Dexter Lawn displays AIDS impact

Whitney Diaz

The Cal Poly community can step into the world of a child affected by AIDS in Africa this week as part of Impact1: The Africa Experience. Upon entering the Impact1 tent on Dexter Lawn, guests are given an MP3 player with the stories of three different children in Africa who are affected by or have AIDS.

"The goal is to bring awareness to campus," said Nicole Franzberger, the tent coordinator and InterVarsity Christian Fellowship staff member.

"It's not only good to be aware, but it's good to be aware coupled with action." Impact1 is a partnership between InterVarsity Christian Fellowship and World Vision.

The fellowship is a Cal Poly student group striving to pursue justice and build a multi-ethnic community, while World Vision is a Christian relief and development organization dedicated to helping children and their communities worldwide.

"World Vision is on the front lines right now, battling the AIDS pandemic in Africa," Franzberger said.

see Impact1, page 2

New engineering study abroad program may not welcome all students

Agnus-Dei Farrant

The opportunity for Cal Poly students to study abroad in Saudi Arabia has arrived. Cal Poly was asked this January to help develop an undergraduate civil engineering program at Jubail University College (JUC), a new university in Saudi Arabia.

The proposal titled, "Implementation of Engineering Programs at Jubail University College," describes a five-year collaboration between Cal Poly and JUC from December 2007 to summer 2012. JUC is a new university operating in temporary facilities located in Jubail Industrial City in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

It has recently finished its first year of operation, with 435 male and female students. Permanent facilities are expected to be finished by 2011.

The university has projected that 25 to 35 male students will be enrolled in engineering programs, they are earning degrees in Saudi Arabian men and women," Fiegel wrote in an e-mail.

"Men and women are separated on the campus and do not attend the same classes. While women are not enrolled in engineering programs, they are earning degrees in other fields, including business and education," he wrote.

I think that it's just morally wrong," LoCascio said. "To run around and tell people that we have the best Society of Women Engineers and then enter an agreement that women aren't invited to participate in, I just think it's very wrong."

Cal Poly was one of numerous American universities on a list compiled to assist JUC with the creation of a Bachelor of Science program in civil engineering.

Other institutions proposed included Carnegie Mellon University and Purdue University. Dean of the College of Engineering, Mohammad Nosari and Fiegel traveled to Jubail Industrial
Suspect arrested for Sears burglary

A 19-year-old resident of San Luis Obispo, William Castro, was arrested on suspicion of commercial burglary at the Sears department store on Madonna Road on Friday.

Police responded to an activated burglary alarm at the store at approximately 1:34 a.m. While investigating the cause of the alarm, a suspect wearing a ski mask and gloves emerged from the building, authorities said.

A brief foot chase ensued as the suspect, later identified as Castro, ran in the direction of Embassy Suites and was apprehended on the south side of the building, police said.

Police say Castro was found in possession of a small amount of cash and an undisclosed amount of merchandise, including tools, belonging to Sears.

He’s been booked into San Luis Obispo County Jail on suspicion of commercial burglary with bail set at $20,000.

Police say it appears Castro was acting by himself and no other suspects are being investigated in the alleged burglary.

Impact!

continued from page 1

The event is free, but guests are encouraged to donate via the "buck jug," to sponsor a child in Africa.

“We have 250 child sponsorship packets available,” Framberger said.

“It costs $30 a month and sponsors get a packet with a picture of the child and their life story. All the money goes outright to the children, providing education, food resources and community-based care.”

If Impact! raises $12,500 in donations through the “buck jug,” Framberger said, the school will match that number to build an AIDS clinic in Africa.

“Doing something this huge, it’s a big deal,” said city and regional planning major Rachel Ortega.

Ortega has already heard about one of the children’s experiences, which was very intense, she said.

“I felt a lot of sorrow and sadness,” she said. “These children don’t deserve this life, but at the end of it there is hope. I was overwhelmed but I think impacting one child does make a difference.”

On Friday, Impact! will host the Night of Impact in Chumash Auditorium at 7 p.m.

Admission is free, and special guest speaker Princess Kasune Zulu of Zambia will tell her own story as an AIDS orphan.

Princess Zulu has addressed the United Nations, President Bush and major news outlets including USA Today, Fox News and BBC News.

The Night of Impact will also feature testimonies of students on campus and around the world who have participated in the Africa Experience, Framberger said.

“We want to help people engage in what they saw, practically, spiritually and emotionally,” Ortega said.

“We can get them thinking about their major and how they can use that to fight injustices anywhere.”

The tent is available to walk through from Oct. 29 to Nov. 2 between noon and midnight.

It will be closed from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Tuesday night during Open Community Night, and will be open until 5 a.m. on Halloween.

I think Cal Poly is really selling its soul to the devil. I think the problems are that no one wants to pay higher taxes and no one wants to raise tuition.

— James LoCascio
Mechanical engineering professor

“This budget is itemized to include salaries and wages, fringe benefits, expendable supplies and equipment, permanent equipment, travel, publication and documents that are that no one wants to pay higher taxes and no one wants to raise tuition.

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JUCC understands this and negotiations are ongoing. All of the costs summarized in our proposal are to be covered by funds provided by JUC.

LoCascio identified the intended program as a conceivable way to raise funds for Cal Poly.

The idea was further backed by the low California State University budget and the recent controversy that California will be spending more on the state prison system than higher education within the next decade.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger’s Web site states that budget year funding for the CSU system for 2007 is $4.4 billion.

In comparison, the Strategic Growth Plan prison construction and reform element enacted in May was given $7.7 billion.

“It’s one thing to talk to people but it’s another thing to accept money from them with no clear goals or changing anybody’s mind about anything,” LoCascio said.

“I think Cal Poly is really selling its soul to the devil. I think the problems are that no one wants to pay higher taxes and no one wants to raise tuition.

“But I’d rather see tuition go up than compromise such a deal. Something has got to change, but I don’t know what that is.”

Saudi

continued from page 1

City in May to meet with personnel and discuss the possibility of future cooperation. The trip was funded by JUC.

Soon after, Noori and Fiegel drafted a proposal to JUC outlining ways Cal Poly could assist in creating a civil engineering program.

JUC responded requesting further assistance in developing new programs in mechanical, electrical and computer engineering as well.

Cal Poly personnel are currently discussing and developing a proposal for further programs.

Jubail Industrial City is located on the east coast of Saudi Arabia. Fiegel said the construction of the city began only 30 years ago.

The city, with a current population of more than 100,000, serves as a major industrial complex for the country.

“Local leaders are very interested in increasing the number of Saudi nationals who are working to design, construct, and maintain the infrastructure of the expanded city,” Fiegel wrote.

The total cost for the project in the basic budget is nearly $5.9 million.

This budget is itemized to include salaries and wages, fringe benefits, expendable supplies and equipment, permanent equipment, travel, publication and documents.
Pediatricians urge toddler autism screenings by age 2

Lindsey Tanner
ASSOCIATED PRESS

The country's leading pediatricians group is making its strongest push yet to have all children screened for autism twice by age 2, warning of symptoms such as babies who don't babble at 9 months and 1-year-olds who don't point to toys.

The advice is meant to help both parents and doctors spot autism sooner. There is no cure for the disorder, but experts say that early therapy can lessen its severity.

"I don't know. Money to buy ice cream — no, I want a bike."
— Daniella Avila, agricultural business freshman

"A king-sized set of Reese's Peanut Butter Cups."
— Myron Merson, architecture sophomore

"The best thing to get while trick-or-treating would be some kind of shocking scare from someone creeping around the corner."
— Brian Hughes, biomedical engineering senior

"The best thing to get while trick-or-treating would be some kind of shocking scare from someone creeping around the corner."
— Titus Shelton, recreation senior

"I would say a good scare from some of your friends. It always keeps you on your toes."

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Jungle is prowling the woods of Cold Knob Mountain earlier this month. The state Division of Natural Resources confirmed that at least one other person has reported seeing it.

CHICAGO (AP) — It was 1947 when newlyweds Larry and Mariam Orenstein honeymooned in Chicago, paying just under $10 a night for a room at The Palmer House.

Six decades later, the couple stayed in the hotel's penthouse suite for the same price — part of an offer for long-ago patrons.

The Palmer House allows onetime guests who visited more than 50 years ago to stay at the historic hotel for the price of their original stay — provided guests can submit an original receipt. The Orensteins' room goes for $1,600 today.

NEW YORK (AP) — France's president abruptly ended a "60 Minutes" interview aimed at introducing him to U.S. audiences, dubbing it "stupid" and a "big mistake" and refusing to answer questions about the French voter fraud scandal.

Before the CBS news show began, Sarkozy called his press secretary "an imbécile" for arranging the session on a busy day.

"I don't have the time. I have a big job to do, I have a schedule," Sarkozy said through a translator before the interview began.

In English, he added: "Very busy. Very busy."

In the interview conducted earlier this month and aired Sunday night, he candidly discussed what he likes about the U.S. But he grew frustrated when asked about his wife, Cecilia, who helped negotiate the release of five Bulgarian nurses and a Palestinian doctor charged with infecting Libyan children with HIV.

He and Epstein both said patients should first work with their doctors on lifestyle changes — more exercise, a better diet and weight loss. But Weintraub said many people need medication to achieve and maintain the lower blood pressure rates.

"It was a surprise to us," said Dr. Robert Epstein, chief medical officer at Franklin Lakes, N.J.-based Medco.

"Maybe the fact that we're seeing more young people with high cholesterol and blood pressure is indicative of the epidemic of obesity and overweight that we're seeing in this country," he said.

Among people 65 and older, use of blood pressure drugs increased only 9.5 percent and use of cholesterol drugs by 52 percent. That's because half the seniors were already taking blood pressure drugs and more than one in four were taking cholesterol drugs in 2001.

"It's a wake-up call for introducing him to U.S. audiences," said Dr. Howard Weintraub, the heart disease prevention expert at the American College of Cardiology. "It was a surprise to us," said Dr. Robert Epstein, chief medical officer at Franklin Lakes, N.J.-based Medco.

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"Is anyone going to tell him?" said Epstein.

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More than 1 in 10 high schools in America are ‘dropout factories’

Nancy Zuckerbrod

ASSOCIATED PRESS

It’s a nickname no principal could be proud of: “Dropout Factory,” a high school where no more than 60 percent of the students who start as freshmen make it to their senior year. That dubious distinction applies to one where graduation is not the norm, how is this living in the land of opportunity?” asks Bob Balfanz, the researcher at Johns Hopkins University who defines such a school as a “dropout factory.”

There are about 1,700 regular or vocational high schools nationwide that fit that description, according to an analysis of Education Department data conducted by John Hopkins for The Associated Press. That’s 12 percent of all such schools, no more than a decade ago but no less, either.

While some of the missing students transferred, most dropped out, Balfanz says. The data tracked senior classes for three years in a row to make sure local events like plant closures weren’t to blame for the low retention rates.

The highest concentration of dropout factories is in large cities or high-poverty rural areas in the South and Southwest. Most have high proportions of minority students. These schools are tougher to turn around, because their students face challenges well beyond the academic ones — the need to work as well as go to school, for example, or a need for social services.

Utah, which has low poverty rates and fewer minorities than most states, is the only state without a dropout factory. Florida and South Carolina have the highest percentages. About half of high schools in those states classify as dropout factories.

“Part of the problem we’ve had here is we’ve lost in a state that culturally and traditionally has not valued a high school education,” said Jan Foster, a spokesman for South Carolina’s Department of Education. Foster noted that South Carolina residents once could get good jobs in textile mills without a high school degree, but that those jobs are now much harder to come by.

Federal lawmakers haven’t focused much attention on the problem. The No Child Left Behind education law, for example, pays more attention to educating younger students. But that appears to be changing.

House and Senate proposals to rewrite the five-year-old No Child law would give high schools more federal money and more pressure on them to improve, and the Bush administration supports the idea.

The current law imposes serious consequences on schools that report low scores on math and reading tests, such as having to replace teachers or principals, but it lacks the same kind of teeth when it comes to graduation rates.

Nationally, about 70 percent of U.S. students graduate on time with a regular diploma. For Hispanic and black students, the proportion drops to about half.

The current law requires testing in reading and math once in high school, and those tests take on added importance because of serious consequences for a school that fails. Critics say that creates a perverse incentive for schools to encourage kids to drop out before they bring down a school’s scores.

The vast majority of educators do not want to push out kids, but the pressures to raise test scores above all else are intense,” said Bethany Little, a 12th-grader Jasmine Coleman said during a lunchtime chat in the cafeteria.

The school, which sits in the middle of a high-crime, impoverished neighborhood two miles west of downtown Baltimore, was founded by Balitx and others seven years ago as a laboratory for getting kids out on time with a diploma and ready for college.

Teachers, students and administrators at the school know each other well.

“Know teachers that have knocked on people’s doors. They want us to succeed,” 12th-grader Jasmine Coleman said during a lunchtime chat in the cafeteria.

The majority of students who enter Baltimore Talent Development in ninth grade are reading at a fifth- or sixth-grade level.

To get caught up, students have 80-minute lessons in reading and math, and twice the typical 45 minutes. They also get additional time with specialists as needed.

The fact that kids are entering high schools with such poor literacy skills raises questions about how much catch-up work high schools can be expected to do and whether more pressure should be placed on middle schools and even elementary schools, say some high-school principals.

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To be honest, I was slightly disappointed with the television premieres this season, both of returning and new shows. Perhaps the best part about the fall television line-up is ABC's "Dancing with the Stars." The live show is sure to entertain every week. There has already been one spill on the dance floor in the middle of a performance (courtesy of "Beverly Hills 90210" actress Jennie Garth), and just last week, singer and performer Marie Osmond melted into a puddle as she fainted just after her samba.

It was priceless. Not only does the show provide slapstick falls and laughs, but it displays extremely talented dancing celebrities, like Spice Girl Mel B and race car driver Helio Castroneves. ABC's "Grey's Anatomy" ended with a bang last year, but it has yet to recapture its spark this season. The storyline of two best friends tailing for each other is a romantic cliché, but Izzie Stephens (Katherine Heigl) and George O'Malley (T.R. Knight) just don't seem like a plausible couple to me. Maybe the new relationship will grow on me, but for now, they seem more like brother and sister than lovers.

I expected NBC's fan-favorite "Heroes" to start the season with a shocker or some sort of jolt, but it really just fizzled. Nothing interesting happened in the season premiere, with the exception of the last few minutes when Peter Petrelli (Milo Ventimiglia) was found in an otherwise empty storage container in a shipping yard in Ireland.

Hiro Nakamura (Masi Oka), my favorite character, is stuck in 17th-century Japan helping his childhood hero Tikezo Kensei repair the "past," which for them is the present and future. While the following "Heroes" episodes gradually became more interesting, I fear that the show may end up like the last season of "Lost" — and lose me as a viewer. For now, though, it has me hooked.

The most disappointing show this year has to be the much-anticipated "Pushing Daisies." The ABC dramedy has been picked up for a full season, which was a decision that left me scratching my head. Maybe I was expecting too much because the same creators also created the underappreciated Showtime gem "Dead Like Me," which was cancelled too soon.

"Heroes" features Ned (Lee Pace), who can raise people from the dead with one touch. The catch is that if he touches them again, they die forever. Sounds interesting, right? That's what I thought, but the season premiere was predictable and tried too hard to be quirky. I tried to stick around to see how the story would unfold, but it was just too painful to continue watching.

Overall, this season has been a real bummer, but mid-season replacements are just around the corner.
Every day this week the arts section will profile a sampling of literary professors at Cal Poly

Cassandra J. Carlson
MUSTANG DAILY

As a long-time activist, Cal Poly English professor Steven Marx has left his footprint on Cal Poly and proved that social protest can be achieved through literature.

In 1995, the state wanted to put a pipeline from the Central Valley to the Central Coast that would run directly through Poly Canyon. Marx took action against this pipeline because both the riparian area and a grove of 60- to 80-year-old oak trees were threatened.

"I knew if I made enough noise, stuff would happen," Marx said.

The professor responded by taking pictures and collecting maps. He led hikes to promote awareness and show what would be ruined if the plan passed. It was a successful campaign, and the pipeline eventually went through Stenner Canyon instead of Poly Canyon.

"It's satisfying (UNIV 330) did not die. It is continuing without me and has the same idea of using land to study from many different angles," Marx said.

The UNIV 330 class, which is also listed as AC/HUM 330, analyzes Cal Poly land through environmental, economic, social and political effects of agriculture, resource extraction, and construction technology used on the landscape. Marx has passed on his knowledge through collaborative efforts with other professors at Cal Poly.

Marx has always questioned what was happening around him, even before his time at Cal Poly.

He received his undergraduate degree in humanities from Columbia University and went into the Peace Corps in 1963, but was kicked out when the CIA found that he was questioning authority too much and becoming "too intellectual."

"I thought I was doing what I was taught to do," Marx said.

The book is used as a textbook in UNIV 330, Cal Poly Land: Nature, Technology and Society, which is taught by Matt Ritter and Hunter Francis, and in Marx's classes English 380, Reading and Writing the Landscape, and with his English 145 and 134 classes. It is available at El Corral Bookstore.

Marx is thrilled with how the book has been used and with the information that has been documented.

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see Marx, page 8
Southern comfort, Italian-style

Rachel Gellman

When the moon hits your eye, like a big pizza pie, and you want to try some Italian food on the fly without burning a hole in your pocket, head to Naples 10-09 on Monterey Street.

The new Southern Italian restaurant, located at 1099 Monterey St., took the place of Panolivo near the Fremont Theatre, and serves affordable and tasty classic and modern dishes in a romantic and spacious atmosphere.

At about 7:30 Friday evening, a grinning, accommodating hostess greeted my parents, roommate and me as we walked in the door, and the immediately led us to a table. We were handed menus right away, and as I scanned the three pages, I soon realized my decision would be a tough one.

I eat a fair share of Italian food and I usually can come to a quick decision when ordering — but this was different. There were several pasta dishes that enticed me, and they beckoned me even more as my eyes scanned over the low prices. I’m a big fan of sauce diversity, and several entrées gave me choices between pesto, marinara or cream, so obviously I had a dilemma. Everything sounded good, and that is an excellent sign.

While I was perusing the menu, a basket of warm Italian bread was placed on the table with a spread of olive tapenade mixed with parmesan cheese and olive oil. I had to contain myself from eating the whole basket in order to save room for the delicious courses to come.

My immediate contention with the place progressed to sheer pleasure when the congenial waiter kept track of my table to keep off the daily specials in detail. He came back several times throughout the meal to make sure I was well. It is so refreshing to have someone sincerely care about your dining experience, especially on a busy Friday night.

When ordering I decided to try something new. I ordered the chicken picata. Thin slices of chicken were covered with a lemon cream sauce and capers with a side of vegetables and Alfredo-covered linguini, all for $12. My father’s veal parmigiana was fabulous. My mother ordered the seafood special — linguini pasta mixed with crab meat, scarpaccia and scallops in a creamy tomato sauce. Although I usually don’t eat anything that swims, I enjoyed this dish for what it was. My roommate ordered the chicken artichoke special — baked, breaded chicken wrapped around roasted prosciutto cheese, prosciutto and spinach. She was quite pleased, as was I when I tasted it.

For such low prices, the food proportions were generous to say the least. I ate a tremendous amount of food, yet my taste buds and my stomach were supremely satisfied as I left the restaurant.

The atmosphere is fun, the service is impeccable, the food is delicious and most importantly for college students, Naples is affordable. Go find someone to take on a date.

And so it goes with 'Slaughterhouse-Five'

I say, 'Why don’t you write an anti-war book instead?'

I suppose people were talking about the book’s famous refrain after depicting an atrocious act of human violence, “So it goes.”

The tone of assumed fatalism at one point, however, and Vonnegut’s underlying compassion and humanism emerge with a beautiful and haunting passage in which Billy imagines, “... but she revealed that here.”

While Vonnegut left last spring, the book most prominently mentioned in his obituary was this one. There was a reason for that. Although deeply disliked by world affairs, he still had the passion and talent to write as if we might somehow recognize our world through Billy Pilgrim’s eyes and thereby live more consciously. But even if that doesn’t happen, we’re still left with an often staunchly funny story of a world in which it may indeed be the best we can do to simply shrug and say, “So it goes.”

Quentin Dunne is a psychology graduate student and Mustang Daily book reviewer.
The Great Pumpkin

Letters should include the writer's name and the neighbonng community. We are thankful for your careful reading and appreciate your suggestions to mustangdaily@gmail.com.

write a letter

There's more to look forward to this Halloween than just walking around in a ridiculous costume and eating tons of candy, thanks to the surprising health benefits of pumpkins. When we think of pumpkins, it brings to mind jack-o-lanterns, festive decorations and of course, delicious pumpkin pie. This underrated member of the squash family is not a vegetable; it's actually a fruit and is one of the most nutritionally valuable foods known to man. Pumpkin is truly bursting with vitamins, minerals and fiber. You can tell by its bright color that it's going to be good for you! Not only is pumpkin loaded with Vitamin A and antioxidants carotenoids, particularly alpha and beta-carotene, it's a good source of Vitamins C, K and E, and lots of minerals, including calcium, magnesium, potassium and iron.

The orange color of pumpkins is due to its high amounts of carotenoids, which have great cancer-fighting properties. These carotenoids are what give pumpkins their extraordinary health benefits. The carotenoids found in pumpkin form a synergistic combination different from any other fruit or vegetable. This formula of carotenoids found in pumpkins are extremely well-absorbed by the body. The carotenoids concentrate in many tissues of our body and protect us from free radicals, help strengthen our immune systems and stimulate certain naturally detoxifying enzymes. In just one cup of pumpkin you get the full 100 percent of your recommended daily dose of Vitamin A. Pumpkins also contain lutein and zeaanthin, which can help promote eye health and keep macular degeneration from becoming a problem. Vitamin C and potassium are an added health benefit, as well as fiber.

Oh, and did I mention pumpkins are low in calories? With only 83 calories and seven grams of fiber per cup, they offer a lot of vitamins for very few calories. You can get your daily dose of pumpkin in other ways besides eating pumpkin pie. You can make breads, muffins, soups, basically anything. If you're not into the whole pumpkin thing, you can try one of pumpkin's healthy sidekicks, such as carrots, butternut squash, sweet potatoes and orange bell peppers.

The seeds are also worth snacking on as well. Pumpkin seeds are loaded with protein, fiber and minerals and seem to have an anti-inflammatory effect; they may even help protect against prostate cancer and osteoporosis.

The seeds offer a good amount of iron, zinc and Omega 3 fatty acids. After you carve your pumpkin, spread the seeds on a baking sheet, toss on a little olive oil and salt, and bake until brown. Put them in your salad, your morning bowl of cereal or just eat them plain as a snack.

I found a recipe that offers all the great health advantages of pumpkin in a tasty little cookie. Plus, if you choose to use the whole wheat flour and the oatmeal, you're increasing your fiber intake, too.

Sarah Bailey is a nutrition senior, a Mustang Daily nutrition columnist and a member of PULSE. E-mail your questions to her at sballey@calpoly.edu.

ingredients

- 1 cup canned pumpkin
- 1 cup brown sugar (you can use cup Splenda if you prefer)
- 2 egg whites
- 1/3 cup applesauce
- 3 cups oatmeal
- 1 1/2 cups flour (3/4 cup whole wheat flour, 3/4 cup all-purpose flour)
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1/2 tsp nutmeg
- 1/2 tsp ginger
- 1/2 tsp cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp ground cloves

Preparation

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Mix together the pumpkin, sugar, applesauce, vanilla and eggs. In a separate bowl, combine the remaining ingredients (flour, spices, baking soda and oatmeal), then add it to the pumpkin mixture, stirring well. Drop by spoonfuls onto a baking sheet and bake 10-12 minutes.
Tuesday, October 30, 2007

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The answer to all of our problems
With so much going on these days that is newsworthy, it's about time somebody wrote a piece that simply isn't. What follows is a mind-boggling truth that will change your world forever.

It doesn't take a keen observer to notice the increasing volatility of today's political debates. You might ask yourself, why? I can say with confidence that I know the answer to all of America's political problems. It can be summarized attributed to the lack of beer consumption. Snicker if you will, but I implore you to consider history. All of the great minds once collaborated in alehouses to discuss matters of political, social and scientific import. To see the most over-marketed Benjamin Franklin quote, "Beer is proof that God loves us and wants us to be happy." It is only recently, with the invention of cafés, that the American sociopolitical realm has been taken over by the chaos that we know today. Glorious were the days when our government officials lost sleep over moral issues, and not because they were hopped up on caffeine.

I propose that we make beer more readily available to our representatives on the bill so that we may know peace in our time. Do I have any analytical bias for these claims? The answer is a resounding no, but you'll thank me one day when the president orders a draft and the farthest anyone has to go is to the tap. Ask not what your country can do for you, but what a brew can do for your country.

Andy Hooper
Biochemistry senior and president of the Cal Poly Brew Crew

Islamofascism?
Well, congratulations to the College Republicans. They have yet again managed to throw an event with more protesters than attendees. Why all the focus on Islamofascists anyway? You said yourselves that American Muslims tend to be quite moderate (mostly in line with the general population). The only real threat to America I read about was terrorism, and let's face it, not only are you more likely to die being murdered by a technologically advanced terrorist in the U.S. than are affected by Islamofascism. Clearly Christofascism is a much greater menace, far more worthy of our time and effort.

Andy Hooper
Biochemistry senior and president of the Cal Poly Brew Crew

Laura Kasavan
MUSTANG DAILY

Vote for Truthiness

Maybe you love comedian and satirist Stephen Colbert for the same reason I do. He's smart, witty and incredibly calculated. He even makes politics interesting, which seems like a tough job to me.

He just wrote a book titled "I Am America (And So Can You!)," which leaps out at me with a cover image of Colbert's face and a bold yellow title every time I walk into Barnes & Noble. I haven't bought my copy yet... but I will, any day now.

Anyway, back to my point: Colbert is taking the world by storm. I grew to love him when he began his stint as an oratorical character on Comedy Central's "The Colbert Report" in 2005.

The parody of personality-driven political pundit programs (such as Fox's "The O'Reilly Factor") has a season pass on my TiVo, and frequently leads to many wasted (or well-invested) hours on YouTube.

So, you can imagine my excitement Oct. 16 when Colbert announced he would enter the presidential primary in South Carolina, running as a favorite son on both the Democratic and Republican tickets.

I wasn't entirely surprised since much of the 2007 season of "The Colbert Report" has focused on Colbert's character alluding to plans of running for president.

His announcement was made in a manner appropriate to his character, which he has described as a "well-intentioned, poorly-informed, high-status idiot."

That fortuitous evening began with his appearance on "The Daily Show," where Jon Stewart asked him if he planned to run for president. Colbert dodged the question.

"Tonight, I, Stephen Colbert, am officially announcing that I have decided to officially consider whether or not I will announce that I am running for president of the United States," Colbert said.

About 20 minutes later on his own show, Colbert reminisced about his interview with Stewart. He then told audience members and viewers "that was a cagey answer."

"Who knows what I will decide," Colbert said.

"Well, after nearly 15 minutes of soul searching, I have heard the call. Nation, I shall seek the office of the president of the United States. I am doing it!"

Although I'm sure that nearly everyone in politics is praying that Colbert's actions are a publicity stunt that poke fun at the political process, he has certainly developed grassroots support quickly. The Facebook group "3,000 Strong for Stephens T. Colbert" is reportedly the fastest growing group to reach 500,000 members in the history of Facebook. In addition, the group reached 1 million members.

Whether or not Colbert was serious, his intentions have made a ripple in the media in the days since. He made an appearance on NBC's "Meet the Press" and has received media attention from numerous publications, including The New York Times and Editor & Publisher.

MSNBC's "Live with Dan Abrams" reported on a national democratic poll that showed Colbert at 2.3 percent, ahead of Bill Richardson and Dennis Kucinich, both at 2.1 percent.

It's a relief to know that I'm not the only American out there who is pulling for him.

So what do I think of Colbert's intention to seek the office of the president? It is a brilliantly publicity move from the man who coined the term "truthiness."

Laura Kasavan is a journalism senior and a reporter for the Mustang Daily.

Fraternity reflects on
Make a Difference Day

"This past weekend Sigma Phi Epsilon participated in Make a Difference Day, a nation-wide service day aimed at making a difference in the campus, community and world. As a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon, I speak on behalf of my brothers in expressing our sincere gratitude to all who organized or participated in any manner. For Sigma Phi Epsilon, my brothers and I had the privilege of planting trees along fences surrounding the Rec Fields. During this time, I noticed not only a difference being made on our campus, but also a difference among my fellow fraternity brothers. A difference rooted in the ideals of service, transformed to strengthen bonds of brotherhood. For this reason, we would like to thank our site organizer Lionel and all participants of make a difference day."

Shawn Stevens
Psychology junior and member of Sigma Phi Epsilon

Dear Brian Eller,

If Islamo-Fascism is truly "one of the greatest dangers facing America," then 9/11 is not where your indignation about the Reagan administration, support to the Mujahadeen of Afghanistan? Where is your indignation about the $20 billion in arms deals promised to Saudi Arabia, the most extreme Islamic government in the world, just this past July? The most obvious and elementary way to reduce such extremism is to stop subsidizing it. Clayton Proctor
Civil engineering sophomore
Broome's team is scheduled to play Cal State Stanislaus this Saturday in an exhibition.

"Junior Tina Shelton has been banged up a little bit; he had a broken nose and he's been in and out of practice inconsistently," Broome said. "That's hurt a little bit but he'll be back. He's good, he's a warrior." When asked if any new players stood out to him, Broome immediately responded, "(Sophomore) Lorenzo Keeler, he's a great decision-taker, very savvy, has a sixth sense for the game, can really shoot it, teammates love playing with him. He'll be on the court quite a bit.

Women's basketball
The women's basketball team (14-14, 9-5 Big West) will participate in the Melbourne Roos exhibition Wednesday and the California State University at Monterey Bay exhibition Saturday.

"I think (high expectations are) warranted," head coach Faith Minnagah said. "We have a lot of talented players back and we're way ahead of schedule as far as the team knowing where its offense is."

"We have an incredible schedule," she added. "I definitely had a championship in mind this year in our scheduling process." The Mustangs were picked to finish third by the media and fourth by the coaches.

They will play at Oregon State Nov. 10. "There isn't an easy game on our schedule and certainly I think it prepares us well for what we're going to face in the conference play," Minnagah said.

Volleyball
The Cal Poly women's volleyball team (16-2, 10-1 Big West) will play at Cal State Fullerton this Saturday in an exhibition.

The Mustangs played UC Davis last Saturday, which resulted in a 3-1 win and an injured player.

"Saturday was interesting because we had an injury to Kyle Atherstone in the middle of game three and it was a great job by our team in terms of adjusting on the fly," head coach Jon Stevenson said.

This week Atherstone tied a Big West Conference single-season record by earning her fifth Player of the Week honor.

Atherstone was named Big West Player of the Week after hitting a combined .353 with 4.66 kills per game in the No. 23 Cal Poly volleyball team's victories against Pacific (Oct. 26) and UC Davis (Oct. 27).

Mustang junior opposite Kyle Atherstone tied a Big West Conference single-season record Monday afternoon by earning her fifth Player of the Week award.

Through 23 matches this year, Atherstone lead all Big West players with 4.66 kills per game and ranks second with 0.46 aces per game. Long Beach State stands third.

Round up
continued from page 12

Atherstone wins honor for the fifth time
After another standout week in which she averaged six kills and four digs over seven games and hit a combined .342 in the last three Big West volleyball team's victories against Pacific (Oct. 26) and UC Davis (Oct. 27), Mustang junior opposite Kyle Atherstone tied a Big West Conference single-season record Monday afternoon by earning her fifth Player of the Week award.

Through 23 matches this year, Atherstone lead all Big West players with 4.66 kills per game and ranks second with 0.46 aces per game. Long Beach State stands third.

Cal State Fullerton is the only previous conference performer to earn five Big West Player of the Week honors in a single year, establishing the record during the 1992-93 campaign.

Atherstone captured her previous Player of the Week honors Sept. 3, Oct. 17, Oct. 22 and Oct. 27. She is the only player in conference history to win back-to-back Player of the Week honors in a single season.

Monday's honor was the eighth of Atherstone's career.

Only two players in the 24-year history of Big West volleyball — Scott (1994-95) and Pacific's Elsa Stegmann (1995-99) — have won the honor nine times.

Mustang junior middle blocker Jaclyn Houston earned Player of the Week honors Oct. 15 to give the program six total awards this season.

The Mustangs return to the court Saturday, Nov. 3 at Cal State Fullerton.

Polls
continued from page 12

Tulane, Idaho State, SMU and Rice, among others. Southern Utah is No. 16 in the latest poll. The Big West Conference is No. 16 among the 28 Division I conferences (no change from last week) and fourth among FCS conferences (no change).

Cal Poly concludes in four-game road trip Saturday, visiting Southern Utah for a Great West Football Conference game at noon PT in Cedar City, Utah.

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HOME PAGE

Classifieds
MUSTANG DAILY
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Sports transition from fall to winter season

The approaching adjournment of the fall sports season entails the culmination of golf, soccer, tennis, volleyball, cross country and football. The beginning of the winter sports season involves the beginning of basketball, cross country, indoor track, swimming and diving.

Cross country
Cal Poly won the first five places at Saturday’s Big West Conference Cross Country Championships held at the Fairbanks Memorial Course.

Head coach Mark Conover was unavailable for the meeting but was replaced by senior runner Phillip Reid.

Reid won the individual title for the second straight year with an 8-kilometer course record of 25 minutes, 12 seconds. The previous record for Cal Poly was held by Sean Rickets, who ran it in 25:38 in 2003.

“The race went very well, obviously, with all the records broken,” Reid said at Monday’s weekly athletics press conference. “When I heard my time I was pretty surprised because it was 33 seconds faster than I ran last year. But the course record, held by good friend of mine (Rick Pelletier), I think I was probably capable of it but I never crossed my mind.”

Junior Troy Swier came in second, followed by sophomore Evan Anderson, junior Jeff Lease and sophomore Joe Gatel.

The victory was the first time in Big West Conference history that a Mustang team won the top five places, scoring 15 points.

“Had it been equivalent to a soccer game or equivalent to a football game, it’s one of those games where you rush the field and you tear down the goal post. It’s hard to express that kind of feeling at a cross country meet,” Reid said.

Junior Leford Anderson finished in 10th place and senior Matt Johansen finished 11th, respectively.

The cross country team will participate at the NCAA West Regional in Eugene, Ore. on Nov. 10.

Football

Only three games remain for Mustang football (5-3, 1-1 Great West). Poly has won five of its past six games and will play at Southern Utah at noon on Nov. 3.

Head coach Rich Ellerson expects a better performance than his team displayed Oct. 27 against Idaho State, although they won 48-28.

“Our guys have to be honest with what they’re seeing when they watch Southern Utah play and they have to be honest with what they’re seeing when they watch themselves play last week,” Ellerson said. “While we have some stellar performances and individuals, as a team we have a long way to go.”

He went on to say, “We’re not physical enough, we don’t execute well enough to beat the teams we’re going to need to beat, to win this season. (SU) not going to give us some of those opportunities we got last week.”

The football team plays North Dakota State at Spudos Stadium Nov. 10 for the homecoming game. The Mustangs will play Iowa College at home Nov. 17.

“To have a chance this week we need to play better, we need to be more physical, we need to be more consistent, we need to be able to play for four quarters, be consistent, we need to kick the ball where we say we’re going to kick the ball, we need to cover in the lanes we’re supposed to be in,” Ellerson said. “We need to do all those things and we need to be exactly right. And if we do all that we have the right to expect a win. Otherwise we’re just hoping the other team screws it up.”

Women’s soccer

The Cal Poly women’s soccer team, meanwhile, has allowed only 15 points in their past six outings, allowing only one goal in its past six outings, allowing only one goal in its past six outings, allowing only one goal in its past six outings, allowing only one goal in its past six outings.

see Conference, page 11

Sonnos wins Flight C finals

BRYAN HEILKE

Phillip Reid (left) and four other members of the Cal Poly cross country team finished in the top five at the conference finals Saturday, Oct. 27.

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