

# Media Stars Offer Advice to Up and Comers

By Carol Palinkas  
Staff Writer

You didn't have to be a mass communications major to get a ton of advice from the numerous speakers at last Thursday's "Media Careers Night," sponsored by Cal State Hayward's Career Development Center.

Speakers from local media - from business managers and public relations directors to newspaper reporters and

editors and television anchors - discussed their histories and offered advice on how to break into an industry whose doors are jammed with applicants.

Students from many disciplines attended, from mass communication majors to business majors. The large room in the University Union was full.

Some speakers related their career paths, some discussed the ins and outs of their particular circumstances. Other

speakers encouraged students not to give up; passion and tenacity were the overriding themes.

Steve Rubenstein, a reporter for the San Francisco Chronicle, veered from the norm when he told the story he had worked on that very day, about a high-stakes poker game in San Jose. He compared it with covering an appearance by then-President Bill Clinton, and how he had dropped his pen right in

front of the president. He then pantomimed how he had to get the attention of Secret Service men to show his intentions so he didn't get tackled when he went to pick it up.

Another Chronicle reporter, John Koopman, advised students that the odds of finding a job here in the Bay Area were slim to none, and that if they insisted on staying here in the Bay Area they would end up in public relations.

As if to counter that argument, Akila Monifa, director of communications at KPIX and UPN 44, told the audience that she was not only in public relations but she loved it and made a ton of money to boot.

Ken Wayne and Steve Paulsen, both of KTVU, discussed the joys of doing live television.

What all the speakers seemed to have in common was a love and passion for what they did for a living.

And almost to a person they advised students to take advantage of available internships as a key to making it in the business.

After the speakers were done, students were encouraged to move from table to table and to ask questions of the visitors about the various mediums. Tables were set up with identifying placards, and several had information about job opportunities (not many) and internships (plentiful).

# Printed Class Schedules To Follow Dinosaur, Dodo Bird

By Cassia Clinton  
Staff Writer

Cal State Hayward's printed class schedule will soon become a thing of the past, thanks to budget cuts and technology.

Officials say a significant shift in students' preference for online access to the schedule of classes and the desire to offer the most accurate information possible led to the discontinuation of the printed version of the Cal State Hayward class schedule effective Spring 2004.

Jay Colombatto, director of marketing communications, said that online schedules can be updated constantly, assuring that students have access to the most accurate class information.

"During the past eight quarters, sales of the printed class schedule have plummeted, so it was not surprising that the Committee on Layoffs proposed the discontinuation," said Robert Stroble of Enrollment Services.

While the university struggles with the uncertainty of budget cuts,

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an online schedule will allow faculty to delay the release of the schedule, assuring that all the information is correct, added Stroble.

University Librarian Myoungja Lee Kwon said the printed

version of the class schedule requires more time to finalize and must be made in advance.

"Online schedules allow for more flexibility. Once the printed schedule is finished, students

consider it final," she said.

Campuses across the country are halting production of their printed schedules in favor of easily accessible online systems, said Stroble, citing U.C. San Diego as an example.

"Essentially, it is the students that benefit, as they no longer pay a fee for schedules," said Colombatto. "The university makes no monetary gains for discontinuation," he said.

In an effort to keep students informed, any schedule changes

or adjustments will be sent to the individuals through the Horizon e-mail system, said Stroble.

Analyst Cheryl Hayame said she has not heard students express concern about difficulties that may arise while planning for classes.

"I have not received any negative comments," she said.

The decision to discontinue the printed class schedule was recommended by the college deans, university librarian and the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate.

# Newsom Flouts California Law by Allowing Gay Marriages

By Elisa Lewak  
Staff Writer

According to California code, marriage is "A personal relation arising out of a civil contract between a man and a woman . . ." Many theologians would agree that this is what God ordained. However, these past weeks many gay couples have flocked to San Francisco in order to get married.

They can do this only because Mayor Gavin Newsom disagrees with California law. He cites another code that states that California cannot discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation.

On Sunday Feb. 15, Marvin Burroughs married his partner of 50 years. He said that they did it to do something special for their anniversary, which they celebrate in April, and that they were able to do a political and personal act at the same time.

Newsom's decision to flout California law came shortly before the St. Valentine's Day MECA

(Marriage Equality California) rally in Sacramento and after Massachusetts' highest court declared that marriage is a right and not a benefit. Since marriage is a right in Massachusetts, the state could not deny gay people the right to get married.

That clarification was necessary because of Vermont's civil union law. Vermont defines marriage as a benefit, and therefore that state could deny gay people marriage licenses.

Vermont did not willingly become one of the first states to legally recognize gay couples. Gay couples fought in the courts to be able to marry. The court left it to the Legislature, which in turn came up with the civil union law. But some call civil unions a form of segregation.

California's code has allowed domestic partnerships since 2000.

The domestic partnership law gives gay couples many rights that married couples take

for granted, such as the right to make medical decisions for an incapacitated partner.

However, if a domestic partner dies without a will, the surviving partner can only inherit a portion of the deceased's property in California. If the deceased has children or a close relative, the relative will receive two-thirds of the property. This is not true for married couples.

Julie St. Germaine had to adopt her son, whose birth mother is her partner. She said the procedure was demeaning and injurious to her.

Her home was investigated. She then was automatically rejected because she was a woman. Then she had to appeal the decision.

Her attorney had to watch the court calendar to see who was on the bench. If St. Germaine had gone before the wrong judge, she would have been turned down because she was a lesbian.

St. Germaine said straight

people have the luxury to choose marriage or not.

"They have legal protections such as durable power of attorney . . . and literally hundreds of benefits that you get when you marry," she said.

Beginning in January 2005, domestic partners will get most every right that the state provides married couples. One of Gov. Gray Davis' last acts was to sign legislation giving gay couples many more rights than they previously had.

However, when California domestic partners leave the state, those rights mean very little, because other states do not have to recognize the contract, a provision of the "Defense of Marriage

Act" signed into law by President Bill Clinton.

Randy Thomasson of Campaign for California Families, has called San Francisco's gay and lesbian marriage licenses "counterfeit certificates . . . San Francisco's mayor and his accomplices are breaking the law."

Californians passed Proposition 22 in 2000, which clearly states that California will only recognize marriages between a man and a woman. Groups like Campaign of California Families wish to "protect" that "sacred institution."

San Francisco has been sued by the Campaign for California Families, the Alliance Defense Fund and California's attorney

general. California courts have thus far denied all petitions to stop San Francisco from issuing gender-neutral marriage licenses.

Since Feb. 12, thousands of gay couples have received marriage licenses from San Francisco. Three Oakland City Council members have requested that Alameda County also legalize gay marriage. Counties, not cities, distribute marriage licenses, and San Francisco is a city-and-county jurisdiction.

Recently the mayor of New Paltz, a village in New York, married same-sex couples. He has since been arrested for solemnizing marriages without issuing licenses to the couples.

# Senators Call for Baseball To Toughen Policy on Steroids

By James Kuhnenn  
Knight Ridder

The union that represents Major League Baseball players came under withering attack Wednesday from U.S. senators who blamed it for thwarting efforts to curb steroid use that threatens the integrity of the game.

Even Democrats, typically sympathetic to organized labor, weighed in and accused the Major League Baseball Players Association of forcing labor agreements that contain drug-testing programs that are weaker than in any other professional sport.

"I just don't understand why this is even part of collective bargaining," said Sen. Byron Dorgan, D-N.D.

The criticism came in a hearing called by Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., amid investigations and news reports of alleged steroid use by some of the biggest names in baseball. President Bush took the unusual step in his State of the Union address of calling for professional sports to eliminate the use of steroids.

"We're here today because the sport is about to become a fraud in the minds of the people," McCain said.

The hearing was intended as a brush-back pitch to baseball - a warning that if the players and team owners don't take tougher steps, Congress might step in.

"Your failure to commit to addressing this issue straight on and immediately will motivate this committee to search for legislative remedies," McCain told Donald Fehr, the head of the players' union. "We will have to act in some way unless the major league players

union acts in the affirmative and rapid fashion, and I very, very, very much regret that, because I don't think we have any business doing that."

Fehr, who is recovering from surgery to remove his gallbladder, defended the union's stance, saying players who don't use illegal substances shouldn't be subjected to intrusive tests. Moreover, he said, the current baseball contract, which required anonymous drug tests for the first time last year, "is having an effect."

Of those tests, 5 to 7 percent were positive, a finding that required all players to be tested this year. The contract doesn't expire until 2006.

"In high school we all learned that you're not 'guilty until you prove yourself innocent.' It's the other way around," Fehr said.

Unlike in the National Football League, the drug testing in Major League Baseball is restricted to banned substances and doesn't affect dietary supplements and legal steroid precursors such as androstenedione and tetrahydrogestrinone, known as "andro" and THG on the street. Major League Baseball players also don't face the same penalties as football players, who are suspended for four games without pay for the first violation.

Major League Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig said he would prefer tougher standards, but that he and team owners negotiated the existing plan in 2002 to avoid a ruinous strike. He said he would prefer to institute a drug-testing plan similar to that in minor-league baseball, which affects a broader range of substances and imposes tougher sanc-

tions. Selig said he supported legislation by Sen. Joseph Biden, D-Del., to expand the list of banned substances.

"We live in the public domain . . . there are responsibilities that go along with that," Selig said after the hearing.

The use of performance-enhancing drugs has marred baseball's reputation since St. Louis Cardinals slugger Mark McGwire admitted using androstenedione in 1998, the year he broke the home-run record by hitting 70. More recently, a grand jury in California has been investigating a company called Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative. Two company executives were charged last month with providing steroids to athletes. Also charged was the trainer and track coach to San Francisco Giants star Barry Bonds, who set the new home-run record of 73 in 2001.

McCain called on NFL Commissioner Paul Tagliabue and NFL Players Association chief Gene Upshaw to help distinguish football's policy from baseball's.

"We wanted zero tolerance," Upshaw said of the NFL Players Association. "We're not concerned about privacy. We're not concerned about search and seizure."

Baltimore Orioles owner Peter Angelos, who was in the hearing room, later praised Tagliabue and Upshaw for working together to address drug use in the NFL.

"What we need is the cooperation of the players association," Angelos said. "And from what I heard today, Mr. Fehr is not prepared to do that. But hopefully he will see the error of his ways in the very near future."



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