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 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 "unacceptable 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 owners," Riley said. "It will be a community's job to get the job done properly."

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 screening 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 Brereton 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 "Suapanova" 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 Kawana, 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," said Brenton Smith, student assistant in Cal PoL's Brew Crew.

ASi's CP Next gives students a closer look at global sustainability

Jackie 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.

Revkin 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 Vernaizi, 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," Vernaizi said. "It's just a matter of getting the word out and see CP Next, page 2

Cal Poly Orchesis gets 'edgy' in new show

Mustangs can solidify Pac-10 lead this weekend

IN SPOTLIGHT, 4

IN SPORTS, 8
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."

A "Hip-Hop Art Showcase" will conclude the month of events from 6:30 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."

February 2007 continues from page 1

Smith thinks the whole month of activities will be beneficial. "There is not a class where people learn this. Only in the humanities and the arts. This is a way to let people know there is more out there than the dead white male curriculum. There are other people of different cultures that have achieved things too. It's good to have black history."

The rest of the events showcased a strategic energy panel that focused on renewable energy solutions. Panelists included John Shools, Grower 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 started 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 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."

Another 1,962 miles of levees are another 1,962 miles of levees are listed 33 places in six Central Valley counties as critical erosion sites. That means more levees could be at risk for failure elsewhere in the state, Riley said.

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 apolo­
gized Thursday for having a sexual relationship with his for­
mer campaign manager's wife. “I’m deeply sorry,” Newsom said during a brief news confer­
ence 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 Torok, 39, resigned Wednesday after confronting his boss about their relationship with his wife, Ruby Rippey-Tourk, 34, who once worked as the
mayor’s appointment secretary.

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
he had asked for two additional
Army brigades, based on recom­
mandations 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 every­
thing 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 sav­
ing rates 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

WASHINGTON (AP) — President
Mahmoud Ahmadinejad launched anniver­
sary 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
the deployment of an underground portion of its uranium enrich­
ment facility at Natanz that the
U.S. has warned could bring
further sanctions against the
country.

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — President
Ahmadinejad announced
Thursday the deployment of an
underground portion of its uranium enrich­
ment facility at Natanz that the
U.S. has warned could bring
further sanctions against the
country.

GAGA CITY, Gaza Strip
(AP) — Gunfights erupted
across the Gaza Strip Thursday,
leaving at least six people dead.

Hamas militants hijacked a con­
voy delivering supplies to the
rival Fatah-allied security
forces, effectively destroying a
short-lived truce.

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

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Mexican
senator said Wednesday he
might ask the international
community to impose sanctions
against Saddam Hussein if Iraq
refuses to begin complying with
a United Nations resolution
requiring it to provide full
cooperation with UN
inspectors.

PARIS — Officials from 113
countries agreed Thursday that
a much-awaited international report
will say that global warming was
“very likely” caused by human activi­
ty, delegates to a climate change con­
ference said.

Dozens of scientists and bureau­
crats are editing the new report by the
Intergovernmental Panel on Climate
Change in closed-door meetings in
Paris. Their report, which must be
unanimously approved, is to be
released Friday and is considered an
authoritative document that could
influence government and industrial
policy worldwide.

Three participants said the group
approved the term “very likely” in
Thursday’s sessions. That means they
agree that there is a 90 percent chance
that global warming is caused by
humans.

That is a big step. I hope it is a
powerful statement,” said Jan Pretel,
head of the department of climate
change at the Czech
Hydrometeorological Institute.

The last report, in 2001, said
global warming was “likely” caused by
human activity. There had been spec­
ulation that the participants might try
to change the wording this time to
“virtually certain,” which means a 99
percent chance.

The U.S. government dele­
gation was not one of the more vocal groups in the debate over the “very likely”
statement for man-made warming,
said other countries’ officials.

However, several officials credited the head of the panel, Susan Solomon, a top U.S. government cli­
mate scientist, with pushing through
the agreement in just 90 minutes.

The Chinese delegation was resis­
tant to strong wording on global
warming, said Barbados delegate
Leonard Fields and Zimbabwe dele­
gate Washington Zhakata.

China has increasingly turned
to coal fuels, which emit the green­
house gases blamed for boosting
Earth’s temperature, to feed its huge
and growing energy needs.

The report will also say that global
warming has made stronger hurri­
canes, including those on the Atlantic
Ocean such as 2005’s Katrina, accord­
ing to Fields and other delegates.

They said the panel approved lan­
inguage saying an increase in hurricane
activity and tropical cyclone strength since
1970 “more likely than not” can be
attributed to man-made global warming.

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global warming ‘very likely’
caused by humans

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Cal Poly's Orchesis 'Dances on the Edge' this quarter

Janelle Eastridge

Among the pictures of daring physical feats, flers from past performances, ballet technique books, and other miscellaneous objects that lay strewn about Maria Junco's office, hang 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" spice up' traditional conceptions of dance. Her Afro-Cuban-inspired contemporary piece, "Festeguji," with its tribal feel and Portuguese, drum-based fluid melodies (the music: "Magalenda" 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 "Mochiche," 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 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.

Another dance by a guest choreographer looks at being on the edge of certain societal groups, emotionally or psychologically. 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 "move you — either kinetically or emotionally, in some way or another," thus pushing the audience to some sort of "edge" too.
International Slow Food Movement to visit SLO this weekend

Samantha Freitas
MUSTANG DAILY

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 Megan Loring, Park Heritage.

Heavily urbanized areas like Los Angeles have lost such opportunities — 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.

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.

Members of Cal Poly’s Sustainable Agricultural Resource Consortium traveled to Italy for the Terra Madre International Slow Food Convention.
Waiting for William in zone 6

NAME: Helena Levin
MAJOR: Child Development
COUNTRY: England

Next week: Sarah Philips checks in from Chile.

Cancer campaign has too much pink

Jackie Mantery
DAILY KENT STATE (KENT STATE U.)

I hate the color pink. Not the look of it; my room is loaded with the color. Rather, I hate most of what it stands for.

I hate that pink means girl and blue means boy, no matter which color you prefer. I hate that every girl thinks she needs those PINK Victoria’s Secret pants. Most of all, I hate that pink has become a derogatory word for very the thing that makes a woman — you know that “shocker” of a rhyme? Real clever, fellas.

However, I’m undecided about one particular use of pink.

If you have participated in any form of cancer awareness within the past two years, you have seen a lot of Pink. Pink tea cups. Pink shoulder pads. Pink T-shirts. Pink bandages. Pink, pink, pink.

Those bright little products are a part of the Breast Cancer Campaign, a charity that specializes in funding independent breast cancer research throughout the UK. It raises money to find the cure for "breast cancer by funding research which looks at improving diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer, better understanding how it and ultimately either curing the disease or preventing it," according to its Web site.

I have no idea where this phrase came from. "Extreme curing".
Bears
continued from page 8
French for former Gryff and cap-
tain of the Bears defense. "But if
you want to start a conversation
anywhere in the country, just talk
about the '83 team."
With the Bears back in the Super
Bowl, the 1985 team is a big part
of the conversation. Who can forget
"The Super Bowl Shuffle"? The classi c "Saturday Night Live"
skit on Da Bears? The 46 defense?
The 'Fridge and Sweetness? The 46 defense?
Mike Ditka, coach of that wild
"It was more than a team," said
"It was a team of characters
that had character that played for a
cruffy man, who let him be crazy
and had fun doing it and don't
apologize for it. I ever would
want to be one of these suits walk-
ing 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 quarterback
who openly squabbled with Ditka, wore a "Rozelee"
headband to protect a fine from the
NFL commissioner and com-
plained the Bears wouldn't fly
in his acupressure.
And that was before the punky
QB really got rolling in New
Orleans. He was front and center
there, mooing a news helicopter,
leading a parade down Bourbon
Street like the Pied Piper and hav-
ing with a photographer.

Wrestling
continued from page 7
of Mendes' elbow. "We'll see what
happens. We're not sure. We're just
taking it week-to-week and hope-
fully we can get him back."

One wrestler Cal Poly is glad to
have back from injury is senior 141-
ponder 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 Schamm
on Jan. 26 in his first home dual meet
of the season.

"It was good to get Roberts
back," Azevedo said. "He worked
well. That's the key. He performed
good. 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."n
Hernandez (174), a sophomore, is
8-10 this season. He will be trying to
bounce back this weekend after suf-
fereing three straight losses, one of
which a 12-2 major decision.
Vaasder said the injuries Cal Poly has
dealt with has created some frustra-
tion and maybe a little bad blood.
"We have a lot of guys sitting out
right now," Vaasder said. "We're not
going to have a full team together. It's
kind of frustrating."
As for his season, Vaasder said
tings 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
ting that I have to work on. That's the
kind of stuff that I look forward to
each year."n

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BUSY WEEKEND AWAITS POLY WRESTLING TEAM

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

Tristan Aird

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 conference — and lead to a tournament in a span of three days. That stretch begins when Cal Poly hosts 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)," in NCAAs, you're weighing in three times, three days in a row, so it's good practice for them. It's and, near, 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 Mont Gym. The 17th-ranked Beavers are 13-4 overall and 5-0 in the Pac-10, and the unranked Mustangs are 4-10 and the unranked Mustangs are 4-10.

"Oregon 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 fall 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 tournament, 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 (16-6) No. 16 at 197 and senior Cody Parker (11-4) No. 14 at heavyweight.

Mendes, however, is still dealing with an elbow that is "hyperextended pretty seriously."

"It's week-to-week," Azevedo said before wrestling, page 7

Bears try to emerge from shadow of legendary '89 team

Chicago is in the Super Bowl for the first time since its 15-1 team from 21 years ago went down as one of the greatest ever.

Andrew Salgian

CHICAGO — Recognition comes at unexpected moments, like this one on a Hertz shuttle at the Cleveland airport five years ago.

Gary Fencik was wearing a suit, looking more like a businessman than a Monster of the Midway, when some guy stuck up a conversation on the way to the terminal.

"Hey, I just wanted to let you know I enjoyed the way you played," the man said.

"The guy wasn't from Chicago. He was simply a fan who recognized a member of the storied 1985 Chicago Bears, the one-loss team that blew out New England 46-10 in the 1986 Super Bowl.

"I was really surprised," said Bears, page 7

THURSDAY NIGHT IN MOTT GYM

The Cal Poly women's basketball team handed visiting UC Davis a 69-60 nonconference loss in Mott Gym. Mark Harrison led Cal Poly (8-12) with 29 points. For a complete recap of Thursday night's game, visit the Mustang Daily's Web site at www.mustangdaily.net today.