Crowded Health Center offers medical services

Daniel Seguin

Health care is a concern for many college students, especially those who are away from home for the first time. The on-campus Health Center is an important resource for more common ailments but is plagued with long wait times and limited emergency and after-hours care. “The students pay a health services fee when they register so they can come to the Health Center and see our doctors, nurse practitioners and physician’s assistants without charge,” said Martin Bragg, director of Health and Counseling Services. There are many on-site services available besides examinations with a physician.

“We have a very good pharmacy and a full range of medications we can prescribe,” said Dr. David Harris, the head of Medical Services. “We also have a full range of laboratory testing and pharmaceuticals are available, all free or at a very reasonable cost to the patient.”

Most of the time, students come in with minor illnesses and ailments. “It depends on the time of the year,” Harris said. “Most commonly we see throat, coughs and colds. But always in there, sprinkled in, are the athletic injuries, skateboard and bicycle accidents and those types of things.”

For math freshman Stephen Schaffer, a bicycle mishap is exactly what brought him in for treatment. “I was leaving my house, late for class, when my foot slipped off the pedal,” Schaffer said. “I hit the middle bar and my foot dragged along on the ground.”

After making a trip to the Health Center, Schaffer said he received pretty good advice on caring for his injury. “They told me just to make sure and keep it clean,” Schaffer said. “I’m supposed to go back if I have any problems with infection, but I think I’ll be OK.”

Harris said strep throat and respiratory infections are quite common, especially at this time of the year.

The Health Center uses health services fees to provide students with a full range of laboratory testing and prescription medications.

The Mustangs travel to Southern Utah for a Great West game against the resourceful Thunderbirds.

The Health Center uses health services fees to provide students with a full range of laboratory testing and prescription medications.
Health

continued from page 1

Bragg added that if the student is very sick, they should definitely go to the Health Center.

"A real flu can put a student out for an entire week," Bragg said. "On a campus with a quarter system, that's just not good."

The Health Center is currently offering flu shots for $15 and no appointment is necessary.

Architecture junior Jaelyn Shor was an example of how illness can affect school performance. "I came down really sick with pneumonia," Shor said. "I missed most of the first four weeks of class and it has taken me a long time to recover." For more serious or after-hours care, the Health Center is not always the best option.

"The first thing I would say is that if you are seriously injured, call 9-1-1 right away or go immediately to the emergency room," Harris said.

"Obviously, if you have a compound fracture with the bone sticking out, don't hesitate. But if you are able to walk, then come here first so we can assess you," he said.

While going to another facility like the nearby San Luis Obispo Regional Medical Center will not be free like a visit to the Health Center, most students have insurance that will help cover the cost.

In fact, Bragg quoted their most recent survey showing that approximately 80 percent of students have private insurance options through their parents. He said insurance was only really necessary for situations dealing with after-hours care, as it is specialty and hospital needs.

Although Schaffer has Kaiser insurance coverage through his parents, he said he knew he could come to the Health Center and receive good care.

The Health Center tends to have long lines, especially during certain times of the day.

"Our wait times are always a problem," Harris said. "We have surges of students that come usually right after the classes are over."

The busiest times are from 2 to 4 p.m., so Harris encourages students to come early in the morning between 8 and 10 a.m.

"That is usually our very low time (for waiting)," he said.

Sustainability

continued from page 1

The group is working with electric car engineer John Dunning, one of the creators of the original FA-1 electric car produced during the 1990s. Since the EV-15 emergency in (and quick disappearance from) the market, electric car technology has greatly improved, allowing for longer ranges, quicker recharge times and lighter batteries.

Still, some challenges are yet to be faced.

"Range and infrastructure are the two big issues right now," Johnson said. "We need more amounts of current and specialized facilities for people to recharge their cars."

"It's going to take some level of personal sacrifice to make the switch over to electric but it's not huge once the infrastructure is in place," project partner Werber said.

The group hopes to complete their electric vehicle research by the end of the school year and submit it to Science Magazine and other top scientific publications.

"We want to produce a model that can be explained in almost layman's terms," Fischer said. "We want to prove to consumers that electric cars are feasible and affordable."

But Johnson said that the biggest change is going to have to come from the consumers themselves — in the form of demand.

"And when does that come?" he asked. "At what point do people say enough is enough? Maybe when the price of gasoline hits $10 a gallon? Or when they start to look at the column of severe weather and natural disasters over the past decade..

"We've had record-breaking droughts, the tsunami in East Asia and then Hurricane Katrina. I think people just don't want to accept what science tells us about global warming and fossil fuels because it's going to mean they have to change how they live their lives."

"It's all physics," Schwartz said. "Even people are subject to Newton's laws of motion," he slid with a smile. "Inertia sets in and they don't want to change."

He said part of the problem comes from the fact that America doesn't see the big picture.

"Our administration has problems dealing with facts, especially scientific facts," he said. "But the political left and the political right both lose if we're wrong about global warming."

Schwartz's students say he has a unique way of thinking that lets him visualize the larger, systems-level connections between their smaller-scale projects.

"He's found all these different ways to interconnect so that ultimately everyone relies on everyone else," Glazar said. "We're working on completely separate projects, but solar research depends on battery technology, which the electric car group is working with. Meanwhile, we would all ultimately like to see electric cars fueled by solar. It all comes together into some grand scheme."

Schwartz says there's no grand scheme that guides him. "The direction toward sustainability is my only purpose," he said. "I have some idea of how these projects fit together, but really it's just important to me to see that these students are moving toward the goal of finding renewable energy alternatives."

"Everything we strive for as physicists and engineers is greater energy efficiency," Johnson said. "The great end result is that we save the planet along the way."

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Cal Poly Health Center's hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

For any emergency situation that occurs after the Health Center has closed, call 9-1-1 or go to the emergency room, San Luis Obispo offers two 24-hour emergency room options.

Sierra Vista Regional Medical Center
47 Santa Rosa Street
(805) 543-9596

French Hospital Medical Center
1913 Johnson Avenue
(805) 543-5353

In less extreme situations, there are two less expensive options available to students.

Mod Stop
283 Madonna Road
(805) 549-8880

Family & Industrial Medical Center — Urgent Care
47 Santa Rosa Street
(805) 542-6905

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www.mustangdaily.net
Scientists develop test for headache chemicals in wine

Marcus Wohlen

The effects are all too familiar: a fancy dinner, some fine wine and then, a few hours later, a racing heart and a pounding headache. But a device developed by University of California, Berkeley, researchers could help avoid the dreaded "red wine headache."

Chemists working with NASA-funded technology designed to find life on Mars have created a device they say can easily detect chemicals that many scientists believe can turn wine and other beloved indulgences into ingredients for agony.

The chemicals, called biogenic amines, occur naturally in a wide variety of aged, pickled and fermented foods prized by gourmet palates, including wine, chocolate, olives, nuts and cured meats.

"The food you eat is so unhappily coupled with your body's chemistry," said Richard Mathies, who described his new technology as an article published Thursday in the journal Analytical Chemistry.

Scientists have nominated several culprits for "red wine headache," including amines like tyramine and histamine, though no conclusions have been reached.

Still, many specialists warn head-ache sufferers away from foods rich in amines, which can also trigger sudden episodes of high blood pressure, heart palpitations and elevated adrenaline levels.

People who take a class of antidepressants known as MAOI inhibitors, which block the body's ability to break down amines, are at special risk of dangerous blood pressure spikes from wine, cheese and other foods.

The detector could prove useful to those with amines sensitivity, said Beverly McCabe, a clinical dietitian and co-author of "Handbook of Food-Drug Interactions," a book cited by the study for its descriptions of the effects of amines on the brain.

The prototype — the size of a small briefcase — uses a drop of wine to determine amines levels in five minutes, Mathies said. A startup company Mathies co-founded is working to create a smaller device the size of a personal digital assistant that people could take to restaurants for testing their favorite wines.

The researchers found the highest amine levels in red wine and sake and the lowest in beer. For now, the device only works with liquids.

Mathies suggests the device could be used to put amines levels on wine labels.

But wine makers have resisted offers to force them to label their bottles with a variety of information about nutrition and possible allergens, arguing it would disrupt the winemaking process.

"We're aware of the consumer demand for information. But that's too thorny to be tempered by the manner in which wine is made," said Wessell Lee, general counsel for the Wine Institute, a California industry trade group.

An example of amines sensitivity comes from a case involving a 36-year-old woman who had previously experienced a "brush with death in 1994," according to the study.

The study documents elevated levels of the amines histamine, tyramine and trimethylamine, among others, in her plasma, urine and saliva after a meal of high-fat, high-protein food. She was unable to eat normally for 10 days, forcing her to change her diet and become a vegetarian.

"The woman expressed that she would never drink red wine again. She has not had another episode since," according to the study.

"It appears they were in high heels to make a U-turn," said police spokesman Steven Frasher.

The accident occurred shortly after midnight Thursday when their 1996 Honda Passport got stuck on the tracks as its driver attempted to make a U-turn. "It appears they were in high heels and having a hard time getting away quickly with the gravel they were walking on," said police spokesman Steven Frasher.

Their escape was also blocked by a wall that runs alongside the railroad tracks, Frasher said.
President Bush compared Congress' Democratic leaders Thursday to people who ignored the rise of Lenin and Hitler early in the last century, saying "the world paid a terrible price" then and risks similar consequences for inaction today.

Bush accused Congress of stalling important pieces of the fight to prevent new terrorist attacks by dragging out and possibly jeopardizing confirmation of Michael Mukasey as attorney general, a key part of his national security team failing to act on a bill governingaversing - dropping on terrorist suspects, and moving too slowly to approve spending measures for the Iraq war, Pentagon and veterans programs.

"Unfortunately, on too many issues, some in Congress are behaving as if America is not at war," Bush said during a speech at the Heritage Foundation, a conservative think tank. "This is no time for Congress to weaken the Department of Justice by denying it a strong and effective leader... It's no time for Congress to weaken our ability to intercept information from terrorists about potential attacks on the United States of America. And this is no time for Congress to hold back vital funding for our troops as they fight al-Qaeda terrorists and radicals in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., said lawmakers refuse to give Bush a blank check for "his directionless war" in Iraq and will not rubber stamp his every general choice. And he said Bush is the one who has taken his focus off the real threats to security.

"It is because of the administration's mismanagement of the war that we stand unready for the next attack," Reid said. "Far from keeping Osama bin Laden on the run, President Bush has distracted us from tracking down a resurgent at Quaid." Bush's remarks were his second in two days alleging inaction on Capitol Hill, which has been led by Democrats since January. This speech focused on measures related to the war on terror, while Wednesday's emphasized disputes between the White House and Congress over domestic issues.

Bush argued the current debate over the Iraq war and the administration's anti-terror methods harkens back to debates decades ago over resisting action when Soviet founder Vladimir Lenin first talked about launching a communist revolution, when Adolf Hitler began moves to establish an "Aryan superstate" in Germany, and in the early days of the Cold War when some advocated accommodation of the Soviet Union.

"Now we've at the start of a new century, and the same debate is once again unfolding, this time regarding my words: 'War or not War,'" Bush said. "Once again, voices in Washington are arguing that the watchword of the policy should be stability.

Bush said any denial of war is dangerous.

"History teaches us that underestimating the words of evil, ambitious men is a terrible mistake," Bush said. "This is no time for the president's efforts to play politics with national security and practice the policies of division.

Congress earned Bush's scorn even while he offered praise because a key Senate committee has passed a new cawdropping bill containing many provisions the president wants. "It's an important step in the right direction," he said.

Bush repeated earlier criticisms of a move to combine spending bills for the Defense Department and veterans programs with one for labor, health and education matters that Republicans consider bloated. Bush also lamented that his emergency spending request for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan still languishes.

"When it comes to funding our troops, we need Congress to spend more time responding to the warnings of terrorists like Osama bin Laden and the requests of our commanders on the ground," Bush said, "and less time responding to the demands of MoveOn.org.

BUSH COMPARES DEMOCRATS TO THOSE WHO IGNORED RISE OF LENIN, HITLER

President Bush walks back to the White House after delivering a speech on the Global War on Terror.
Ido Aharoni
FORMER SENIOR ADVISOR TO ISRAEL’S FOREIGN MINISTER AND VICE PRIME MINISTER

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Caravan for Democracy drives constructive dialogue on college campuses throughout the United States by bringing different speakers from Israel to discuss the challenges Israel faces as the only democracy in the Middle East. Caravan for Democracy provides access to resources and opinions to encourage critical thinking about the issues affecting Israel, how it is covered in the media and its unique role in the region.
Mustangs swear not to take the bait against an 0-8

Poly football travels to Cedar City, Utah to face battle-tested, yet winless Thunderbirds

Danny Anid

Outsiders looking in may allow themselves to be more concerned about the Cal Poly football team’s homecoming showdown next week than Saturday’s contest at winless Southern Utah, but the Mustangs themselves wouldn’t dare.

“We haven’t played well enough to look down on anybody,” Cal Poly head coach Rich Ellerson said. “Our team’s personality and character help us tune out other voices. We expect it to be hard.”

Ellerson and his players stressed that while the Thunderbirds (0-8, 0-2 Great West) will still be in search of their first victory when the two teams take the field at noon Saturday in Cedar City, Utah, it will largely be because of the stiff competition they’ve faced.

“They’re a really good 0-8,” Cal Poly quarterback Jonathan Dalby said. “We have to play all four quarters.”

One of Dalby’s favorite targets, wide receiver Tredale Tobler, shared Dalby’s sentiment that the Thunderbirds’ record is deceiving and shouldn’t be taken lightly not only because the Mustangs (5-3, 1-1 Great West) needed two fourth-quarter touchdowns to beat them 18-14 Sept. 30 last year, but because they have mounted one of the country’s most difficult schedules this year.

“They’re 0-8, but they’re not really an 0-8 team,” Tobler said, adding that Ellerson “does a great job of keeping (the team) zeroed in” and remembering that the “most important game is the next game.”

Indeed, Southern Utah has lost to four of the top six Football Championship Subdivision teams in the country as well as on the road to No. 23 Youngstown State 23-22, and also 7-3 at Montana State, which received the most votes of any unranked team in the latest FCS Coaches Poll.

The most recent of the Thunderbirds’ losses, a 52-17 drubbing, came Oct. 27 at the hands of No. 1 North Dakota State, which is nearly two weeks removed from a 27-21 victory over Big Ten neighbor Minnesota, and will visit the Mustangs at 4:05 p.m. Nov. 10 in a much-anticipated rematch of last year’s 51-14 Bison rout.

The Mustangs will focus on correcting flaws that have plagued them lately, such as covering kick-and-punt returns better, more consistently being aware in the secondary and finding more of a balance between passing and running offensively.

“We fired a few people,” Ellerson said, referring to rearranging his special teams coverage personnel after surrendering a 78-yard punt return for a score last week. But he added that regardless of who the duties fall to, the players will need to adhere to practiced routines to shore up units that rank 102nd in the country in punt-return coverage and make up one of just seven FCS teams to have allowed two kickoff returns for touchdowns.

“Defensively, the Mustangs have been performing as well, uncharacteristically ranking No. 75 in the country in total defense.

“We got casual with our eyes (last week),” Ellerson said, alluding to the 149 yards and two touchdowns receiving allowed to Idaho State’s Jason Tyler, adding that the younger members of a defense featuring four starting underclassmen should have less momentum lapses this far into the season.

Although Cal Poly’s offense, which is No. 1 in the FCS at more than 518 yards per game, boasts the subdivision’s leading passer in efficiency (Dalby) and receiver (Ramos Barco), both of whom shared the College Sporting News’ National Player of the Week honor after the team’s 48-28 vanquishing of the Bengals this past Saturday, Ellerson would like to see his team better execute a more even ratio of plays through the air and on the ground.

“We’re not the kind of outfit to throw 40 times (in a game),” Dalby said, though adding that even he has been slightly surprised that the Mustangs haven’t run more.

While Ellerson, who himself served as head coach at Southern Utah in 1996 before resigning, readily sees room for improvement, current Thunderbirds head coach Wes Meier finds it more difficult to find fault in the Mustangs.

“I don’t see weaknesses on either side of the ball,” Meier said. “We’re going to try to use the home field to our advantage. We’ve played better on the mud than at home — it doesn’t make a whole lot of sense.”

Meier, wholargely blamed last year’sfour-pointloss at Cal Poly on his team’s turnarounds in the fourth quarter of what "would’ve been a big win," said his team needs to transfer its attitude from the beginning of last year’s game to now, and that they should be in a “frame of mind where they’ve got something to prove.”

“If we hold on to the ball, we have a great chance of winning the game,” he said.

Exactly who will be under center for the Thunderbirds remains "up in the air," Meier said Tuesday, after starting signal caller Wes Marshall had to leave the game with an injury in the first half of his team’s loss to North Dakota State.
Cody isn’t quite the runner Wes is, but he’s probably a better thrower,” Meier joked when discussing the teams’ passing attack. Johnny Sanchez, meanwhile, leads the Thunderbirds in rushing with 464 yards and four TDs on 108 carries. Slot back and return specialist Nick Miller heads the team with 33 catches and 1,211 all-purpose yards.

Johnny Sanchez has rushed for 464 yards, but besides Marshall, who could be out, the next ball carrier has just 16 totes.

Sophomore middle linebacker Rob Takeno is a force in the middle. Senior middle linebacker Rob Takeno has made a team-high 61 tackles, 12-1/2 quarterback sacks and four interceptions.

Southern Utah’s No. 93 defense will try to contain a Mustang passing attack that a week ago boasted Daily completing 16-of-24 passes for 453 yards and five scores, three to Barden and two to Toolver. Barden’s 19 catches for 268 yards, both career highs, were his latest stamp on a campaign garnering lofty praise — and perhaps — even envy in rival coaches’ circles.

“The wishes we had Ramses,” Meier joked when discussing the teams’ passing attack. “Not to be outdone, Toolver, whose scores covered 38 and 62 yards at Idaho State, opined that Cal Poly’s offense, too, can stand to improve as it comes down the home stretch of a season in which the team is still trying to prove itself worthy of a playoff berth.”

“We have so many weapons, it’s keeping us versatile,” Toolver said. “Offensively, though, we have to pay better attention to detail. There’s a full season of work left in these three weeks.”
Women's soccer hopes to continue winning streak

Laure Kavasyn  Mustang Daily

The Cal Poly men's soccer team (7-8-1 overall, 3-1 Big West) has two games left in its season and the Mustangs need two wins to put themselves in position to host the Big West Tournament on Nov. 9 and Nov. 11.

Head coach Alex Crozier said that the team's strategy this weekend will remain the same as it has been all season.

"Every game is going to be a battle and we're just going to go in to play," Crozier said. "There's no real particular player standing out. Everyone's playing well and battling, so hopefully one or two will make the difference." The Mustangs will travel for Friday's 2 p.m. game against Long Beach State and Sunday's 3:30 p.m. game against Cal State Northridge.

The Mustangs started the season 1-8-1 overall and lost the opening Big West match 2-3 (1 p.m. game against Cal State Northridge."

Crozier said that both teams will prove tough competition for the Mustangs.

"Long Beach was picked first in the conference. They have a dangerous team," Ozier said. "We win these two games and we make it to conference championship. As long as we show up to those games and compete, we'll probably host conference," Andrews said.

Alumni player joins U.S. team

Former Cal Poly soccer player Ren Silva will take his game to the sands of Rio de Janeiro while representing the United States at the FIFA Beach World Cup.

Silva (Cal Poly 2002-04) will play as an attacker for the United States at the FIFA Beach World Cup. The team will be led by Greg Berhalter, the U.S. national team coach who was on the all-conference Second Team last season. He has been named a preconference all-conference player this year.

"We really is a vocalied leader and the team has really rallied around him," Murphy said. The Big West Conference always offers stiff competition for the Mustangs but the squad will also play top teams in the preseason such as USC, which went to the Sweet 16 in the NCAA tournament last year but lost to Northern Illinois, 74-64.

"I feel like the (schedule) has a lot to offer and is challenging enough," Whiten said. "We have strength and dynamic guards who create the best shots and three-pointers with regularity. We are also becoming more consistent on the defensive side.

"We strive for the best competition and love making somebody who is ranked high look like they are not that impressive," Whiten said. "We have a good and dynamic guard who create the best shots and three-pointers with regularity. We are also becoming more consistent on the defensive side.

They will play Utah State at home on Nov. 15. Of the horse game against Utah State, Clark said, "We have never played against Utah State since my time here at Cal Poly. Our record against them is 1-12 and I hope to make it 2-12.' Whiten anticipates the crowds will be larger this year, especially with the Utah State game.

"I hope people will come out. We have been doing that with games against Utah State, we have to pay it back," Whiten said. The tip-off against Stanislaus will be at 7 p.m.
Environmentalism is dead. Well, don’t call the coroner just yet. It’s not exactly dead, but it is on its very last legs. I’m referring to the old school of environmental thinking. You know, the one that pushed for those great bills way back when. All in all, few were the Clean Air Act and the Endangered Species Act. They did some incredible things during their prime and we are all deeply indebted. But it is now time for that school of thought to cede over their authority to the new-schoolers. All of this is in reference to the now-infamous article by Karl Schoen­ leber and Ted Nordhaus, titled “The Death of Environmentalism: Global Warming Politics in a Post-Environmental World” (you can read it at www.thebreakthrough.org).

Seeing as there has been a bit of controversy brewing in this paper about the global warming issue, I figured I’d put my two cents in. The truth of the matter is that there is a debate among scientists about the basic facts of global warming. The most respected scientific bodies in the world have stated unequivocally that global warming is occurring and that people are causing it by burning fossil fuels. The U.S. National Academy of Sciences, which in 2005 the White House called “the gold standard of objective scientific assessments,” issued a joint statement with 10 other National Academies of Science saying: “The scientific understanding of climate change is now sufficiently clear to justify nations taking prompt action.” It is vital that all nations identify cost-effective steps that they can take now to contribute to substantial and long-term reduction in net global greenhouse gas emissions.”

The real debate is in the science community about global warming is about how much and how fast will warming continue as a result of these emissions. Scientists have given a clear warning about global warming and we have more than enough facts about causes and fixes to implement solutions right now.

And for the record, I did not walk out of a screening of “An Inconvenient Truth” as a converted eco-coward. All of my passion and interest in this movement comes from a deeply seeded feeling I have that we, as a society, can live better. Our species has so much incredible potential and that begins with self-management. While past societies have failed (ex: Angkor Wat) due to our own ignorance, we still have the opportunity to right our mistakes with our advanced knowledge of systems and our technology. For a profound change to occur, there must be a paradigm shift where past societies went wrong, check out Jared Diamond’s “Collapse.”

Over the last two decades environmental organizations have put millions into combating global warming. What do they have to show for it? Very little thus far, I’m afraid. In the article, “The greatest achievements to reduce global warming are today happening in Europe. Britain, for example, in 2005, reduced carbon emissions over a 10-year period, Holland by 80 percent in 40 years, and Germany by 50 percent in 50 years... Environmentalists are learning all the wrong lessons from Europe. We closely scrutinize the policies without giving much thought to the politics that made the policies possible. Our thesis is this: the environmental community’s narrow definition of its self-interest leads to a kind of policy literacy that undermines its power.”

We need a new set of politics that focus not on enforcing regulations, but on promoting investments. The public overwhelmingly supports investment into renewable energy technologies and views research into renewable technologies as the best approach to achieving energy independence A 2007 Gallup poll found investment to be the most popular (T7 percent) of a set of policy responses to global warming. As a political message, when investment is framed as creating American energy independence AND fighting global warming, it becomes tremendously powerful.

In the eyes of the average American citizen, both the cost of energy and energy independence are higher priorities concerns than global warming; this should come as no surprise. It is far more broad and abstract subject when compared to the simple tangibility of an electricity bill. According to the IPCC, the Stern Review and most energy experts, any truly comprehensive response to global warming will include both regulation and investment in the development of new energy technologies. While the government has pushed technical programs facing global climate change regulations: investments are seen as a means both to lower energy costs and to increase the strength of the national economy. An analysis of the 206 in 2007 for the Stern Review on Climate Change, "In terms of what the government should be doing, the public supports major research efforts to develop new energy sources." We now seem farwell to the era of old environmentalism. But with its death comes new life.
Modern languages professor Chelo Velasquez (center) with her Chicano Poetry class.

SAYRA REYES
MUSTANG RUBY

Britney’s “Blackout” sets the record straight

Amy McIntosh
THE DAILY MUSTANG (EL PASO, TEXAS)

Oops. She did it again. Britney Spears, who once graciously supplied the world with cheesy pop hits such as “Baby One More Time” and “I’m a Slave 4 U,” returns to the music business with her fifth album in four years. “Blackout,” her latest album, is an attempt to escape the sometimes ridiculing world of pop music. In the past year alone she went to rehab, divorced K. Fed and lost custody of her children. It seems natural that her newest album “Blackout” will come out in the near future.

However, she doesn’t think of herself as a guitarist or even the sweaty 20(-something who danced her way into our hearts. She just loves to sing. In Chicana culture, oral tradition is very important and she sees her performance poetry as a part of that. “Poetry is like song, it comes from the soul. You have to sing it with your soul,” she said.

Born in Colorado, a “daughter of the poorest of the poor,” she was lucky just to get through high school. “Teaching was not something I considered, I just considered surviving,” she said. She eventually saved enough money to go to Northern Colorado University, where she became connected with the national Chicano artistic renaissance and social movements of the 1970s. “When you’re born with nothing, you have everything,” she said. As a student she attended the Flor y Canto Festival — during which people came together to paint murals and read poetry — which spoke to her specifically and made her realize she wanted to use her art for social change like the people she so admired. She stresses the role of the Chicana writer as a cultural worker to her students as well. “It’s a link to a community art that isn’t simply to express creativity but also to inspire social change,” she said. “I think you have to be a product of the poor.”

She came to Cal Poly after finishing her Ph.D. at Stanford University and was hired specifically to bring Chicano literature to the university. However, she said her biggest reason for coming was “the culture.” A native of the Colorado plains, she used to feel at home among the mountains and small-town atmosphere.

“I’m a part of my indigenous soul,” she said. She sees raising social consciousness and offering different perspectives as the most important parts of a college education, especially on a largely white campus. Her particular perspective was affected by the literary explosion after the Chicano artistic renaissance and her Stanford education, which contributed to her feminist outlook. “The highlight for me as a Cal Poly professor is seeing the end of the year when I attend the Chicano and black commencement,” she said.

Although she has met some criticism among students for her perspective, she said most are grateful for a fresh point of view. “Students are hungry for my medicine,” she said.

A big name in literature circles, Velasquez lives and breathes what she teaches, and knows most of the authors she teaches personally. This quarter, one of her literature classes will study an author she can offer extra insight into: herself. She admitted it may be a little interesting and she refers to her work as her “twin sister” in class.

“It’s not literature to analyze or sell or for any practical reason,” Velasquez said. “It’s to inspire social change.”

In the near future, she sees partial retirement, writing her autobiography and continuing to tour and meet readers. “I’ve been very blessed by the spirits,” she said. “I’ve lived my dreams.”
Retrospective
continued from page 12
In 1979 he opened the Rainbow Theatre on One Street, which ran successfully for 10 years. Then, in August 1988, he opened Sun Love Shop's small Palm Theatre. In fact, just the year before, the Deo's Palm Theatre is now a staple among the movie buffs of this college town.

Donna Kandel
When Donna Kandel came to Cal Poly to earn her bachelor's degree in math, she already had a lot of life experience under her belt. The former freelance artist graduated with her math degree in 2001.

"I had a great experience at Cal Poly...I was able to merge my artistic and mathematical abilities and come away with a really holistic experience," Kandel's exhibit in the Retrospective feature will showcase her unique merger of complex geometric and artistic concepts through hyperbolic geometry. "Math and art are both about visual and spatial relationships," she said. "I wanted to prevent math in an aesthetically appealing way."

She first explored the math and art combination, with her senior project at Cal Poly. "A couple of the professors really were interested about the idea when I told them about it," she said. "I had to explain to them that my goal was to create something that could stand alone as math and stand alone as art."

With the support of her academic advisor and with a little inspiration from the famous Dutch optical illusionist and graphic artist M.C. Escher, Kandel completed her first hyperbolic pavilion called "M.T." Now a math teacher at Nipomo High School, Kandel received her teaching credential from Cal Poly in 2002. "I see that impulse for creativity in what I do now as a teacher," she said. "Teaching is a creative function."

Samantha Agha
Sumaya Agha got some of her first big breaks as a photographer when she was a college J' for Cal Poly's KQPR radio station in the '90s. There the art and design major had access to bands, including singer Björk's former band, The Sugarcubes, that gave her a flair for capturing people on film.

In the decade since she graduated, Agha has blossomed into a successful freelance photographer and photojournalist. At first glance, her portfolio seems to contain about polar opposites: musicians clad in infamous stockings on one print, Syrian women in burkas on another. But Agha's life experiences that tie all these themes altogether.

As a young girl, she first became aware of the power of photojournalism as she took trips back and forth between her family's native country of Syria during the heart of the social movements there.

Above, "Three generations of women" by former art and design student Sumaya Agha is on display at the oncampus multimedia Retrospective exhibit.

Her passion for photography carried on into high school and then led to her art degree in 1997 from Cal Poly. Agha remembers being inspired by her professors, particularly Mark Hoffman, a former LIFE Magazine photographer who she said was "really successful, inspirational and down-to-earth, yet he still expected a lot from us students."

Agha began her career photographing emerging musicians — including not only Björk, but also M. Ward and Viva Chosen — just as they were in the early stages of their own fame. One of the photographs on display at the Retrospective display will be a portrait of Academy Award-winning film director Ernest Morris, whose Agha did photograph work for in the documentary "The Fog of War."

With a need to be at the center of the art world, Agha moved to the big cities of the East Coast, apprenticing in New York with news media organization Democracy Now. In Boston, she published some of her best documentary work for DoubleTake Magazine.

Agha currently has a studio in Carmel, which she says is quiet and peaceful after her big-city stint, but something she is willing to give up to move to Damascus, Syria in January to continue freelance work and to study Arabic.

The recent political atmosphere in the Middle East has prompted Agha to turn the majority of her attention back to her home country. "The goal with my photos is to present the public with the humanity, the culture, the everyday life," she said.

Agha's Retrospective exhibit in the Cal Poly library, a photograph entitled "Three generations of women" depicts a table of Syrian women of varying ages, all in burkas. Another is an aerial view of a watermelon vendor selling his treats in the middle of the blistering Middle Eastern summer. "I feel that the Middle East is villainized in the media so often, and as a photographer, I'd like to show a different angle," she said.

The New York Times Crossword
Across
1. Just the pits
2. 16 Class line of denim
17. A bit of fluff
18. Flag holder
19. Mean's Abbr.
20. Comic strip
21. Revelation
22. Horizon indication
23. Point whose name means "little"
25. Many an e-mail attachment
30. Sown up
37. The Rand..."Show's" network
42. Determine
49. It change your mind
50. Done

Down
1. Thrashers' home in N.H.L.
2. Another one just filling in
3. Compressed Air
7. My-oy
20. 16 Heigutian novel
21. Alternative in a 23-Across
28. Somewhat, in music
33. Embarrassing way to be dug out
36. 1936 ambiguity novel
37. Insult on the internet
39. Volt-ampere
44. Peculiar: Prefix
45. Relative of ace-announced

The New York Times
Crossword
Edited by Will Shortz
No. 921

1. Second of 24
4. See 52-Down
5. Arm raiser, informally
6. Vote for
7. In need of a
8. Ragged edges, in metalworking
9. Lamb's: Lat.
10. What 1
to earn her badiolors dogroo in 10.
11. Strong player?
12. Ottumwana officer
13. Simple
14. Tool
15. Some specialties in aid.
21. They may give
22. Spring river phenomenon
23. Sanding material
24. Conversational
25. Yo-yo
26. Heigutian title
27. Alternative in a 23-Across
28. Somewhat, in music
33. Embarrassing way to be dug out
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Friday, November 2, 2007
MUSTANG DAILY
This is the first in a two-part series profiling the Retrospective exhibit. Look for the second part in Monday’s paper.

Cal Poly alumni will reflect back on the years spent at their alma mater and showcase their post-graduation creativity in the Retrospective art exhibit held at the Kennedy Library Nov. 2 to Jan. 6.

The exhibit will feature works by six different Cal Poly alumni in a variety of media and will take a contemplative look at the influential experiences each alumni had at Cal Poly.

“These alumni will look back on their undergraduate years and exhibit work that signifies the teaching philosophies of Cal Poly and the professors and experiences that most influenced them,” said Catherine Trujillo, special collections curator. “The exhibition features work in a variety of media in keeping with the diverse range of interests taken by Cal Poly’s alumni since their undergraduate days and, for some, demonstrating the positive impact they have made on the local community.”

The Retrospective gallery will be open during normal library hours and also during Homecoming Weekend Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m.

Jim Dee

As a student at Cal Poly in the ’70s, journalism graduate Jim Dee was already beginning the enterprise that has made his independent movie theatre on Palm Street such a success.

While he was a student at Cal Poly from 1970 to 1975, Dee and friend Paul Karlen began what they called the Cinema Zoo, projecting short Hollywood films, horrors and features in the building that was then the San Luis Obispo Little Theatre to anyone willing to pay a few bucks to get in.

“It was always sporadic when we decided to show these movies,” Dee said, although on average they had about a hundred people at each showing.

His display at the Retrospective exhibit will feature a selection of the movie posters that Dee and Karlen created to promote their Cinema Zoo.

Dee was a DJ at Cal Poly’s KCPR radio station during his college years and said he knew then that there were two options for his career goals. “Cinema was one of the two things I wanted to do, along with possibly a radio career.”

But as he graduated from Cal Poly, Dee saw a need for more movie theaters in San Luis Obispo and chose that path. “In the ’70s there were very few movie theaters in SLO,” he explained. “Between the Fremont and the drive-ins and maybe a few others there were probably five screens or so. A lot of times I wouldn’t even be able to see some of the big Hollywood premiers that came out.”