Plane crashes near campus

J.J. Jenkins
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A single-engine Aeronca vintage plane crashed on private property neighboring the Cal Poly campus Thursday morning around 10 a.m. One person died. Both passengers were immediately taken to a nearby hospital.

The pilot, Jeff Welles, was released later that night. The other passenger, Obbie Atkinson, died at Sierra Vista Regional Medical Center Friday night, according to a San Luis Obispo Tribune article.

"Both were badly injured," said the battalion chief for CAL FIRE, Timothy Harness.

The first emergency call came in at 9:55 a.m. and authorities were on the scene almost immediately. The plane, owned by a private individual from the north side of the railroad tracks, came to rest upside down in a low-running creek bed. The fuel.

"There isn’t a lot of banter back and forth, but it sounded like he expected to land somewhere," West said. "It sounded like he was prepared for it."

West said that without power the pilot could not generate any lift and was basically in control of a glider at that point. The plane was gliding north (toward Cal Poly from Bishop Peak) and crossed Highway 1.

"There was a slight leak we found that with a putty. We stopped the leak, there is no fuel that got into the creek."

Jeremy West, an aerospace engineering senior, was in a different airplane on his way back from a training flight for his aerospace 408-Flight Test class. West, along with professor Kurt Colvin, overheard a call from the distressed pilot to the control tower.

"I was shocked when I first saw it," said aerospace engineering senior Jeremy West who witnessed the plane crash from another airplane.

Mixed opinions targeted at incoming shopping center

Alicia Freeman
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The construction of a Target, slated to open July 2011, has caused both excitement and concerns with the idea of a new, large chain store entering San Luis Obispo.

On Jan. 27 the San Luis Obispo Chamber of Commerce hosted a tour of the Perifino Creek Commons shopping center site, located on Los Osos Valley Road (LOVR) across the street from the Irish Hills shopping center, which includes stores such as Costco, Old Navy and Home Depot.

The new shopping center may also include an Olive Garden and Mac Superstore, among others. At the meeting, the Chamber of Commerce projected that 200 jobs would be created by Target and another 100 would be created by the other new stores.

The deal for the new Target, which will be 140,000 square feet, was secured in Aug. 2010 by Lee & Associates, a local real estate firm, on behalf of Irish Hills Plaza East, LLC, according to a Lee & Associates press release. The site of the future Target is approximately 10 acres, and the whole shopping center is slated to cost $32 million.

Matt Ingwerson, a 23 year-old San Luis Obispo local, said he was excited for the impending Target. "I love Target," Ingwerson said. "I’m all for it." Ingwerson also said he thought it would be a beneficial addition to the struggling economy.

The San Luis Obispo Chamber of Commerce projects the shopping center will bring $500,000 to $600,000 into the local economy. Even with the additional money for the economy, not all residents are happy. But Dennis Steinke, a Cal Poly resident, said Target was a better alternative to Walmart. He said those bringing up the issue of traffic are just adverse to new things.

"There’s a lot of old people in San Luis Obispo who don’t like change," Steinke said. "With the giant, massive shopping center, there’s already a bunch of traffic over there."

However, with several local businesses closing down last year, including the Corner View Restaurants, Brittany Contas, a PetSmart employee, said she thought it would affect local businesses because they would not be able to compete with Target.

"It would be nice not to have to go to (Arroyo Grande) for Walmart," Contas said. "But it might detract from local businesses, definitely.

But not everyone agrees with Contas. Wendy Moore, the owner of a local bakery and deli, Breads and Moore, said she doesn’t see Target as a threat.

"I think the businesses that are going to be affected most are K-Mart and Walmart in (Arroyo Grande)," Moore said.

We don’t need more people shopping at a huge store causing traffic in our charming town.

Shanti Wild
San Luis Obispo resident

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— Manzar Faroohar
History professor

As cliché as it sounds, we are witnessing history. We can see what's happening there, and they can see us too.

— Stephen Lloyd-Moffett
Religious studies professor

Cal Poly professor panel talks Egypt, riots and religion

Hannah Croft
HANNAHCROFT-MD@GMAIL.COM

With recent riots and the dawn of a revolution in Egypt, a panel of professors from the religious studies, political science and history departments spoke about the future of Egypt last Thursday. Professors Stephen Lloyd-Moffett, Matthew Hopper, Anika Leithner and Manzar Faroohar addressed the current situation in Egypt, as well as the future of the nation.

Lloyd-Moffett said Egypt is experiencing a different kind of revolution, and he called for the panel to help students make sense of what was going on.

Egyptians recently broke out in protest of their government, asking for free speech and free elections, speaking out against police brutality and economic issues such as high unemployment and low minimum wage. An estimated 300 people have died and more than 3,000 have been injured, according to BBC news.

Hopper said protests were reminiscent of Egypt after World War I, when Egyptians received a taste of independence and sought freedom.

"Before World War I, European colonized Egypt, and afterward, the Egyptian citizens wanted out," Hopper said. "World War I gave them a taste of freedom that they weren't about to let go of."

Hopper also said in 1971, a constitution was adopted for the Arab Republic of Egypt and violent protesters were shut down by Anwar Sadat's regime.

"Today's revolution is reminiscent of all this, but at the same time drastically different," Hopper said. "Never before have we seen a revolution with social networking, where the Internet has played such an integral role."

Egyptian government shut down Internet services in Cairo and nationwide Jan. 28 in hopes of preventing news from breaking and spreading, but devices like iPhones kept protests in circulation, until Internet was restored on Feb. 2.

Another major difference, Faroohar said, is who is protesting. The movement is initially stereotyped as a Muslim extremist movement, but Fa-roohar said this is not the case.

"This issue is not a Muslim issue, it's not a Christian issue — it's an Egyptian issue," Faroohar said. "The Egyptian government has no social base that will support it right now."

Lloyd-Moffett said the Muslim Brotherhood has received a negative reputation for its anti-western sentiments. It was the Muslim Brotherhood that was behind the assassination of Sadat in 1981 and has since been banned from running for office in elections. However, the Muslim Brotherhood still manages to receive 25 to 30 percent of votes in elections as write-in candidates. This group plays a pivotal role in the current riots, but the reasoning for protests are not solely in the interests of Muslims.

"There are people in the streets yelling ‘We are Muslim! We are Christian! We are all Egyptian!'" Lloyd-Moffett said. "This isn't about religion, this is about Egypt."

"By becoming too involved in the revolution, Faroohar said the Western world would force an identity upon it. At this rate, she said, she sees the revolution taking a moderate route. The movement has yet to take on a real identity, and for now, she said, we can only call it an Egyptian movement."

All three professors agreed and said the military stance will play a drastic role in how the revolution plays out.

"I'm an optimist, but I see this being successful," Leithner said. "I see some of the military already siding with the revolution."

Hopper said the only way for the Egyptian people to win is for the military to take their side. If not, the movement will take a violent, drastic route rather than the moderate outcome Faroohar said she hopes for.

As Lloyd-Moffett closed the panel, he said the immediacy at which people receive this information is really important.

"As cliché as it sounds, we are witnessing history," he said. "We can see what's happening there, and they can see us too."

Students said they were impressed by what all the professors had to say, and how they related it all together. Lloyd-Moffett said he hopes to continue panels like this one and make them a regular thing.

"I definitely learned a lot," Oroke said. "I had a very broad idea of the subject before, but now I feel very informed."

Lloyd-Moffett said he hopes to continue panels like this one and make them a regular thing.

"It's the best thing since sliced bread."

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Target

continued from page 1

Moore said, “I don’t really see it affecting many small businesses.”

There are also concerns over increased traffic on LOVR with the introduction of the new shopping center.

Shanti Wild said she is a lifelong local and the increase of people shopping at Target would cause traffic and take away from San Luis Obispo’s small-town feel.

“We don’t need more people shopping at a huge store causing traffic in our charming town,” Wild said.

But the small-town feel of San Luis Obispo isn’t the only concern residents have. John Leone, a business administration junior and resident in the LOVR area, said the traffic would undoubtedly increase with the Target introduction of the new shopping center.

Timothy Bochum, the deputy director of the San Luis Obispo Public Works Department, said Target’s developer is “required to do traffic mitigation” in order to ease any further congestion in the area.

“They will be changing LOVR to have additional left turn pockets into Froom Ranch to get traffic to the site, and they will be completing improvements up near Madonna/LOVR to install three lanes in the westbound direction to help that intersection out,” Bochum said. “Froom Ranch Way will be improved and the signal timing changed to help traffic get to and from the site.”

Bochum also said the Target has paid a significant amount of traffic impact fees to speed up the consenting time of improvements, which Bochum said has taken “quite a while to get through the Caltrans process.” Money will also be coming from San Luis Obispo and may still take time to acquire the proper funding.

“The city received about $13.8 million from the State Transportation Improvement Program to help construct the interchange improvements,” Bochum said. “Unfortunately, the construction money does not come until 2014-15 due to the state funding issues.”

Wild said the roadwork (and its delay) is a sign of the impending traffic the Target will cause.

Still, with a possible increase in the economy, job market and traffic, as well as more competition for local small businesses, the Target hit the tree first, so his nose was swinging left. It looked like he rotated almost 180 degrees, and also his tail went up over him.”

West’s account confirms the position of the plane, upside down in the creek, and rules out the possibility that it rolled into the area.

“I was shocked when I first saw it,” West said.

Colvin immediately notified the control tower and began circling above the crash site. The pair could not see anyone get out of the plane, but they stayed over the site until authorities arrived.

Harness said the Federal Aviation Administration and National Transportation Safety Board would take over the investigation.

Around 12:30 p.m. Thursday a crane arrived to begin the process of removing the plane, which is the NTSB’s responsibility.
House subcommittees plan to try to restrict abortions

William Douglas
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

Two House subcommittees held hearings this week on separate bills that would expand restrictions on federal funding of abortions. One would eliminate tax breaks for abortions. The other would restrict use of federal funds for abortions under the new health-care law. While both bills may pass the Republican-controlled House, their prospects of passing a Democratic-held Senate or escaping President Barack Obama's veto pen are dim to none.

"They can't expect this legislation to go beyond the House or Representatives," said Steve Smith, a political science professor at Washington University in St. Louis. Still, the bills have alarmed abortion-rights advocates, who say they are attempts to attack legalized abortion — federally funded or not — through the tax code and measures to deny women access to the procedure.

"These bills represent a new front in the abortion war," said Donna Crane, policy director for NARAL Pro-Choice America. "The idea of using the tax code to impose political views, that's even more alarming." Opponents of legal abortion, emboldened by powerful support in a Republican-controlled House, say the bills are just the beginning.

"The Republicans in the House are definitely following the promise they made to undo the damage that's been done," said Kerry Brown, a spokeswoman for Susan B. Anthony List, an anti-abortion group. The act would codify provisions of the Hyde Amendment, which prohibits federal funding for abortion but must be renewed by Congress annually.

"Forcible rape" wasn't fully defined in the bill, but abortion-rights supporters said the terms could be used to block access to abortion for victims who were drugged, unconscious or mentally ill.

"The fact that it took weeks of public outrage before the new House leadership was shamed into giving up one of its efforts to redefine rape to deny women access to abortion shows how out of touch they are with the values of the American people," said Cecile Richards, president of Planned Parenthood Federation of America. "Simply put, the now-discarded 'forcible rape' provision is just the beginning of what's wrong with Rep. Smith's bill."

Like Smith's bill, the Protect Life Act (H.R. 358), sponsored by Rep. Joe Pitts (R-Pa.), would restrict the use of federal funds under the new health-care law, but isn't as aggressive in terms of using the tax code. The House Energy and Commerce health subcommittee, which Pitts chairs, will hold a hearing on it Wednesday.

Late last week, abortion-rights supporters turned their attention to Pitts' bill, saying it contains language that would allow hospitals to deny a woman an abortion, even if her life were in jeopardy.

Andrew Wimer, a Pitts spokesman, said Pitts' bills are for use only in women who have already had a spontaneous preterm birth. The weekly injections, to be injected into women who have already had a spontaneous prematurity birth. The weekly injections, to be marketed under the name Makena, are for use only in women who are carrying a single fetus and who have no other risk factors for an early delivery.

The approval comes under the FDA's accelerated approval program under which drugs are allowed on the market because they produce a result — in this case, preventing premature births — that is assumed to correlate with a clinical benefit as yet unproven by studies.

California Poppy Day marks California's first annual state holiday and will not expense last week, abortion-rights supporters said the term could be used to block access to abortion for victims who were drugged, unconscious or mentally ill. The fact that it took weeks of public outrage before the new House leadership was shamed into giving up one of its efforts to redefine rape to deny women access to abortion shows how out of touch they are with the values of the American people," said Cecile Richards, president of Planned Parenthood Federation of America. "Simply put, the now-discarded 'forcible rape' provision is just the beginning of what's wrong with Rep. Smith's bill."

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Arizona J. Loughner, accused of trying to assassinate Arizona Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, will be tried first in federal charges, according to an agreement announced Friday by federal and state prosecutors. The agreement to have the federal government move first on the charges was announced by Pima County Attorney N. Revelle and Dennis Burke, the U.S. attorney for Arizona.

"Our office has jointly agreed to a process that Loughner will first be prosecuted on federal charges by the U.S. Attorney's Office. As required by the statute, once those charges have been fully prosecuted through the federal court system, Arizona state charges will be prosecuted by the Pima County Attorney's Office. These cases will be tried in sequence and will ensure that all rights of the victims and their families are vindicated," they stated.

"This is a war between two willpowers: the willpower of the people and the willpower of their enemies," he said.

"The Israelis and the U.S. are more concerned about what would happen to their interests in post-Mubarak regime."
The leadership of Egypt's ruling party resigned Saturday, a purge that would have been beyond Egyptians' imaginations a few short weeks ago but was unlikely to placate a hard-core opposition frustrated with what it sees as cosmetic changes in the government of President Hosni Mubarak.

The dismantling of the National Democratic Party's power structure is a dramatic indication of the pressure on new Vice President Omar Suleiman to remove the vestiges of Mubarak's power and snip the ambitions of his son Gamal, a deeply unpopular figure who was among those resigning their posts.

At the same time, however, the Egyptian army began to reassert control around Cairo's Tahrir Square, with hundreds of soldiers moving into streets around the downtown plaza that has been the epicenter of the anti-Mubarak protest.

Control of the square, or even a return to normal traffic of the area around it, would reinforce the government's message that it will remain in office temporarily.

And as the government fights to stay in power, it has found itself dealing with a fractured opposition that appears unable to agree on how to proceed, and keep the momentum of history-making protests on its side.

After key opposition leaders failed to show up Saturday for a bargaining session with Suleiman, the Obama administration expressed disappointment, and called on them to begin discussions immediately.

A senior administration official said opposition groups continued to hold back, apparently fearful they would lose leverage if they began talks before Mubarak surrendered power.

"The major players still haven't shown up," the official said. "But they need to test the government's willingness to make major change. ... The onus is on the opposition."

Long harassed, divided and co-opted by the Mubarak government, the opposition is a collection of voices that have been viewed with suspicion by the government and the young people who brought about the change.

A transitional government.

"The old opposition parties don't represent the young people," he said. "Everyone needs to realize that it was the young people who brought about this change. We need to be heard."

But Magid made it clear that he and his friends would not be mollified by half-steps such as changes to the ruling-party leadership and would settle for nothing less than Mubarak's immediate removal.

New Prime Minister Ahmed Shafik said on state television that stability was returning to the country and that large demonstrations such as the one that took place in Tahrir Square on Friday would not succeed in forcing a change of regime.

At a security conference in the German city of Munich, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton signaled confidence that Egyptian officials would take the next step forward. The president must "step aside," and acknowledge that his friends would not be mollified by his "step back," apparently fearful they would lose leverage.

"That is what the government is trying to do, is that what we are supporting, and hope to see it move as orderly and expeditiously as possible under the circumstances," she said.

The Obama administration backed away from comments by Frank Wisner, the former diplomat who served last year as a special emissary, in which he suggested that Mubarak should remain in office temporarily.

"We need to get a national consensus around the preconditions for the next step forward. The president must stay in office to steer those changes," Wisner told the Munich security conference from Washington, Reuters reported.

Two senior administration officials said Saturday that Wisner was speaking entirely for himself, and not for the U.S. government.

American officials have been careful to stop short of calling for Mubarak to resign, using instead the phrase "step aside," and acknowledge that his outright resignation could create legal complications that would hamper the transition and political reforms.

In the party shuffle, the National Democratic Party's secretary-general, Safwat Shehata, was replaced by Hossam Badrawi, a doctor and member of parliament who is an advocate for human rights.

Over the years, even as poverty widened and government social services failed, it was the National Democratic Party, not Mubarak, that was often seen as the villain by the public. It was viewed as a politically connected rich man's club aloof from the concerns of the nation yet protected by the power of the state.

Two cases over the years highlighted the crisscrossing interests between the party and the government. In 2006, an unseaworthy ferry owned by Mubarak's brother took on 40 percent of Egyptians living on $2 a day or less.

In Tahrir Square on Saturday, Fatiha Khald, a 29-year-old in a head scarf, said calls for a return to normality might foreshadow a crackdown.

"But they need to understand: For us, this is normal now," she said. "We will never stop asking for our rights."
Nation's unemployment rate falls slightly in January

Kevin G. Hall
McClatchy Newspapers

The unemployment rate fell to 9 percent in January even though employers added only 36,000 jobs during the month, the Labor Department said Friday in the third consecutive disappointing monthly government jobs report.

Most forecasters had expected job growth in the ballpark of 140,000 or more. That's in the range of the 187,000 jobs created by private firms reported by the ADP national employment survey that came out Wednesday, which is based on select private payroll data.

Instead, the Friday numbers from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) were somewhat confusing. The jobless rate fell by a whopping four-tenths of a percentage point, from 9.4 percent to 9 percent. On the face of it, that's great news. But statistical revisions shrunk the size of the work force, taking some of the shine off the falling jobless rate.

"The job market is tough, but it isn't as tough as the weak job gain during the month suggests, and the sharp decline in unemployment is also misleading. The number of people in the labor force has grown, but the true underlying rate of unemployment won't become evident until labor-force growth resumes expanding again," said Mark Zandi, chief economist for forecaster Moody's Analytics. "Bottom line is that it's very difficult to learn anything about what is going on the job market and broader economy from this report.

The Obama administration highlighted the bright side.

"Revisions to private-sector payroll data show that 1.1 million jobs were added during 2010, the strongest private-sector job growth since 2006. The 0.8 percentage point decline in the unemployment rate over the past two months is a welcome development; however, the rate remains unacceptably high," Austan Goolsbee, the head of the White House Council of Economic Advisers, said in a statement. "The overall trend of economic data in recent months has been encouraging ... but there is still considerable work to do."

The monthly BLS jobs report is the product of two surveys, one that measures payrolls from businesses and governments, and the other of households. The payroll survey showed the tepid hiring — 36,000 new jobs on net in January.

Sophisticated analysts stress the product of two surveys, one that measures payrolls from businesses and governments, and the other of households. The payroll survey showed the tepid hiring — 36,000 new jobs on net in January.

The breakdown of payroll hiring numbers told a mixed story. Manufacturing employment surged by 49,000 in January, and retailers added almost 28,000 new positions. The broad category of professional and business services was up 31,000 for the month. Those numbers are in line with growing indices of manufacturing output and strong consumer spending recorded in the final months of last year.

These gains, however, were offset by steep drops in construction employment, down 32,000, and in transportation and warehousing, which fell by 38,000.

Analysts blamed much of this on the severe weather, particularly in the densely populated Northeast.

"The January unemployment report does not seem very useful for judging underlying labor-market trends and it appears to have been massively distorted by the weather," New York forecastor RDQ Economists said in a note to investors.

Surprisingly, temporary help, usually a harbinger of future hiring, fell by 11,400 jobs in January.

The BLS report highlighted this drop by noting that "temporary help had added an average of 25,000 jobs per month over the prior 12 months."

One positive sign came in the average hourly earnings in January, which increased by 8 cents, or four-tenths of a percent.

Over the past 12 months, the BLS said, average hourly earnings have increased by 1.9 percent.

The liberal Economic Policy Institute found little clarity in Friday's report, and instead pointed to a broader structural challenge that all U.S. workers and policymakers face.

"Aside from today's muddled picture, one thing is crystal clear: The U.S. labor market started 2011 with half a million fewer jobs than it had 11 years ago, in January 2000, though the labor force has grown by nearly 11 million workers since then," Heidi Shierholz, a labor economist with the group, said in a statement. "Today's numbers are a testament to both the enormity of the current labor market crisis plus the very weak jobs growth of the 2000-2007 business cycle.

Zandi, the Moody's forecaster, was more optimistic.

"I'm increasingly confident that we are on the cusp of much better job numbers. Businesses are very profitable, their balance sheets are healthy and sentiment is improving," he said. 
Brown treats state budget issue gingerly

Steven Horman
CONTRA COSTA TIMES

Aside from brief, unannounced call-ins to a couple of Bay Area radio stations, Gov. Jerry Brown kept a decidedly low profile after his blistering State of the State speech last week — hardly the dramatic pivot governors typically take to amplify their message.

Brown's decision to lie low was especially surprising considering Republican's unyielding opposition to his plan to fill a $25.4 billion budget hole by asking voters to extend temporary taxes on purchases, personal income and assets for five years, along with $12.5 billion in budget cuts.

But the unconventional approach was perfectly normal for Brown, who has defied expectations for as long as he's been in politics. "I don't think Jerry Brown is concerned about what governors typically do," said Adam Mendelson, who was chief political adviser to Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger. "He has a very distinct sense of how he'll close this budget, and that involves being at the Capitol and meeting with people."

Brown will venture out of the Capitol later this week to address the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, where he is likely to hit on the same themes of austerity and realism he struck in his State of the State. But with a little more than a month left to get his budget through the Legislature in time to place his tax plans on the ballots, Brown said he will spend most of his time hailing the virtues of the Capitol. The new governor appears to be trying to overcome the hyperpartisan atmosphere of Sacramento, reaching out to his political opponents in personal ways.

After his State of the State address in which he chided Republicans for blocking his tax plan, Brown and his wife, Anne Gust, dropped in on the California Republican Party's "Back to Session" gala, chatting with Assembly Republican Leader Connie Conway, among others.

Held already appeared at Republican caucuses breakfasts and luncheons, and he's met with a number of lawmakers privately in his office. Last week, Senate Republican Leader Bob Dutton ran into Brown and Gau in the Capitol garage. "He asked me how's work on the budget," Dutton said. "I said, 'We're working on it.' And he said, 'That's good, because we got some real problems.' I said, 'I know, sir.'"

Brown, who has talked about going into the "fox's den" as a way of showing he is willing to face tough questions from his political foes — and consider alternative solutions — is expected to address legislative Republicans at their annual policy retreat this week. It's something that his Republican predecessor, Schwarzenegger, never did.

"He's spent a bulk of his time in Sacramento and is available to talk with any member of the Legislature about the budget situation," said Sen. Gazette, Brown's top political adviser. "That has certainly been his priority. The decisions-making is all at the Capitol. His being available in Sacramento to speak with Democratic and Republican members is a good thing."

The problem so far, Brown said, is that Republicans have not offered anything concrete to work with. "Just show me an idea," Brown said last week. "I've had drinks with people, but I haven't gotten any articulated position other than 'no' or, 'no for now but check back later,' which is generally the way it is."
Popping the question — finding next year’s roommates

J.J. Jenkins is a journalism freshman and Mustang Daily freshman columnist.

How tired are you of your roommates? Do their last night—let’s call them “Hulu” watching marathons—keep you up at night? Well, unless you found your long lost twin that was surely stolen—keep you up at night?

How tired are you of your roommates? Do their last night—let’s call them “Hulu” watching marathons—keep you up at night? Well, unless you found your long lost twin that was surely stolen—keep you up at night?

Chances are there are a few different situations you have found yourself in over the past few weeks or will find yourself in as the deadline ticks away and off-campus housing gets swooped up. A fact of the housing process is that you will get your hands dirty and feelings will be hurt, because let’s face it, not everyone can room with someone as awesome as you.

But you’re going to have to let your sum of potential suitors down easy. Perhaps a simple, “I think we should start seeing other people,” would be the Hollywood way of summing up the conversation. A friend of mine faced a situation where she had to let one of her current roommates know that she had found other people to room with already.

Thinking the meeting had gone fairly well, it appeared that everything was somewhat in order. Until the scorned roommate took to Facebook. Posting one status about not having friends to room with sent a strong enough signal, albeit a childish one. But then it escalated to openly bashing on the current roommate in subsequent statuses and comments.

I wrote in a previous column how awkward it was to walk by your faux Facebook friends after knowing about last night’s Four Loko hijinks, but when people you actually know start bashing you in social media, it’s a new low.

I mean, Mark Zuckerberg did not even sell out your information to make you look like a fool. So, no matter how badly you wanted to room with the kid with the 86% plasma, stay classy Cal Poly.

In light of that predicament and several experiences I’ve come across in the past weeks, I thought that my readers should have the chance to benefit from my infinite frosh wisdom.

We have made plenty of friends freshman year and most of them are great. However, that does not mean you want to live with the crazy person that parties hard but can’t tie their own shoelaces, let alone do their dishes.

That person may think your friendship was divine providence, but the possibility of sharing an apartment with them next year makes you shudder and curl in a fetal position, you have to find a way to let them down easy.

Forcing them to make the first move is a good option: Instead of telling them you already have roommates planned out and they

see Roommates, page 10
Every Monday cut out this refrigerator to find out what deals are happening around you!

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<tr>
<th>MON</th>
<th>TUES</th>
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<td>$1 Tacos &amp; $2 Margaritas</td>
<td>Pint Night</td>
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<td>Tri Tip Sandwich and a Pint for $9</td>
<td>Re-Happy Hour 10-11pm</td>
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Roommates

Continued from page 8

are on the outs, ask them who they plan to live with.

Maybe it turns out that the tables have turned and you were the one on the outs, and in that case, problem solved. Go back to being their shoelace-tier-in-chief.

On the other hand, there are hassle-free ways of getting roommates, namely your best friends. You know, the friend that basically lives in your room anyway, and the fact that their bed is somewhere else is only a minor inconvenience.

In fact, if you live in Cerro Vista, their mattress might already occupy a comfy spot in your living room, and the fifth roommate in a Poly Canyon apartment next year — at the very least, you'll be the fourth and fifth awkward roommates.

If all else fails, my friends and I have one more spot open in our place next year and are currently accepting applications. Candidates will be judged on how well they can quote "Jerk Shot" episodes, how ferociously they detest Jersey Shore, and the quality of their homemade cookies.

Belles, in the form of gummy worms or sour spaghetti, are not only accepted but expected.

particularly big guys. We are not used to using the phrase, "Do you want to live together?" especially when we are talking to another bio.

I decided to bite the bullet, so I called a man-date to Einstein's and popped the question.

Chances are your best friend will not have the heart to turn you down (like that girl at line dancing) and you no longer have to worry about being the awkward fifth roommate in a Poly Canyon Village (PCV) apartment next year — at the very least, you'll be the fourth and fifth awkward roommates.

"Through family connections and dynastic things, Charles IV had the biggest swath of European land under his control that anyone has ever had or would ever have," McLamore said. "The first thing he looked for were ways to cut the budget. He didn't care for music on the same level that his predecessor had, so he cut the choir right away in 1521."

Yet, after a seven-year hiatus, the choir was singing again.

"With his huge monarchy, Charles IV couldn't manage it all on his own, so he wanted some deputies to be in charge of local regions," McLamore said. "So he appointed his brother who thought that music helped sell things in a ceremonial way. So he reestablished the choir."

The choir had another serious issue just after World War I when the empire fell apart — making the choir a civic responsibility to be maintained. Thus, the choir began touring internationally, and since then has created quite a reputation.

"In that particular niche, they're kind of the gold standard," Lerian said. "They're the best known boys' choir in the world."

Lerian said despite the niche following, the PAC should expect a fairly large turnout.

"I don't think it's going to be necessarily sold out, but I think it'll be a very healthy audience approaching 1,000," Lerian said.
Vienna

continued from page 10

The touring is actually part of the boys' curriculum. The boys come from the Vienna Boys' Choir Institute, which is a co-ed, K-8 elementary school. When the boys reach the fifth grade, they can potentially join the choir and attend boarding school until the eighth grade. That is, if they pass their auditions.

Company tour manager Tania Jastrebov said the choir is extremely selective in who is brought into the choir. And, after all, the choir maintains a number of 100.

"There are between 300 to 400 children who will audition annually," Jastrebov said. "And that is only for maybe 20 openings."

Jastrebov also said because the choir is split into four 25-member groups, it upholds a balance between touring and performing in the choir's hometown.

"Usually there are two choirs touring somewhere around the world and two choirs at home singing locally," Jastrebov said. "So, when a bunch of pre-teen boys aren't singing on tour, what are they doing? Jastrebov said they have it covered."

"We try to make that a full and interesting thing to do," he said. "If we have free time on concert time we try to fill it up with activities."

Jastrebov said most of the boys do not pursue a musical career, despite the intense curriculum and musical education.

"I would say certainly they will always have a wonderful background and appreciation for music," Jastrebov said. "But, usually it is not a musical career." The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. with the free pre-concert lecture beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Christopher Cohan Performing Arts Center Pavilion. Student and general admission tickets are available at the PAC Ticket Office. Prices range from $16 to $42.

Lettermay leave 'Late Show'

Verne Gay
NEWSDAY

Amidst the jokes, laughs and Jay Leno jibes in Thursday night's hugely amusing David Letterman/Howard Stern encounter, there was this bombshell: Letterman says he'll leave "Late Show" in two years.

Letterman's spokesman could not be reached for comment Friday morning, but Letterman's brief response to Stern's question — "when will you leave?" — was the first time in his long career that he has addressed the question, at least on TV. (He has said he'll finish his career at CBS.)

Dave turns 64 this April, which means he'd be leaving — if he does leave — at age 66, the same age as his role model Johnny Carson when he stepped down.

Here's another question that begs asking: Will Jay Leno leave before then, as many have speculated, giving Dave a chance to go out on top?

There has been some internal discussion at NBC about the eventual succession of Leno — yes, Jay will step down some day too — and whether he will be replaced by Jimmy Fallon. Fallon is very good but there's no doubt he would lose viewers who were more used to Jay's homespun cornbread middle-America humor.

Then: Could Dave's numbers surge again, as they did when Conan O'Brien stepped in? That has to be a consideration at CBS too, but may well mean that Dave — if he does leave in two years — could leave on top, just as Johnny did.

How did Johnny announce his retirement? Not in a press release, and I assure you: Dave wants to announce his departure date on his own terms too. Johnny stood on the podium at Carnegie Hall and on a beautiful May day in the early '90s, he said he would step down. It was a mind-blowing moment at NBC — completely blind-sided — but Johnny was gonna do it his way. Dave is gonna do it his way too.

MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE
Talkshow host David Letterman may plan to leave his show in 2013.

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Application Deadline: Wednesday, February 9 @ 4:30 p.m.

*Resume is required
Presidenteial candidate projections strong for Conservatives

Andrew Neen is a wine and viticulture sophomore and Mustang Daily conservative columnist.

Now in the second half of his presidential term, President Barack Obama should start worrying about whether or not he will be the next one in line. In 2008, President Obama has overthrown a slight and gradual recovery of the economy, but many Americans are frustrated with his inability to live up to his campaign promises.

In 2012, Americans will be able to decide to either reside in another four years of Obama or seek a new candidate. With two major parties that may not suit our wants, who we do turn to for the next four years as conservatives?

Will take solace in the fact that three of the front-runners for the Republican Primary can be classified as conservatives. I will delve into these candidates and determine who has the best chance against the incumbent President.

First is Former Alaskan Governor and Vice President candidate Sarah Palin. When it comes to conservatism, the former governor is the prime example of being such. As a woman leader of the government movement known as the Tea Party, she has gained significant conserva­tive supporters. There is a great deal of funding from this group.

Another positive aspect of Palin is her immense name recognition. Through a multitude of interviews and even a reality television show since her vice presidential candi­dacy, Palin has become a household name due to the use of commer­cial advertising.

Unfortunately, this pro can also be considered her con. As she edged her way into the public eye, she has fallen victim to the television satire. Tina Fey began the wildlife that would incite Palin's scrutiny with her impersonation on "Saturday Night Live.

It may all be good in fun, but the fact of the matter is that her pub­lic image does not seem to matter too much. There are people that may not understand how polit­i­cally sound she really is see her as a joke. This is all about image and Sarah Palin just does not have the image it takes anymore.

Next is former Governor of Ar­kansas and presidential candidate Mike Huckabee. As a Fox News contributor, his views and inten­sions as president are worn on his sleeve for a large conservative audience, but he may be the least conservative of the three front-runners.

Although he stated, "I'm the Republican that clearly, at this point, don't need to run for another Republican," he doesn't stand much of a chance against the Demo­crats. Huckabee has it, his time with Fox has really helped his popularity but he does not have nearly the fund rais­ing abilities of other candidates; fund rais­ing is everything in presidential campaigns.

In my opinion, the third front­runner for the primary is the man with the plan. The conservative is another one that is ready and willing to do what it takes to get the United States back on track. The candidate that can go toe to toe with Obama, and win, is Mitt Romney.

The 63-year-old Former Gover­nor of Massachusetts got a taste of the presidential race back in 2008 in the Republican Primary but did not much of a following at the time. After writing a couple of books and substantially picking up his number of appearances, his name is starting to ring a bell in the ears of Republicans and conserva­tives alike.

Romney's strongest attribute is his understanding of a complex economy. As governor of Massa­chusetts, he cut deficits and record substantial economic growth without increasing debt or even raising taxes.

At this point in America's recovery, Mitt Romney is just what the economy needs. He has also made it obvious that getting Americans back to work is essential to him. When he took off­ice, the state of Massachusetts was losing jobs at an alarming rate, but by the time he left office 60,000 new jobs were created. His experi­ence in having to take tough calls also made him a non-Christian or non-Catholic and people tend to be hesitant toward such changes.

If people can overlook this fact and realize that what matters is Romney's politics, he can offer the relief and stability Americans have been searching for. I believe in the stronger America, which Romney has to offer both conservatives and liberals alike.

This American could not be more excited for Romney to show this country what he can accom­plish.

Well take solace in the fact that three of the front-runners for the Republican Primary can be classified as conservatives.

Andrew Neen
Conservative columnist

I would like to bring to attention the weak journalism that is portrayed in this article. I am friends of whom the author interviewed and what dorm they live in. Unfortunately, this is probably the same dorm that the author lives in, since too is a freshman (found that out from her article on dorms). I am not jour­nalist major but I would assume that REAL journalism would be in­terviewing people that you don't live next to. Come on, that is just lazy. I expect more from the Mustang Dai­ly at least use some variety.

Also, I highly doubt the author went down to the UO to conduct these interviews since they all are from her dorm. Are you serious? If this superlieutenant gets published, what else does the Mustang Daily let through their fingertips? Just food for thought.

Andrew
In response to "The SLOphase"}

Serious man? This college. The writer obviously has some learning to do, but hey well. This is college, and you can't expect an article written by a student in just their second quarter to be perfect. Everyone knows she isn't perfect, and everyone has something to learn. Don't have you something better to do than berate her on here?

SM
In response to "The SLOphase"

Dear Mustang Daily,

It is quite impressive that you have an expert on criminal justice writing for you. And to think he went to the same school as I did ... Wow, what a legacy this institution has.

But for all the knowledge Prof. Erik Hansen has, it is bothersome that he has obviously been misinformed. It is OK though, I forgive him. Per­haps he just needs to leave his ivory tower every now and then. Cal Pe­ly's campus and the city of SLO Obispo is extremely safe, especially at night. Right here, downtown and maybe take him for a walk at 2 am this Thursday night when I go to meet my crack dealer. I make this choice every night, and maybe take him for a walk at 2 am this Thursday night when I go to meet my crack dealer. I make this choice every night.

Erik Hansen has, it bothers me that he can't find someone to be notetakes for deaf and hearing impaired, and realize how hard it is for those students. In response to "Asking tough questions about disability"

Melissa
In response to "Asking tough questions about disability"

NOTE: The Mustang Daily features select comments that are written in res­ponse to another post. Though not all the responses are printed, the Mustang Daily posts comments that are coherent and foster intelligent dis­course in the greater community. No overex­pression, please.
United States faces ‘balancing act’ with Egyptian crisis

By Doyle McManus

The Obama administration is trying to preserve whatever stabili ty it can. The premier U.S. ally in the Middle East, Israel, is frantic at the prospect of an Egypt ruled by populists or Islamists who might turn hostile after three decades of stability. That is also the concern of the evidence of what should the demonstrators would to its allies in the region, most of which aren’t shining examples of democracy. Kings in Saudi Arabia and Jordan, military strongmen in Yemen and Syria, hope to know whether they are next, and whether their alliances with Washington will mean anything in the crunch. "This is going to be very tricky," said Scott Carpenter, who worked on democracy promotion in the George W. Bush administration. "It’s going to be important to communicate what we did and why, so other regimes can understand our thought process. Some of them are already saying that Obama stuck a knife in Mubarak’s back; that the United States doesn’t know how to protect its friends. If it’s not framed properly, this episode could send a message that the United States is weak."

Given all those conflicting interests, the wonder isn’t that it took Obama so long to put himself on the side of the demonstrators but that he was able to pivot as fast as he did. A little more than a week ago, the Obama administration was still praising Mubarak’s rule as stable. By the end of last week, it was asking for "reform," by Sunday, "an orderly transition"; and by Tuesday, a transitional team was in place. The United States has been reduced to what it was like in the early 1900s. We would hope to see it come out of this process a stronger, democractic (country), continuing to see be a secular nation — trying to bring peace to the region," Obama’s new chief of staff, William M. Daley, told reporters Wednesday.

"We are having a chance to see what the next generation of football fanatics will be about. So, why be scared?"

Related to this idol-worship aspect is the psychology of being a fan, which long has interested me for what it says about the mind. Mine particularly.

My family can tell you I’ve long been a big sports fan. I still can see Frank Clarke racing down the Cotton Bowl to catch a bomb from Don Meredith during the most exciting game I’ve ever attended: the 1967 NFL title game at the Cotton Bowl between the Dallas Cowboys and the invincible Green Bay Packers. My only sporting moment close to that one was watching the Texas Rangers clinch a World Series trip last fall by beating the hated New York Yankees at Rangers Ballpark in Arlington, Texas. Like almost every fan at that game, I stayed at least 30 minutes after the finish to cheer my brains out about the lowly Rangers at last going to the Series. And when I got a chance to attend a Series game, you bet I jumped to go and loved every minute of it, even though the Rangers lost.

So, guilty as charged. Still, I don’t know what to do with the frenzied aspect of being a fan. What does that say about the inner recesses of my mind? I’m not sure I want to know.

Nor do I know what to do with the Baal-aspect of sports. I plan on watching the game along with the 100 million-odd other viewers. My family even has a tradition of watching the Super Bowl with our former next-door neighbor.

But here we are in Dallas listening to reports about this great party and that fantastic player, while simultaneously learning about the Super Bowl being ground zero for prostitution and sex trafficking. Thank goodness for organizations like the Dallas Women’s Foundation drawing attention to that unseemly side of Super Sunday. While we prepare to root, someone’s lost teenage daughter will sell her body to an anonymous Super Bowl fan, and then move on to the next guy. How od-awful is that!"
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IN THE NAME OF ALL THAT IS HOLY, I COMMAND YE SERVANTS TAKE THIS AFFIRMA TION BACK TO HELL FROM WHICH WE CAME!!!
Mustangs

continued from page 16

of free throws by Rogers, but would never get closer.

Guard Jonae Ervin scored a team-high 17 points for the Mustangs.

Four others posted double figures. Clancy finished with 15 points, guard Desiree Johnston scored 15, center Molly Schlimmer scored 12 and center Abby Bloecher added 10 points.

Against UC Davis, hot shooting would prove to be too much for the Mustangs in their 81-61 loss.

Ithe Aggies shot 70 percent from the floor and 77 percent from 3-point range en route to a 43-26 halftime lead.

The Mustangs would not be able to piece together the necessary baskets down the stretch, as they fell for the first time in conference play.

Basketball

continued from page 16

"(Lewis) is playing off of David, they compliment each other — that's what a team is," Callero said. "And that's what is fun about it."

The victory inched the Mustangs closer to conference leader Long Beach State, but they still need the 49ers to slip up if Cal Poly wants a shot at the conference championship.

"(The win) shows that we're one of the teams to beat," Lewis said. "We could drop down to eighth and it doesn't matter; we're still getting ready for the conference tournament."

— Cal Poly 65, UC Davis 56
Thursday, Feb. 3

After fighting the Cal Poly men's basketball team for control of the game, UC Davis did not get to enjoy its biggest lead of the second half for long. Cal Poly's offense exploded in the second half, led by senior guard Shawn Lewis. The Mustangs quickly erased the Aggies' one-point lead after an 18-8 run in the second half, capped off by a high-flying, alley-oop by Lewis with seven minutes remaining in the game.

From that point on, the Mustangs never relinquished their lead, defeating UC Davis 65-56 to put Cal Poly (10-11, 5-4 Big West) back into second place in the Big West.

Shawn Lewis — who had his fourth consecutive outing of 20 points or more — led all scorers with 23 points. He also added eight rebounds, two steals and only committed one turnover.

Lewis, who was six of 10 in the second half, said he was able to capitalize on the UC Davis defense, which wasn't collapsing on him fast enough.

"A lot of teams try to converge on me," Lewis said. "When they do, I'm always looking for the man on the wing spacing out. This game, they didn't take advantage of that, and I was able to score in the lane."

Cal Poly started the game with defensive intensity, holding UC Davis to one field goal in the first eight minutes of play. But UC Davis was able to erase Cal Poly's early lead when the Mustangs went on their own scoreless drought, scoring two points in five and a half minutes.

Despite shooting 36 percent in the first half, Cal Poly led 27-23 at halftime and held UC Davis to just 25 percent from the floor.

The Aggies earned a 34-33 lead in the early minutes of the second half, connecting on each of their first four shots. Cal Poly's defense responded, forcing UC Davis into multiple turnovers which led to quick points for the Mustangs.

Head coach Joe Callero said the defense was key for the Mustangs to pull away from UC Davis and earn the win.

"Our defensive pressure created a couple turnovers where we got out in transition," Callero said. "There was a three to four minute stretch there where we got easy baskets. We just put a nice run together, where we were able to take a tight game and push it to six or eight points and then push it to 10."

Cal Poly, which leads the conference in 3-point defense, was able to win the battle beyond the arc. UC Davis, which boasts a Big West best 36.4 percent from beyond the arc, only made two of 14 shots from 3-point land.

Center Will Donahue led Cal Poly with nine rebounds and added 13 points, while guard Malik Love had 11 points.

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Win one, lose one

Women's basketball suffers first conference loss to UC Davis, defeats Pacific

Redshirt freshman guard Jonae Ervin scored a team-high 17 points against the Pacific Tigers Saturday afternoon.

Mustang Daily Staff Report

If the Tigers thought they would catch the Mustangs in another funk — like the one that handed them their first conference loss against UC Davis — they were sadly mistaken.

In the game after the Mustangs tasted defeat for the first time in more than a month, Cal Poly rebounded to hand Pacific an 83-73 loss.

In the first half, Pacific came out of the gates firing and took a 21-17 advantage off a Jordan Rogers jumper with 9:23 left in the first half. Rallying back, the Mustangs tied it at 21-21 with 8:52 left on a 3-pointer by guard Rachel Clancy.

The Mustangs broke open a three-point lead with 5:14 left in the first half, and made it 51-39 at the half. For the Mustangs, it was their highest first-half point total of the season.

In the second half, the Tigers cut the lead to six (69-63) on a pair see Mustang, page 15

The Cal Poly men's basketball team resisted a flurry of early Pacific runs, as the Mustangs overcame an early 7-0 deficit Saturday night to win 58-39.

After a slow first half, forward David Hanson and guard Shawn Lewis went off in the final 20 minutes for a combined 25 points, moving the team to 6-4 in the Big West and 11-11 overall.

It was a tale of two halves for the Mustangs, as they missed their last 10 shots of the first half, in addition to missing two free throws. The scoring drought lasted for the last 6:23 of the half, which allowed the Tigers to crawl to within two points at the break.

Hanson’s nine first-half points led the Mustangs through a difficult opening 20 minutes. The rest of the team combined for just 10, giving the team a slim 19-17 going into halftime.

“In that first five to 10 minute period, it was kind of like a boxing match,” head coach Joe Callero said. “It looked like we needed to feel each other out.”

A completely reenergized team took the court in the second half, outscoring the Tigers 39-22. Hanson said the time to reorganize during halftime paid big dividends in the second half.

It certainly showed.

Hanson hit a long-distance 3-pointer early, sparking a fire the Mustangs would sustain throughout the second half. “We wanted to be the aggressors coming out of the gate and not let them strike first,” Hanson said. “Those first three minutes were really important.”

The shot virtually put the game out of reach for the Tigers. They never got closer than three points for the remainder of the game.

Hanson stole most of the spotlight to this point, but in his shadow Shawn Lewis racked up a career-high 15 rebounds.

Overall, Lewis was quiet for the most part, but he soon made his presence known. The senior dribbled around a defender and leapt into the air to slam one home.

The effort brought Mont Gym to its feet with five minutes to go and put the Mustangs up 15 points. And Lewis was not done yet.

On the next possession, Lewis lit up the scoreboard with a 3-pointer and slammed another dunk 45 seconds later to expand the Mustangs’ lead to 20 points.