IME students renovate house

Anastasia Killham
MUSTANG DAILY

Television depicts Americans who are obsessed with improvement. They love to renovate. Wardrobes, personal appearances and home decor are all fair game for radical alteration. This quarter two local senior citizens benefited from the renovation skills of a group of Cal Poly students enrolled in Industrial and manufacturing engineering 556, technological project management.

They did not install superfluous fountains or decorative walkways. Instead, they focused on improving accessibility for the senior citizens who lack the financial and physical resources needed to make the improvements themselves, said course instructor Roja Javadpour.

After a careful selection process, Javadpour chose two individuals who owned their own home and were open to the idea of allowing a group of students to enter and assess their home, all with the knowledge that if donated contributions did not come through, no promises were made, she said.

The 24 students renovated the couples’ home after a quarter of extensive planning. The actual construction phase happened between Friday and Sunday.

The success of the project depended on community donations. Javadpour composed a letter explaining to local businesses the opportunity to make tax-deductible contributions to a project providing good learning experiences and a meaningful cause.

The couple has been dealing with the challenges of disability for many years, according to Javadpour’s written appeal for donations. The man uses a wheelchair as a result of a number of past injuries. Budget restrictions have forced the couple to make do in non-wheelchair accessible surroundings, Javadpour said.

The class completed planning and see Renovation, page 2

Students repaint ‘P’ after vandalism

Members of gays, lesbians, bisexual United and the Pride Alliance repainted the “P” Friday after the symbol was vandalized earlier in the week.

Co-director of GLBU and city and regional planning junior Dustin Robinson said he was pleased by the turnout of volunteers. About 18 people ventured up the hill, toting eight gallons of paint donated by Pacific Home Do-It Center.

Robinson said the incident is more troubling than the past because the rainbow “P” continues to be a target of vandalism.

“We are going to keep painting that rainbow every year, we’re not going to stop because of it,” he said.

Comedian Dave Chapelle drew a crowd of thousands Monday for his show. People waited anxiously outside the Rec Center until the doors opened at 7 p.m.

Brian Kent MUSTANG DAILY

The Surfrider Foundation is throwing its Benefits of Music Concert tonight. Local bands The Expendables, Resination, Joose and Siko are playing at SLO Brewing Co., 1119 Garden St., to implement Surfrider’s Respect the Beach program.

“We’re pretty stoked about it, all the bands playing are pretty cool and we’re happy to be playing with good bands,” Siko drummer Wyatt Lund said. “SLO Brew is a pretty fun place to play, and it’s for a good cause, so yeah, we’re stoked.”

Liza Sullivan MUSTANG DAILY

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Journalism seniors Kendra Hodges and Luke Darling planned the event as their senior project with help from journalism junior Tarrah Graves and Devins Kingdon and recreation administration senior Lisa Levinson. The group is confident that sizable funds will flow in from the ticket sales and raffle that will help bring Respect the Beach to San Luis Obispo schools.

Surfrider’s program is already in coastal community schools, Levinson said.

“Our goal is to raise $5,000,” the amount needed to get Respect the Beach to San Luis Obispo schools, Levinson said.

Concert to benefit Surfrider Foundation

Brian Kent MUSTANG DAILY

The ‘P’ was painted in rainbow colors as part of GLBTNITY Pride Week, but it was vandalized Wednesday night or early Thursday morning.

Brian Kent MUSTANG DAILY

Perpetrators painted white over the symbolic rainbow; UPD is investigating the crime

Brian Koser
MUSTANG DAILY

Brian Koser
MUSTANG DAILY

University Police Department Cmdr. Bill Walton said the department received the vandalism report at 10 a.m. Thursday. The crime is believed to have occurred late Wednesday night or early Thursday morning, and currently there are no suspects.

Coordinator for gender and sexuality programs for Student Life and Leadership Maya Andlig filed a complaint about the incident. Andlig said she monitors the “F” on a daily basis “out of habit,” and noticed the prank the previous day.

“We are going to keep painting that rainbow every year, we’re not going to stop because of it,” he said.

‘Shrek 2’ reaches beyond kids

Pop-culture references make movie enjoyable

IN ARTS & CULTURE, page 4

Fighting with his whole heart

Student competes in first pro kickboxing match

IN SPORTS, page 8

Weather Report

Tuesday, May 25, 2004

SUNRISE 5:52 A.M.
SUNSET 8:07 P.M.

High 4.8 at 5:44 p.m.
Low -0.4 at 9:43 a.m.

Tides

High 4.8 at 5:44 p.m.
Low -0.4 at 9:43 a.m.

Partly Cloudy 65°
Partly Cloudy 68°
Renovation

continued from page 1

obtained all the necessary supplies before the end-of-May deadline. They performed a feasibility assessment to judge what renovations could realistically be completed, she said.

"It’s not just project management skills that the students learn. They also give back to the community," Javadpour said.

It allows for an opportunity to learn and apply critical thinking, leadership and communication skills, she said.

"I have all the faith in the students and I am hoping that the community will respond," she said.

Kyle Barrackman is one of two undergraduate students enrolled in the course. He said he is especially excited to participate in the project because it is going to have a very useful and tangible outcome. "We are starting with as large a goal as we possibly can," he said.

The class meets two times a week for two hours each time and devotes about 45 minutes each session for project planning. They divided up the tasks according to each student’s specialties, he said.

The students had a positive response to their requests from local businesses for donations, he said. He and Javadpour said they hope the project is successful so that it can be repeated in future years.

"This experience is among the most realistic (the students) are going to have at Cal Poly," Javadpour said.

This project is especially beneficial because "You get a personal satisfaction from helping somebody else," she said.

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Examples of Equivalent Courses

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For a complete list of Cal Poly/Hancock equivalent courses offered this summer, go to www.hancockcollege.edu and click on "Cal Poly Students"

Register May 3-June 11 online at www.hancockcollege.edu and click on "WebReg"

Classes begin June 21

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Ji Jun  

With a wonderfully animated cast of characters, "Shrek 2" comes through with humor, personality and, once again, that moral tale of inner beauty versus outer beauty.

Picking up where we left off from the first "Shrek" film, Prince Charming travels through desolate deserts and freezing snow-covered plains, only to find Fiona's tower now inhabited by the "gender challenged" Big Bad Wolf. When Charming finds out Fiona is married, the movie finds newlywed ogres Shrek (Mike Myers) and Princess Fiona (Cameron Diaz) honeymooning at a gingerbread house and throwing a mermaid off a beach.

The honeymoon sequence, rife with parodies and fairytale guest-stars, imitates "Spiderman"'s infamous kiss scene and "The Little Mermaid" without pulling its punches thanks in part to its producer's influence.

Producer Jeffrey Katzenberg, who puts the "K" in DreamWorks SKG and worked for Disney until he resigned in a bitter dispute, has found the perfect outlet for parodies and fairytale guest-stars walk down the red carpet held in honor of Fiona and Shrek's marriage, mirrors the Hollywood image of today's reality shows and glamour lost. As famous fairytale characters walk down the red carpet like the pre-show of an awards ceremony, it stands out among the film's social critiques of superficial celebrities.

In the end, true love wins again and each character is revealed for who they really are. As attitudes change and characters are accepted for who they are inside, the movie ends with another sing-along celebration — Ricky Martin's "Livin' La Vida Loca" — that provokes an ironic allusion to an "American Idol" reject that's more popular now than any other "American Idol" success has ever been. That's what the "Shrek" franchise seems to be all about: pop culture satires at their finest.
**In Theaters**

‘Shrek 2’ sets animated film box office record

Anthony Breznican

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — It’s a humorous “happily ever after” for “Shrek 2.”

The computer-animated fairy tale was the second-biggest three-day tally in movie history.

Many of “Shrek 2”s tickets were discounted for children and matinee audiences, otherwise the cartoon would have made “Spider-Man’s” $114.8 million opening weekend look tiny-bitty.

Studio do not track total ticket sales, however, only dollars earned. The first “Shrek,” which came out in 2001, earned $42.3 million in its first weekend — but went on to collect $267.6 million and win the first Oscar for animated feature film.

For the sequel, the grumpy green ogre collected $28.4 million on Friday and then jumped a remarkable 58 percent on Saturday to earn $44.8 million, said Jim Tharp, head of distribution for DreamWorks.

Saturday’s earnings broke Hollywood’s overall record for highest one-day earnings, also held by “Spider-Man” with $43.6 million. DreamWorks estimated the movie would earn an additional $31 million on Sunday — but even real studios suggested the take would be higher than that.

Tharp said his figure was a conservative estimate that could change when final figures are released Monday.

“It certainly has the ability to do more,” he said.

Last week’s No. 1 movie, the Brad Pitt epic “Troy,” fell to second place in its second weekend, earning $23.8 million for a total of $85.8 million. The movie cost a reported $200 million to make.

Meanwhile, third place “Van Helsing” crossed the $100 million mark with weekend earnings of $90.1 million, and “Mean Girls” ranked fourth with $6.9 million.

“Shrek 2” was cutting into everybody else’s audience,” said Paul Dergerabedian, president of box-office tracker Exhibitor Relations Co.

In the sequel, the title ogre (voiced by Mike Myers), his bride Fiona (Cameron Diaz) and their pal Donkey (Eddie Murphy) go to visit Fiona’s royal parents in the kingdom of Far, Far Away.

Critics loved the movie, which appealed to young kids with colorful characters, teenagers with comedy, couples with romance and older audiences with a subplot about parents accepting the decisions of their grown-up children.

About 60 percent of the audience was comprised of parents and their children, Tharp said. The other 40 percent were teenagers and adults on their own.

Studio exits polling found that 70 percent of respondents wanted to see the movie again, which bodes well for the movie’s future in the competitive summer blockbuster season.

“Shrek 2” also obliterated other records.

It topped “Finding Nemo’s” $70.2 million as the biggest opening weekend for an animated film and along with “Spider-Man” is the second film in history to cross $100 million in its first weekend.

It screened in the largest number of opening theaters ever — 4,163 locations.

“Shrek 2” opened Wednesday with $11.8 million, strong for midweek.

Counting the weekend, the movie has a cumulative total of $125.3 million.

That’s also the biggest five-day opening for a film, edging “The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King” which grossed $124.1 million.
Farewell: Polytics reminisces

Commentary

So long, jerk, and does he really believe all those things he writes — or is it just an act for the paper? Well, I believe in about 99.5 percent of everything I used.

The No. 1 favorite comment made to my face: This one happened about 2 weeks ago I was at the Laguna Lake dog park talking to a Cal Poly woman who was walking her dogs. We were talking about how much parking sucked on campus, and I told her it isn’t an issue because I rode a motorcycle to school. She said she preferred the ride to the avoidance of the parking fiasco. It also gave her a chance to read the Mustang Daily. I asked her what section she liked the best, and she said the opinion section.

When I told her I wrote the “Polytics” column, she didn’t expect it to be like when Clark Kent told Lois Lane he was Superman. However, I also didn’t expect to hear this: “You’re John Holbus? Was a minute, you can’t be John Holbus. That guy is funny and witty.” Oh! It took a lot of Crown Royal to repair the old ego.

My No. 1 favorite target: This shouldn’t be a shock to anyone who reads this column regularly, but the favorite target of my angst is libertarians. No, it’s the worthless, socialist, America-sucks-unless-there-are-Germans—around France. The one of the past two years of these — I am not embellishing to make this humorous; I really do disdain the French. As I before, I have written (including this one) 22 columns in the past two years, but I have proudly ripped on the French. 29 times. For my fellow political scientists, it’s a 1:3.18 to 1 French to bash to ratios. I was French bashing before French bashing was cool. If there is one thing I am proud of the most about this column, it wouldn’t be the fact that I had it published by PBS or other colleges through the U-Wire. It wouldn’t be that probably got me into law school despite my pitiful grades. It would be that my column has left France and that have the Jews feel all these years (30 times now).

Well that for me folks, hope you’ve enjoyed reading these columns over the past two years. I’d like to give special thanks to Keith Corcoran, Blake Cunningham, Matt Johnson, Kevin Lucas, Scott Nygaard and Craig Wallace for all your help. And to my raiders — just so you know, I won’t go out all emotional on you. I’ll go out the way I have written this column all along. To the people who take over the conservative side of “Polytics” next year — good luck, you’ve got big shoes and an even bigger ego to fill.

John Holbus is a political science senior and Mustang Daily columnist.

Bush’s stance on women’s health is hypocritical

Commentary

Who needs science when the Bush administration is in charge? First, it failed to provide accurate information about condom effectiveness from government health Web sites and posed a Web page with information linking abortion to breast cancer. Then, the president appointed several anti-abortion relatives to the Food and Drug Administration’s Reproductive Health Advisory Committee, including Dr. David Hager, who refuses to prescribe contraceptives to unmarried women and recommends prayer as an antidote to premenstrual syndrome.

The so-called “partial birth abortion” ban used a politically loaded, non-medical term to outlaw an often necessary and life-saving procedure. Public education lies to young people under the guise of protecting them and is backed by millions of government dollars.

The FDA is once again choosing conservative ideology over scientific truth.

In December, the FDA’s advisory committee overwhelmingly recommended that Plan B, a type of emergency contraception or “morning after pill” used when other birth control methods fail or are not used - - if, for example, a condom breaks or a woman is raped - - be sold over the counter. More than 70 public-health and medical organizations joined the panel’s recommendation.

Typically, the FDA follows the opinion of its own panel of experts. But the Bush administration managed to reject a large dose of conservatism in the decision-making process, and in early May, the FDA rejected the sale of Plan B without a prescription.

This is not the same as the earlier abortion option pill, known as RU-486, which terminates a pregnancy by slowing the lining of the uterus, unlike the morning after pill, which is like birth control pills, stops pregnancies from happening in the first place by preventing fertilization and implantation.

Plan B is not only remarkably safe and effective, but it also could prevent 800,000 abortions and 1.7 million pregnancies a year. The drug is simply a concentrated dose of the same hormones found in birth control pills. It can be taken up to five days after unprotected sex. The sooner it’s taken, the more effective it is, which is why the over-the-counter access is so important. By removing the necessity for a prescription, it can be obtained and taken as quickly as possible.

So why was it not approved for over-the-counter sale? Because, according to the FDA, there was not sufficient evidence that girls younger than 16 would be able to use it correctly, and Plan B’s manufacturer did not prove that people could read it if younger than 16 from accessing it. First, Plan B is not difficult to use: Take one pill, and take the next one 12 hours later. Girls within childbirth age, even those younger than 16, can read instructions, listen to a pharmacist and take two pills.

Second, do we really want to bar young women from preventing unwanted teen pregnancies? Third, and perhaps most obviously, the FDA has allowed numerous drugs to be sold without a prescription that are far more harmful if used incorrectly without evaluating their use by young people.

It is clear that this decision was made purely for political rather than scientific evidence.

Many conservative lawmakers greeted the pill with open arms, readily available will encourage teenage impregnancy, irresponsible sexual behavior and the use of the morning after pill as a primary birth control method. But emergency contraception is already available over the counter in a few states, including Washington, and no such issues have been raised. Studies have also shown that Plan B is not used as a primary method of birth control by any group of women, including young women.

Access to emergency contraception is one simple way to greatly reduce the number of unwanted pregnancies. It is also a part of comprehensive women’s health care. But for the past three and a half years, women’s health care has been comprehensively compromised because of anti-abortive policies. Politicians lament teen pregnancy, and then fund inaccurate education programs that do nothing to prevent it. Millions of women suffer painlessly for reproductive rights, and one politician calls that a failure for terrorists. Lawmakers demonize and limit access to abortion, then rally against a pill that could prevent hundreds of thousands of them annually. The hypocrisy is astounding.

John Holbus is a political science senior and Mustang Daily columnist.
Nicole Angeloni
MUSTANG DAILY

To his trainer, he's "Buckets of Blood" because he has a tendency to bleed wherever he gets hit in the nose, but to many people that work with him, John Polakowski is described as a tenacious fighter with an intense amount of heart.

The computer engineering junior recently competed live on Pay-Per-View in the Battle of Bellagio; it was his first professional kickboxing fight.

"I do want to get my degree ... I'm just not ready to work a 9-to-5 job at this point in my life." - JOHN POLAKOWSKI professional kickboxer

Wagner added a centimeter to the school record with her mark of 6 feet, 3 1/2 inches, while Day matched her personal best with a mark of 6-2 1/4.

Meanwhile, former Cal Poly All-American thrower Stephanie Hively earned Big West Rookie of the Year honors as well as being named to the All-Big West Track & Field team.

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NBA PLAYOFFS

Intensity high out West

Greg Beacham
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — Though he's a bit more choosy these days, Karl Malone never backs down from a confrontation. The NBA's highest-scoring power forward ever is too close to his first championship to get sidetracked by a little rough stuff.

So if the Minnesota Timberwolves intend to stick with their abrasive style of play in the Western Conference finals, Malone won't hesitate to run over another backup point guard.

"We can play that kind of game," Malone said Sunday after Minnesota's 89-71 victory that evened the series 1-1. "I have to match their intensity, and that's something I can do better than I did. I'll bring a different (game) to the rest of the series."

The teams combined for seven technical fouls in the final 8 1/2 minutes, and Malone was ejected for a flagrant foul when he ran over Darrick Martin as the guard attempted to set a midcourt pick. Though both teams shrugged off the confrontations, expect more of the same in Game 3 on Tuesday night.

"The higher the stakes, the quicker the chippiness comes," the coach said.

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