and prior restraint

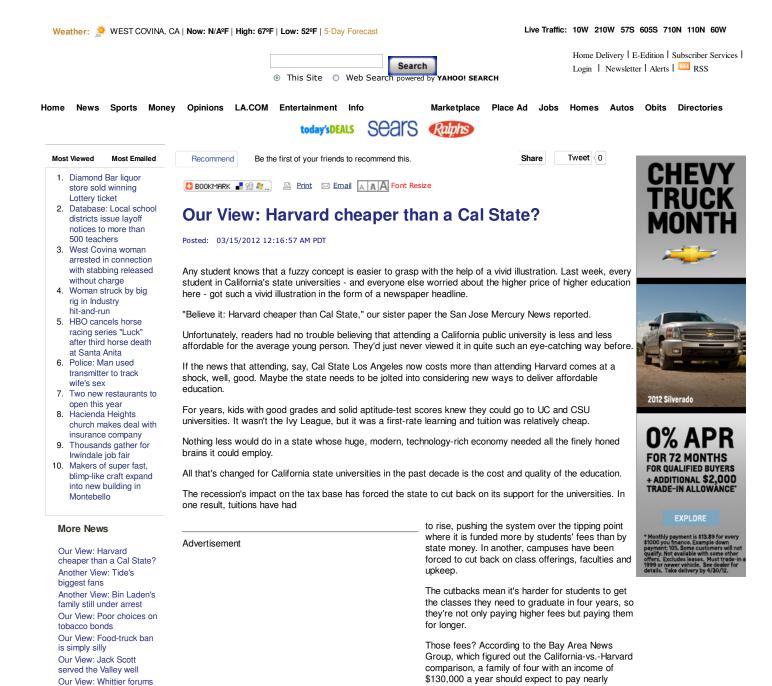
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university.



Although Harvard's advertised annual tuition is plain-wrap L.A. sheriff's \$36,305, the family described above would actually Return of Bob Kerrey for end up paying \$17,000 to send an ultra-high-achieving son or daughter to the United States' most prestigious

> The reason is that Harvard charges higher tuition to richer families so that it can offer game-changing financial aid to middle-class and poor students. That's a judgment call Harvard can afford to make, being a private institution unaffected by the shrinking tax base and blessed with lush endowments.

expenses.

\$24,000 for a Cal State freshman's tuition, on-campus room and board, supplies and other

Is there some version of this strategy that public universities can employ? Should California weigh ideas such as varying tuition at CSU and UC campuses - allowing, say, UC Berkeley and San Diego State to charge more than less in-demand locations? Opponents of the proposal say it would ruin the reputations of the "cheaper" campuses and destroy the egalitarian spirit of California's two university systems.

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support taxing millionaires to pay for higher education. They'll have to get in line behind those who favor taxing millionaires to pay for K-12 education.

It's easy to say the state's universities must eliminate overspending such as exorbitant salaries for top administrators. Reining in all of those salaries, though, won't solve the problem.

Last year, a study determined that in the next decade and a half, California will produce 1 million fewer college graduates than the economy demands, portending a further spiral for the tax base and state education funding.

Something has to change, and here's hoping that Harvard headline will be the impetus.

Meanwhile, more of California's brightest kids presumably will be going to Harvard. Maybe they'll learn the answers there.

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