

California University
JOURNAL

VOLUME 11, NUMBER 2 • JANUARY 19, 2009

Cal's Maglev Fits Stimulus Plan Criteria

California University and Pittsburgh-based U.S. Maglev Development Corp. are urging lawmakers to include Cal U's urban maglev demonstration project in the proposed \$750 billion federal economic stimulus legislation now under discussion on Capitol Hill.

Congress is expected to pass the economic stimulus package within weeks, and President-elect Barack Obama has said he hopes to sign the completed bill into law early in his administration.

The Cal U Maglev Sky Shuttle project is "shovel-ready" and meets the requirements of the stimulus plan, university administrators and U.S. Maglev officials say. Construction can begin within 90 days after funding is made available, and the low-impact, "green technology" project will enhance productivity for the University, the region and the nation.

"The project has the potential to create hundreds of jobs here in southwestern Pennsylvania," said Cal U President Angelo Armenti, Jr. "This could position the region as the hub of an emerging industry with benefits nationwide."

Since 2001, more than \$40 million in federal, state and industry funds has been invested in Cal U's urban maglev project. Designed to accommodate both passenger and cargo vehicles, it will demonstrate the value of magnetic levitation technology in hilly urban settings.

Maglev components have been fabri-

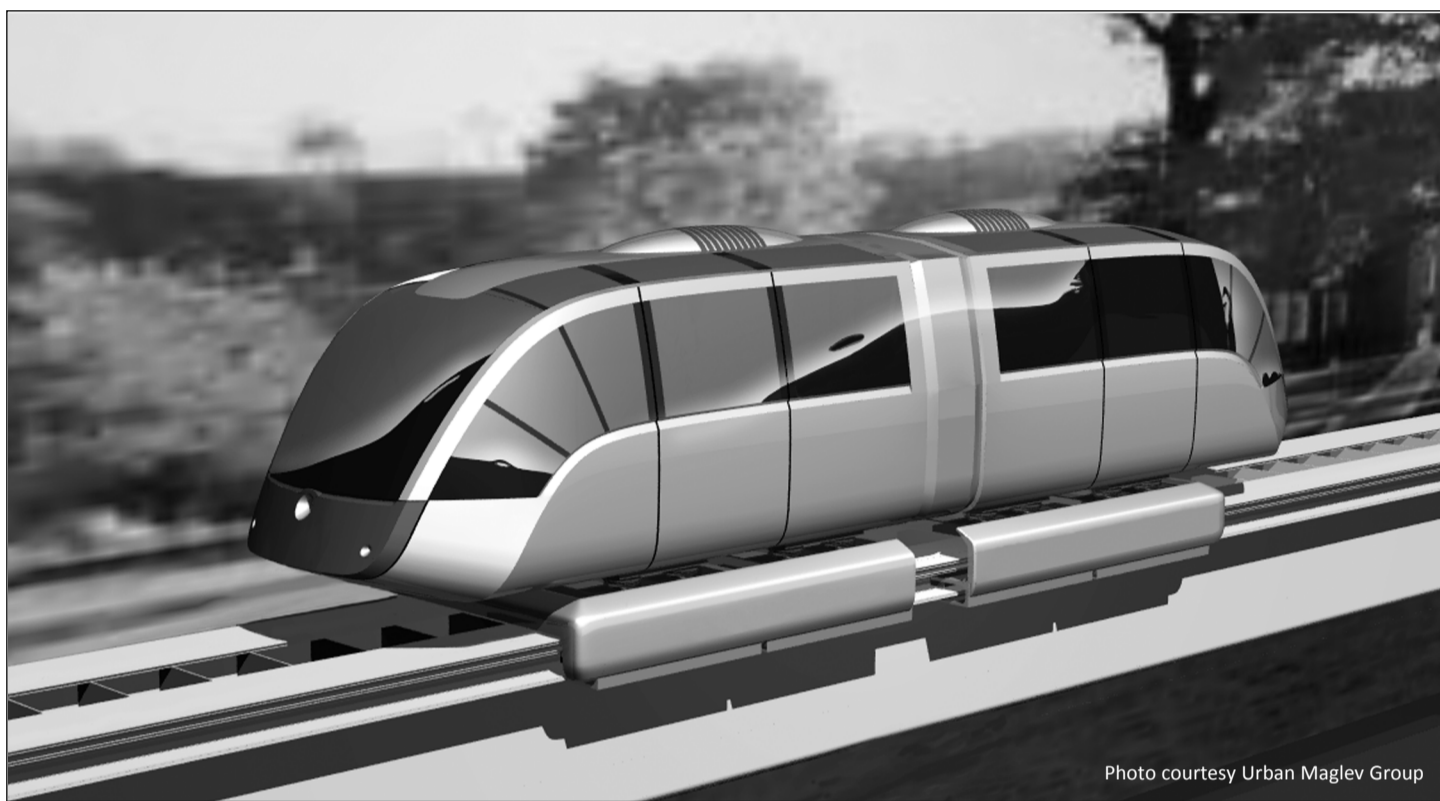


Photo courtesy Urban Maglev Group

With designs on bringing state-of-the-art transportation to campus, California University and U.S. Maglev Development Corp. are urging lawmakers to include Cal U's urban maglev demonstration project in the proposed \$750 billion federal economic stimulus package.

cated in western Pennsylvania and a test track has been constructed by General Atomics in San Diego, Calif. Testing has been conducted there during the past three years and is expected to be completed in 2009.

"We have done our homework," said President Armenti. "The engineering and

design and the required environmental work for the first phase of the \$250 million project are complete. If the funding is made available, the urban maglev group can start excavating, build the substructure, and erect the support columns and guideway for the Sky Shuttle."

The project's first phase, requiring an

estimated \$50 million, would allow for construction of a 2,200-foot dual-use guideway, Intermodal Center and stations. Subsequent phases, requiring \$200 million, would bring the system from Cal U's upper campus downhill to the main campus in California Borough.

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TEAP Inducts Peter Wright as President

Dr. Peter Wright, a professor of Technology Education at Cal U, was inducted as president of the Technology Education Association of Pennsylvania (TEAP) at the organization's 56th annual conference in Camp Hill, Pa.

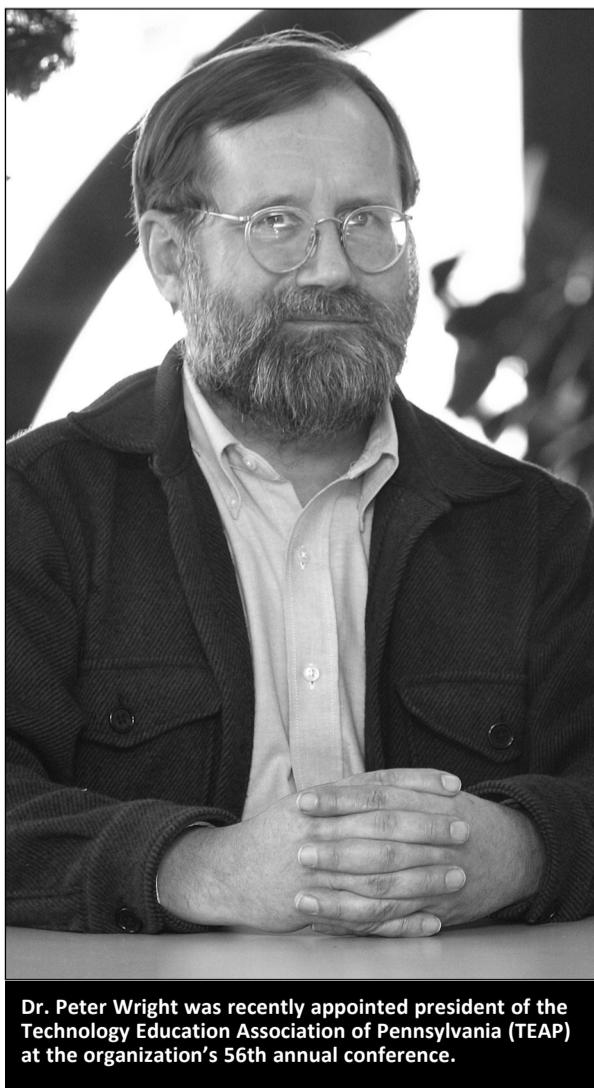
He has been on track for the appointment since being named president-elect in 2007 and deputy president last year.

TEAP's purpose is to define, stimulate, coordinate and strive for the improvement of Technology Education programs for all Pennsylvania students and to help instructors keep pace with technological changes.

Wright made two professional presentations at the conference. "Teaching Digital Communication Systems" was given in conjunction with his sabbatical research. "Tuning and Technologies in Kart Racing" was co-presented with Cal U Technology Education student and kart racing national champion Craig Wetzel.

After the conference, Wright attended the Board of Directors meeting of the International Technology Education Association (ITEA) in Charlotte, N.C.

"It is gratifying to be able to give back to the field of technology education at both the state and international levels and to work to make sure all students can become technologically literate in school," said Wright. "I am also grateful to Cal U



Dr. Peter Wright was recently appointed president of the Technology Education Association of Pennsylvania (TEAP) at the organization's 56th annual conference.

for allowing me to take a fall semester sabbatical to research digital communications and pursue my service leadership activities."

Cal U Students Bring StormFest to Science Center

Earth Science students from California University of Pennsylvania have more than a few surprises in store for school groups and families attending StormFest Jan. 30 and 31 at the Carnegie Science Center in Pittsburgh.

The annual event explores the geosciences — geology, geography, meteorology and more — with two full days of interactive activities for students of all ages.



StormFest activities are free with paid admission to the Science Center. School groups and home-schoolers are the focus of the Jan. 30 sessions; activities are

open to the public Jan. 31.

Kids can make rocks, rain sticks, lava lamps and "edible landfills" during the event. They can even create *glurch*, a substance that has both solid and liquid properties.

Cal U students developed these and more than 25 other activities to teach children about the science behind common and uncommon weather and natural phenomena.

Extreme weather takes center stage when Nick Walker, the "Weather Dude" on-camera meteorologist from The Weather Channel, comes to StormFest on Jan. 31.

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Alumni to be Honored Saturday

The men's and women's basketball teams will honor past players Saturday when they host the 10th annual Cal U Basketball Alumni Day.

The event will culminate in two varsity games against PSAC-West rival Edinboro University of Pennsylvania. The Vulcan women play at 6 p.m. in Hamer Hall, followed by the men's game at 8 p.m.

Earlier in the day, the Men's Alumni Game will tip-off at 3 p.m., also in Hamer Hall.

An alumni reception will be held at 4 p.m. in the Booker Great Room at the Kara Alumni House. The Basketball Alumnus and Alumna of the Year Awards will be presented, and the Most Valuable Player of the Men's Alumni Game will be announced. Head coaches Heather Kearney and Bill Brown will both offer remarks at the reception.

The award recipients also will be recognized at halftime of the two varsity games.

All former Cal U basketball players are encouraged to attend the Alumni Day festivities. Former members of the Vulcan men's team who are interested in playing should register with Coach Brown (brown_w@cup.edu) or assistant



Basketball alumni day brings together Vulcans of all eras. Enjoying a moment at last year's event are James Zell '39 and Moe Yeoman '84.

coach Shea Fleenor (fleenor@cup.edu).

Individuals also can register or learn more about Basketball Alumni Day by contacting Leslie Fleenor, assistant director of alumni relations, at 724-938-4418 or fleenor_l@cup.edu.

Cost of the event is \$10. All

registered participants will receive a souvenir T-shirt, admission to the reception and reserved seating at the varsity doubleheader for the participant and a guest.

Inauguration Day Festivities Televised Live from D.C.

Students faculty and staff at California University of Pennsylvania can witness the inauguration of President Barack Obama at a gathering Tuesday in the Performance Center at the Natali Student Center.

Doors open at 10 a.m. so students can view the opening Inauguration Day festivities televised live from Washington, D.C.

Sponsored by the American Democracy Project and the Frederick Douglass Institute, the event is open to the public.

Provost Geraldine Jones will welcome the audience at 11:15 a.m., shortly before the start of the inaugural ceremony in Washington. The nation's 44th president will take the oath of office at noon, then deliver the inaugural address.

Dr. Kelton Edmonds, director of the Frederick Douglass Institute at Cal U, will speak to students in the Performance Center when the inaugural ceremony concludes, about 1 p.m.

Also on hand will be Dr. Melanie Blumberg, a Cal U professor of political science and an expert on presidential politics, and Cal U senior Shinesa Chowdhury, who led more than 130 volunteers in a voter registration drive that registered 2,000 students — more than half the new registrations in Washington County this election season.

"In a normal election year, the two precincts serving the bulk of students at California University of Pennsylvania attract a total of about 400 voters," said political columnist Louis Jacobson, who spoke at Cal U this fall. "But on Election Day 2008, that number more than quadrupled to a combined total of more than 1,700. And in those precincts, Obama crushed Republican nominee John McCain by margins of between 2 to 1 and 3 to 1."

The American Democracy Project is a multi-campus initiative focused on higher education's role in preparing the next generation of informed, engaged citizens for our democracy. The project began in 2003 as an initiative of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, in partnership with The New York Times. ADP-sponsored events at Cal U have included a series of Deliberative Democracy lectures, presidential DebateWatch and Election Watch gatherings, and an Election Analysis Forum.

Students Give Santa, Marines a Hand

It took a pickup truck and a minivan to deliver all the toys collected for needy children this holiday season by students at California University of Pennsylvania.

The on-campus Toys for Tots campaign began in mid-November and ended Dec. 10.

Karlee Young, chair of the Student Government's On-Campus Community Service Committee, said thousands of dollars in toys were donated thanks to the efforts of student volunteers.

"We had a great response from the campus community with individual donations, as well as participation from other clubs and organizations," said Young.

"This is an event that has more than doubled since last year, and we fully intend on making it an annual event. I cannot express my gratitude to the campus community enough for getting involved with such a great cause. It was truly impressive," she said.

In addition to Student Government, the Student Association Inc., Japanese Anime Club, Cal Hockey, Student Activities Board and Black Student Union all made monetary donations. TEAC, the women's rugby team and Acacia all donated toys.

Young and Ryan Jerico — president of both Student Government and SAI,



Cal U students Ryan Jerico and Karlee Young check out toys collected by Cal U students for Toys for Tots.

and a student representative to the PASSHE Board of Governors — filled a pickup and a minivan, then delivered the toys to the 96.1 KISS-FM's Stuff a Bus drive, which provides toys to deserving children in the greater Pittsburgh area.

The U.S. Marine Corps Reserve's annual Toys for Tots program collects new, unwrapped toys during October, November and December each year. The toys are distributed as Christmas gifts to needy children in the community in which the campaign is conducted.

Kids explore geology, geography, weather

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Cal U's "Dewey Sleet the Weather Geek" will lead kids in activities throughout the two-day festival.

Other StormFest events include:

– Friday, Jan. 30: Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader About the Weather?, 11:00 a.m. and 1 p.m.; and Weather Jeopardy!, noon

– Saturday, Jan. 31: Sing along with the Weather Dude, Nick Walker, 11:00 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Cal U students from the Earth Science and Communications Studies departments are planning StormFest, which attracted about 3,000 participants last year. Elementary Education students will assist at the event.

For more information, visit www.cup.edu/weather or www.carnegiesciencecenter.org.

Maglev Fits Stimulus Plan Criteria

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Once the project is completed, some 15,000 riders are expected to use the maglev daily, said David O'Loughlin, president of U.S. Maglev.

The \$250 million total system would be able to move people or cargo over a route more than 4 miles long. It would carry passengers from upper-campus parking areas to the lower campus, where parking is being realigned to accommodate construction and enhance safety. Plans also call for a stop at The

Center in the Woods senior center.

"I am hopeful that California University's urban maglev demonstration project will move forward as a new administration sets fresh priorities in Washington, D.C.," President Armenti said last month, when the urban maglev was discussed at an international conference in San Diego.

At the conference both U.S. Sen. Arlen Specter and Pennsylvania Auditor General Jack Wagner spoke in favor of the Sky Shuttle at Cal U, O'Loughlin reported.

Two Students Commissioned at ROTC Ceremonies

Two California University of Pennsylvania students were commissioned as second lieutenants Dec. 12 in ceremonies conducted on campus by the Army's Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC).

The next morning 2nd Lt. Steven Morganti and 2nd Lt. Sarah Camp received their bachelor's degrees at the university's undergraduate Commencement.

Offering remarks at the commissioning ceremony were Cal U President Angelo Armenti, Jr., and Col. Mark A. Remick '79, vice commander of the 145th Airlift Wing, North Carolina Air National Guard. Administering the oath and leading the insignia ceremony was Lt. Col. Joseph P. Alessi, professor of Military Science at the University of Pittsburgh.

Morganti, the son Philip and Robin Morganti, earned his bachelor's degree in science and technology. Born in Reading, Pa., he is a 2004 graduate of Schuylkill Valley High School. Morganti will attend the Basic Officer Leadership Course II at Fort Benning, Ga., and then his Transportation Officer Basic Course at Fort Eustas, Va., before returning to the 298th Transportation Company.

Camp, the daughter of Linda Camp, earned her bachelor's degree in nursing. A native of Houston, Texas, where she graduated from high school in 2003, she enlisted in the Pennsylvania National Guard in 2005. Camp will attend an Officer Basic Leadership Course in Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Her first duty station will be at Womack Army Medical Center at Fort Bragg, N.C.

Before praising the Morganti and Camp for their achievements, President Armenti spoke about the war our country faces today. The United States is fighting groups of stateless but motivated



Linda Camp, mother of 2nd Lt. Sarah Camp, pins on her Army insignia. Sarah Camp's brother, Robert, also assists with the pinning ceremony.

individuals who are prepared to use America's openness and technology against us, he said.

"While the economic and military weapons we used to defeat the Axis powers of World War II were ideally

suited to that task — witness our eventual success in forcing their unconditional surrender — those same tools, while still clearly necessary for justice, are insufficient to confront the current asymmetrical war that we now face," President Armenti said.

"We commend these students as they stand to take the oath of as an officer in the U.S. armed forces. California University of Pennsylvania supports ROTC and the students who work so hard to gain a commission. This university is both proud and grateful to you."

Remick thanked the new officers for their efforts, spoke of the challenges they are accepting, and reminded them to remember to show appreciation for their spouses-to-be. He then spoke directly to the audience.

"You need to read and study as much as you can about the war and leadership, because reading is the best way to acquire wisdom," Remick said. "I believe leaders are both born and made."

He emphasized leading fairly and with a personal touch.

"Wherever you work, you need to know the cleaning lady's name," said Remick. "I remember saying hello to the cleaning lady, Sally, in my building, and she was so surprised when I addressed her by her name, because of how busy she said I was. I told her that she has just as valuable a role in our workplace as I do. Hers is just a different job, but by knowing her name, I can help make her better at what she does. So know the cleaning lady's name."

Alessi concluded the ceremony with more comments on leadership.

"Leadership is not a right, it's a privilege and you need to remember that," he said. "The Army and military is about people. You take care of people and people will take care of you and this great nation."

Conduct Code Revised, Minus Smoking Ban Enforcement

California University's Council of Trustees ended the year by approving revisions to the Student Code of Conduct but refusing to begin enforcement of a campus-wide smoking ban for at least six months.

At their final quarterly meeting of 2008 the Trustees debated the revision, which also changed language in the conduct code to de-emphasize speech and focus more specifically on civil behavior.

Proposed changes in the code reflect the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education's interpretation of the statewide Indoor Clean Air Act. PASSHE Chancellor John C. Cavanaugh has interpreted the law to prohibit smoking both indoors and outdoors on all 14 state-owned university campuses. The revisions outline a graduated series of disciplinary measures for students caught smoking on campus.

After lengthy discussion, the Trustees voted to impose a six-month moratorium on enforcing the smoking ban. However, they agreed to other code revisions defining specific behaviors, such as harassment or stalking, that can lead to disciplinary measures.

"We want to focus on behavioral terms in a broad way, so as to not infringe on students' rights," said Dr. Lenora Angelone, vice president for student development and services. "We want our students to live up to the core values" of integrity, civility and responsibility.

During his report to the Trustees, University President Angelo Armenti, Jr. reviewed the second draft of the University's strategic plan for 2009-2012. The plan could add citizenship to the list of Cal U's primary goals.

The seven current goals are aligned with the university's mission of Building Character, Building Careers. The new plan would add "Building an



"We want to focus on behavioral terms in a broad way, so as to not infringe on students' rights. We want our students to live up to the core values" of integrity, civility and responsibility.

— Dr. Lenora Angelone, vice president for student development and services

Understanding of the Importance of Good Citizenship and Contribution."

"One of our core values is civility, and the idea is to have a shared humanity," President Armenti said. "It's the role of the University to let our community know that they have a responsibility not just for themselves but for all other university citizens."

In other business:

Interim provost Geraldine Jones explained that since

the September quarterly meeting, Cal U faculty, administrators and staff had secured nine major grants totaling more than \$2.4 million. She noted the recent national accreditation achieved by the graphic communications program and reported that over the past year 454 internships and 416 new employers were added to InternLink, the Internship Center's online data base.

Dr. Allan Golden, vice president for administration and finance, presented slides showing the renovation and expansion of the Herron Fitness and Recreation Center, which is expected to open next fall. Cal U also received a favorable annual audit of its financial statements, he said, with a \$2.4 million gain in total assets from a year ago.

Angela Burrows, now vice president for University Relations, gave a multimedia presentation detailing the activities of the marketing, public affairs and alumni relations offices. "Working together, marketing, public relations and the web team are evolving into a full-service, in-house communications operation," she said.

President Armenti reported that total number of donors for the first quarter of the 2008-2009 fiscal year showed a significant increase, from 495 last year to 710. Even with the troubled economy, he expressed confidence in Cal U's development efforts.

"The long-term goal is to bring in more funds, and the way to do that is get more people in the habit of giving," he said.

Leo Krantz, chairman of the Council of Trustees, adjourned the meeting with a reminder that spring break will push the first quarterly meeting to Feb. 25 instead of the usual March date.

"I continue to find our meetings extremely educational," he said. "We had some spirited discussion, and that's really what it's all about."

Season of Champions

Cal U Athletics Leads Dixon Cup Race

After winning four conference championships this fall, California University of Pennsylvania ranks first in the initial 2008-09 Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (PSAC) Dixon Trophy standings, the league office announced last month.

Cal U's athletic program leads the 16-team standings with 90.5 overall points after earning 16 points for winning the league crowns in football, women's golf, men's soccer and volleyball. In addition to the quartet of conference titles, the Cal U men's golf team and women's soccer team achieved their best seasons in recent years.

The football team won the PSAC Championship after a 47-36 win over PSAC-East champion West Chester in the first conference-championship football game contested in 21 years. The Vulcans, under the direction of seventh-year head coach John Luckhardt, finished the year with a 12-2 record and advanced to the NCAA Division II national semifinals for a second consecutive season.

The men's soccer team earned its first conference title in program history after an improbable run from fourth place in the Western Division to first place in the PSAC over the final two weeks of the season. Coached by 23-year veteran Dennis Laskey, Cal defeated Slippery Rock (3-1) and Millersville (3-2) in the PSAC playoffs. The Vulcans' soccer team has competed in

six post-season conference tourneys over the past nine years.

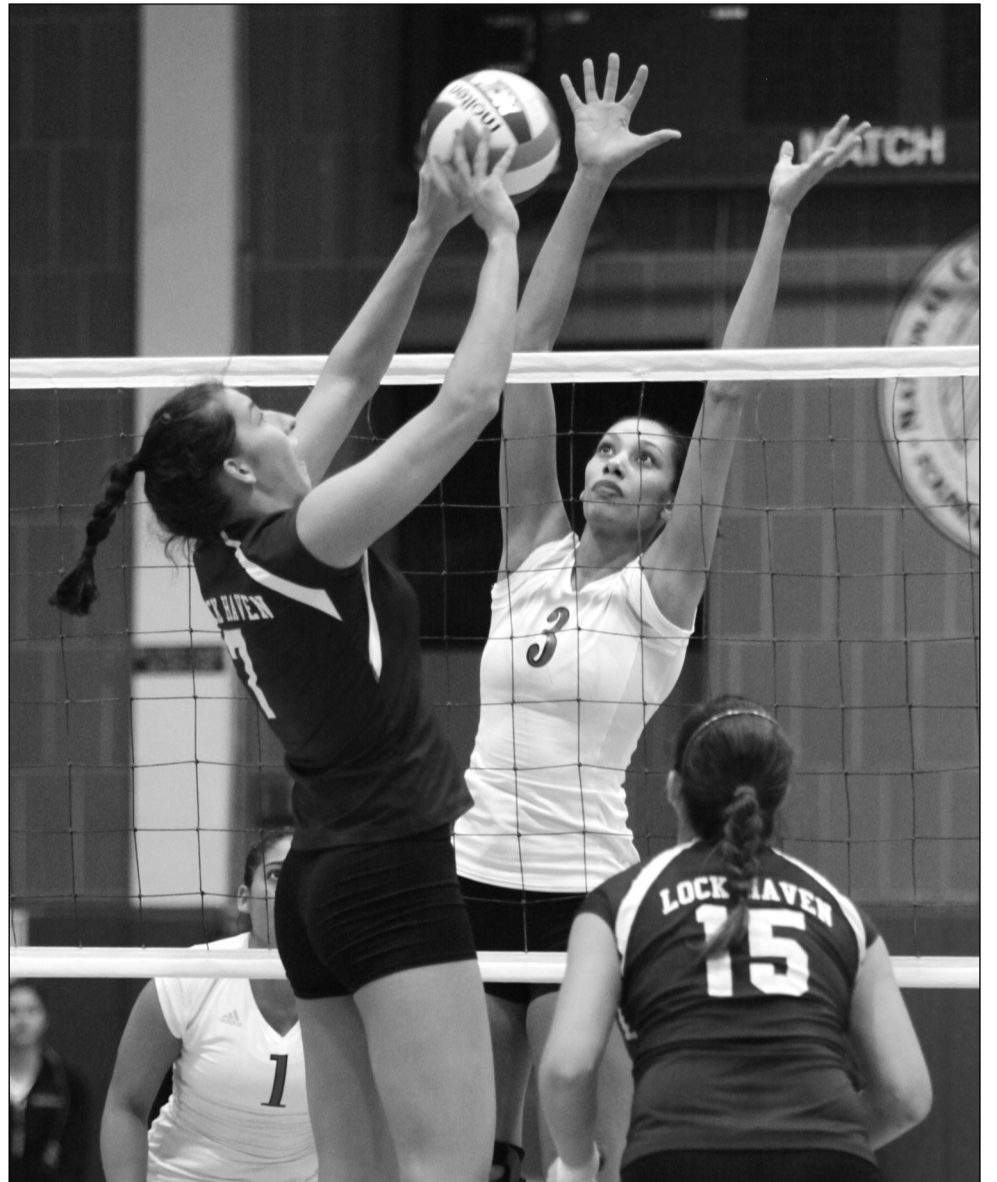
On the links, the women's golf team won the PSAC Championship after the tournament was separated into men's and women's championships for the first time in past years. Including the conference championship, the Vulcan women, coached by MerriLyn Gibbs, won four invitational tournaments this fall. In spring, Cal U will host the NCAA Division II Regional Championship Tournament.

Cal U's women's volleyball team led the nation with a school-best 40-2 overall record and won its second-straight PSAC and NCAA regional titles before losing to national finalist Cal State San Bernardino at the NCAA Elite Eight. Led by first-year head coach Stephanie Burner, Cal volleyball has won three PSAC titles in the past four years.

PSAC-newcomer Mercyhurst College is second in the Dixon Cup standings with 85.0 points. Bloomsburg University (83.5), Indiana University of Pennsylvania (79.5) and East Stroudsburg University (74.0) round out the top five.

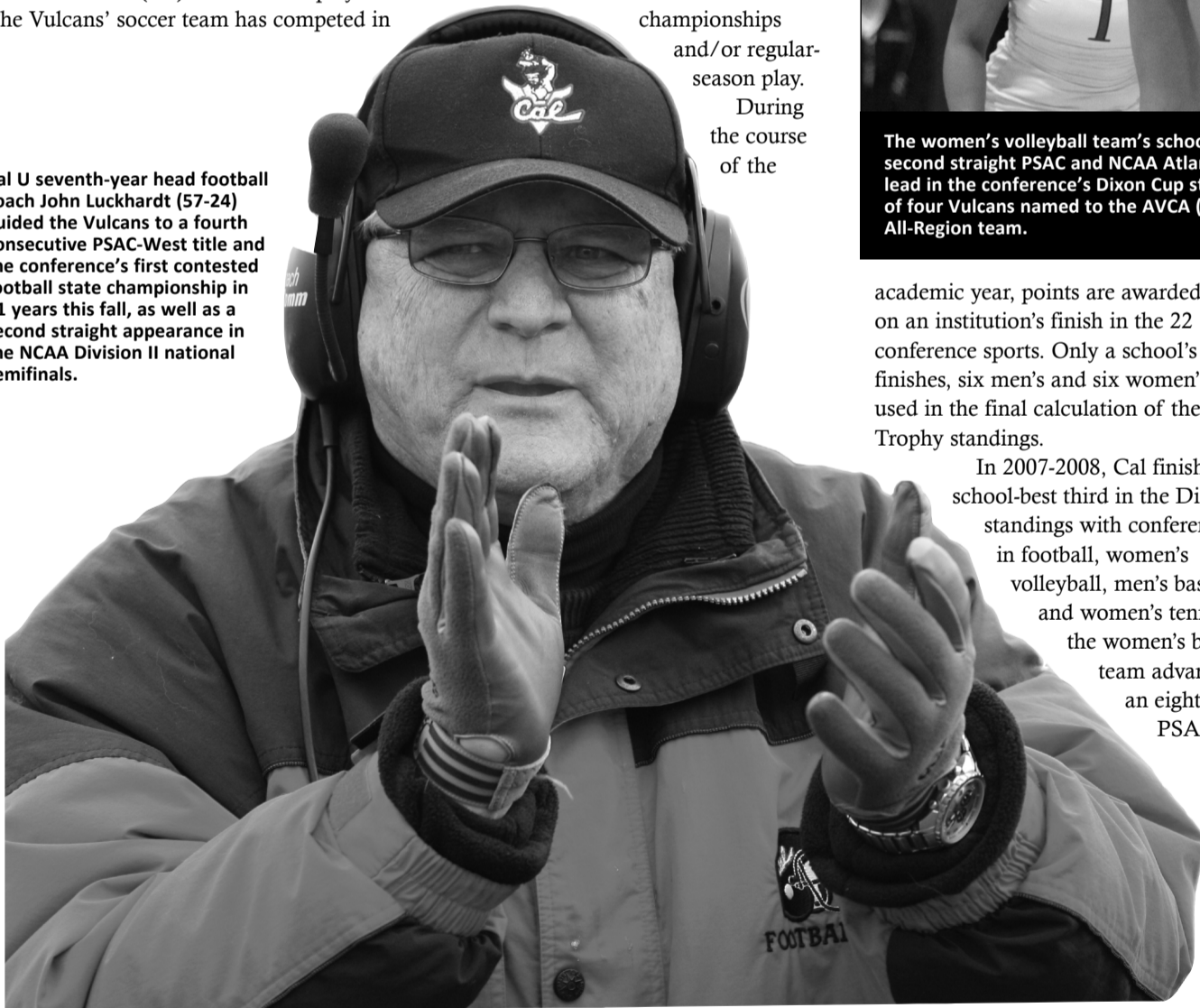
Since 1995-96, the Dixon Cup Trophy has been awarded annually by the PSAC to a member institution whose athletic program earns the best overall finish in

conference championships and/or regular-season play. During the course of the



The women's volleyball team's school-best 40-2 overall record in 2008, highlighted by winning second straight PSAC and NCAA Atlantic Regional championships, helped Cal U grab the early lead in the conference's Dixon Cup standings. Pictured is senior middle hitter Thais Franca, one of four Vulcans named to the AVCA (American Volleyball coaches Association) All-Region team.

Cal U seventh-year head football coach John Luckhardt (57-24) guided the Vulcans to a fourth consecutive PSAC-West title and the conference's first contested football state championship in 21 years this fall, as well as a second straight appearance in the NCAA Division II national semifinals.



academic year, points are awarded based on an institution's finish in the 22 conference sports. Only a school's best 12 finishes, six men's and six women's, are used in the final calculation of the Dixon Trophy standings.

In 2007-2008, Cal finished a school-best third in the Dixon Cup standings with conference titles in football, women's volleyball, men's basketball and women's tennis, and the women's basketball team advanced to an eighth straight PSAC

championship game.

Individual performances by Cal U student-athletes added to the Vulcans' luster this year. Cross country runner Chris Clark, a graduate student, placed fourth nationally at the NCAA Division II Nationals after winning the PSAC and NCAA Regional championships. Simone DeSouza won the individual PSAC women's golf title, and women's volleyball players' Ludmila Amaral and Joanna Nist received PSAC and NCAA Atlantic Region Player of the Year honors, respectively.

"When Cal U teams show themselves to be world class, as our teams clearly did this past fall, they remind us by their excellent example of our own personal and professional possibilities," said University President Angelo Armenti, Jr. "They inspire us to believe that we, too, might become world class in our own individual domains by emulating the tremendous effort, selflessness, team work and determination they clearly practiced."

The California Journal is published weekly by California University of Pennsylvania, a member of The Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education.

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The Journal is printed on paper made from trees harvested under the principles of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (www.SFIprogram.org).

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