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 Low **49°**



iPODS!

The small white box that has become everyone's best friend

IN ARTS&CULTURE, 7

Former Mustang football and wrestling coach dies at age 84

IN SPORTS, 12



Volume LXVIII, Number 61

Thursday, January 27, 2005

Mustangdaily@calpoly.edu

Gambling: An unstable lifestyle

Problem signs include increased wager size and betting more than you can afford

Melissa L Dorcak
 MUSTANG DAILY

"Out of all the forms of gambling, poker is the only one that has a real sense of skill. But what it really is, is a bunch of guys sitting around trying to rip each other off," said Eric Geffner, a clinical psychologist in Los Angeles who specializes in compulsive gambling.

"It's a complex phenomenon," he said. "People think, if I study and learn (the strategies of poker) I can be good at it. It's that fundamental belief that it's a viable form of income that causes someone to be hooked."

Most students play poker as a hobby, either with a group of friends or casually online.

"I just play online a few times every couple weeks or occasionally with friends, I don't take it that seriously though," business senior Sunny Tong said.

Even Cal Poly entertains a poker scene. The poker club started more than a year ago.

"I kept meeting people who



SHEILA SOBCHIK MUSTANG DAILY

Cal Poly students gather for a friendly game of Texas hold 'em. Clubs and fraternities on campus organize poker tournaments.

were interested (in poker) and there was no centralized community," said John Dell'Armo, Cal Poly poker club co-founder and mechanical engineering senior.

Clubs and fraternities can also organize poker tournaments. The only restriction is that cash prizes are not allowed. Instead, prizes like televisions and computers are



COMING FRIDAY

Televised poker has brought the game into the limelight

RECAP

Online poker sparks interest with college students

awarded in the form of gift certificates.

One problem the poker club faces is the stigma of the game's gambling aspect.

"We want to educate people it's not as bad as it appears to be. We want to get away from gambling and focus more on the skill aspect (of poker)," Dell'Armo said.

Some people think poker is harmless.

see **Gambling**, page 2



ASSOCIATED PRESS

An emergency worker stands in front of the wreckage from a train derailment in Glendale; 10 people were killed and 200 injured.

Suicidal man triggers Glendale train crash

Daisy Nguyen
 ASSOCIATED PRESS

GLENDALE — A commuter train smashed into an SUV driven onto its tracks by a suicidal man early Wednesday, derailed and crashed into another Metrolink train, killing 10 people and injuring about 200, authorities said. Dozens of the injured were reported in critical condition.

The SUV driver changed his mind about suicide and left

"For me this is the worst train accident that I have ever seen. I've never seen anything like it."

— REX VILAUBI
 Los Angeles fire captain

dent in the United States since March 15, 1999, when an Amtrak train hit a truck and derailed near Bourbonnais, Ill., killing 11 people and injuring more than 100.

In an incident similar to the Glendale tragedy, an apparently suicidal driver parked on a crossing at Ufton Nervet, England, on Nov. 6, killing six people including the driver when the vehicle was hit by a

passenger train. An angry Los Angeles County Sheriff

Lee Baca, announcing that one of his deputies aboard a Metrolink train was among the dead, said that the tragedy raised questions about safety of rail passengers.

"The citizenry deserve better," Baca said

The disaster struck shortly after 6 a.m. as one Metrolink train was heading to downtown Los Angeles from western suburbs and the other train was outbound from downtown. The wreckage smashed into a freight engine parked on a siding.

Employees of a nearby store and other train passengers rushed to pull the injured from the wreckage as firefighters converged on the scene.

Firefighters picked through twisted wreckage scattered across the tracks and carried wounded passengers from the trains to a triage center set up in a nearby parking lot.

One commuter train was headed from Los Angeles' Union Station to downtown Burbank, and the other was bound to Union Station from

see **Train**, page 2

EVENTS CALENDAR

What: Bone Marrow Drive. Nu Alpha Kappa fraternity is sponsoring a bone marrow drive for the fourth year.

When: Today, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Where: Multicultural Center

More Info: Call the Multicultural Center at 756-1405.

What: Hearst Lecture Series. "Women in Architecture + Design.2." continues this winter quarter with Topher Delaney, a leading Bay Area landscape architect. She will discuss her work in the context

of a lecture titled, "Narrative within the Text of the Terrain."

When: Friday, 3 p.m.

Where: Bldg. 3, Room 213

More Info: Call the CAED office at 756-1131

What: Orchesis Dance Company performance. "Echoes and Accents," the 35th annual Orchesis Dance Company Concert, will showcase the talent of Cal Poly students plus new work from guest choreographers in a variety of dance styles, including ballet, modern, jazz, tap and hip-hop.

When: Jan. 28 and Jan. 29 at 8 p.m., Jan. 30 at 2 p.m., Feb. 3 and Feb. 5 at 8 p.m. and Feb. 6 at 2 p.m.

Where: Alex and Faye Spanos

Theatre

More Info: Call Maria Junco in the theatre and dance department at 756-1465.

What: Dinner with the Dean. Free \$50 Dinner. The menu will include prime rib, bone in ham, stuffed portabello mushrooms, Baja marinated shrimp, chocolate fondue fountain, exotic fruit and more. Why are we having this dinner? SWE won Most Outstanding Student Section for the third year in a row. Dress is casual.

When: Wednesday 6 p.m.

Where: ATL, Bldg. 7

More info: Check out www.swe.calpoly.edu or drop by the

see **Calendar**, page 2

Gambling

continued from page 1

"It starts off as a harmless pastime; for most (students) it won't progress, but about 15 to 20 percent of college-age adults will develop a problem," Geffner said.

Problem signs include increased wager size over time, gambling on a

regular basis, and the biggest red flag is wagering money you can't afford to lose.

"This is something that would happen very quickly with college students," Geffner said. He said he has heard stories of college students betting tuition money and selling back books to gamble.

One major problem with Internet

gambling is that your money comes from a credit card or a checking account, something Geffner said you should never do. He also said that players can easily use someone else's money, like a parent's credit card.

Smyth does not gamble with his parents' money, but he said they are not pleased with his source of income.

Smyth said that he is too cautious

to lose control of his gambling habits. On a good night, he will bring in \$2,000 and on a bad night he will be down \$200 or so. However, the good nights outweigh the bad nights.

"I quit when I lose over \$200." His online account has never reached zero and the only time he deposited money was when he set up the account.

But not all college students, or any-

one for that matter, will be as in control as Smyth. The National Council on Problem Gambling Web site estimates that 2 million U.S. adults meet the criteria for pathological gambling.

These people gamble longer than they plan to, borrow money to finance gambling, feel depressed over gambling losses and often gamble until all their money is gone.

Train

continued from page 1

Moorpark, Metrolink officials said. Passengers were sent tumbling down the aisles as the trains derailed.

"I heard a noise. It got louder and louder," said passenger Diane Brady, 56, of Simi Valley. "And next thing I knew the train tilted, everyone was screaming and I held onto a pole for dear life. I held on for what seemed like a week and a half it seemed. It was a complete nightmare."

After the train headed to Union Station struck the SUV, one of the trains was propelled into a Union Pacific locomotive parked on a side track, said Kathryn Blackwell, a

spokeswoman for Union Pacific in Omaha, Neb.

In a light rain, more than 300 firefighters climbed ladders into windows of a battered train tipped onto its side. Los Angeles fire spokesman Brian Humphrey said firefighters freed about six people from the wreckage and no others were trapped.

Sheriff's Deputy James Tutino, on his way into work from his home in Simi Valley, was killed in the crash, Baca said. He said Tutino had been with the department for more than 23 years.

Dazed passengers, some limping, gathered at tables in a nearby store while the injured sprawled on mats before being whisked away to hospitals by more than 35 ambulances.

"For me this is the worst train accident that I have ever seen. I've never seen anything like it," Los Angeles fire Capt. Rex Vilaubi told KNBC-TV.

One Metrolink car was sent twisting backward by the force of the crash, which occurred after 6 a.m. near the intersection of San Fernando Road and Chevy Chase Boulevard. A small fire that erupted in the crash was quickly extinguished by firefighters, Humphrey said.

Passenger Paul Konkirati, 28, of Burbank, said he was in a front car that broke in two.

"I felt the train sliding so I braced myself and put my foot on the chair next to me and held onto a bar. We hit and then somebody's head landed on my thigh."

Konkirati, his jeans covered in blood, said he tried to comfort the woman, "then it got really smoky, so smoky that I had to leave. I don't know what happened to her."

Workers at a Costco store near the accident ran out to help after the accident, which occurred in an industrial area with no homes nearby. There were no evacuations.

George Touma, 19, of Burbank, said he was called by his mother, who was on one of the commuter trains.

"She told me she was bleeding in the head and her arm was really hurting," said Touma, who was near the scene of the accident searching for her. "I'm really worried because she has vertigo and when I tried to call back she wouldn't answer."

"She said she remembered hearing sequential loud noises and then somebody pulled her out of the train while it was burning. She was in a panicked mode and now she's not picking up."

Union Pacific spokesman John Bromley said the track on which the crash occurred is owned and operated by Metrolink.

Metrolink began service in 1992 and operates seven lines, part of a multibillion-dollar transportation network aimed at reducing pollution and congestion in Southern California.

Calendar

continued from page 1

SWE office in Bldg. 40, room 120.

What: Poly Escapes rock climbing trip. Poly Escapes will be taking a group of 30 to 40 students on a trip to Joshua Tree National Park, 100 miles east of Los Angeles. The group will be car camping in a

group campsite. No experience is needed because they will set up routes for all levels of experience. The cost is \$13 plus the cost of gas.

When: Feb. 4 to Feb. 6

Where: Joshua Tree National Park

More Info: Call Sarah Flanders at the Escape Route at 756-2743

What: 10th Annual International

Career Conference

When: Saturday Feb. 12, 2005

Where: Embassy Suites

More Info: For more info, please check out our Web site at www.icc.calpoly.edu

What: Open House Clubs Representatives meeting. This meeting is mandatory for all clubs planning to run a booth during Open

House. Please come prepared to take notes and report back to your club. Attendance is taken and a raffle is held for all those in attendance.

When: Thursday Feb. 17, 11am

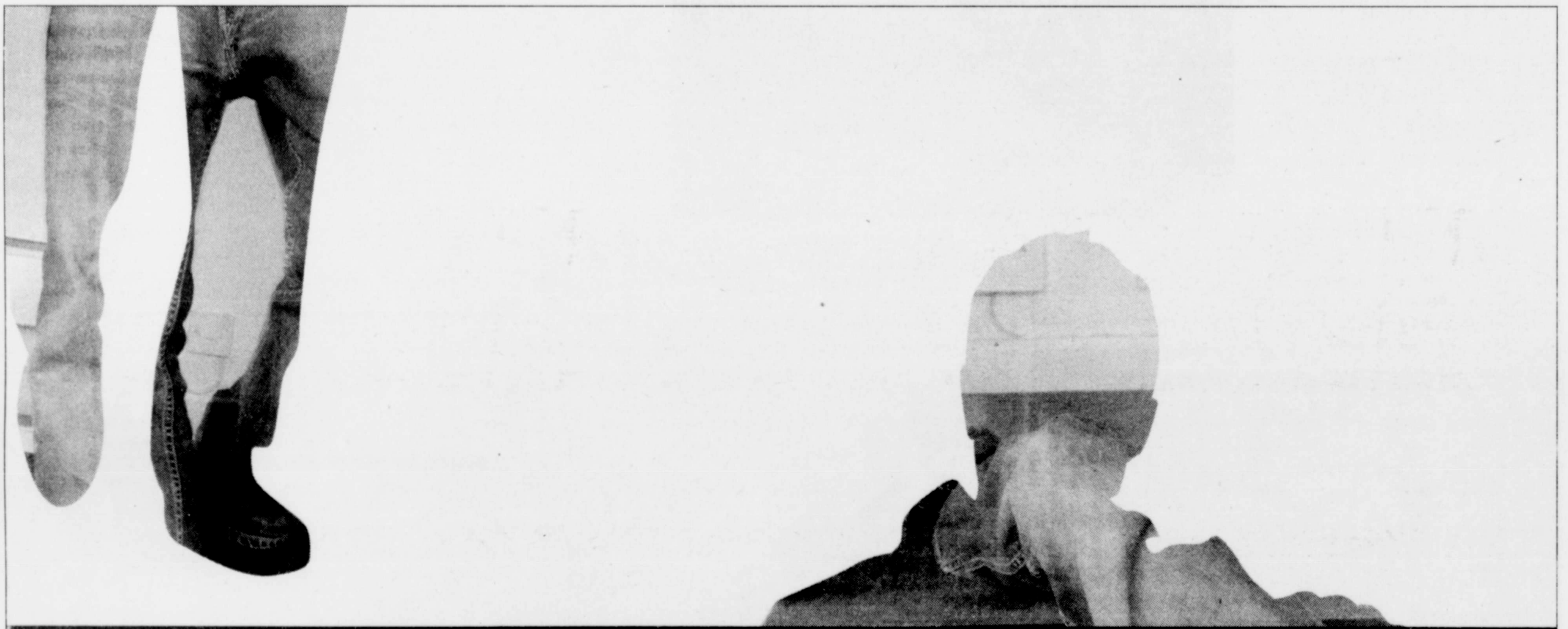
Where: Bldg. 3 Room 213

More Info: Call the Open House office at 756-7576 or visit the Web site: orientation.calpoly.edu/openhouse

MUSTANG DAILY CORRECTIONS

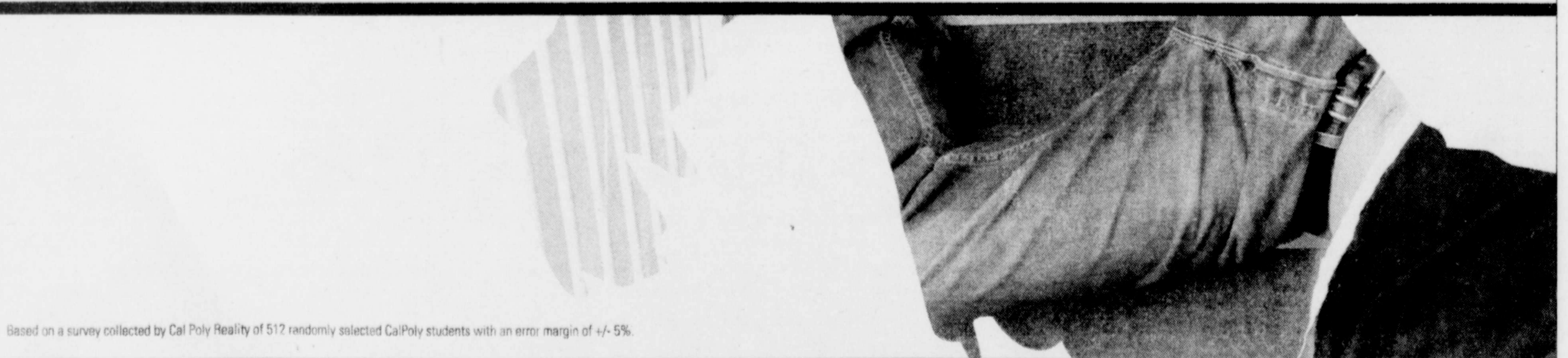
The Mustang Daily staff takes pride in publishing a daily newspaper for the Cal Poly campus and the neighboring community. We appreciate your readership and are thankful for your careful reading. Please send your correction suggestions to editor@mustangdaily.net.

• A front page story published Jan. 25, incorrectly spelled the names of police officers Larry Ponting and Norm Healy. They are the two officers assigned to the attempted burglary and rape case.



UNDER FOUR? OR HITTING THE FLOOR?

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STATE NEWS

RIVERSIDE — An investigation into an alleged white supremacist group led to 19 arrests over four months in rural Riverside County, authorities said.

The investigation began with the arrest of Howard Michael Marshall of Menifee, a volunteer assistant football coach at Paloma Valley High School who allegedly tried to recruit teenagers into an

armed white supremacist group, authorities said. Marshall, 44, was arrested in August and November on drugs and weapons charges, and police recovered ammunition from his home, as well as 45 guns, body armor and steroids, which he was suspected of giving to athletes.

SACRAMENTO — The office of California's top elections official used the "spoils system" in a number of hirings, including rigging the application process to

ensure a job for the son of a financial backer, according to a new state report.

The report also suggested Secretary of State Kevin Shelley created a hostile working environment with frequent outbursts and excessive demands on staff, and couldn't produce copies of a sexual harassment complaint filed by an ex-staffer against him.

LOS ANGELES — Equipping every U.S. airliner with anti-missile

systems would be a costly and impractical defense against terrorists armed with shoulder-fired rockets, according to a study by the Rand Corp., the Santa Monica-based think tank.

Researchers said it could cost \$40 billion over 20 years to deploy such defense technology on the country's 6,800 passenger jets. The federal government currently spends about \$4.4 billion a year on all transportation security.

—Associated Press

IN OTHER NEWS

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — When five dozen roses didn't work, an estranged husband took out a full-page newspaper ad to ask his wife for forgiveness.

"Please believe the words in my letter, they are true and from my heart," read the ad in Tuesday's edition of The Florida Times-Union. "I can only hope you will give me the chance to prove my unending love for you."

Larry, who declined to give his last name, sent the \$17,000 apology to Marianne, his wife of 17 years. She left him almost two weeks ago, he said.

"I am desperately trying to save our marriage," he told the newspaper.

Larry said his wife is staying with her parents. But they blocked him from entering their gated community and she changed her cell phone number so he can't contact her. A relative told him that Marianne saw the advertisement.

"She said my wife read the ad and started crying. But so far I've had no response from her," Larry said.

But the ad drew the attention of many other readers, who contacted the paper.

"They want to know if she has responded and if they have worked things out," said Jay Weimar, director of display advertising. "We tell them we are pulling for him."

—Associated Press

NATIONAL NEWS

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. —

The two space station astronauts left their orbiting home in the hands of ground controllers Wednesday and floated outside to install an experimental robotic arm and inspect vents that might be causing air-supply equipment breakdowns.

Leroy Chiao and Salizhan

Sharipov found goo on the vents and hooked up the arm, solving a minor problem with a loose electrical connection on the elaborate robot system shortly before the spacewalk drew to a close.

WASHINGTON — The Senate overrode Democratic critics of the Iraq war Wednesday and handily confirmed Condoleezza Rice, a chief architect of U.S. policy, to be secretary of state.

The vote was 85-13. Rice will move quickly to take charge as the first black woman to hold the job of top U.S. diplomat.

A swearing-in was planned for Wednesday night, and she intends to take over Colin Powell's office Thursday.

WASHINGTON — President Bush urged Iraqis to defy terrorists and vote in Sunday's election, and sought patience from anxious

Americans as a Marine helicopter crash on Wednesday pushed the U.S. death toll above 1,400.

"The story today is going to be very discouraging to the American people," Bush said on the deadliest day for U.S. forces since the Iraq war began.

"I understand that. It is the long-term objective that is vital — that is to spread freedom," Bush said.

—Associated Press

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

BAGHDAD, Iraq — A U.S. military transport helicopter crashed during sandstorms in Iraq's western desert Wednesday, killing 31 people, all believed to be Marines, while insurgents killed five other American troops in the deadliest day for U.S. forces since the Iraq war began.

Militants waging a campaign to derail Sunday's election carried out

at least six car bombings and a flurry of other attacks on schools to be used as polling stations, political party offices and Kurdish sites, killing or wounding more than two dozen people.

KRAKOW, Poland — Ukraine's new President Viktor Yushchenko is an "ally of freedom's cause," Vice President Dick Cheney said Wednesday in toasting the democratic leader who plans to lean toward the West yet maintain his

nation's historic ties with Moscow.

Echoing President Bush's inaugural address, Cheney talked about overcoming tyranny and hatred in his remarks at a dinner with the new leader of the former Soviet republic and, earlier, at a reception with survivors of the Holocaust.

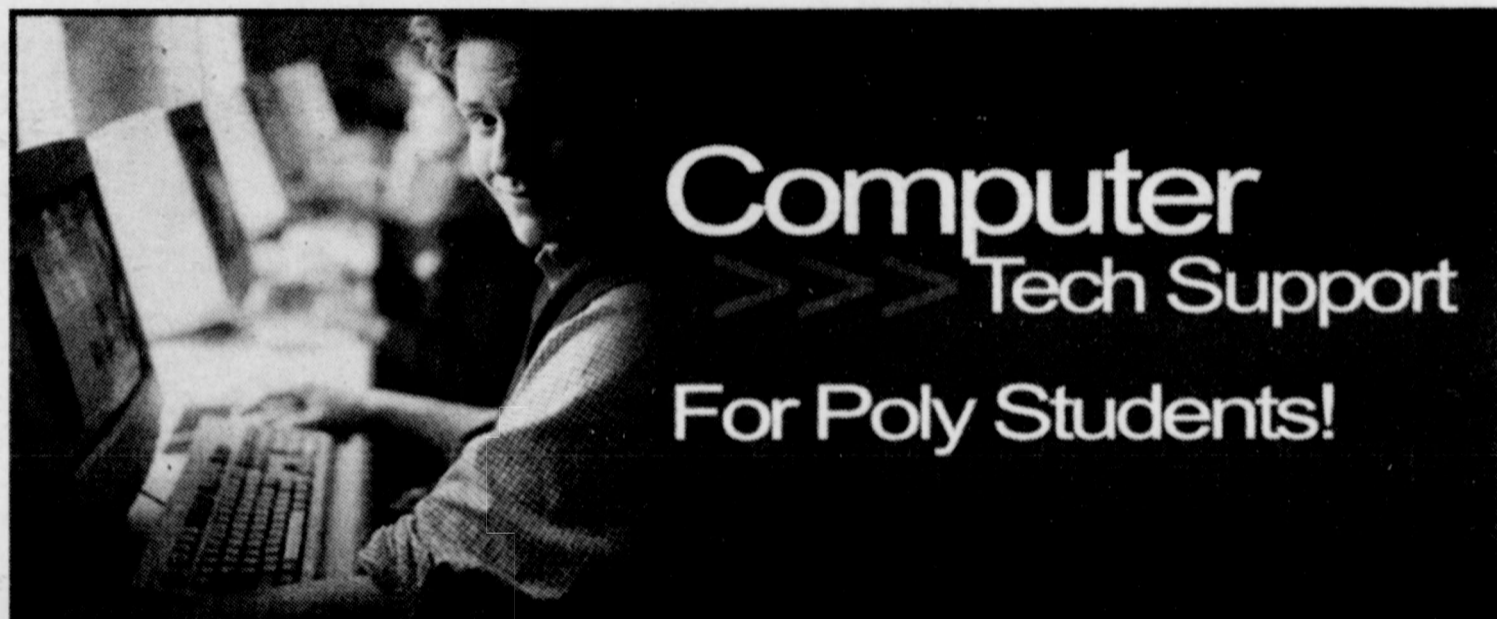
JERUSALEM — Israel and the Palestinian Authority resumed diplomatic contacts Wednesday after a two-week freeze, and Israel agreed to suspend targeted killings

of Palestinian militants.

Also Wednesday, Israeli and Palestinian security chiefs held their second meeting in several hours on completing plans for the deployment of 1,500 Palestinian officers at flashpoints in central and southern Gaza. Commanders met at a key junction in southern Gaza, ahead of Thursday's deployment.

About 100 Jewish settlers came to the junction to protest the security coordination.

—Associated Press



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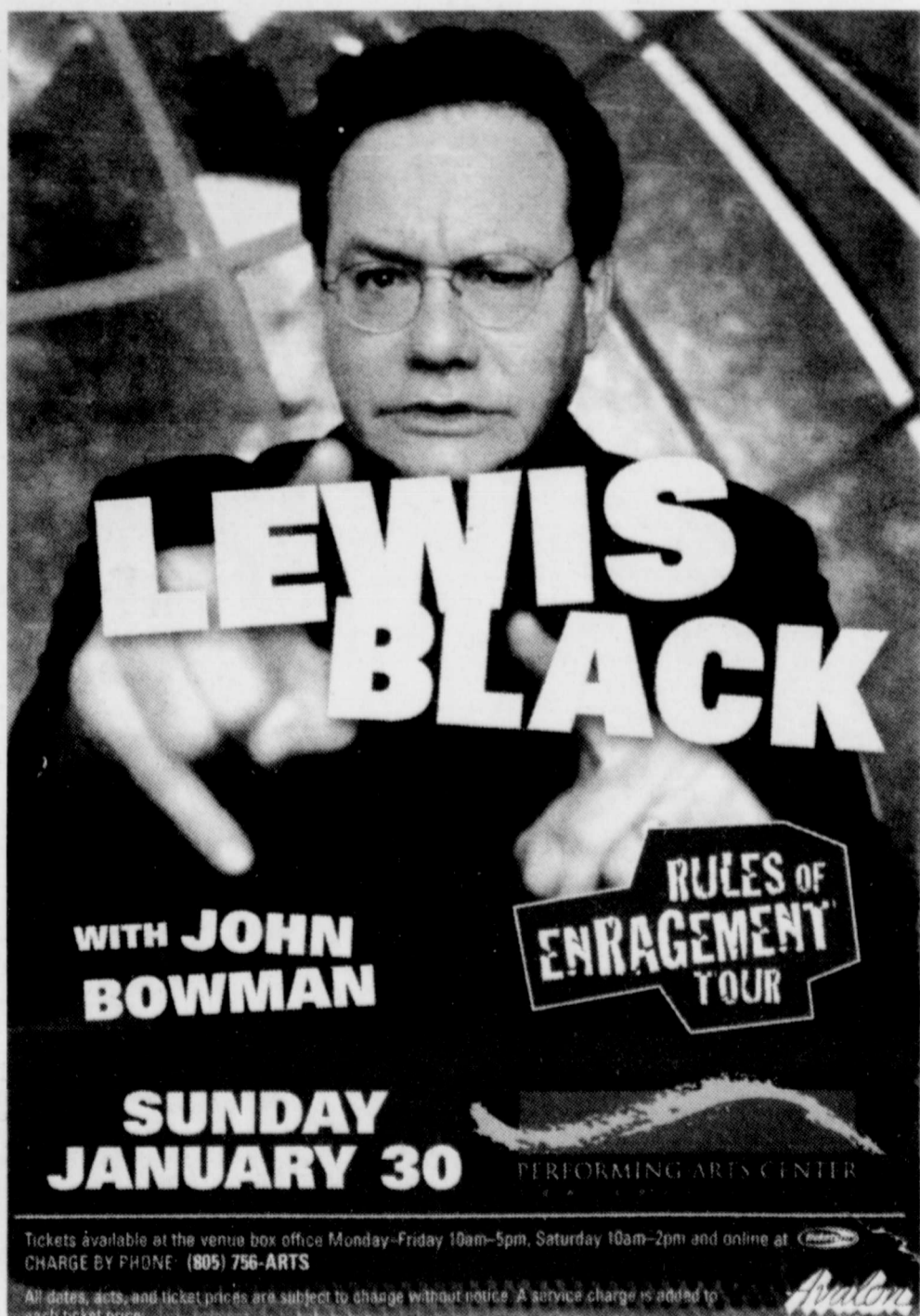
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One month after tsunami tragedy, schools reopen in Indonesia

Yeoh En-lai
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BANDA ACEH, Indonesia — One month after an epic tsunami ravaged southern Asia, children and teachers in Indonesia's worst-hit Aceh province on Wednesday made an emotional return to school, where thousands of classmates' and colleagues' desks sat empty.

Alqausar, a 6-year-old boy with neatly parted hair, arrived at school with his mother and wondered where his best friend Andi was. But reality soon dawned on him.

"I don't think he's coming," whispered the boy, one of six in his class of 43 who showed up at a primary school. Of the school's enrollment of 600, only 260 came Wednesday. The others are presumed dead.

Mourners along a road on Sri Lanka's shattered coastline lit candles and set colored flags in silent memory of at least 30,957 people who died there Dec. 26.

"In memory of that day, for the missing and dead in all the countries, we are praying that a tsunami will never return, said L. Chandaransi, head monk at the Ariyakara Viharaya temple near the southern Sri Lankan city of Galle.

Up to 147,000 people are still missing across South Asia, and differing government tallies put the overall death toll between 144,000 and 178,000. But workers continued to find bodies under mud-caked rubble, and the toll was expected to rise.

Children returning to schools for their first official day of class since the tsunami in Indonesia found buildings filled with mud and debris. Books were soggy, new microscopes were ruined.

English teacher Roslina Ramli — who lost her four children to the tsunami — was the first of 25 teachers to show up.

"There were 75 teachers here before," she said, wiping tears with a tissue.

The government estimates that 700 to 1,100 schools in the province were destroyed by the tsunami and that 1,750 primary school teachers are dead or missing. Nearly 180,000 students have no schools to go to, Welfare Minister Alwi Shihab said.

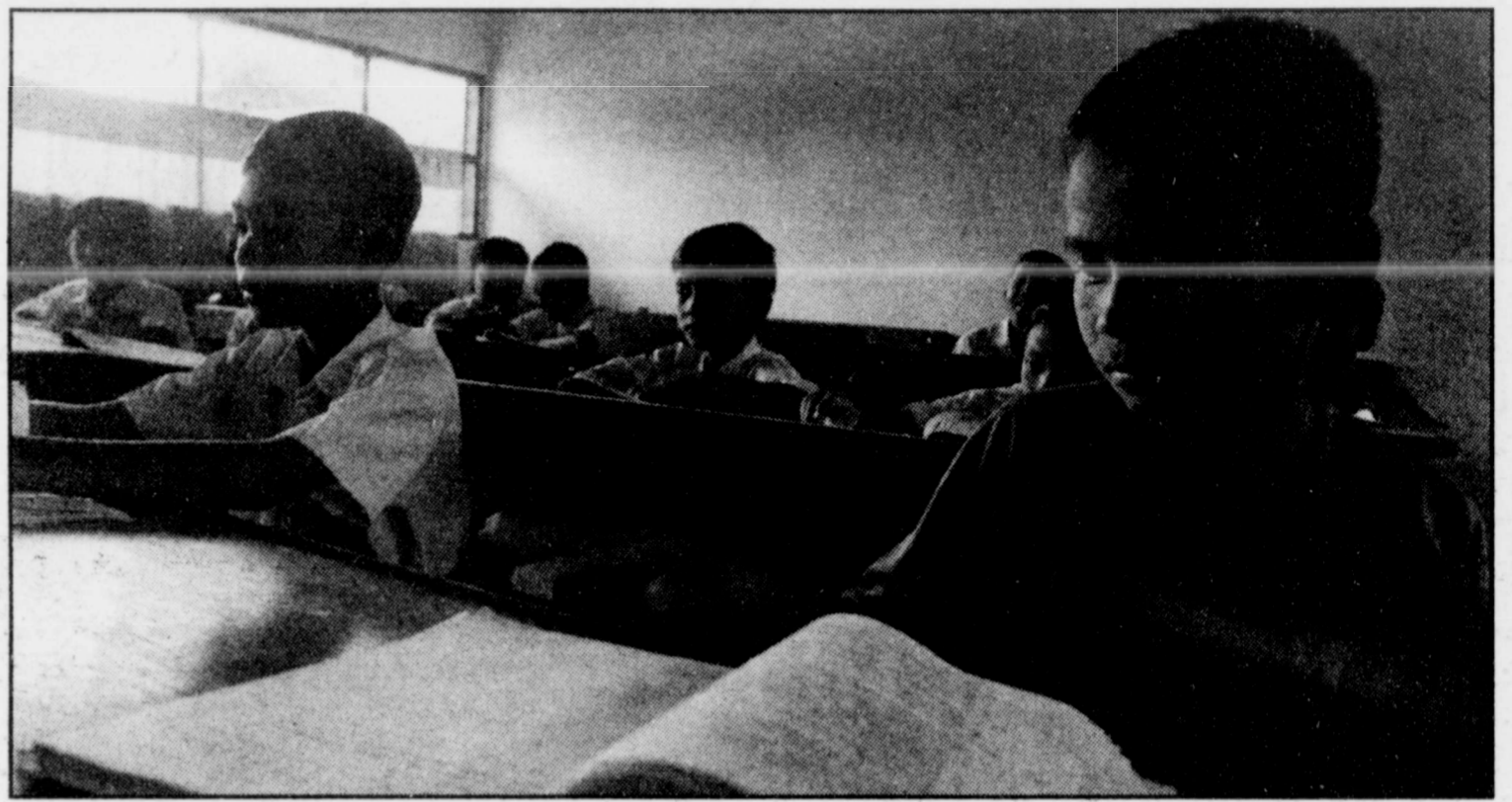
In one classroom, workers doing last-minute clean-up found a body Wednesday while shoveling out thick mud.

At least 96,232 people died in the province, the government says.

In Thailand, where at least 5,384 people were killed and more than 3,100 are missing, two residents of the island of Koh Lanta were to mark the anniversary by launching new boats built for them with relief agency donations. Before heading out to sea at high tide, the front of each boat was to be wrapped in a seven-colored cloth and flowers, in keeping with regional traditions.

In Sri Lanka, a judge will begin hearing evidence next week from nine women who each claim that an infant dubbed "Baby 81" is her lost child.

The baby boy was found half



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Romi Saputra, 10, right, looks through his school books during class, Wednesday, in Sibreh, near Banda Aceh, Indonesia. Saputra, who now lives in a refugee camp, lost his mother and two sisters in the Dec. 26 tsunami. Wednesday was the first day of the new school term in Aceh and many schools were still engulfed in mud and debris.

buried in mud hours after last month's tsunami struck and is being cared for at a hospital in eastern Sri Lanka, where he was the 81st admission on the day of the disaster.

"I will go through all the evidence and if I am not satisfied, I will order a DNA test," said Judge M.P. Mohaideen.

The U.S. military, meanwhile, said it is scaling back its tsunami relief efforts in Indonesia after nearly a month of airlifting food and medicine.

The aircraft carrier USS Abraham

Lincoln, which was diverted to Sumatra within four days of the Dec. 26 disaster with 17 SH-60 Seahawk helicopters aboard, is preparing to sail home to Everett, Wash., the military officials said. The United Nations, Australia and other countries have begun flying their own helicopters.

"Our role was important at first. Now that the other forces are coming in, the need for the helicopters is less important," said Rear Adm. William Crowder, who commands the Lincoln's battle group.

The international Red Cross said Wednesday it was winding down fund-raising efforts because it had raised enough money — \$1.17 billion — to sustain long-term aid.

Behind Wednesday's commemorations and public grieving was a deepening sense of frustration among some survivors over the slowness of recovery efforts.

"We have not received any assistance yet," read a banner strung between plastic tents housing survivors in Sri Lanka's Galle.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMUNITY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

AFTERMATH

What's in a name? Lots, find businesses called 'Tsunami'

Some companies want to distance themselves from the word 'tsunami;' other firms find the association helps business

Jim Murez
THE REGISTER-GUARD

EUGENE, Ore. — In the weeks since the catastrophic Indian Ocean tsunami, Scott Landfield has seen his bookstore's online sales quadruple.

But he doesn't carry a special selection on earthquakes or natural disasters. The spike in business appears related solely to the store's name: Tsunami Books.

The progressive, independent store on Eugene's south Willamette Street has used the name since opening nine years ago. It even sports a mural above the front entrance depicting a crashing wave.

Look closely and one can make out human faces — some smiling, some somber in the water.

Online shoppers have patronized Tsunami Books at a far greater rate since the Dec. 26 tragedy that killed more than 160,000 people.

"The word certainly has gained some familiarity," Landfield said. "It appears that when people saw our name, their finger twitched."

Worldwide, businesses that use the word tsunami are reflecting on the connotation of the Japanese word

"Since the disaster, a lot of people know what that means now. That name sticks in your head."

—Kit Chan
owner of 'Club Tsunami' nightclub

meaning "harbor wave" and the added attention the tragedy in Asia has brought them. Some companies want to distance themselves from the word altogether.

Toyota Canada is abandoning plans

to name one of its most popular models of sports cars — the Celica Tsunami

In Scotland, a brand management company called Tsunami is overhauling its corporate identity.

In South Africa, a restaurant chain will rename its spicy tsunami chicken burger.

And a Wisconsin water park announced it will change the name of its Great Tsunami outdoor wave pool.

Other firms that saw their Web sites jammed with traffic in the days after the disaster steered visitors to organizations such as the Red Cross and UNICEF. Tsunami Research, a St. Louis, Mo., software company, posted a message saying it "wishes to express our condolences to the victims, families and communities impacted by the Indian Ocean tsunamis."

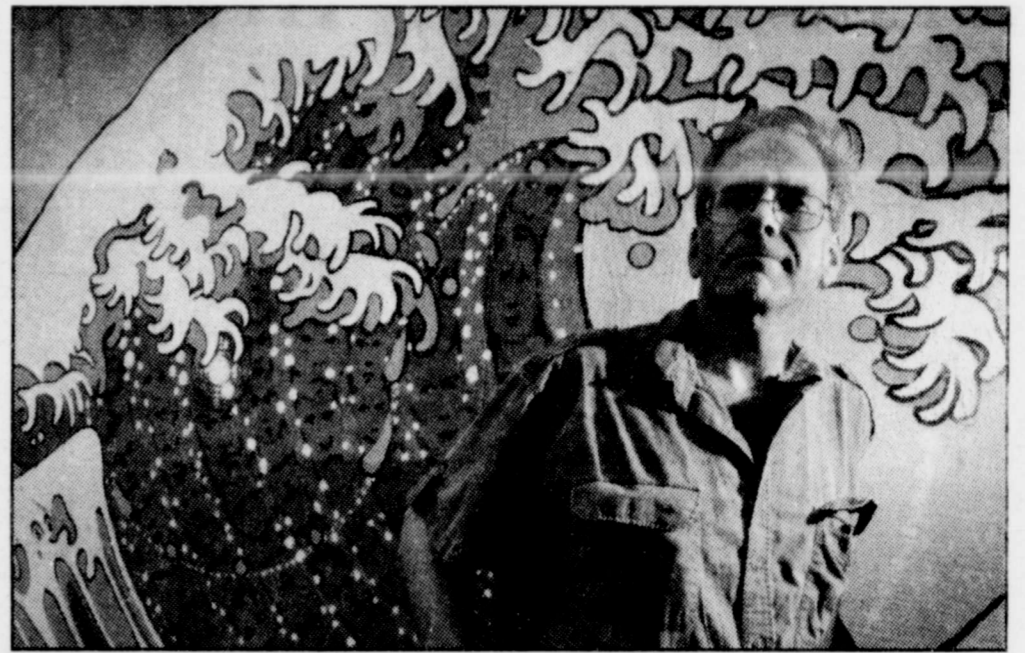
Manhattan-based Tsunami Computing, owner of the tsunami.com Web site, organized a charity drive to help victims and filled the site's front page with links for disaster-relief donations and international aid organizations.

On the Oregon coast, Pelican Pub & Brewery in Pacific City announced it would donate 10 percent of the sales of its popular Tsunami Stout, introduced in 1996, to Portland-based Northwest Medical Teams International, which sent volunteers to Thailand, Sri Lanka and Indonesia.

"We took a stance of being proactive," General Manager Donn Brouhard said, adding that sales of the microbrew are up.

Hundreds of businesses incorporate tsunami into their names or the name of products, from women's fashion fleece to men's body spray to a watch by Swatch and restaurants in San Francisco and Memphis, Tenn.

Entrepreneurs are drawn to the



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tsunami Books co-owner Scott Landfield stands next to the mural above the front entrance depicting a crashing wave in Eugene, Ore. In the weeks since the Indian Ocean tsunami, Landfield has seen his bookstore's online sales quadruple. The spike in business appears solely related to the store's name.

word for different reasons. To some it expresses power and speed. To others, it sounds exotic, even graceful.

But now that the word tsunami evokes death and destruction on an unimaginable scale, will it taint those commercial enterprises that continue to use the term?

Kit Chan, owner of Kowloon restaurant in Eugene, renamed his nightclub Club Tsunami about six years ago when a University of Oregon student came up with the name in a contest.

It seemed to fit, Chan said, because of the views of water in neighboring Alton Baker Park.

It also made it easy to redecorate with a beach theme, he said. Crashing waves are depicted on several walls.

Chan said he has had no negative feedback on the name in recent weeks. He even asked customers what they thought; many had not realized what the word meant before.

"Since the disaster, a lot of people know what that means now," he said. "That name sticks in your head."

Landfield, the co-owner of Tsunami Books, said a couple of customers have suggested a name change.


In response, he explained that the term describes a part of nature, and nature is not inherently evil or wrong.

One fellow tried to advise him how to capitalize on the public's interest in the tragedy. "We paid no attention to it," he said.

The store's founders chose to use tsunami as a play on the term tidal wave — "A mighty wave of titles," a sign out front proclaims — and because nearby Spencer Butte sometimes looks like a big wave when clouds roll over it on stormy days, Landfield said.

As for the wave mural and the company's logo — Mark Twain surfing on his book "A Tramp Abroad" — the images aren't cause to wince, he said.

"But to have those faces in a wave in front of our building here, that's worth thinking about a little," Landfield said.



ALEX AND FAYE SPANOS THEATRE

Fri.	Jan 28	8:00 pm
Sat.	Jan 29	8:00 pm
Sun.	Jan 30	2:00 pm
Thu.	Feb 3	8:00 pm
Fri.	Feb 4	8:00 pm
Sat.	Feb 5	8:00 pm

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- Angela Borin, Cal Poly Staff

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REVIEW

Rock Savants a local, musical gem



TOM SANDERS MUSTANG DAILY

Native San Luis Obispo band, Dominic Castillo and the Rock Savants, will release their second LP, 'The Lost Album' on Friday at The Dwelling. The album is a follow-up to its first disc, '5 Hideous Love Songs Plus 2.'

Christina Joslin
MUSTANG DAILY

They're a local rock band with a twist: genuine, undying talent.

Gathering an enormous fan base in San Luis Obispo, Dominic Castillo and the Rock Savants are soon to release "The Lost Album," the faultless sequel to their first CD, "5 Hideous Love Songs Plus 2."

With emotional songs that range from a commanding piano-driven serenade to eccentric, head-swaying rock melodies, Castillo and the Rock Savants present a variety of tunes that nevertheless fit together like puzzle pieces. Often compared to Phantom Planet, the Beatles and Elliot Smith, the band draws in a variety of different inspirations.

"The Lost Album" is irrefutable poetry, flowing from every song.

"Emotion, sincerity, with a dash of wit and harmonic sophistication — these are the elements I want in my songwriting," Castillo said. "According to Freud, I'm just sublimating, creating music and defending my fragile psyche in an unfeeling world. I also like impressing girls."

The band's current lineup is comprised of four talents: Castillo (lead vocals, guitar, piano), his twin brother Damon Castillo (bass), Nathan Szytel (guitar) and Phillip Bastio (drums).

"Nate (Szytel) plays on the CD and also helped produce some tracks. Phillip (Bastio) didn't join the band 'til after the project was finished," said Dominic Castillo.

The instrumentally-heavy first

song, "29," sets the tone for the rest of the album with dominant guitar riffs and the distinctive organ echo in the background.

The guitar-driven piece "Fate" is one of Castillo's most elegant songs. He sings about letting fate take over and just waiting for things to happen. "Good morning and good night/If greatness is just to steal the show/Then I'm completely taken in."

"Trying Too Hard," undoubtedly the album's catchiest track, starts slow

Castillo and the Rock Savants present a variety of tunes that nevertheless fit together like puzzle pieces.

and brings the listener into this fun little land of people trying too hard to be accepted and wanted. Looking past the pop sound, this song contains some amazing musicianship by Damon and Dominic.

One of the slower songs on the album, "Cat and Mouse" is a forceful statement about feeling used and alone.

"Asleep," takes on the emotions of making a mistake and wanting to take it back. Within the song, Damon Castillo demonstrates his perpetual ability with a potent guitar solo and riffs throughout and according to Castillo the solos were all done in take.

By far, the best is saved for last. "Save Me," the final song on the CD, is a striking piano-based ballad performed solely by Dominic Castillo,

with a small hint of guitar and bass. He expresses loss, regret and confusion, singing, "There are your eyes/And I am broken/Could take a knife and cut this pain right out/When you're here its all wide open."

By the end of the album, listeners will have experienced a long journey through the thoughts and emotions of a gifted singer.

With this new LP, the band shows a new found maturity and depth.

The title of the CD simply "refers to one of the most obscenely horrific events of my life," said Dominic Castillo. "One that started with a small, quirky clicking emanating from something called a hard drive."

"The funny thing about losing the album was how long it took me to realize it was gone," said Dominic Castillo. "Maybe I was in shock, but it occurs to me that after spending so much time laboring over small details you become incapable of the big picture, the album as a whole."

Not only has this rock band produced a beautiful collection of songs that should easily invade any stereo, its live performances are one-hundred times better. Dominic Castillo and the Rock Savants is one of those bands that has an amazing recorded sound and is able to transfer that sound to the stage.

Finally found, "The Lost Album" will be released Friday at The Dwelling in San Luis Obispo. The concert starts at 9:30 p.m.

Download of the day

Jean-Michele Pilc
"One For My Baby"

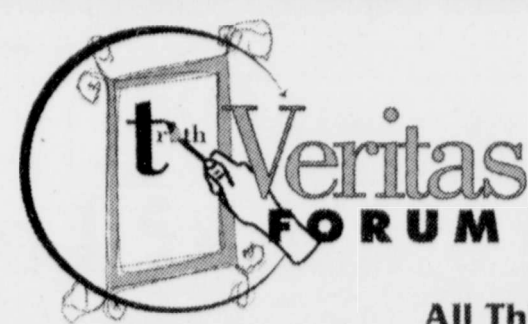
This French pianist left his job as a chemist to rework tunes from the Great American Songbook. This jaw-droppingly gorgeous song — in which he accompanies himself on piano by whistling — is the epitome of jazz: wistful and lonely, blue and beautiful.

Courtesy of wire editor Ashlee "Bodie" Bodenhamer

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Please include your name, year and major and why the song should be downloaded



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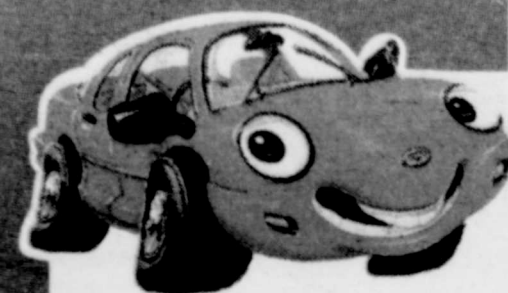
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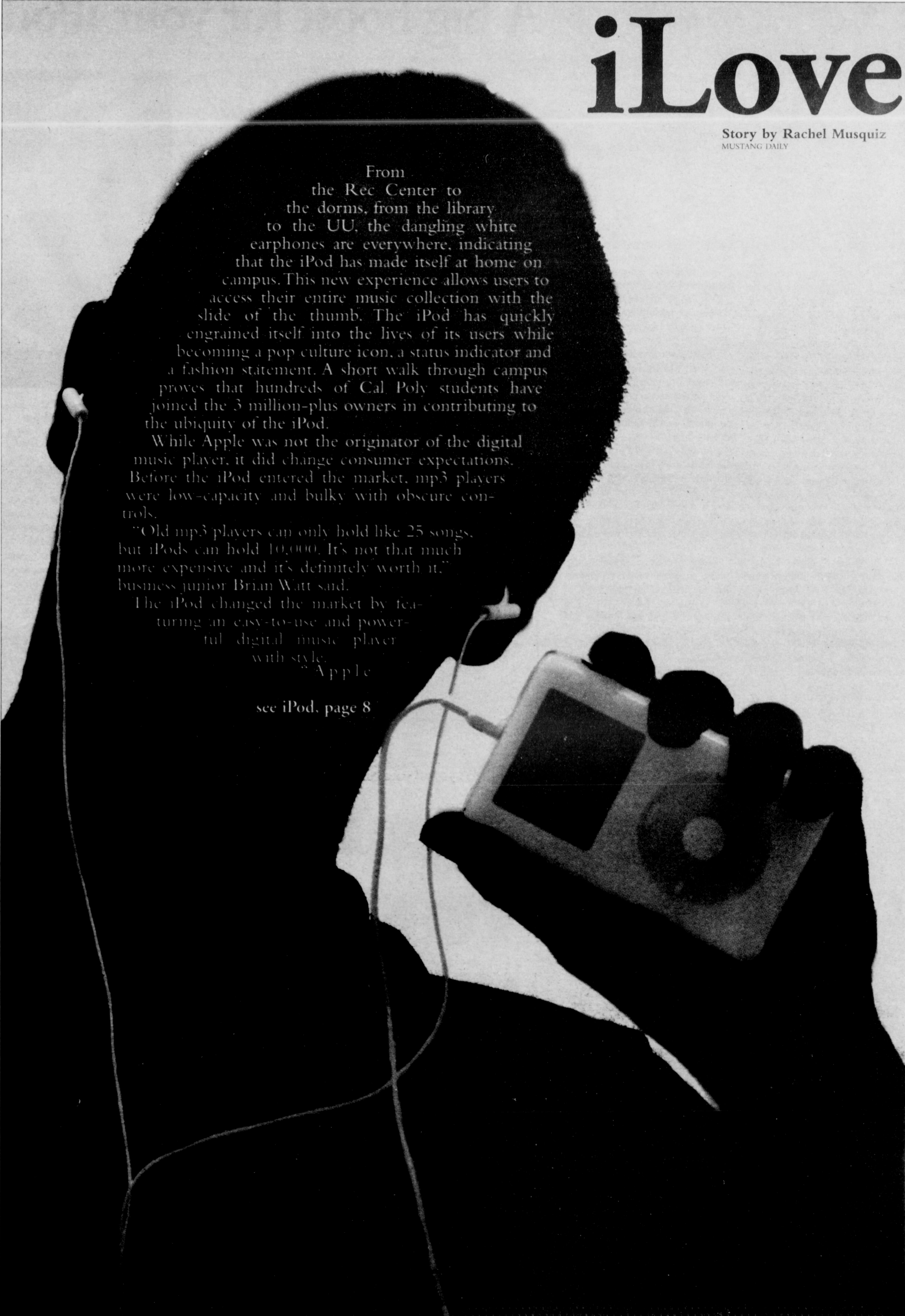
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iLove

Story by Rachel Musquiz
MUSTANG DAILY



From the Rec Center to the dorms, from the library to the UU, the dangling white earphones are everywhere, indicating that the iPod has made itself at home on campus. This new experience allows users to access their entire music collection with the slide of the thumb. The iPod has quickly engrained itself into the lives of its users while becoming a pop culture icon, a status indicator and a fashion statement. A short walk through campus proves that hundreds of Cal Poly students have joined the 3 million-plus owners in contributing to the ubiquity of the iPod.

While Apple was not the originator of the digital music player, it did change consumer expectations. Before the iPod entered the market, mp3 players were low-capacity and bulky with obscure controls.

"Old mp3 players can only hold like 25 songs, but iPods can hold 10,000. It's not that much more expensive and it's definitely worth it," business junior Brian Watt said.

The iPod changed the market by featuring an easy-to-use and powerful digital music player with style.

—Apple

see iPod, page 8

8 Thursday, January 27, 2005

iPod

continued from page 7

done a tremendous job marketing so that it is more than just useful," said Ben Hudson, sales manager at the Mac Superstore in San Luis Obispo. "It's become stylish in a way. You see people walking around with iPods on all over the place, almost like it's fashionable to have one."

The iPod is in a category all its own, deserving of its very own store. A couple of months ago, the Mac Superstore opened the first-ever iPod Shop in San Luis Obispo dedicated to the Apple iPod. The store has more than 100 different iPod products and has a customer base that continuously returns to buy new accessories.

The characteristic that makes the iPod so unique is its adaptability to each individual. The neutral white and silver design is simple on the outside, but is as complex on the inside as the iPodster who is using it. The iPod comes with varying storage capacities of 1,000 to 10,000 songs, fitting the needs of all music enthusiasts. It can also be used as a flash drive for file storage. Even audiobooks can be stored on the iPod.

The iPod is also versatile in where it can go. Accessories make iPod usage available in the car and through a home stereo system. For working out, the iPod offers a 25-minute skip protection.

"I have my iPod and I take it everywhere I go," Hudson said. "You can take your whole music library with you, so there's that appeal to have that much control. No one has ever had that before."

No bigger than the size of a cigarette box, this digital music player is transforming the music industry completely.

"I got the iTrip so I can listen to my iPod through the radio. You don't have to listen to lame radio stations or commercials," Watt said. "It's also much better than having to constantly change CDs."

Portable music has been developing for decades. From AM to FM radio, from 8-track to vinyl, from cassettes to CDs, the method of listening to music has changed over time.

"There was a big shift from cassettes to CDs when I was growing up. Now I think Apple has initiated the shift from having a collection to having something like an iPod or mp3 player where you can store all

your music," Hudson said. "In five years people won't be carrying around a big package of CDs, they'll have an mp3 player. Hopefully an iPod."

This is a trend some people already exhibit.

"I got the iTrip so I can listen to my iPod through the radio. You don't have to listen to lame radio stations or commercials," Watt said. "It's also much better than having to constantly change CDs."

The iPod is even found in movies, television shows and music videos. Over the summer, Fox TV decided that all future depictions of music players on its series "The O.C." would consist of the iPod and its revealing white earphones, noting that is what the audience uses and what the characters would use.

Amy Wiley, lecturer in the English department, got her iPod about two years ago and life has not been the same since.

"It's part of my routine definitely," she said. "When I hop into the office, the first thing I do is turn on my computer, plug in the iPod, transfer files and turn on some music to keep as background music while I'm working."

She also uses it as a flash drive to store audio books and creating playlists for grading, reading and driving. Besides news radio, all she listens to in her car is her iPod.

"Back when I was driving 700 miles a week, the iPod was essential for sanity."

Heidi Armstrong, liberal studies junior, got her green iPod Mini during the summer. She was drawn to the smaller size because she could easily take it with her running. She also uses it while on campus.

"I use it mostly when I am studying at school to tune everything out," she said. "It helps me to focus in a crowded area."

The iPod deserves credit for changing the face of portable music. It entered a bland market of digital music players that had little to offer the consumers. These mini computers introduced the concept of placing the control of music into the hands of the user.

"It's changed the way people listen to music," Hudson said. "People have more control over music than they've ever had before, which I think is the most appealing."

With competitors still lying in the dust of the iPod, Apple will continue to dominate the digital music player industry while iPodsters happily comply.

A big boost for your iPod

Ron Harris
ASSOCIATED PRESS

With its gorgeous white-and-metal gleam and rounded edges, Apple Computer Inc.'s iPod is the hands-down design winner among digital music players. Not to mention it can store every song I own.

But as much as I want to like the beautiful iPod, the sound simply leaves me flat.

I've listened to everything from rock and rap to jazz and gabber, but each time I'm left cranking the volume up to 80 percent just to get a decent thump out of my headphones or earbuds. If I pump it higher, the music quality crackles under the pressure.

Thankfully, there's an iPod amplifier available that looks every bit as good as the iPod and helps the sound along, too. It's not cheap at \$149, but Simpl Acoustics' A1 does the job well.

The A1 comes in the same glistening white color as the full-sized iPod (except for the black-and-red U2 edition) and clips on the back snugly, thanks to a well-positioned pressure point called podGrip technology. Once I fit it on the back of the loaner iPod the company provided me with, the amp never came off unless I applied some serious pressure. The design is impressive.

A short cord plugs into the "audio out" headphone jack of the iPod and into the A1 input. Then, I simply plugged in the original iPod earbuds

into the amp and I was ready to go.

Without the A1 amp, bass-heavy techno music from DJ Aphrodite sounded a bit tinny through the iPod. And my John Mayer tracks lacked the fullness I know are present in his rich guitar strums. But once I pushed the power button on the A1, one word came to mind.

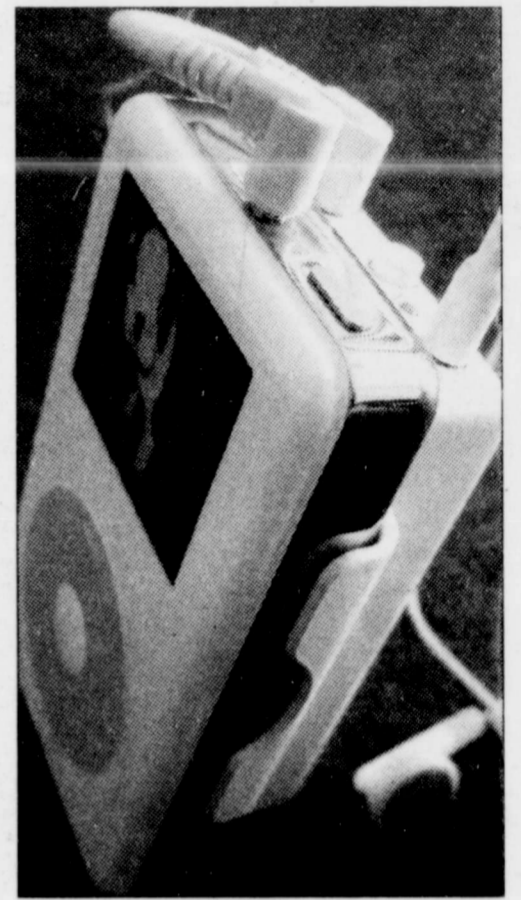
Wow.

It was a real kick to try the newly powered iPod with a couple of different pairs of full-sized higher performance headphones. First, I plugged in my trusty \$50 Sony MDR-V300 studio monitor headphones. Fuller tones and deeper bass lines immediately filled my head.

Next, I tried the amplified iPod with a borrowed pair of \$270 Sennheiser 590 headphones. There's simply no better way to enjoy a well-mastered recording than with well-designed headphones with a wide frequency response range to provide a fuller sound quality to the music.

Simpl publishes all the specs the experts say I should care about (signal-to-noise ratio, power output, total harmonic distortion). Apple, by comparison, doesn't make public any of these specifications for the iPod, even though I asked several times, in several ways.

"The iPod has regularly been tested and noted for having fantastic sound quality and its clearly class leading," says Apple spokesman Tom Neumayr. "We do not want to market



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Simpl Acoustics' A1 amplifier provides that added oomph for a true musical connoisseur's iPod.

iPod with an overwhelming bunch of technical specifications and we've chosen not to report these."

In all honesty, Apple has already won the digital audio device war and no technical specs, good or bad, will do them in. But for my taste, Apple didn't put enough audio gumption in those beautiful iPods. The Simpl A1 amplifier sure helps pick up the slack.

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COMMENTARY

Student fees put to (mis)use by colleges

A "frustrated" graduate student wrote to the Mustang Daily suspicious of the way student fees were being dispersed in the aerospace engineering department this year.

The student claimed that if the student fee committees spend all of their money on instruction, then they would qualify for "some mysterious pot of money" from the dean of the College of Engineering. But if they use their funds "for what it was intended for (lab materials and such) that they would be ineligible." The student also alleged that the department placed money directly into the general budget without student consent.

By these claims, it's highly tempting to suspect a scandal in which the administration is trying to rob the students of their independent fees, but that's hardly the case. After investigating the issue, what's happening in the aerospace engineering department is reflective of a university-wide trend in which students are being asked to backfill budgets.

Within the past three years, budget cuts to the California State University system drastically impacted Cal Poly and its colleges, said Amy Hewes, the director of publications and communications for the College of Engineering.

As a result, departments have strongly urged (but have no right to require) the student fee committees to use their funds for necessities such as lecturers and increased classes, Hewes said. Some students on the fee committees said they feel "pressured" to meet the requests of the administration, but understand the necessity to do so.

"We are in a bad situation, and people are frustrated," said Jim Young, aerospace engineering senior and president of the aerospace engineering student fee committee. "But I feel like we have to cooperate with the department. The main reason we're here is for instruction."

And in fact, when the College of Engineering passed a proposal to increase academic fees in 2002, it was with the intent that it would "pay for additional course offerings, lab upgrades and equipment purchases."

Yet, dealing out the majority of the funds for instruction is troubling to some students who feel that the department is "using the student fee money as a way to bail themselves out," said Steve Kubik, aerospace engineering senior and vice president of his department's fee committee.

"Student fee money brought beautiful projects to work," Kubik said. "The reason why aerospace companies love us is because we can do more than just say, 'Hey, I learned that in a book.'"

But both Kubik and Young said they agree that it is a strong priority to offer additional course sections that will allow students to progress in their field. Currently, most of the \$250,000 from aerospace engineering student fees is being used to pay for lecturers, and the rest is given to student projects on an "as needed basis," Young said.

So what is this "mysterious pot of money" that is being used to advocate responsible use of the student fees? According to Hewes, the legislature from the CSU gave the college of engineering \$300,000, which came from an unforeseen fluctuation in the budget. Dean Peter Y. Lee will decide who gets the money, and will favor those departments that spent their money wisely to meet their immediate needs (such as instruction).

It's as though student fee committees are being forced to decide what to eat first: dinner or dessert? They can fulfill their department's most important needs first, like instruction and lab courses, and sustain their programs; or they can delight in a shiny new piece of equipment, and forfeit the quality of their academic career.

Fortunately, these college students are wise enough to know what's good for them. But just wonder — what would happen to the College of Engineering, and every department for that matter, if there weren't student fees to supply such basic things as instruction?

Carrie McGourty is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily columnist.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Who's got our backs for Mardi Gras?

San Luis Obispo is a college town. Yet, in most of the city's operations, the viewpoints of long-time community members, not including students, are widely upheld. At first glance, this seems unfair; however, it's important to note that the university, in all of its power and glory, aims to uphold the interests of students.

That is until now.

The university is working hand-in-hand with city officials in plan-

ning for Mardi Gras 2005.

Last year, students complained that they were targeted and being discriminated against during the celebrations simply because they were students out on a Saturday night. (Of course they were all out to cause trouble.)

But only a handful of students filed reports and official complaints were few and far between, leaving the floodgates wide open for a repeat occurrence.

And now that we know the university has allied with the city, who's to say that students won't be made the bad guys again?

That's not to suggest that students were not involved or at fault for past events. It's simply cause for concern over who is going to step up and look after students' well-being when allegations start flying. Sadly, it looks like we, the students, are on our own.

—Mustang Daily editorial staff



CAMPUS troubleshooter

what you should know

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Expert data shows that global warming is happening

I find it very interesting that the right-wing can continue to deny that global warming is occurring.

I don't deny that their simple statement of facts may be correct, the data may be complete as well. But I also know that every ecologist who looks at the problem, regardless of political belief, tells us that global warming is happening, is caused by human activity and can be stopped by human activity.

Think about it this way: I'm an aerospace engineer. If I gave you a sheet of wind tunnel data, would you trust your interpretation of it or mine?

If you were in an airplane and all five engineers on board told you the wing was about to break off, would you listen to them?

Well, if the experts are to be believed, the wing is about to fall off.

Troy Kuersten

Aerospace engineering sophomore

The 'Religious Right' is promoting intolerance

We Are Family Foundation recently released a video with the intent to help teach elementary school children the values of coop-

eration and unity. The video consists of several children's characters singing "We are Family."

The Religious Right, headed by Focus on the Family, have come out saying that this video is an attempt to promote homosexuality, and even have gone to the extreme as labeling Spongebob as being gay.

This makes me ask: Why is it wrong for an organization to promote tolerance for all? Why does a cartoon character have to have sexuality? This is not the first time a children's character's sexuality was put on trial by the Religious Right. I've heard claims of Tinky Winky, Bert and Ernie, Pooh and Piglet, and Peppermint Patty and Marcie. Why is this important? It's not.

Bert and Ernie never discuss the Federal Marriage Amendment and how it affects their relationship. You know why? It is because they are children's characters.

But the main issue is that the "Religious Right," who seems to be promoting intolerance, is attacking a videotape used to encourage kids to respect and embrace differences.

I encourage you to go to the GLBU meeting Wednesday at 7 p.m., 52 E27 or their fund-raiser dance at Tortilla Flats on Wednesday at 10 p.m. to learn more.

I will also be at UU Plaza every Tuesday from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. during Free Speech Hour if you have a rebuttal.

Brandon Sims

Biology senior

Top 10 reasons to lead a liberal lifestyle, or not

Why I am a liberal:

1. Because my grandfather sends me articles from Christian magazines telling me to "kill the infidel."

2. Because my uterus is MINE and does not belong to the men in the government.

3. Because my money should not go to buying myself Prada, but to the people who really need it.

4. Because I believe in being tolerant of other people's ideas and beliefs by both my words and actions.

5. Because I believe our liberal predecessors were correct in ending slavery, winning women and minorities the vote, ending systematic discrimination, allowing freedom of worship, establishing universal education, etc.

6. Because the world is not perfect the way it is now and only by being liberal in our ideas can we change it.

7. Because Jesus was the original socialist.

8. Because I believe in fighting for those who did not have my luck of being born into an upper class, white family.

9. Because I like plants and animals, and believe our environment should not be sacrificed so corporations can make more money.

10. Because people are listening: in 2004, for the first time since she started voting, my mother voted Democrat.

Katherine Benjamin

History senior

MUSTANG DAILY CORRECTIONS

The Mustang Daily staff takes pride in publishing a daily newspaper for the Cal Poly campus and the neighboring community. We appreciate your readership and are thankful for your careful reading. Please send your correction suggestions to editor@mustangdaily.net.

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FLASHBACKThis week:
Auggie GarridoThe New York Times
Crossword

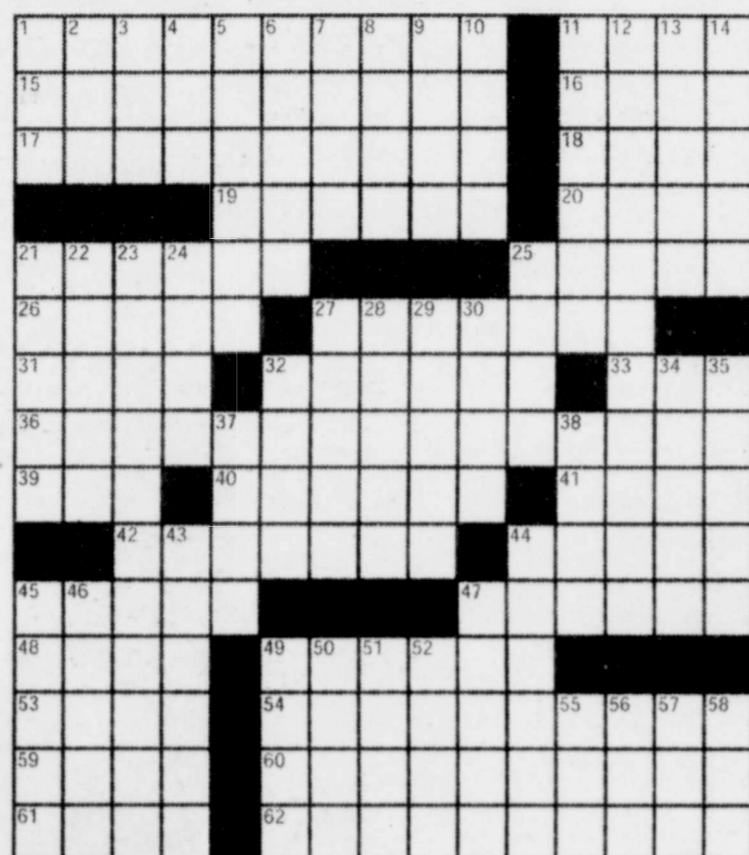
Edited by Will Shortz

No. 1216

- ACROSS**
- 1 Makes cry, in a way
- 11 Way off
- 15 Swelling rush
- 16 Chute opener?
- 17 City next to Newark
- 18 Lead-up to a coup
- 19 Failed at a shootout
- 20 Additionally
- 21 Informal conversation opener
- 25 Confronts
- 26 Water colors
- 27 Shot that's completely off the mark
- 31 Water pit
- 32 Comparatively close
- 33 Some radio listings: Abbr.
- 36 1969 #3 hit ... and a hint to this puzzle's theme
- 39 Sault ____ Marie
- 40 Old TV part
- 41 This, in Toledo
- 42 Comebacks
- 44 Progress little by little
- 45 100-eyed giant of myth
- 47 Uncredited authors
- 48 Big pig
- 49 The Cat in the Hat had one
- 53 It's loaded
- 54 Bogey
- 59 Percolate
- 60 Home of Rollins College
- 61 Gardener's need
- 62 Starts, as an agreement

DOWN

- 1 Literary inits.
- 2 Org. that conducts many studies
- 3 MGM motto starter
- 4 Becoming gradually slower, in music
- 5 Garden decorations
- 6 Smiling
- 7 Points on a line: Abbr.
- 8 Faults
- 9 Upper hand
- 10 Tournament favorite
- 11 Fund-raising letter
- 12 First semester offerings
- 13 Stopped lying
- 14 Taxi posting
- 21 Holds up
- 22 Cry of surrender
- 23 Quadrennial event
- 24 Cash register part
- 25 It's figured according to the 14-Down
- 27 Moving
- 28 ____ water
- 29 Orchestra section
- 30 Kind of coat



Puzzle by Mike Torch

- 32 Retro hairdo
- 34 Sacred song
- 35 Goes postal
- 37 Baseball's Mel and others
- 38 Panelike
- 43 Where the holm oak is native
- 44 It's said when lifting the arm
- 45 Disconcert
- 46 Mercutio's friend
- 47 One who tithes
- 49 Boxer Riddick
- 50 "Come ____!"
- 51 Hit the road
- 52 Lug
- 55 Coll. in Troy, N.Y.
- 56 Give a thumbs down
- 57 Obsolete form of "to be"
- 58 MGM rival, once

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.20 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.

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IDEALS EPIC DOH
DOLT PRANKS
AJAR SHAMU
CDS OBOE PHOBOS
OUTTHEMAPLETREE
BEYOND TRUE ASS
BLEND ESPN
ERSATZ AGED
PER YALE EMILIO
IWOODPINEFIRYEW
COAXES ARTS PIN
AKRON MASS HOY

Cobian

continued from page 12

Cobian said he uses his size to intimidate only on the field.

With glasses, blue eyes and a huge heart, "Big Ben" is more like a teddy bear than a line-backer.

He loves his mother and she is the most inspirational person in his life.

"I look up to my mom because there was a long time where it was just her and I," Cobian said. "My parents were divorced when I was three and (my mom) didn't get remarried until I was about 12. We went through a lot of tough times. She put her life on hold for me."

Cobian will graduate with a degree in journalism this year. He hopes to play in the NFL and become a football coach after college.

Golden

continued from page 12

market teams) it'd be unjust to fire Bromley. The man deserves a full roster not a pink slip, and certainly not dirty jockstrap detail.

People may forget that the day Bromley inked a five-year, \$525,000 contract extension or the time there was such a positive Mustang buzz was all barely a year ago. Furthermore, there had to be something that Mustang athletic administrators saw in Bromley to make him the highest-paid coach at Cal Poly.

Even if a worthy replacement lurked nearby, I wouldn't advocate firing Bromley. Never mind that Bromley's contract would cost a lot to be bought out or that it's actually kind of a bargain, relative to other college basketball coaches. This is an issue of loyalty and fairness.

Anyhow, another guy whose team is in far more dire straits will probably be sticking around. There was little Steve Schlick could do to keep the women's volleyball team from going 5-24. The Mustangs have now been in a two-year tailspin that's seen at least five players leave the program before the end of their eligibility.

Still, Schlick seems to have a lot of loyalty within the athletic department. He also benefits from coming across as a nice-enough guy, often available to media stiff's like me. Additionally, the argument could be made that a rash of injuries caused this most recent spell of mediocrity.

Bottom line, Schlick and Bromley will be around at least one more year apiece. Hopefully, their teams will rebound. After all, no one can be allowed to keep losing forever.

Graham Womack is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily assistant sports editor. E-mail him at galexand@calpoly.edu.

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From Debbie Downer

COMMENTARY

Mustang coaches are here to stay



**GOLDEN
graham**

self-proclaimed sports scribe

It's funny what can be found online: weather reports from Fiji, Spice Girls songs and the occasional speculation that certain Cal Poly coaches will be fired.

The speculation I speak of comes from a message board devoted to Mustang sports. Over the past few months, there's been talk about whether men's basketball coach Kevin Bromley and women's volleyball coach Steve Schlick deserve dismissal.

Regardless, neither man is taking the slow boat to China anytime soon.

Obviously, Bromley has faced more recent scrutiny. The Mustangs are putting up a brave, though largely futile, fight with a roster mostly filled with guys who in a normal year would be red-shirting and others who would be keeping the bench warm. Currently, Cal Poly is 3-13 and in a seven-game losing streak. The team still hasn't won on the road.

Though the Mustangs hung tough against No. 1 University of Pacific last Thursday, they're far from the squad that nearly made the NCAA Tournament in 2003. That season, fans and players alike celebrated in Mott Gym after Cal Poly upset UC Santa Barbara (and the Mustangs would manage another upset of UCSB in the Big West Tournament).

Cal Poly hasn't knocked off the Gauchos since that season, however. In fact, apparently, the Mustangs have gone from upsetting other teams to literally upsetting each other. Following the most recent blowout loss in Santa Barbara, the Mustang message board featured a claim that a radio report said a fight broke out in the Cal Poly locker room.

"Wow, is Broms losing control?" said the guy who posted the fight report. Another message board poster joked that Bromley would soon be re-assigned to Mustang laundry detail while a tandem of baseball coach Larry Lee and football coach Rich Ellerson would take over basketball duties.

Bromley's not to blame, though. Much as it's easy to make a coach a pariah for a losing team, much as it happens all the time in the professional world, (especially with big-

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A coach, a teacher and a hero

Graham Womack
MUSTANG DAILY

If he hadn't been doing his job, Sheldon Harden might have died 44 years ago, not Monday.

On the night of October 29, 1960, the man who would soon become head coach of the Cal Poly football team was then an assistant just 11 days past his fortieth birthday. Also the Mustang wrestling coach, Harden stood this night on the tarmac at a Toledo, Ohio airport, checking players onto the team's charter plane.

Hours earlier the Mustangs had lost 50-6 to Bowling Green State University.

The worst part of the night, though, lay ahead shortly.

As a result of his duties, Harden boarded the plane last and could only find an available seat at the rear. It may have saved his life. Just minutes after takeoff the plane crashed and split in two. The front section was consumed with fire that killed many of the 22 people aboard.

Several passengers in the rear of the plane were also seriously injured. Only banged up, said former Cal Poly president Robert Kennedy, Harden pulled many of those people from the wreckage. For his troubles, he received \$1,000 insurance money and stories he could rarely discuss without showing emotion or on his own initiative.

"My dad would never talk about

those things," Tim Harden said. "He never wanted to be considered a hero. He just thought he was doing his job."

Eventually, just doing a job would entail six seasons as head coach of the Mustangs and an additional two decades, thereafter, as an emeritus professor of physical education. Monday, Harden died in his San Luis Obispo home at the age of 84, following a year of failing health.

Harden was born Oct. 18, 1920 in Alturas coming from "humble beginnings," his son said. He lettered for two seasons at guard and tackle at Santa Clara University, earned a teaching credential at College of the Pacific and came to Cal Poly in 1948 to become the wrestling coach.

Harden would earn spots, eventually, in multiple wrestling halls of fame, though he left the mat in 1962 to become the football coach. He had also been an assistant for 14 years, including 12 seasons under LeRoy Hughes, who went 73-37-1. Harden endured five subsequent losing seasons, though, and compiled a 17-42 record.

Journalism department chair George Ramos, who was Mustang Daily sports editor during Harden's final two seasons said he was formal, always cordial and helpful, though not particularly

innovative as a coach.

"I think part of that is because LeRoy Hughes was so good at his job and it was also Sheldon's fate that he was the head coach in the years following the plane crash," Ramos said.

Former Sports Information Director Wayne Shaw said Harden played a key role during Cal Poly's transition after the plane crash and Mustang coach Rich Ellerson credited Harden as one of a handful of men who "laid the foundation" for the program. He

resigned Jan. 4, 1968.

"Sheldon did not want to be head coach," Kennedy said. "He had had enough experience as head coach."

Harden still went to games thereafter though, was a professor until 1987, and remained a San Luis Obispo resident for the remainder of his life. He had a personality that allowed him to crack jokes until a half hour before his death, his son noted, and also to remain a Cal Poly fixture in the years before that.

After Ellerson became coach in 2001, Harden attended an open house where he educated the new coaches about Mustang history.

"You could tell he wanted the best for us," Ellerson said. "He was really hoping we'd be successful."

Cal Poly athletic administrators have set up the "Sheldon Memorial Scholarship Fund," which Harden's family is requesting that donations be made to in lieu of flowers. Funeral services will take place on Saturday at noon at the Nativity of Our Lady Catholic Church, 221 Daly Avenue in San Luis Obispo.



Big Ben on dancing, girls and the NFL

Recently returned from the Las Vegas All-American Classic, Mustang offensive lineman Ben Cobian shows another side

Amanda Samonte
MUSTANG DAILY

What weighs 310 pounds, makes girls cry and plays the recorder? It's Cal Poly offensive lineman Ben Cobian.

Cobian returned from playing in the All-American Classic in Las Vegas last week,

where he was watched by more than 150 NFL scouts. The Miami Dolphins, Kansas City Chiefs, New York Giants, Oakland Raiders and the Houston Texans have contacted him so far this year.

Though Cobian was playing in the biggest game of his life, he wasn't nervous and said he thinks that the transition from Cal Poly to the NFL will not be difficult.

"There have been a lot of great players in the NFL that have come

from smaller school, like Jerry Rice. If I'm good enough to make it, I don't think that it would be that big of an adjustment because they are not going to sign someone for no reason," Cobian said.

Sunday was his twenty-third birthday and he had a good time drinking and gambling after the games in Las Vegas.

Cobian is aware that the NFL is an entirely new setting then what

he's accustomed to at Cal Poly.

"I don't like people saying they like me because I'm making money in the NFL," Cobian said. "I'm not interested in a bunch of groupies ... I don't sleep around ... I really don't think lots of chicks hanging on me is that cool. It's always nice to have a bunch of people love you, but it's not for the right reasons."

Even in high school, Cobian was popular among classmates.

One of his most embarrassing moments was when he was elected junior class Homecoming King.

"So [the homecoming queen and I were] dancing, and everyone starts dancing with us ... so I stop and walk away. She starts crying because I'm not dancing with her and she really had a crush on me. I go back to say I'm sorry, and she goes and slaps me in front of everybody."

Cobian certainly isn't shy about sharing his life.

Another mortifying moment for Cobian was in fifth grade when he sneezed during his big recorder solo.

"I was so embarrassed that I almost walked off the stage," Cobian said laughing.

Like many college students, Cobian loves to play Texas Hold'em and intramural sports. He actually likes basketball better than football.

"I was born to play basketball, but God gave me the body to play

football," Cobian said. "I'm just a regular guy. I like to just hang out, drink beer and chill."

Despite his size, Cobian likes to cut a rug periodically.

"Ben's got all kinds of rhythm," said his roommate, industrial technology senior Travis Morse.

"I may be a big white boy, but I can dance," Cobian said proudly.

In order to maintain his massive stature, he consumes about 5,000 calories a day — three to four meals and two supplement shakes.

When asked if his size is ever a hindrance, he said he has trouble on roller coasters and airplanes.

"On the flight to Vegas, I sat in the middle seat between a really fat guy and a not very nice woman. The whole time I was trying to keep my knees away from them."

Other Successes ...

Some other Mustang offensive linemen who have gone on to the NFL:

Dustin Kroeker: He has spent the past three seasons as a tackle for the Seattle Seahawks.

Mike Daum: One of eight men from the 1980 Division II champion team to sign a pro contract.

John Madden: An offensive and defensive lineman at Cal Poly, Madden is well-documented for his success as a player, coach and color commentator.

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