Students help at forgotten disaster

Amanda Retzer
MUSTANG DAILY

"Realizing how poor and impoverished the people were before the hurricane hit was the most shocking thing," said business administration senior Scott West. "They really didn't have any options since they didn't have the financial means to recover.

The development and rebuilding of the areas where Hurricane Katrina hit spans highs and lows of perfectly remodeled to absolutely abandoned. A group from the Newman Catholic Center was able to see this roller-coaster of change as they traveled to Bayou La Batre, Ala., during spring break.

Ten students and two staff members flew out to New Orleans on March 25 then took a three-hour van ride to Bayou La Batre. A parish put them up for five days that they were there, providing cot to sleep on, showers and food.

"The people were super nice and the meaning of Southern hospitality," West said. "They brought us trays and trays of dessert to welcome us. They were so excited that we were there."

Once settled in, the team set out to work on a pair of houses that were almost done and ready to be completely lived in.

(Their Catholic Social Services Organization) had been working on two different houses for seven months before we got there," said biological sciences senior Rebecca Cohen. "So we basically helped them finish. We were doing painting and some little cleanup stuff.

One of the homes that the group worked on housed a disabled resident who was really in need because he wasn’t able to do the same repairs that other households.

see Break, page 2

Republican thinks outside the box

Michelle Norgan
MUSTANG DAILY

Patrick Guerriero, executive director of the Gill Action Fund and former Massachusetts state legislator, said in an on-campus discussion Tuesday that his diverse and unorthodox character has helped him in many significant ways throughout his political career.

"People create stereotypes," Guerriero said. "I blow up those stereotypes because I don't fit into the box."

As an openly gay Republican from Massachusetts, Guerriero seems to be a contradiction to many people. He doesn’t think outside the box.

In "Politics, Public Opinion and Polling," in "Grindhouse" and the media work together. Throughout his career, he has learned many lessons that are priceless to his deal-

see Speaker, page 2

Bill would make textbook costs public

Zack Hoopes
COLUMBIA DAILY SPECTATOR (COLUMBIA U.)

NEW YORK — Some people like to know how big the needle is before they get the injection. And pending the passage of a bill before Congress, the same principle will apply to course books.

The College Textbook Affordability Act, S. 495, was sponsored in the US Senate on March 20 by Sen. Dick Durbin, D-III. It has been approved by the Senate and is pending review in the House of Representatives.

The bill would mandate that institutions receiving federal assistance include the ISBN and price of course books on class schedules and registration information that students see before picking classes. It would also require publishers to make available to university faculty the revision history of textbooks and the exact nature of changes made, as well as information on the different formats (paperback, hardback) in which the book is available. And it would force publishers to offer matustas that are often "bundled" together — such as CDs and workbooks — as separate items. Additionally, the bill would require that schools provide information on course books to any bookstore that requests it. see Textbooks, page 2
Break continued from page 1


When we drove through the town, there were quite a few places where you would see part of a home, a house that obviously needs a lot of repair, with a trailer next to it," Cohen said. "I can't imagine living in a trailer outside of my house, waking up in the morning and having to walk around that kind of stuff. And the people are obviously devastated in living where they are.

Cohen also had a unique opportunity in that he was able to visit two mobile homes that were affected by the storm. "We went and visited families that are hopefully going to be able to be helped in the future," Cohen said. "We witnessed firsthand the conditions that people are still living in. We walked into the mobile home and you felt the floor uneven beneath your feet. The kitchen, the sink and the whole countertop were tilted to the side."

"I was very careful with my step as I walked through there. Where there is any kind of natural disaster involving water, mold is a always (a) concern. The second mobile home was a case of that. The carpet was all dried out. You couldn't tell the house had been moist, but there was a smell. There were a bunch of little kids, the room had to take them to sleep other places because it was making them sick. There was mold growing inside the walls. It was something I'll remember for a lifetime.

While many families struggled to pull themselves together, there were certain areas that definitely showed a bit of financial capability. Beachfront vacation homes stood gorgeous and completely rebuild on the shores of the Mobile Bay and the Gulf, where Bayou La Batre sits.

The comparison between the different kinds of properties was very distinct and the group caught on to that difference right away.

"A lot of the destruction was near the Gulf of Mexico. For the homes that were on six-foot stilts, all that was left was the stilts, no homes left at all. The homes they were rebuilding were on 10 to 15 foot stilts," West said. "It was weird to see how new gorgeous homes built right next to an empty lot. Stark contrast. If you had a good solid job, you could afford to rebuild, but a lot of people couldn't.

Many people had trailers parked out on their lots. It was really surprising to see it a year and a half later.

"There are still a number of organizations dedicated to relief efforts, although many have forgotten about the disaster that blew through the bustling center of culture."

"Since then, a lot has been done, but there is a lot of ground to go. Just because the media isn't spotlighting it doesn't mean that people aren't in need. They still need help."

"Even if you don't have any skills, there are plenty of opportunities to assist."

Textbooks continued from page 1

Durbin's stated strategy is to help students and instructors make the most affordable choices in purchasing course material. "Publishers use new editions and bundled material to drive up cost for students who are already having trouble paying for school," he said in a press release, adding, "It's time to give them the information and options they need to make educated decisions about managing their finances in school."

According to Durbin, textbook costs have risen more than 18 percent in the past 20 years.

The bill has been criticized for not containing any firm price controls. Some bloggers and editorial writers have said that the provisions of the bill provide a needless layer of bureaucracy without actually restructuring the textbook market.

While competition among retailers may increase under the bill's measures, reduction of costs may not. According to critics, the fact that students have no recourse if their book has enabled price gouging, and the narrowness of a market protected by intellectual property laws limits the competition among publishers.

Several students said they thought the measures of the Textbook Act would do little to increase their options. "If it will help in extreme cases," said Max Zeisberg, a junior at Columbia University, adding, "If I want to take a class and it's worth it (to buy the books) unless the price is just stupid."

Zeisberg said knowing the revision history will help with problem-textbooks where the title is only minor restructuring between editions. But Janet Yon, a junior, said that revision information is too "essential" or "important" in humanities classes where students can usually just ask the professor about changes between editions.

The bill may also affect textbook retailers who will now be able to find out what books students will want to purchase.

"We'll have better access to professors' course orders, where some refuge to give it to us," Jeff Crew, a buyer atTEXTBOOKS.com, said. The major change will be for smaller stores that have limited buying class, "It would be different because anyone could order the book and it would be available," he said.

But for Thommen Ollapally, a student, the Textbook Act is at least a "first step in the right direction."

"Good that something is being done about this," he said. "Hidden costs are quite annoying."
Google Earth focuses on atrocities in Sudans Darfur

Desmond Butler
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Google is using its popular online mapping ser-
vice to call attention to atrocities in the Darfur region of Sudan.

In a project with the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, inaugu-
rated Tuesday, the Internet search company has updated its Google
Earth service with high-resolution satellite images of the region to docu-
ment destroyed villages, displaced people and refugee camps.

Google Earth allows those who have downloaded its software to
focus on satellite images and maps of most of the world. When users
were able to cover the Darfur region, where the United Nations estimates that more
than 200,000 people have been killed and 2.5 million displaced in four years
of carnage, Google hopes to attract their gaze with icons.

The icons represent destroyed vil-
lages with flames and refugee camps with tents. When users zoom in to a
level of magnification that keeps most of the region on fire, clicking on
flame icons will open windows with video, historical background and tes-
timony on atrocities.

Sara Bloomfield, the museum's
director, said museum staff members
had approached Google about the
project as they sought ways to high-
light what they believe is genocide to
many people who remain unaware.

In Google Earth, which the company
says has been downloaded by 200
million people worldwide, they found
an ideal medium.

"This is like the world's biggest
bulletin board," Bloomfield said.

Sudanese officials, including President Omar al-Bashir, have
denied widespread atrocities have
occurred in Darfur. But The Hague-
based International Criminal Court
has accused officials and militias of
orchestrating massacres, mass rapes
and the forcible transfer of thousands
of civilians from their homes. The
United States characterizes the mas-
saques as genocide.

David Salih, a native of Darfur and
a former officer for the
German Red Cross, who spoke
Tuesday at a presentation by
Google and the museum on the
new project, said he hoped that
Google Earth would help docu-
ment atrocities for millions of users.

California-based Google says it will peri-
doanly update the images.

The online maps of the region also
include an icon that links to a presen-
tation by the Holocaust museum on
the crisis in the region with photos,
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timony on atrocities.

The Hagemos'  size and confirmed the
detection, jeans and a straw hat, accord-
ing to police Sgt. Evan Sailor.

Police initially said a straw hat and a
decently swept off a jetty by a big

The two teens, both 15, were
taken to hospital in "critical/seri-
ous" condition, the Chicago Fire
Department said. Police initially
said the students were in good

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Risky Brazil experiment enables Type I diabetics to live without insulin, other medicines

Lindsey Tanner

CHICAGO — Thirteen young diabetics in Brazil have ditched their insulin shots and need no other medication thanks to a risky, but promising treatment with their own stem cells — apparently the first time such a feat has been accomplished.

Though too early to call it a cure, the procedure has enabled the young people, who have Type I diabetes, to live insulin-free so far, some as long as three years. The treatment involves stem cell transplants from the patients’ own blood.

“It’s the first time in the history of Type 1 diabetes where people have gone with no treatment whatsoever — no medications at all, with diabetics in Brazil have ditched A SSIX ‘IA IH ) I’KESS

Lindsey Tanner

The hazards of stem cell transplantation also raise questions about whether the study should have included children. One patient was as young as 14.

Dr. Lance Ross, a medical ethicist at the University of Chicago, said the researchers should have studied adults first before exposing young teens to the potential harms of stem cell transplant, which include infertility and late-onset cancer.

In addition, Ross said that the study should have had a comparison group to make sure the treatment was indeed better than standard diabetes care.

Burt, who wrote the study protocol, said the research was done in Brazil because U.S. doctors were not interested in the approach. The study was approved by ethics committees in Brazil, he said, adding that he personally believes it was appropriate to do the research in children as well as adults, as long as the Brazilian ethics panels approved.

Burt and other diabetes experts called the results an important step forward.

“The is the threshold of a very promising time for the field,” said Dr. Jay Skyler of the Diabetes Research Institute at the University of Miami. Skyler wrote an editorial in the Journal of the American Medical Association, which published the study, saying the results are likely to stimulate research that may lead to methods of preventing or reversing Type I diabetes.

“These are exciting results. They look impressive,” said Dr. Gordon Weir of Joslin Diabetes Center in Boston.

Still, Weir cautioned that more studies are needed to make sure the treatment works and is safe. “It’s really too early to suggest to people that this is a cure,” he said.

The patients involved were ages 14 to 31 and newly diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes. An estimated 12 million to 24 million people worldwide — including 1 to 2 million in the United States — have this form of diabetes, which is typically diagnosed in children or young adults.

An autoimmune disease, it occurs when the body attacks insulin-producing cells in the pancreas.

Insulin is needed to regulate blood sugar levels, which when too high, can lead to heart disease, blindness, nerve problems and kidney damage.

Burt said the stem cell treatment was designed to stop the body’s immune attack on the pancreas. A study published last year described a different kind of experimental transplant, using pancreas cells from donated cadavers, that enabled a few diabetics to give up insulin shots. But that requires lifelong use of anti-rejection medicine, which isn’t needed by the Brazil patients since the stem cells were their own.

The 15 diabetics were treated at a bone marrow center at the University of Sao Paolo.

All were newly diagnosed, before their insulin-producing cells had been destroyed.

That timing is key, Burt said. “If you wait too long,” he said, “you’ve exceeded the body’s ability to repair itself.”

The procedure involves stimulating the body to produce new stem cells and harvesting them from the patient’s blood. Next comes several days of high-dose chemotherapy, which virtually shuts down the patient’s immune system and stops destruction of the few remaining insulin-producing cells in the body.

This requires hospitalization and potent drugs to fend off infection. The harvested stem cells, when injected back into the body, build a new healthier immune system that does not attack the insulin-producing cells.

Ten patients were hospitalized for about three weeks. Many had side effects including nausea, vomiting and hair loss. One developed pneumonia, the only severe complication.

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3 suspected terrorists blow themselves up in Morocco after police raid, 1 shot to death

John Thorne

CASABLANCA, Morocco — Acting on a tip, Moroccan police surrounded a building where four terrorism suspects were holed up Tuesday, causing three to flee and blow themselves up with explosives. The fourth was shot dead by a police sharpshooter as he apparently was about to detonate his bomb.

A police officer was killed and 10 people, including a young child and a policeman, suffered injuries.

Coming just weeks after a bombing at an Internet cafe, the series of explosions revived memories of five near-simultaneous suicide bombings that killed 45 people in the country's biggest city in May 2003 — this North African kingdom's first brush with Islamic terrorism.

Police have since pursued an unprecedented crackdown on suspected militants, arresting thousands of people, including some accused of working with al-Qaida and its affiliates to plot attacks in Morocco and abroad.

The latest blast came as Morocco prepares for parliamentary elections in September. The opposition Justice and Development Party, an Islamic group, is expected to lead the voting.

Officials said Tuesday's police raid targeted four suspects with alleged links to the bomber who killed himself in the March 11 cybercafe blast. "Those men had no ties with foreign groups," said Mokhtar Bakali, regional administrator for the Casablanca region. "All of the suspects were members of the March 11 group."

One of the bombers who killed himself, Ayyoub Raydi, was the brother of the cybercafe bomber, Abdelmalik Raydi, the Interior Ministry said.

Tuesday's violence started when police, acting on a tip surrounded a four-story apartment building in the working-class Hay Farah neighborhood of Casablanca where the suspected terrorists were holed up, officials said.

One of the suspects fled to the roof, where he blew himself up, said a police official on the scene who refused to give his name, saying he was not authorized to do so. Morocco's official MAP news agency identified that bomber as Mohamed Rachidi.

A second man appeared to be on the verge of detonating explosives, fumbling with his clothes, when a police sniper shot him, officials said. The suspect, who later died of his wounds, was identified by police as Mohamed Mentala. He was carrying near nine pounds of explosives, an Interior Ministry official said on condition of anonymity, citing ministry policy.

Mentala and Rachidi had both been sought by police for alleged involvement in the 2003 suicide bombings, the Interior Ministry official said.

Ayyoub Raydi, the Internet cafe bomber's brother, fled, and blew himself up in the afternoon as police searched the neighborhood, officials said. A bloody pair of legs were seen lying in the middle of a road after that blast. Police covered up the legs, shorn of their clothes, with pieces of cardboard. Broken glass and charred debris littered the street.

A police officer was reported killed and another seriously injured when Ayyoub Raydi blew up a 7-year-old boy was hospitalized with minor injuries.

In the evening, the fourth suspect set off his explosives in the middle of a boulevard, witnesses said. MAP said eight people were injured, two seriously.

Second rape claim emerges against De Anza baseball players

Jordan Robertson

SAN JOSE — Authorities are investigating a woman's claim that she was sexually assaulted in December by De Anza College baseball players at the same house where police said a different girl was raped during a raucous birthday party in March.

Sgt. Ed Wise, spokesman for the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office, confirmed the new claim, but declined further comment.

Authorities began investigating the athletes and some other students at the Cupertino community college, located about 40 miles south of San Francisco, after a 17-year-old girl claimed in March she was raped during a birthday party for one of the team members.

Both alleged incidents took place at the home of De Anza infielder and sophomore Steve Rebagliati, 20, in the Burbank District, an unincorporated part of San Jose. Several people live at the home, which is owned by a Rebagliati family member.

No one has been charged or arrested,wise said. Prosecutors have declined to comment.

After the first alleged rape was reported, eight ball players were suspended from the team for violations of the athletics department ethics code. Sheriff's investigators took DNA samples from an unspecified number of partymakers, including some players, to determine if any of them were involved.

One witness told a local television station that at least 10 people watched and cheered while two De Anza baseball players had sex with the girl in a side room, and that members of De Anza's women's soccer team later took the girl to the hospital.

In an unusual twist, the California Highway Patrol has said it will seek a felony hit-and-run charge against Rebagliati in connection with a car crash on a local freeway just hours before the March house party. Witnesses told the CHP that Rebagliati's green Dodge Ram pickup made an unsafe turn on the freeway and caused two other cars to collide before he left the scene. The witnesses wrote down the license plate number.

Rebagliati's defense lawyer, John Cahners, said no charges have been filed in the crash, and that he learned of the latest rape allegation from the media. He declined further comment.
Celebrities—why do we really care about them?

When actress Lindsay Lohan was in town a few months ago shooting her new movie, the San Luis Obispo Tribune spotted a huge headline: “Look Out for Lindsay.” The very next day it read, “Welcome to Lohan-ville.” These front page stories eclipsed other news of a fatal car accident, a story about tainted tap water, and war news from Iraq.

San Luis Obispo’s recent brush with fame served as a reminder of the increasing level of importance society places on celebrities. Today, fame appears more attainable because it is no longer, as Socrates calls it, “the perfume of heroic deeds,” but (with the advent of the Internet and reality television), a virtual free-for-all.

“Fame Junkies,” by Jake Halpern, explores the discrepancy between “real life” and the illusion of grandeur in an extensive study of three areas of fame obsession: the celebrity entourage, rabid fans and aspiring child actors.

Rather than conduct his research from a desk, Halpern infiltrates the inner circles of his topics, simultaneously engaging in countless interviews. He has a knack for dredging up complete honesty from his subjects while remaining unbiased in order to let his readers form their own opinions. No matter how bizarre, he approaches every case with humanity and curiosity.

In an increasingly celebrity-obsessed society, “Fame Junkies” is eye-opening. It covers a topic that affects nearly everyone, but rarely gives us pause to consider why fame is such an attractive concept. Our interest in celebrities may be more deep-rooted than we think.

According to Halpern, this inclination could be the remains of an ancient survival technique. Those who latched on to the best hunter in a tribe were sure to reap the benefits of greater protection, more food and better shelter. These early synco-

photons might have been the ancestors of that girl with the Britney Spears binder who sat next to you in homeroom.

Para-social relationship. For instance, a character from your favorite sitcom may seem as real, or even more so, than those you encounter in your daily life. Others entertain delusions (whether or not they admit them) that they could really someday become friends with the celebrities they worship.

Halpern provides interesting data showing that people are significantly more lonely today than they were 50 years ago. Less extended families are living together (we ship grandma and grandpa off to the nursing home), and couples are getting married much later, resulting in more single-person homes. Halpern hypothesizes that this lonely void is increasingly being filled with pop culture.

Halpern, a journalist who has written for publications as diverse as The New York Times, Entertainment Weekly and Psychology Today, writes in clear, descriptive language.

Although the book gets off to a slow start, it soon proves itself to be a gem. Halpern offers the rare insider look at not one, but several different worlds the reader would never have the opportunity to explore.

In one of the book’s more intense interviews, Michael Levine, Michael Jackson’s publicist, summarizes Fame Junkies’ conflict when he says, “Fame is a validator. The conflict is that I want it. You want it. We all want it — or want to be close to it. But what is the price? It’s the Faustian bargain ... Celebrities offer you the drug of validation, but you can’t talk straight to the pusher, or you won’t get your drug. That’s the deal.”
Cherry D. in da 'house' and ready to roll

Double flick ‘Grindhouse’ a gripping, bipolar shout out to classic 1970s noir films

Evans Rudd  MUSTANG DAILY

"Grindhouse" has officially raised the gross-out bar. This Quentin Tarantino and Robert Rodriguez slaughter-fest has enough zombie guts, bloody entrails and make-you-vomit sound effects to give an unspecting moviegoer nightmares for weeks.

But for the geeks and horror junkies this movie is intended for, "Grindhouse" is an instant classic. The concept for the film was to emulate a sleazy double feature that would have been shown in an old rundown movie house in the 1970s called a grindhouse. The film is definitely worth the price of admission with more than three hours of unaltered amusement.

We first see two faux movie previews, and this epic is a masterpiece of cinematic debauchery. The first of the two movies is "Planet Terror," a gore-filled zombie flick with an abundance of contrast. One of the sexiest opening scenes ever features go-go dancer Cherry Darling (Rose McGowan) shakin' her money-maker to the opening credits. A few minutes later, pus, blood and guts are spewing across the screen just after a man has his testicles chopped off.

The basic plot of the movie (which doesn't even matter because plot is definitely not the highlight or focus here) involves a government-created virus that turns people into boil-infested, organ-feasting monsters. It's up to a tough Cherry and a small group of survivors led by Wray (Fredro Rodriguez) to speak softly, carry a big stick kind of bad ass — to save the world.

Wray shows off some sweet knife skills when he unleashes his wrath on a zombie-filled hospital. Cherry has one of her legs bitten off, only to be replaced by a stick, then later replaced by a weapon which shoots both missiles and bullets. She last the stick when she shoved it through Tarantino's eye while fighting off his sexual advances. He plays a soldier infected with the skin-mutilating virus.

Even amidst all the violence, any Tarantino movie is bound to have some tongue-in-cheek humor. Cherry grins that her dream of becoming a stand up comedian is now over with awesome deaths. Willis plays a soldier who turns into the gnarliest of all. Fergie, who plays an anchor woman, because it is reinforced to the viewers after being terrorized by Stuntman Mike. His face looks weathered like an old catcher's mitt, and it is accentuated by a jagged scar from his forehead down to his cheek.

His weapon of choice is his car, a beefy, black muscle car used for stunts in movies. The car is supposed to be a huge feature in the movie's name, because it is reinforced to withstand crashes. Whether he's kidnapping women or driving his car head-on into oncoming traffic, Stuntman Mike is a deranged character with a thirst for blood.

Sadly, this movie didn't feature more of him. There was way too much dialogue between the women in this movie that killed the audience to sleep.

"Death Proof" exists in stark contrast to "Planet Terror" with much more character development and emphasis on dialogue. Tarantino and Rodriguez succeeded in their attempt to recreate a zombie/car chase double feature extravaganza. Enter the theater with an open mind and be ready appreciate the creative genius of the film's creators.

For anyone with a weak stomach, it probably wouldn't be a good idea to eat a big meal before the show.

"Grindhouse"

= don't bother. = eeehh...
= rent it = pretty good
= damn good!

Dr. Dakota Block (Manely Shouso) bet a ride from mega bad-ass heroine Cherry Darling (Rose McGowan) in Robert Rodriguez's slaughter-fest on steroids flick "Planet Terror." The movie is the first part of "Grindhouse."
Cleaner sued over trashing 1963 Beatles photos

Jennifer Quinn
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONDON — Boxes of photographic material — including the only remaining original transparencies from a 1963 Beatles photo session — were thrown out by a cleaner despite a note warning they weren’t trash, a lawsuit filed in Britain’s High Court claims.

Apple Corps Ltd., guardian of the Fab Four’s commercial interests, and EMI Records Ltd., which distributes the Beatles’ music, filed the lawsuit in January 2001, a cleaner from Crystal Services PLC, earlier this year.

The lawsuit, obtained Tuesday by The Associated Press, says more than 450 photographs, negatives and transparencies were lost, most of which were EMI’s photographic archive from 1997.

Some of the material may be replaceable, the claim acknowledges, but one box included seven transparencies of Beatles photos taken in 1963 by Angus McBean. The photos were used on the cover of “Please Please Me,” the Beatles’ first official album, and the “Red Album,” a compilation released in 1973.

They were “the only remaining original material from the photography from this session, and were historically important and valuable,” the lawsuit says.

It asks for the market value of the Beatles’ material, which is estimated at $1.4 million, as well as other costs.

Apple Corps, EMI Records and Crystal Services all declined to comment.

The lawsuit alleges that one night in January 2001, a cleaner from Crystal Services was working in EMI’s west London office.

The photographs and negatives were stacked in three boxes — awaiting transfer to the company’s archives — and had a note on top saying “not rubbish — do not remove,” according to the lawsuit.

“The cleaner removed the photographic material and disposed of it by placing it for compaction in a waste compactor and collection by refuse collectors,” the lawsuit says.

“The compacted waste was removed by refuse collectors, and despite EMI’s best efforts, the photographic material was irretrievable lost.”

According to the Daily Telegraph, Crystal Services’ statement of defense disputes most of the claims made by EMI and Apple, including that there was a note on the boxes saying not to remove them.

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**Protest radical Islam not America**

Monday marked the three year anniversary of the fall of Baghdad and the end of Saddam Hussein’s rule over Iraq. Unfortunately, Iraq isn’t the stable democracy and peaceful country that most Americans want. In fact, as we all are well aware, there has been heavy violence between Sunni and Shiites, and a steady stream of U.S. and civilian casualties. At the same time, Iran seems emboldened to defy the international community by pursuing a nuclear weapons program and by taking British hostages. The world is definitely a dangerous place.

Here at home, many Americans have turned against the Middle East, and it seems that war protesters have become more vocal. Many of these protesters blame America and our “arrogant” foreign policy for the failures in Iraq. In fact, many “Western intellectuals” and progressives believe that it is our intolerance and other “root causes” that explain the tendency toward terrorism and Islamic extremism we see in the Middle East.

After all, terrorism is merely a symptom of disease, but not the disease itself. Many progressives will say that the problem in the Middle East are purely socio-economic or political and are a result of colonialism, discrimination, the American support of Israel, or a combination of these factors. However, by blaming it on any of these causes, it neglects the real cause, which is radical Islam. For instance, laying blame on the Arab-Israeli conflict for causing all Islamic extremism cannot explain the brutal murder of over 150,000 in Algeria, the deaths of hundreds of Buddhists in Thailand, or deadly train bombings in Spain. Likewise, blaming colonization doesn’t quite cut it. If that was the reason, then why aren’t China, India, Vietnam and countless other nations affected?

acknowledge that the true cause of Islamic extremism, radical Islam, it discourages a more moderate form of Islam to gain traction. In other words, if radical Islam has nothing to gain from its problems, then why would Muslims want to pursue more moderate forms of their religion?

While progressives may denounce the war and hold countless protests against American foreign policy, it seems that they don’t hold many protests against violent actions taken in the name of Islam. It surprises me that these progressive, many of whom are among the most vocal, don’t protest the conditions of women in the Islamic world. These women cannot vote, dress, or even drive cars. Under Sharia (Islamic law), stoning and caning are common penalties for women, and women might be stoned to death. Oh, and if you thought it was bad for gays in America, in Iran, following Sharia, they publicly exe­cute gays (this happened to two cute gays (this happened to two recently). If radical Islam really has nothing to do with Islamic extremism, then the Christians living among these Muslims, under nearly identical circumstances, should be committing violent acts of terrorism, but they aren’t. By failing to...
Poly women's golf team finishes 3rd out of 6 at CSUN tourney

The Mustangs were led by Jessica Huss, who finished sixth individually with rounds of 84 and 76 at the par-72 course.

Coach Scott Cartwright's Mustangs, following an opening-round 332 Monday, carded a final-round 316 to finish with a 72-over-par 64 total on the 6,011-yard, par-72 course.

Portland won the six-team event with rounds of 6 at CSUN tourney.

In suspending Jones for the 2007 season and Henry for eight games, Commissioner Roger Goodell not only cracked down on two of the league's most troublesome players on Tuesday, he also sent a warning to everyone:

"Mess with the law and your job's on the line."

"I must emphasize to you that this is your last opportunity to salvage your NFL career," Goodell wrote the two players, emphasizing they must end their wayward behavior to have a chance to play in the league again.

"He also hit them where it hurts - their wallets. Jones, who plays for Tennessee, will forfeit his $1,292,500 salary. Henry, who plays for Cincinnati, will lose $217,500."

"The message went far beyond NFL commish slams down gavel; Jones suspended for 1 year, Henry for 8 games

JANET HUSBAND, who finished sixth individually with rounds of 84 and 78 and Stephanie Yocum and Julia Heath finished tied for ninth after an 84 and 78 with a 76 Tuesday for sixth place.

"Heath finished tied for 15th with rounds of 83-77, but Jones was tied for ninth after an 84 and 78 with a 76 Tuesday for sixth place.

"No chance. The kid is leaving for the NBA Draft."

"But if I keep the game on my right side and find a way to get in her head, this could be the hardcourt version of the "Miracle on Ice.""

Frankly continued from page 12

tage in experience, an ability to

serve the ball in bounds and the capacity to knock a hackhand over the net. She might have pinpoint accuracy and harrowing net play, but if I keep the game on my right side and find a way to get in her head, this could be the hardcourt version of the "Miracle on Ice."

"I just thought it was time to go," Durant said at a news conference to announce his decision. "It's been my dream for a while. I felt I was ready."

"It's a privilege to represent the NFL, not a right," Goodell said.

LOnghorns to enter the June draft, bringing a quick end to what was a short but spectacular college career.

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The New York Times

Clippers suffer costly loss in OT to Hornets; Kings pound last-place Grizzlies

OKLAHOMA CITY — David West scored a season-high 33 points, including three straight baskets in overtime, to lead the Hornets past the Kings, with the last-place playoff race with a 103-100 victory over the Los Angeles Clippers on Tuesday night.

West put back a missed 3-pointer by Devin Brown to put the Hornets up 96-93 and then added a right wing jumper and another putback to give New Orleans a seven-point lead.

The overtime surge helped make up for a late-game lapse for West, who was afforded a bad foul and was be¬gan for a game-tying dunk by Elton Brand with 9.5 seconds left in regulation.

With the help of missed free

Chños by Chris Paul and West, the Hornets had last chance to sic this. Brown intercepted a long inbounds pass by Corey Maggette and fed a screening West.time to cover the other two and Jayson Tatum was able to knock down a 3-pointer to end the period.

Brown had 19 points, 10 rebounds and 10 assists for New Orleans. The Hornets moved into a tie for the best record of the year at 25-9 and the Kings fell to 15-19.

Coach Monty Williams acknowledged his team had been playing better.

The Kings, who snapped a four-game road losing streak in a game in which the only thought either team had regarding the postseason was to bring the first-place team to the next level.

The Kings had 19 wins, while the Boston Celtics had 20. The Celtics are 2-0 on their current trip to the West Coast, with three victories at home in the NBA, and Western Conference playoff spot.

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Memphis, 112-110. The Kings rallied midway through the fourth quarter to take the lead, then fell apart in overtime.

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Wheelmen Club aims to raise $70,000 to fight cancer

Samantha Freitas, Mustang Daily

Cal Poly's Wheelmen Club, the campus cycling and racing team, will ride in way to help find a cure for cancer in Cal Poly's, next month. The club has put together four teams to compete in the Coed 24 Hour Race Against Cancer on May 5 and 6. They are the only 100 percent nonprofit, 24-hour mountain bike race in the nation. The inaugural race raised $30,000 for cancer research last year, and this year the group hopes to raise $70,000.

"The cool thing about this race is that the race promoter is doing it for free," mechanical engineering junior Kevin Moynihan said. "The venue is free. There are no costs, and therefore, 100 percent of the $500-per-entry fee is being donated to the UC Davis Cancer Research Center."

The race has both solo and group divisions of two, four, and five, but the collegiate competition, which is also the West Coast Championships of 24-hour racing, requires groups of five people, with at least one being female. The Wheelmen Club, taking four teams, will have 20 riders and raise a minimum of $2,000.

The club will group the teams 'with their strongest riders on one "A" team, so it is easier to do well in the race, which it won last year. "The A's are definitely going to be doing so much better for first place again this year," said graphic communication senior Ryan Tarver, one of five members of the A team. He will be joined by Jesse Palmer, Matthew Goebel, Jeff Kendall-Weed and Julia Smith.

The teams are testing for the event by riding with others who are at their training level for now, and in a few weeks they will train with the rest of the team before competing against. The teams will also start doing night rides because the race will require them to ride through the night, Tarver said. The race is a relay system in which each lap is about 12 miles and will probably take close to an hour to complete. Each rider typically goes between one and three laps at a time.

"The thing about the race is, if you have people racing four or five laps in a row, and then not racing for the rest of the day, by the fourth lap they're really tired," Moynihan said.

"We do split distance when they have an hour or two to recover, eat some food, then go out again."

Cal Poly and UC Davis are expected to be the team's biggest challenges in the event this year.

"Last year Davis was our biggest competitor — after 24 hours it came down to just 10 minutes at the end," Tarver said.

This is the only 24-hour event that the Wheelmen Club competes in because it is expensive and such races rarely have collegiate divisions. The club is currently at the apex of its road season and will gear up for mountain biking season after summer.

Modglin leads nation in slugging percentage

NICK CAMACHO / mustangdaily.com

The national statistics for Division I softball were released Tuesday for the first time this season, and Cal Poly senior center fielder Lisa Modglin (left) is all over the rankings.

Through Sunday, Modglin leads the country in slugging percentage (1.041) and is second among the national leaders in five other categories. She is fourth nationally in home runs per game (0.41), fifth in batting average (.504), sixth in runs scored per game (1.146), 14th in triples per game (0.14) and 27th in RBIs per game (1.05).

Cal Poly (30-9, 6-0 Big West) is yet to enter the Top 25, but it could today when the two Division I polls are released. The Mustangs have their next two series on the road before hosting rival UC Santa Barbara on April 28.

Cal Poly roller hockey team finishes season 10-4-4

Justin Fassino, Mustang Daily

It's been a year of firsts for the Cal Poly roller hockey club team. It was the first year the team didn't get selected to the national tournament. It was also the first year that the B team was not ranked No. 1.

But these firsts are not without their controversy.

The A team fell 5-4 to Chapman in the Western Collegiate Roller Hockey League Regional Championship Tournament semifinals March 4 at the Anaheim Hockey Club. It was ultimately not chosen for the Collegiate Roller Hockey National Championships despite its 15-4-4 record in a season in which Cal Poly outscored its opponents 97-62.

All four of the Mustangs’ losses came by one goal.

"We kinda got snubbed," team vice president Patrick Meyer said of being excluded from the tournament. Also working against the Mustangs was the fact that the WCRHL receives only one automatic bid to the national stage. This year it went to Cal State San Bernardino, which finished atop the standings at 12-4-2.

The WCRHL is comprised of seven teams — Cal Poly, UC Santa Barbara, UC Irvine, UC Davis, Cal State San Bernardino and Chapman.

Most impressive about Cal Poly's roller hockey team is the continued success it has achieved over the years without funding from the university.

The A team is a perennial roller hockey power, consistently finishing in the top 10 nationally. As a club, it does not qualify for the normal athletic financial allowance and instead requires a substantial club fee for all of its members.

Players are expected to purchase their own gear (for which they often get a sponsor discount), pay $350 in dues and incur all travel expenses. Considering that the closest tournaments are typically located in the Bay Area or Southern California, the money can add up quickly.

"We usually stay at guys' houses in Santa Maria," Moyer said. "We usually stay at guys' houses in Santa Maria, where we can make do with what we have."

The team practices at the Central Coast Sports Arena Roller Skating Rink in Santa Maria.

"There's definitely some players who would like to play who won't play because they have to drive to Santa Maria," Moyer said.

Moyer also pointed out that not every player on the team is playing to their potential. He estimated that every year, at least five people try out who are converts from ice hockey. Those players can take anywhere from weeks to months to become proficient enough to make up for the differences in playing surfaces and style.

"You don't have a choice," Moyer said. "You have to play roller if you want to play hockey on the Central Coast."

Adding to their struggles, the Mustangs don't have a home rink advantage. With no arena to call their own, every game is an away game. This compounds the problem of attendance, as prospective fans must drive hours in order to watch a game. As a result, the team has received little exposure on campus.

The team has put pressure on the local community to raise funds and help the team host games again. They are also seeking a potential arena or work like if we were on a sanctioned team like soccer or baseball, so we have to make do with what we have."

Cal Poly's ace. Your sport involves running around a rubber oval. Just give it up."

Here's my response to those people: "Just because I've only played tennis a few times in my life doesn't mean the monumental upset can't happen. Look at Rocky. Nobody thought he could take Ivan Drago down, but he persevered and ultimately won."

What's more, I have a plan: play to my strengths and minimize my weaknesses. That means no backhand, lots of long points to utilize my conditioning and subbing in Andy Roddick for my serve. I also plan to employ Roger Federer as a skills coach and John McEnroe as a trash-talking one. With that power-packed trio of tennis notables, how can I lose?

Erickson might have an advan-