Massive undersea quake shakes Northern Japan

By Peter Landers

TOKYO — A major undersea earthquake killed at least 16 people in Russia's remote Kuril Islands late Tuesday, jolted Japan and triggered tidal waves on both sides of the Pacific.

A quake with a preliminary magnitude of 7.9 hit near the southern end of the Kuril chain north of Japan. About 200 people in northern Japan were injured by broken glass and falling objects.

The Pacific Tsunami Warning Center in Hawaii issued a tidal wave warning for all Pacific islands and coastal areas, including the west coast of the United States and Canada.

In Moscow, Russia's Ministry for Emergency Situations said the bodies of at least 16 people were found on three islands in the chain.

Ministry spokesman Anatoly Streltsov did not say whether the victims were killed by huge tidal waves reported in the region.

One hit the small island of Zelyony, home to a border guards unit and fishermen's settlement.

Officials did not immediately know what happened to the residents, Streltsov said.

Aftershocks were continuing. In some parts of the Kurils, 18-inch cracks were visible in the earth after the quake, he said.

By early Wednesday, about 40 small tsunami waves had been observed in Japan. Most were less than 3 feet high, although one was 6 feet. There were no reports of any damage.

Hawaii closed its public schools and beaches, and ordered residents of coastal areas to evacuate.

Most of the damage and injuries from the quake in Japan occurred on the northernmost main island of Hokkaido, but buildings shook as far as 650 miles away in Tokyo.

The quake — which lasted more than a minute — was centered 13 miles beneath the Pacific Ocean floor.

From the time the fumes strike their face, prisoners are likely to be conscious for anywhere from 15 seconds to a minute, with a "substantial risk" of consciousness for up to several minutes, Patel said.

During that period, she said, "the condemned inmate is likely to suffer intense physical pain."

The primary cause is cellular suffocation, experienced as an intense "air hunger," similar to strangulation or drowning, the judge said.

"Symptoms of air hunger include intense chest pains, such as felt during a heart attack, acute anxiety, and struggling to breathe," Patel said. "She said there may also be other types of pain, including "the excessively painful muscle spasms" of a condition called tetany.

She also noted that 10 states, including California, used gas as the sole method of execution in 1976, and none does today. See GAS CHAMBER, page 3.

Blackout plagues students in Stenner, Woodside complexes

By Eric Massey
Special to the Daily

Residents at two student apartment complexes were without power for almost two days as PG&E struggled to restore electrical service lost during Monday night's storm.

PG&E spokesman Ron Routkiewicz said a 12,000-volt power line came down at 7:50 p.m. Monday, knocking out power to 91 customers in the area of Foothill Boulevard and Santa Rosa Street.

Resident of Mustang Stadium.

Recreation administration senior Carlton Brown owns the parked 1989 Mazda MPV which was hit by the truck.

"I'm really glad that I wasn't in the vehicle what he saw," he said.

A driver heading down Perimeter Road on Tuesday bailed out of his truck before it sideswiped a city bus and careened into a parked car in front of Mustang Stadium, but no one was seriously hurt.

Public Safety officials said the truck's brakes failed just before the accident, which also involved a parked car and a San Luis Obispo Transit bus.

A bystander takes stock of yesterday's collision between a delivery van and a parked car. A San Luis Obispo city bus was also involved / Daily photo by Kellie Korhonen

Runaway truck hits bus, stadium

By Agyi Bamboni
Daily Mail

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A truck carrying moving supplies and a student with 14 passengers onboard had to be towed away from the bus.

According to Public Safety Officer Bruce Miller, the accident occurred around 1 p.m. when the truck sideswiped the bus, which was turning left at the stop sign at Perimeter Road and College Avenue.

When the truck was passing the bus, the truck hit the parked car on College Avenue and pushed it approximately 20 feet —

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Register to Vote
The last day to register to vote for the November 8 general election is October 11. If you have moved to a new location, changed your mailing address or changed your name — it's time to re-register to vote. Registration forms are available throughout San Luis Obispo County at the Post Offices, City Halls, libraries, banks, notary offices and utility companies. For more information, call 781-5228

TODAY
Government Meeting • San Luis Obispo Council of Governments, 9 a.m., San Luis Obispo Board of Supervisors’ Chamber — 781-4219
Resume Gass
Country Western Line Dancing Gass
Osos — 528-4169

THURSDAY
Nutrition Lecture • “Savvy Shopping for Healthy Eating” and the new nutrition labels, 1:30 p.m., University of California Cooperative Extension Auditorium, 2156 Sierra Way, San Luis Obispo, call by today to reserve space — 781-5640

UPCOMING
Democratic Volunteers • Volunteers wanted for Kathleen Brown’s campaign for governor — 547-0615/547-0624

CRASH: Delivery truck’s lost brakes blamed for wild ride through campus

From page 1
“I was just sitting there and I heard ’Boom! Boom!’,” Limpus said. “I was watching (the truck) crunch the van, so then I just got up to see if there was anyone in the van, but the bus driver wouldn’t open the door.”

Journalism senior Rodney De La Cruz, who also was on the bus, said he was talking to a friend when he looked up and saw the truck on the opposite side of the bus.

“I saw the truck come in and I said, ’What the hell, this guy is trying to pass or something,’ and then it smashed right into the side of the van,” he said.

Business seniors Workines Wemezgem and Greg Kelly said they were waiting for the bus at the stop in front of Jesup Hall when they witnessed the accident. Both students had just passed by the crash site moments before.

“A minute before and I could have been in front of that truck,” Wemezgem said. “It was a pretty tremendous impact.”

One of the passengers on the bus was City Council candidate Pat Veesaart, a vocal proponent of alternative transportation. He praised the job of the bus driver.

“The truck had hit his broad side, someone would have really gotten hurt,”

Business senior Ron Grope saw the truck driver jump out of the vehicle on Perimeter Road and the stop sign on College Avenue.

“That the truck driver jumped out just before it smashed into the other side of the bus,” Grope said.

Miller said the driver, who sustained scrapes on his right knee, was the only one to suffer any type of injury.

“According to statements we got, the truck lost its brakes when (the driver) tried to stop at Grand (and Perimeter),” Miller said. “He applied the brakes at the stop sign and it wouldn’t stop. The brakes went right through the floor.”

He said the driver tried downshifting and using the emergency brake, but was unsuccessful.

However, the driver was able to steer the truck down Perimeter Road, passing the University Union and Graphic Arts building, avoiding any type of collision.

“I think he did a beautiful job of keeping from killing anybody that happened right there when there’s all kinds of people all over the street,” Miller said.

Brown, who didn’t realize his car was involved in the accident until he saw it smashed against the stadium, said he was relieved to hear that no one was injured.

“I’m glad the (truck driver) was smart enough to jump out,” Brown said.

Are you trying to attract more Cal Poly students to your business?

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All students and faculty receive:
25% off on regular Jewelry prices.
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Hey, Cal Poly!
Come back with more than you bargained for?

Hey, Cal Poly!
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TSUNAMI: 7.9 magnitude quake jolts Pacific Coasts; threats of huge tidal wave cause evacuation in Japanese islands

Japan's Central Meteorological Agency estimated the quake's preliminary magnitude at 7.9, making it the strongest to hit the region in 26 years.

On Japan's lightly populated Hokkaido island, the late-night quake cracked roads, caused gas leaks and flooded streets. One fire was reported in the town of Nemuro, and more than 13,460 households in eastern Hokkaido lost electric power, said Kazuhiro Kojima of Hokkaido Electric Co.

Television stations broadcast warnings for people in low-lying areas to flee, showing maps of Japan with endangered areas flashing in red.

"I feared that my house might collapse. The house was shaken strongly," said Teruo Koike, a fireman in Kushiro.

Kiyo Takahashi, 45, of Kushiro, was drinking coffee with friends. "Some of them cried for help ... because they couldn't stand the strong shaking," she said.

More than 1,000 evacuees spent the night in public buildings in Kushiro and Nemuro alone, according to local officials.

GAS CHAMBER: Execution 'cruel and unusual'

The state has adopted gas as a new method of execution since 1970, while 25 states, including California, have adopted lethal injection, Patel said.

That trend, along with the evidence of pain, shows that gas chamber executions violate "evolving standards of human decency," Patel said.

"Our society no longer considers lethal gas an acceptable means by which to execute a person," the judge wrote. "There is a societal consensus that this method of execution is inhumane and has no place in civilized society."

Earlier this year, the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, which handles federal appeals from California and eight other Western states, rejected a similar challenge to execution by hanging in Washington state. The 6-5 ruling found that the use of modern safeguards minimized the risk of prolonged pain during a hanging.

Patel said the evidence of conscious pain in a gas chamber execution was greater than the evidence presented on behalf of the Washington prisoner, who was later hanged.

The Supreme Court has ruled that the death penalty itself does not violate the constitutional ban on cruel and unusual punishment. To prohibit a particular method of execution, a judge must find that it causes extreme and unnecessary suffering.

Robert Alton Harris, convicted of murdering two teenagers in San Diego, died in the gas chamber in April 1992, the state's first execution in 25 years. Convicted serial killer David Mason waived his federal appeals and was executed in the gas chamber in August 1993.

No execution date is scheduled for any of the approximately 390 condemned prisoners in the state.
Local girl makes guide

So what have you found to do in SLO town?

San Luis Obispo is a beautiful place, with usually mild weather disregarding the freak tropical storm and lightening show, which happens about once every 20 years.

I doubt I’ve lived here ever since I was born. And it amazes me when people can’t find new things to do to here.

Have you gone to the movies in the Fremont Theatre or at the Sunset Drive-in? Ignited a bonfire on the beach or danced the night away at The Graduate or Tortilla Flats?

Walked through Farmers’ Market and hung out at Woodstock’s Pizza? Browsed through the new Downtown Gift District with the “Six Months Ago?” Don’t forget that structure opens on Thursday.

Don’t miss the coffee at Rudolph’s, Linnaea’s, or Monterey Street Espresso and the soon-to-open Starbucks’ Coffee.

For the intellectuals types, there are readings and musical interludes by the fireplace at Earthling Bookshop.

For the more adventurous person, head out to Montaña de Oro to go hiking and look at the tidepools. Ride dune buggies and ATV’s at the Pismo Dunes.

Find some fun in the sun at Pismo, Avila, Morro Bay or Cayucos beaches. Or go to the waterslides at Hideout. Drive dune buggies and ATVs at the Pismo Dunes. If you are daring, you can even jump from the cliffs into the water below.

To relax, go fishing off the Pismo Pier. But now, in my fourth year of college. I’m starting to see the light at the end of the proverbial tunnel. Stick as it may, it’s time to move on. I was complete freedom for the most part and I had a great time.

This idea of becoming a lifetime student took more substantial form when I spent the summer after my sophomore year in a “real-life” time-five to job with a 45-minute commute both ways. I stayed in San Luis the next summer.

But now, in my fourth year of college, I’m starting to see the light at the end of the proverbial tunnel. Stick it as it may, there’s part of me that actually wants to graduate, as do many of my friends.

We’re turning into just what my dad said — GROWN-UP.

Whether we’re actually graduating in June or part-way through the spring quarter, this is a time of new adventures and new responsibilities.

If this had come before me for approval as editor of my school’s newspaper, it would have been sent back home to Cal Poly. And if you see people out there who don’t seem to be acting their age, never question anything they do or say. After all, they are GROWN-UPS.

Brooke Richardson is a journalism senior (and GROWN-UP).
**Huffington accused of engaging in racially biased property deals**

By Michael White

LOS ANGELES — Michael Huffington bought and sold two Texas homes that came with restrictions forbidding their sale to blacks or other minorities, former Mayor Tom Bradley alleged Tuesday. Huffington denounced the accusations as desperation politics.

Locked in a neck-and-neck U.S. Senate race with Democratic incumbent Dianne Feinstein, Huffington accused the Democratic Bradley of raising the issue in a bid to exploit racial sentiments in the campaign.

From page 1

"PG&E has a division that is supposed to take care of that," Routkowskii said PG&E "diligently follows" the tree-cutting schedule, but he had no information regarding the latest tree trimming in that area.

Uballez said firefighters had to turn off the power because sparks from the power lines posed a fire hazard.

Residents first lost power around 4 p.m. Monday. The initial blackout was due to a faulty transformer located at the back of Woodside's parking lot, Uballez said. He added that the transformer was not Woodside's responsibility and that it affected 4,000 residents. It was restored at 7:30 p.m., only to fail again around 8:30 p.m. Uballez believed the transformer was the responsibility of PG&E.

"It bites...I can't work on my computer, I can't cook dinner, I can't do anything," Andrea Holstein, business sophomore

"It bites," said business sophomore Andrea Holstein, who lives in Woodside. "I can't work on my computer, I can't cook dinner, I can't do anything."
Silliman: Former Wonder Woman admirer coached a group of Cambodian military leaders on volleyball this summer

"I'm sure it was a snake. It gave me the chills," she said.

Silliman says that on the court, she's very good at certain tactics, and difficult to stop, but off the court, she's all humor and personality.

"She has a way of drawing enthusiasm out of others," Cummings said. "She's gracious, and she has an active imagination."

Silliman said that she and her sister didn't have a television growing up, and so they were encouraged to be creative.

"I always wanted to be Wonder Woman," Silliman said. "We made Wonder Woman costumes when we were younger. We put tinfoil in our boots and made them look like boots. We'd spin around in circles, like Wonder Woman, throw off our coats, and run around the park. We had some good times."

At the clinic, Silliman was given the responsibility of coaching a group of military leaders. She was surprised by the athleticism of the group. They were stud boys," she said. "They play a lot, they just don't know rules, technique and statistics — and they don't have a set offense and defense.

"We taught the technical aspects of volleyball, but also how to be a coach," she said.

Silliman explained that Cambodia was hoping to start a national team.

"Eighty percent of the population is under 18. They have no direction, and so they are hoping that sports might help," she said.

Volleyball requires a great deal of aggressiveness, yet, off the court, Silliman is anything but aggressive. She likes to paint and play the piano and guitar.

Her paintings decorate her room, along with volleyball posters. Her father gave her the guitar she plays, which is older than she is. Silliman, 21, calls the guitar "her fossil."

"Whenever I meet someone who plays, I make them teach me a few chords," she said. "I like picking."

Silliman graduated from San Ramon Valley High School in 1990. She also lettered in tennis, swimming, track and field, and softball.

Silliman came to Cal Poly in 1990 and said she loves it. Her parents attended Cal Poly as does her sister now.

Silliman says the toughest part is juggling her class load and her volleyball schedule.

"You have to be pretty prioritized and strong-willed," Silliman said. She is in the process of changing her major from physical education to recreational administration.

"It's a little bit of everything," Silliman said.

"My dream would be to lead a high school camp or family camp up in the mountains and go on hikes and sing and play," Silliman said.

Silliman says that when she looks back on the mission, she is grateful to have had the experience and to have it go so well.

"The day after we left, there was an announcement in the paper from the King of Cambodia, warning people not to come to Cambodia because of the civil war," Silliman said. "It was like we did something totally illegal, and we left totally untouched."

"It was awesome," she said.

"This was the first attempt to do anything sports wise (with Cambodia)."

"We were pioneers."
Under the current system, free-agent filing begins either the day after the World Series or the day after free-agent filing begins. "We don't want to create two different classes of players who signed under two different economic systems. It think it's a constructive step because it allows people to concentrate on the principal issue—resolving the dispute."
I thought the beginning of the new and improved (depending on how you look at it) structure of the Athletics Department was, as a student body, must maintain some perspective of the situation.

As for Division I Existing, it also means the Cal Poly Poly原始和 junior players who were recruited and adjusted to Division II play of week will often times not match up favorably to some of the big-time schools they'll be competing against.

The football team, in its first season in Division I AA, faced No. 3-ranked Montana last weekend. A 49-0 score sounds bad, but it happens. It happens right now because Cal Poly is just a pile of sand in the Yosemitic Division I college competition.

I could imagine students reading Monday's Mustang story hating the headline, "Football team mauled by Grizzlies, 49-0." Most likely, many began instantly passing judgment on the team and the entire Athletics Department. Phrases such as these were certainly uttered on campus.

"They should never have moved to Division I." "Man, they suck." "Who cares." "Athletics are a totally unnecessary part of higher education."

"That's why I never go out and watch them."

But please, hold off on knee-jerk judgments. You don't take one architecture class and design a hundred-story skyscraper that can withstand an 8.0 earthquake.

You won't win a Pulitzer after your first English composition class.

If you're an athlete, you don't step into a higher level of competition and win instantly because you're simply not prepared to face a gowned Division I athlete.

It would be oh-so-easy to dismiss the entire Division I move after a 61-7 football loss that happened too.

The men's basketball team will travel to Boston College in the third game of its season. The score, most likely, will not be pretty.

The women's basketball team will face the likes of Oregon State.

The baseball team will host Division I powerhouse freshmen from State, USC and Cal State Fullerton.

There will be losses and big, ugly scores. But athletics and teams will learn valuable lessons with each.

So don't go to games with the frame of mind that you've seen a Cal Poly team play before. It wasn't remarkable because of the words he said.

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It's only a matter of time before the teams come up to par, according to Athletics Department.

With time and good coaching, the program will build.

I had a memorable five-minute conversation with football coach Andre Patterson after one of his spring practices.

It wasn't remarkable because of the words he said. His demeanor and person spoke more than his words.

The sound of crunching pads and bodies in the game of football has always scared me — tall but frail (6-3-1) that will show flashes of success right away.

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