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Lorenzo has found a home - and a niche on the Cal Poly men's basketball team.

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Go online to see what people coming out of the on-campus polls had to say about the candidates. mustangdaily.net

TODAY'S WEATHER



Sunny High 63°/Low 40°

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Super Tuesday yields record voters



BENJAMIN ROZAK MUSTANG DAILY

Students wait in long lines to vote in the University Union lobby Tuesday.

Poly students turn out en masse to local polls

Rachel Glas

MUSTANG DAILY

On a normal Tuesday, Cal Poly students can be found going to class, doing homework and maybe hitting up the gym. But on Feb. 5, students helped decide the future of our country.

All day long, the line of students waiting to cast a ballot in California's presidential primary snaked around the University Union, the only polling place on campus.

"The amount of student voters this election has really been extraordinarily high. There's absolutely more than usual," poll worker Rick Tibben said.

Student voters have strong opinions about why they are voting.

"We're young, and this election is going to affect us for a long time, so we need to have a say in the outcome," journalism freshman Julie Rudd said.

Industrial technology senior Justin Miller expressed skepticism about the voting process, but said he was voting nonetheless.

"I don't think that my vote will make much of a difference, but I'm lucky enough to be able to, unlike people in

see Local, page 2

McCain, Clinton lead pack in California primary

Juliet Williams

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — Hillary Rodham Clinton handily won California's coveted Democratic presidential primary Tuesday and John McCain easily defeated rival Mitt Romney in the Republican race, as the most populous state wielded its influence in the presidential nominating process for the first time in decades.

Clinton had 54 percent to rival Barack Obama's 37 percent, with a third of precincts reporting. Mc-Cain had 44 percent to Romney's 27 percent.

Exit polls conducted for The Associated Press showed Clinton drew strong support from Hispanic voters, who backed her by a margin of more than 2-1.

Among them was Erendida Vargas, 32, a housekeeper from South Los Angeles who believes Clinton has the best chance of reversing eight years of Republican policies in Washington.

"She is going to be the first woman president," Vargas said. "Everything men do, we can do it, too."

A rich trove of California delegates was at stake - 370 for Democrats and 170 for Republicans - in

the state's first-ever midwinter primary. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and legislative leaders moved the contest from June to February in hopes of playing a greater role in the national races.

Californians also voted Tuesday on several statewide propositions, including one that would modify legislative term limits and another that would allow a major expansion of Indian gambling for four Southern California tribes.

But it was the presidential race that attracted all the excitement.

Voter registration hit a record for a presidential primary in California, at 15.7 million voters, or about 68.5 percent of those eligible, and campaigns for all the major candidates pushed hard in California right through Election Day.

Turnout was so strong in the San Francisco Bay area's Alameda County that some precincts ran out of Democratic ballots, prompting a judge to order polls to remain open as late as 10 p.m.

"To run into this situation indicates that turnout was huge," said county Registrar Guy Ashley.

With about half of all ballots cast expected to be absentee, election officials predicted that up to a

see State, page 2

Construction on schedule despite wet weather

Patrick Barbieri

MUSTANG DAILY

Despite the rain, Cal Poly's construction projects are proceeding better than expected, according to staff.

"We've been blessed with good weather this year," said Johan Uyttewaal, associate director of Facilities Planning and Capital Projects at Cal Poly. "All of our projects are ahead of schedule."

The two major projects in the works are Poly Canyon Village and the Construction Management building.

Poly Canyon Village consists of two phases, with phase one near completion and to be open to students in September. Phase two will be complete in spring 2009. Both phases are complete on the exterior, meaning that the roof and walls are up, allowing contractors to install drywall, electricity and plumbing and finish painting the inside, regardless of weather outside.

"Everything's already covered," Uyttewaal said. "The only thing being affected by the rain would be landscaping of phase one, which is not critical to completion."

The Construction Management building project includes construction of the new building located next to the Graphic Communication building and a partial renovation of the Engineering West building. Again, with the roof and walls up, contractors can continue to finish work, despite wet weather. Uyttewaal said students can plan on having both buildings open in the fall.



NICK CAMACHO MUSTANG DAILY Construction on Poly Canyon Village is scheduled to be completed by spring 2009.

"We'll be installing equipment and labs during the summer," Uyttewaal said. "The rain has-

had very little impact on this project." The same holds true for smaller renovation and maintenance projects.

"There've been some minor setbacks with sidewalk improvements, but most of our projects are interior renovations," said Mark Hunter, the director of Facilities Services. "The rain has actually helped us by revealing any roof leaks that need repair. Other than that, it has not significantly impacted us."

According to Uyttewaal, contractors use statistical information to take into account any delay caused by rain before bidding out a project. If there are not enough rainy days, then contractors can continue working ahead of schedule.

Once a project nears completion, a final punch list is generated and officials inspect the project. State building inspectors issue a notice of acceptance and when everything is satisfactory, construction is complete.

Autopsy results confirm drowning

Coral Snyder

MUSTANG DAILY

The autopsy report of the deaths of a mother and child found off the San Simeon coast showed that both deaths were the results of drowning. Autopsies were completed in the deaths of Marcia Harrigan, 43, and her daughter Gillian Goldman, 8, of Hermosa Beach, on Jan. 16.

Sheriff's department detectives, coroner's investigators and District Attorney investigators determined from the results of the autopsies that the deaths were a murder/suicide. Detectives and investigators concluded that Harrigan drowned her daughter and then committed suicide by drowning herself.

Additionally, toxicology results indicate that Harrigan had a Blood Alcohol Content of 0.03, and no prescription or illegal drugs were found in her system. There was no indication of alcohol or drugs found in Goldman's results; they were determined to be nor-

Both mother and daughter were found in the ocean off the coast of San Simeon in the morning Jan. 10. The surrounding area where the bodies were found is considered to be a vista point, as the land above the water is rocky and narrow.

Harrigan's former lawyer, Jeffrey Doeringer, reportedly claimed she was upset because custody of her daughter was turned over to the father by order of the court. Doeringer reportedly said that Harrigan "was very distraught and told me she didn't think she'd comply with it."

Harrigan allegedly fled and refused to turn over custody because of allegations that Goldman's father was sexually abusing her, however, no evidence to support these allegations was found by the court.

some other countries," he said.

Historically, candidates have had a to vote. In the 2004 election, only 47 percent of citizens aged 18 to 24 voted, compared to 66 percent of citizens older than 25, according to civicvote.org. So why are young people turning out for

Many people think that Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Barack Obama (D-Ill.) is the reason.

'I'm tired of the Clinton dynasty and the Bush dynasty; we need someone new," English sophomore Melissa Montecuollo said.

Tony Silvestri, biology sophomore and member of Students for Barack Obama, isn't surprised.

"Obama is really bringing out the youth vote. I've never seen kids our age caring about politics so much until him," he said.

Students have been getting involved beyond just voting, however. Studentled clubs such as the Cal Poly College Republicans, the Cal Poly Democrats,

and Students for Barack Obama (which is not chartered by the school) have all been working to get a big voter turnout.

www.mustangdaily.net

"Students need to understand that the candidates and issues do affect them, and as responsible adults, they should vote," said Christina Chiappe, Cal Poly College Republicans president and so-

The Cal Poly Democrats and the Cal Poly College Republicans have both been registering students to vote and providing information on the different candidates and propositions.

"The primaries are really important because historically during the general election, people look at the candidates and don't like them," said Erin Mellon, vice president of the Cal Poly Democrats and business administration junior. "Well, they had a chance to vote for someone else in the primaries when there were more options."

Each club threw a party for its members as well, to "celebrate the democratic process," in the words of Erica Janoff, president of the Cal Poly Democrats and industrial engineering senior. Neither club has endorsed a candidate but said they will endorse their respective party's nominee.



The Cal Poly Democrats club (above) and the Cal Poly College Republicans (below) celebrate election night in their own ways.



things done." Secretary of State Debra Bowen reported some complaints from nonpartisan voters who had trouble casting ballots. The Democratic and American Independent parties allowed voters who aren't affiliated with any political party to vote in their contests, but those people had

Wednesday, February 6, 2008

quarter of the votes would remain

primary said they had chosen their candidate in the final three days be-

fore the election, adding to the high

number of absentee votes forecast to

time making up her mind, and waited until Tuesday to drop off her bal-

lot at a polling place in Sacramento.

bit before I picked Hillary," she said. "I think she's really been there be-

fore and can get in there and get

"I went back and forth quite a

Rachel Falsetti, 44, had a tough

come in at the last minute.

About a quarter of voters in each

uncounted on Election Night.

State

continued from page 1

to request a special ballot. Nearly one in five of those who cast ballots in the Democratic race identified themselves as "independent or something else," and they preferred Obama about 2-1 over Clinton, according to exit polls.

The state's Republican primary was closed to voters not registered with the GOP.

Both Democrats and Republicans rated the economy as the most important issue facing the country, with about 90 percent of Democrats characterizing it as not so good or poor; two-thirds of Republicans said the same.

Democrats who rated the economy or health care as most important strongly backed Clinton, while those who cited the war in Iraq as the most pressing issue favored Obama.

In the Republican primary, those who rated the economy as the most important issue went strongly for McCain, along with those who rated the war in Iraq as high. Those who cited illegal immigration favored Romney.

Voters who called themselves evangelicals or born-again Christians split their votes three ways between McCain, Romney and Mike Huckabee, who drew about 12 percent of the Republican vote in California.

Meanwhile, a measure that sought to modify term limits for state legislators by cutting two years off the maximum time lawmakers could serve was trailing by a small margin with 34 percent of precincts reporting. That measure, Proposition 93, drew strong criticism because it would allow 34 lawmakers who otherwise would be termed out of the Assembly or Senate this year to stay in office for another four or six

Measures seeking approval for the governor's deals to let four Indian tribes add up to 17,000 slot machines to their casinos were leading in the polls. Propositions 94-97 attracted more than \$130 million in spending, most of it for advertisements by the tribes and their allies.

Voters defeated Proposition 92, which would have dedicated a certain amount of money each year to the nation's largest community college system and reduced course fees to \$15 per unit from the current \$20. The proposal came as the state faces a \$14.5 billion budget deficit.

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day prior to the San Jose-Columbus match. ***GREAT DEAL: WEEKEND and GROUP PACKAGES can be purchased at the Cal Poly ticket office or over the phone at (805) 756-5806.

WORD ON THE STREET

"How necessary do you think the electoral college is?"

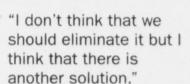
Compiled and photographed by Rachel Glas



"I don't know that it's necessary, but I do think that it's very confusing."

 Nancy Xiong, journalism junior

www.mustangdaily.net



- Joli Barretta. graphic communication freshman





"It's necessary because people don't always take the time to research candidates, and we need informed people to help Americans make decisions."

 Elizabeth Baldwin, business junior

"It's necessary because I believe in plurality."

- Brian Rubin, business senior





PLUG IN YOUR NEWS

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Vote in today's poll

Send a letter to the editor

WOTCH JOB POLT TV VIDEOS

Take a tour of the newsroom

State Briefs

and rescue teams are combing Yosemite National Park for three snowboarders who have been reported missing.

The search started after the snowboarders didn't show up to meet their ride Monday evening near the community of Yosemite West, close to the park's western bound-

Ground searchers fanned out in the area until midnight, and found tracks that matched the snowboarders.

HAYWARD (AP) — A 5-year-old girl who witnessed her mother's slaying reluctantly testified in court and said the suspect she earlier identified as the killer did not resemble the gunman she saw that day.

Superior Court Judge Reginald Saunders told lawyers to give the girl some latitude as she took the witness stand Monday at the murder trial of Manuel Urango, 30.

The child was holding her mother's hand when the woman was shot in the head while walking to a school.

ROSEVILLE (AP) — A 42-year old Sacramento man who stole two Weed Eaters from a Home Depot store is going to state prison for 28 years to life.

A Placer County judge says the recent theft on top of two robberies 15 years ago are enough to bring Reginald Whitfield a life prison term under California's "three-

Whitfield was convicted of armed robberies in 1991 and in 1993. He wrapped his hand like a gun in the first

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK (AP) — Search robbery and struggled with security officers after he was caught taking food from a market in the second.

Whitfield's attorney argued the minimal violence means he should not qualify as a third-strike offender.

MONTEREY (AP) — The Monterey Bay Aquarium has released a young great white shark that has spent the past five months in captivity.

Aquarium staff released the male shark from a boat in Monterey Bay Tuesday morning after fitting the predator with electronic tags that will track and collect data on its travels over the next several months.

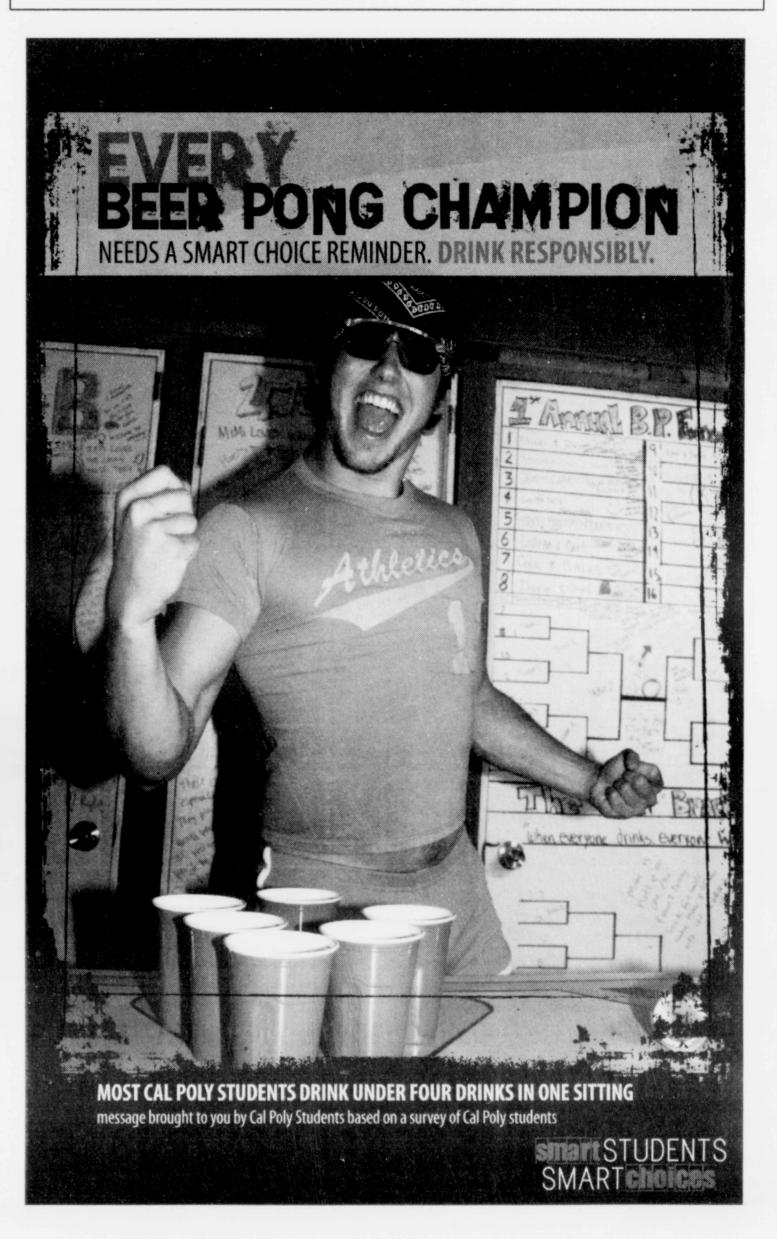
It was the third white shark that the aquarium had exhibited and released in four years.

Since it arrived in late August, the shark had grown from 4 feet 9 inches to 5 feet 10 inches long. During that time, it more than doubled its weight, from 67 pounds to 140 pounds.

SAN LUIS OBISPO (AP) — Operators of the Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant near San Luis Obispo have shut down one of the two reactors for refueling.

The project also includes replacement of the reactor's four steam generators, which will keep the reactor shut down for two months.

Plant station director Jim Becker says it's the largest refueling outage in the history of the Pacific Gas and Electric Co. nuclear plant.



celebritynews

Overshadowed star

It's not every day that you see Robert De Niro on the cover of Vibe — with 50 Cent.

They posed for the magazine's March issue to promote their new crime drama, "Righteous Kill," costarring Al Pacino and Brian Dennehy. The movie is expected to be released this fall.

50 Cent, whose real name is Curtis Jackson, says he'd "hang out with Robert on Thursdays and Fridays" if he could.

"His celebrity is so strong that I get a chance to feel like a normal

person for a little bit," the 31-year-old rapper tells Vibe.

Lip plumping complaint

Teri Hatcher won a ruling in a feud between rival lip plumpers worthy of Wisteria Lane.

A judge ruled Monday that a \$2 million lawsuit against the 43-year-old "Desperate Housewives" star should be moved out of court and into arbitration.

The lawsuit from cosmetics company Hydroderm, filed late last year in Superior Court, claims that a 2005 endorsement agreement with Hatcher's production company stipulated that she would not pitch competing products.

On the cause again

Four years ago, Sean "Diddy" Combs took his hip-hop swagger across the nation in an effort to get young people to vote, with the bold slogan "Vote or Die." Now, for the eve of Super Tuesday's primary contests, the entertainer has just a simple message: Go vote.

"If we want to stop the war, if we want to get the economy better, I think that young people need to understand they have to take matters into their own hands," Combs, 38, told The Associated Press in a telephone interview on Monday. "It is really like waking up a sleeping giant."

Some political analysts believe the youth vote could be a key factor in this year's presidential election.



Julianne Moore

Universal dedication

Sid Sheinberg left Universal Studios more than a decade ago, but thanks to his protege, Steven Spielberg, he'll always have a place on the Universal lot.

Sheinberg Place, named for the veteran studio executive, was dedicated Monday at a ceremony honoring the former studio chief. Among those in attendance were Dreamworks SKG founders David Geffen, Jeffrey Katzenberg and Spielberg.

"I understand it was Steven Spielberg's idea," said Sheinberg, who ran Universal when it released the Spiel-

berg blockbusters "Jaws," "E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial" and "Jurassic Park."

New kind of Valentine

Julianne Moore has a loving new way to help struggling kids in America: Send a valentine.

Just before Christmas, the 47-year-old actress read to elementary school students and met with parents in White Oak, Tenn., on behalf of Save the Children. The organization aims to improve children's quality of life through literacy, physical activity and nutrition programs.

Afterward, Moore, a mother of two, was inspired to offer Valentine's Day cards online in return for donations to Save the Children. The cards, featuring children's artwork, can be printed or e-mailed, and are available through Feb. 14 on the charity's Web site.

Under too much control

A restraining order against Britney Spears' friend and manager Sam Lutfi alleges that he drugged her, took over her life and finances and for months controlled the ravenous pack of paparazzi.

The order, based on a lengthy declaration from Spears' mother, Lynne, says that Spears met Lutfi in October 2007 and "Mr. Lutfi has essentially moved into Britney's home and has purported to take control of her life, home and finances."

- Associated Press

Briefs

National

NEW ORLEANS (AP)
— Fat Tuesday and Super Tuesday collided on the streets of the French Quarter, where revelers added a distinctly political flavor to

the city's annual raucous bash.

Among the men dressed in pink baby-doll pajamas or leather loincloths, and the women flashing glimpses of flesh for beads were some whose costumes had political themes. Louisiana voters don't head to the polls until Saturday, so many let their costumes make political statements on a day when 24 other states were holding presidential primaries and caucuses.

ATKINS, Ark. (AP) — Tornadoes across four Southern states tore through homes, ripped the roof off a shopping mall and blew apart warehouses in a rare spasm of violent winter weather that killed at least 17 people and injured dozens more.

The twisters that slammed Arkansas, Mississippi, Tennessee and Kentucky were part of a line of storms that raged across the nation's midsection at the end of a day of Super Tuesday primaries in several states. A spectacular fire erupted at a natural gas pumping station northeast of Nashville that authorities could have been damaged by the storms, and an undetermined number of people were reported dead.

International

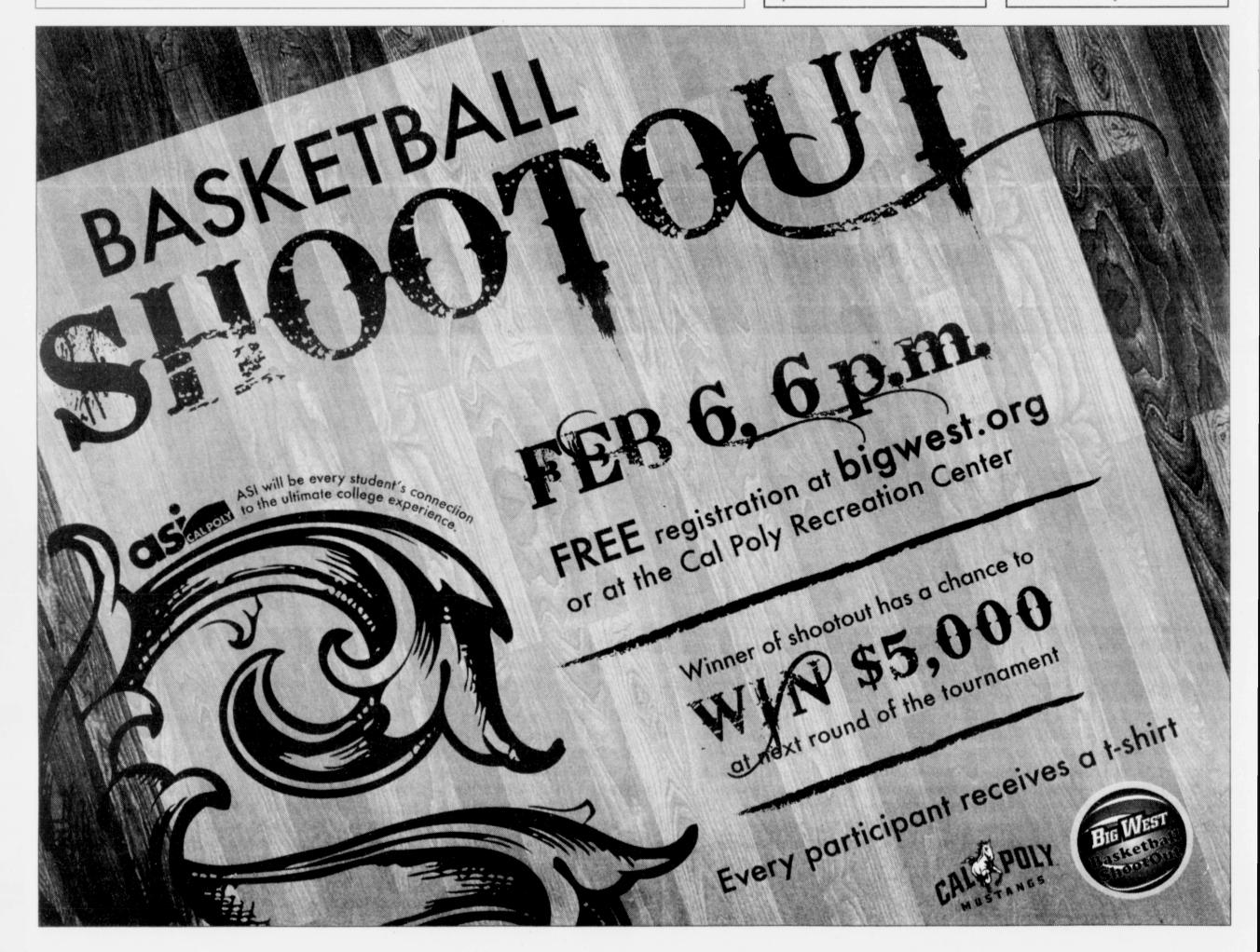
LONDON (AP) — Americans seeking a change in foreign policy and a new national image abroad flocked to churches in Rome, town halls in England and an Irish pub in Hong Kong on Tuesday to vote in a Democrats Abroad primary.

The voting will determine who gets the 11 votes allocated to Democratic Abroad at the Democratic National Convention in August. The group is allowing online voting — a first for voters overseas — that will continue for one week.

Porchester Hall in central London was jammed with high-spirited voters Tuesday evening as rival groups backing Hillary Rodham Clinton and Barack Obama chanted and waved banners for their candidates.

TUXTLA GUTIERREZ, Mexico (AP) — The U.S. Peace Corps said Tuesday it had temporarily suspended its operations in Kenya following weeks of violence over a disputed election.

While no Peace Corps volunteers have been targeted in the violence that has engulfed Kenya since the Dec. 27 elections, the Washington-based group has decided to pull out its remaining 58 volunteers, spokesperson Amanda Beck said. Another 144 volunteers were sent home in January after the violence first erupted, she said.



News

US faces fresh claims of civilian deaths in Iraq

Kim Gamel ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD (AP) — The U.S. military faced complaints Tuesday from its Sunni allies over claims that more civilians had been killed by American forces — amplifying tensions as the Pentagon tries to calm anger over an airstrike last week that claimed innocent lives.

The disputes have further strained ties with anti-al-Qaida fighters considered crucial in turning the tide against extremist violence.

The latest deaths occurred when U.S. soldiers — acting on tips stormed a squat, mud-brick house in the village of Adwar, 10 miles south of Saddam Hussein's hometown of Tikrit. The predominantly Sunni area is home to many former members of Saddam's regime, and has been the frequent site of American raids.

The U.S. military said a gunbattle broke out after the troops came under small-arms fire by two suspected terrorists. It acknowledged a woman was killed and a child was wounded, but said it was not clear who shot them.

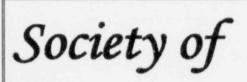
Two other men were killed and the military described them as insurgents. It was the second time in as many days that the U.S. military conceded involvement in the death of Iraqi civilians.

On Monday, the military said it had accidentally killed nine Iraqi civilians, including a child, in an airstrike Saturday targeting al-Qaida in Iraq south of Baghdad.

The killings illustrate the increasing difficulty in identifying the enemy as the nature of the U.S.-led war in Iraq has changed. Many former insurgents and tribal leaders have joined forces with the Americans against al-Qaida in Iraq. The mistaken shootings also threaten to jeopardize the fragile relationship between the Americans and their new Sunni partners.

"Such acts by U.S. soldiers cannot be justified, and they will create mistrust and arouse suspicions between U.S. Army and members of the awakening councils," said Abu Muthanna, a leader of a U.S.-backed anti-al-Qaida group in the northern Baghdad neighborhood of Azamiyah. "This could hurt the level of cooperation between the two sides."

Both U.S. raids on Saturday and Tuesday were based on what the military said was intelligence gleaned from informants. That raised the possibility that the military was misled into targeting the households, perhaps as part of an insurgent campaign to derail the U.S.-backed Sunni revolt against al-Qaida in Iraq.



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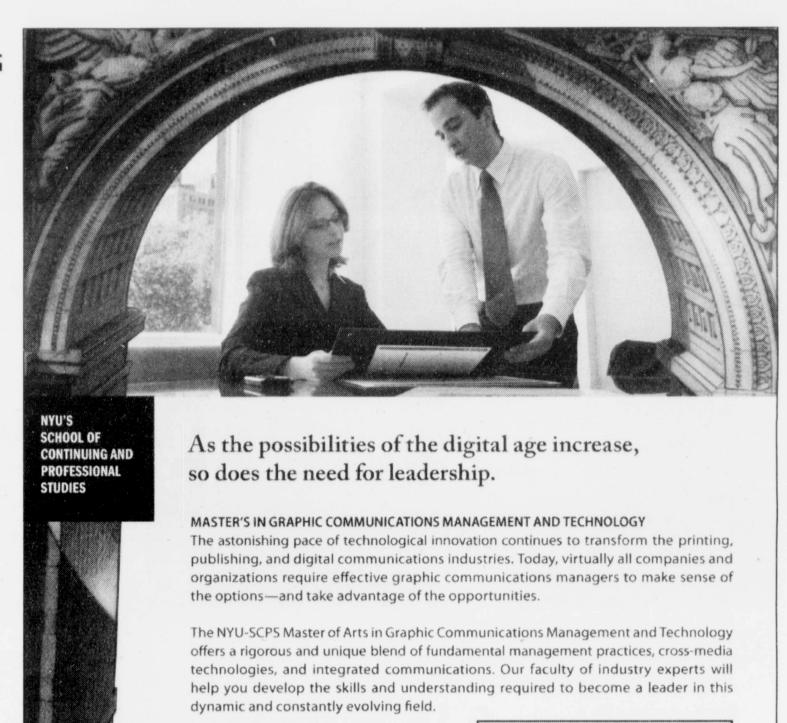
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COURTESY PHOT

In "The Eye," Jessica Alba plays a blind violinist who undergoes surgery to restore her eyesight. Afterwards, strange things start happening.

Jessica Alba talks violin, going indie, Mike Meyers

Alex Plimack
THE TOWERLIGHT (TOWSON U.)

Jessica Alba sat down with college journalists from across the country to talk about her upcoming movie "The Eye."

College Reporter: What kind of roles do you find yourself gravitating more toward now that you're going to be a mother?

Jessica Alba: I think initially I'm going to probably do maybe a little bit more character-driven roles, kind of more indies, ensemble casts, smaller budget. Not necessarily the big, you know, box office movie ... I've had my eye out for an action movie since I finished "Dark Angel." And it's been this long since I finished and I still haven't found a good female-driven action so I've been looking for it.

CR: What sort of research did you do for the role? How did it feel to have to pretend to be blind at first?

JA: I went to a blind orientation center in L.A. and one in New Mexico. And I lived among people who were learning to deal with blindness, particularly in New Mexico ... And I learned how to read Braille, walk with my cane, label everything in the house. Just sort of learn how to exist as someone who has blindness.

CR: Which was more difficult: playing the violin or playing blind?

JA: Violin was definitely more difficult. You know, I played a soloist, but you have to be kind of the best of the best. And people who've been playing that instrument since they were three years old and gave their whole life, practice eight hours a day still don't become soloists. They're just in the orchestra. So that was tough for me because I wanted to come off as realistic and believable as possible in order for the audience to really take the journey with me in this movie.

CR: The Hong Kong version of "The Eye" is very original. Will the remake be a

similar experience?

JA: It is. It's definitely catered to the American audience, the more Western way of thinking about ghosts, you know. You're familiar with the Eastern way of, you know, making ghost stories and these horror movies. And in Western culture people think you're absolutely nuts if you believe in ghosts or if you see ghosts, and yeah, you're basically going insane. And so we dealt with the ghosts in this film similar to that.

CR: How do you compare "The Eye" to "Awake"?

JA: It's a horror movie. "Awake" is more a psychological thriller and about, you know, someone who is dealing with a surgery and trust and, you know, everyone in his life sort of betraying him. And in this film, it's about a girl who has a corneal transplant. She gains the ability to see, she takes on psychic abilities of the girl, of the donor and starts to see death before it happens, and she doesn't understand.

She's literally seeing for the first time, you know, taking in the world. She's completely blind. Not only is she taking in the world for the first time, she's taking in, you know, seeing horrible things.

CR: What's next for you?

JA: I personally want to go in a more indie route for a little while. And have a bit more of a balance between the commercial movies and the indie movies that don't necessarily do as well. And don't necessarily — aren't necessarily — going to make it in the theaters. And I think it'll be fun to kind of take more risks and more challenging roles.

I am coming out in a ... comedy with Mike Myers, which to me was like a dream come true, because he is the Peter Sellers of our generation, I feel. And he is a genius, and he's primed in every phrase in pop culture ... and so that was huge because I love comedy and if you're going to work with anybody in comedy Mike is definitely someone to learn from.

150

Plucking out cultures' finer points

International Guitar Night tour brings four acoustic artists to Poly

Rachel Glas

Four internationally diverse guitarists will perform tonight at the Performing Arts Center as part of the International Guitar Night tour.

Billed as "the longest-running mobile guitar festival in North America," the International Guitar Night tour was founded in 1995 by San Francisco native Brian Gore. The event aims to showcase acoustic guitar music and will begin at 8 p.m.

Three notable guitarists join Gore each year to play concerts across Canada and the United States. This year's concert features the following musicians: D'Gary from Madagascar; Clive Carroll from England; and Trinidadian-born, Canadian-based Miguel de La Bastide.

Each guitarist brings a unique style of music to the concert, thanks to their different cultural backgrounds. Cal Poly music professor Craig Russell said the concert is a good opportunity to learn about these cultures.

"If you want to know about someone's life, listen to the music they make," he said. "When you hear music from different cultures, it gives you a different perspective."

Gore uses elements of folk, jazz and classical music to create a particular brand of fingerstyle playing. He has also released two solo-albums and has authored a book on guitar techniques.

D'Gary, whose real name is Ernest Randrianasolo, developed his sound from traditional Malagasy music. His innovative playing style, based on the concept of open tuning, has "(listeners) swear there must be at least two guitarists playing," according to RFImusique.com. (Open tuning is a method of tuning the guitar so that the sound emanating is "super rich and super full," Russell said.)

Carroll has toured for more than two years and has released two solo albums. His style is based on "traditional Irish, acoustic, and pop/rock," according to his personal Web site.

Bastide emigrated from Trinidad to Canada at the age of 18. He is one of the most respected flamenco guitarists outside of Spain. Bastide's work has been featured on more than a dozen albums.

"This event will show students the versatility of the guitar from the viewpoint of other countries and cultures. I think that the combination of musicians from all over will show that the guitar itself can be applied towards all different styles of music rather just than the pop and rock music we are used to," business senior and jazz band trombonist Brian Rubin said

Tickets for the concert can be purchased at the PAC.





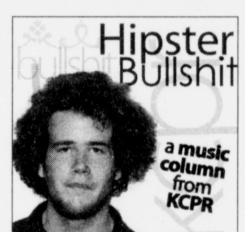


unoriginal lovely meltdown

I want to get something out of the way before I start this review. The new Modular Records compilation, a DJ set entitled "Leave Them All Behind 2," does nothing surprising. It doesn't break any new boundaries or go into experimental territory. We don't get a Girl Talk mega-mix or Diplo crate-digging or Clipse beat-stealing mixtape territory. Seriously, it's the equivalent of making out with an 18-year-old girl drunk off the 10 shots of Lemon Smirnoff she took in

her dorm room before heading to Hump Night and grinding you in the cage. I mean, there's like 50 other guys in the other room who have done the same thing and reflexively regret it on some level.

With that out of the way, it doesn't mean that actions like these don't say anything and, when done properly, can't at least be enjoyable and entertaining for those around you. The compilation is entirely a statement of what it means to be nu-rave in the late 2000s. The Gossip barks in as Lovefoxxx of CSS shimmies and shakes next door. Blasts of noise from Justice mega-hit "Waters of Nazareth" knock in when Karen O tells us she's "bigger than the sound" on Yeah Yeah's hipster smash "Cheated Hearts." Throw in some Peter Bjorn and John, Klaxons and MSTRKFT remixes and you're more ready for the club than a Frenchman with a cigarette, tight jeans and neon clothing. Oh,



and nothing tops the end. Erol Alkan's remix of Hot Chip pushes "Boy from School" into anthemic territory allowing thousands of hipsters to push themselves into the Urban Outfitted honey next to them and whisper, "We tried, but we didn't find love."

I may seem to be maligning the album, but seriously, I've had it on blast for car ride after car ride. It's a perfectly mixed hipster top 40. It's the KCPR equivalent of Wild 106's five o'clock mixdown. Come on, I know we're

assholes, but even hipsters need the time to get down to dance songs we know without criticizing everyone who does something completely expected.

On an additional note, it comes packaged with a lovely extra CD of unmixed songs. Cut and paste! Be your own DJ. Do you think a Simian Mobile Disco song would go well with New Young Pony Club? It for sure will. And then when you mix it, the rest of us hipster children will adore you and you'll be king of the ball for a night just like the DJs who put this compilation together. Hey, it's hellsa easy. But whoever said being easy wasn't fun?

Graham Culbertson is a journalism senior and a stacks director for KCPR, San Luis Obispo, 91.3 FM. He's also completely full of it.

Let me tell you 'The Secret'

Tue Tran
THE HEIGHTS (BOSTON COLLEGE)

"The Secret" by Rhonda Byrne contains the perfect ingredients of a commercial success, which is why it has been on The New York Times Bestsellers List for more than a year. The title evokes curiosity; the cover, mystery. Its subject is perfect for the American self-help craze, and of course, after having been endorsed on "The Oprah Winfrey Show," "The Secret" became a household name.

The book, published after a DVD of the same name and subject, is truly a quick read. The language is simple and without lengthy passages; it is more of a collection of anecdotes and quotes. Each page — glossy, short and sweet — is pleasing to the eye. Overall, the book is positive, presenting life as capable of having an abundance of happiness, if only people thought more positively.

Some stories, from a variety of people such as Winston Churchill and Jack Canfield, the mind behind the Chicken Soup for the Soul book series, rely on common wisdom, emphasizing that thinking positively brings good things. The book also affirms making your own "universe" by how you think. It's an empowering book, reminding readers that destiny is in their own hands, so long as the reader is an idealist. If the reader is a cynic, this book will be too much, especially in the realm of comedy.

After reading it, I thought it was an interesting way to view life, and I have used some of the techniques it proposes, although I'm usually a positive thinker already. But when I recommended it to my high school English teacher, she reminded me exactly why it's so wrong.

The main point of the book is a law called the "Law of Attraction." Basically, if a person thinks about something hard enough and can visualize it within reach, then it will be attainable. Although visualization is a good technique to employ, this law brings it to a new level, to the point where it begins

to blame the victim, although it doesn't necessarily mention this.

My teacher's example was children in impoverished countries. "Do they bring malnourishment upon themselves because they can't visualize food?" she asked. The examples in the book are about people who wanted expensive cars and a million dollars, which they gained, according to them, because they followed the Law of Attraction.

This book puts too much emphasis on material wealth and its connection to this law, yet the book disregards a lot of issues that people all over the world face everyday.

Saturday Night Live spoofed the episode of The Oprah Winfrey Show that publicized "The Secret." In it, the caricatures of the author and Oprah verbally abuse a man in Darfur for having a bad attitude, mocking the nature of this book. Also, many psychiatrists on TV tried to squelch the popularity of "The Secret" because they believed that the Law of Attraction is a dangerous way to view life, due to all the pressures in today's world. People already self-deprecate because that's what we're taught, or believe that we aren't worth much because we aren't productive enough.

Whatever happened to the adage: "Bad things happen to good people"? Don't get me wrong: People have responsibilities. It is your own pursuit of happiness; happiness is not served on a platter, garnished with parsley and caviar for you. But when everything seems to be your own fault, something has gone too far.

I'm sure Byrnes visualized the success of this book. I know I did, because Oprah has put so many books onto The New York Times Bestsellers List. But I should have visualized this book changing my life, and because I didn't, I got nothing out of it, other than tips on marketing.

Just think positively and live your life while not forgetting about the people who need your help — and this "secret" didn't cost you \$23.95.





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"What would happen if a bunch of cows lit on fire? Would it smell good?"

OPINION/EDITORIAL

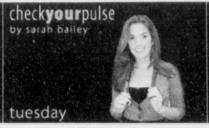
Wednesday, February 6, 2008

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Fairness Doctrine: Unfair to all

"The **Right** Way"

Today is the momentous day after Super Tuesday. By now, the results are in and we should be 24 states closer to deciding who will be each party's presidential nominee.

During elections, there is a fundamental element that we should all be mindful of in our constitution — freedom of speech. The exchange of ideas is the one of the single most important aspects of our free society. We must engage in dialogue and debate in order to seek the better way of life to which our Constitution can pay tribute.

Many believe that the Fairness Doctrine, a regulation by the Federal Communications

Commission (FCC) instated in 1949, may threaten the exchange of ideas. It was originally introduced during an era of anti-Communism in the United States as a regulation requiring broadcasters to present issues of public importance, in a manner deemed equitable and balanced. However, the thought that FCC authorities or any political party can properly determine and enforce what is "fair" is nothing more than a fallacy. The ability to achieve enlightenment begins with speech, beliefs and expression.

Supporters of the Fairness Doctrine argue it would guarantee broad-casting of more opinions, when in reality it's the Fairness Doctrine that would diminish dialogue so vital to the continued success of the free-dom of our nation. The FCC repealed the rule in 1987, as FCC officials found that the doctrine "had the net effect of reducing, rather than enhancing, the discussion of controversial issues of public importance," and therefore was in violation of the First Amendment. In spite of this, many high-ranking politicians are calling for the return of the Fairness Doctrine.

Talk radio has been targeted by politicians and special interest groups calling to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine. Many news and political junkies enjoy the in-depth coverage, satire and intensity of many hosts of talk radio. Liberals attempted and failed at carrying an audience for talk radio, such as with "Air America." Talk radio can be considered the last substantive source of free speech for conservatives. With the Fairness Doctrine, conservative talk show hosts will be forced to share equal time with a liberal talk show host, or some may be taken off the air altogether.

A prime example of a related transgression against the First Amendment directed toward talk radio is occurring in a lawsuit between the Independent conservative talk show host, Michael Savage, and the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR). CAIR is an advocacy group that has been criticized by people of many political convictions

that the organization has ties to militant Islamic extremist groups. Savage is suing CAIR on the grounds of copyright infringement, stating that: "CAIR repackaged the content of Michael Savage's show and manipulated that stolen content so that it could be used by CAIR to raise funds. Little or none of the money raised went to alleged 'civil rights activities."

Furthermore, several companies have been pressured by CAIR to drop their advertising support for Savage's talk show "The Savage Nation." CAIR is calling for the extraction of Savage from the airwaves and, if the Fairness Doctrine is reinstated, could give them and others in

Washington legal grounds to do so. The silence of the former advertisers also lends more support to CAIR's cause.

Presidential hopeful Hillary Clinton believes the Fairness Doctrine should be reinstated. Other outright supporters of it include Dennis Kucinich, Diane Feinstein and John Kerry. Many politicians wish to eliminate conservative talk radio because they believe it has an impact on the electoral process, namely who we elect to represent the people. The talk show hosts are Washington outsiders with strong opinions, and the politicians do not appreciate the apparent influence of talk radio over the public. The people should continue to have the right to public voting records about a candidate as well as their philosophies and intentions regarding future policies, yet some apparently wish to oppress these rights. Free radio should continue just as free speech.

The link between the Fairness Doctrine and the recent actions of CAIR is that they both allude to the dangerous beginnings of inhibiting free speech altogether. The government arbitrarily dictating what is "fair" or what Americans should be allowed to watch or listen to is not conducive to free speech principles—that behavior by our government is reminiscent of the old Soviet Union, or something straight out of Orwell's "1984."

The right of anyone to speak their beliefs is something that should be protected with the utmost fervor. Eradicating the opinions of others out of disagreement is unacceptable. Our goal as Americans should be to vote somebody into office who will uphold our Constitutional rights—hopefully all of you considered that when you went to the polls vesterday.

Remember, ideas and thoughts are the beginning of inventions that can change our world, hopefully for the better!

Christina Chiappe is a social sciences senior, a member of the Cal Poly College Republicans and a conservative columnist for the Mustang Daily.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Conversations on diversity

In response to the numerous columns in the Mustang Daily regarding equality and diversity, we would like to lend our expertise in shifting the debate away from polarization and closer to meaningful conversation.

The current debate in our view is not productive and is unlikely to lead us toward any greater understanding or solution. It rather serves to pigeonhole groups of people into polarities of liberal vs. conservative, white vs. non-white, poor vs. rich, hard-working vs. slack-

ers. The world is certainly more complicated than that.

When we create an "other," it is difficult to see there are individuals with real lives and real challenges, and to empathize with concrete day-to-day experiences of oppression. The polarities of either/or thinking prevent us from seeing that our lives are filled with many variations, complexities, and commonalities. We then close ourselves off from hearing about the widespread racism, sexism and homophobia right here at Cal Poly. And perhaps saddest of all, we lose out on knowing and connecting with the rich, complex tapestry of individuals living in our community.

We would like to challenge

the campus community to engage in meaningful conversation with the goal of truly getting to know the various constituencies and complexity of individuals on our campus. We are certain such a dialogue will shift the entire nature and tenor of this current debate in ways that will surprise and nurture and enrich all of us. Counseling Services as well as others on campus have already begun working with some groups to facilitate these conversations. To get involved, please contact us at 756-2511.

Elie Axelroth, Rob Clayton, Jill Fuselier, Barbara Gilbert, Shiou-Feng Gu, Brian McElwain, Justine O'Donnell, Mary Peracca

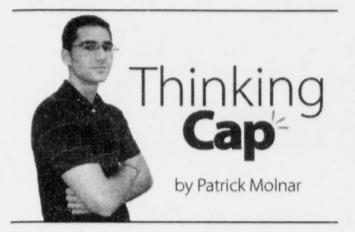
Counseling services



Smokers ARE people too... but you are judged by the company you keep. For every smoker who is careful about how and where they smoke, there are those who are not (those who smoke 2 feet away from the hospital doorway, or those who come to a crowded public meeting reeking of smoke, etc.). It would be nice for us to not need to profile others, but the plain truth is if you admit it's a medical problem (an addiction), then seek a medical cure and solve it.

— S. Souza Response to "Condemn the cigarette, not

You thought 'The Matrix' was cool, just wait 'till you check out our virtual newsroom tour at mustangdaily.net



It's not about Obama vs. Clinton, it's about Democrats vs. Republicans

the Beach Boys'

After "Super Tuesday," tensions between Barack Obama supporters and Hillary Clinton supporters are high, and will likely continue for a few more weeks. In fact, it's getting so partisan on the campaign trail, there is growing concern among Democrats that all this infighting will ultimately splinter the party and hurt the nominees' chances in the general election. Therefore, it's important for Democrats to put their political differences in perspective and remember the main obstacle to bringing change in America is not within the Democratic Party, but with the Republican nominee John McCain (sorry Mitt Romney).

Am I saying that Democrats should adopt Ronald Reagan's rule of never criticizing a fellow party member? Of course not. There are legitimate issues that need to be debated regarding the candidates, such as Clinton's vote on Iraq, or Obama's relative inexperience. Nevertheless, I am sure most Democrats can agree that, whether we elect Obama or Clinton, both of them will bring a great deal of positive change to the White House, especially when juxtaposed with the disastrous policies of the Bush administration.

Consequently, Democrats need to remember the biggest political danger facing our country is that Republicans will put aside their differences and unite behind a single candidate, especially if it is John McCain. The reason McCain is dangerous is because he continues to deceive voters into believing he is a "moderate" Republican, even though his views are strongly aligned with George W. Bush's.

Sure, McCain has taken opposing stances on immigration and torture within in his own party, but that speaks more to how extremely partisan Republicans are with these issues, and less to McCain's own moderate beliefs. If McCain was really a moderate politician, then why did he vote against increasing children's health care in America (SCHIP), even though 18 Republican senators voted for it? Frankly, McCain's entire "moderate" health care platform eerily resembles that of the current administration's, which puts pharmaceutical and insurance company profits before patients.

Of course, there is also McCain's "moderate" position on education. Both Sens. Obama and Clinton have outlined Iraq and the Middle East. A few weeks back, McCain open-

ly said that he could see the U.S. staying in Iraq for another 100 years, a seemingly hypocritical thing to say, considering McCain touted all the "progress" we've made in Iraq. Furthermore, let us not forget the time McCain jokingly

sang "Bomb Iran" to the tune of "Barbara Ann"; I am still shocked that a former soldier would handle the issue of war with Iran with such levity.

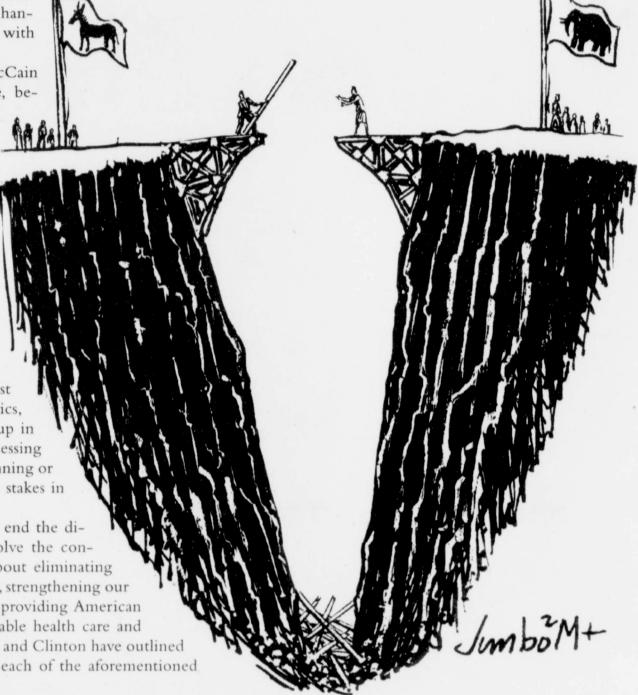
These stories about McCain serve an important purpose, because when we juxtapose

the views of this Republican front-runner to either Hillary Clinton or Barack Obama's views, the true "forces of status quo" begin to reveal themselves, and they clearly do not reside in neither Democrat camp; they lay solely with the Republicans.

Ultimately, Democrats can and should argue all they want about which candidate will bring the most "change" to American politics, but let's not get too caught up in this political horse race, obsessing about which Democrat is winning or losing. I say this because the stakes in 2008 are too high.

This election is a fight to end the disastrous war in Iraq and resolve the conflicts in Afghanistan. It is about eliminating our country's addiction to oil, strengthening our country's infrastructure, and providing American working families with affordable health care and comprehensive solutions for each of the aforementioned issues, while Republicans like John McCain have not.

Patrick Molnar is a business junior and a Mustang Daily liberal columnist.



Tom Petty, Nipplegate and Prince: The best Super Bowl halftime shows

It is increasingly rare these days to see artists who actually write their own music and play an instrument, which is probably why I enjoyed Tom Petty's performance at the Super Bowl halftime show so much on Sunday. It's a reminder of what music used to be — good.

In general, today's popular music sucks. Take Britney Spears, for example. She can't sing well, she doesn't write her own stuff, and I seriously doubt she knows how to read music. She doesn't even dance well anymore. I don't even know what she does anymore, besides being a headline-making trainwreck. We need more real artists. We need more Tom Pettys in the world.

I heard rumors that Tom Petty may have partially lip-synched his Super Bowl performance, but it was just a flawless, legitimate performance. And how can you not love classic rock? "Free Fallin" is a timeless classic.

My mom disagreed. She thought the Tom Petty performance was lame and said her favorite Super Bowl halftime show had to be Shania Twain. I almost barfed. How can you say Shania Twain is a better artist than Tom Petty? Tom Petty wrote "Free Fallin" in 1989 and "I Won't Back Down." Then in 1991, he wrote "Into The Great Wide Open." What did Shania Twain ever write? "I Feel Like A Woman"? Please.

Although I enjoyed his performance, I have to admit that knowing the words to "Free Fallin" kind of made me feel old. It's like when



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers perform during halftime of the Super Bowl XLII football game between the New England Patriots and New York Giants on Feb. 3.

you watch "I Love the '90s" and you realize that you actually lived through and remember all this stuff, that you're not getting any younger as you watch Tom Petty (who looks way older than you remember) rock out.

But no matter how good the Tom Petty halftime show was, it can't beat the 2004 or the 2007 Super Bowl halftime shows. Now those were some amazing halftime shows.

Super Bowl 2004 would be the year of "Nipplegate," the halftime show that went down in Super Bowl infamy. While performing the song "Rock Your Body" with Justin Timberlake, Janet Jackson decided it would be cool to show the whole world her superfluous nipple, which was covered by some nippleshield thing. Looked like a bronze ninja star or something. Classy.

The media blew the whole incident WAY out of proportion. Jackson and Timberlake were hounded by the media constantly asking them, "Why did you do it? Was it an accident?"The FCC ordered a full-blown "investigation" of the wardrobe malfunction, since so many little kids saw Janet Jackson's nipple and were scarred for life. Their parents are still paying for therapy sessions to this day. Now THAT is a good half-time show.

The Super Bowl halftime show in 2007 was definitely a memorable performance by Prince, arguably one of the most memorable performances of Super Bowl history. Now, I'm not the biggest Prince fan, and "Purple Rain" isn't on my iPod, but after that performance, I had a newfound respect for the weirdo. (And you have to admit the guy is a weirdo - his name is a symbol. Enough said.)

It was pouring rain during the entire performance. Prince wore this ridiculous turquoise and orange outfit with some of the highest platforms I have ever seen. There was fog, pyrotechnics, flashing lights, microphones and multiple electric guitars — that's a lot of electrical equipment in the rain. But Prince doesn't care about electric shock because he's the man and he played his heart out.

Although Tom Petty is the man, I'm not sure he could ever beat that performance by Prince. Maybe if he wore some giant platforms next time, or maybe if he exposed his right nipple for the entire world to see, then it might have been the best Super Bowl halftime show ever.

Cary Conrady is a journalism senior and a Mustang Daily reporter.

COMUSS & GUILES

Girls & Sports by Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein







Last Ditch Effort by John Kroes



The New Hork Times Crossword

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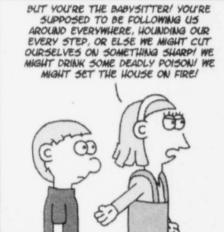
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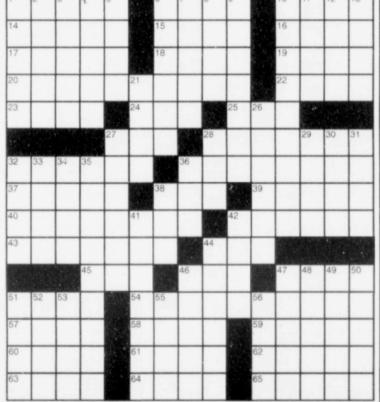
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Pop Culture Shock Therapy by Doug Bratton

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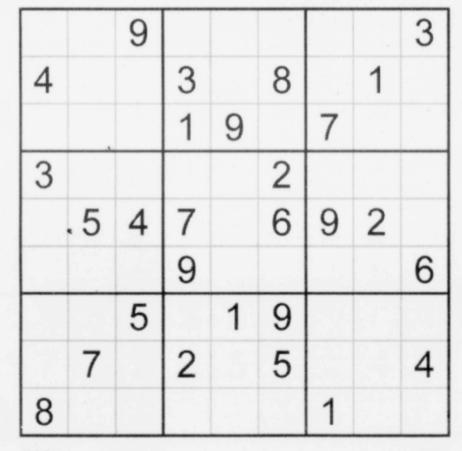
"I may not be able to suck your toes, but I can explain Quantum Physics in circles around these Wankstas.



Stephen Hawking on I Love New York 3

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Submit a photo, news tip or write a blog.

Pau

continued from page 12

Conference when they lost Andrew Bynum for two months due to his left knee injury. Now, with Gasol on board, the Lakers can stay afloat amongst the powers of the West while integrating him into the system. When Bynum finally returns from his injury, the Lakers are going to have a scary front-court lineup. With Bynum, Gasol and Odom standing at heights of 7 feet, 7 feet, and 6 feet, 11 inches, respectively, the Lakers could have one of the tallest lineups the NBA has ever seen. Los

Angeles fans can only hope that the paint does not become too crowded and that players will approve of their touch count.

ww.mustangdaily.net

As long as Bryant stays happy and spreads the ball around to his big men, the Lakers have a bright future. Well, at least for the next two years, until they need to resign Bryant and extend Bynum's contract. Nonetheless, when Bryant was asked if the trade will help him decide to stay a Laker, he said playfully, "Ah, it doesn't hurt."

Dmitry Bisk is an animal science senior and a Mustang Daily sports columnist.



Gasol started Tuesday night at New Jersey despite practicing just once with the Lakers after joining them in a trade Friday with the Memphis Grizzlies.

su do ku

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submit a letter to the editor at www.mustangdaily.net





MYEISHA PEGUERO GAMIÑO, MAHOD '03

Vice President and Corporate Giving Manager, Washington Mutual, Inc.

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'Low key' flies high

Cal Poly sophomore guard has finally found a home

Brian McMullen

MUSTANG DAILY

Lorenzo Keeler would be a San Jose State Spartan if not for an unfortunate circumstance that landed him here at Cal Poly, but that doesn't mean he's not proud to wear green and gold on the basketball court.

The sophomore guard, and second-leading scorer on the team, with 8.9 points per game, describes himself as shy — that is — until you get to know him.

"People might think that 'Lorenzo don't talk,' "he says, "but nah, really, I'm a funny dude."

One of four children, Keeler grew up in Escondido, a small town outside of San Diego, where he left his mark with two great high school seasons, averaging 23 points per game as a junior and 26 per game as a senior.

"I miss home — I'm homesick right now," he says. "That's where I grew up; that's where I've been all my life."

Out of high school, Keeler signed to play basketball for San Diego State, but had a change of plans. After reviewing his decision with his father, the two decided that a year of preparatory school would help him mature further.

Keeler spent about a year at Winchendon Prep in Boston and then signed to San Jose State. He began practicing with the team, but before he could play a game, his scholarship was taken away.

Along with five others, Keeler faced statutory rape charges in Boston. He said that he proclaimed his innocence from the beginning, but that wasn't enough.

"My name got thrown in this big ol' mess," Keeler says. "When San Jose (State) heard, they didn't want to wait to see the result of it. They just took my scholarship away."

The charges against Keeler were management. eventually dropped at the request of the victim's family, but he said that he doesn't blame San Jose State for its decision.

"It was a big thing down in own business one day." Boston, and it was a big case, what I was accused of," he said.

When asked how the turn of events affected his life, Keeler replied, "I could sit here for an hour or three hours with you and tell you about all the tribulations and trials I've been through in my life, so it was just a setback for me. I just looked at it as just a little block in the road and I knew that I was going to overcome that. I just couldn't wait to get another chance."

After being dropped by San Jose State, Keeler attended Mt. San Jacinto College, a community college north of Hemet, for a year before signing with Cal Poly.

Keeler declared himself as a comparative ethnic studies major



BEN ROZAK MUSTANG DAILY

coming into Cal Poly but hopes to transfer to business.

"The business program is just so backed up out here," he said.

Keeler says he would like to do something in the field of business

"My father owns a lot of property and they own a family business back home, so just learning from him, I just want to own my

When he's not studying or practicing with the team, Keeler said, he likes to relax with friends and go to the beach. He added, "I'm also in the gym a lot when I'm off. I mean, I'm big on working on my game — I'm just in the gym, in the gym, in

This work ethic shines through, boasts Keeler the third-highest free-throw percentage in the Big West Conference, at 89.1 percent.

the gym."

In addition to basketball, Keeler has a passion for music.

"I love hip-hop, I love R&B and just being with my dad a lot," he says. "He plays a lot of jazz, so I've gotten to like jazz as well."

He added that his family is Christian and detailed his mother's love of gospel music.

"Every time I'm in the car she's like, 'No, turn that off, we're playing this gospel," he says. "She doesn't like hearing all that rap stuff, so I love gospel as well."

When Keeler watches TV, it's BET, all types of sports, music videos, but most of all, "I like stand-up comedy - that's my main thing,"

The number of years out of high school it took Keeler to solidify a spot with a four-year program

89.1

Keeler's freethrow percentage, which ranks third in the Big West Conference

Keeler's pointsper-game average as a senior in 2003-04 at Escondido High School, which won two divisional titles with Keeler

NICK CAMACHO MUSTANG DAILY Cal Poly sophomore guard Lorenzo Keeler scored 10 points in a 79-67 win over UC Davis on Jan. 24 that snapped a three-game losing streak. he said. "I've got a bunch of DVDs. ketball program, he's very mature, Katt Williams is my favorite."

When asked if he tells jokes, Keeler smiled and replied, "Nah, not really. When we're in the locker room, we might go at each other with a little bit of jokes, but you know, it's all love."

He later elaborated on the team's off-court chemistry, saying, "We really kick together good off the court, which is important."

Along with his teammates, Keeler has also left an impression on his head coach, Kevin Bromley.

"(Keeler)'s an incredible young man. I love him," Bromley said. "He's a great addition to our bas-

he's a great teammate and he's been a tremendous student."

After such a tumultuous beginning, Keeler says he's finally found a home at Cal Poly.

"Coaches gave me a chance here and I really love the coaching staff," he says.

Although he began the season coming off the bench, he has earned a starting spot in the past three games.

"I'm definitely staying here," he says. "I've got three more years, this one here and two more to go, so I've got a lot more Cal Poly basketball to play."

Kung Pau! The Lakers are instant contenders



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pau Gasol scored 24 points and grabbed 12 rebounds in his L.A. Lakers debut, a 105-90 win over the New Jersey Nets.

Only eight months ago, Kobe Bryant expressed his desire to be traded due to his growing frustration with the Los Angeles Lakers' general manager's intent to enter the team into a rebuilding stage. When Bryant was asked if there were any teams that he would rather play for, he simply replied, "At this point, I'll go play on Pluto."

Now let's fast-forward to this past Friday, when Kobe had just poured in 46 points to help lift the Lakers over the Toronto Raptors on the road. He was all smiles after the game, but it had nothing to do with the win or his performance on the court. So why was his attitude so completely different from this past summer, with him even going as far as to compliment the Lakers' front office? Probably because only hours before the game, Lakers general manager Mitch Kupchak pulled the trigger on their biggest trade since the organization sent Shaquille O'Neal to Miami.

Kupchak had just traded for - more like stole - Pau Gasol from the Memphis Grizzlies. In return for the 2006 All-Star, the Lakers sent a package that included Kwame Brown, Javaris Crittenton, Aaron McKie, rights to Marc Gasol and first-round picks in 2008 and



Dmitry Bisk

ON PAU GASOL JOINING THE LAKERS

2010. In one afternoon, through one trade, the Lakers sealed their spot as one of the top teams in the Western Conference.

More bizarre than Bryant's parking-lot interview and talk radio show appearances over the summer, when he demanded trades, was how the Lakers gave up practically nothing to acquire Gasol. Maybe the Grizzlies thought they were essentially getting the same player back when they received the rights to Pau's brother Marc. However, more likely, they were looking to dump Pau's contract and get more salary-cap room when Brown's \$9:1 million contract expires.

The only problem now is that there won't

be any players who will want to sign with the Grizzlies — who now look more and more like the early Vancouver Grizzlies. With the Grizzlies rumored to be shopping Mike Miller, and the already-low attendance at FedExForum, Memphis will not be a desired location for free agents this summer.

On the Lakers' side, the seemingly "expendable" Lamar Odom remains in Los Angeles, and word around the NBA is that Los Angeles will not be looking to make any more deals before the Feb. 21 trade deadline. So there will be no last-second effort to trade for New Jersey's point guard Jason Kidd, even though he and Odom were the center of the Lakers' trade rumor.

Instead, the Lakers will be looking to integrate Gasol into coach Phil Jackson's triangle offense. Gasol, a superb passer, could fit right into the team's offensive philosophy and in turn make the Lakers a dangerous team in the playoffs, no matter what seed they fall into.

A more overlooked aspect of this trade are its short-term implications. Many analysts saw the Lakers falling into the depths of the Western

see Pau, page 11