Chelsea Clinton visits Poly today

Angela Watkins
MUSTANG DAILY

Chelsea Clinton, daughter of former President Bill Clinton and Sen. Hillary Rodham-Clinton, will be speaking at Cal Poly this afternoon. The 27-year-old will give a speech at 5 p.m. in Chumash Auditorium, according to Associated Students Inc.

The visit is one in a series of visits Clinton has made to California universities in the last few weeks. Earlier this month, Clinton made surprise visits at UC San Diego, UC Irvine and Stanford, her alma mater.

The proposal of a Clinton visit was put before ASI Thursday, and the organization spent most of Thursday struggling to confirm arrangements for the daughter of the Democratic presidential candidate.

With Election Day quickly approaching and the California primaries a vital force behind the Democratic presidential nomination, Clinton has taken a rare step into the limelight to subly call attention to her mother's bid.

However, Clinton is not coming specifically to endorse her mother's candidacy; her speech will reportedly focus primarily on the importance of the youth vote.

"Personally, I'm an Obama fan but I think it's wonderful she's making an effort to reach young voters," said Erica Jaroff, president of Cal Poly Democrats.

After the speech, students are encouraged to stay for a question and answer session.

"It'll be a great opportunity to ask her questions if she'll answer them; I wish more candidates took an interest in Cal Poly," said Brian Eiler, a materials engineering senior and former测量er for Cal Poly Republicans.

Students prepare tax returns for free

Rachel Glas
MUSTANG DAILY

A group of Cal Poly students aims to ease the stress of tax season by offering free tax services for low-income students and community members.

Business accounting seniors will prepare tax returns starting Saturday for free at the computer lab on the business building's third floor. The program runs from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. every Saturday until March 15.

Individuals or families with a total income of less than $40,000 are eligible to receive the program's services.

"We are helping people who may not have the ability to prepare their own taxes," program coordinator Michelle Bissonnette said.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance has been offered at Cal Poly for 17 years, and 73 students will be involved this year, Bissonnette said. The program is sponsored by the IRS and the Franchise Tax Board.

To participate, individuals are asked to bring their Social Security cards or ITIN numbers as well as their 2006 tax returns. Two students pair up to prepare one tax return, then a certified public accountant from the community checks it over.

"Participants are basically getting a professional to do their taxes," Bissonnette said.

VITA is run as a business class and Cal Poly students receive senior project credit, but the students involved are participating for more reasons than to get school credit.

"It's a great volunteer opportunity; we are really doing good for the community," business administration senior Shannon Downing said.

Students also gain real-life experience that can help them determine their career path. "After this class I'll be comfortable deciding whether I want to go into tax or auditing or neither," business administration junior Arielle Dekokby said.

To prepare for the busy tax season, students meet twice a week for a month to learn the computer software as well as administrative policies that the IRS mandates, Bissonnette said. Classes then stop Saturday.
Bush's 2009 budget lean for domestic, health programs

Kevin Freking
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Bush's 2009 budget will virtually freeze most domestic programs and seek nearly $200 billion in savings from federal health care programs, a senior administration official said Thursday.

Overall, the Bush budget will exceed $3 trillion, this official said. The deficit is expected to reach about $400 billion for this year and next.

Bush will present his proposed budget for the new fiscal year to Congress on Monday, where it's unlikely to gain much traction in the midst of a presidential campaign.

The president promised a plan that would erase the budget deficit by 2012 if his policies are followed.

To that end, Bush will propose nearly $178 billion in savings from Medicare over five years — nearly triple what he proposed last year. Much of the savings would come from freezing reimbursement rates for most health care providers for three years. An additional $17 billion would come from freezing reimbursement rates for most health care providers for three years.

The budget for most domestic programs funded by Congress will look similar to last year's, according to the official from the Office of Management and Budget.

"It's a very small increase," he said. "Very small."

A second administration official said domestic discretionary spending would increase by less than 1 percent under Bush's proposal. Both officials spoke on condition of anonymity because the budget has not yet been released.

The federal government is expected to spend about $600 billion on Medicare and Medicaid in 2008. It represents more than $1 out of every $5 spent by the federal government.

The OMB official said the president views the budget as a final opportunity to close the gap between entitlement programs but recognizes that Congress probably won't go along. He said spending on Medicare would increase under Bush's new budget, but not as quickly as had been expected.

"Medicare will grow at 5 percent. It just won't grow over 7 percent," he said.

Savings also would come by charging wealthier people higher monthly premiums for Medicare's drug program.

"The increase in premiums would..." the official said.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services said the Bush budget would project the 10-year cost of the program, from 2008 to 2017, at $415 billion. That's $117 billion less than what had been forecast last summer. The agency attributed the lower estimate to smaller increases in the cost of medicines, and better deals negotiated between insurers and drug manufacturers.

Homeland Security adds cities, regions to terrorism high-risk list

Eileen Sullivan
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — More cities across the country are considered at high risk of terrorism than in previous years, according to a new list of funding priorities for homeland security.

Last year the department made 45 cities or regions eligible for a competitive counterterrorism grant program. This year, the list has been expanded to 60 areas that can apply for the nearly $52 million available according to documents obtained by The Associated Press.

The urban area grants are one of the department's most popular — and most intensely debated — programs. The department divides the regions at highest risk of a terrorist attack into two tiers.

The seven highest-risk areas — including Los Angeles, New York and Washington — will be competing for about $410 million this year. The remaining 53 will compete for about $352 million. The department plans to release the list Friday.

The list has grown and shrunk in recent years, based on decisions the department says are not based on the result of specific threats or concerns but that reflect an overall analysis of threat data.

Some regions on the list in the past were dropped more recently. For instance, Albany, N.Y., was put back on the list this year after being dropped last year.

Other regions added to the list this year are: Rochester, N.Y.; Syracuse, N.Y.; Austin and Round Rock, Texas; Baton Rouge, La.; Bridgeport, Stamford and Norwalk, Conn.; the Hart- ford, Conn., region; Louisville and Jeffersonville, Ind.; and Middletown, Ohio.

Every year, the list pleases and annoys elected officials based on which cities are added or dropped. But this year Congress insisted that the department include more cities.

Sen. Joe Lieberman, I-Conn., the chairman of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, said he is thrilled that the department included more cities.

"We were pleased and encouraged that the department included more cities," he said.

But Lieberman also asked for more than $12 billion for border security and immigration enforcement, a 19 percent increase over what Congress appropriated for these programs in 2008.

This money would go toward building a fence along the southern border and enforcing immigration laws, such as deporting illegal immigrants and holding businesses accountable for hiring people who are in the country illegally.

Illegal immigrants has been a hot topic in both the Democratic and Republican presidential campaigns.

Last year Congress failed to pass a comprehensive immigration bill.

Taxes

continued from page 1

and students will only meet on Saturdays to prepare tax returns.

But don't think they won't be busy.

"First, people come in and we determine if they are eligible through a pre-screening process. Then we prepare their taxes and file them all in one day," Dekofsky said.

Last year, students filed more than 900 tax returns, and Bissomnette expects this year's number to be similarly high.

"Every year, we are busy from day one to the very end," she said.

Cal Poly also offers services for Spanish-speaking individuals. Though the number of undocumented students who choose to live in San Luis Obispo County continues to grow this year, Bissomnette stresses that Spanish-speaking students are encouraged to come.

"We will be monitoring the phones to make sure everyone will be helped and all flyers will be printed in Spanish as well," she said.
"What do you do to help the environment?"

Compiled and photographed by Rachel Glas

"I'm a member of Poly Habitat, I recycle, and I also try to conserve energy — I turn off the TV and lights when I leave the house."

— Michelle Fox, philosophy freshman

"I recycle and I try to walk instead of driving my car."

— Maria Lusherovich, junior and city regional planning major

"I went to Focus the Nation and learned about sustainability."

— Leahe Epshteyn, city and regional planning sophomore

"I try not to litter."

— Aaron Harry, biomedical engineering freshman

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Hey, we've got a real news feed too.

"You've been poked by The Mustang Daily. Poke them back at www.mustangdaily.net. Hey, we've got a real news feed too."
Japan's dolphin hunt sags under protests over mercury contamination

Joseph Coleman

Every autumn and winter, hunters from this craggy Japanese fishing village corral thousands of dolphins into a tiny, isolated cove and kill them for meat and fertilizer, turning the water red with their blood.

Every year foreign animal rights' proponents converge on the town, interfering with the slaughter, clashing with fishermen and broadcasting grisly photographs of the slayings around the world — all without stopping the hunt.

Now, Japan's dolphin hunters face a new, powerful opponent: mercury contamination.

A series of scientific studies in recent years in Japan have documented high levels of the toxic heavy metal in dolphin meat, and a group of city councilmen in Taiji launched an unprecedented campaign against the hunt several months ago after doing their own tests.

A leading regional supermarket chain has pulled dolphin from its shelves over the health concerns, and hunt critics in the town say villagers are shaming it. Meat from pilot whales — a type of dolphin — was taken off local school lunch menus in October.

"The mayor says we've caused 100 million yen ($1 million) in damages to the industry, but I don't know how that's calculated," said Junichi Yamashita, a city councilman spearheading the anti-hunt movement. "They say the business is important for Taiji, but we say that health is more important.

Indeed, while animal rights arguments against the hunt have fallen on deaf ears in Japan, the threat of mercury contamination strikes a chord in Japan and abroad, at substantial profit.

"They say that if dolphin hunting disappears, then Taiji will disappear," he said. "I say it's important to look at developing other industries," he said. "They're upset that I showed this to the outside world."

The Taiji leadership — only three of 10 councilmen oppose the hunt — is clinging to plans for the new slaughterhouse, counting on sales of dolphin meat outside the region, where the mercury concerns have not spread because dolphins are also sold to dolphin aquaria in Japan and abroad, at substantial profit.

Fishermen work on a boat filled with freshly caught dolphins as a diver lifts a tale from the bright red, blood-filled water in the fishing town of Taiji in Wakayama Prefecture, Japan.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>film</th>
<th>grade</th>
<th>cast &amp; crew</th>
<th>the big picture</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atonement (R)</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>James McAvoy, Keira Knightley, Romola Garai, Jaqueline Bisset, Vincent Perez</td>
<td><strong>Summary:</strong> When a girl accuses her sister's lover of a crime he did not commit, the couple's future together is threatened and the girl grows up seeking atonement for her actions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Bucket List (PG-13)</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Jack Nicholson, Morgan Freeman, Sean Hayes, Beverly Todd, Rob Morrow, Alfonso Freeman, Rowena King; directed by Rob Reiner</td>
<td><strong>Summary:</strong> Two terminally ill men, Edward (Nicholson) and Carter (Freeman), leave the hospital in search of completing their &quot;Bucket List,&quot; a list of things they wish to accomplish before they die.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cloverfield (PG-13)</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>Michael Stahl-David, Mike Vogel, Odette Yustman, Lizzy Caplan, Jessica Lucas, T.J. Miller; directed by Matt Reeves</td>
<td><strong>Summary:</strong> When a monster the size of a skyscraper emerges from the ocean and wreaks havoc upon Manhattan, Rob (Stahl-David) and his friends have to escape before the city is completely destroyed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Eye (PG)</td>
<td>97 min.</td>
<td>Jessica Alba, Alessandro Nivola, Parker Posey; directed by David Moreau and Xavier Palud</td>
<td><strong>Summary:</strong> Blind, accomplished Los Angeles-based violinist Sydney Wells (Alba) undergoes a double corneal transplant — a lifelong dream — to restore her eyesight. Unexplainable shadows and frightening images begin to haunt her too, and Sydney must figure out whether they are simply a side effect of her surgery or part of a larger pattern.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Great Debaters (PG-13)</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>Denzel Washington, Forest Whitaker, Nate Parker, Jemez Smolett, Denzel Whitaker, Michael Ealy, Damon Wayans; directed by Denzel Washington</td>
<td><strong>Summary:</strong> Based on the true story of debate team leader Mel Tolson (Denzel Washington), the film depicts a racially segregated South and the small victories won by the Wiley college debate team.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hannah Montana &amp; Miley Cyrus: Concert in 3D (PG-13)</td>
<td>74 min.</td>
<td>Miley Cyrus, Kenny Ortega; directed by Bruce Hendrick</td>
<td><strong>Summary:</strong> A 3-D concert featuring the 2007 Hannah Montana/Miley Cyrus tour.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mad Money (PG-13)</td>
<td>104 min.</td>
<td>Diane Keaton, Queen Latifah, Katie Holmes, Ted Danson, Stephen Root, Christopher McDonald, Adam Rittenberg; directed by Callie Khouri</td>
<td><strong>Summary:</strong> Diane Keaton, Queen Latifah and Katie Holmes team up as three Federal Reserve employees who devise an elaborate plan to rob soon-to-be-destructors' dump.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meet the Spartans (PG-13)</td>
<td>84 min.</td>
<td>Sean Maguire, Carmen Electra; directed by Jason Friedberg</td>
<td><strong>Summary:</strong> As it is shot entirely handheld (think &quot;Blair Witch Project&quot;), you're bound to get sick.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Clayton (R)</td>
<td>119 min.</td>
<td>Tom Wilkinson, Michael O'Keefe, Sydnee Poitier, Danielle Staubert, Tilda Swinton, George Clooney; directed by Tony Gilroy</td>
<td><strong>Summary:</strong> Michael Clayton faces the biggest challenges of his career and life, however, when a lawyer at the firm sabotages an important case.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Country for Old Men (R)</td>
<td>122 min.</td>
<td>Tommy Lee Jones, Josh Brolin, Woody Harrelson, Kelly McDonald; directed by Ethan and Joel Coen</td>
<td><strong>Summary:</strong> A small-time carjack and his pregnant wife choice to stay one step ahead of the authorities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rambo (R)</td>
<td>93 min.</td>
<td>Sylvester Stallone, Julie Benz, Paul Schulze, Matthew Marsden, Tim Kang, Jake La Botz, Maung Maung Khin; directed by Sylvester Stallone</td>
<td><strong>Summary:</strong> Vietnam War veteran Rambo leads a band of mercenaries to rescue Christian activists being held captive by a genocidal Burmese military troop. A flaw-less acting; plot for both thought-provoking drama lovers and scary movie aficionados.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Untraceable (R)</td>
<td>110 min.</td>
<td>Diane Lane, Billy Burke, Colin Hanks, Joseph Cross; directed by Gregory Hoblit</td>
<td><strong>Summary:</strong> From the people who brought you &quot;Epic Movie,&quot; &quot;Meet The Spartans&quot; is another satirical movie that borrows its basic plot from &quot;300&quot; and parodies the likes of &quot;Rambo,&quot; &quot;Spiderman 3,&quot; &quot;You Get Served&quot; and Britney Spears.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 Dresses (PG-13)</td>
<td>107 min.</td>
<td>Katherine Heigl, James Marsden, Malin Akerman, Edward Burns, Melora Hardin, Judy Greer; directed by Anne Fletcher</td>
<td><strong>Summary:</strong> Untraceable&quot; proves unworthy</td>
</tr>
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**FRIDAY SHOWTIMES**

**Downtown Centre Cinema**

- **The Eye (PG)**: 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15
- **Untraceable**: 2:50, 5:25, 8:00, 10:30
- **The Great Debaters**: 4:40, 10:30
- **Atonement**: 1:50, 4:35, 7:35, 9:10
- **Cleverfield**: 1:20, 3:30, 5:50, 8:10, 10:30
- **27 Dresses**: 14:35, 4:15, 6:50, 9:45
- **The Bucket List**: 1:30, 3:45, 6:15, 9:30
- **No Country For Old Men**: 2:00, 7:25

**Fremont Theatre**

- **Hannah Montana & Miley Cyrus: Concert in 3D**: 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00
- **Rambo**: 1:30, 3:40, 5:45, 7:50, 10:10
- **Michael Clayton**: 3:10, 5:45, 7:55, 10:05
- **Meet The Spartans**: 8:45, 8:55, 10:20
- **Mad Money**: 12:45, 5:35, 10:15
- **Palm Theatre**
  - **The Diving Bell and Butterfly**: 4:15, 9:15
  - **In The Valley of Elah**: 6:45
  - **Juno**: 4:15, 7:00, 9:15
  - **There Will Be Blood**: 4:45, 9:00

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**Frank Godinho**

**Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)**

**After watching “Untraceable,” most viewers will be left with nothing more than a bitter taste in their mouths. In their pursuit of a new-age psychological thriller, “Untraceable” fails to leave most viewers with a lasting impression.**

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**Untraceable** proves unworthy
Local author Sue McKee spins a tale of the heart

When guests enter her house, Susan McKee politely asks them to take off their shoes before stepping inside. It’s a habit she learned in China, and one she still likes to keep, along with hanging Oriental watercolors on the wall behind her.

As two “60-somethings,” McKee and her husband Robert decided nine years ago to embark on the kind of adventure that many half their age aren’t bold enough to do. Selling their cars and renting out their comfortable home in San Luis Obispo, the two accepted a Morrison humanitarian mission to teach English to college students in a rural village in China.

When she returned home to San Luis Obispo, McKee decided to write the story of their 16-month experience at Zhejiang Wenti University in Ningbo, China. The result was the recently-published “Days Like Floating Water,” a Story of Modern China.”

In China, the couple decided they wanted to do some sort of mission for their church, and having spent some of her adolescent years growing up in Asia, McKee said she knew she wanted to return to that part of the world.

The Chinese government, meanwhile, was actively looking for English teachers to come in to the country, and the match seemed perfect. The only catch: Americans and a Morrison, the McKees would be watched and monitored constantly to make sure everything they taught was acceptable by the country’s Communist standards — there would be no mention of religion and no discussion of politics.

Apprehension aside, the couple boarded a plane and arrived in the village of Chuga on the outskirts of the city of 1.2 million souls lurching into the twenty-first century, anxious to be rid of its heavy gray seems to mute even those.

The McKees tried various tricks to liven up the formal atmosphere of the Chinese classroom as well — “the desks are bolted to the floor” — so they started bringing music into the classroom, playing guitar and singing. McKee started writing “Days Like Floating Water” before she even knew it, in the stories she described in the e-mails she sent home. Upon her return to the United States, several friends told her that they had really enjoyed the correspondences she’d sent out, and that she should consider compiling them into a book.

But sitting down to the task, McKee quickly realized that in order to do a good book, it had to be more than just a collection of e-mails. Using those e-mails as a framework, she began to write, laboriously at first, until she “really began to enjoy it, and to relive the experience in that way.”

The result was “Days Like Floating Water, A Story of Modern China.”

“The Chinese don’t understand standing in line,” McKee said with a laugh. “It was a chance for us to focus on something other than ourselves, to not worry about things like paying the gas or bills.”

Growing up, I wasn’t prepared for how much I would start to like these kids,” McKee said. “Our two cultures were sort of foreign to each other, and yet they became like extended family.”

Given that their small house was on campus, the McKees started inviting students to come over to the evenings for informal talks in English, which quickly became an open-door policy for students who wanted to come over to talk, help cook dinner, play Chinese chess or even take piano lessons.

“As we were leaving the students would say, ‘Remember always, you have sons and daughters in China,’ she said.

McKee related the story of one young Chinese woman called Judy, who McKee said was one of their more outgoing, talkative students, “a free spirit.”

“Sometimes she would start trying to tell me something in English, but it would come out so funny and pretty soon she’d be firing off in rapid Mandarin Chinese, and I couldn’t follow anymore,” McKee explained. “By the end, we’d both be doubled over laughing.”

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“Growing up, I never thought that would actually happen, that I would settle somewhere,” McKee said, laughing at the fact that now, 30 years later, the couple is still calling San Luis Obispo their home.

McKee said she already has the makings of another book in mind, inspired by the love letters between her parents and the family military memorabilia she recently rediscovered.

Also a lifelong artist, McKee found ample inspiration in China inside the quaint white-washed homes of her students and loud beating of the town streets. One of her ink and collection pieces, aptly titled “English Teacher in China,” graces the cover of her book, and several more of her drawings and watercolors line the inside.

Even when the weather, McKee’s words are like light brush strokes across paper, painting a picture of a culture thousands of miles away but still etched in her and her husband’s minds.

The first paragraph of the book opens, “Gray is the color, so much gray. Concrete sidewalks, with little thought of ornament, utilitarian, barred windows, winding streets awash with two and three-wheeled bicycles hauling people, noodles, sugar cane, chunks of cement or rocks, absolutely anything. People are in gray, with dashes of color here and there. The sky is often grey, too. It’s winter here in Chuga, a small village on the edges of the ancient city of Ningbo, China, a city of 3 million, bustling into the twenty-first century, anxious to be rid of its past of crumbling buildings, wearing its adolescence in tall turrets and tuxedos rather self-consciously. In the cold rain, it seems to rain often here, umbrella-bloos in colors, but the heavy gray seems to mute even these.”

“Days Like Floating Water” is currently available for sale at Novel Experience Books in downtown San Luis Obispo, Coalesce ... A Bookstore & More in Morro Bay, and Volumes of Pleasure in Los Osos.
Shannon Boren
MUSTANG DAILY

"Uncommon," "different" and "rare" can all be used to describe Isabel Barbuzza’s work, but "incomparable" is the only word that can really do it justice.

Barbuzza, an artist from Argentina, has smashed the mold of standard artistic images and used the remnants to create unique pieces that she will discuss and present during a free slideshow lecture from 5 to 6 p.m. today in the Business Rotunda.

Encompassing mundane elements such as cornhusks, books, mussel shells and razor blades, her works convey complicated concepts by altering simple and common ready-made objects.

"She’s very much an installation artist," said Sky Bergman, art and design department chair. "I went to grad school with her, and she would build some really interesting works, so I’m looking forward to seeing how her style has developed."

Constantly evolving, her mixed-media approach includes elements of sculpture, printmaking and book art while using methods like sawing, gluing and welding to ensure her work makes a statement.

One such piece forms a pseudo-suit of armor created with 50 pounds of mussel shells and Vaseline, titled "embrace me/abrazame." A similar looking, yet very different piece titled "casa/home," features an empty coat created of soft muslin and waxed cornhusks, presenting a contrasting concept for viewers to consider.

"Her work is interesting and poignant," Bergman said. "Anytime that we can get well-known people to come to a town like San Luis Obispo, students should take the opportunity to come and see the work. Students don’t necessarily get the chance to go out and see things like this very often, so they should take advantage of it."

Isabel Barbuzza, an Argentine installation artist who now teaches at the University of Iowa, will present a slideshow of her unique works at 5 p.m. in the Business Rotunda.
Ultimatization of pragmatic, common sense politics

Both candidates show an uncanny ability to transcend typical party rhetoric and state things as they are. They know that the issue of climate change is not just an environmental matter, but also an economic, social and national security issue. Millions of green jobs can be created in this wavering economy if the federal government acts now to commit to renewable energy technologies. The other Republican candidates in the race have shown no such level of aptitude when addressing the topic. Obama and McCain have both proven countless times that they can work across the aisle with each other.

A history of bipartisanship, and the ACTUAL ability to bring both parties to agreement

In these crucial early years of the 21st century, our nation cannot afford to have another four years of stagnancy in our capital. Though Sen. Hillary Clinton calls for a number of important reform legislation. In the first two weeks of the 110th Congress, Sen. Obama helped lead the Senate to pass the Legislative Transparency and Accountability Act, a comprehensive ethics and lobbying reform bill, by a 96-2 vote. This landmark bill was signed into law in Sep­tember 2007. Sen. McCain has shown no less resolve in this matter. He put forth a number of important reform proposals, and even the most steadfast of McCain's critics would have to admit that he can work with the other parties when it comes to creating a fairer, more just system. Both senators support a cap-and-trade market for carbon, which would create a cap on emissions from utilities, industry and transport at 2004 levels by 2012 and then gradually decrease emissions to about 30 percent of 2004 levels by 2050. There are a myriad of other proposals they have put forth, but most importantly, they both want you to think about the future of your own country.

Consistent stances on climate change and energy policy

Both senators support a cap-and-trade system to cut U.S. emissions. Obama calls for a bill that would reduce greenhouse gases to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. McCain was a coauthor of the Climate Stewardship and Innovation Act, which would cap emissions from utilities, industry and transport at 2004 levels by 2012 and then gradually decrease emissions to about 30 percent of 2004 levels by 2050. There are a myriad of other proposals they have put forth, but most importantly, they both want you to think about the future of your own country.

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The Hurleys thought their daughter was finally dating the perfect guy... until they heard George Clooney's car horn playing "La Cucaracha" as they drove away.
Marlite van Rombough

Swimming and diving team may have to brave nasty weather in regular-season finale

The Cal Poly swimming and diving team will face Nevada and UC Santa Cruz at noon Saturday in its final meet of the regular season.

This weekend's meet, hosted by UC Santa Cruz, is the Mustangs' last before heading to the Big West Conference Championships from Feb. 20 to 23.

"Last year when we competed against them it was close in both the men's and women's events," said Cal Poly head coach Tom Milich. "This year we anticipate winning nearly every event. We have the potential to break records in virtually every event, both for the men and the women."

Several Cal Poly swimmers and divers recorded season highs against Pepperdine on Saturday.

Caitlin Lee posted records in the 50-yard freestyle, 200 freestyle and the 100 butterfly, while Kaylee Boyle had season highs in the 50 freestyle and 200 freestyle. Katie Webber posted records in the 200 freestyle and 200 IM, while Danielle Coville, Kaylee Yoshida and Natasha Nelson also accomplished season bests.

The Cal Poly men will be entering the dual competitions fresh after having a week off.

"They are very good," Milich said. "Even though more than 70 percent of the team is freshmen, we have a very solid core."

Inclement weather could be a concern, Milich added. "It does look like the weather is going to be bad this weekend, so I'm just going to have each person compete in no more than two events," he explained. "At this point, going into the Big West, my top priority is keeping everybody healthy and not leaving them in the water longer than necessary."

Indoor track and field squad travels north for second meet of season

After opening their season at Ran for the Dream in Fresno on Jan. 21, members of the Cal Poly indoor track team again look to make their mark at Saturday's Washington All-Comers meet.

Saturday's 5 p.m. competition follows Cal Poly's dual wins over Fresno State, Hawai'i and Cal State Stanislaus in Fresno.

Long- and triple-jumper Jessica Eggleston and 3,000-meter runner Bridie McCauley led the way at the meet, grabbing one and two first-place wins, respectively.

Men's tennis team hits courts in Oregon after missing past weekend's action due to weather

Back on the court after having both of last week's matches cancelled and postponed, the Cal Poly men's tennis team will have a chance to make up for the rain with a pair of dual matches this weekend against Oregon and Portland.

The Mustangs currently held a 1-1 record, with Drew Jacobs, Darryn Young and Robert Foy leading the way.

Jacobs and Young both have 2-0 singles records after defeating their opponents in the Westmont and Fresno State match-ups.

In No. 2 doubles, Young and Foy are also 2-0.

Both the Oregonian teams started their season by losing their first matches of the spring campaign. The Ducks stand at 3-1 overall, and the Pilots at 2-1, respectively.

After losing to Sacramento State 4-3, Oregon has posted wins over Weber State, Idaho and Eastern Washington.

Portland, meanwhile, lost its first spring match to Washington 5-2, and plays UC Davis and Montana State before meeting Cal Poly.

Cal Poly's cancelled match against Pepperdine has been rescheduled for Feb. 7 at 1 p.m., while the UC Santa Cruz match is now on April 10 at 2 p.m.

MLS

continued from page 12

D.C., a charter member of MLS, won the team's first two regular-season championships in 1996, 1997, 1999 and 2004. The franchise garnered international attention Tuesday upon signing Argentine midfielder Marcelo Gallardo, a former World Cup starter who played in France a season ago.

Last season, the Mustangs split with the Highlanders, losing 75-65 on the road before edging them at home nearly three months later, 64-58.
MEN'S
continued from page 12
UC Riverside, and 11 of the past 12.
Last year, the Mustangs topped the Highlanders 67-64 at Mott Gym and then 70-54 on the road.
Instrumental to another Cal Poly win could be its size advantage, just one of UC Riverside's top 10 Scorers is listed as weighing at least 220 pounds, while 6-foot-7, 240-pound center junior Tino Sheltor has started every game this season for Cal Poly.
The Mustangs may be on the verge of posting a victory similar to the more lopsided one they boosed against the Highlanders from a sea-son ago, as they suddenly appear on the brink of a hot streak.
Against Pacific, four Mustangs scored in double figures, and as a team, they hit 26 of 28 shots from the free-throw line — roughly 93 percent.
They also outscored the Tigers by 16 points in the first half, and at one time were ahead by 17.
UC Riverside is averaging a conference-worst 57.3 points per game, while the Mustangs post a more respectable 64.5.
The Highlanders are also last in the Big West in 3-point shooting, at 28.9 percent, assists, with 10.4 per game, and assist-to-turnover ratio (.63).
Saturday's game will be broadcast on Fox Sports Net Prime Ticket.
To draw a parallel, saying the 49ers deserve more respect than the Chargers because they beat them in the Super Bowl 13 years ago is like me hating German people because my grandfather was in the Holocaust; justifying a belief with a fact that occurred so long ago only shows how someone is living in the past.
LAST time I checked, the main in-state rivalry the Chargers had was with the Oakland Raiders, and I never seem to have to tolerate Raiders fans' sniping whenever I choose to represent the Chargers.

CLASSIFIEDS
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HELP WANTED
MODELS WANTED Stop by Thomas Everett Salon & Tom Mel Beauty Center Wednesday's from 2-7 for training nights. $25 haircuts and $15 shower!! 543-9615.

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The two teams obviously respect each other, so why do some 49ers fans feel that the Chargers don't deserve any? Whatever happened to California love?

Even the Chargers and 49ers themselves don't seem to sense any sort of rivalry, evidenced by the frequency with which the teams play each other in the preseason. The two teams obviously respect each other, so why do some 49ers fans feel that the Chargers don't deserve any? Whatever happened to California love?

Besides, doesn't it make sense that Eagles, Seahawks, Bengals, Panthers and Bills fans would be upset if it were asserted their teams didn't deserve any respect because they hadn't won a Super Bowl?

Part of being a fan is simply having pride in your team, and when you say that team doesn't deserve any respect, you're infringing on that pride.

And even with the Patriots — a team I don't respect, yet one I won't say doesn't deserve any respect — respecting the Chargers heading into the AFC Championship game, perhaps it's time for 49ers fans to re-evaluate their stance and start doing the same.
Three franchises to play on campus in late February

Donovan Aird
MUSTANG DAILY

Cal Poly will play host to three Major League Soccer teams in February, school officials announced Thursday.

The San Jose Earthquakes will take the field in exhibition play at Alex G. Spanos Stadium against the Columbus Crew on Feb. 22 at 7 p.m., and also against D.C. United on Feb. 24 at 1 p.m.

"We're incredibly excited for everybody in the community that professional sports are coming to campus," said Paul Holocher, head coach of the Cal Poly men's soccer team. He orchestrated the event with his former teammate John Doyle, the Earthquakes' general manager.

Both the Earthquakes and United will train in San Luis Obispo during the week leading up to the exhibitions.

Columbus, Holocher said, will train at the Home Depot Center in Carson during the week leading up to the showcase, while D.C. will train in San Luis Obispo for five days prior to the event.

"These will be world-class athletes coming here," Holocher said. "It could be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. If you haven't been a soccer fan yet, this is a great day to start."

San Jose has returned to MLS play after a two-year hiatus. Key to the Earthquakes' attempt at a resurgence will be Joe Cannon, a two-time MLS Goalkeeper of the Year.

"We're a brand new team, just getting familiar with each other, trying to play as many competitive games as possible," said San Jose head coach Frank Yallop. "I think we should be really competitive games we're looking forward to — we're trying to build momentum for the season."

MUSTANG DAILY

Major League Soccer comes to Cal Poly

Cal Poly tries to gain momentum

MUSTANG DAILY

The Cal Poly men's basketball team will attempt to add to its two-game winning streak at UC Riverside at 2 p.m. Saturday.

Coming off of a tough win Monday at Pacific, which came in large part due to clutch performances including a 3-pointer from senior forward Matt Hanson and four free throws by junior guard Chaz Thomas, the Mustangs stand at 8-11 overall and 3-4 in Big West Conference play.

UC Riverside's record is dismal by comparison — the Highlanders, helmed by first-year head coach Jim Wooldridge, have struggled to a 4-15 mark thus far, including a 1-7 record in the Big West.

Their only conference win came 70-66 over Long Beach State on Jan. 19.

Through the two teams' records seem to indicate that Cal Poly has the upper hand, all four performances including a 3-pointer from senior center Kemie Nkele, the 2006-07 Big West Player of the Year, their stingy defense by holding opponents to 40.3-percent shooting from the floor.

The Highlanders' leading scorer, senior guard Larry Cunningham, posts a dangerous 14.4 points per game, while no Mustangs average more than 9.4, respectively.

Cal Poly has won its past six meetings with UC Riverside.

Cal Poly senior forward Dreshawn Vance slams home two of his 19 points in the Mustangs' 79-67 win over UC Davis at Mott Gym on Jan. 24.

women's basketball

MUSTANG DAILY

Mustangs look for best conference start ever

Even without best player, two-time defending Big West champion UC Riverside presents challenges with rangy defensive pressure

Donovan Aird
MUSTANG DAILY

Never before has the Cal Poly women's basketball team gotten off to a 6-2 start in conference play.

The Mustangs can do just that, though, when they host UC Riverside in a Big West Conference showdown at Mott Gym on Jan. 24.

Even though the back-to-back, reigning Big West Tournament champ Highlanders (7-11, 5-2 Big West) are without senior center Kenmie Nkele, the 2006-07 Big West Player of the Year, their stingy defense could lead them to another successful postseason run.

"They're still a really strong team," Cal Poly head coach Faith Minnaugh said.

"They may not be the same powerhouse they have been, but despite that loss (of Nkele), they're still very, very talented."

Nkele averaged team highs of 16.2 points, 8.3 rebounds and 2.3 blocks per game before succumbing to a season-ending knee injury Dec. 16.

In her absence, UC Riverside has fielded a shortened rotation in which no one after its top six scorers averages 10 minutes per contest.

The Highlanders' top-heavy lineup shouldn't hinder their progress, though, Minnaugh said.

"UC Riverside head coach John Margaritis has traditionally kept a tight rotation, even in the (Big West) championship years," she said.

Junior guard Seyram Acquafurch drives to the basket against UC Irvine senior forward Matt Hanson and four free throws by junior guard Chaz Thomas.

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"UC Riverside head coach John Margaritis has traditionally kept a tight rotation, even in the (Big West) championship years," she said.

Junior guard Seyram Acquafurch leads the rest of the Highlanders with 13.5 points per game, but shoots worse than 40 percent from the floor while playiing a conference-leading 34.8 minutes per outing.

No one else averages double-figure scoring for the Highlanders, who have won five of their past seven games thanks largely to their efforts on the defensive end.

They lead the Big West in field-goal percentage defense by holding opponents to just 40.3-percent shooting from the floor.

Although the Mustangs (8-12, 5-2 Big West) lead the conference in rebounding,

"The thing is, the NFL is a 'what-have-you-done-for-me-lately' league," observed Fadi Al-Banna, a civil engineering senior and fellow Chargers fan. "I just don't know why 49ers fans can't respect good football. I hate to say it, but it's probably because of jealousy, given that we've been the bigger team, just getting familiar with each other, trying to play as many competitive games as possible," said San Jose head coach Frank Yallop. "I think we should be really competitive games we're looking forward to — we're trying to build momentum for the season."

see MILS, page 10

women's basketball

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