure from three Patriots defenders, he blindly flipped the ball downfield like a man hoping to persuade a pack of hungry pit bulls to play "go fetch."

Sanchez coughed up the football a fifth time while being sacked, but it no longer mattered. Way before he was stripped of the ball, he already had been exposed.

Even Ryan seemed to realize it, because even though there were more than five minutes left on the clock,

plenty of time to put up a quick score, he chose to have Sanchez do nothing more risky than hand the ball to Thomas Jones. It was like a trainer telling a fighter who had lost the first 11 rounds to box in Round 12.

Whether this was done to protect Sanchez from further humiliation, or because Ryan no longer trusted him to throw the football, or a public admission that Clemens really was not a viable alternative anyway, the effect was the same, a concession speech on the game and the season.

Sanchez's final stats, 8-for-21 for 136 yards with a touchdown and a 37.1 passer rating, were not his worst of the season.

"It's hard to see in the stats, but I'm learning a lot," he said. "I just need to play a lot smarter."

"I think he's getting better," Ryan said. "I don't think he's regressed to the point where we would even consider benching him. He's our quarterback for now and he's our quarterback for the future."

A quarterback whose benchmark game had come and gone, and with it, the hopes for yet another Jets season.

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COMMENTARY



## Who's afraid of Peyton Manning?

Scott Silvey

ON THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

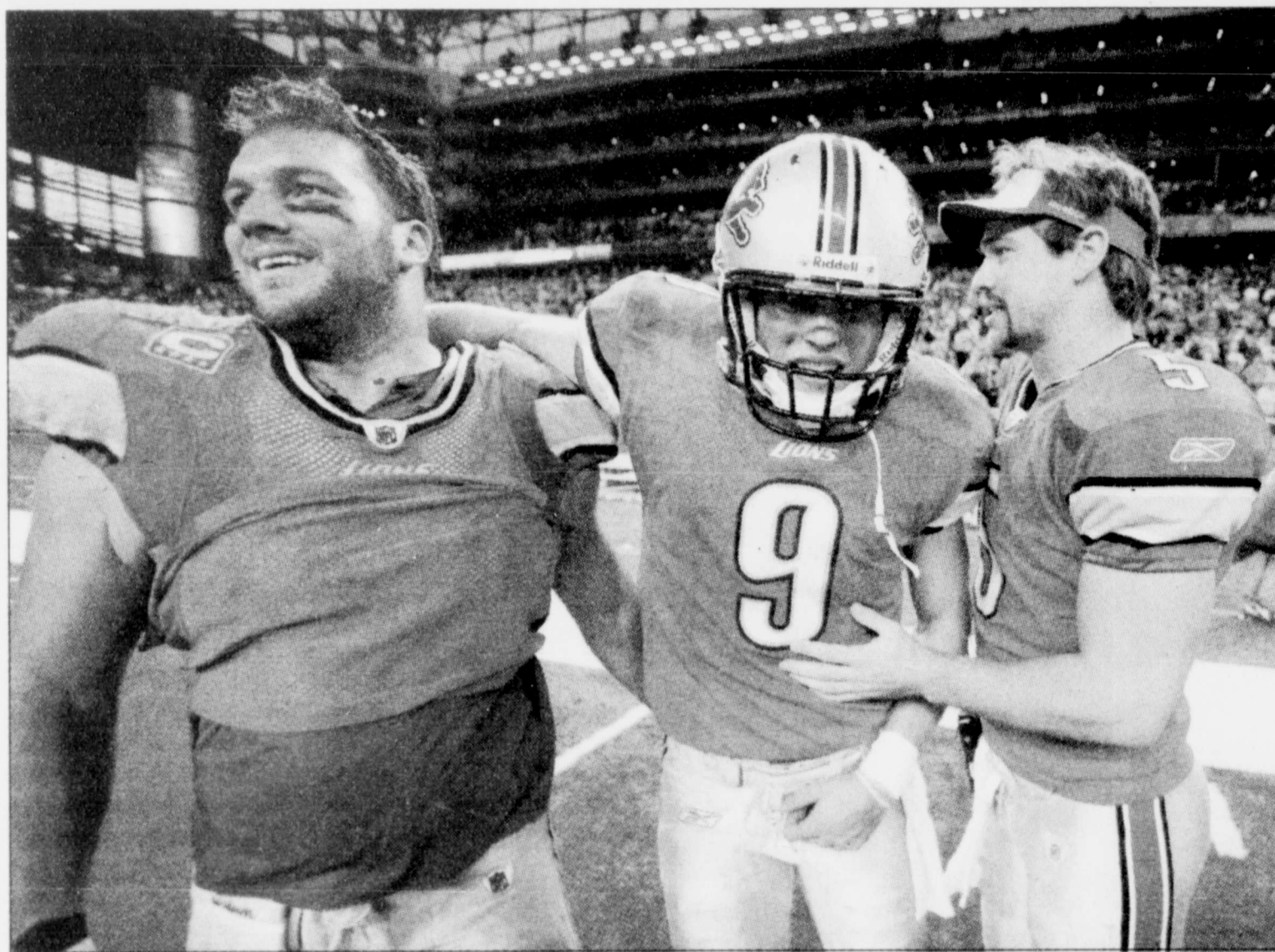
Every once in awhile there is a game so epic that you can't help but watch it. The game goes down to the wire with both teams fighting desperately for a big win to keep their season alive. Then something amazing happens and the game is remembered for generations to come.

OK, so Cleveland and Detroit wasn't all that, but it was close.

If these teams were a combined 16-2 instead of 2-16 coming in, this game would be remembered as one of the great games of the decade.

Matthew Stafford throws a last-second Hail Mary, getting almost killed in the process, and draws a pass interference call.

After he is peeled off the turf, Stafford gets up and with triple zeroes on the clock and throws a



MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE

Matthew Stafford (9) completed a touchdown pass to tight end Brandon Pettigrew with no time left on the clock to propel the Lions to a win, while being hindered by an injury. Stafford became the first rookie quarterback to throw for five touchdowns in a game since Ray Buivid of the Chicago Cardinals in 1937.

touchdown with what appears to be a broken arm. He then limps off the field pointing to his arm, unable to even pump his fist because his arm is probably shattered and will require career-ending surgery.

It was one of the most amazing finishes ever, even if it was between two of the worst teams of all time.

Here is a short transcript of the entire call from the broadcasters. Keep in mind; they don't raise their

voices in the slightest.

"Throws, touchdown Detroit. They did it; the Lions came back and did it."

It was like he was reading from a cue card or something. We need to get Gus Johnson into some of these terrible games.

If there's one way to spruce up a bad game, it's to have Johnson screaming at the end of it. He has a talent for making boring things interesting, which is why he calls a lot of New York Knicks games.

Still, even without Johnson, this game was amazing. The Browns scored four offensive touchdowns on Sunday. In its past games combined, Cleveland had just five offensive touchdowns.

So in one game, we got an entire season's worth of offensive production. Could you imagine if that happened to a team like the Colts or Cardinals?

Final score from Tempe, Indianapolis 448, Arizona 384.

### The Manning Complex

The Colts have been treading on thin ice in their past four victories, winning by a total of just 10 points. Teams are so scared of Peyton Manning's two-minute drill, that they do stupid things at the end of all of these close games to give them away.

In Week 10, Bill Belichick went for a fourth down on his own 28 to

try to keep Manning off the field. It failed, and even the unflappable Belichick was forced to defend himself to the media all week.

In their game against Baltimore, John Harbaugh decided he didn't want Manning to see the field with 2:30 to go in what would likely be a one-point game.

Trailing 17-15 with 2:50 to go, Harbaugh called a third-and-7 pass play from the Colts' 19. The pass was intercepted and any realistic chance of a Ravens win went out the window.

You have to wonder, are teams giving Manning too much respect? As Herm Edwards said, "Hello, you play to win the game."

That means having faith that your defense can go out there and stop Manning from driving 60-70 yards for the winning score.

The Ravens have always had one of the better defenses in the league. They gave up just 17 points to the Colts. But you mean to tell me that Harbaugh had so little faith in his defense that he thought it would be worth it to throw that ball on third down instead of just running it and kicking a field goal? If I were Ray Lewis, I'd be having some words with my coach about now.

### Con-Grad-ulations Raiders

Maybe Oakland finally figured it out. If you bench bums who don't give a damn about your team, the morale will jump and you'll get a solid all-around effort.

Bruce Gradkowski did not turn the Raiders into world champs all of a sudden. But he infused them with passion, and they all played like they had something to actually play for.

Gradkowski knows this is probably his last shot at a starting job in this league. I'm sure he probably realizes that the Raiders will likely try to bring in someone better in the offseason.

But that's not going to stop him from playing like every down means something. Teams pick up on that kind of mentality.

While they beat Cincinnati, which was playing without Cedric Benson, they still played a dangerous Bengals team.

They got a Benson-esque game from rookie running back Bernard Scott and Carson Palmer even ran for two touchdowns.

So this was an impressive win for the Raiders. They could play a major spoiler role coming down the stretch with games against the likes of the Cowboys, Steelers and Broncos.

While Tom Cable probably won't be keeping his job after this season (and frankly, nor should he), I applaud the move to Gradkowski. It's hard to give up on a No. 1 overall draft pick.

We see that going on across the Bay right now. The 49ers keep going to former No. 1 overall pick Alex Smith, despite his many failures. While most San Francisco fans would say Smith is the quarterback only because he's the best of the worst on that team, there is still a stigma with these players.

People see what "could be" with a former top pick, not usually "what really is."

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