Cal Poly kicks off Black History Month

Christina Casci
Senior Staff Writer

Students filled Bishop's Lounge in the University Union on Thursday to kick off the Multicultural Center's Black History Month with the screening of the film "A Letter to the President".

The center planned six free events for the month to promote awareness. The first was so successful they planned a second showing at the last minute for Feb. 5 at 8 p.m., said Kendra Campbell, director of the Multicultural Center.

"A Letter To The President" is a documentary narrated by Snoop Dogg. It features rap artists speaking about their views on policies from the '90s and '00s.

"You'll learn something new," said Brettom Smith, student assistant in the Multicultural Center and civil engineering junior. "It's shocking the way they present it, but you have to sit back and take it for what it is. They aren't historians or scholars but they do have firsthand experiences with the policies of that time."

Noah "Sapapona" Hayes also performed Thursday night at Another Type of Groove: Spoken Word Poetry in the Performing Arts Center.

The next event will feature the reggae band Resination performing at UU Hour from 11 a.m. to noon Feb. 8 in the University Union Plaza. At 6:30 p.m. the same day, Bakari Kivanta, an author and expert on hip-hop, will speak at the Performing Arts Center, room 128. His presentation, "Dr. King's Legacy and the Hip-Hop Generation," is free and open to the public.

"The guy is really well known," see February, page 2

Brewin' up a storm

Federal review shows 37 California levees badly maintained

Samantha Young
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO — Thirty-seven levees from Chico to Santa Maria are at risk of failing because of poor maintenance — far more than in any other state, according to a list released Thursday by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

In its national inspection rated 122 levees as unacceptable and said they pose a safety risk to those who live behind them.

"We have to inform the public so they can take the responsibility for their safety," Maj. Gen. Don Riley, the Corps' director of civil works said in a conference call with reporters.

Communities near questionable levees were notified over the last few months that their levees had received an "unsatisfactory maintenance inspection rating."

The list was released in response to Freedom of Information Act requests filed by news organizations, including The Associated Press.

Deficient levees were found in 27 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

The deficient designation means a levee has one or more problems, including floodwalls that have moved, faulty culverts, animal burrows, erosion or trees growing on them.

Most of the California levees are privately owned and fixing them could cause problems for reclamation and levee districts that are already strapped for cash. Riley said the Corps lacks funding to help them. He suggested levee owners request help from state officials and congressional delegations. He could not say how much the repairs would cost.

"Our funding is for inspections. Maintenance is the responsibility of the owner," Riley said. "It will be a community's see Levees, page 2

Cal Poly clubs and Associated Students Inc. hosted CP Next: Generation Sustain Wednesday and Thursday to promote awareness for cultural diversity and environmental sustainability.

The two-day forum started on Wednesday with the SoulSpeak Poetry Collective, and included guest speaker Andrew Revkin, a New York Times science reporter.

A club fair and scientific panel were included in Thursday’s activities, ending with informational booths at Farmers’ Market that night.

ASI Chief of Staff and business senior Melissa Robbins was impressed with the forum's events and the turnout they received.

"It was awesome," Robbins said about the SoulSpeak Poetry Collective. "We had about 40 people there and four or five speakers."

The Cal Poly club Another Type of Groove performed poetry readings that they had written before but now were focusing on sustainability, race and diversity.

Robbins also mentioned the popularity of Revkin, who has done extensive research in the North Pole and has received numerous awards for his reporting and photojournalism. "He pulled in about 150 people," Robbins said, which included students as well as various community members.

Sarah Vernizzi, ASI student outreach coordinator and business junior, and Robbins both said that the students seemed pleased with the events during CP Next: Generation Sustain. "It's bringing students together by bringing in experts," Vernizzi said. "It's just a matter of getting the word out and see CP Next, page 2

Various Poly clubs gathered in the University Union on Thursday as part of CP Next: Generation Sustain, a two-day event hosted by ASI.

irsch Pugh
Senior Staff Writer

Cal Poly clubs and Associated Students Inc. hosted CP Next: Generation Sustain Wednesday and Thursday to promote awareness for cultural diversity and environmental sustainability.

The two-day forum started on Wednesday with the SoulSpeak Poetry Collective, and included guest speaker Andrew Revkin, a New York Times science reporter.

A club fair and scientific panel were included in Thursday’s activities, ending with informational booths at Farmers’ Market that night.

ASI Chief of Staff and business senior Melissa Robbins was impressed with the forum's events and the turnout they received.

"It was awesome," Robbins said about the SoulSpeak Poetry Collective. "We had about 40 people there and four or five speakers."

The Cal Poly club Another Type of Groove performed poetry readings that they had written before but now were focusing on sustainability, race and diversity.

Robbins also mentioned the popularity of Revkin, who has done extensive research in the North Pole and has received numerous awards for his reporting and photojournalism. "He pulled in about 150 people," Robbins said, which included students as well as various community members.

Sarah Vernizzi, ASI student outreach coordinator and business junior, and Robbins both said that the students seemed pleased with the events during CP Next: Generation Sustain. "It's bringing students together by bringing in experts," Vernizzi said. "It's just a matter of getting the word out and see CP Next, page 2

Various Poly clubs gathered in the University Union on Thursday as part of CP Next: Generation Sustain, a two-day event hosted by ASI.

irsch Pugh
Senior Staff Writer

Cal Poly clubs and Associated Students Inc. hosted CP Next: Generation Sustain Wednesday and Thursday to promote awareness for cultural diversity and environmental sustainability.

The two-day forum started on Wednesday with the SoulSpeak Poetry Collective, and included guest speaker Andrew Revkin, a New York Times science reporter.

A club fair and scientific panel were included in Thursday’s activities, ending with informational booths at Farmers’ Market that night.

ASI Chief of Staff and business senior Melissa Robbins was impressed with the forum's events and the turnout they received.

"It was awesome," Robbins said about the SoulSpeak Poetry Collective. "We had about 40 people there and four or five speakers."

The Cal Poly club Another Type of Groove performed poetry readings that they had written before but now were focusing on sustainability, race and diversity.

Robbins also mentioned the popularity of Revkin, who has done extensive research in the North Pole and has received numerous awards for his reporting and photojournalism. "He pulled in about 150 people," Robbins said, which included students as well as various community members.

Sarah Vernizzi, ASI student outreach coordinator and business junior, and Robbins both said that the students seemed pleased with the events during CP Next: Generation Sustain. "It's bringing students together by bringing in experts," Vernizzi said. "It's just a matter of getting the word out and see CP Next, page 2

Various Poly clubs gathered in the University Union on Thursday as part of CP Next: Generation Sustain, a two-day event hosted by ASI.

irsch Pugh
Senior Staff Writer

Cal Poly clubs and Associated Students Inc. hosted CP Next: Generation Sustain Wednesday and Thursday to promote awareness for cultural diversity and environmental sustainability.

The two-day forum started on Wednesday with the SoulSpeak Poetry Collective, and included guest speaker Andrew Revkin, a New York Times science reporter.

A club fair and scientific panel were included in Thursday’s activities, ending with informational booths at Farmers’ Market that night.

ASI Chief of Staff and business senior Melissa Robbins was impressed with the forum's events and the turnout they received.

"It was awesome," Robbins said about the SoulSpeak Poetry Collective. "We had about 40 people there and four or five speakers."

The Cal Poly club Another Type of Groove performed poetry readings that they had written before but now were focusing on sustainability, race and diversity.

Robbins also mentioned the popularity of Revkin, who has done extensive research in the North Pole and has received numerous awards for his reporting and photojournalism. "He pulled in about 150 people," Robbins said, which included students as well as various community members.

Sarah Vernizzi, ASI student outreach coordinator and business junior, and Robbins both said that the students seemed pleased with the events during CP Next: Generation Sustain. "It's bringing students together by bringing in experts," Vernizzi said. "It's just a matter of getting the word out and see CP Next, page 2

Various Poly clubs gathered in the University Union on Thursday as part of CP Next: Generation Sustain, a two-day event hosted by ASI.
February
continued from page 1
Smith said. "He has been published in the Los Angeles Times and The Washington Post. We are going to have a discussion after his talk."

There will also be a screening of the documentary, "Sierra Leone's Refugee All-Stars" at 5:30 p.m. on Feb. 21 in the UU, room 220.

"The film is about a group of musicians while they are living as refugees in the Republic of Guinea," Smith said. "After the movie, Abdul Sesay, a (Cal) Poly student, will talk about his personal experiences in Sierra Leone."

February
A "Hip-Hop Art Showcase" will conclude the month of events from 5:30 to 8 p.m. on Feb. 22 in the UU Plaza.

There will be two panels in the UU and professional graffiti artists will perform live art. We will have a booth with information about the history of graffiti," Smith said. "We want to shed a positive light on it because there is definitely a negative association. It really is an art form."

CP Next
continued from page 1
building the name of CP Next."

The six-person planning team sent information through e-mails to the deans of all the colleges, and asked them to pass along the news to different departments. After learning what publicity tactics worked last quarter with the CP Next: Generation Vote campaign, this quarter the group worked with the University Union to reach students around campus to get the word out.

"We picked out the issues that are most pressing today, like cultural awareness and environmental issues," Vernizzi said, which is why the team decided to reach out to environmental and culture-based clubs that were passionate about sustainability concerns.

The rest of the events showcased a strategic energy panel that focused on renewable energy solutions. Panelists included John Shoals, Grover Beach mayor pro tem, Ken Smokoska, vice chair for the Sierra Club California, and David Garth, president and CEO for the San Luis Obispo Chamber of Commerce.

CP Next: Generation Sustain ended its activities with booths downtown on Garden Street during Farmers' Market to share information with the community.

Although the forum only lasted two days, Vernizzi and Robbins said they hope to see the CP Next campaign continue next quarter with CP Next: Generation Tech. The tech forum will deal with engineering concepts and the importance of technology today.

"It was a program started last year by (former ASI President) Tylor Middletstadt and was solely based on sustainability and cultural issues," Robbins said. "CP Next: Generation Vote happened last quarter to educate students on political issues and then next quarter we'll have Generation Tech, focusing on engineering and the tech age."

Robbins said that Generation Tech will be the same type of event, being held on a Wednesday and Thursday in April and will hopefully include speakers on campus from different companies.

"Really it's just a way for students to interact with each other in their areas of interest," she said.

With the positive feedback that ASI has received from the events during CP Next: Generation Sustain, the group hopes to see the forum return not only in the spring, but also in years to come.

"I guess it depends on how the spring events go," Vernizzi said. "We'll probably focus on different themes all the time, whatever is current, but we definitely want to continue."

Leaves with low ratings
An Army Corps of Engineers report found that 122 levees in the United States are at risk of failing.

Leaves
continued from page 1
responsibility to seek the proper funding source for any help they need."

In California, the failing levees identified in the report make up just a small part of the levee system. Another 10,000 miles of levees are not included in the federal program, so they were not subjected to the inspections included in the report. That means more levees could be at risk for failure elsewhere in the state, Riley said.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger last February declared a state of emergency for the state's levee system, listing 33 places in six Central Valley counties as critical erosion sites. The state's list is separate from the Corps.

A spokesman for Schwarzenegger did not immediately respond to a request for comment Thursday from The Associated Press.

The Corps will hand over its list of deficient levees to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, which draws flood maps that assess communities' flood risk. In urban areas with less than 100-year flood protection, homeowners with federally backed mortgages are required to purchase flood insurance.

Riley said levee owners have 12 months to bring the levees up to standard or they will be ineligible for future federal assistance if the levees should fail.
State

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Mayor Gavin Newsom apologized Thursday for having a sexual relationship with his former campaign manager's wife.

"I'm deeply sorry," Newsom said during a brief news conference at City Hall the day after the aide resigned. Newsom appeared poised but visibly emotional. He spoke for about a minute and left without taking questions.

Alex Tourk, 39, resigned Wednesday after confronting his boss about his relationship with his wife, Ruby Rippey-Tourk, 34, who once worked as the mayor's appointment secretary.

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — California Attorney General Jerry Brown said Thursday he will pursue a lawsuit against the six largest U.S. and Japanese automakers in which the state will seek to dismiss the suit filed by Brown's predecessor. Bill Lockyer, who is now California's treasurer. On Thursday, Brown's office filed its response.

National

WASHINGTON (AP) — The top U.S. commander in Iraq told a Senate panel Thursday that improving security in Baghdad would take fewer than half as many extra troops as President Bush has chosen to commit.

Testifying before the Senate Armed Services Committee on his nomination to be Army chief of staff, Gen. George Casey said on Thursday he had asked for two additional Army brigades, based on recommendations of his subordinate commanders. Bush announced Jan. 10 that he would send five extra brigades as part of a buildup that would total 21,500 soldiers and Marines.

WASHINGTON (AP) — People once again spent everything they made and then some last year, pushing the personal savings rate to the lowest level since the Great Depression more than seven decades ago.

The Commerce Department reported Thursday that the savings rate for all of 2006 was a negative 1 percent, meaning that not only did people spend all the money they earned but they also dipped into savings or increased borrowing to finance purchases.

International

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad launched anniver­sary celebrations Thursday for Iran's Islamic Revolution with a defiant promise to push ahead with the country's controversial nuclear program.

Ahmadinejad suggested Tehran would announce next week that it is beginning to install a new assembly of 3,000 centrifuges in an underground portion of its uranium enrichment facility at Natanz that the U.S. has warned could bring further sanctions against the country.

Gaza City, Gaza Strip (AP) — Gunfires erupted across the Gaza Strip Thursday, killing at least six people after Hamas militants hijacked a con­voy delivering supplies to the rival Fatah-aligned security forces, effectively destroying a short-lived truce.

An Egyptian mediator blamed Hamas and called for calm three days after he per­suaded the warring factions to end weeks of clashes that killed dozens.

AWESOME SUMMER JOB! CAMP WAYNE FOR GIRLS
- Northeast Pennsylvania (6/16-8/12/07) If you love children and want a caring, fun environment we need Counselors and instructors for our summer camp. We will be on the Cal Poly campus February 25th to conduct interviews. Call 1-215-944-3069 or apply at www.campwaynegirls.com

Select The Camp That Selects The Best Staff!

CAL POLY ARTS

$5 TICKETS FOR GREAT SHOWS!

Available at the door only, based on availability

walp calpolyarts.org

Every season, Cal Poly Arts designates several shows for a special $5 Student Rush rate on all seats still available 30 minutes prior to curtain. That means HUGE DISCOUNTS on shows you'll want to see! Hey—for $5, you can check out new shows you'll be glad you saw!

"A new bionic man made of metal and flesh with a hip-hop heart."

BILL SHANNON

Spatial Theory

Tuesday & Wednesday, February 6 & 7

8 p.m. — Coham Pavilion

Called "The Crutchmaster," dancer/performance artist BILL SHANNON creates a blood-pumping movement that seemingly defies gravity! Video and dub culture collide with a live DJ and Shannon's brassy, blazing New York Barrio alive again with their horn-heavy heat. Led by the renowned Oscar Hernandez, SHO proves that the heyday of Salsa still sizzles.

Spanish Harlem Orchestra

Sunday, February 11

7 p.m. — Coham Center

Hailed as one of the world's hottest Salsa big bands, SHO brings the brassy, blazzing New York Barrio alive again with their horn-heavy beat. Led by the renowned Oscar Hernandez, SHO proves that the heyday of Salsa still sizzles.

Keep checking our calpolyarts.org "EDUCATION" link to find out which shows offer the special $5 Rush tickets and when they are updated each week before each show!

Bookmark www.calpolyarts.org for great campus entertainment. What a RUSH!
Cal Poly’s Orchesis ‘Dances on the Edge’ this quarter

Janelle Eastridge
 Mustang Daily

Among the pictures of daring physical feats, flirs from past performances, ballet technique books, and other miscellaneous objects that lay strewn about Maria Junco’s office, hangs inconspicuously an ordinary, 8 1/2 inch by 11 inch piece of paper with Samuel Beckett’s immortal words: “Dance first. Think later. It’s the natural order.”

Despite the mantra hanging in the Orchesis and dance program director’s office, the opposite has proven to be the case for the dance company. After months of careful planning and countless hours of practice, Orchesis will be “Dancing on the Edge” this weekend and next in their 37th annual performance.

The dancers will take the stage tonight and Saturday at 8 p.m., Sunday at 2 p.m., and Feb. 8 to 10 at 8 p.m. in the Alex and Faye Spanos Theatre. “This year’s concept is very interesting. We are addressing the idea of edges in dance, so most of the pieces take that into consideration,” Junco said. “Some of the dances are challenging our physical expectations of dance; others are exploring emotional or psychological edges.”

This theme will manifest itself in several ways. As far as physical boundaries, some of the dances, such as recently graduated Rebekah Leach’s “Over the Edge,” amaze and defy the expected, Junco said.

In an Orchesis first, Leach will perform an aerial routine, dancing to the “soft, elegant vocals of Basque” while suspended about 10 feet off the ground from a red piece of fabric. It is a piece that truly explores how one can dance without ever putting one’s feet on the ground, Junco said.

Other dances, like one choreographed by biochemistry sophomore Crystal Valdez, attempt to “spice up” traditional conceptions of dance. Her Afro-Cuban inspired contemporary piece, “Feetejtu,” with its tribal feel and Portuguese, drum-based infused melodies (the music: “Magalena” by Sergio Mendes) certainly push the boundaries style-wise, she said.

On the opposite end of the spectrum lie those dances which address the idea that dance can have an impact emotionally or psychologically on its viewers. One such dance is entitled “Mischief,” and choreographed by architecture junior and Orchesis president Kate Barton.

“There’s a facade of playfulness and happiness (the dancers are portraying), but there’s an edge of mischievousness that they inflict on each other, too. It’s about the edge between your real self and who you put on in a social setting,” Barton said.

“It’s more about relationships, the boundaries between you and me. It’s about how dance can bridge the gap between people,” Barton said.

Another dance by a guest choreographer looks at being on the edge of certain societal groups. Another and a ballroom piece by the Cal Poly DancSports Team.

This year’s performance features 18 dances choreographed by internationally renowned guests and six students. The task has pushed the artistic and dancing boundaries of these students as well. “It brings you to a new level of involvement in your dancing,” Barton said. “Just being a dancer is like being an instrument instead of the composer — you just can’t really put your personality into it.”

After auditioning in September, the girls in the company have been practicing approximately 20 hours per week (each girl is required to enroll in the Orchesis class, which practices 8 hours a week, as well as practice an additional 2 hours per dance each week).

But now that the time has come, they are hoping to, as Junco put it, “move you — either kinetically or emotionally, in some way or another,” thus pushing the audience to some sort of “edge” too.
Samantha Freitas
MUSTANG DAILY

"At the core of the Slow Food Movement is that it's about preserving the local food heritage," said Maegen Loring, Park Heritage. Heavily urbanized areas like Los Angeles have lost such opportunities to preserve the local heritage, "One way SARC has promoted sustainable farming is by helping local farmers establish an organic market through the Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program. This program allows farmers to directly sell produce to customers who have bought a share of the farm and in turn receive a box of produce once a week. This weekend's event will take place at Cal Poly's Crop Unit on the corner of Highland Drive and Mount Bishop Road from 1 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 4. A donation of $10 is suggested ($15 for non-Slow Food members and $5 for students) to help cover food costs and free parking is available.

"The Slow Food Movement is that it's about preserving our agricultural heritage permanently," said Samantha Freitas, SARC program assistant. "We live in the midst of a fast-food phenomenon — McDonald's can be found on every block and in the most obscure corners of the world. Now, government campaigns have to warn parents that french fries do not suffice as adequate vegetable intake for their toddlers, and obesity has become an all-out epidemic in the United States.

Concerns over the growing popularity of fast food across the world, among other things, prompted the formation of the Slow Food Movement, which promotes good, clean, fair food through sustainable farming. Cal Poly's Sustainable Agriculture Resource Consortium (SARC) and the San Luis Obispo Slow Food Convivium are hosting an artisan food tasting on Sunday where students can try sustainably farmed foods from around the world. There will also be two San Luis Obispo representatives who attended the Terra Madre International Slow Food Convention in Turin, Italy in 2006. Terra Madre brought 8,000 food producers, educators and chefs from 150 countries together to talk about the importance of food heritage and tradition in sustainable farming.

"Sustainable farming is essentially a way of approaching or organizing agriculture, ensuring that future generations will have the resources they need in order to continue agricultural production. It's trying to use your resources in a responsible way by not depleting them, by protecting the environment and helping to protect communities," said SARC program assistant Hunter Francis. Francis was a representative at the Terra Madre convention. The local Slow Food Convivium has gathered quality, artisan foods from all over the world, as well as from the San Luis Obispo area for this weekend's event. Cheese, salami and fruit spreads are among the foods that will be tasted.

The Slow Food Movement determines quality foods as those which taste good, don't harm the environment, peoples' health or animal welfare. Also workers on all levels of food production must receive fair compensation and there can be no child labor. "The thing I love about the Slow Food Movement is that it's about the goodness of the food, not just about politicizing or condemning uniqueness. It's about focusing on the good and embracing cultures," said Margaret Loring. Park Restaurant owner and chef who attended the Terra Madre conference. Because San Luis Obispo is still a fairly rural town with many of its agricultural resources localized, farmers here have a special opportunity to preserve the local heritage. Heavily urbanized areas like Los Angeles have lost such opportunities.

"We're particularly pertinent in Slow Food issues because part of the Slow Food mission and Terra Madre is to help people develop more of an appreciation for our own food heritage," Francis said. "When we purchase local products, we're literally financially supporting farmers and making it possible for us to have our agricultural heritage preserved into the future."

One way SARC has promoted sustainable farming is by helping local farmers establish an organic market through the Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program. The CSA program allows farmers to directly sell produce to a customer who has bought a share of the farm and in turn receives a box of produce once a week.

This weekend's event will take place at Cal Poly's Crop Unit on the corner of Highland Drive and Mount Bishop Road from 1 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 4. A donation of $10 is suggested ($15 for non-Slow Food members and $5 for students) to help cover food costs and free parking is available.
Waiting for William in zone 6

T hose three small words...for once in my life people want their whole lives to hear them. Well, I wasn't going to sit around, and I was going to MAKE it happen. In September, I packed up all my clothes and shoes, and actually, even the weight of my clothes and a barely-even-registered-as-a-number fraction of my shoes (there is a weight limit for luggage on planes) and headed toward London, England in pursuit of my destiny. I realized my dreams would never be fulfilled if I pat'd around with other Americans, so although Cal Poly offers an excellent study in London program, I decided I needed to look elsewhere. I found exactly what I wanted in the SUNY Brockport study abroad program. This program was going to allow me to live on campus in the dorms of a British University and interact with students from England.

Within the first few weeks I felt I was the only way to bearing the hoped-for phrase. I made lots of friends (whoever the British were reserved and unfriendly must have not understood sarcasm) and had even made a trip to Buckingham Palace in hopes of catching just one glimpse of my future. But alas, it seemed there were no royalties on site and my three-word phrase in the first week were dashed. Still, I kept my spirits high. I realized the best plan of attack was to throw myself into university life; Brunei University life. Ahh, good old Brunei University in the middle of London, of course, quotes are used for theoretical purposes and the amazing city of London is hardly theoretical, but saying that the Brunei locals in my zone were in a slight stretch of the imagination. Because we live in a state with poor public transportation, allow me to very quickly educate you on the complex workings of what New Yorkers call the subway. Parisians refer to as the meto, and what I have become so fond of following the Brum in the last five months, in labelling the tube.

There are six zones on the tube, everything in one zone is considered central London. This is the area where everything you think of when you think about London is located: Trafalgar Square, the Tower of London, Parliament, the London Eye (a must-do if you ever visit), and my two favorite places, Buckingham Palace and Oxford Street. And if I believe is the best shopping in the world! After zone one is, you guessed it, zone two, which expands to the east and west. The zones go in both directions to zone six, and at the beginning of zone one, you are standing on a wonderful town, I have become fond of, called Uxbridge. In this town lies Brunei University. It would be a lie if I didn't admit I was a little disappointed, when I first arrived and realized that although technically living in London, it would actually take a good-forty minutes to get to zone one. I realized quickly though was how fortunate I was! Because I was so far away (well not that far for a Southern Californians who consider forty minutes a quick trip down the 101, but quite a trek for Londoners who don't own cars) I was really able to get involved in university life. I have gotten to be a freshman, or fresher as the British call it, all over again. While waiting patiently to hear my three words, I have been able to fall in love a million times over! Of course, I have fallen in love with London shopping, but that has always been at the top of my favorite things list. I have re-established my love for theater after finding the lead role in Brum's full musical, "City of Angels." As implied by the title, it takes place in London, so my accent actually helped me. I have just been cast as a lead in the spring musical, and cannot believe my luck! I feel incredibly fortunate to be able to participate in these wonderful productions.

I have made some of the most amazing friends I never thought I would want to leave in June. I have also fallen in love with dancing the night away. Brunei has three (I am employed at one) and a club, the Academy, right on campus. It has been incredibly difficult for me to be away from my amazing Karin Ata: Theta sisters for so long and to know that I am missing out on all the themed exchanges! However, I have had my fair share of dressing up here, since every Monday at the Academy is "Theme Night." So while I wait to hear my little phrase I am still making things fun in my life. The university experience has been unbelievable! I never thought at 21 years old I would be living in the middle of London again, recreating my freshman year all over again with three years college experience.

Fingers crossed and hopes high, within the five months I am here, I will hear a handsome, funny, kind, and oh-so-sultry British accent whisper to me at those three small words: "THEIR PRINCE WILLIAM!"

But not if, I will have a whole year full of memories that make me feel like the luckiest princess in the world!...
The Fringe and Sweetness!

"It was more than a team," said Mike Ditka, coach of that wild bunch. "It was a team of characters that had character that played for a crummy man, who let him be crazy and had fun doing it and don't apologize for it. I wouldn't want to be one of these guys walking around on the sideline today. I have no desire to be. I was what I was and they were what they were and, damn, it was fun." The ringleader that would be Jim McMahon, the refugee quarterback who openly squabbled with Ditka, wore a "Koolaid" headband to prevent a fine from the NFL commissioner and complained the Bears wouldn't fly in his acrobatics.

And that was before the punki QB really got rolling in New Orleans. He was front and center there, moming a news helicopter, leading a parade downtown Street the Pied Piper by hav­ ing with a photographer.

Wrestling continued from page 7

Mendes' elbow. "We'll see what happens. We're not sure. We're just taking it week-to-week and hopefully we can get him back." One wrester Cal Poly has to deal with after being injured in an April 1-pounder Dave Roberts (9-5), who was recovering from arthroscopic knee surgery earlier this season. Roberts won an 8-3 decision over Cal State Bakersfield's Matt Schumann on Jan. 26 in his first home dual meet of the season.

"It was good to get Roberts back," Averede said. "He wrestled well. That's the key. He performed well. That was good to see. It helped his confidence. At the same time, we lost Nick Hernandez last week with a broken toe in practice Thursday, but the doctor said he should be able to start wrestling again in a couple weeks. We just hope that we can be healthy by the Pac-10 Tournament. We'll definitely be in the hunt for the title." Hernandez (174), a sophomore, is 8-10 this season. He will be trying to bounce back this weekend after suffer­ ing three straight losses, one of which is a 12-2 major decision.

Vasquez said the injuries Cal Poly has dealt with has created some frustra­tion for him, but he's not giving up.

"We have a lot of guys sitting out right now," Vasquez said. "We're not going to have a full team together. It's kind of frustrating."

As for this season, Vasquez said things have gone pretty much as expected. He has six major decisions, four pins and one technical fall against his name.

"I feel really good," he said. "My three losses have shown a lot of things I have to work on. That's the kind of stuff that I look forward to each year."
Busy weekend awaits Poly wrestling team

The Mustangs have a shot to improve to 6-1 in the Pac-10 this weekend.

Tristan Aird, Mustang Daily

If there was ever a weekend designed to prepare the Cal Poly wrestling team for the Pac-10 Tournament, it would be this one.

The Mustangs have three dual meets — including two in consecutive weeks — and head to a tournament in a span of three days. That stretch begins when Cal Poly visits Division II San Francisco State at 2 p.m. today and Pac-10 foe Stanford at 7 tonight.

"It's tough when you're weighing in twice in one weekend, but you have to do that for the Pac-10 (Tournament), so in some ways I think it's good for our guys to have to do that right now," Cal Poly head coach John Azevedo said Monday at a weekly athletics department press conference. "In NCAAs, you're weighing in three times, three days in a row, so it's good practice for them. It's not easy, definitely.

The Bay Area trip concludes with the all-California Open, which begins at 9 a.m. Saturday at San Francisco State.

But the most important part of the weekend begins at 2 p.m. Sunday when the current top two teams in the Pac-10 standings battle it out in Mott Gym. The 17th-ranked Bears are 13-4 overall and 5-0 in the Pac-10 and the 10th-ranked Mustangs are 13-3 overall and 4-1-1.

"San Francisco State will be a big one Sunday," Azevedo said. "I think it's a big meet. It's important to get some momentum going into the Pac-10 (Tournament)."

Cal Poly senior Darrell Vasquez (21-3), who is ranked sixth in the InterMat/NWCA/NWMA poll at 133 pounds, said there is some pressure to come out of the Stanford dual meet still in position to challenge Oregon State for Pac-10 supremacy.

"If we wrestled hard, we wrestled good enough, our expectations aren't going to fail because I approach every match the same," Vasquez said Thursday in a phone interview. "We set the goal for ourselves. We're pushing ourselves as a team.

After this weekend, the Mustangs have only three dual meets remaining before the Pac-10 tourney, which runs from Feb. 24 to 25 in Bakersfield.

Cal Poly already has some momentum after finally getting back in the win column with a 25-15 home win over Pac-10 rival Cal State Bakersfield on Jan. 26. That came after four straight losses in dual meets, including an 0-3 mark at the Chipper Challenge hosted by Central Michigan on Jan. 21.

The Mustangs have four ranked wrestlers — junior Chad Mendes (6-2) No. 11 at 125 pounds, Vasquez, senior Matt Montana (18-6) No. 16 at 197 and senior Cody Parker (11-4) No. 14 at heavyweight.

Mendes, however, is still recovering from an injury to his elbow that is "hyperextended pretty seriously."

"It's week-to-week," Azevedo said.

The Mustangs return only nine let­termen, including just one posi­tion starter and five pitchers, off a team which went 23-36 a year ago, finishing fourth in the Mountain West Conference at 14-8. Their lone returning starter is sophomore second baseman Nick Romero (270, nine home runs, 46 RBIs in 2006).

The three starting pitchers for the Aztecs this weekend include returning seniors — sophomore southpaw Lance Sewell (1-2, 5.68 ERA in 2006) — and a pair of newcomers — junior southpaw Donnie Hume, a transfer from Long Beach State, and junior right-hander Steven Hirschfeld, a transfer from College of Southern Nevada.

Cal Poly lost a record six players to the Major League Baseball draft this winter, including its three starting pitchers and five other position starters, had a lot of new faces opening up and....

The result was 9-6, 7-6 and 4-1 losses to San Diego at Cunningham Stadium, even though Cal Poly outhit the Toreros 28-22 and committed just one error in the series.

On Tuesday, the Mustangs fell 6-4 at No. 25 USC despite a 10-6 advantage in hits, errorless defense and five brilliant innings in relief by sophomore southpaw Derrick Saito (no runs, hits or walks, 10 strikeouts).

"We need to continue to develop as a team while also learning how to win," fifth-year Cal Poly head coach Larry Lee said. "We need to learn how to be productive in pressure situations. There were a number of positives in the last four games, but we have always run into a bad inning that has put us on the defensive.

The Mustangs, who have posted three consecutive winning seasons, including a 29-27 mark a year ago, will go with Adam Buschini or Wins Darrell at first base, Pat Peet or Brent Morel at second, Kyle Ryden or Austin Peet at third and either Morel or Buschini at third. The outfield will consist of Luke Yoder or Adam Melker in left, Logan Schafer or Ryan Lee in center and Grant Desme in right. Joshua Thomas or Darrell will start behind the plate while Bryan Keppner or Quentin Cate will be the designated hitter.

Next week, Cal Poly continues its 10-game home stand with a game Tuesday against Fresno State at 6 p.m. and a weekend series against Nevada (Feb. 9 at 6, Feb. 10 and Feb. 11 at 1).