Campus Dining grilled after insect found in salad

A campus resident adviser found an unlikely consumer in her salad—a beetle.

**Crisp, fresh lettuce, large, juicy tomatoes, crunchy, flavorful croutons and... a big bold beetle!**

In April, Friday the 13th carried more than bad luck as a live beetle made its way into the salad of an on-campus resident adviser.

“I had been looking forward to a nice salad dinner and knew that the only place on campus where I could use a meal on Friday night would be at Garden Grille,” social sciences senior Veronica Moreno said.

“I opened up my salad and took a bite of lettuce and carrots. In the process of chewing my first bite I looked down at my to-go container and realized that there was a live beetle climbing around my lettuce.”

Obviously not expecting that extra form of protein, Moreno spit out her food and made a phone call to the Garden Grille to figure out how to proceed.


dated at 1,902.7 miles per gallon on April 14.

The event, which took place in Fontana, Calif., challenged students from across the United States and Canada to drive their vehicles the farthest distance using the least amount of fuel, either conventional or alternative.

Cal Poly won the grand prize, as well as first place in the combustion energy group. Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in Terre Haute, Ind. came in second with 1,637.2 miles per gallon, and Mater Dei High School in Evansville, Ind. came in third with 1,396 miles per gallon.

Mechanical engineering senior Tom Heckel, team see Eco-marathon, page 3

**Poly chops go the distance on a gallon of gas**

**Cristina Albers**

Cal Poly’s supermileage team won first place and $10,000 for the university at the first Shell Eco-marathon in the Americas for its vehicle that traveled at 1,902.7 miles per gallon on April 14.

The event, which took place in Fontana, Calif., challenged students from across the United States and Canada to drive their vehicles the farthest distance using the least amount of fuel, either conventional or alternative.

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Mechanical engineering senior Tom Heckel, team see Eco-marathon, page 3

**Tragedy affects prospective Virginia Tech students**

**Rosanna Brown**

BLACKSBURG, Va. — Virginia Tech Ambassadors are responsible for hosting tours for prospective students on campus. President Adam Schmid, a senior civil engineering major and tour guide, said that tours resumed the next day after their normal schedules were cancelled the day of. Those who were present on the tours were asked to hold all questions regarding April 16 until the end of the tour.

Two tours guides, rather than one, led the prospective students for the morning and afternoon tours, and the guides were committed to ensuring that the first impression is positive.

“In the wake of the tragedy,” Schmid said.

“Schmid asserted that for some prospective students, the ambassadors are “their first taste of Virginia Tech” and oftentimes their lasting impression. At times such as these, tour guides are committed to ensuring that that first impression is positive.

Several e-mails were sent to the Virginia Tech Ambassadors because of the Hokie Focus event, which was held the weekend prior to April 16.

Michael Simemauer, from Rockville, Md., and a student at Walter Johnson High School, plans to be at Garden Grille, social sciences senior Veronica Moreno said.

“I opened up my salad and took a bite of lettuce and carrots. In the process of chewing my first bite I looked down at my to-go container and realized that there was a live beetle climbing around my lettuce.”

“Obviously not expecting that extra form of protein, Moreno spit out her food and made a phone call to the Garden Grille to figure out how to proceed.”

**see Grille, page 13**

**Summer brings changes to Pismo Beach**

**Ryan Chartrand**

Beachgoers can expect some changes in Pismo Beach this summer as the city hopes to continue building a new boardwalk and set up a paid parking zone downtown.

The new 800-foot boardwalk that will stretch from the north of the pier to Main Street is part of the Pismo Promenade project, a multi-million-dollar project that started eight years ago.

The project has made its way into the area, meaning it is likely that the city won’t have to pay to park. Although the City Council was hoping to have visitors pay to park at the five parking lots in the downtown area by start of this summer, the city won’t receive parking knocks until mid-July.

“We have a very slow grant process,” Delzeit said. “We’re hustling hard since we’ve had good feedback from everyone on this project. There is a high sense of urgency to get it done.”

The city also passed an ordinance to create the first paid parking zone in the downtown area, meaning it is likely that this will be the last summer that Pismo Beach visitors won’t have to pay to park.

Although the City Council was hoping to have visitors pay to park at the five parking lots in Pismo Beach, a revenue stream will be necessary.

“Would be unfortunate for the city to lose another year of parking revenue,” said Mayor Pro Tem Shelly
The boardwalk will be 800 feet long when completed.

The boardwalk will be 800 feet long when completed.
The Shell Eco-marathon Americas took place on April 14 in Fontana, Calif., where 18 teams met up to see how their vehicles would do.

**Eco-marathon continued from page 1**

manager for Cal Poly's supermileage team, hopes these competitions will help shape future vehicles and make them more environmentally friendly. The planning for this year's vehicle was started about two years ago. A race was finished last year with 661 miles per gallon.

"This was a large jump from last year and I didn't really expect it," Heckel said. "I hope it helps to expand the club and get more members."

Heckel came to Cal Poly last year as a transfer student, and was looking for a club to join when he came upon the supermileage club. The eight members of the team work well together, and Heckel said they even spend time with each other outside of the club.

"I loved working on this project," Heckel said. "Our vehicle was a mix of last year's entry along with a bunch of new components."

The Shell Eco-marathon has been successful in Europe and the United Kingdom for more than 20 years. The eight-student teams gain hands-on experience, from vehicle design to financing, while managing their project and applying skills in science, technology, math, business and design.

The vehicles can be powered by conventional or alternative fuels, liquid petroleum gas, biofuels, compressed natural gas, hydrogen or solar power. There were 18 conventional fuel-powered entries, one hydrogen-powered entry and one solar-powered entry at the Americas competition.

David Sexton, president of U.S. Shell Oil Products, said in a press release the innovative ideas of students and the exchange of information that takes place at the Shell Eco-marathon demonstrates what is necessary to address the energy challenges of today.

"There's not one answer, we must have a broad spectrum of economically, socially and environmentally viable energy solutions to meet the future's mobility demands," Sexton said in a press release.

The Shell Eco-marathon started as the Shell Mileage Marathon in 1939 when employees of Shell Oil's research laboratory in Wood River, Ill., got into an argument over whose car was the most fuel-efficient. The rules were as simple as the concept they created: to see which vehicle could go the farthest distance on the least amount of fuel.

The 2007 European Shell Eco-marathon is taking place at the Nogaro Racing Circuit in the South of France on May 11 to 13. With over 250 teams from educational institutions in 20 different countries, this year's event is set to be the biggest.

"The Shell Eco-marathon is intended to inspire these students, the engineers and scientists of the future, to help us provide mobility that is cleaner, safer and more efficient and more affordable than ever before," Sexton said in a press release.

Eco-marathon

The Shell Eco-marathon Americas took place on April 14 in Fontana, Calif., where 18 teams met up to see how their vehicles would do.
Ties between religion, wealth examined at Notre Dame

Aaron Steiner
THE ASSOCIATE EDITOR

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — Business, academic and religious experts have convened on the University of Notre Dame campus for a two-day conference to discuss how Muslim, Christian and Jewish views play roles in business values and ethics — specifically the creation of wealth. Sponsored by the Center for Ethics and Religious Values in Business at Mendoza College, the event, titled "Muslim, Christian and Jewish Views on the Creation of Wealth," is described as an interfaith conference targeted at business people, academics and researchers, though all events are open to the greater community.

Conference director Georges Enderle, a professor of International Business Ethics at Notre Dame and fellow at the Kellogg and Nanovic Institutes, said the event is attracting leaders from around the world — including the Middle East, Europe and the United States.

"World religions play a major role in influencing business behavior and corporate behavior," Enderle said. He said the conference will examine "business in an international, global context and what role religious play in business," specifically the idea of wealth creation.

The conference revolves around the Interfaith Declaration of International Business Ethics, an agreement between members of the three faiths to promote common business values. The four principles of the declaration are justice, mutual respect, stewardship and honesty. The declaration was formulated by leaders in both the Judeo-Christian and Muslim worlds from 1984-93.

Enderle said Notre Dame is a good place to "search for common ground" during such a conference. He thinks participants will gain a greater awareness of the values all three Abrahamic faith traditions share.

"I'm hoping that we're realizing that we do have a lot in common — although we are not aware of it," he said.

The conference, being held in the Mendoza College of Business and also in the Hesburgh Center, began Monday with speakers who gave perspectives on 12-year-old declaration and thoughts on the idea of wealth creation. Opening perspective: Reviewing the declaration.

Simon Wehley, research director of Notre Dame's Institute of Business Ethics in London, said Monday if he could add one thing to the list of principles included in the Interfaith Declaration of International Business Ethics, he would add trust.

Trust, Wehley said, is an extremely prevalent issue given corporate scandals and general mistrust among the public in recent years.

Wehley said a recent poll in London revealed that only one-third of the public trusts business.

Trustworthiness in businesses is necessary, Wehley said, as many conclude that a business is not successful without trust. Many multinational corporations now include the idea of trust in preambles to agreements and ethics codes, along with statements that say they will strive for integrity and responsibility and trust.

"These values are becoming the norm and form the basis for many corporate [ethics codes]," Wehley said, adding the principle of trust to the declaration would round out the changes of business ethics.

Wehley also spoke about the context in which the declaration was initially created, a time when the "phenomenon of international business, globalization" was young, he said.

In the more than dozen years since the declaration, talks of ethics and values in business have become increasingly prevalent, going far beyond dealing the original goal of uniting different cultural and religious groups.

Wehley cited the United Nations' decision to create ethical principles for businesses as an example of that.

"The United Nations, for the first time in its history, it entered into agreements not with countries but with corporations," Wehley said, noting the creation of standards for labor and environmental protection and a later addition of guidelines against bribery and extortion.

Wehley said that while there is a growth in the use of ethical codes in business worldwide, there is still little emphasis on faith, something the declaration sought to take into consideration.

"There are very few if any examples of these values and ethics codes being related to faith," Wehley said before adding an exception.

"However, in many Muslim countries, relationship between these values and business is more explicit."
McCain stresses experience, vision as he seeks to revive troubled campaign

Liz Sidoti
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PORTSMOUTH, N.H. — It wasn’t supposed to be this way.

John McCain was the presumptive Republican front-runner, the test in line for the nomination in a party that historically respects hierarchy.

Now, he’s trying to revive his troubled campaign. He is making the case for his candidacy by stressing his decades of experience in wartime and Washington and claiming he has the will to make tough, and sometimes unpopular, choices to heal the nation’s woes.

“I am qualified. I am ready to serve. I need no on-the-job training. And I have the vision and capability,” the four-term Arizona senator, ex-Navy pilot and former Vietnam prisoner of war, said Wednesday after formally declaring his second attempt to win the White House.

A loser in 2000 to George W. Bush, McCain chose to officially enter the presidential race in New Hampshire — the state’s primary was the nation’s first presidential contest this year. He selected Prescott Park, which sits across the Piscataqua River from the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

As McCain talked of the country’s challenges at home and abroad, the shipyard served a backdrop and a reminder of his military past.

“I know how to fight and how to make peace. I know who I am and what I want to do,” he said in his speech. “I’m not running for president to be somebody; but to do something to do the hard but necessary things not the easy and needless things.”

He repeated his pitch later in Manchester, N.H., standing under an umbrella as rain pelted an enthusiastic crowd of a few hundred. When a protester interrupted, McCain diverted from the script. “This is what free speech is all about!” he shouted, drawing cheers when he invoked the state’s motto: “Live free or die!”

McCain stressed experience, vision as he seeks to revive troubled campaign

**State**

LOS ANGELES (AP) — “Girls Gone Wild” creator Joseph Francis was charged with misdemeanor sexual battery for allegedly groping an 18-year-old woman.

Francis, who was jailed in Florida two weeks ago for criminal contempt and was indicted in Nevada this month for federal tax evasion, allegedly touched the woman’s breast and buttocks repeatedly despite pleas to stop, city attorney spokesman Frank Mateljan said.

The alleged incident occurred during a Jan. 10 birthday party at the Geisha House in Hollywood, he said.

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — The wife of a man who died during a hair transplant operation has filed a medical malpractice lawsuit against a Southern California cosmetic surgery office.

The suit, which seeks unspecified damages, was filed Monday in Los Angeles County Superior Court, said attorney Ron Wilson who represents Yvonne Robinson-Wiley and her three adult children. It names Crown Cosmetic Surgery of Los Angeles and several doctors as defendants.

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Democrats brushed off a White House veto threat and planned for passage from the top U.S. commander in Iraq Wednesday and pushed toward a vote demanding that troops begin coming home this fall.

Their insistence guaranteed a historic showdown with President Bush, the first on the war since Democrats took control of Congress in January.

“Our troops are in a civil war with no clear enemy and no clear strategy for success,” said House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer.

Late Wednesday, the House was expected to pass a $124.2 billion war-funding bill that would require troop withdrawals to begin Oct. 1 with the goal of completing the pullout six months later.

Bush has promised to veto the bill and has enough Republican votes to sustain his objection.

Bush dispatched his Iraq commander, Gen. David Petraeus, and other top officials to Capitol Hill to make his case:

Additional forces recently sent to Iraq are yielding mixed results and the strategy needs more time to work.

**International**

JERUSALEM (AP) — Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and his top security chiefs on Wednesday rejected calls for a massive ground offensive in the Gaza Strip following a renewal of rocket attacks on southern Israel by the Hamas militant group.

The decision gave a five-month cease-fire one last chance to succeed, despite repeated warnings by military officials that Hamas has been using the lull in fighting to smuggle large amounts of weapons into Gaza. But Israeli officials warned of “harsh steps” if the rockets keep falling.

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — Senior Iranian and Western officials signaled Wednesday that they may have made progress in trying to break a deadlock over Tehran’s defiance of a U.N. demand to suspend uranium enrichment, saying they planned to meet again in two weeks.

In announcing the additional talks, neither European Union foreign policy chief Javier Solana nor Ali Larjani, Iran’s top international negotiator, revealed details of their two meetings Wednesday, including a previously unscheduled dinner session.
Taliban leader claims Osama bin Laden was behind attack at Afghanistan military base during Cheney visit

Anna Johnson
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CAIRO, Egypt — A top Taliban commander said al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden was behind the February attack outside a U.S. military base in Afghanistan during a visit by Vice President Dick Cheney, according to an interview shown Wednesday by Arab broadcaster Al-Jazeera.

Bin Laden planned and supervised the attack that killed 23 people outside the Bagram base while Cheney was there, said Mullah Dadiillah, the Taliban's main military commander in southern Afghanistan who has had close associations with al-Qaida.

"You may remember the martyr operation inside the Bagram base, which targeted a senior U.S. official... That operation was the result of his wise planning. He (bin Laden) planned that operation and guided us through it. The operation was a success," Dadiillah told Al-Jazeera.

He did not say how he knew bin Laden planned the attack, and it was not clear when the interview took place.

Deputy White House press secretary Dana Perino said it was "an interesting claim, but... I haven't seen any intelligence that would support that."

A U.S. counterterrorism official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the information's sensitivity, said al-Qaida would likely have used more than a single explosion outside the base's main gate if it were targeting Cheney.

In addition, the official said, it takes bin Laden significant time to communicate from where he is hiding. That wouldn't offer him the flexibility to order an attack on Cheney, whose stop at Bagram was kept secret in advance of his arrival, the official said.

The U.S. military had said previously it was unclear whether the Taliban knew about Cheney's visit or whether the timing of the attack was a coincidence.

The Feb. 27 bombing killed 20 Afghan civilians, a U.S. soldier, a U.S. contract worker and a South Korean soldier outside Bagram, while Cheney was meeting with officials inside the base. The Taliban denies that Cheney was there, but officials said it posed no real threat to him.

The attacker did not try to penetrate even the first of several U.S.-manured security checkpoints at Bagram, instead detonating himself among a group of Afghan workers outside the base.

Dadiillah insisted bin Laden was alive and well. "Thank God he is alive. We get updated information about him. Thank God he planned operations in both Iraq and Afghanistan," he told Al-Jazeera in excerpts that were translated into Arabic.

Parts of the interview were broadcast on Al-Jazeera's English and Arabic satellite TV channels and posted on the station's Web sites. Al-Jazeera, which is based in Qatar, said it planned to show the entire interview later Wednesday, but the interview had still not aired by midnight.

The interview was not the first time in recent months that Dadiillah has said bin Laden is alive. On March 1, London television Channel 4 aired an interview in which he said the al-Qaida leader was in contact with Taliban officials. The station did not say when the tape was made.

U.S. officials have said they assume bin Laden is alive but do not have proof one way or the other. He is assumed to be in a rugged area of Pakistan, where remnants of the Taliban are living while mounting attacks inside neighboring Afghanistan.

U.S.-led forces drove the head of the terror network from his Afghanistan haven in late 2001 by overthrowing the hard-line Taliban government after al-Qaida was blamed for the Sept. 11 attacks.
Documentary tells the truth about Darfur

Justin Fassino
ULTRON Daily

For two hours, Chumash Auditorium played host Monday to the conflict that rages in Sudan's Darfur region. It is a conflict in which the country's government is systematically bombing and attacking the remote villages of Darfur to wipe out the native African tribes. Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir and his administration are responsible for the violence via the film "Message From Home." One of the film's three directors, Aisha Bain, was on hand to answer questions and inform students about the Darfur situation.

For her own part, Bain headed out to Sudan in early 2004 with her coworkers Jen Marlowe and Adam Shapiro with the goal of making a film that could expose the atrocities being committed in the poor African nation to the world.

"We wanted to give the people of Darfur a voice," Bain said. "There were no internationals in it, and it was purposely done so that they could have a way to communicate to the rest of the world. They all took a risk talking on camera. Some of them have been kidnapped, some of them have fled for their lives because the Sudanese government is now hunting them down for having talked.

"They took the risk because they were certain that if people heard their stories, if people saw what they were going through, help 'would come and unfortunately that was three years ago," she said.

Bain and her team crossed over the border into Sudan from Chad, a move that could have landed them in jail or worse. They met up with the Sudanese Liberation Army (SLA), a revolutionary group based in northern Darfur that is fighting against the current regime in power.

"They're the only ones with cars," Bain said. "They know how to get around, they know where all the displaced peoples are. They're horribly outnumbered."

What comes through in the film is a picture of pain that is easily seen on the faces of both the young and old. In one scene, a 10-year-old boy displays for the camera drawings he made of the destruction of his home village. Stoically, he tells the filmmakers that his father was killed in the chaos.

Another scene from the film captures the silent hurt that the young volunteers of the SLA, some of them newly orphaned, are experiencing as they recount how they were the small handful of villagers to survive Janjaweed attacks and government bombings.

Bain says that even during filming, her team was in danger of being caught up in the airborne raids.

"We never really considered it or thought about it," she said. "We never really realized how dangerous some of the threats were. These planes flying overhead ... people went into hiding and they were so scared and we didn't understand. A week later the very village we were in shooting was bombed."

In terms of logistics we had to bring everything with us," Bain said. "We had to travel light. There's no electricity in Darfur, there's no generators, nothing. Once the battery ran out, the film ran out. We tried to charge a battery once in a car battery and we opened the hood and it was scary enough because it was held together by rubber bands and it was this crazy contraption and we were like, 'What the hell do these cars drive on and how do they even drive?'

After many weeks in the Sudanese outback, the team headed back to America to put together their footage. Since the fall of 2004, "Message From Home" has been screened all over the world, including at the United Nations and before Congress in Washington, D.C.

The documentary is not narrated; it is simply a video record of the troubles and thoughts of the inhabitants of Darfur as they attempt to cope with a ubiquitous brutality in their lives. "Message From Home" is informative for those who don't understand the details of the Sudanese conflict, and beyond that it is capturing with its raw atmospheres. Further information on the film and the Darfur conflict can be found at darfurillaries.org.
Christiane Amanpour rocks Pop Tart's socks!

Let us for a brief moment follow the convoluted train of thought of a girl who, on the evening of April 16, experienced a "life changing moment" that would shatter all other existing life-changing moments to date. Where did this emotional spectacle occur, you ask? Only at the biggest, most important convention for Radio and Television Broadcasters in the nation, held in the most obvious place on earth, Las Vegas.

On that particularly hot Monday afternoon, Alexandra Bezdkian, met a one Christiane Amanpour. I didn't just meet her mind you, but like the proud groupie that I am, cornered her against an isolated back wall, stuck my hand in her face to shake, which she did, and proceeded to mumble a sequence of embarrassing non-verbal squeaks and stutters that I would much rather never recall again.

Surprisingly enough, she responded to my caveman attempt at having a conversation, and gave me some of the most heartfelt advice I have ever heard. The train of logic that immediately followed my very starstruck, but ferociously empowered state of mind following her imparting words of wisdom, resembled something like: I can change the world. Bring it on bitches. I can change the world.

For those of you who do not share my extreme enthusiasm for this legendary woman, or, if for some odd reason, do not know of whom I speak, don't worry because I shall ramble on about her greatness for the rest of this column, if not for the rest of my life.

So who is this enigmatic woman really, where did she come from, and what kind of a last name is Amanpour? I will tell.

Born to an Iranian father and British mother, Amanpour led a privileged childhood under the leadership of the Shah of Iran during the '70s. But alas, the revolution and religious extremism that plagued her country followed the rise of Ayatollah Khomeini forced the family to relocate to England where a young Amanpour began taking courses in journalism. The rest, they say, is history.

Today's Christiane Amanpour, of CNN's chief international correspondent fame, is one of the most charismatic, hardworking and committed journalists of our day, not to mention one of the most honored in the United States. She is a woman driven by the need to reveal the truths most people neglect; the faces most people refuse to show, and gives a voice to those who can not speak. Amanpour is the kind of journalist I can only hope to become in the future, a woman who speaks the truth of the people in everything that she does.

So for those of you who can imagine, Monday, April 16 doesn't just represent the day that I met a living legend, or the day that I self-proclaimed groupie's dreams came true. Although that day was both of those things for me, this was the day that I looked into the eyes of a real journalist, a woman of extreme integrity, direction, but most especially passion, and saw myself staring back.

Before Grey's

Thursdays.
Channel 10  8 p.m.
More than a rolling stone

Music critic brings finesse for words, rock to Poly

Giana Magnoli

What do Bob Dylan, the Sex Pistols and Elvis have in common? They have been exquisitely captured by rock critic Greil Marcus, who is coming to Cal Poly as the final speaker in the WriterSpeak series.

Marcus is a former writer and editor of Rolling Stone and Creem magazines, and has been a major player in popular culture criticism for more than 30 years. He has written many articles, essays and books that have transformed the way rock music is perceived in society.

“There are two categories of rock: The Beatles and everybody else. There are two categories of music: The Beatles and everybody else,” said Cushing, who has been reading Marcus’ work since the ’60s. “His writings on popular culture and pop music are as insightful as anybody’s,” Adam Hill, an English professor at Cal Poly, said.

Marcus will speak on Friday at 7 p.m. in the Clyde P. Fisher Science building, room 286. Admission is free and the event is open to the public.

His first book, “Mystery Train,” which was published in 1975, was “the first book-length intellectual document to take rock music seriously,” said Cushing, who has been reading Marcus’ work since the ’60s. The reviews went beyond if a record was good or not — they delved into the meaning of the music and how it was a reflection of society.

“You can learn about American values by studying rock, and the enjoyment of the music increases with the reading of the book,” Cushing said.

“His writings on popular culture and pop music are as insightful as anybody’s,” Adam Hill, an English professor at Cal Poly, said.

Marcus followed “Mystery Train” with “Like Lipsặp Trac,” which Cushin called “the single best book ever about punk rock,” and “Dead Elvis,” which examines the king’s successful posthumous career. Elvis has made much more money after his death than he did while he was alive.

One may be skeptical of a book written about a single song, but “Like a Rolling Stone: Bob Dylan at the Crossroads” digs into all aspects of Dylan’s world to better understand where the song came from and what it means.

“The Old, Weird America: The World of Bob Dylan’s Basement Tapes” is Cushing’s favorite, which he calls the best book about Bob Dylan of all time.

“He’s a brilliant f—king guy,” Cushing said. “He raises you up so you can be enlightened.”

Marcus is coming off a short guest lecture stint at Princeton University, where he has been discussing his new book, “The Shape of Things to Come: Prophecy and the American Voice.”

As Marcus continues to write, he continues to listen to everything, he’s not committed to one particular era, Hill said.

“He still manages to stay involved, he knows the new bands,” he said.

WriterSpeak has been a program for about 25 years but really took off in the last decade, Hill said. It now brings one writer per quarter.

The program started small, with mostly local people. Since Hill took the helm, there have been more nationally-recognized people.

“I have a pretty good pulse on the writing scene,” he said.

The funding for WriterSpeak is mainly provided by Cal Poly Arts, with some grant money coming from the College of Liberal Arts.

The question and answer session of the speech should be really good, since Marcus knows so much, Cushing said.

The Cal Poly Wine Festival will host a benefit wine tasting, “An Afternoon Amidst the Oaks,” April 28 at the Santa Margarita Ranch from 1 to 4 p.m. The event features wine, food and music with more than 100 wineries from across California, as well as Coastal restaurants and caterers. The event is planned, organized and run by Cal Poly students, and open to people age 21 and older.

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“Away from the World-renowned opera, "The Pirates of Penzance," with the Christopher Cohan Center on April 28 at 8 p.m. The Royal Carl Rosa Opera returns on the heels of its triumphal 2006 season to bring you Gilbert and Sullivan’s enduring masterpiece.

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Spring fling: more than just a thing

The Mustang Daily staff takes pride in publishing a daily newspaper for the Cal Poly campus and the neighboring community. We appreciate your readership and are thankful for your careful reading.

The definitions provided by the Dictionary.com definitions of the fling that make it seem to put a negative spin on the word 'fling' is a "passing at or attack upon something"; "a hasty, reckless, or wanton movement, a rush"; or "a violent movement, a plunge."

Or, my personal favorite: "A fit of passion; a violent movement, a plunge; a violent burst of passion."

If spring is in the air, love is in the air. (For the allergy-affected among us, I'm not exactly sure what that spells for you.)

Having since drifted from the ideal pastures and thicker of my childhood, I must ask the question, unravel though it might that "Bambi" tape that saw far too many runs in the VCR.

Rather, is spring the season for love? Anything but what it is (though I don't necessarily think, need not be explained). But this only makes the concept of the fling that much more fascinating.

I can see how the fling can be an attractive option on today's Starbucks-like relationship menu.

Provided both you and your partner decide upon the limits and lengths of your fling from the start, the fling can be a spring of opportunity for taking chances, escaping old cycles, recharging and regenerating, and some emotional spring cleaning.

Think of it as a stage, a practicing ground, a place where you can take a look at your own interpersonal style and feel out elements of your own personal identity that normally take a backseat. You might discover you like yourself more when you see that you can be more bold where you were once shy, or that you can relax and let someone else do the driving where normally you would have to be in control.

Realistically, the impulsivity inherent in flings means that most people don't go about them looking to self-improve; furthermore, some people don't realize it's going to be short-term until after things dissolve. But ideally, whether before or after the fact, the fling can be a learning experience. It has the potential to boost your confidence in the context of relationships both in your self-image and in your ability to make smart decisions about what kind of relationship is best for you.

So, as you skip your afternoon class and head off to the beach to bask in the sun and Twitterpaint, remember: Your spring fling can be more than just a thing.

Sarah Carbonell is an English and psychology junior and Mustang Daily dating columnist.

Letter to the Editor

I'm going to a sorority house to take pictures of small girl scouts. 

I'm a Rising Sophomore at Cal Poly, and the neighborhoods around campus remind me a lot of "Bambi." I'm not saying I'm going to catch myself up in the atmosphere forever, but I do want to be "twitterpainted" by someone special this spring. I'm no scary beast out to kill, but I do appreciate a little kingsize charm. If you have a spare fling, let me know I'm in the vicinity. You can reach me at MustangDaily@gmail.com.
Hanging up the sword and eyepatch

A 10:49 p.m. on Dec. 18, 2006, I was forced to become a retired pirate. When I say "pirate," I don't mean that I used to dress up like a hobo with an eyepatch and go screaming "Gyarrrr!" at people in Pismo Beach. No, I retired my days of piracy on the Internet. That's right, I was forced out of a world where everything from DVDs, CDs, video games, Adobe Photoshop CS2 and oh, so much more are literally free. I sacrificed my ticket to illegal freedom all for an episode of "House" (which I then had to delete) and now must live in this odd, foreign world where apparently people pay for things.

Living without a TV, CD player or DVD player, I decided to see if it's even possible to survive. Thanks to the online revolution, everything from music to TV shows could soon be entirely online.

As I let go of $99 and made my first donation to an artist in seven years by poetically buying "Waiting on the World to Change" by John Mayer, I felt slightly inhuman, but as though it might be safe to come out and actually contribute to the economy.

It's a concept that has surprisingly drifted away from many consumers thanks to trade groups like the Recording Industry Association of America, which spend more money on lawsuits than solutions. As their customers run in terror or continue downloading anyway, industry leaders like Apple are desperately trying to save the future of entertainment by pounding industries in the online direction.

Apple has filled my four-month musical void thanks to their iTunes Music Store, which offers albums for $8.99 cheaper than a pointless physical version. The system isn't flawless, however. Since Sony BMG, Universal, Warner and EMI have all required a "super-crum" digital rights management system (DRM) to be imposed on other top three labels will follow suit, however.

In the video realm, Apple is also paving the way by selling movies, music videos and TV shows through iTunes. Their movies and TV shows are a step in the right direction but are far from perfect. Each film or show is devoid of any extra features, costs nearly the full price of a physical copy and views in less than DVD quality. Any Apple fanatic will fill it for me, but I would advise any sane individual without "friends" to avoid these offers.

Watching TV shows without a TV is also suddenly possible thanks to TV networks such as ABC. Their movies and TV shows are a "Bones" online rather than "House" or "American Idol," the most popular shows on TV.

Aside from being without "House" episodes, it seems as though I can survive without a CD player or DVD player or TV. What about the rest of the world?

As the entertainment industries slowly make their way online, the real question, however, is whether it will be too late to send a worldwide memo saying, "Hey, sorry about the last decade, but it's safe to pay for things again!" Because of the complete disconnect that has developed between the artists and the consumers, the thought that downloading a movie or an album might actually affect someone or is any better than robbing a Best Buy still never passes through a pirate's head.

It's a mindset that can't be changed overnight or through lawsuits that target all the wrong people. To bring about change consumers will require a joint effort by every record company, film studio and major software developer to move online where production is cheaper and distribution reaches a global audience instantly.

It will also require trade groups like RIAA to back off and help more of its industries online rather than spend time bankrupting all of its customers with lawsuits.

There is hope for a piracy-reduced future, but it shouldn't take a "Stop downloading 'House' episodes" threat to start down a path of realizing it.

Here's a thought: If you haven't paid for music in a decade, go pay $99 cents for a song and start remembering what it means to support an artist. Otherwise, John Mayer and I will have to continue waiting on the world to change for a long time to come.

Ryan Chartrand is a journalism junior, Mustang Daily staff writer and online editor.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

Guns exist so deal with it

I completely agree with Nathan Taylor's comments Wednesday. Fact: "there are guns in the world." Not only can terrorists (and criminals) buy guns, but they can also make them. The knowledge base is out there. I have never researched it, but I am sure if I was determined enough, I could go out and build myself a relatively accurate gun this weekend. I do not see how, after acknowledging the realty of this and the black market, one could defend gun control. The only defense I see for gun control lobbyists would be for them to push for a sky-rocketing increase in police forces via tax raises. Guns, just like nuclear weapons, will always exist and the few that have it will always be empowered over the masses that have not.

Ryan Morton
Computer engineering junior

VT shooting about social hierarchy, not gun control

In the past week, the Mustang Daily has outlined the Virginia Tech massacre, leading to a debate over gun control. We have heard the same tired arguments (gun control only makes it harder for law-abiding citizens to get guns) and the same tripe rhetoric (guns do not kill people, people kill people) that have plagued the forum for years.

Great — I find myself thinking — Virginia Tech has been relegated to nothing more than another talking point in an endless debate. Even worse, the heart of the issue at Virginia Tech was not gun control. In fact, Cho Seung-Hui (the shooter at Virginia Tech) acquired both of his guns and the ammunition in accordance with Virginia state law. He observed the waiting periods; he passed the background checks; he was deemed a safe person to own a weapon.

Therein lies the real problem. Every major campus shooting in the United States (Columbine, Santana, Red Lake, etc.) has been perpetrated by a social outcast. This is only aggravated by the depression (among other clinical disorders) suffered by these shooters. In Seung-Hui's case, his issues were identified by teachers and friends based on his writing and behavior, but they were limited by United States "personal rights" laws. In this country, we cannot employ people to seek treatment, except by criminal proceeding.

That means that even if someone is identified as a potential threat to themselves or others, they must commit a crime before anything can be done. In Seung-Hui's case, the massacre at Virginia Tech. We are not, however, helpless. As a friend of mine experienced while teaching high school, if you open yourself up to someone, you can affect change. Our best weapon against these violent outbursts is kindness and friendship (something I see in great supply at Cal Poly). More is accomplished by a single person who really understands and helps a troubled youth than any amount of laws and politics could hope to achieve.

Michael Kosbie
English sophomore

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**COLUMNIST LINEUP**

**MONDAY**
Liberal-Zach Austin

**TUESDAY**
Humor-Mike Heimowits

**WEDNESDAY**
Conservative-Brian Eller

**THURSDAY**
Sara Carbonel

**FRIDAY**
Michael Kosbie

**SUNDAY**
Jesse Churchill

**SEND YOUR OPINIONS TO MUSTANGDAILYPOLITICS@gmail.com**

All published letters must include author's name, year and major, and are subject to editing for grammar, style and spelling.
Virginia
continued from page 1

decision at all. Somemauer is a
prospective business marketing major
and feels that, if anything, this event
will make the campus more spirited as
the community comes together when
he arrives in the fall.

Alvin Bryant, assistant director for
the office of undergraduate admis-
sions, helps orchestrate the Yates
Project, which selects student from
Tech to create presentations and net-
work with prospective students from
their hometowns and other commu-
nities. Bryant says there have been
member of the Yates Project work-
ning this month to recruit members
from their communities to Virginia
Tech.

He says that the Yates Project is
important because it enables prospec-
tive students to relate to current stu-
dents. “It helps to have other students see
other students like themselves,”
Bryant said.

Bryant feels that most of the
response from prospective students
has been positive and knows that Tech
will have a full campus next year.

Bryant also knows from seeing
the reaction of students this past week
that Virginia Tech students will
continue to stand out from the
crowd. “Virginia Tech students are extra-
ordinary and this just proves my point
that they are extraordinary,” Bryant
said.

Norrine Bailey Spencer, associate
president and director for the office of
undergraduate admissions at Virginia
Tech, says the goal numbers for
admitted undergraduate students will
remain the same. They plan on
receiving 5,000 new freshmen in the
fall and 870 new transfer students.

In recent plans, the number of admitted
transfer students has actually
increased in response to an agree-
ment with members of community
colleges. Despite the tragedy, the office of
undergraduate admissions has
received dozens of e-mail saying “I
want to be a part of Virginia Tech,”
Spencer said. The e-mails went to the
office are “very thoughtful. (Reaffirmations of them (prospective
students) wanting to be here,” she
said.

Last Monday, admissions was
planning to send out an update for
prospective students but reformed
the e-mail to show how proud they
were of current students handling the
tragedy the way they did.
Internet radio may drown under royalties

Carlos Militante
SAN JOSE — The death of Internet radio may be upon us.

On April 16, the Copyright Royalty Board refused to reconsider its March 2 decision that Internet radio operators will have to increase the royalty rates to artists whose music they play on their sites by 300 percent and 1,200 percent.

The decision will go into effect on May 15.

"The very large majority of Internet radio stations will go bankrupt," said John Potter, executive director of the Digital Media Association, in an interview with TechNewsWorld.com.

San Jose State University's broadcast radio station 90.5 FM KSJS also live streams on the station's Web site KSJS.org.

According to KSJS Director of Studio Operations and General Manager Mark Martinez, one of the largest Internet radio stations, based in Chicago, will see their annual running fee go from $5,000 to about $500,000 a year.

"The reason why it's so bad is it used to be every song you play counts as a play," Martinez said. "Now they do it for the Internet, every song that you play is times by the number of listeners you have at the moment.

"So if you have 500 listeners at that time that counts as 500 plays and you basically have to pay for each play and that's why it's going to die."

Martinez says that KSJS won't have to worry about this problem unless their listening audience gets bigger, so the station will continue to stream content on the station's Web site.

According to Potter in a TechNewsWorld.com interview, Internet radio provides exposure and royalties for thousands of independent artists and labels that aren't represented on broadcast radio.

Last year, 72 million people tuned in each month, Potter told TechNewsWorld.com.

The Copyright Royalty Board didn't reconsider the decision stating that "None of the moving parties have made a sufficient showing of new evidence or clear error or manifest injustice that would warrant a rehearing."

Despite the multi-cleaning process, bugs can still slip through the leaves, finding their way into food that is being put out to the public.

Usually, ladybugs are the most common insects found in the food. "They eat a lot of other bad bugs so they're a great benefit," Cushman said. "And I know that (the Cal Poly farm) has a cucumber beetle that they're dealing with."

The specific kind of beetle is 2,000 in number and a common thing when using methods like this.

From the growing fields, the Cal Poly farm picks the greens, does their own cleaning process and ships it off to Campus Dining. They then do their own cleaning process.

"We have upping our greens price as a precaution so that we can utilize these organs," Cushman said. "We wash and clean much more than if we were not using organics."
SAN ANTONIO — The San Antonio Spurs nearly headed to Denver down 0-2.

After squandering most of a 17-point fourth-quarter lead, the Spurs held on for a 97-96 victory over the Nuggets on Wednesday night to even the first-round NBA playoff series.

Manu Ginobili had eight points in the fourth quarter and Tim Duncan added seven in the final 12 minutes to save the Spurs from losing two home games to six-seeded Denver.

Duncan led San Antonio with 22 points and free-thrown shots. Tony Parker had 20 points. CLEVELAND — Usually a tough act to follow was the game's two inspirational Award for showing character and work ethic. 

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gave up the second-fewest passing point fourth-quarter lead, the Spurs

Non-Drafted Press

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Draft

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Thursday, April 06, 2007

The Mustang men are 10-12 overall and 4-0 in the Big West Conference while the women are 7-11 and 3-4.

Michelle Norgar

MUSTANG DAILY

The Cal Poly men’s and women’s tennis teams are heading to the Big West Conference Championships, which run Friday through Sunday in Indian Wells.

The men enter the tournament as the No. 1 seed and have a bye in the first round. The Mustangs are scheduled to play Saturday against the winner of the matchup between UC Riverside and Pacific. If Cal Poly wins, it will advance to the finals to play either UC Santa Barbara or UC Irvine.

Although Cal Poly senior Matt Baca is optimistic about the team’s chances to bring home Cal Poly’s first Big West Title, he knows sufficient competition awaits.

“We have to focus on our first match and just compete hard every point,” Baca said.

First-year Cal Poly men’s head coach Justin McGrath said that the team has been working extremely hard to prepare for the tournament and he is confident it will do well.

“We’ve been waiting for this moment all year,” McGrath said. “We have a great shot to win and we want to seize it.”

McGrath said that the team’s ultimate goal is to win the tournament and more than deserving the NCAA Tournament. He said he is proud of his team for being seeded first.

“But I can’t think of no better way to end my career than going out on a winning note.”

On the women’s side, the team is seeded sixth and will be playing the fourth-seeded Gauchos of UCSB in the first round.

The culmination, though, feels like the steal of the

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Feel a draft? Poly’s Brown, Shotwell hope to this weekend

The Mustangs have not had two players chosen in the same NFL Draft since 1985, when the Los Angeles Rams took Damone Johnson (sixth round) and Gary Swanson (ninth).

Tristan Aird Mustang Daily

I n one sense, they’ve been waiting for it only since their senior seasons ended last November. But in another, former Cal Poly football players Courtney Brown and Kyle Shotwell have been waiting for this weekend for their entire lives.

Brown, a cornerback, and Shotwell, a linebacker, are widely expected to be chosen somewhere in this year’s draft, which will be televised on ESPN and NFL Network.

Brown has said he will likely spend draft weekend with his family in Oakland, but was not yet certain whether he would watch the draft, which will be televised on ESPN, ESPN2 and NFL Network.

Shotwell also said he expects to spend the weekend with his family, but was not yet decided whether they would stay home in Goleta or spend Sunday at the Irvine office of his agent, Ryan Tollner.

“Any agent says there’s a possibility of our literally going anywhere on the second day,” said Shotwell, who recently flew to Indianapolis to meet with the Colts. “It depends on how the draft is shaking out. I’m ready to get it over with. This is s**t than two weeks from today. But in another, former Cal Poly football players Courtney Brown and Kyle Shotwell have been waiting for this weekend for their entire lives. Brown, a cornerback, and Shotwell, a linebacker, are widely expected to be chosen somewhere on the Internet have Brown going as early as the fourth round and Shotwell as early as the sixth.

Neither player was invited to February’s NFL Scouting Combine in Indianapolis. All of the players who went on the first day of last year’s draft — including Cal Poly defensive end Chris Gocong (71st overall to Philadelphia) — were invited to the combine. Only 14 players in the last nine drafts were taken on the first day after not being invited to the combine. Both players, though, saw their stock soar after stellar Pro Day workouts.

The 6-1, 235-pound Shotwell ran a 4.6-second 40-yard dash and posted a 41 1/2-inch vertical leap. He also put 32 reps on the bench, which means he’s pretty much at the top of the NFL Scouting Combine.

Brown, a 6-foot-2, 205-pounder, also ran a 4.52 40-yard dash and posted a 41 1/2-inch vertical leap. He also put 28 reps on the bench.

Check out mustangdaily.com today to listen to a FREE podcast with Mustang Daily staffers discussing the NFL Draft. To listen to the 30-minute MP3, click on “Podcast” under Online Features.

Mavs erase first-half deficit, blow out Warriors to tie series

ASSOCIATED PRESS

DALLAS — The Dallas Mavericks finally discovered that beating the Golden State Warriors isn’t as hard as they had made it look.

And it’s even easier when Baron Davis and Stephen Jackson lose their cool.

Jason Terry scored 28 points, Dirk Nowitzki had 23 and Josh Howard led a 13-2 run in the third quarter that sent the Mavericks to a 112-99 victory over the Warriors in Game 2 on Wednesday night, evening their first-round series 1-1.

Dallas had lost six straight to Golden State dating to last season. The Mavericks even tried a new starting lineup in Game 1, but that only led to a 12-point loss.

They went back to the formula that won 67 games in the regular season and were in synch from the start. The Warriors hung tough, though, until everything changed midway through the third quarter. Dallas already was leading when Terry dribbled into Jackson, drew a foul, then kept going into Davis. All three wound up with a technical foul.

“Tonight in the second half, we got the stops we needed,” Nowitzki said. “Everyone contributed and we’ve been able to pump a lot of energy into this series. We just have to keep it going.”

WASHINGTON — Mitch Trubisky scored 15 points and Ramon Sessions added 14 to lead the Milwaukee Bucks to a 99-88 win over the Washington Wizards on Wednesday night.

Trubisky, who made his first start of the season, scored 13 in the second half as Milwaukee shot 55 percent from the field.

The Bucks finished their road trip 3-0, the first time they have won three consecutive games away from home in several years.

“Tonight in the second half, we got the stops we needed,” Nowitzki said. “Everyone contributed and we’ve been able to pump a lot of energy into this series. We just have to keep it going.”