Semester change may unify Cal Poly, CSUs

Chancellor Reed asks for student, faculty input; long process ahead

By Sonia Slutzki and Kirsten Orsini-Meinhard

MUSTANG DAILY CONTRIBUTORS

The exhausting pace of the quarter system may give way to a California State University-wide semester plan. Chancellor Charles Reed wants to see greater unity among the campuses' academic calendars, and David Conn, vice provost for academic programs and undergraduate education, Reed is asking for student and faculty input on the issue.

The Academic Senate and Associated Students Inc. will gather student opinion and evaluate the process of changing to the semester system, Conn said. If Reed decides to embark on a system-wide change to semesters, the actual implementation would not happen for at least four years, Conn said. The short-term effects of switching to a semester system are costly and time-consuming, Conn said. The change would involve a long process to ensure a smooth transition. In the long term, administrative costs would decline since students would require classes only twice a year.

There are pros and cons to moving away from the quarter system, and both students and faculty are divided on the issue. "If we view the university as primarily educating meaningful education for students, semesters provide a better opportunity for both faculty and students to go in depth into every aspect of their education," said Philip Fetzer, president of the local chapter of the California Faculty Association and political science professor. "Being under pressure all the time in the quarter system takes away from focusing on the material since it doesn't allow much time for reflection.

Conn said many people feel the semester system may offer greater depth in course material and class discussions. On the other hand, the quarter system enables the students to take more classes and allows for greater flexibility. "To say the semester system is more efficient is a ludicrous argument," said science professor Thomas Rether said. "It's how we parcel it and package it that matters.”

This is not the first time Cal Poly has considered switching to the semester system. In 1993, the Academic Senate formed an ad hoc committee to study alternate calendar formats. The committee evaluated everything from changes in classroom availability to the cost of changing systems, conducting a survey among faculty and staff to identify potential problems in each department.

The committee concluded that a majority of staff and faculty favored a change to either a trimester system (three semesters in a year, including summer) or a two-semester system.

ика SEMESTERS, page 2

I FC denies expansion

By Erin Crosby

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Fraternities hoping to become members of the Interfraternity Council at Cal Poly will have to wait at least one more year.

At an Oct. 7 meeting, the IFC Expansion Committee decided that adding fraternities is not currently feasible due to factors such as the already high number of fraternities, poor fraternity-to-sorority ratios, lack of facilities and deferred rush next fall.

Fraternity presidents approved this decision in a meeting on Oct. 12:

"It's nothing personal against the fraternities wanting to join IFC," Delta Chi President Andrianne Roloff said. "It's just being faced with challenges that it has to deal with on its own before it can even consider letting anyone else in."

According to IFC Vice President Brian Johnson, Cal Poly has 18 IFC fraternities already, which is equal to larger schools like University of California, Los Angeles. Also, there are only six sororities so it is difficult for the fraternities to plan activities with them.

"Sororities are bare every weekend, while fraternities can only plan events with them once a quarter, if they are that lucky," Johnson said.

Assistant Director of Student Life Bob Walters said with nearly 400 student organizations on campus, it is almost impossible for groups to get the facilities they need when they want them.

"The facilities are so impacted that only 15 of the fraternities can participate in IFC sports," Roloff said. "And we still have games that start as late as 10:30 p.m."

Fortunately there is light at the end of the tunnel.

see IFC, page 2

PAC adds visual art collection

By Jenny Ferrari

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

A life-size sculpture of a dancer and three glass-blown vessels have been loaned to the Performing Arts Center and will grace the center for two years.

An art advisory committee, established by the Central Coast Performing Arts Center Commission, chose both pieces of art for display.

MU DRA, by Elizabeth MacQueen, is a 1,300-pound, life-size bronze sculpture of a dancer, which sits in the PAC's Lyn and Arnold Baker Lower Lounge.

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The C-bolt Trio is on display in the Rossi Grand Lobby of the PAC.

MacQueen is an internationally renowned local artist. Her work can be seen in both public and private collections. PUCK, one of MacQueen's famous local sculptures, is displayed downtown near Jamba Juice. The other piece of art on display is Darre Marioni's Qibalt Trio. It consists of three glass-blown vessels.
PAC continued from page 1

Jennifer Tavella, a Foundation intern for the Performing Arts Center, said the display is an honor.

"The life-size sculpture of MUDRA is astounding and breathtaking. It took two years to build and is extremely detailed," Tavella said.

Tavella also said the Cobalt Trio’s blue color makes the artwork very appealing.

Those interested in viewing both pieces of artwork can book a tour or see them any time the PAC puts on a show.

For more information about the artwork, contact Doreen Wetzel at 541-5425.

SEMESTERS

continued from page 1

The following are some written arguments from staff and faculty members supporting and opposing a semester system.

Pro quarters
- The benefits do not outweigh the massive effort required for the change.
- The quarter system allows greater flexibility in the curriculum by permitting a greater variety of course offerings and exposing students to a greater number of faculty.
- A change guarantees further erosion of our technical nature.
- The intensity of the quarter system enables students to better handle stresses and workloads of industry.

The following are some written arguments from staff and faculty members opposing and supporting a semes­ter system.

Con quarters
- The intensity of the quarter system does not feel they can allow any end of the tunnel, Walters said.
- "When the new sports complex is completed, there will be more facilities for everyone to use and it will lessen the crunch on student organizations," Walters said.
- Another major issue that IFC faces is deferred rush next fall, which prevents first quarter Cal Poly students from rushing.

According to Johnson, fraternities are worried about the impact of this new regulation because many of the pledges are first-quarter students.

Although the official numbers have not been reported yet, Johnson said that rush went very well this quarter. Even with considerably high rush numbers in fall and spring, IFC does not feel they can allow any more fraternities on campus now because of the lack of people rushing.

Many fraternities are also worried because the average size of fraternities on campus is around 30, which is at least 15 members lower than they would like, Johnson said.

"We’re worried about the impact of this new regulation because many of the pledges are first-quarter students," Johnson said. "The mean and median sizes of the fraternities on campus are lower than we would like them to be, so we want to see how deferred rush affects the number of pledges we get before we add any other fraternities," Johnson said. "Right now we just don’t have enough people to sustain another fraternity.

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Raytheon
Capps’ opponent caters free food, message to students

By Leslie Stevens

Apparent Republican Congressional candidate Mike Stoker hasn’t forgotten what it’s like to be a college student. Combining politics with a free lunch, he elicited about 30 students to meet him on campus Tuesday to hear his views on topics ranging from education to welfare reform.

Stoker hopes to capture the Republican nomination for the 22nd District seat currently held by Democratic incumbent Rep. Lois Capps in California’s March primary election.

Borrowing the Republican label “compassionate conservative,” Stoker expressed that he can represent the diverse interests of the district and stressed his goal of becoming a party unifier. “Frankly, I think we’ve become far too partisan,” Stoker said.

He added that he would emphasize working together with all sides. As evidence of his ability to bridge diverse viewpoints, Stoker related his success in bringing together Republican moderate Brooks Firestone and conservative Tom Bond, Jr. to lead his campaign. Both men were bitter opponents in the 1996 Republican primary for Capps seat.

A Santa Maria attorney specializing in agriculture and private property rights, Stoker is currently chairman of the Agricultural Labor Relations Board and a former Santa Barbara County supervisor.

Speaking to students in a relaxed conversational style, without the traditional business suit, Stoker repeated themes of personal responsibility and local control.

Stoker cited education as an area of federal government inefficiency, in which the percentage of federal administrative costs are almost three times the rate of most local governments. Social Security is another area Stoker mentioned would benefit from individual control in the form of private savings accounts.

During a short audience question-and-answer period, Stoker advocated using tax breaks for medical insurance to increase coverage for low-income working families and for those who are self-employed.

He also responded to a question about his views on the “hot-potato” abortion issue, a subject that has proved particularly divisive within the GOP itself. Stoker said he supports a woman’s constitutional right to an abortion, but added, “I think Roe v. Wade was a bad decision.” He explained that to be consistent with the Constitution, abortion issues should have been left to the states. In addition, Stoker supports abortion restrictions, such as required parental consent for minors, mandated waiting periods and counseling of alternatives for women seeking abortions.

Stoker’s appearance on campus was organized by the Cal Poly College Republicans Club chairman, Tamas Simon said the club plans to follow up on the success of Stoker’s visit by inviting more Republican candidates to future campus meetings.

Statewide anti-sweatshop conference to begin this weekend at UC Berkeley

By Mike Munson

Students from all over the state will converge at UC Berkeley this weekend for the California Students Against Sweatshops Statewide Organizing Conference.

The conference will focus on stopping the sale of clothing with university logos made under sweatshop conditions. Other goals are to increase understanding of worldwide sweatshop issues and to strengthen anti-sweatshop campaigns on individual campuses.

Political science senior Chris Collins will attend as a representative of Cal Poly Students Against Sweatshops. Collins said the national organization, United Students Against Sweatshops, has already had a positive impact on the industry. Schools such as the University of Michigan and the entire UC system have adopted rules against the use of sweatshop labor for university-logged garments.

Collins said the organization still has unofficial status at Cal Poly, but several students and professors are involved. “My hope is that this statewide conference will lead to official ASI recognition of the club at Cal Poly,” Collins said.

The conference includes a tour of a unionized garment shop in Oakland in which students will learn about apparel manufacturing. The list of speakers includes Carmenita Abad, a former garment worker on the island of Saban, and Nikki Bas of Sweatshop Watch. Charles Kernaghan of the National Labor Committee will also appear along with Salvadoran maquila workers Sonia Beatriz Lira and Eva Nere Parce, who were fired and blacklisted for attempting to organize a union.

The conference is being coordinated by Students Organizing for Justice in the Americas (UC Berkeley), University of California Student Association, San Francisco State Students Against Sweatshops and Sweatshop Watch.

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Ridiculous ad messages are too persuasive

A diverse ad industry, this year, has newspapers generating revenue and websites turning profits. Ad is everywhere, which is probably why the halls one stands out so gracefully.

The fierce competition of products vying for your attention has upped the quality of most media output, but some commercials still manage to stand out. I often find myself laughing out loud at certain product promotions—although probably not for the reasons that ad executives intended.

Aquafresh toothpaste has an off-kilter pitch. The television spot is that of a beaming family member with gleaming teeth saying, "Toothpaste. What's that?" It’s an ad member with a pained expression, "We haven't needed any dental work in months." The commercial tries to be clever, to trick me into thinking, "Hey, What's going on? He's got perfect teeth, and she doesn't even use toothpaste! I want one of these!"

It turns out the family is brushing with Aquafresh, which is apparently no longer a "toothpaste." It's a whole mouthpaste. Aquafresh, I learned, not only cleans your teeth, but is good for your tongue, your palate, and that little thing that hangs down in the back of your throat that I always mistake for my tonsils. I think the paste has been secretly seeping into my mouth all along.

Another corporation that consistently lets me down is McDonald’s. I’m a commercial for fast-food franchise featuring what appeared to be stock footage of astronauts superimposed over a stark background. A boss, a click. One rocket man turns to the other and asks something like, "Have you heard of Pihh, Ph.D, or Pihh D.D.S. The cola doesn't bring you his esteemed college IV Pepsi-C. Here is a beautiful ground. A hiss. A click. One rocket man turns to the other and asks something like, "Have you heard of McDonald's new deal?" The other replies, "Yeah, They're out of this world." Unless the multimillion dollar corporation was specifically aiming for the "shaped-up-together-with-IS-backs-and-half-a-shit-worth-of-spank-time" genre, McDonald needs to seriously reconsider its image and the genre that developed that commercial. Call me cynical, but I just can’t fight the feeling that the "out of this world" slogan coupled with astronauts is a bit wien—and has been since the Cold War. An establishment that makes billions of dollars by changing 29 cents for some meat on a bun can certainly afford to put forth some effort in its advertising.

Most disappointing to me, however, are the roads not taken. Bad advertising is depressing enough, but I know at least one product that is setting on a commercial gold mine and, as of yet, has done nothing.

Why isn't Mr. Pihh ever given for his degree like his esteemed colleague Dr. Pepper? Here is a beautiful opportunity for some quality advertising: a simple campaign, a few years of education, and the soda could transform into Pihh, Ph.D's or Pihh D.D.S. The cola doesn't bring you his esteemed college IV Pepsi-C. Here is a beautiful ground. A hiss. A click. One rocket man turns to the other and asks something like, "Have you heard of McDonald's new deal?" The other replies, "Yeah, They're out of this world."

Letters to the editor

Death penalty is necessary for society

In response to Carolyn Ficarri's announcement of exercising the death penalty ("Death penalty is not justice... Oct. 19), I must admit capital punishment is a primitive, crude, and uncivil solution to the question of how to deal with murderers. However, Carolyn's proposed solution (too want until society realizes weapons and destruction are not the ticket to peace) is not a solution, but a fantasy about how society "ought" to be. It bears no resemblance to reality. There will always be sick people with the means and the will to harm our sisters, girlfriends, daughters, mothers, and all other people out there. I sure one day, all psychic tactics will stop just moments before kidnapping an innocent girl, look in the mirror and have a life-changing revelation about love and service. Right.

Love and peace are not the answer to this problem. Let's consider the PRACTICAL implications of putting Krebs in jail (i.e., avoiding the "unkilling, unpeaceful death penalty"). Krebs' trial is already cost- ing taxpayers money. If Krebs goes to jail, all of us law-abiding citizens can look forwarded to paying for his meals, clothing, medical attention and all other living expenses. Rachel and Andrus's families will have the privilege of paying for the living expenses of thousands of other people, one of which brutally murdered their beloved daughters. In addition, allowing Krebs to live will only serve to install a glimmer of hope into the sick hearts of all the other psychos out there, who are now even planning to kidnap and rape someone else's child. Maybe they'll get away with it too. Avoiding the death penalty is a weak mockery of true justice.

Let the execution of Rex Allan Krebs stand as the voice of an angry college campus, and let his death speak of our unswerving insistence for this behavior. There is no room in our world for people like Krebs. It's time to vindicate our right to a safe world by showing Krebs and any other potential murdering that rape and murder will not only be looked down on, but also punished with the most severe retribution.

Bryan Rosner is a business senior.

Hurry up and graduate Editor,

Why isn't the notion of a four-year degree seen old-fashioned? I've wondered this same thing since coming to Cal Poly. This is a shame in particular for having fifth- and sixth-year students. I have to ask my fellow students, "Don't you ever want to leave?" I love Cal Poly and all, but I want to get on with my life.

The two reasons I see for the graduation delay are major changes and students who take too few units.

Let's deal with the first fact. You're lucky! I know it's harsh, but for many of you, it's true. You've been here for six years because you only took 12 units each quarter. Work a little harder! I've taken 15 units a couple times—without killing myself. Some of you are complainer, "I'm not lazy! I just work a lot!" Wahh. I've heard that one before. I've worked two jobs all quarters except one since coming to Cal Poly, and I still managed to take full course loads.

The former reason, changing majors, derives from two problems. The first springs from lack of luck. You thought you wanted to be an architect and then realized you could make more money teaching history. Yeah, I heard that one too.

The second problem is a much larger one; it highlights a central aspect of this institution. Remember that section on your application that asked what major you wanted to be? Here are we supposed to know if we want to be a philosophy, engineering or business major? They don't offer these classes in high school. Every other college student in California is allowed to apply undecided, so why can't we?

I'm not content with four more degrees though. Our parents did that. We can do better. I challenge you to graduate in less than four! I'm going to. Is anyone with me? But please, don't think I'm boasting; I just want to prove that it can be done. For the few of you whom this article doesn't apply to, I commend you. For the rest of you, good luck and Godspeed!

Barnaby Hughes is a second-year history student who plans to graduate in Spring

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Bryan Rosner is a business senior.
Great jazz pianist Duke Ellington described a jazz concert as a give-and-take proposition between the musician and the audience.

“You make them feel good, and then you feel good when out somewhere in the provinces, a doctor or a car washer or a farmer may travel 200 miles just to hear you.”

Performing live is what the art form was built upon, and fans can witness this creative process Saturday night at the Cal Poly Fall Jazz Concert.

“The spirit of jazz is improvisation,” music senior Anthony Enns said. “The point of jazz is to hear something new every time.”

Enns will be playing piano with the University Jazz Band in Saturday’s concert along with local jazz-funk band, Jivendirect. The two-hour show in the Cal Poly Theatre will feature classic jazz standards like “My Funny Valentine” and an experimental Coltrane piece entitled “Miles’ Mode.”

“I’m looking forward to the experimental piece because it’s a risky one,” said Paul Rinder, director of jazz studies. “The potential rewards are great, but it’s kind of dangerous too.”

Rinder said the spontaneity of jazz is what makes it so interesting to see live.

“You can actually watch a person develop a musical idea. When you see it coming from them, rather than a recording, it’s a completely different experience,” he said.

Music senior Kim Koven will play electric bass in the Duke Ellington classic “Caravan.” Although her concentration is in classical music, she’s excited about the upcoming jazz performance.

see JAZZ, page 6
Black Cat' humorizes gypsy life

By Brent Marcus
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Foreign films carry a strong stigma in America. Despite the occasional breakthroughs such as Roberto Benigni’s "Life Is Beautiful" or Perrin’s "The Fall," American movicgoers still have a very low tolerance for the unfamiliar values and often oppressive symbolism of foreign cinema. Now comes a film American moviegoers should have no trouble accepting. "Black Cat, White Cat," at the Palm Theater, uses universally undiluted humor to tell a story with two fantastic perspectives.

"Black Cat, White Cat" is set in Slovenia when it is painfully obvious they do not fluoridate the water. In a foreign film that is subtitled and lacks recognizable stars, horrific dark comedy appears in a strong supporting role. Apparently, bad teeth are indicative of the group the movie focuses on.

Marko (Bajram Severdzan) supports he and his zare, Zoran (Ardjan Aldaj), by making truks and deals with outlaws to make a living. Characters, the most suspicious being his cocaine-infused childhood friend, the gangster Danan Karambolj (Kemal Sevs). The small group roams throughout each other’s lives, calming in cacophonous predicaments that affects every member of the ensemble.

"Black Cat, White Cat" is a comedy, with an identity problem, but writer-director Emir Kusturica uses this to his advantage. The director focuses on gypsies who lead a warped existence, giving the film a fantasy quality. This is a film that everybody enjoyed making, and it takes what could have been a totally dry story and makes it a projectable film.

"Black Cat, White Cat" is undeniably funny. Along with strong comedic turns from each cast member, Kusturica uses myriad disjointed images that add to the film’s unique feeling. A pig systematically devours an automobile, a wedding date attended by a group of gypsies, a woman with a wedding and corpses are stowed in the attic with blocks of ice. An even more suspicious triend and an even more suspicious dead cat, grill, all are attempts to make sense of life and the crime that made her an outcast. Due to the layered composition and carefull crafted plot, recording any other details would risk trampling over one of the sudden epiphanies upon which the film is based.

What can be said is that nobody in "Invisible Monsters" is satisfied with themselves. Palahniuk’s characters would scoff at the remedial level of a pretentious or buttery tattoo.

Conversely, it is not a game to be toyed with, but a matter of happiness that must be emphatically destroyed. Even as the seasons change, there is ample evidence for Palahniuk’s insistence that his book is summer time sex and violence are dutifully woven throughout. The description of sex-scenes and exploding anatomy are graphic and could cause problems for the more easily offended reader. Still, these elements give the book a plentiful taste and would have been glaringly noticeable in the other major "genre" of "genre" literature. Palahniuk’s style in "Invisible Monsters" is tough at first, but the prose becomes manageable surprisingly quickly, fading behind the well told story. The odd style is the only blemish in an otherwise successful book.

"Invisible Monsters" contains the minimum intelligence to be called clever and more than enough action to be called entertaining.

Bajram Severdzan stars in "Black Cat, White Cat," a dark comedy about gypsies in Slovenia.

"It’s pretty challenging. You got a big role from being in front of people, and it’s a lot more fun to actually get the audience instead of just rehearsing it," Kusturica said.

Kovac said the key to jazz is an understanding of her fellow musician.

"You have to predict what the other players are going to do, you have to give," he said.

The University Jazz bands are two big bands comprised of students who audition and enroll in the course, performing concerts quarterly.

The Fall Jazz Concert will feature two of those big bands and two smaller combos, which will perform separately. One combo will radically rearrange the jazz classic "Body and Soul" while the other will do the "Black and White.

Local band JJV Ensemble will add a contemporary element to the concert with its jazz-funk fusion sound. The group is directly linked to Cal Poly, as both saxophonist Larry Kim and vocalist Kristian Ducharme are alumni of the University Jazz ensembles.

Fall Jazz Concert starts at 8 p.m. in the Cal Poly Theater. Tickets may be purchased through the Performing Arts Center or by calling SLO-ARTS.
Jivendirect grooves on latest release, 'Grip'

By Matt Sterling

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Self-described funk infused pop band, Jivendirect, release their second album "Grip" with a release party tonight at the Forum on Marsh Street.

The best band in the Mustang Daily reader's poll last year was formed in 1996 by lead vocalist and guitarist Damon Castillo. The band's debut album, "Then When," was released in 1998.

"We'll be giving the people that come something we don't give normal crowds," bassist Matt Taylor said. "There will be some special things at the show.

The six members of the band are Castillo, pianist Kristin Ducharme, drummer Jennings Jacobsen, saxophonist Larry Kim, trombonist Jim Richards and bassist Taylor.

Three of the band members are from Cal Poly. Ducharme is a computer engineering senior, and Kim is a business senior while Richards is a computer science senior and Jacobsen is a physics student.

The band performs all over the county, including a show at Cal Poly for Sprintfest last year, and often play at local venues Mother's Tavern and SLO Brew.

"We love to play for everyone," Jacobsen said. "Unfortunately, most of the places to play live (in SLO) are for ages 21 or over." Live shows give the band a chance to explore music, mixing things up a little bit, according to Kim.

"We've got a degree of interaction with the audience during our shows," Castillo said. "We capture the moment live, and we also don't want to sound exactly like our album."

The new album has over 45 minutes of music spread over 13 tracks. The music has gained a new dimension since the last album, as Richards was added to strengthen the horn section.

"They're one of the only bands I enjoy going to watch," landscape architecture senior Angela Buttery said. "The music has a lot of soul and is fun to dance and listen to."

When putting the songs together, Castillo brings in vocals and instrumentation, the other members write their own parts and then they mesh the parts together.

"It's hard sometimes because all of our visions for the songs aren't the same," Kim said. "But it adds to the diversity of our music because we all write our own parts."

In addition to the release party, Jivendirect will be playing a concert on Saturday night at 8 p.m. in the Cal Poly Theatre. Unlike their normal shows, the band will share the stage with the University Jazz Bands, playing jazz standards and original material with members of the jazz bands.

"It will be different for us to play more jazz," Jacobsen said. "It will be a good chance for people to see us who have never seen us before."

The CD release party begins tonight at 8:30 p.m. The show is open to all ages, and tickets are $6 at the door.

The performance is a lesson in nonverbal storytelling, in which man's relationship with the earth is explored through "high-concept imagery and movement and a richly textured soundscape," according to the Cal Poly Arts web-site.

"Promised Land" is the work of Les Deux Mondes, a theater company based in Montreal, Canada. Daniel Meilleur, France Mercille and Monique Rioux founded the company, known as Le Theatre de la Marmaine, in 1973.

According to a company press release, Les Deux Mondes has created 20 productions since its inception, including Pleurer Pour Rire (1980), El Misk (1982) and Leitmotiv (1996). "Promised Land" was developed in 1989 as a result of collaboration between Les Deux Mondes and Teatro dell'Angolo, an Italian theater company.

Hoskins called "Promised Land" ambitious in its attempt to "recount history of human culture in a light-hearted, nonacademic way."

"The performance is no walk in the park," Hoskins said. "They're taking on big themes."

These themes emerge during the performance's journey through history, as it follows the evolution of mankind from ancient to modern times.

According to the theater company, the action revolves around a stone that serves as the only constant in an ever-changing society. As the land— and the lives dependent on it— transform, the stone serves as a witness to the advances of civilization and the growth of culture.

As is the case with "Promised Land," many of Les Deux Mondes' productions encompass themes weaving in their nature, themes with both wide scope and wide appeal. "The world— its languages, cultures and peoples— is a global village that Les Deux Mondes loves to reveal," the press release read.

The broadly based theme of "Promised Land" is aimed at an equally broad audience, the press release stated. "Promised Land" shows that "one production is capable of uniting children and adults, sharing the same emotion and culture," it said.

The universality of the theme, as well as the nonexistent language barriers, make the production marketable throughout North America. Hoskins said. In fact, "Promised Land" has appeared more than 600 times on stages all over the world in cities as diverse as Amsterdam, Pittsburgh, Rome and Seoul. In comparison, the stage in Cal

see PROMISED, page 8
Numbskull brings punk tour, The Aquabats concert

PROMISED continued from page 7

Polly Theatre may seem an odd choice for such a production, but Robb has a simple reason for bringing "Promised Land" to the campus. "I thought it because I thought it was one of the best pieces of theater I've ever seen," Robb said. That plays like

"Promised Land" add spice to the mixture of classic dramas and musicals that appear more often on the campus stage. "We like to put avant-grade theater on, because artistic diversity is a priority for the series," he said. In addition to the nontraditional nature of "Promised Land," the fact that it is a new work sets it apart from many other theater productions.

"It's not a reinterpretation," Robb pointed out, "It's an original piece."

The critically praised production has been a part of numerous art and theater festivals worldwide, and also has won several awards, including one for best visual and sound design from the Festival de Theatre des Amériques in 1989.

"Promised Land" starts at 8 p.m. in Polly Theatre. Tickets are still available, and Cal Poly students can get a seat in the center of the house for $14. Robb said.

--Vivian Fain

SLO Bar Guide

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The Shack

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Celebrities seeking political office is not a new idea. A tap-dancing, curly-haired child star in the 1950s, Shirley Temple-Black became a U.S. ambassador in the 1960s. Sammy Davis went from singing pop tunes in a world of profit-making happiness to becoming a mayor and then a congressman. And then there's Ronald Reagan. Reagan went from being cast in a starring role beside a chimpanzee to becoming president of the United States.

But how does one become a candidate for political office? For Ronald Reagan, it could be a simple case of boredom. He've been the biggest developer in New York City, and now New York City is the hottest city in the world, according to a Newsweek article that ran Oct. 11. Trump is ready for a new challenge, and he certainly can afford a campaign. We've already had major sex scandals in the White House—why not a candidate?

And Warren Beatty could get a chance to play the role of a lifetime: U.S. president. He could have Dustin Hoffman as his running mate, playing the role of vice president.

What is the attraction of politics? For Donald Trump, it could be a simple realization that he has no hitcher than a high school education. His relationship to the White House is more like that of an entertainer than that of a policy-maker. It's certainly not a role he's ever played before.

A tap-dancing, curly-haired child star in the 1950s, Shirley Temple-Black became a U.S. ambassador in the 1960s. She's been the biggest developer in New York City, and now New York City is the hottest city in the world, according to a Newsweek article that ran Oct. 11. Trump is ready for a new challenge, and he certainly can afford a campaign. We've already had major sex scandals in the White House—why not a candidate?

And Warren Beatty could get a chance to play the role of a lifetime: U.S. president. He could have Dustin Hoffman as his running mate, playing the role of vice president. And Cybill Shepherd could use the campaign slogan "Because I'm worth it" and select her campaign adviser, the Virginian. Seeking political office is not an altruistic endeavor. Instead, the field of politics is corrupted by self-serving individuals. Candidates always have an underlying reason for seeking office. Even those politicians who seem to have the people's interests in mind will not touch issues that could cost them votes, regardless of whom those votes are usually for. The political arena today is more like high school politics. The most popular people run for the best parts, and the poorest people are the ones left with the least amount of choices. And then there's Ronald Reagan. Reagan went from being cast in a starring role beside a chimpanzee to becoming president of the United States. But how does one become a candidate for political office? For Ronald Reagan, it could be a simple case of boredom. He's been the biggest developer in New York City, and now New York City is the hottest city in the world, according to a Newsweek article that ran Oct. 11.

Low state jobless rate is deceiving

"Unfortunately this unemployment report doesn't amount to much for college part-time job hunters."

The California government released a report on Oct. 15 precluding statewide unemployment is the lowest since 1969. In that case, the economy was centered on defense spending with the government creating jobs to add bulk to our nuclear armed forces, making sure the U.S. had the lowest missile silos. However, during peacetime, this is the lowest unemployment rate of the year. So it seems California and its 33 million inhabitants are enjoying the best peacetime job market in 53 years, and most who want jobs can find a way to tighten a time clock.

Does this translate into a field day for Cal Poly students looking for a job? Yes, the most obvious side of September, adding employees to schools. Students don't figure into the unemployment statistics for California. This doesn't mean college students here who are job hunting are having more success. Most students who are part-time job hunting can tell you finding a job in the town is like finding your grandma's teeth, far and few between. Increased enrollment makes good jobs harder to come by. If anything, the state jobless rate is deceiving.
Jets, Parcells deny claims of neglect

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. (AP) — Bill Parcells insisted on Wednesday, the New York Jets have not abandoned Kevin Williams, the defensive back who is in a respirator with a mysterious throat and lung infection.

Parcells took exception to the portrayal of the team's conduct by Jerome Stanley, Williams' agent. Stanley contends the Jets have not shown enough concern for Williams, who is in intensive care at Lenox Hill Hospital.

Stanley said the team put Williams on the reserve non-football injury list so it wouldn't have to pay his client for the rest of the season.

"We've never had a preceint filed here in three years," Parcells said.

"That's because we try to do what we think is everyone's best interest all the time, and I would charge you to tell many other teams that can make that statement.

"Kevin had carried about 50 of his salary. We elected to put him half of the remaining amount he was due. But in doing so, I made another move that was in fact vacly economically more beneficial to the player.

"Williams will get approximately $135,000 from his $250,000 base salary.

"We had the option of not paying anything," Parcells said. "But in deciding not to pay him on non-football injury list prior to the sixth game, I assumed him a credited, accrued season toward free agency.

"I thought that was in the player's best interest. Some people say that wasn't. Ask the people who are talking about these things if they'd prefer it the other way.

"The 24-year-old Williams is in his second season with the Jets. He is a backup safety and kick returner who appeared in four games this season.

Then he contracted the illness that originally was diagnosed as strep throat. He has had three surgical procedures to clear fluid from his throat and around his lungs. Parcells said doctors were "cautiously optimistic.

"There is not a job or business in America that would treat a family as generously as they do," Stanley said Tuesday.

"Nothing offered the family any communication or anything.

"Parcells said he was simply following instructions from the team's medical staff in not contacting Williams while he is in the hospital.

"I told my coaching staff not to bother him, that this was a very fluid and changing thing," he said. "There's nothing we could do, the player was not going to be communicative. It was probably in the player's best interest to not let the medical team deal with it."

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JOSTENS
All That's Best
Webber enjoying his stay in Sacramento

CHICAGO (AP) — Chris Webber thought about leaving even before he got to Sacramento last season.

It was after his first season with the Kings that he thought of the Chicago Bulls. "That's the closest point I think I've ever been," he said, "and not just because of being in Sacramento. It was the culmination of things that had happened to me in that year, and Sacramento was the final chapter." Then a funny thing happened. Webber started enjoying himself.

Led by Webber and Jason Williams, a flashy point guard with a sports passion of his own, the Kings were the surprise of the NBA, finishing with a 27-23 record and making the playoffs. Webber had a coach who trusted him and didn't care about his previous problems. And with fans showering him with love, Sacramento turned out to be a wonderful place.

"I didn't know it was going to be a new beginning," said Webber, who led the Kings in rebounding last season and was a second-team All-NBA. "I thought it was going to be the continuation of things being bad. I'm glad it turned around and things are good.

"It's not just that I love living in Sacramento. It's more so that on the court, they make it easy to go to work every day. It's almost like I'm not even working. It's more like some hard work every day. The fans supported the team when the team wasn't good at all, so it's easy for them to support a team that's halfway good.

"It's fun being in that situation and being with young guys and young talent." There's never been any question that Webber, a former No. 1 pick, can play. He's averaged 25-plus points or better every year except his rookie season, when he averaged 17.5, averaging 15 rebounds per game. Kings coach Rick Adelman calls him one of the best passing big men in the game.

But he had a career's worth of off-the-court troubles in his first six seasons. He's on his third team — fourth if you count the Orlando Magic, which tracked him to the Golden State Warriors on draft day. His last season with the Washington Wizards was marred by marijuana offenses, traffic violations and accusations of sexual misconduct.

When he was traded to Sacramento, he was on unsteady ground and he might not be able to play. "We heard throughout the off-season how he may not want to be in Sacramento, but after seeing the pieces of the puzzle they were putting together, I knew with the success we'd have that he'd change his mind," Kings forward Corliss Williamson said.

"No matter how bad things get off the court, basketball has always been Webber's passion. "The basketball part is the only thing that keeps me here," he said. "The program was pressuring him. It's made me play better, kept me going, and right while all of the distractions are going on."
A day at the ballpark beats basketball outings

The smell of the grass. The crack of the bat. The feel of a warm hot dog.

If you’ve ever been to a major league baseball game, you know what I’m talking about. There’s something about walking up to a stadium and seeing the field for the first time. Watching your favorite players sprint across the diamond to their positions and experiencing the rush of the crowd as they stand next to you and cheer the home team on.

As a kid, I went with my dad to see the Oakland A’s play. That’s when the Bush Brothers were still in town. Joe Canseco traded slams with Mark McGuire while Dave Stewart shut out the opposing team. My dad bought me my first hot dog there, singing the national anthem with me and later stood for the seventh-inning stretch. And even though we never caught a foul ball since we sat way up in the upper deck, we still brought our gloves.

In the past few years, baseball has become a lot more appealing to the fans. Even before the strike of 1994, people complained about the length of games and lack of action during them. This decade has seen professional football and basketball become the nation’s favorite spectator sports, with the Super Bowl and NBA Finals scoring higher ratings than the World Series. Baseball, once proclaimed the national pastime, has become boring. But in my opinion, a day at the ballpark beats a baseball game.

I went back to Oakland’s coliseum this summer for the first time since I was 12. This time, I didn’t sit on the home side since I was there to cheer the visiting Red Sox. I even got to meet Brian Daubach, Boston’s first baseman. My dad wasn’t there to buy me a hot dog, but I did go with my friend Jeff, who bought me beer. It wasn’t exactly how I remembered it, especially when I realized that instead of Oakland-Amland County Coliseum, they’d renamed the place after their sponsor, Network Associates. I don’t think I’ll ever get used to calling it “The Net.”

But once I settled into my seat and the game began, it all came back to me. A baseball game is a tradition that’s been around for a long time, and it’s still a whole lot of fun, too. Even though I don’t root for the home team anymore, you can take me out to a ball game anytime. Chris Arns is a Boston Red Sox fan. Please e-mail your condolences to carns@polymail.calpoly.edu.

Sports Trivia

Yesterday’s Answer:
Magic Johnson played center when he scored 42 points in the clinching game of the 1980 Finals.

Congrats Raymond Lee!

Today’s Question:
Ricky Watters played football for which college powerhouse?

Please submit sports trivia answers to sports@mustangdaily.calpoly.edu. Please include your name. The first correct answer received via e-mail will be printed in the next issue of the paper.

Briefs

Mustang Daily Staff Report

The Cal Poly women’s volleyball team is only midway through the Big West Conference schedule and it sits in third place, with a No. 13 ranking by Volleyball magazine. But a postseason berth is the goal of the team, and with eight league games remaining, anything can happen.

The Mustangs plus Friday and Saturday at Mott Gym at 7 p.m. against Utah State and Nevada respectively.

Cal Poly went 6-2 over their first eight league games, dropping matches to No. 3 Pacific and No. 6 CSU Long Beach State.

The Mustangs did win one of the more important games they played this year, beating UC Santa Barbara 3-2 on Oct. 7. The game marked the first time the Mustangs beat the Gauchos since 1989.

The Mustangs are led by senior Kari DeSoto, last season’s All-Big West First Team selection. DeSoto has already been named Big West Player of the Week earlier this season, along with junior Melanie Hathaway. Hathaway was a second team All-Big West selection last season.

The team is also very young with twins Kristen and Carly O’Halloran standing out among the seven freshmen on the team.

Volleyball meets Utah State Friday

FRIDAY

• Women’s volleyball vs. Utah State
  • in Mott Gym
  • 7 p.m.

• Men’s soccer vs. Air Force
  • in Mustang Stadium
  • 7 p.m.

• Women’s soccer vs. Long Beach State
  • at Long Beach
  • 3 p.m.

SATURDAY

• Football vs. UC Davis
  • at Davis
  • 1:30 p.m.

Sports

Mustang Daily

‘Team of Decade’ debate heads to World Series

ATLANTA (AP) — There it is, engraved right on the ring. Atlanta Braves general manager John Schuerholz proudly wears “Team of the 90s.”

Taken, the Braves already own that title. No debate needed on the team of the decade, even if the New York Yankees take home this World Series trophy.

“If you choose any criteria except one narrow criteria — World Series championships — we lead it,” he said. Of course, that’s not such a narrow category. Not to the Yankees.

“Isn’t it the team of championships, that’s the goal.”

For Atlanta, it’s an opportunity to win that elusive second World Series title. The Braves beat Cleveland in 1995 — prompting them to put that boat on their rings — but have nothing else to show for eight straight trips to the NL Championship Series.

For the Yankees, it’s a chance to win their record 26th title and third in four years. That recent run began when they beat Atlanta in six games in 1996.

“We’ve got another shot at them,” Atlanta third baseman Chipper Jones said.

The Braves earned their fifth trip to the World Series in the 1990s by beating the New York Mets 10-4 in 11 innings Tuesday night in Game 6 of the NLCS. The Yankees beat Boston in five games in the ALCS.

“We’ve not mother shot it at them,” Turner Field.

All games on NBC, Ch. 4

Game 1: Saturday, 5 p.m.

Game 2: Sunday, 5 p.m.

Game 3: Tuesday, 5:15 p.m.

Game 4: Wednesday, 5:15 p.m.

Game 5: Oct. 28, 5:15 p.m.

Game 6: Oct. 30, 5 p.m.

Game 7: Oct. 31, 5 p.m.

The Braves’ madam, third manager in the Rockies’ seven-year history, succeeding Jim Leyland, who retired after this season. It’s a player’s manager who will do whatever it takes to win.

O’ Dowd also promised that Bell will be surrounded with talent “to make the team better.”

Bell, who worked for the Cincinnati Reds for the past year, most recently as director of player development, signed a three-year contract believed to be worth about $2.25 million.

The Cal Poly women’s volleyball team is only midway through the Big West Conference schedule and it sits in third place, with a No. 13 ranking by Volleyball magazine. But a postseason berth is the goal of the team, and with eight league games remaining, anything can happen.

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