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Sex columnist shares  
how to make the good  
times last longer.

IN ARTS, P. 8



Liberal columnist discusses  
cynicism toward the  
economy and institutions.

IN OPINION, P. 12



Softball opens Big  
West schedule this  
weekend.

IN SPORTS, P. 16

# mustangdaily

volume LXXV, number 95

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

www.mustangdaily.net



NHA HA MUSTANG DAILY

Students attending the forum on Tuesday spoke in groups on the dangers of hate crimes and speech, and how to combat it. Students were also allowed to speak to the entire assembly and tell about their personal experiences.

## Forum addresses hate crimes in SLO

Amanda Sedo

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An open forum about the severity of hate crimes was held in the Chumash Auditorium March 29.

During the forum, students were encouraged to share personal experiences and reflect upon a recent alleged hate crime that took place approximately 17 miles from San Luis Obispo March 18.

That night, a large cross sto-

len from Saint John's Lutheran Church in Arroyo Grande was set on fire near the residence of a local black family.

The event was organized by

see Hate, page 2

## UGG-ly burglary: take two

Victoria Billings

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It's a case of déjà-vu.

Three weeks ago, ShoeSurfing.com, a San Luis Obispo shoe business specializing in UGG boots and other sheepskin shoes, had 450 shoes valued at more than \$50,000 stolen from its warehouse on the 3500 block of Sueldo Road. Now, 350 more pairs of boots were stolen just two weeks later, valued again at \$50,000.

In both burglaries, the front window of ShoeSurfing.com was broken to access the shoes. Adam Stahnke of the San Luis Obispo Police Department (SLOPD) is investigating the burglaries, and said the warehouse's location, off the street and behind another building, makes it an ideal target for a crime.

"It makes it easier," Stahnke said. "No one would hear or see the window being broken."

UGG boots and sheepskin shoes are also goods that are in high demand, Stahnke said.

"Their merchandise is highly valuable, and it's desirable," Stahnke said.

Kevin Zurich, owner of ShoeSurfing.com, said he was shocked

after the first burglary, and even more surprised by the second.

"The police officers the first time never said anything to me that would make me feel like (the burglars) could come back right away and do it," Zurich said.

The broken window had recently been replaced when it was broken during the second burglary.

"That piece of glass was only in this window for seven days, and then they did the same thing," Zurich said.

Zurich has been working with the owners of the ShoeSurfing.com warehouse building to set up new security measures. Nothing has been done to improve security yet, but the owners discussed metal grates to close off the parking area at night and rooftop surveillance systems.

"All that's in the works right now," Zurich said.

In the meantime, Zurich and the staff at the warehouse are taking their own measures to improve security. At night, all merchandise previously left in the showroom and accessible from the front window, is now wheeled into the back storeroom, Zurich said. Large metal displays are then rolled up and locked against the doors, making the

see UGG, page 4

## Proposed solar farms heat up local debates

Alicia Freeman

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In an effort to bring sustainable energy to California, two solar farms are striving to lay groundwork in the Carrizo Plain amid both praise and derision.

The Carrizo Plain is located near California Valley in San Luis Obispo County. The two solar farms — the Topaz Solar Farm, being developed by First Solar and the California Valley Solar Ranch, developed by SunPower — aim to power approximately 260,000 homes — 160,000 homes from the Topaz Farm and 100,000 from the California Valley Solar Ranch.

The farms will prevent carbon dioxide emissions as well. The Topaz Solar Farm projects a displacement of

290,000 metric tons (or 55,000 cars) of carbon dioxide a year, according to a First Solar press release.

The solar farms will also bring an economic benefit by providing direct employment of 470 workers and indirectly 630 workers from increased economic spending by employees, according to a San Luis Obispo County study.

Alan Bernheimer, the corporate communications director of First Solar, said the Topaz Solar Farm will produce \$190 million in revenue, \$43 million in tax benefits and \$16 million in sales and property taxes.

"(The solar farms make) San Luis Obispo a leader in solar energy," Bern-

see Solar Farm, page 2



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Cal Poly's solar panels produce 230,000 kilowatt hours annually, but the two proposed farms are projected to produce enough energy to power 260,000 homes — approximately 6.5 million kilowatts a year.

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## Solar Farm

continued from page 1

heimer said. "It might help jump start a solar economy."

Brian Croshal, a mechanical engineering senior and president of the Renewable Energy Club (REC), said he is thrilled about the plans for the solar farms.

"This is definitely a great step in the right direction in terms of scaling up our renewable energy production capacity," he said.

The solar farms also take away from the need for nuclear energy in the county. With the Japan Fukushima Daiichi Power Plant's overheated reactors from the tsunami still emitting radiation, some are worried about San Luis Obispo's own Diablo Nuclear Power Plant.

Patrick Bernard, a mechanical engineering graduate student and

former president of REC, said a significant concern about the nuclear power plant is its location near the San Andreas fault.

"It's built on a fault line and is located a mile away from another," Bernard said. "The equipment is outdated and is constantly having to be repaired."

Yet, with all of the economic and environmental benefits, the solar farms also have some faults.

Some complaints from locals include "increased traffic, loss of farmland, noise from truck trips and visuals," according to the San Luis Obispo County website.

Bernheimer said, however, noise from the solar panels, once completed, will be minimal. He also added that noise from construction will be in small phases because the panels are to be constructed at separate times to avoid noise in one area.

"(We're) only building for about a week (in each phase), so it's not a long-

term issue," Bernheimer said.

A more serious issue with the solar farms is its locations in the endangered San Joaquin kit fox's habitat. With the Topaz Solar Farm taking up approximately 3,500 acres for its solar panels and the California Valley Solar Ranch taking up 1,966 acres, both intrude on the kit fox's environment.

Bernheimer said First Solar has taken the necessary precautions to help the kit fox by proposing a fence to protect the species from coyotes, offering more vegetation in areas that were once farmland and securing 10,000 acres for mitigation — or preservation of — land.

"We think we've done a tremendous amount to reduce the biological impact," Bernheimer said. "We believe it will be a better environment for the kit fox."

The Solar Ranch has also secured 2,399 acres for mitigation land.

Pamela Flick, the California program coordinator for Defenders of Wildlife, a national wildlife preservation group, said the solar farms will still intrude on the kit fox's habitat. She said the solar farms have not finished preservation plans.

"I think it's very assumptive to think that putting thousands and thousands of acres of solar panels ... will have beneficial effects," Flick said.

Although First Solar is striving to protect the kit foxes from predators, coyotes are smart and persistent and will find a way to get their prey, Flick

## What does it say about us to throw species off the lifeboat of recovery to meet our renewable energy goals?

— Pamela Flick

California program coordinator of Defenders of Wildlife

said. She also said the structuring of the solar farms could provide a hiding place for coyotes. The large number of solar panels creating shade in an area that once had no shade will affect native vegetation and wildlife, which along with other construction and structure factors, may affect the ecosystem of the area.

Flick said Defenders for Wildlife and other conservation groups are not against renewable energy; rather, they support renewable energy sources, but feel there are other locations in which the solar farms would be both more efficient and less intrusive.

"This kind of development cannot (be built) everywhere," Flick said. "What does it say about us to throw species off the lifeboat of recovery to meet our renewable energy goals?"

The solar farms are experiments of epic proportions, Flick said. The full economic impact may not be realized until the farms are actually built and in function. As the Carrizo Plains Solar Farm canceled its plans to build a

farm — which was going to be a more solar-thermal energy plant than just solar, Bernheimer said — this elicited Topaz Solar Farm to buy that land.

Since Cal Poly has solar panels, "owned, operated, and maintained by SunEdison, North America's largest solar energy provider," on the Engineering West building that produce 230,000 kilowatt hours annually, Bernheimer said he hopes the solar farm will be a good educational opportunity for students. Once the solar farm is finished, there will be a visitor's center for students and other visitors to learn about the solar farms.

"If classes at Cal Poly wanted to come out and study this project, (they are welcome)," Bernheimer said.

Bernard said he is happy California is pursuing renewable and sustainable energy because of California's dependence on non-renewable and volatile power sources.

"It's about time that California starts investing more wisely into their energy infrastructure," Bernard said.

## (The solar farms make) San Luis Obispo a leader in solar energy. It might help jump start a solar economy.

— Alan Bernheimer

First Solar corporate communications director

## Hate

continued from page 1

David Conn, the associate vice president for Inclusive Excellence at Cal Poly, with the intent to give students the opportunity to reflect on and discuss recent events, including the cross burning in Arroyo Grande.

"We don't really know what the intent was yet (of the cross burning), but it doesn't really matter because the impact was so damaging," Conn said in his opening statement.

Conn continued to explain the differences between hate crimes and hate speech.

"In most cases, a hate crime does not just affect a victim," Conn said. "Typically, all people in

the social group are targeted."

After providing a brief overview of the situation in Arroyo Grande, Conn left the floor open for anyone to speak.

Everette Brooks, the sport club administrator at Cal Poly, expressed words of his own struggle against hatred and encouraged those faced with adversity to continue pushing forward.

"I understand how it made you feel," Brooks said. "It deters you from believing in the common good of man, but you can't let it destroy your mission. There is a small microcosm of people who have this view of hatred."

Even if the views are based on a small number of people, some don't feel as if people have progressed in San Luis Obispo.

Darren Bridges, an industrial engineering senior, expressed sadness as there are still places in California that are not open to other races, he said.

"My stepfather lived out here, and it saddens me that since the time he lived out here that a place like this has not progressed," Bridges said.

During a 10-minute discussion, groups at each table were allowed to discuss feelings and reflect on instances of prejudice and hate. Many students brought up a past incident similar to the cross burning — the crop science house incident which occurred in 2008.

Students said many events that are similar to both of these incidents are simply swept under the rug.

Devon Buddan, a biological

sciences junior, said she dreaded coming back to San Luis Obispo after hearing about the cross burning in Arroyo Grande.

"I do not like (San Luis Obispo) because of the things that happen here," Buddan said. "(San Luis Obispo) was voted the happiest place in America, but people of color don't feel that way," Buddan said.

Alex Wilk, a landscape architecture junior, described the cross burning as a disgusting attack and an insult to the human population as a whole.

"As a part of the community we must speak up and be angry," Wilk said. "The best way to describe this incident is to call it a movement made by people to inspire fear, which is basically localized terrorism."

Other students encourage people to not be silent about this type of action as well.

Kyle Rosso, a history senior, had many members of the forum in agreement when he expressed worry that this event will have a backlash on hate speech.

"Silencing hate isn't solving hate," Rosso said.

As for the cross burning, the incident is being investigated as arson and a hate crime, according to a press release from the Arroyo Grande Police Department.

At this point, forensic experts are processing physical evidence from the scene, and the FBI is actively working with the police to determine the parties involved.

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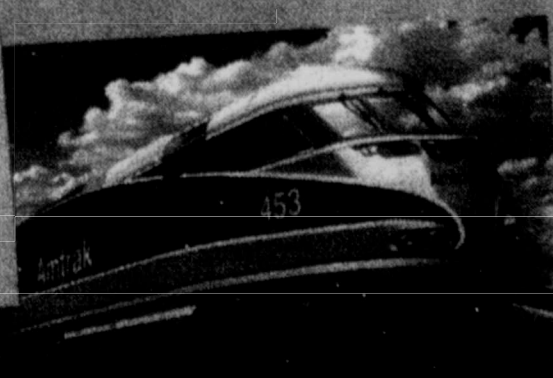


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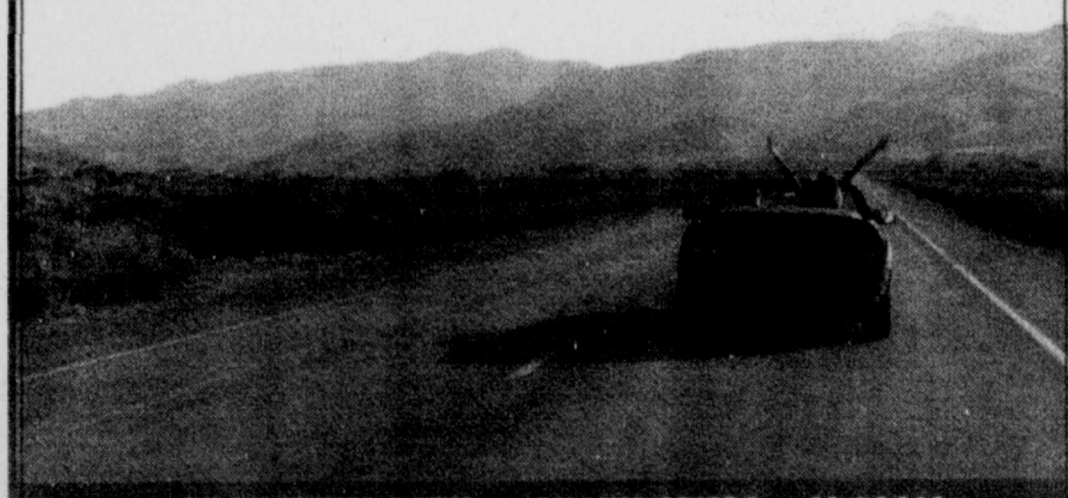
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## UGG

continued from page 1

storeroom hard to reach from the front of the warehouse.

Shortly before both burglaries, Ford E-150 vans were stolen from nearby businesses. Police believe the vans were used to transport the stolen goods.

The van for the second burglary was stolen from Eagles Nest Vending, off South Higuera Street, several blocks from the ShoeSurfing.com warehouse.

Chris Gentry of Gentry Welding & Fabrication, a neighboring business to Eagles Nest Vending, said suspicious activity in the area has increased, and so has his vigilance. Several days after the van was stolen, he noticed someone had tried to pull out the locks in his work truck.

"I've been kind of coming down here in the middle of the night trying to catch them," Gentry said.

Neighboring businesses to ShoeSurfing.com are a little concerned with safety risks, said Shane McSween, an employee at Cal Deals, a furniture store located right next to ShoeSurfing.com.

"Obviously there's got to be a little bit of worry there but thankfully nothing's happened, and hopefully, nothing does happen," McSween said.

McSween, who saw the damage to the ShoeSurfing.com storefront after the second burglary, said he doesn't understand why the business would be targeted twice.

"The owner's really nice," McSween said. "I don't see why anybody would want to steal from him."

All of the stolen shoes and boots have either the ShoeSurfing.com or SheepskinShoes.com logo stamped on the box, which SLOPD are on the lookout for. If the boots were still in the area at one point after the burglaries, Stahnke said, he doesn't believe they are anymore.

SLOPD is working with other local agencies throughout the state to find the missing boots, and the investigation is ongoing. Anyone with information can call the SLOPD or leave an anonymous tip through SLOPD Crime Stoppers.

## Killer whale responsible for death of a Sea World trainer returns to park

Jason Garcia

THE ORLANDO SENTINEL

SeaWorld Orlando plans to put the killer whale Tilikum back into public performances beginning Wednesday, for the first time since the 6-ton whale killed a trainer at the marine park more than one year ago.

SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment President Jim Atchison signed off on the decision this week, and Tilikum is expected to appear in an 11:30 a.m. performance of "Believe," the company's main killer-whale show.

Tilikum has not appeared in any shows since Feb. 24, 2010, the day the animal battered and drowned 40-year-old Sea World trainer Dawn Brancheau.

The death made headlines worldwide, forced sweeping safety changes within SeaWorld, and sparked government investigations and private lawsuits that have yet to be resolved.

SeaWorld said Tuesday that including Tilikum in shows is important for the animal's health and husbandry.

"Participating in shows is just a portion of Tilikum's day, but we feel it is an important component of his physical, social and mental enrichment," Kelly Flaherty Clark, SeaWorld Orlando's animal training curator, said in a prepared statement.

Company officials said repeatedly in the aftermath of Brancheau's death that they intended to put Tilikum back in shows eventually.

The move comes at a sensitive time for SeaWorld, which is challenging a U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration

citation issued last summer. The federal agency accused SeaWorld of willfully exposing its killer-whale trainers to danger without adequate protection, and it recommended that trainers never again be exposed to Tilikum.

Tilikum, an adult male killer whale who has sired more than a dozen calves over the years, is by far the largest of the roughly two-dozen killer whales in SeaWorld's corporate collection.

He had been involved in two human deaths before Brancheau's, including a trainer at a British Columbia aquarium in 1991 and a homeless man who snuck into SeaWorld Orlando's killer-whale complex after hours in 1999.

Hearings before a federal administrative law judge are scheduled to begin April 25.

SeaWorld declined to discuss its decision in detail Tuesday. But in the written statement, Flaherty Clark said SeaWorld "will be using the same methods in caring for Tilikum that have been in place for more than a year."

Those changes include requiring trainers to stay farther away from Tilikum when working with him — massaging him, for instance, with high-pressure hoses instead of manually rubbing him by hand.

SeaWorld says it also has made many safety upgrades to the killer-whale facilities in its parks in Orlando, San Diego and San Antonio. Among them: Guardrails around pool ledges, and devices that can more quickly deploy safety nets in case of an emergency.

And the company says it will make more substantial changes in coming months, including the in-

stallation of fast-rising, false-bottom floors in its killer-whale pools capable of lifting multiple whales and trainers out of the water, potentially in less than a minute.

Still, SeaWorld's critics say the company is risking the lives of its trainers by continuing to work with Tilikum.

"If you had a friend that had a dog that had mauled three people, would you go play with that dog?" said Russ Rector, a former dolphin trainer in Fort Lauderdale who now opposes keeping marine mammals in captivity. "These people only care about the show. They never learn."

Even as it puts Tilikum back into its shows, SeaWorld is also moving forward with plans to put its trainers back in the water with the animals.

Company officials said last month that trainers in its three U.S. marine parks would soon begin limited "water work" with killer whales, with the interactions initially restricted to small medical pools already equipped with lifts in the floors.

The company says it still has not decided whether its trainers will again begin performing with the whales during shows.

No trainers, however, will be allowed in the water with Tilikum. SeaWorld had prohibited water work with the animal even before Brancheau's death because of his size and dangerous history, though the company had begun some limited "water-desensitization training" — during which a whale is taught to ignore a human in the water — before the tragedy.

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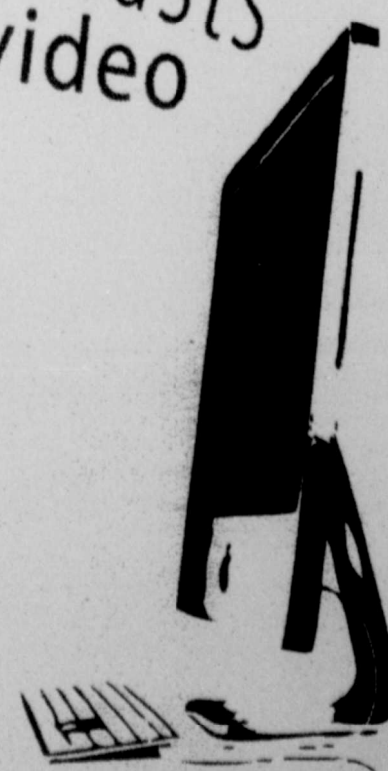
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## Speaker of the House debates next steps to reach budget consensus

Lisa Mascaro

TRIBUNE WASHINGTON BUREAU

With a government shutdown deadline just days away, House Speaker John Boehner faces a fateful choice over whether to abandon conservatives to reach a final deal on 2011 spending.

If the Ohio Republican puts the priority on maintaining GOP unity, he could force a shutdown that many strategists believe could be costly to his party.

But if he goes for a deal with Democrats, the decision has the potential to splinter the new Republican majority in the House. Either way, the choice could define his leadership.

At issue is the size of budget reductions that the Republicans are willing to accept for the rest of the 2011 budget year.

Last week, in negotiations with Democrats, Boehner appeared to be ready to propose roughly \$26 billion in spending cuts for the remaining six months of the fiscal year on top of \$10 billion already

signed into law.

A number close to that likely would be able to pass the Senate, where Democrats are still the majority, giving both parties a political victory at a time of heightened public concern over Washington spending.

However, such a compromise is inadequate for the conservative House GOP wing, many of them newcomers who want deeper spending cuts and have cemented support from veteran Republican lawmakers.

Both Liberals and Conservatives say they want to avoid a shutdown, and Democrats are urging Boehner to get the budget negotiations back on track. Late Monday evening, White House chief of staff William Daley called on Boehner to try to bring the two sides back to the table.

"Speaker Boehner is caught between a shutdown and a hard place," Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., said Tuesday on the Senate floor. "It's time to forget the tea party and take the deal."

To make matters even more complicated for Boehner, the influential Tea Party Patriots group plans to stage a rally at the Capitol on Thursday.

"We think we should push for \$90 billion in cuts," said Mark Meckler, co-founder of Tea Party Patriots.

Also on Thursday, Newt Gingrich, a presumed Republican presidential candidate, will visit Republicans on Capitol Hill.

Gingrich is the former House speaker who in the 1990s led Congress to shut down the federal government two times over a budget stalemate.

Gingrich has said he thinks another funding cutoff would be better than going back on GOP principles.

His decision to go for a shutdown when he was speaker is widely considered a blunder that allowed Democratic President Bill Clinton to recover his political dominance after his party's defeat in the 1994 election.

Boehner has succeeded so far in holding his conference together partly because the votes he was asking members to take were more matters of political symbolism than actual consequence.

But the spending issue strikes at the hearts of many rank-and-file members who ran their campaigns on a promise to end Washington's profligate ways.

In deeply Republican districts around the country, their voters

want to cut more deeply.

Any deal prompting more Republicans to defect would push Boehner into further dependence on Democrats.

Democratic leaders in the House indicated on Tuesday that they would be willing to help pass a budget measure.

But for Boehner, having liberal allies like those would only further reduce his standing among conservatives, both in and out of Washington.

"That'll be the challenge for Boehner," said Ronald Peters, a political science professor at Oklahoma University's congressional studies center. "The only tool he has at his proposal now is his persuasion."

Boehner showed his pragmatic side two weeks ago, when faced with a stopgap proposal to keep government running.

That measure, which expires April 8, cut federal spending at a rate on par with the earlier House-passed bill of more than \$61 billion, one of the largest one-time reductions to domestic education, arts, health and infrastructure programs of its kind.

Despite major cuts, conservatives rejected the temporary bill because it failed to include top Republican policy priorities and represented what they saw as business-as-usual deal-making in Washington. Boehner relied on House Democrats to pass it.

From the other end of the ne-

gotiating table, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., was so impressed by Boehner's pragmatism on that measure that he said he wanted to deliver the House speaker a "bouquet."

Last week, Boehner and Reid appeared to be just \$6 billion apart on a new budget deal. But then talks fell apart.

Democrats blamed the impasse on pressure from Boehner's tea party contingent.

Republicans said Democrats had yet to fully present their latest budget proposal.

Part of the problem lies in the details of the cuts. Republicans are targeting domestic programs, which make up just 12 percent of the federal budget.

In contrast, Democrats want to broaden the debate to include the rest of the budget.

A deal would need to be struck in a matter of days to allow enough time for its passage by the budget deadline of next Friday. Without one, appropriators are quietly gathering information for another possible stopgap measure.

Boehner, in a show of strength, appeared at a news conference Tuesday along with nearly a dozen members from across the spectrum of his caucus — leaders, chairmen, freshmen.

But he also said all options remain on the table. "Nothing's agreed to until everything's agreed to," he said.

**Speaker Boehner is caught between a shutdown and a hard place.**

— Sen. Charles Schumer (D) - New York



# THRIFTY THURSDAYS

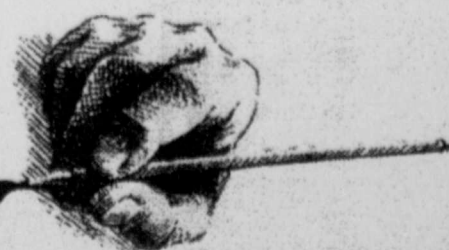
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## State

### SAN FRANCISCO (MCT) —

The radiation doses emitted by the most common walk-through airport scanners are extremely small and pose no significant health risk, according to a new report by a University of California, San Francisco, radiology specialist. Still, Dr. Rebecca Smith-Bindman, a professor at the university's radiology and biomedical imaging department, recommends more independent testing to ensure the scanners are operating as designed. The report published Monday in the Archives of Internal Medicine comes in response to opposition from privacy rights groups such as the Electronic Privacy Information Center to the use of full-body scanners. The devices use low levels of radiation to create what looks like nude images of passengers, which helps inspectors spot weapons or contraband hidden under clothes.

### NAPA (MCT) —

A Presbyterian Church appeals court has affirmed an earlier ruling that the Rev. Dr. Jane Adams Spahr violated the Presbyterian constitution and her ordination vows for marrying more than a dozen same-sex couples during the brief window when it was legal to do so in California.

Spahr, 68, was found guilty in August after a four-day ecclesiastical trial in Napa, Calif. She appealed to the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Pacific, which ruled that she violated church policy, which does not allow clergy to "state, imply or represent" that same-sex wedding ceremonies are church marriages. Spahr plans to appeal the decision, which was made public Tuesday.

During trial in Napa, 10 of the couples Spahr was charged with marrying gave testimony about how important it was to them to be married in the eyes of the church by Spahr, a lesbian minister who has long worked for gay and lesbian rights.

## Briefs

## National

### WASHINGTON D.C. (MCT) —

More than 140 women who had championed Gulf Coast recovery after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita were at it again Tuesday, convening on Capitol Hill to announce that they were supporting legislation that would guarantee the five Gulf Coast states at least 80 percent of BP's fines from last spring's oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, an amount that could top \$21 billion.

The fines, levied as part of the Clean Water Act, are separate from the \$20 billion BP already has dedicated to assist residents affected by the spill in the five Gulf Coast states: Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Florida and Alabama.

...

### ILLINOIS (MCT) —

Thirteen people were hurt — two seriously — when gunmen opened fire in Chicago's Englewood neighborhood on Tuesday morning and a fleeing car smashed into a city bus, witnesses and officials said.

It did not appear that anyone was wounded by gunfire, but instead were injured in the accident or by flying glass, the officials and witnesses said.

About 9:30 a.m. CDT, two men jumped from a red truck and began walking down the block, firing as the truck followed them, a witness said. They appeared to be aiming at a black Intrepid sedan.

As the black car fled down the street, it veered into a westbound No. 75 Chicago Transit Authority bus, pushing the bus into a light pole, another witness said. The driver and four passengers suffered injuries that were not life-threatening, said CTA spokeswoman Lambrini Lukidis.

A Chicago Fire Department spokesman said ambulances transported two people in serious-to-critical condition, one to Advocate Christ Medical Center in Oak Lawn and another to Stroger Hospital.

## International

### BRAZIL (MCT) —

Jose Alencar, who served as Brazil's vice president from 2003-10 under president Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, died Tuesday at age 79, after a 13-year struggle with cancer.

Alencar died at the Syrian-Lebanese Hospital in Sao Paulo, where he was being treated for strong abdominal pain since Monday, doctors said. Over many years as a cancer patient, he underwent surgery 17 times.

As Brazil's vice president, Alencar became hugely popular for his fight against cancer and the good spirits he retained despite the illness.

"I was never afraid of death. We will all die some day. I only ask God not to give me a single extra day alive if it is not a day I can be proud of," he once said.

...

### HAITI (MCT) —

Haiti elections officials are delaying the announcement of preliminary elections results in the country's presidential and legislative elections until Monday.

The preliminary announcement over who won the March 20 runoff presidential elections that pitted Michel "Sweet Micky" Martelly, 50, against former first lady Mirlande Manigat, 70, was due Thursday.

But on Tuesday, elections officials released a communique saying that the volume and verification of the vote required that the announcement be delayed by four days.

In the first round, only about 10 percent of the tally sheets were inspected. Now, more than 15,200 — or 60 percent — of all the tally sheets that arrived in the voting tabulation center following the runoff have been set aside for inspection of fraud.

Workers must open all of the bags and verify the voting identifications with the barcode readers. The bags and tally sheets also are inspected for tampering.

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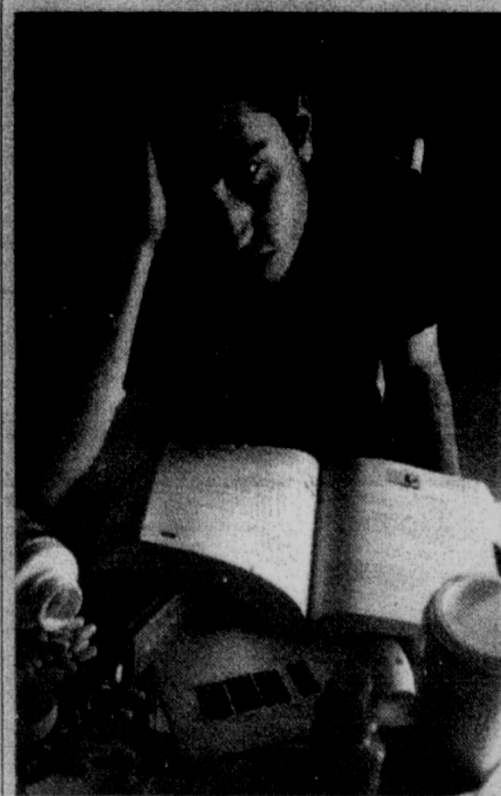
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# Word on the Street

How has the process of getting textbooks been for you this quarter?



"I haven't had to buy textbooks yet — the only books I needed were reading books for English."

— Brittany Sicut, architecture junior



"Some of the books I need this quarter are the same ones I used last quarter, and I haven't bought the others yet."

— Chris Quance, general engineering freshman



"My professor had us order them online, but I would rather use the bookstore and pay a little more because ordering online takes longer."

— Paul Gauna, business administration senior



"Fine — so far I've gotten them from other people for much cheaper or for free."

— Sarah Cooper, communication studies junior



"Pretty easy — I ordered most of them on Amazon but they were really slow to ship, so I canceled the order and went to the bookstore."

— Elika Aram, political science sophomore



"Easy — I ask older students if I can borrow or buy the books I need from them. It's nice."

— Nicholas Salazar, biomedical engineering junior

## Supreme Court split in decision to protect New Orleans district attorney from liability

David G. Savage

TRIBUNE WASHINGTON BUREAU

A bitterly divided Supreme Court tossed out a jury verdict Tuesday won by a New Orleans man who spent 14 years on death row and came within weeks of execution because prosecutors had hidden a blood test and other evidence that would have proven his innocence.

The 5-4 decision delivered by Justice Clarence Thomas shielded the New Orleans district attorney's office from liability for the mistakes of its prosecutors. The evidence of their misconduct did not prove "deliberate indifference" on the part of then-District Attorney Harry Connick Sr., Thomas said.

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg emphasized her disapproval by reading her dissent in the courtroom, saying the court was shielding a city and its prosecutors from "flagrant" misconduct that nearly cost an innocent man his life.

"John Thompson spent 14 years isolated on death row before the truth came to light," she said. He was innocent of the crimes that sent him to prison and prosecutors had "dishonored"

their obligation to present the true facts to the jury, she said.

In the past, the high court has absolved trial prosecutors from any and all liability for the cases they bring to court. The key issue in the case of Connick v. John Thompson was whether the district attorney could be held liable for a pattern of wrongdoing in his office and for his failure to see to it that his prosecutors followed the law.

In 1999, when all his appeals had failed on his convictions for the murder of a hotel executive, Thompson was due to be put to death. But a private investigator hired by his lawyer found a blood test in the police lab which showed the man wanted for a related car jacking had a type "B" blood, while Thompson's was type "O."

Thompson had been charged and convicted of an attempted car jacking near the SuperDome as a prelude to charging him with the unsolved murder of a hotel executive. The newly revealed blood test spared Thompson's life, and a judge ordered a new trial on the murder charges that had sent him to death row. His new defense lawyers found other evidence that had been

hidden, including eyewitness reports from the murder scene. Bystanders reported seeing a black man with close-cropped hair running away holding a gun. Thompson was 5-foot-8 and had a bushy "Afro" at the time.

With the new eyewitness reports and other evidence that pointed to another man as the killer, Thompson was acquitted of all charges in the second trial. He won \$14 million in damages in a suit against the district attorney.

In rejecting the judgment, Thomas described the case as a "single incident" where mistakes were made. He said Thompson did not prove a pattern of similar violations that would justify holding the city's government liable for the wrongdoing. Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. and Justices Antonin Scalia, Anthony M. Kennedy and Samuel A. Alito Jr. joined to form the majority.

However Thompson's lawyers showed that at least four prosecutors knew of the blood test that was hidden. They also showed evidence of other similar cases in New Orleans where key evidence was concealed from defense lawyers.

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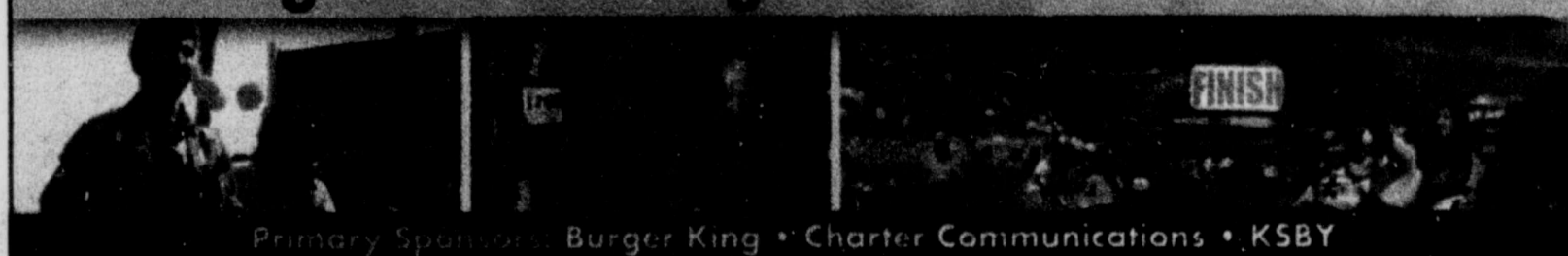
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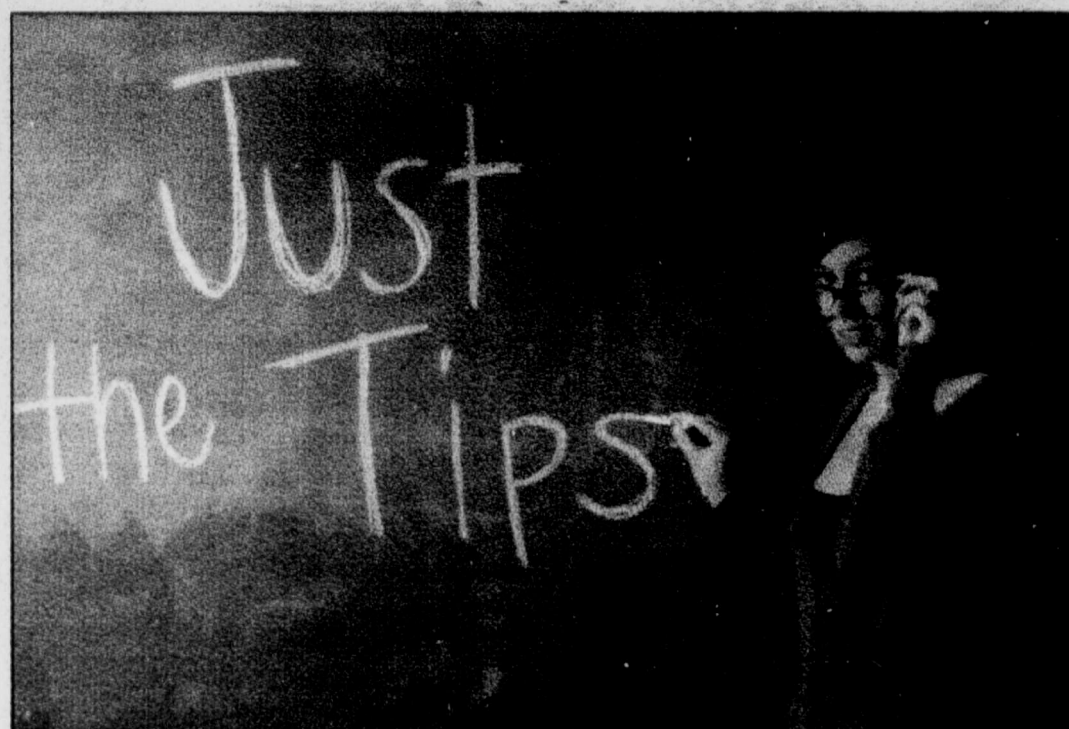
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## Come to a quick solution for premature ejaculation



*Caitlyn Harkins is an English sophomore, Mustang Daily copy editor and sex columnist.*

When you jump into bed (or a study room on the fifth floor of our beloved Robert E. Kennedy Library), sometimes the moment is so freaking hot you can't help but finish before you've even started.

Before your partner sets The Lonely Island's "Jizz In My Pants" as your ringtone, skim this article to assuage your worries.

If premature ejaculation happens to you, it may seem like you're the only one it has ever happened to. But really, there's a huge pharmaceutical market geared toward helping men last longer, because, according to the Mayo Clinic, as many as 1 out of 3 men suffer from premature ejaculation.

Premature ejaculation happens when a man comes before penetration, or within a minute of penetration. It also occurs when men are unable to control or delay their orgasm once they have begun sexual activity, which can include fooling around or penetration.

While sometimes guys can suffer from overexcitement, premature ejaculation can be a biological issue. If it happens every once in a while, there is generally no need to worry about your sexual health. Chalk up your quick orgasm to nerves or how hot your date looked.

Be sure to also take into account

the last time you masturbated or ejaculated. Don't automatically assume you are a premature ejaculator just because you came within 30 seconds on one occasion. If there has been a substantial amount of time since your last orgasm, you are more likely to ejaculate faster and with a higher volume of semen. So if you chose to hold out over spring break keep that tissue box nearby for damage control lest you get the sticky stuff all over your room.

If you're opening the floodgates early during every, or nearly every, sexual encounter (and yes, that includes masturbation), then you should talk to your doctor about potential causes.

By talking to a professional health expert — and not WebMD — you can have peace of mind either knowing your problem is normal, or begin to take measures to extend your sexual rendezvous.

Whether or not you're a chronic early bird or a one-time early arrival, bear in mind it isn't really a big deal. After those awesome I-just-came-I-need-to-take-a-nap orgasm feelings subside, you might feel a little embarrassed that you busted a nut pretty quickly.

Instead of mumbling a weird apology to your partner (or hand, if you were jerking off), offer up a sheepish grin and explain you were so worked up by how hot they were, or that the

see Ejaculation, page 10

**Make your early orgasm into a  
compliment, not a deal-breaker.**

— Caitlyn Harkins  
Sex columnist

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# Cal Poly professor showcases talent at Cuesta

Hannah Croft

HANNAHCROFT.MD@GMAIL.COM

Cuesta College opened an installation, which focuses on both artwork and how it is displayed, by Cal Poly Art & Design professor Michael Barton Miller entitled "Super 8mm" March 10. It will be open until March 31.

Miller said this installation is a combination of watercolor paintings and black and white work. His main influence for it was his love of filmmaking, he said.

"There's a lot going on in this installation," Miller said. "But really, it's a lot about me going back to my amateur roots."

Miller was first exposed to art at a young age. His aunt, a teacher at the California Arts Institute in Valencia, Calif., encouraged him to become involved in art. He fell in love with filmmaking during high school and later moved to the Bay Area, where he joined a film collective, he said. There, he worked with documentaries and commercials.

"When I was trying to make money for my films, I would do mural projects," he said. "I guess that's where painting really came into the picture."

Once his mural painting took off, Miller began to hire others to paint so he could focus on the project design. It was then Miller realized he wanted to continue doing public art.

"I wanted to increase the creative part of my life," Miller said. "But part of me felt like I didn't

know enough."

Miller returned to San Francisco State University to concentrate in drawing and painting. After a year, he transferred to the University of California, Irvine and explored different avenues of art and graduated with honors.

"I was a half credit short of Summa Cum Laude," he said. "I was a great student. I was studying something I love."

With stellar grades and a newfound appreciation for art, Miller attended University of Southern California (USC) to receive a Master of Fine Arts.

"The funny thing about USC is that I applied at the last possible moment," he said. "I literally slid the application under the door. I drove all the way down there because I knew it wouldn't get there by mail."

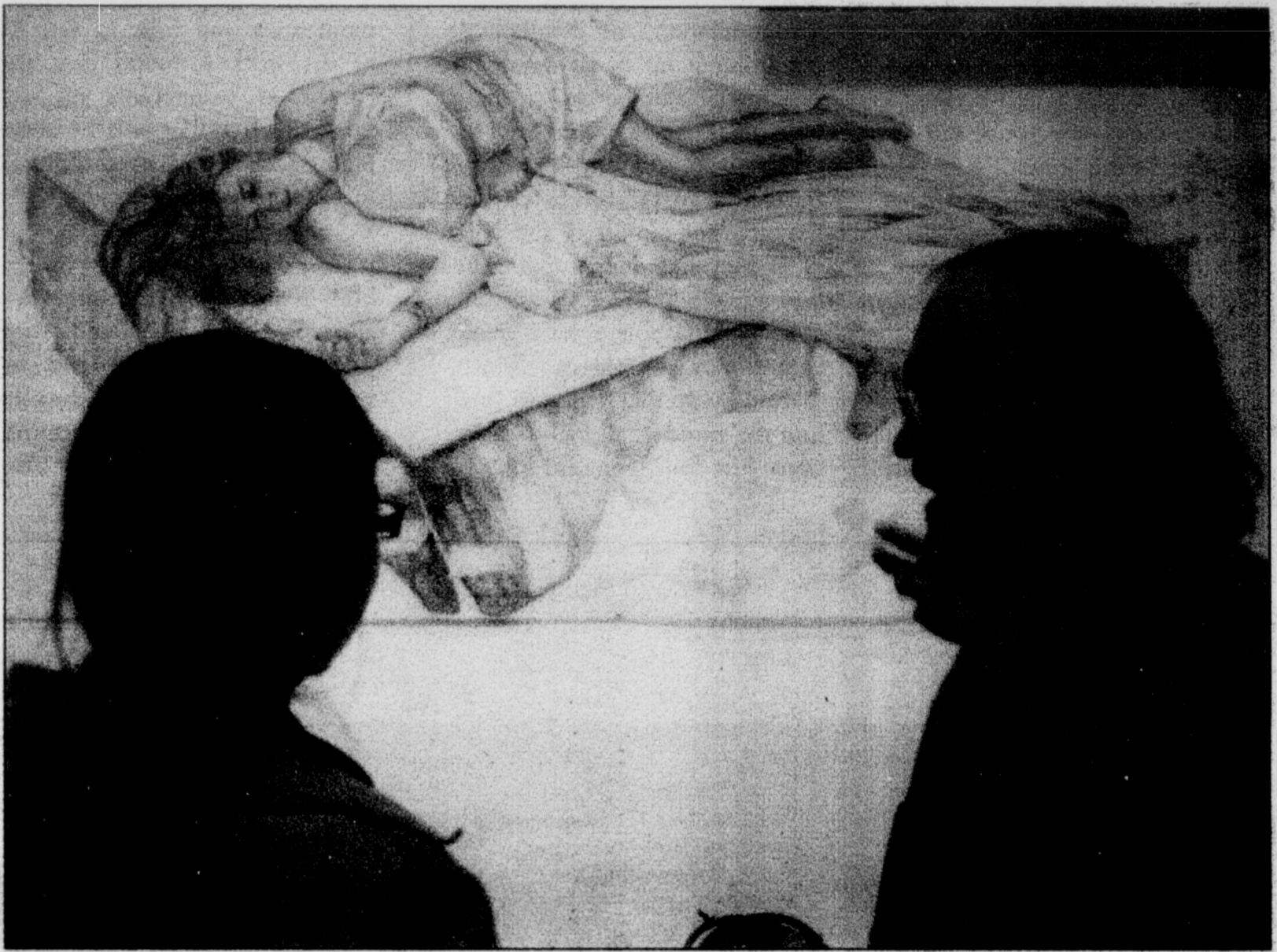
Before his arrival at Cal Poly in 1997, Miller taught at USC, California State University, Long Beach and Pomona College. He said he prefers liberal arts schools because of the multiplicity offered.

Now that Miller is settled in San Luis Obispo, he primarily teaches drawing classes, his favorite being life drawing.

"I also really enjoy teaching idea development classes," he said. "I really love the conceptual aspects of art."

Miller's exhibit at Cuesta College is an installation he described as a participatory art environment, rather than a museum where at-

see Professor, page 9



CHRISTIAN MILLAN MUSTANG DAILY

Cal Poly drawing professor Michael Barton Miller will showcase his work at Cuesta College until Thursday, March 31. Miller said the collection of works displayed at this exhibit doesn't adhere to any certain theme. "I took a lot of risks here, and there are several themes mixed in my work," he said. "There's not one stable meaning throughout."

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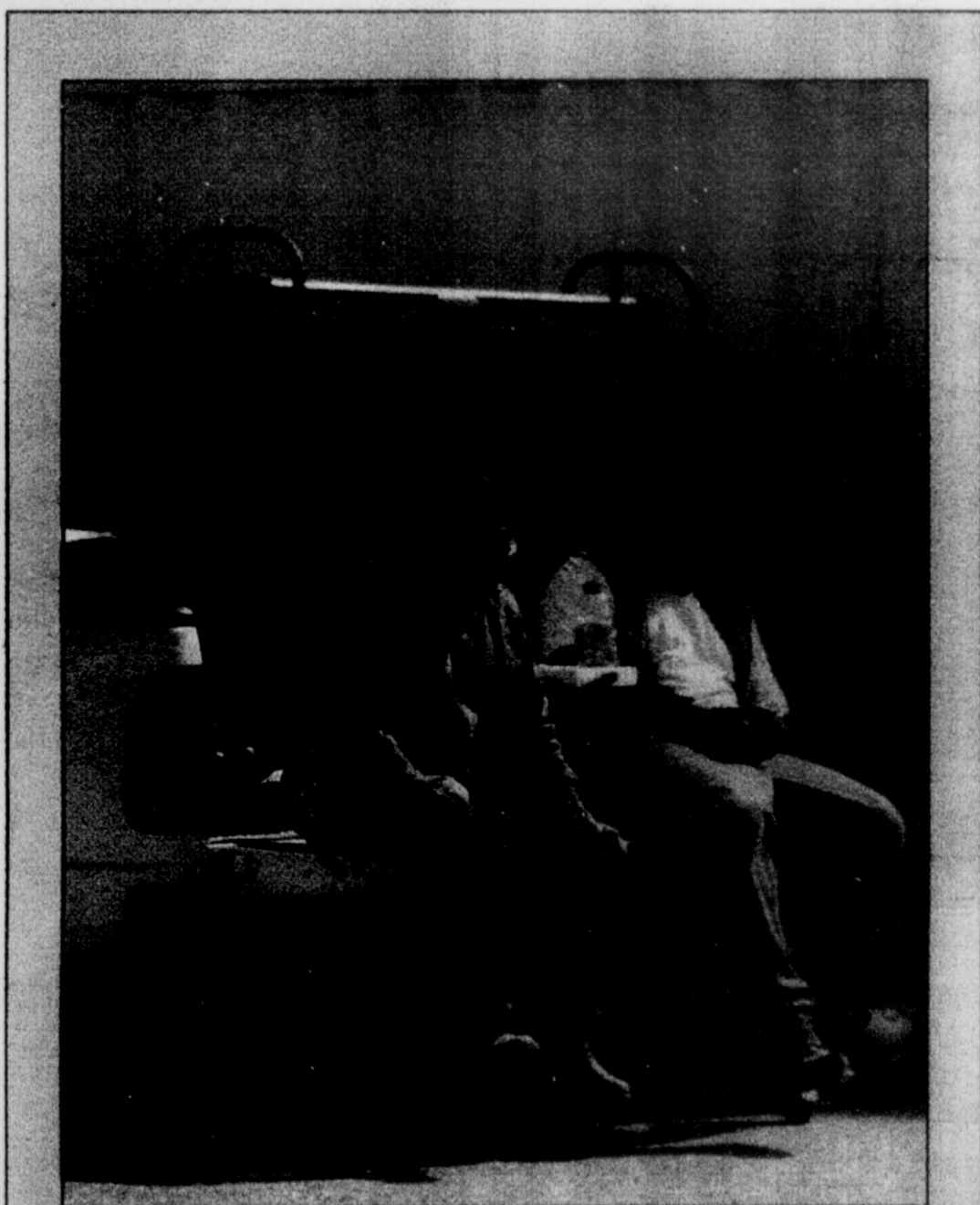
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by Krishna Agneth

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## Ejaculation

*continued from page 8*

one thing they did with their tongue just sent you over the edge.

Make your early orgasm into a compliment, not a deal-breaker. Let your partner know you're still game to keep fooling around, particularly if your partner hasn't orgasmed yet.

If it isn't you, but your partner who climaxed early, for the love of Dr. Ruth, don't freak out. Say something off the cuff ("Wow! All of that foreplay must have really worked!") and ask if you can get your orgasm too, if you want to continue playing.

Keep in mind it was most likely

a one time thing — and if it isn't, casually suggest seeing a doctor together to help make things better. Don't use the moment as a means for humiliation, and definitely do not bring it up in an argument. The matter can be ego-crushing, but only if one of you makes it so.

To help prevent premature ejaculation in the future, practice masturbating almost to the point of orgasm and then stopping before actually finishing. With time, you should be able to have greater control over your orgasm.

And with that, venture forth into the world of all night sex sessions. Just don't forget the lube.

## Professor

*continued from page 9*

tendees sit and look at art. All of the work is brand new and consist of watercolors on vellum, which Miller said he chose because "it is the most difficult material to work with, and I like a challenge."

The work displayed in the exhibit is in both black and white and color. The black and white pieces are conceptual and inspired by more concrete ideas, he said. The color pieces are inspired by his travels in Southeast Asia

and incorporate a lot of Buddhist and Thai influences.

Miller also said he was heavily influenced by "Naked Lunch" author William S. Burroughs.

"He's a zen master," he said. "But he's also brutally honest."

With installations, the art is not only in the pieces, but in the way they are displayed, he said. Miller plays with the way paintings hang and the way the audience experiences his show for every different show.

"That aspect of installation is very experimental," he said. "It puts me in a position to fail, which is kind of terrifying."

This flexibility adds to his idea

that the show doesn't have one specific meaning to him.

"I took a lot of risks here, and there are several themes mixed in my work," he said. "There's not one stable meaning throughout."

Miller said he was especially excited about this show because it's his hometown exhibit. He even turned down a show in Los Angeles to hold this exhibit.

Showing at Cuesta has broadened his influence because students on the Cal Poly campus are familiar with his work, Miller said.

Art and design freshman Lydia Baik plans to visit the installation after seeing photographs of the pieces included in it.

"It's so inspiring to see (that) the person teaching you is also out there in the art world," she said. "It's really exciting to see that."

Not only do students appreciate Miller's work, but they appreciate his talent for teaching as well.

Art and design junior Kelsey Rieger said it's not too common to find someone like that.

"I love Michael as a teacher, and I also really love his work," she said. "I can't say that about everyone."

Miller's installation is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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# Daniel Radcliffe leaves Hogwarts behind

**Daniel Bubbeo**  
NEWSDAY

Before Daniel Radcliffe gave his regards to Broadway in February 2009 when his four-month run in the psychological drama "Equus" ended, he promised that he'd be back ere long — and in a musical.

Obviously, he's a man of his word. Sunday night, Radcliffe took the stage of the Al Hirschfeld Theatre, where he's transformed himself from boy wizard Harry Potter to song-and-dance man in the latest revival of the 1961 musical "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying."

"I think that 'How to Succeed' was a great way for Dan to stretch himself as an actor after the 'Potter' series," said Rob Ashford, the show's director and choreographer. "He chose one of the most demanding things any actor

can do, headlining a musical. I think the thrilling thing about this choice for Dan is that it came from his heart and not his head. I admire that so much from any artist."

"How to Succeed" continues Radcliffe's career path of taking on more mature roles after growing up on screen for the past 10 years in the hugely successful "Harry Potter" film franchise (a worldwide gross of \$6.3 billion and counting). And with a salary in the range of \$20 million to \$25 million for the final two "Potter" films, he's in the enviable position of only taking on dream projects such as "How to Succeed."

"He always wanted to do a musical," said Elizabeth I. McCann, a founder of McCann & Nugent Productions, who was a producer on "Equus." "Many times, if I was looking for him, I'd find him at a karaoke

bar doing show tunes. This show came along, and it's a perfect musical for him."

Craig Zadan and Neil Meron, two of the producers of "How to Succeed" obviously agreed. They were the ones who came up with the idea of casting Radcliffe as J. Pierrepont Finch, an opportunistic window washer, who, within weeks, uses his wiles to climb the corporate ladder several rungs at a time. At 21, Radcliffe is also the youngest actor to play Finch on Broadway (Robert Morse was 30 when the first production opened in 1961, and Matthew Broderick was 33 in the 1995 revival), thus fitting Frank Loesser's lyrics of possessing "that upturned chin and the grin of impetuous youth."

"I thought it was a good match of actor and material and immediately got on board," Ashford said.

Radcliffe, however, did have one reservation. He had taken some singing lessons while working on "Equus," so he was confident that he could put over a song. Dancing, however, was a whole other Quid-ditch game.

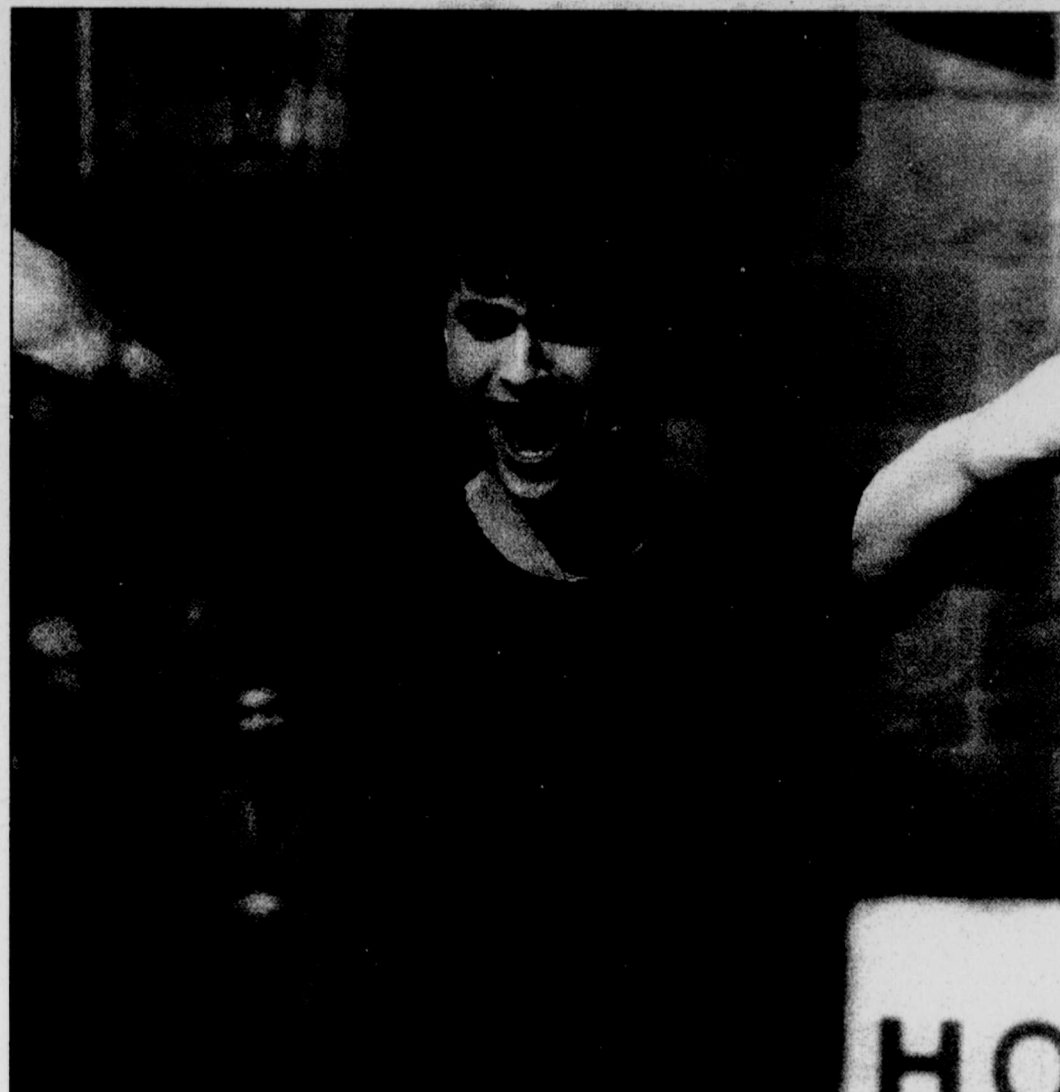
"One of the first things Dan said to me when we started discussing 'How to Succeed' was that he was not a dancer," Ashford said. "I saw him in 'Equus' and felt he was an actor very in touch with his physical life. I set him up with one of my London associates, Spencer Solomon. Not long after they started their sessions, I got a call from Dan. He said he loved working with Spencer and not to count him out in the dance department."

By the time rehearsals began, Radcliffe dove into the big production numbers, Ashford said. "He was determined to be able to lead the company on all fronts. We did not have to simplify any of the choreography because of Dan. He was able to do every step that we had envisioned."

Of course, the question remains whether audiences of 2011 will still find humor in Abe Burrows', a satirical swipe at Madison Avenue that earned them a Pulitzer Prize.

"The greatest challenge of doing any revival is instilling contemporary energy into a period piece," Ashford said. "You must be respectful to the time and place of the original but make the show feel and move like a new creation. The joy of having Dan Radcliffe and John Larroquette lead our company is that they have such a modern interpretation and delivery of the material."

Another benefit of Radcliffe's name on a marquee is the lure of attracting the "Harry Potter" generation to Broadway, an age group that might not normally go to a musical, let alone one set in an era



MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE

Having completed the "Harry Potter" film series, star Daniel Radcliffe has joined the cast of the 1961 musical "How to Succeed" in his pursuit to take on "more mature roles" and distance himself from the "Harry Potter" stigma.

when secretaries were viewed as playthings and 20-something females sang about keeping their husbands' dinner warm.

"It's so important to educate young people to the culture of live

performance," Ashford says. "What better way than by giving them an actor they have all grown up with? Our hopes are that they come to see Daniel Radcliffe and go home having discovered the magic of musicals."

## HOROSCOPES

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30



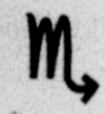
Aquarius

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) — Don't start to believe any of your own excuses at this time. You know where the truth lies and where it doesn't.



Taurus

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) — You may have to push through one or two difficult moments, but you'll come out on the other side feeling capable, confident.



Gemini

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) — Now is not the time for you to fall back on anything that provides you with a comfortable out. You must face what comes directly.



Cancer

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) — Once you make a strong start, you're sure to get done what has to get done — even though someone may be standing in your way.



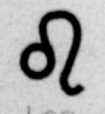
Leo

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) — You must strive to pick up the pace and ensure that you can meet all commitments. Don't lose sight of the big picture.



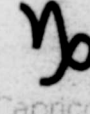
Virgo

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — A collaboration of sorts is developing, and you'll develop a greater understanding of what is possible and what is at stake.



Libra

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — You may feel somewhat fractured at this time as a result of being pulled in too many directions at once. You must start saying no.



Scorpio

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — You may find it difficult to say what has to be said to a friend or loved one, but not impossible, by any means. And it must be said.



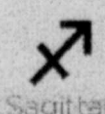
Sagittarius

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — You're looking around at all the options, but you're not yet recognizing which suit you best or offer the best bet for success.



Capricorn

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — It may be time for you to consider a major change either at work or on the home front. A difficult decision is made with relative ease.



Aquarius

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Others are waiting for you to lead the way, but you're not quite sure just yet what the final destination is — or should be.



Pisces

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20) — Work you do alone is likely to pay off more handsomely than anything you can do with another, but this is not always the case, of course.



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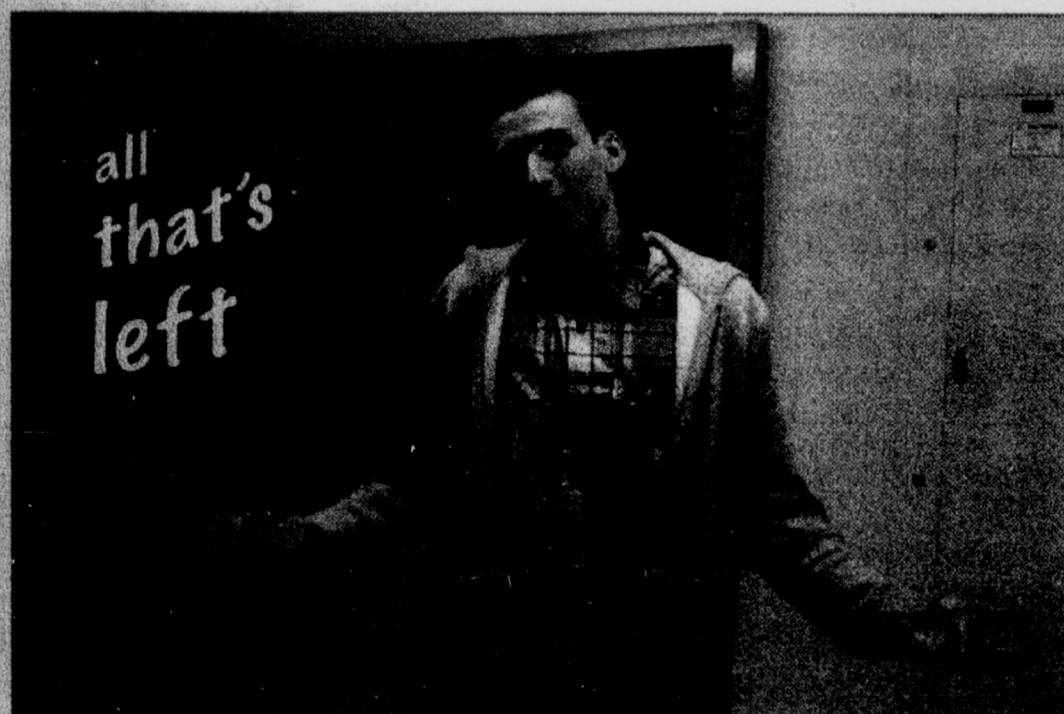


Wednesday, March 30, 2011  
Volume LXIII, No. 93, 2011  
Mustang Daily

Why don't you look up the law?

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# People can't blame institutions forever



Jeremy Cutcher is a political science senior and Mustang Daily liberal columnist.

Cynicism is a common reaction when expectations fall short of reality; it can be rational when markets fail on the promise of creating wealth or when leaders fail on their promise to lead. Thus Liberals tend to be cynical about free markets, which seem to create wealth disproportionately for those who already have it, and Conservatives tend to be cynical about government, which seems inept at solving the difficult issues facing the country.

But there is nothing inherently negative about either. Both are simply institutions in which individuals interact in an effort to provide for our common needs through mutual cooperation. Thus, the actual character of these institutions emerges not only from the incentive structure of each institution but also from the nature of the individuals who participate in them.

Recessions often expose the weaknesses of capitalism. To call our economy "capitalist" is a bit of a misnomer. True capitalism has never existed — the U.S. and the rest of the developed market economies practice a mixed economy with various levels of government intervention (that is why I have often compared Libertarians to Socialists — they are both starry-eyed idealists who fail to recognize the world we live in; somehow though, Libertarians have been deemed more credible).

Most often, this government intervention benefits society — consider abolishing the Food and Drug Administration, which makes sure products we ingest are safe to do so, or the Federal Trade Commission, which aims to "prevent unfair methods of competition in com-

merce." Interestingly, my least favorite regulatory body, the Federal Communications Commission, is one that Conservatives champion in their effort to impose their own morals on the whole of society.

The recent financial crisis provides a good example of the shortcomings of our mixed economy.

Most free-marketers put majority of the blame on government intervention in the financial markets, and they do have a valid point, but I see the problems stemming from the incentive structure and moral bankruptcy of the corporate culture. The incentive structure, namely the bonus culture in high finance, meant that individuals received million-dollar bonuses not based on long-term viability but on short-term gains. Thus, banks packaged and resold subprime mortgages not worrying about the long-term solvency of their liabilities but simply focusing on the short-term profits that allowed their stocks to rise.

Government also created an incentive structure where profits were privatized while risk was nationalized through the bailouts over the years, allowing financial institutions to effectively profit off high-risk investments but not actually bear the risk themselves.

There was also depravity in the corporate culture. There are tapes of traders who knew that the mortgage-backed securities they were selling were much more risky than their AAA rating led on, but they sold them anyway to unknowing buyers because their bonuses depended on it, and they would face no repercussions anyway. When individuals within these investment banks decided to investigate their risk exposure and found troubling numbers, they were ignored by management and banished to smaller divisions, a reminder that

one's career depended not on the soundness of their investments, but on their acquiescence to management's blind pursuit of maximizing short-term profits.

Government often faces the same shortfalls. The incentive structure of our government, based on periodic elections, makes it so that we pursue short-term "fixes" while ignoring long-term problems. That is why it took nearly 80 years to pass some form of health reform (pursued by both Democratic and Republican administrations) and proposals to reduce the deficit only focus on making cuts in 12.5 percent of the budget, ignoring entitlement reform and defense spending.

There is also a lack of responsibility in the "public marketplace." Because we have a representative system, our politicians are supposed to represent our interests, with power resting with the people. But this creates a culture of unaccountability: citizens blame politicians, and politicians blame each other or special interests.

What both institutions have done is to substitute the by-products of success (profits and elections) for the true goals of each institution. The goal of both is no longer to create a "better union" but to pursue their own short-term self-interest and use that as evidence of their success.

Thus, corporations do not always aim to provide the best goods and services at the lowest price but may attempt to hijack the system to create windfall profits. They then use these profits as evidence of fulfilling their social duty. Likewise, election campaigns are now longer and more expensive than ever because elections have become the new goal for elected officials, not excellent public policy.

When the goals of each institution change and become narrower in their interests, the means to achieve those goals will invariably adapt and become narrower, most

likely for the worse.

The crisis of confidence in markets and the government reminds me of former President Jimmy Carter's so-called "Malaise Speech" in 1979.

President Carter believed the American people were losing their purpose and finding false comfort in material items when he said, "But just as we are losing our confidence in the future, we are also beginning to close the door on our past. In a nation that was proud of hard work, strong families, close-knit communities, and our faith in God, too many of us now tend to worship self-indulgence and consumption. Human identity is no longer defined by what one does, but by what one owns. But we've discovered that owning things and consuming things does not satisfy our longing for meaning."

President Carter acted like a true leader in identifying profligacy as a root cause of American disillusionment, an idea that has applicability not only today, but has been the root cause of the downfall of all the great nations and empires throughout history. Nonetheless, the American people did not want to hear that the problem lay in their own principles and values and instead elected Ronald Reagan, who stated that "Government is not the solution to our problem; government is the problem," the following year.

We can blame the institutions as long as we want. But disregarding the role individuals play will allow the same practices to continue with the same results. Recognizing the role of the individual is only to recognize our own complicity in the system, both through our interactions in the institutions and through the leaders we allow to have such large influence over those institutions.

**What both institutions have done is to substitute the by-products of success for the true goals of each institution.**

— Jeremy Cutcher  
Liberal columnist





# Media leaves Private Manning behind following lockup

Edward Wasserman wrote this column for the Miami Herald.

Bradley Manning is the 23-year-old Army private who has been in military lockup since he was arrested last May for allegedly downloading a huge volume of secret U.S. military and diplomatic documents to WikiLeaks, which became headline news worldwide.

Manning is being held in a Marine brig in Quantico, Va., in what the American Civil Liberties Union calls "prolonged isolated confinement and forced idleness." Every day he reportedly spends 23 hours in a 6-by-12-foot cell, and is allowed to exercise — shackled for one hour in another windowless room. He is often stripped and forced to stand naked outside his cell to be inspected, has his sleep interrupted frequently, is periodically deprived of his reading glasses, and generally is subjected to treatment meant to "degrade, humiliate and traumatize..."

Why this former intelligence clerk without terrorist connections

or secrets to hide should be treated with a cruelty that no dog pound would tolerate remains a mystery. But that nastiness may be lucky, in a bizarre way, because what the ACLU primly calls "the gratuitously harsh" nature of his captivity has finally put Pvt. Manning in the news.

It's this punitive handling that has drawn the ACLU's interest, criticism from a handful of columnists and editorialists, and some sporadic coverage pegged to his lawyer's complaints.

It also drew scorn from senior U.S. State Department spokesman P.J. Crowley, who was sacked this month after telling a conference in Boston that Manning's treatment was "ridiculous and counterproductive and stupid."

And it even got him mentioned at a White House news conference, when President Obama was asked if he agreed with Crowley. He doesn't. The president said the Pentagon had assured him the conditions of Manning's imprisonment "are appropriate and are meeting our basic

standards." (That's some thorough review.)

Now, what's interesting here isn't that the mistreatment of a prisoner in a big case might be newsworthy. Brutality always makes good copy. To me, what's notable is that it has taken allegations of near-torture to get the media to pay attention to this guy at all.

Don't journalists have some obligation to their sources? Bradley Manning is, after all, a source, maybe the most extraordinary source of disclosures with truly global significance in living memory.

And protecting sources is supposed to be a major concern among journalists. It's the reason the reporter gives for refusing to name the whistleblower who handed over the explosive documents.

Defending sources against reprisal, the logic goes, makes it possible for important information to reach the public — in spite of the wishes and vanities of officialdom, whether governmental or corporate.

Bradley Manning, if guilty as charged, violated oaths and broke

laws in downloading the low-grade military and diplomatic secrets he provided to WikiLeaks. But then the world's leading news organizations evaluated that material and decided to make much of it public because of its "immense value," as New York Times editor Bill Keller put it.

So? If these news media believe they were right to publish the material Manning gave them, how can they stand aside as he faces life in prison for giving it to them? If they did right and the world benefited, did he do wrong? On what grounds can they say — as Keller and Guardian of London editor Alan Rusbridger have — that they would help defend WikiLeaks boss Julian Assange if the U.S. charges him, while they won't lift a finger to protest Manning's incarceration?

Maybe the government has something undeniably bad against Manning, something beyond the fact that the thousands of embassy cables left some diplomats squirming and prompted awkward apologies. There has been dark muttering

about compromised national security, and talk of treason from Capitol Hill backbenchers auditioning for Fox News. But if there's evidence of real harm I haven't seen it.

What I do understand is that the WikiLeaks material — especially the frank comments of U.S. envoys about the foreign thugs and despots with whom they do business — has been devoured by reading publics throughout the world, people stuck with lapdog media who are starved for reliable, insightful observations about their own corrupt leaders.

These disclosures have been cited by the protesters in Tunisia, the ones who touched off the breathtaking insurgency that's sweeping North Africa and the Middle East. To those young activists, WikiLeaks is a godsend, U.S. diplomats are trusted truth-tellers, and — even if they don't know his name — Bradley Manning is a hero.

The news media like to pose as champions of unpopular causes. But there's no evidence of that in their abandonment of Pvt. Manning.

## U.S. student being held in Syrian prison

Trudy Rubin is a columnist and editorial board member for the Philadelphia Inquirer.

When "Tik" Root's parents saw him off for junior year abroad in Damascus, they never imagined he'd wind up in a Syrian prison.

But Tik, who's pursuing Middle East studies at Vermont's Middlebury College, where his parents are professors, disappeared March 18. He was last seen walking near a mosque where protests had broken out. His father, Tom, told me the Syrian Interior Ministry has confirmed it is holding Tik in detention.

The odyssey of this young American — who wanted to study Arabic and "learn about cultures that are misunderstood" — is a reflection of how unpredictable the Mideast's revolutions have become.

Syria, where protests have exploded in the last few days, was supposed to be the place where a revolution couldn't happen. Of course, no one had expected a revolution in Egypt, where Tik spent fall semester. When the uprising occurred in January, he and fellow U.S. students were "extricated" and sent home.

Back at Middlebury, he was told that, if he wanted to pursue his study of Arabic this spring, Syria was the safest location. It had a "stable" dictatorship under Bashar al-Assad.

Now Tik is among the missing; other foreigners are reportedly being held, too. In recent days, Syrian security forces have killed dozens of protesters in the southern city of Dera and arrested untold numbers more.

Syrian leaders have no good reason to hold Tik or other Western students; even though U.S.-Syria relations are rocky, the United States recently restored its ambassador to Damascus. But Assad seems so shell-shocked by the protests, and his response has been so counterproductive, that one wonders whether the

regime can survive.

There were reasons to think that Syria might avoid the wave of rebellion sweeping the region. In the past, Assad had cleverly leveraged Syria's strategic position. He was the only Arab leader to ally with Iran, and he helped funnel arms to Hezbollah, the Shiite group that dominates Lebanon and threatens Israel. But his periodic willingness to explore peace talks with Israel fueled U.S. and Israeli interest in better relations with Damascus.

And within Syria, many Syrians, even those bitter at the regime's cruelty and corruption, had reason to fear any weakening of Assad's regime.

Many Syrians drew harsh lessons from the chaotic experiment with democracy in next-door Iraq, where a sectarian civil war drove two million refugees across the border into Syria. Syrian Christians, who make up more than 10 percent of the country's population, were frightened by the forced exodus of half of Iraq's Christians, under pressure from radical Muslim militias.

When I last visited Syria, in 2005, many intellectuals and opposition leaders told me that, if Assad fell, the best-organized political force would be Sunni religious groups. The regime had banned the Muslim Brotherhood, but many Syrian teachers and professionals had adopted the hard-line salafi approach to Islam during years spent working in Saudi Arabia. After returning home, they quietly spread this doctrine in mosques and schools while refraining from political activity so as not to arouse the regime.

Meantime, the secular liberal and leftist opposition was crushed by the government, its members intimidated or jailed. So the Assad regime seemed relatively stable.

Yet discontent simmered. The Assads belong to a minority Alawi Shiite sect, while the majority of Syrians are Sunnis. The family circle is accused of rampant corruption, while desperately needed economic reforms languish. Water shortages are growing, while Syria's oil production is falling. Youth unemployment is high.

So it is no surprise that the Syrian uprising started with young people. Fifteen high school students from Dera, inspired by the Egyptian revolution, scrawled antigovernment graffiti on a wall. They were arrested. Locals protested, security forces killed about 30 of them, gruesome videos appeared on YouTube, and more protesters turned out.

On Thursday, the regime offered pay raises and promised to study economic and political change. But the police killed more protesters in Dera on Friday, and protests spread to other cities, although they are still small.

Can Assad save himself? Some Syria experts, such as Bassam Haddad from George Mason University, believe so. "Yes, the revolt can be contained," he says, "if the regime, from now on, avoids mass killings."

But Syrian youth, unmoved by their elders' fear of chaos, may keep rebelling; a shaken regime may be unable to convince them real reform is coming. Bullets may continue to fly.

It would be far better for Syrians and for the West if Assad introduced serious political and economic changes and cooled his risky relationship with Tehran. Unlikely, yes. But one sign that Assad was thinking ahead, not just reacting to events, would be if he lets Tik Root go home.



of course I mean sickening, frustrating, disgusting, insulting and lots of other adjectives, too.

— Austin Mello

In response to "Fox News holds back Ron Paul Revolution"

The city always says they care about students, and this is shown here through Marx's near-comical "office hours" on campus. At the same time, the city consistently passes anti-student legislation. What's going on here?

The answer is simple — who is actually voting? College-aged Americans have the lowest voter turnout, especially during non-presidential elections. Additionally, a good percent of the small number of voting students are not registered in San Luis Obispo; they vote absentee in their hometown.

While the city council likes all the money students spend here, they don't have much to lose (in terms of being reelected) by passing anti-student legislation.

Consider that in the November 2010 election a total of 15,622 votes were cast, and Marx won with only 6,775 of them. Consider that there are about 20,000 students at Cal Poly — more students than the total number of mayoral votes cast. If students would start voting en masse they might be taken more seriously.

— Scott

In response to "Bridging the gap between SLOcals and Mustangs"

What? Fox news isn't... news?!

Everyone already knows that most news sources are biased and partisan, unless of course you happen to be a Fox watcher. And something tells me they're not going to listen to you.

Also, I find it funny how the one that calls itself "fair and balanced" is the one that invented partisan news, and is leading the fight for commentator-presented entertainment propaganda. And by funny,

It is great to see the conservative columnist recognize Fox News' Ron Paul bashing. The reason Fox doesn't support Ron Paul is because he opposes all forms of the state- including the military-industrial complex for mass murdering innocent civilians abroad. It is a shame because Ron is one of the few respectable politicians. Great to see the conservative columnists rejecting the neo-cons.

— BDZ

In response to "Fox News holds back Ron Paul Revolution"

What about the students who play sports or do activities that require the Rec Center to meet? There are several martial arts styles that meet there and have nowhere else to practice. Additionally, there are many club sports teams that require the facilities (pool and gym). While I agree that exercising outside is nice, it is simply unfeasible for many organizations.

Was there a response as to how they can justify the two conflicting statements: "We knew at some point the contractors would need it back" and "The Recreation Center will remain open during construction, although the entrance may change and some components will be offline during the expansion?"

— Shawn Robertson

In response to "Recreation Center closing until January 2012"

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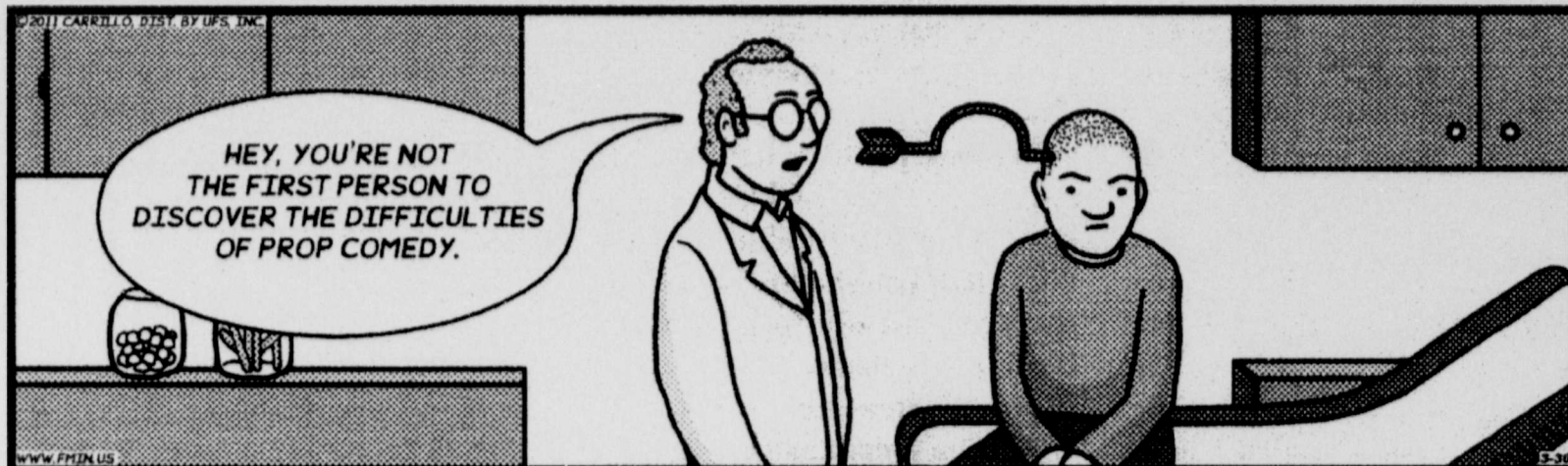
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Last Down clue is 66

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### ACROSS

- 1 Above the horizon
- 6 Plus
- 10 Actress Tyne
- 14 Kind of physicist
- 15 Well, to Yves
- 16 Nadelman or Abel
- 17 Winter precip
- 18 Fix up
- 19 1492 vessel
- 20 Chick
- 22 Wields a machete
- 23 Stalemate
- 24 K2's superior
- 26 Joanne of films
- 29 Broken-down horses
- 31 Shogun's yes
- 32 Frozen Wasser
- 33 Sprouted
- 34 Plumps the pillows
- 38 Write on glass
- 40 Weaken gradually
- 42 Type of survivor
- 43 Century plant
- 46 Leaf part
- 49 Mauna —
- 50 Whiskey grain
- 51 Ms. Fitzgerald
- 52 PC key
- 53 Ordinary
- 57 Handed-down stories
- 59 Where Asia begins
- 60 Grant
- 65 Basketball team
- 66 Ale ingredient
- 67 Strongman of myth
- 68 Rip open
- 69 Doing nothing
- 70 Auditions for a role
- 71 Woes
- 72 Within reach
- 73 Nervous

### DOWN

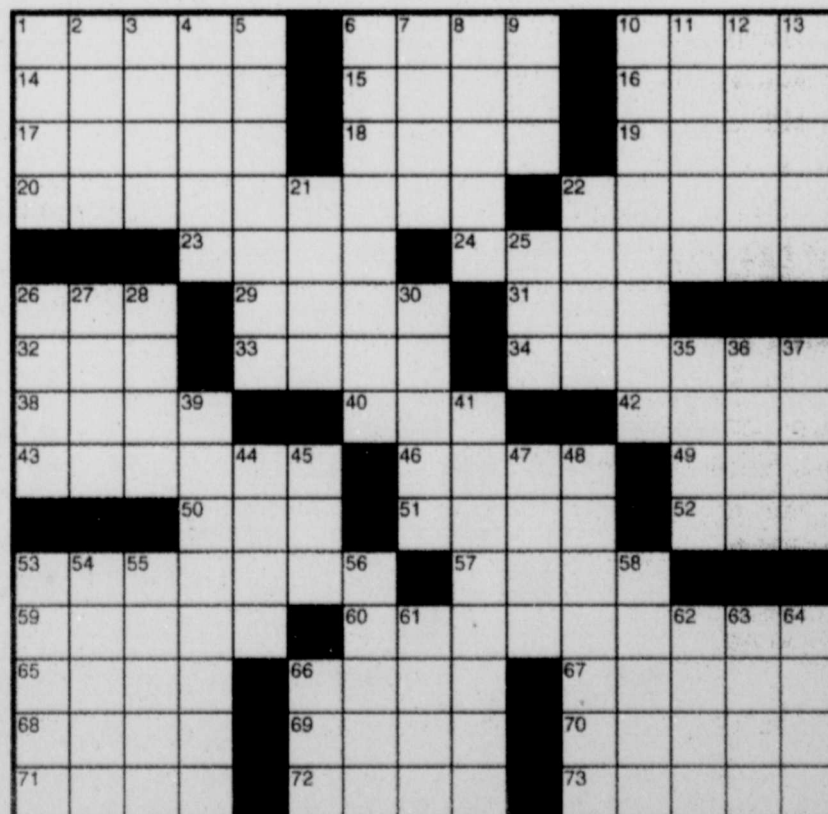
- 1 Impulsive
- 2 Cuba, to Castro

### PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

GASP	PSHAW	SLOB
ETTA	OHARE	IOTA
OVEN	SOUPTONUTS	
	ACHES	BIGTOE
	ARMIES	DALE
BREADS	AIR	RAPT
EGGS	TALES	STAY
AUG	MGT	TSP
REAM	CEASE	TITO
DREI	ABE	SCARES
	RIMA	ISABEL
SAFARI	SNARL	
QUICKSTUDY	OPEC	
FELL	EERIE	IOLA
TREE	SNEAD	DEFT

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- 3 Proofer's word
- 4 Upright
- 5 Zero
- 6 Shortens
- 7 Claim on property
- 8 Papyrus is one
- 9 The Plastic — Band
- 10 Centurian's coin
- 11 Tea-party crasher
- 12 Connects up
- 13 Fermenting agent
- 21 Nonsense verse writer
- 22 Be a doctor
- 25 Channels 2-13
- 26 Regard as
- 27 Hayworth or Rudner
- 28 SOS receivers
- 30 Wet lowland
- 35 Double over
- 36 Big chunk of ice
- 37 Apply caulking
- 39 Track-and-field competitors
- 41 Greenpeace target
- 44 Young falcon
- 45 Hankering
- 47 Coalition
- 48 Long-lost flier
- 53 Civilian dress
- 54 An archangel
- 55 Of ships
- 56 Dodge, as taxes
- 58 Helena rival
- 61 Earthen pot
- 62 Lerner or Ladd
- 63 Brief crazes
- 64 Latin I verb
- 66 Hr. fraction



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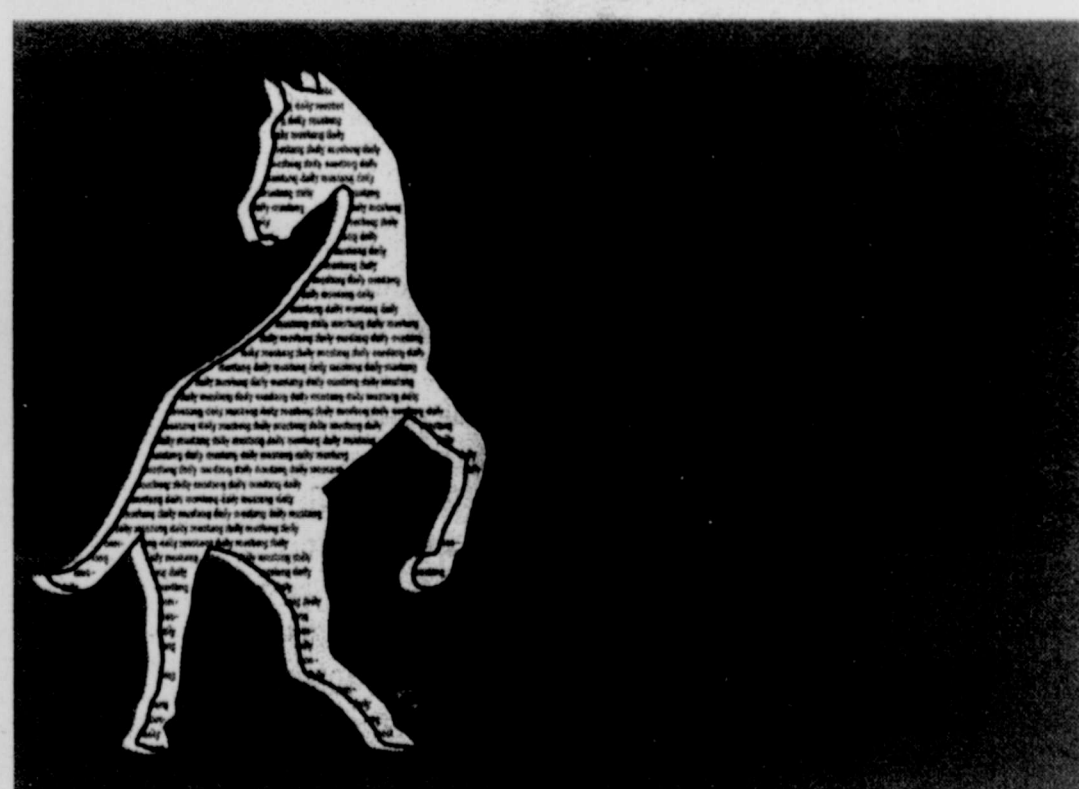
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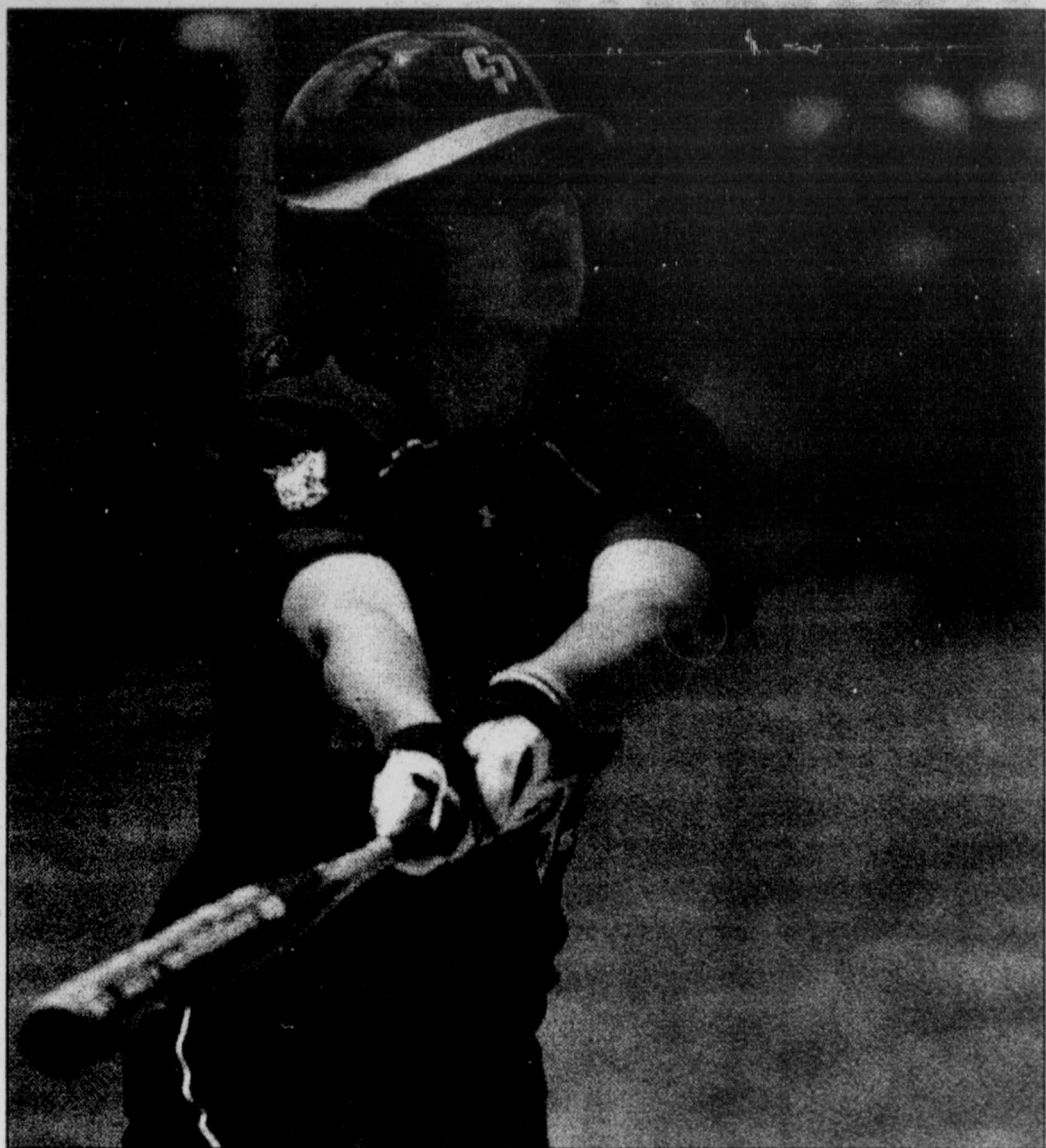
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RYAN SIDARTO MUSTANG DAILY

With the absence of former first baseman Krysten Cary in the lineup this year, the Mustangs have yet to find their stride at the plate.

## Softball

continued from page 16

The ability to get that in-game experience was slightly hampered over spring break as the Mustangs had seven games canceled including an entire tournament in Palo Alto, Calif. and two games against No. 7 UCLA.

After six straight games were called off due to rain, Cahn said the

team was beginning to feel a bit antsy and were ready to step back on the field.

On Sunday, the team was able to channel that energy into a 6-2 victory over Fairfield, but dropped a 3-0 game to UNLV later in the day.

The Mustangs' next game is away against UC Riverside on Saturday, giving the team a chance to rest up before its Big West opener.

## Bonds

continued from page 16

Former Giants trainer Stan Conte tarnished Bonds a bit more than the ballplayers, recounting a discussion in October 2003, shortly after the federal raids on the Balco lab, when the slugger came into his office to decry the investigation and the government's treatment of Anderson.

Conte, who also testified about the physical changes he witnessed in Bonds, said he had a discussion about steroids in baseball with the Giants outfielder, but did not say Bonds talked about steroid use himself.

"He said it was unfair what the government was doing to Greg Anderson," Conte recalled.

Bonds is on trial in San Francisco federal court, facing four charges of perjury and one count of obstructing justice for allegedly lying to a federal grand jury in December 2003 about using steroids as he chased baseball's home run records.

Prosecutors are trying to show that Bonds knew the substances he was securing from Anderson were steroids, and put other ballplayers on the witness stand to recount their relationships with the trainer, which were all relatively similar — they would consult with him, and he would ship packages with steroids from Balco, such as "the cream" and the "clear," that would elude detection in drug testing.

Benard is expected to finish testi-

fying on Wednesday, and be followed by former ballplayer Randy Velarde. Prosecutors have a number of technical witnesses scheduled to follow, as well as Arthur Ting, Bonds' former orthopedic surgeon, and Kathy Hoskins, his former personal shopper.

Benard, Bonds' teammate from 1998 to 2003, said Anderson got him on a steroids regimen. But he never saw Bonds or any other Giants use the same drugs in the team's locker room.

Jason Giambi recalled meeting Anderson in late 2002, when he was traveling with Bonds to Japan for an exhibition series between major league all-stars and Japanese all-stars. "I was picking Greg's brain to ask him what kind of training he was doing," Giambi recalled, referring to Bonds. "He was an incredible player and I was just trying to continue my baseball career." Giambi and Anderson then worked together when they returned to the United States, with the then-New York Yankee receiving packages with newfangled steroids, syringes and doping calendars from the trainer.

At the time, Giambi had been on the cover of Sports Illustrated in his Yankees' uniform, dubbed the "King of Swing." He admitted he'd been using another steroid before he met Anderson, but the trainer told him he would get "tripped" with that drug when baseball started testing in the spring of 2003. Jeremy Giambi, who played for four different teams, including the A's, likewise said Anderson told him he could supply him with "undetectable steroids," which turned out to be Balco's cream and the clear.

Defense lawyers, however, tried to

show through questions to the Giambis that Anderson never told them specifically that those substances were in fact steroids. Jason and Jeremy Giambi acknowledged under cross-examination that they were told by Anderson the cream and the clear were "steroid-like" drugs — which defense lawyers say helps their argument that Bonds did not know the "clear" and the "cream" were steroids when Anderson supplied them.

One thing was abundantly clear from Tuesday's testimony — former trainer Conte loathed Anderson from their first meeting at spring training in 2000, right down to his tattoos. Conte described going immediately to Giants General Manager Brian Sabean and then Manager Dusty Baker to express his concerns about the Bonds-Anderson relationship, but never barred Anderson from the team's facilities because he said he thought the Giants brain trust would side with their superstar.

"I assumed they wouldn't back me," Conte testified.

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

## THIS WEEK IN CAL POLY ATHLETICS

### BASEBALL SERIES

Friday - 6 PM  
Saturday - 6 PM  
Sunday - 1 PM

**CAL POLY** vs. **RIVERSIDE**  
BASEBALL vs. UC Riverside

### TRACK INVITE

Friday - Hammer Throw... 3 PM  
Saturday - Field Events... 11 AM  
Running Events... 12 PM

**CAL POLY**  
TRACK & FIELD  
Cal Poly Invitational\*

At the Cal Poly Mustang Track  
\*Senior Day and Alumni Day



Admission is FREE for all Cal Poly Students Like us on Facebook.com/calpolymustangs

## WE ARE THE MUSTANGS



# Softball seeks turnaround in Big West play



RYAN SIDARTO MUSTANG DAILY

After starting the season 4-22, the Mustangs are hoping they can catch their stride during their conference schedule.

J.J. Jenkins

JJENKINS.MD@GMAIL.COM

For a Cal Poly softball team that was selected as a preseason favorite to win the Big West, a 4-22 start might not look like a picture of a possible conference champion.

However, lost in a poor record is the tough competition the Mustangs have faced through their non-conference schedule.

Twelve of Cal Poly's first 22 games have come against top-25 ranked opponents. While all 12 of those matchups ended in a loss, six

were decided by three runs or fewer.

The team looks to reverse the trend when the Big West season kicks off April 2 at UC Riverside in a three-game set against the Highlanders. The Mustangs make their first appearance at home April 9, to take on rival UC Santa Barbara.

Pitcher Anna Cahn emphasized the matchup with the Gauchos, as well as a late April set with Long Beach State at home, as the results that will go a long way to decide if the Mustangs can return to the postseason.

"The Big West season is going to determine if we go to the postseason or not," Cahn said. "That's what we're banking on right now ... So, I think that the tough (nonconference) schedule that our coaches set out for us is going to help us with our Big West competition."

In 2010, UC Davis split the Big West crown with Cal State Northridge, while the Mustangs fell three games short with a 12-9 conference record — to take third place.

Although the Mustangs are the alleged favorites, pitcher Rebecca Patton said any team in the Big West is good enough to make a run for the title.

"Any team at this point could come out and win it," Patton said. "We just have to wait and see who is gonna bring it on that day."

Though, if statistics and superstitions are to be trusted, the fact it is an odd numbered year — 2011 — may bode well for Cal Poly.

Since 2005, the Mustangs have won 78 percent of their conference games in odd numbered years, earning NCAA tournament bids in 2007 and 2009, while winning just 58 percent in even numbered years and failing to make the tournament.

This season, the team has strug-

gled to hit well, leaving the pitchers without much run support, although Patton remains optimistic about getting the offense going.

"Once we get those runs on the board, we will feel more comfortable out there on defense, and we won't have to worry about playing catch up," she said. "I think that will be the main ingredient in winning the Big West."

Only two Mustangs are hitting over .300, while the team is hitting just .221 as a whole. The Mustangs have also been outscored 136-51 this season. Patton said the early season struggles can be attributed to a combination of a tough schedule and a young squad.

Only two players on the roster are seniors, while eight are freshmen and four are sophomores. While the entire starting infield is made up of freshmen, their fielding percentage (.959) is not drastically below their battle tested opponents.

"We're really trying to have everyone stay accountable," Cahn said. "It is hard with eight freshmen, they are coming fresh out of high school, they are 18-years old. It's really been a learning experience. I think for the coaches and upperclassmen, we're trying our best and we're doing a good job at managing the 12 underclassmen."

That being said, Cahn said the best way for the newer players to transition to the faster pace of college softball is by getting more reps and at-bats that only time can provide.

see Softball, page 15

## Players admit steroid use in testimony of ex-Giant Barry Bonds' perjury trial

Howard Mintz

SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS

SAN FRANCISCO — As baseball players and a former San Francisco Giants trainer traipsed into the Barry Bonds perjury trial Tuesday, it became increasingly clear it would not be a good day for the national pastime. But it was not a particularly bad day for the former Giants superstar.

A day after the soap opera testimony of Bonds' former mistress, Kimberly Bell, the federal jury heard from major league baseball's brotherhood.

Current and former players such as ex-Oakland Athletics All-Star Jason Giambi were forced to acknowledge their own steroid use under oath and reveal the matter-of-fact reality of their sport's steroids era. Jason Giambi, now a Colorado Rockies player, his brother, Jeremy, and former Giant Marvin Benard all admitted they received performance enhancing drugs from Bonds' former personal trainer, Greg Anderson, including the same designer steroids prosecutors allege that Bonds secured from his childhood friend.

But those witnesses scarcely men-



MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE

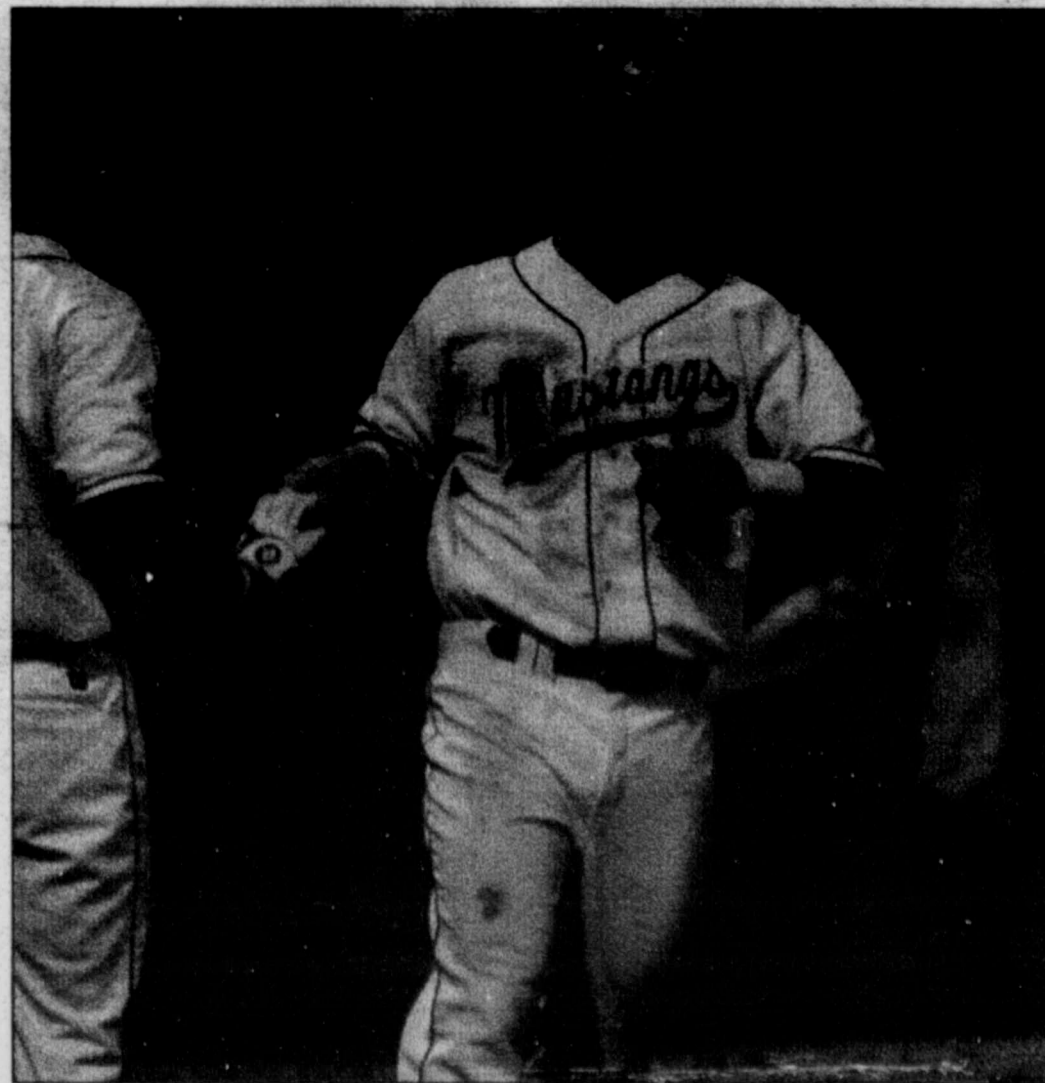
In the thick of Barry Bonds' perjury trial, many players, like ex-Oakland Athletics star Jason Giambi, were forced to admit to steroid use under oath.

tioned Bonds and conveyed no direct knowledge of his steroid use; and the trial judge, Susan Illston, warned jurors they could only consider the testimony to evaluate how Anderson dealt steroids to athletes, not whether the conduct of other baseball players in using steroids from the trainer demonstrates in any way that Bonds likewise used steroids.

Bonds did not appear particularly uneasy as his fellow ballplayers testified. Indeed, during one break, he patted Jason Giambi on the shoulder as he walked by, evidence of a friendship they formed when they were the Bay Area's premier players more than a decade ago.

see Bonds, page 15

## Pepperdine downs Cal Poly in extra innings



RYAN SIDARTO MUSTANG DAILY

The Mustangs had their chances Tuesday night, but couldn't cash in. Pepperdine scored three runs in the 11th inning as the Mustangs dropped their second game in a row, falling 7-4. After leaving a total of 15 men on base, the Mustangs have now lost six of their last nine games. Shortstop J.J. Thompson came up with the bases loaded and two away in the bottom of the ninth inning but struck out to send the game into extra innings. Pitcher Joey Wagman started the game and went 5 1/3 innings, allowing two earned runs off three hits.