Film provokes protest

Student group members stood outside Philips Hall and displayed signs to protest Islamo-fascism Awareness Week.

Giana Magnoli
MUSTANG DAILY

Several student groups showed up in force Wednesday night to protest the showing of "Islam: What the West Needs to Know," Director Greg Davis came to Cal Poly to introduce and answer questions about the film, which is associated with the "nationwide Islamo-fascism Awareness Week.

Members from the Cal Poly Democrat, Muslim Student Association and Students for Justice and Peace in the Middle East (SPJME) stood outside Philips Hall and displayed signs in protest.

"He has no degree in religious studies — it's a question whether he even knows a Muslim person," SPJME president Marya Mikati said of Davis. "He's never read the Koran in its original language.

"We're trying to raise awareness about how biased the event is...it portrays all Muslims as terrorists," Cal Poly Democrat president Eric Jackson said. "It's information based on fear.

The event was put on by Cal Poly College Republicans, and member Brian Eller said the event was meant to show a different point of view. "This against extremism in any form," he said.

The club's adviser, psychology professor Laura Freberg, supported the club's decision to put on the event. "We're a political club," she said. "If you don't want controversy, join the ski club."

Smile and Nod troupe suspended

Whitney Diaz
MUSTANG DAILY

The improvisational troupe Smile and Nod is no longer smiling after an allegedly racist image on a promotional flyer resulted in the suspension of the group's remaining fall performances, with one exception, theatre department officials announced.

The performances were originally cancelled until the beginning of winter quarter, but officials agreed to allow one more fall show on Nov. 3 for the new members.

"We know they didn't intend to do this, but anytime you're dealing with an off-campus show, it can have a large impact."

The group was first asked to remove the images on the following Wednesday, and then pushed to remove the images before the next performance. Many students and faculty members had already seen the flyers, some began to protest and the theatre department decided to take action.

"We're looking at a short-term punishment to maintain the long-term stability of the organization," said Josh Machemer, a theatre professor and the club's advisor.

For the accusations, "I'm not sure how we see it as serious," said Machemer. "We're looking at a short-term punishment to maintain the long-term stability of the organization."
Carro discussed the major prize drawing by an event main sponsor.

"OneWay Boardshop will be there," Carro said. "They'll actually be raffling off a $500 snowboard at the end of the event for one lucky winner."

Carro said the sponsor will hold the raffle in quite an interesting format.

"They are actually doing it through a pretty creative way," Carro said. "They are going to do it through text messaging."

Carro disissed the major prize throughout the evening.

"We are bringing in things like a 200-foot obstacle course, big glove boxing, a high striker machine, a jousting arena, mechanical bull riding, an interactive games area and so much more." Matteson talked excitedly about the interactive games.

"We're bringing in an Xbox 360 and a Wii entertainment system and Halo III, among other games," Matteson said.

Matteson said she was very much looking forward to that particular feature.

"I'm really looking forward to playing the Wii system," she said. "I am hoping there will be Wii Bowling also."

Other games will include "Dance Dance Revolution," "Guitar Hero" and "Gears of War."

She added that members of student government would be there to register people for voting.

John Schiesser, ASI events student manager and recreation administration sophomore, spoke about the long list of other activities and events happening at Woodstock's Pizza throughout the evening.

"We try to bring back what the students have really enjoyed in the past years," Schiesser said. "But we also bring in things that we really think they would like."

Schiesser discussed what makes an event something memorable.

"We build on prior years' successes and just build the best event possible for the students," he added.

Carro said that if all goes well, they are expecting somewhere around 2,000 students to attend this year's event.

However, Carro added that numbers are not the only factor that contribute to a successful event. She said that, in the end, satisfied students are what really count.

Student satisfaction is a key priority," she said.

"We're looking for the experience that the student takes away from the event. We like to hear the students who walk away and say, 'I can't wait until that happens next year; I'm going to Dusk 'til Dawn next year.'"
Students and community members completed a 5K marathon run on Wednesday to promote the fight against sexual assault.

In addition to discussing the image with her students, Lehr posted a flyer on her door with a one-page description of ethnic notions and an essay on the history and meaning of the 'coon' image of blacks.

The flyer was meant to draw attention to the history and open a discussion on the meaning of the image, she said. The flyer had been ripped down on Monday.

"I would like to see Smile and Nod serve as a model for the rest of the university in acknowledging and exploring issues of race and diversity on this campus as part of their mission," Lehr said.

After discussions with both members of the ethnic studies department and the theatre department, Valle suggested that everyone look at this as a learning opportunity.

He said that he hopes some good will come out of this situation. "The main point of the punishment was for us to be aware that it was racist and hurtful, but it was not meant to be racist or hurtful," Smile and Nod member and theatre senior Duncan Calladine said.

While the club members understand the offensive implication of using the image, some members still think that the punishment was disproportionate to the offense.

"I felt that the punishment was excessive because it was a first-time offense and we weren't intending to promote the 'coon' stereotype — their words, not mine," Michetti said.

He added that the theatre department did not protect Smile and Nod as well as they should have.

"That also felt that they did a good job shielding the anger from the ethnic studies department," he said.

Lee Barats, 21, the president of Smile and Nod, said that he was told about the flyers before he actually saw them.

"I initially thought that the show cancellations were a little harsh, but the group made a plea and turned in a formal proposal." They requested that the theatre department allow the group to put on one more show to allow the new club members to perform, he said.

The show will take place in the HP Davidson Music Center, room 212, on Saturday, Nov. 3 at 8 and 10 p.m. The ordeal has brought the team closer together, Barats said.

"I believe that the punishment was unfair, but that the theatre department was fair," Barats said.

"They were not unreasonable about handling the punishment, but showed some willingness to compromise," he said.

The theatre department is taking steps to ensure that something like this never happens again.

"We will have posters sent to us weekly to ensure that checks and balances occur, and to ensure that negligence doesn't happen again," Dugan said.

"Through all of this, they will become stronger because they will start to think about things a little bit differently."

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It's difficult to walk around campus and not spot dozens of people listening to an Apple iPod on the way to class. But students should be wary as a recent study indicates iPod theft as being behind the rise in the national crime rate.

The Urban Institute credits increasing crime rates as being due, in part, to the portable MP3 player created by Apple known as the iPod.

A study published in September 2007 by the Pennsylvania State University states that in the first three months of 2007, theft and robberies are today, the national crime rate.

It's difficult to avoid due to the convenient portable nature of the iPod.

"I keep mine in my bag all the time, which I guess isn't such a good idea because I leave my bag unattended a lot," said Arguelles. "If it were stolen I'd be pissed because that iPod is a lot of money.

"I wouldn't know. I've never seen any statistics on that. But it seems pretty even. "What I know," said Arguelles.

Michael DiMatteo, civil engineering junior from what I've seen.

"I would say yes, because they do have the LGBT club; they definitely promote it or have opinions for who you are," said Lisa Coe, political science senior.

"The campus is very accepting of varied sexualities," said Steven Jange-Cohn, a UMass sophomore at UMass, said when he was in high school one of his friends had his iPod stolen in the school cafeteria. He believes he should probably be keeping a closer eye on his own iPod as well.

"Pretty much everyone has one. Because iPods are relatively new devices, any reported iPod theft is considered an increase in the rate of iPods stolen on campus, according to Archbald.

"IPOD theft, according to the Urban Institute, can be compared to increased crime rates in the 1990s and 1990s when expensive basketball shoes and North Face jackets were popular. Unlike clothing, iPods are "one size fits all" and therefore even more likely to be a sought-after item for theft, according to the Urban Institute. Andrew Arguelles, a sophomore at UMass, said when he was in high school one of his friends had his iPod stolen in the school cafeteria. He believes he should probably be keeping a closer eye on his own iPod as well.

"I keep mine in my bag all the time, which I guess isn't such a good idea because I leave my bag unattended a lot," said Arguelles. "If it were stolen I'd be pissed because that iPod is a lot of money."

The study also found a correlation between an increase in the number of people "easily wearing, and being distracted by expensive electronic gear" and the violent crime rate in the United States. It reported that violent crime had increased in 2005 for the first time in 12 years.

For some college students this is difficult to avoid due to the conveniently portable nature of the iPod.

"Pretty much everyone has one. They bring them everywhere," said Arguelles. "You use it when you go somewhere."

Some students choose to listen to iPods while getting to class, regardless of any safety risk it may pose.

Steven Jange-Cohn, a UMass freshman, listens to his iPod while walking or biking to class.

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Winds give fire crews chance to fight back

**Elliot Spagat (AP)***

AHow it was intense. On the call, it was like: ‘This area, go! This area, go!’ In 2003, there was less guidance. It was like: ‘Just pay attention to the news and it looks bad, leave.’ On Wednesday, winds dropped to 21 to 30 mph, considerably less than the fierce gales of up to 100 mph that whipped the fires earlier in the week.

The improving weather allowed for a greater aerial assault on the flames and helped firefighters beat back the most destructive blazes. Helicopters and air tankers dropped 20 to 35 loads of water on two fires that have burned hundreds of homes in the San Bernardino Mountains near Lake Arrowhead.

‘They’re taking it down considerably,’ said Dennis Bouslaugh of the U.S. Forest Service. Authorities said they had largely contained many of the fires north of San Diego, and all five fires in Los Angeles County were about 90 percent contained or more.

Despite the progress, some of the six major blazes in San Diego County were more than 75 percent contained, and those five threatened more than 8,500 homes. The top priority was a fire in San Bernardino County that threatened 6,000 homes and continued to rage out of control.

So far, this week’s fires have destroyed about 1,500 homes and burned 674 square miles across five counties, from Ventura in the north all the way into Mexico.

Property damage has reached at least $1 billion in San Diego County alone, and President Bush signed a major disaster declaration for California. The president was scheduled to visit the region Thursday.

**courtesy photo**

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Past mass extinctions coincide with hotter temperatures

Seth Borenstein

Wherever the world's tropical sea water rises several degrees, Earth has experienced mass extinctions over millions of years, according to a first-of-its-kind statistical study of fossil records. And scientists fear it may be about to happen again, but in a matter of several decades, not tens of millions of years.

Four of the five major extinctions over 520 million years of Earth history have been linked to warmer tropical seas, something that indicates a warmer world overall, according to the new study published Wednesday.

"We found that over the fossil record as a whole, the higher the temperatures have been, the higher the extinctions have been," said University of York ecologist Peter Mathieson, the co-author of the peer-reviewed research published in the Proceedings of the Royal Society B, a British journal.

Earth is on track to hit that same level of extinction-connected warming in about 150 years, unless greenhouse gas emissions are curbed, according to top scientists.

A second study, to be presented at a scientific convention Sunday, links high carbon dioxide levels, the chief man-made gas responsible for global warming, to past extinctions.

In the British study, Mathieson and his colleagues looked at temperatures in 10 million-year chunks, because fossil records aren't that precise in time measurements. They then correlated those to the number of species, the number of species families, and overall biodiversity. They found more biodiversity with lower temperatures and more species dying with higher temperatures.

The researchers examined tropical sea temperatures, the only ones that can be determined from fossil records and go back back 560 million years. They indicate a natural 60 million-year climate cycle that moves from a warmer "greenhouse" to a cooler "icehouse." The Earth is warming from its current colder period. Every time the tropical sea temperatures were about 7 degree warmer than they are now and stated that way for millions of enough years, there was a die-off. Hotter extinctions happen in length.

The study linked mass extinctions with higher temperatures, but did not try to establish a cause-and-effect. For example, the most recent mass extinction, the one 65 million years ago that included the die-off of dinosaurs, probably was caused by an asteroid collision as scientists theorize.

But extinctions were likely happening anyway as temperatures were increasing. Mathieson said Massive volcanic activity, which releases large amounts of carbon dioxide, have also been blamed for the dinosaur extinction.

The author of the second study, which focuses on carbon dioxide, said he does see a cause-and-effect between warmer seas and extinctions.

Peter Ward, a University of Washington biologist and palaeontologist, say extinctions were likely, happening anyway as temperatures were increasing. Mathieson said Massive volcanic activity, which releases large amounts of carbon dioxide, have also been blamed for the dinosaur extinction.

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There really is a 'Spectrum' of diversity at Cal Poly

Rachel Gillerman
PHOTOGRAPHER

Spectrum is a group on campus for members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and everything in between communities and their allies.

"It's to get people together. The LGBTQ community and allies too," Spectrum president, and architectural engineering sophomore Jen Ton said.

The club, which has been around since 1974, used to be called GLBU (gay, lesbian, bisexual united), but last year the club went to a gay conference at UC Riverside that changed their perspective.

Ton mentioned how Spectrum's secretary, and software engineering junior Rebecca Bettencourt, is a transgender lesbian and how GLBU didn't cover that.

"I'm a lesbian transgender. My body is male, but it doesn't matter because my brain, my heart, my spirit, my soul is female and I'm attracted to other females," Bettencourt said.

She went on to say, "When I came here, it was like coming out all over again."

She explained that she didn't become comfortable with people at Cal Poly until she started going to GLBU events.

According to Spectrum's group on Facebook, there are 71 members, but Ton said about 20 people show up to meetings regularly. There is a president, vice president, treasurer and a secretary.

Spectrum works closely with the Pride Center on many events, including National Coming Out Day and Pride Week, which will take place May 5-10. The objectives of the event are to get college students to learn more, become aware and expand their horizons.

Along with the Pride Center, Spectrum holds events with Delta Lambda Phi, a new gay fraternity on campus. They recently had a "Big Flaming Bonfire" together at Arilla Beach.

Bettencourt is currently working on starting Gamma Alpha Lambda, a sorority for progressive women.

Spectrum meetings are open to everyone. Members get together to talk about issues while they enjoy arts, crafts and food. Ton is trying to move the club in a political direction.

"We're trying to get more politically involved, but our first step is getting politically educated," she said.

One campus issue the group discussed is the idea of gender-neutral bathrooms. Ton said this is something people don't think about because it doesn't affect them regularly.

Spectrum members also stress the push toward marriage equality. Jen Ledbetter, a psychology senior as well as the president of the Cal Poly Women's Awareness club, spoke of a grass roots campaign called "Let California Ring," which spreads the word about gay marriage across the state in hopes of making the issue more personal to people.

Ledbetter explained, "It's mobilizing people to talk. So now you know someone that's gay and then you think, 'I want them to be able to get married just like I can get married.'"

Ledbetter came out in November of last year.

"Everyone has gone through similar issues with family and friends so it was nice," she said.

Regarding terminology, members of the club are encouraged to be open about how they identify themselves. Amy Narevskiy, a liberal studies junior and Spectrum ally, is a student coordinator for the Pride Center who plans events and trains allies. She said it shows an understanding if you ask someone how they identify themselves because then they can tell you what labels they are comfortable with.

The ally community is ever growing. Ledbetter said, "So many allies, I love it." She mentioned several allies are staff, faculty and alumni and a large group of supporters are in Student Life and Leadership.

"I put in a good amount of time, but it's also fun because I'm hanging out with my friends. It's worth my time," Ton said of being president. She said she loves the progressiveness of Spectrum's members and the community they have within each other.

There really is a 'Spectrum' of diversity at Cal Poly
Extinction continued from page 6

professor, said natural increases in carbon dioxide warmed the air and ocean. The warmer water had less oxygen and spawned more microbes, which in turn spewed toxic hydrogen sulfide into the air and water, killing species.

Ward examined 13 major and minor extinctions in the past and found a common link: rising carbon dioxide levels in the air and falling oxygen levels. Ward's study will be presented Sunday at the Geological Society of America's annual convention in Denver.

Mayhew also found increasing carbon dioxide levels in the air coinciding with die-offs, but concluded that temperatures better predicted biodiversity.

Those higher temperatures that coincided with mass extinctions are about the same level forecast for a century from now if the world continues in growing emissions of greenhouse gases, according to the Nobel Prize-winning Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

In April, the same climate panel of thousands of scientists warned that "20 to 30 percent of animal species assessed so far are likely to be at increased risk of extinction" if temperatures increase by about 3 to 4 degrees Fahrenheit.

"Since we're already seeing threshold changes in ecosystems with the relatively small amount of climate change already taking place, one could expect there's going to be severe transformation," said biologist Thomas Lovejoy, president of the H. John Heinz Center for Science, Economics and the Environment in Washington.

University of Texas biologist Camille Parmesan, who studies how existing species are changing with global warming but wasn't part of either team, said she was "blown away" by the Mayhew study and called it "very convincing."

"This will give scant comfort to anyone who says that the world has often been warmer than recently so we're just going back to a better world," Pennsylvania State University geological sciences professor Richard Alley said.

International Briefs

MOSCOW (AP) — A man who once boasted he wanted to kill one victim for each of the 64 squares on a chessboard was found guilty of 48 murders Wednesday, a bloody spree that terrorized the Russian capital.

Alexander Pichushkin leaned against the wall of his reinforced glass cage in the courtroom and stared at the floor as the jury foreman took about an hour to read the verdict.

Although he claimed to have killed 63 people, most of them in southern Moscow's Bittsa Park, prosecutors could only find evidence to accuse him of murdering 48, most of which occurred over five years.

 Chỉże, Turkey (AP) — Turkish warplanes and helicopter gunships reportedly pounded Kurdish rebel positions along the Turkey-Iraq border Wednesday, broadening military operations against insurgents amid persistent fears Turkey will launch a major offensive inside Iraq.

Turkish Cabinet members and military generals held a six-hour meeting in Ankara to discuss a possible operation in northern Iraq, but decided to recommend the government take economic measures first to force cooperation by Iraqis against Kurdish rebels.

ON BOARD FLIGHT SQ 380 (AP) — A Singapore Airlines Airbus A380 took off on a historic journey Thursday, the first commercial flight by the world's largest jetliner that boasts luxurious suites enclosed by sliding doors, double beds, a bar and the quietest interior ever.

With 455 passengers, some of whom paid tens of thousands of dollars for a seat in aviation history, the superjumbo left for Sydney at 8:16 a.m. on a 7-hour flight that launches a new era in air travel. Also on board SQ 380 are a crew of about 30 including four pilots.

BAGHDAD (AP) — Nearly simultaneous bombs struck commuters in a predominantly Shiite area on the southeastern edge of Baghdad on Wednesday, killing at least nine people and wounding about two dozen, police and hospital officials said.
As midterms loom, students find hope in a ‘stick’

CHICAGO (U-Wire) — Midterms can be particularly stressful on college students as exams often set the tone for the rest of the semester, and students struggle to balance their homework load with a flurry of tests.

“It’s common practice for students to try to catch up on neglected reading and pull all-nighters in preparation for exams,” said Adrindi Kelly, senior editor of The Princeton Review.

Finding a test-taking edge may be easier than scientific study shows. A non-scientific survey of the class of The Princeton Review. “How to try to catch up on neglected reading and during test-taking had better preparation to help increase focus, alertness and concentration; A 2002 study published in Appetite showed chewing gum appeared to start chewing gum during every test to help heighten focus and concentration.

Research suggests gum chewing can positively affect focus and concentration. A 2002 study published in Appetite showed chewing gum appeared to help improve students’ ability to learn, at least for short-term retention of information. While we conduct more basic research, it’s exciting to see our consumer insights play out in the classroom. Giving students chewing gum while taking tests is not unheard of. In fact, it’s common practice for students to try to catch up on neglected reading and pull all-nighters in preparation for exams,” said Adrindi Kelly, senior editor of The Princeton Review.

What we found is anecdotal rather than scientific. We have no doubt that some of these students are going to start chewing gum during every exam. It’s great to see real-life experiences like this as they mirror what consumers have been telling us for years — that chewing gum has benefits beyond fresh breath and good taste,” said Surinder Kumar, senior vice president and chief innovation officer at Wrigley.

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OneRepublic likely will not have to make any apologies when they perform for Cal Poly this evening at Dusk ‘til Dawn. The up-and-coming band, taking the stage tonight, will perform “Apologize,” the hit single that garnered them public attention and has pushed them to the top of the Billboard Hot 100 chart.

Lead singer Ryan Tedder’s soaring vocals — along with guitarist and vocalist Zach Filkins, drummer Eddie Fisher, guitarist and keyboardist Drew Brown and bassist Brent Kutzle — should give Cal Poly an understanding of what made OneRepublic such an instantaneous hit. The group’s melodic-pop, poppy sound makes for a unique live performance, especially with the addition of Kutzle’s classical cello onstage.

We made a really good decision when we decided to bring OneRepublic to campus,” said Michael Annuzzi, ASI events musical entertainment supervisor. “It’s exciting to think they’re going to be playing here at Cal Poly. It’s going to be an awesome performance.”

OneRepublic’s genre-transcending style has been influenced by musicians ranging from U2 to the Beatles. “Nothing’s new under the sun; we’re a sum of a bunch of bands,” Tedder remarked on the band’s Website, noting that the group was the “Little Shop of Horrors” dentist and a toilet-battling, flirts and people shuffling around you. The guides are obviously there for a reason, because you can’t see more than a few feet in front of you. Things are always scarier when you can’t see them: blasts of air, shaking like air compressors — was made by the Perlichs. It took about a full month of construction,” Shad Perlich said. The guides are there to raise money for BBBS of SLO, painting their storefronts white, Keak da Sneak and The Federation, as well as local group LMS.

“We wanted to put on a concert to raise money for [BBBS],” said Phi Kappa Psi vice president Brent Johnson, “but we wanted to pick something that a lot of people haven’t seen before in SLO.” With this in mind, the fraternity made contacts with Bay Area rap artists Keak da Sneak and The Federation, and when 18 or older, you must be 21 to drink. “It’ll be a lot like college hump night.” Johnson said.

Keak da Sneak is best known for “Super Huhyp” and “Thug Go.” The Federation raps favorites such as “I Wear My Stunna Glasses at Night” and “18 Damn!” Between artists, a DJ from WILD 106.1 will be playing dance music.

Through the event, Phi Kappa Psi not only would like to promote BBBS but also the Greek system’s integrity. “A lot of people think Greeks just party, and that’s all they do,” Johnson said. “We’re really trying to get away from that stigma. We try to help out the community as brothers, leaders, gentlemen and scholars.” Tickets for the concert are $45 pre-sale and $45 at the door. Tickets can be purchased from Boo Boo Records, the Mustang Box Office or at valleymustang.com.
If you haven’t heard the big news by now, not only are you on the fringe of one of the most important indie music circles, but you are also on the verge of a potential mainstream trend. Rowling, the author of the Harry Potter series, is据说 to have suddenly lost her mind and needs one major time-out. The question is: why?

In line? Is it the fact that there’s no mention of his sexual self-representation? Was it the nonecholant way in which his presence was kept in check? Or perhaps it should reflect this suggestion of quiet self-reflection for J.K. Rowling herself, the author and architect of the "Harry Potter" series? Or perhaps it’s just a joke, as one who just sold out so big it’s not even funny, as it seems she has suddenly lost her mind and needs one major time-out.

That’s right, with one flamboyant wave of her own newly won fame, Rowling disturbed the gentle fabric of narrative continuity and shattered the foundation of her well-established wand world. Here you ask: "Dumbledore is gay, actually," she announced last week to a packed audience at Carnegie Hall in New York. City Yes, you heard correctly Albus Percival Wulfric Brian Dumbledore, headmaster of Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, and founder of the Order of the Phoenix is... homosexual. I am upset, to the least. Don’t get me wrong, it’s not the fact that Dumbledore is gay that has my panties in a twist. My issue is not about sexuality of any kind.

What has my blood boiling is the condescending and non-apologetic manner in which Dumbledore was "outed." Was it the way the announcement was splashed across the tabloids as Rowling sat on a red velvet throne as she made the announcement? Was it the nonchalant way in which she answered the questions of Dumbledore ever having fallen in love? Is it the fact that there’s no mention of his sexual preference anywhere in any of the Harry Potter books that makes his newfound homosexuality that much more obscure? Something is not right here; something is quite wrong.

There is that giddy sense. Rowling went on to reveal that in her mind—where, might I add, this sometimes exasperating took place, because it certainly wasn’t anywhere in print nor anywhere in my mind—Dumbledore had an unconventional love affair with Gellert Grindelwald. Grindelwald! What was Rowling thinking? Of all the backing wizards to have Dumbledore fall in love with! As a Harry Potter fanatic and a Hermione, I feel that this has perhaps the greatest wizard on earth fall in love with one of the most dangerous and dark wizards of all time; one of Voldemort’s predecessors, a simply madness and, let’s face it, would change who Dumbledore was as a character.

The fact of the matter is that Rowling didn’t have the space or the balls to include this very important bit of info in the pages of "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows," the seventh and final book of the series that deals largely with the life events of Albus Dumbledore. Now she wants to cause hype and hysteria by making her fanatical headmaster gay. Well, that’s it, isn’t it? Case closed. I don’t buy her story.

And for the record, I have to say that my gaydar did not go off. And let me tell you this: my gaydar is dead on. Like, surprisingly dead on. I am that good; you can ask anyone. Albus Dumbledore is not gay.

Alexandra Bezidak is a journalist student with a knack for critiquing pop culture trends.

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Let's talk about the seven deadly sins. I'm sorry you're too weighed down with your inhibitions to feel good all the time. Since you're so worried about your perfect image, you might as well use up this 30 pounds away from qualifying for a handicap parking spot. Plus, you want to hang out with people who are full of themselves.

Lee: Oh, I guess you're right, so then we're in the same boat?
Lee: You leave the fried chicken out of this. I have a bucket of fried chicken, a lazy hoy and blood pressure that's higher than you. You leave the fried chicken out of this. I have a bucket of fried chicken, a lazy hoy and blood pressure that's higher than yours. You leave the fried chicken out of this. I have a bucket of fried chicken, a lazy hoy and blood pressure that's higher than yours. You leave the fried chicken out of this.
Lee: Snoop Dogg.
Lee: You leave the fried chicken out of this.
Lee: Oh, I guess you're right, then we're in the same boat!
Lee: I'm sure it's much better hanging out with someone who's full of mayonnaise and Crisco. Plus, all those funny fatties are dead.
Lee: Snoop Dogg.
Lee: You leave the fried chicken out of this.
Lee: Oh, I guess you're right, then we're in the same boat!
Lee: I'd never chum into a boat with you, fatty.
Lee Baratz is a mechanical engineering senior and Sean Micielli is a journalism senior. Baratz and Micielli are the Mustang Daily's humor columnists and can be contacted at TitsforTats@mustangdaily.net.

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We live in an ethnocentric country and we go to school in a snooty state. Just because America is such a superpower, the going-on in other continents are not superfluous to us.

The international news section in newspapers all over the country is shrinking exponentially each year due to its low demand by Americans. With such a focus on our daily lives and routines, in the few segments of spare time we have left, many people, myself included, just want to hang out and relax, so we won't get after college. Don't get me wrong. I lose this state and I will most likely live here the rest of my life, but I now know I shouldn't take college for granted.

This summer something was brought to my attention that made me truly second guess the priorities of constituents in my motherland. The Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania found in a national survey of 1,514 adults that only 15 percent of Americans can name the chief justice of the United States Supreme Court (John Roberts), yet 66 percent can name at least one of the judges on Fox's 'American Idol.' This truly makes me sad.

When I studied in New York City over the summer, I met people from all over the world. With this opportunity, I began to question the "life experience" I am getting here in San Luis Obispo where a superpower, the goings-on in other continents are not superfluous to us.

"Who is the vice president of the United States?" are asked to people on the street. "I hope that Bush and I didn't have the baby!"

Life as a college student is difficult and stressful enough as it is, balancing school, work, family and a social life. But when a baby is unexpectedly thrown at me, from going to school full-time and working part-time, to doctor visits every two weeks and childbirth preparation classes — all while trying to stay sane!

I never expected to have children until after I graduated college. I got a stable job and got married. But how often do things go as planned? When I took that home pregnancy test in April, I was shocked, blinded and confused to say the least. I called another one to make sure and it had the same results. I showed my fiancé the test results and he calmly said, "Oh, that's cool."

I got teased a third time at a community health clinic and they confirmed the results. I got in my car and called my fiancé immediately and began crying hysterically. He was very supportive and excited. I was happy, though worried. A flood of emotions and thoughts rushed through my head. I thought, "How could I support a baby financially and emotionally? What about school, am I going to have to drop out? What will my parents say? How far along am I? I hope that Bush and I didn't have the baby!"

After calming my nerves, I thought about my two older sisters and how they also got pregnant while in college. Although it took them a bit longer to finish college, they did manage to graduate despite the hardships of being a mother. So I knew it could be done.

I didn't have any health insurance so I applied for Medi-Cal to help cover my maternity expenses. After seeing my prenatal doctor for the first time in April, he determined that I was already about one-and-a-half months pregnant, and my due date is approximately Dec. 10 — the Monday following finals week!

At five months pregnant, my fiancé and I were excited to go see the ultrasound doctor to determine the sex of the baby. The doctor jokingly said, "He has a big ball!" Meaning we're having a boy, of course.

This summer, I wrote a story for the Mustang Daily about Cerrina Himle, a 19-year-old Cal Poly student who just gave birth to a baby girl. I wanted to document the struggles of being pregnant while in college from another perspective while getting an idea of how to cope with it. Plus I just wanted to talk to someone who knew what I'm going through right now.

Himle said that the most difficult task being pregnant while attending college is the "balancing act" and trying to eat healthy. As a college student, it is hard to eat healthy because I am always on the go. Himle also revealed she worried about who would interfere with her pregnancy and vice versa.

It was a relief to know that there is another Cal Poly student who understands what I'm experiencing. I'm a bit older than my fellow classmates so I've always felt a little out of place, but now, being pregnant and older, I sometimes feel more aligned.

I know of many student parents here; but I have yet to meet another currently pregnant student; they seem virtually nonexistent. I notice people trying to subtly peer at my belly, or, you know when you glance at something really quick, look away and then rubberneck and take a quick second glance? Those are the looks of scorn I get around campus.

But there are other people, especially my classmates, who seem genuinely interested in my pregnancy and what I'm going through. Even my professors have been very accommodating to make.

But I wasn't willing to tell people right away. I waited nearly three months into my pregnancy to tell my family, friends and the world. My parents' reaction wasn't a surprise. Since both of my sisters got pregnant during college, I guess my parents relied on me to "do it right," getting the degree, the job and the husband first. They didn't know how to react when their baby is having a baby, but after retaining my baby would be their third grandchild, their attitude changed to excitement.

Besides the extreme multi-tasking — not to mention the increased absent-mindedness and clumsiness, mixed emotions, excessive sweating, hot flashes, dizziness of breath, mood swings, cramps, irrationality, heartburn and bloating, and mild swelling of my hands and feet — is being the worst part of my pregnancy. I stay sane!

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The consistent fetal movements — kicking, pushing, hiccuping, stretching, are reassuring, and serve as a constant reminder that life is growing inside of me and that I must do all I can to protect and nurture this baby to the best of my ability.

Jennifer Ingam is a journalism senior and a Mustang Daily reporter. She will chronicle her experiences as a pregnant Cal Poly student every Thursday until the given birth.

Rachel Gellman is a journalism junior and a reporters for the Mustang Daily.
Bolts head to Phoenix to flee San Diego fires

Bernie Wilson

SAN DIEGO — The San Diego Chargers boarded a plane for Phoenix on Tuesday night, not knowing where or when they'll play their next game.

They left town because of the wildfires that chased many in the organization out of their homes, forced the air and left Sunday's scheduled home game against the Houston Texans in limbo.

Their superior running backs know their home survived the风暴. Their general manager knows if he'll have a house to come home to.

While they spent Monday taking care of their families, it was time to get back to business.

"We need to get ready to play football," said general manager A.J. Smith, who evacuated his home and doesn't know it's still standing.

The Chargers will practice at the Arizona Cardinals' headquarters in Tempe on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. They packed for any eventuality, since the NFL and the Chargers are still debating what to do about Sunday's game.

Qualcomm Stadium is being used as an evacuation center. An estimated 10,000 people were there on Tuesday, under smoky skies.

"Our attitude is, we're going to practice for three days and give us a break and let us know where we're going," Smith said as the Chargers lined up at their headquarters to board buses to the airport. "Wherever it is, or whatever day it is, we'll do the best we can to get a victory against New York." Smith was being used as an evacuation center.

Some 46 players, coaches and staff members had to evacuate, including coach Norv Turner and quarterback Philip Rivers.

Rivers said smoke was coming under the stadium. "You need to evacuate! I see the sky was orange, so I'm like, 'It's serious.'"

"You just adapt to it and deal with it. Everybody's got it at all those people over there at the stadium."

While the Chargers would love to be back in town Sunday, they know it's out of their control.

"Again, you can let it affect you really as much as you allow it to," Rivers said. "It's an unfortunate situation, but again, it can be more unfortunate. We're all safe, and for the most part, everybody's home is safe. We could be in the position like a lot of people are in the country, that we have to do a great job in the next three days."

Rivers said the players are in a good frame of mind.

"All our families are safe. That's what's most important. Obviously we feel for the people that were more directly affected. There is going to be a game this week. We're going to put all the focus there. From what I gather, we've all been able to do that."

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"If we prepare properly, all the other things are irrelevant," Turner said. "Obviously, with the way we started, we don't have a lot of room to have a setback. So we have to focus in and we have to do a great job in the next three days."

AP Football Writer Dawit Gebregiorgis in Philadelphia contributed to this story.

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There is no evidence of a sports team on the page. However, there is a mention of a basketball game: "After a player accumulates three personal fouls, they are ejected from the game for 20 seconds. A referee will take a player out of the game after three ejections. The team's goal is to score on every ejection. Harris said."

The New York Times Crossword

**Across**
1. Times for 'in some classifications' (8)
2. Johnny Carson persona
3. Snappy
4. Serious
5. Penny Mason line
6. Cottontail staring in heraldry
7. Showed enthusiasm for with 'a la'
8. 100th anniversary
9. 24th and G重生er
10. 28th Dr.
11. 29th
12. Student-athlete who was a town resident of indiana Jones

**Down**
1. Part of a company
2. 2004 Olympic swimming
3. Middle School "... Catherine"
4. Early military
5. Drink in 'The Taming of the Shrew'
6. Hey (Jamboree)
7. Surplus
8. First multiracial cross-country college in the
9. The Goose (lives)
10. The Goose's owner
11. Mythical mount
12. Certain society interest
13. What is she in aw
14. Game sport
15. 2006 Grand-2006 Grand-
16. Lick it in Islam
17. Lick it at many pets
18. Support to concrete
19. Legal scholar
20. Twisted
21. On the bill
22. Crown
23. Enhance
24. Remote option

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**
32. Order sought by an_acceler at
before trial
33. Hearing of
34. Lawyers
35. Tackle signals
36. You are in the tag
37. Be done off unilateral validity
38. Kind of hand
40. Title in a Chicago Magn
41. Neighboor of Light
42. Energy
45. Heroes in the family
46. Equate at a trial
47. Spencer's
48. Snagging
49. Relatives of vat
51. Tender (marmalade)

**Men's hoops picked second in preaseon coaches poll**

The Cal Poly men's basketball team has been picked second in both the media and coaches' pre-season polls. The Mustangs are expected to challenge for the Big West title this season.

**Classifieds**

**HELP WANTED**

- Web Programmers Wanted PHP • MySQL Part & Full time positions available AG 58-512 hr to start. 489-9402
- RECEPTIONIST Thomas Everett, Salon & Tom Mel Beauty Center Full or part time receptionist position available Drop Resume to 1119 Chorro St., SOL CA 543-9615
- Place your classified ad by calling Chit at (805) 756-1143

**HELP WANTED**

- Counseling, therapy, coaching - Experienced, private and efficient. Flexible fees and a Blue Cross provider. Steve Thyau, LMFT 543-0198
- Volunteer at Cal Poly Student Community Services Stop by UU Room 271! or call (805) 736-2476
- Mustang Daily Classifieds
- Online and in print
- www.mustangdaily.net/classifieds

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Teach For America Info Session - Learn how you can make your first job count. Oct. Mon, 27 pm, Bldg 52, Mn E-27. Free Pizza! Contact cameron.duffy@teachforamerica.org or visit, teachforamerica.org with questions.
- SHOUTOUTS
- Sweet comedy videos at Funny.com. A new video each week. So check it out! - Sean Micelli
- Skyline College Basketball: For more info, contact steve@skylinecollege.edu

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Deliveries, Pickups and more. For more info, please contact steve@skylinecollege.edu

**HOUSING**

- Free list of all houses and condos For Sale in S.O. By Cal Poly Real Estate. (805) 546-1900 OR email steve@stelehomes.com
- Open House!! Mustang Sch., Yuma Address. 720 Harvest Trails, 2370 sq ft 3bed 2 bath 2 1/2 20. Nuv. 25 1:00, Homeowners, 514-4513
- LAST FOUND
- LOST Von Zipper sunglasses at UCSB/Poly Soccer game. vcrsunt@calpoly.edu
Cal Poly men’s water polo club to host Pacific Coast Championships

The team can potentially advance to the national championships in Tuscon, Ariz.

Jessenia Ford
SPORTS

The Cal Poly men’s water polo team, four-time holder of the Colle­ giate Water Polo Association national title, is hosting the 2007 Pacific Coast Championships at the Recre­ ation Center pool this weekend.

Championships began 8 a.m. Saturday and will last until Sunday afternoon.

If Cal Poly wins its first game it will play again at 7:40 p.m. or 8:50 p.m. Saturday.

The final championship game will take place at 1:50 p.m. Sunday. The team is seventh in the nation and is the No. 2 seed of the Pacific Coast Division.

Cal Poly is currently 7-1 in its division, with its only loss to the UC San Diego. The team’s biggest rival is 8-0 UC Davis.

If Cal Poly wins all three games this weekend, the team will go to Nationals being held at the Univer­sity of Arizona. But even one loss will knock them out of the runnings last year the team placed third at Nationals, but they are hoping to place first this year.

“We are just going to take it one game at a time, even with our first game it’s against Cal Maritime,” said Austin Price, a member of the team. “We can’t overlook anyone at this point. Our ultimate goal is to get to this championship game and beat Davis but we can’t think about that until we get there.”

Price is a landscape architecture senior.

Cal Poly junior Kevin Heinichen and goalie Kevin Gercke defend against an ejection in a game earlier this season. The club team has posted an 11-7-1 overall record this season.

The Pacific Coast Division is made up of 12 teams from all over California, including the newest ad­ ditions, the UC Santa Barbara.

There are about 32 members on the Cal Poly men’s water polo team, but only about 24 will be competing this weekend.

Ronald Blum
ASS'T. SPORTS

Rockies shellacked by Sox in Game 1

Ronald Blum
ASSOC. PRESS

BOSTON — Josh Beckett, Dustin Pedroia and the Boston Red Sox were revved up and ready. Not so the Colorado Rockies, who showed up in Beantown looking rusty not rested.

Back in the World Series with no Bambino’s curse to worry about, the Red Sox flattened the Rockies 13-1 in Wednesday night’s World Series opener.

Beckett got off to the most overpower­ ing start since Sandy Koufax, Pedroia became the only second play­ er to lead off the Series with a home run, and then a relentless offense led by Manny Ramirez and David Ortiz raked up hit after hit.

Boston set a record for runs and victory margin in an opener — 17 hits, becoming the first club to hit eight doubles in a Series game since 1925. After taking a 6-1 lead after Colorado ace Jeff Francis, the Red Sox piled on seven runs in the fifth, when Rockies reliever Ryan Sporer walked three straight batters with the bases loaded — the first time that ever happened in a Series game.

Colorado has the altitude — the series shifts to mile-high Coors Field this weekend — and had won 21 of 22 coming in. But after a record eight days off, the Rockies looked like a team starting spring training. Just four batters in and trailing by only a run, the Rockies moved their infield in.

Beckett, meanwhile, showed the veteran attitude and stretched a Red Sox Series winning streak to five for the first time since 1915-16.

The 27-year-old Beckett pitched in the manner of a young Roger Clemens. Coming off his AL ch­ampion­ship series MVP, the 2003 World Series MVP blew away the Rockies with 95-97 mph fastball the first time through the order, then started missing in the 77 mph curve.

Beckett allowed six hits in seven innings, struck out nine and walked one, improving to 4-0 with a 1.20 ERA in the postseason this year.

Francisco, who had matched the 1976 Cincinn­ nati Big Red Machine by sweeping first in seven post­season games, lost for just the second time since Sep­ t. 15. The Rockies allowed just eight runs in their sweep of Arizona in the NL championship series and gave up nearly twice that in five innings.

Bosted the record for runs and victory margin in an opener and finished with 17 hits, becoming the first club to hit eight doubles in a Series game since 1925. After taking a 6-1 lead after Colorado ace Jeff Francis, the Red Sox piled on seven runs in the fifth, when Rockies reliever Ryan Sporer walked three straight batters with the bases loaded — the first time that ever happened in a Series game.

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Beckett, meanwhile, showed the veteran attitude and stretched a Red Sox Series winning streak to five for the first time since 1915-16.

The 27-year-old Beckett pitched in the manner of a young Roger Clemens. Coming off his AL ch­ampion­ship series MVP, the 2003 World Series MVP blew away the Rockies with 95-97 mph fastball the first time through the order, then started missing in the 77 mph curve.

Beckett allowed six hits in seven innings, struck out nine and walked one, improving to 4-0 with a 1.20 ERA in the postseason this year.

Francisco, who had matched the 1976 Cincinn­ nati Big Red Machine by sweeping first in seven post­season games, lost for just the second time since Sep­ t. 15. The Rockies allowed just eight runs in their sweep of Arizona in the NL championship series and gave up nearly twice that in five innings.