Student entrepreneurs create new products

Patrick Barberi
MUSTANG DAILY

Industrial technology students are putting the skills they’ve learned to the test in IT 407, where student invent and sell products entirely from scratch.

The list of products offered by this quarter’s groups, or “companies,” include guitar stands for “Guitar Hero,” wall-mounted surfboard/bike racks, designer weathervanes and solar-powered garden lamps.

“It’s a competition-based class; we’re competing against each other in production,” said Curtis Thomas, an industrial technology senior with the group Polytech. “It’s cool to see how it will go down. It’s like starting your own business.”

On top of designing and manufacturing the products, students must go through a myriad of steps before their creations hit the shelves, like creating safety manuals and contacting suppliers, not to mention funding the projects entirely from their own pockets. In addition, the groups are only allowed to outsource 10 percent of the actual work.

“A lot of local companies are supportive of our project,” said John Miller, an industrial technology senior with the group True North Manufacturing. “It helps keep the cost down.”

Fortunately for the students, any profits from sales go back to the group. On the flip side, however, if a product doesn’t sell, the group takes a financial hit. With the risk of lost profits looming over their heads, students must be innovative in their creations and marketing methods in order to ensure success.

The group Axerack has a Web site (the-axerack.com) where buyers can pre-order a “Guitar Hero” stand. The stand can hold two wireless guitars, and the group hopes to incorporate microphone and game console holders into the design as well.

True North Manufacturing is setting itself apart by offering three different designs for their weathervanes, including a mustang, a whale and a sailboat. The group also hopes that by selling a high-quality product for cheaper than what’s currently available, they will be able to break into the market.

During this process, students take on various job titles and functions within their groups. The class encompasses all the skills learned by industrial technology majors in previous studies and puts them to use in one big applied-learning experience.

“It’s an intense, headfirst, in-depth class,” Thomas said. “It makes me appreciate the things I’ve learned at Poly. I’ve actually gone back to notes I’ve taken in previous classes just to look something up.”

Cliff Barber teaches the class and describes it as “a competitive class; we’re competing against each other in production.”

The Industrial Technology 407 class Axsrack group has created a stand for the “Guitar Hero” video game controllers.

U. Alabama video game helps identify autism

Sara Denton
THE CRIMSON WHITE (U. ALABAMA)

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — The University of Alabama has conducted a groundbreaking study on the brain patterns of teenagers affected with autism.

Mark and Laura Klinger, associate psychology professors, worked with members of Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas, to discover changes in brain patterns in adolescents with the disorder.

In the study, males between 13 and 21 from Alabama had their brain activity measured while playing video games that stimulated social interaction. These games were actual competition games where opponents were also measured for brain activity.

“These teenagers were actually interacting with someone else while in this brain scanner,” Mark said. “We were actually able to see how their brains were working under this type of social experience.”

Mark said the research is groundbreaking because of the ability researchers have to see the results not only on a computer screen, but also to visualize it while it happens.

“Autism is a largely social disorder. It changes the way people understand others and interact with them. Because of that, it was a wonderfully interesting way to study this, because we were actually able to do so while they were in this social interaction,” Klinger said.

Klinger said this is the first time that people with autism have been scanned in a social setting.

“These results are probably the strongest evidence to date that the brain activity is optimized when students interact with a peer rather than a computer screen,” Klinger said.

At the same time, researchers found that the group who took the video-game-based scan had significantly lower brain activity compared to the other group.

But in the face of proposed budget cuts next year, it's not clear whether that will be enough to boost the failing districts.

The district face sanctions for the first time this year under the federal law after failing to meet their accountability goals for five years. Collectively, they are responsible for educating about a third of California's 6.3 million students.

"It's not just the funding that will help these schools, it will be also reforming the system and switching out personnel and helping them in every way possible," Jordan Gousia said. "That's what separates our lights from our competitors."

Polytech’s wall-mounted surfboard/bike rack is being sold at a reduced price in order to gain market penetration. The versatile rack can also serve as a shelf once a surfboard is placed on it.

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The Industrial Technology 407 class Axsrack group has created a stand for the “Guitar Hero” video game controllers.
Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates, right, speaks with Stanford President John Hennessy.

Gates jokes with crowd about departure from Microsoft

Gates played a comical “home video” — which featured Bono, director Steven Spielberg, senators Hillary Clinton (D-N.Y.) and Barack Obama (D-Ill.) and other celebrities — to spoof his last day at Microsoft.

The 52-year-old Gates noted that he has been working on Microsoft every day since he was 17 years old. He described leaving the day-to-day work of the corporation as possibly “traumatic,” but said he was looking forward to the change — and to the new time he’ll have for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, which he and his wife co-chair.

In introducing Gates, Stanford President John Hennessy pointed out similarities between the University and the co-CEO Hennessy said that they both were “dedicated to serving public good” and share the common entrepreneurial drive.

Gates’ lecture, “On Software, Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Giving Back,” was open solely to Stanford students, faculty and staff.

The event primarily focused on the future of technology, as well as how that technology has the potential to affect change in developing countries.

“This is the start of the second digital decade,” Gates said. “(The changes we will see will be) far more dramatic than in the first digital decade.”

In outlining the growth in capabilities of the personal computer (PC), the entrepreneur noted how the Internet has helped to make the world a smaller place.

In the future, Gates said that he hopes the movement of data between devices such as laptops and cell phones will become much more seamless. These changes, he explained, will have significant implications for every industry, including education.

Furthermore, Gates argued that the current learning systems could be enhanced greatly if universities better utilize technology, allowing more materials and lectures to be available to the public.

“How many universities should have to give lectures on subjects like physics?” Gates asked. “The answer is ‘very few’.”

Explaining that he will remain involved in Microsoft’s work with “natural user interfaces” — examples of which include the Nintendo Wii control, the iPhone’s touchscreen and Microsoft Gestures — Gates said he is committed to the structure of knowledge, “and (will) really take on the big frontiers of software.”

Over the past couple weeks, it was speculated on tech blogs and in business news that the ostensible purpose of Gates’ Stanford visit was to talk about Microsoft’s new program, which will provide free developer tools to students. However, Gates did not discuss the program in detail.

Dubbed “DreamSpark,” the program makes available, at no charge, a broad range of development and design software for download. According to a Microsoft press release, the program is available to more than 35 million college students in Belgium, China, Finland, France, Germany, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the U.K. and the U.S. Further expansions could mean that up to 1 billion students worldwide will have access to the development tools.

Gates said he hoped the release of the software will help make “huge breakthroughs” in technological research using the Microsoft platform.

He added that software is particularly important in sciences such as biology and astronomy, which require a deep analysis across large amounts of data. Gates noted that the company dedicates a significant amount of its resources to research.

“Microsoft is spending a bit over $6 billion a year on research and development, spread across the globe,” he said.

Despite this spread by Microsoft itself, Gates said that the relative benefits of research in general have been available overwhelmingly to the people who need it the least. He referred to the fact that the ratio of money spent on baldness to that spent on malaria is about 50-to-1 in favor of baldness.

“Of 12 million children who die every year, less than one percent are in the rich countries,” Gates said. “But over 90 percent of medical research is spent on diseases in rich countries.”

In a 15-minute question and answer period after Gates’ talk, most audience members focused on the Gates Foundation, touching on topics such as microfinancing, immigration and the impact of social justice.

One student asked Gates about the risks of regulation on the Internet.

“I don’t see any risk in the world at large where someone will restrict free content flow on the Internet,” he responded.

Gates added that the Internet is not a place where nuclear bomb designs should be exchanged at will, but emphasized that it should be open enough to find and exchange most data.

He also reminded students that there is an increasing desire of people to have improved access to computer science research.

Gates pointed out that the poorest populations, which do not have electricity or literacy, will simply not own a PC, even if it costs them 10 cents.

One student further stated that students should not graduate from top institutions without some experience of the average human conditions — one beyond the experience they have living in one of the richest countries in the world.

“Right now is a wonderful time to be a student,” Gates said, “to learn and gather these skills.”

Microsoft research head though Gates persuaded his “little drop-out” heavily to the Stanford University crowd.

Momorial Auditorium last week In playing m.m and c.d.( C) Hill Gates oaiolod a paokod June, using the bulk of his time toward philanthropic endeavors instead.

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Gates’ purpose in speaking to Tuesday, Feb 19, mostly student crowd; however, was neither to focus on past achievements nor the inner workings of the corporation he started over 30 years ago. Gates plans to move away from full-time work at Microsoft at the end of June, using the bulk of his time toward philanthropic endeavors instead.

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Schools
continued from page 1

continued from page 1

Tech
continued from page 1

the course as "three quarters of work, crammed into one."
"The class is an exaggerated simulation of real life," Barber said. "I teach the students to be comfortable in ambiguity so they can learn with the confidence that they won't feel they are a company themselves."
The groups are currently in the production process. On March 13, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., there will be a trade show on Dexter Lawn, with each group setting up shop at Farmers' Market later that evening.

Autism
continued from page 1

documented brain differences between people with autism and those without that have been found to date. We know that autism is a neurological disorder, but we've always had a hard time finding exactly what the differences are," Mark said.
Mark said the new research will eventually lead to the ability to identify what those brain pattern differences are — first in the thought processes of a person with autism, and secondly as a diagnostic tool to better identify the disorder itself.
"We want to have the ability to put a patient into a scanner and look at pictures of their brain and based on the images confidently say 'yes, they do have autism' or 'no, they do not,'" this would be a tremendous thing," Current diagnostic methods for identifying autism are more subjective, Mark said. The methods are based on questions, the way in which a person answers those questions and the way they interact. Because the experience of each person is different, she said the diagnosis method is not as objective in the way a neurological disorder should be.
"Our objective is to find very strong brain activation differences that might be used at some point as a way in which to identify it. If not as the sole identifying factor, but as a confirmation method," Mark said. The study also linked the severity of the symptoms with the brain's reaction to social situations. Studies show autism in the brain does not identify itself as a social agent. In this particular example, the brain's response to social stimuli is weaker the more severe the case of autism, Mark said.
In recent years, the cases of diagnosed autism have increased. The disorder currently affects one out of every 150 children born in the U.S. Mark said he identifies this as one of the key reasons that the ability to properly identify autism is so important. He said it is vital that the diagnosis correctly be autism rather than another similar neurological disorder. The next step in this study is to look at similar social reactions of children with autism at a younger age, since the time that the disorder is identified is generally before the age of four. Mark said the earlier the problem is caught, the better the outcome is for the child.

Tech
continued from page 1

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eVOTE TODAY

my.calpoly.edu
7 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Rec Center Expansion
They can Watermelon Crawl lickety split, Copperhead Stomp-zoo though, and Tush Push "mess with the mess with the mess with the mess." These aren't your average college students. They are the members of Cal Poly's Country Line Dance Club (CLDC), a group of dance enthusiasts who come together every week to learn and teach new and traditional country line and partner dances.

"We're a pretty core-going group," explained CLDC president and business sophomore Evan Razor, adding that the club's main goal is to entertain. "I know line dancing seems kind of hokey but it's actually fun," assured Matt Strickland, CLDC treasurer and psychology senior.

Four years ago the CLDC Boot Scoot Booted its way into the Cal Poly club scene when animal science senior Ari-anne Kolar, along with former club advisor Kristian Oken, reckoned there was a mighty large need for country music culture at Cal Poly — as well as for lessons at the Graduate. "(The CLDC) is a very eclectic group of people who come from all different majors and background for the same reason — they love to dance," Kolar brasted.

Kolar served as club president until this fall, handing the reins to Razor this year. While the CLDC is working on a multitude of activities, Razor seemed most excited about Cal Poly's Open House where around 28 members of the CLDC is working on a multitude of activities. "I'm hoping (students) enjoy it," Razor said. "We're trying really hard to piece together a somewhat entertaining arrangement of dances that shows the different types of dances that we do." 

"It's going to be super awesome," Strickland said. The club will throw their semi-annual Barn Dance on Friday in Chumash Auditorium, an event that drew more than 200 people last year, according to CLDC Secretary and aerospace engineering sophomore Ashleigh Patterson.

State Briefs

OAKLAND (AP) — Retired Alameda County Superior Court Judge Alfred Delucchi, who went to Scott Peterson to death row for killing his pregnant wife, has died. He was 76.

California Chief Justice Ron George plucked Delucchi out of retirement in 2004 to preside over the Peterson trial after the original judge was removed from the case. The Peterson trial garnered wide spread media attention.

The shooting occurred around 3:15 p.m. at Central and Vernon avenues. Two of the victims ran away and were found wounded outside a nearby middle school, police Officer Sari Faden said.

The critically wounded were a 10-year-old girl, an 11-year-old girl, a 12-year-old girl and a 49-year-old woman, said Fire Department spokesman Lisa Davies.

SACRAMENTO (AP) — Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger says he asked for the return of his Austrian army tank from an Ohio museum because he was concerned about the upkeep and wants to offer rides on it to schoolchildren.

Schwarzenegger said he plans to offer the rides to inner-city kids in the Los Angeles area as a reward for staying in school, avoiding drugs and working hard.

The governor said he used to offer trips to his movie sets as an incentive to kids. But since he became governor and stopped making movies in 2003, he hasn't had anything enticing to offer.

He said kids just aren't that excited about a tour of the state Capitol.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Just like on an old-fashioned pirate map, X marked the spot.

But instead of a desert island, police dug under a San Fernando Valley freeway underpass Tuesday, and the stash of jewelry recovered appears to be lost lifted by a convicted burglar.

An attorney for Roberto Caveda provided the hand-drawn map to detectives. It led them to the dirt of a California Department of Transportation right of way near the Ronald Reagan Freeway in Granada Hills.

With the roar of traffic as a backdrop, officers dug 12 to 14 inches down and found a 2-foot-long black plastic pipe, Detective Bill Schulte said.

Inside were socks stuffed with jewelry, including gold chains and necklaces, a jeweled bird pendant, diamond rings and Rolex watches. Altogether, the haul might be worth hundreds of thousands of dollars, police said.

However, for only $1 (on top of venue cover charges), students can learn three line dances every Thursday from 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. at The Graduate, located at 990 Industrial Way in San Luis Obispo. Country night runs until 1:30 a.m. and is extremely popular.

The CLDC also organizes workshops for those members to learn partner dances. According to Patterson, partner dances include fewer set routines and more techniques and steps, leaving room for interpretation and creativity.

Workshops take place from 4 to 6 p.m. every other Friday in the Architecture building, room 225. The next workshop will be held on March 7 and will showcase East Coast Swing, proving that country flare can be added to almost any type of dance.

For $35 per school year or $15 per quarter, paid club members can get into all events for free. However, events are open to anyone (non-paying members, students, non-students accompanied by students) who is hankering to learn any of the dances.

The club officers all agree that the CLDC is a great way to socialize, make friends and let loose. Furthermore, at Strickland pointed out, no one is ever ridiculed for not dancing perfectly.

"We were all new at one point," he admitted.

If y'all would like more information or to become a member, talk to the officers at any of the above events or visit cldc.calpoly.edu.
**WORD ON THE STREET**

“What’s your favorite type of dance and why?”

Compiled and photographed by Dustin Stone

“The hula, because I’m native to Hawaii and the attire for girls is coconut bras and grass skirts.”

— Kyoko Fujimoto, biology junior

“I just started watching ‘America’s Best Dance Crew. I wish I could dance like that.”

— Samantha Fong, biology junior

“I really don’t have a favorite. I love every type of dance.”

— Nina Munj, architectural engineering junior

“Line dancing, because there’s great music and great people. See you Thursday night at The Grad!”

— Erin Brittain, psychology sophomore

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**National**

**NEW ORLEANS (AP)** — Since Hurricane Katrina flooded his home 30 months ago, Donald Collins says he has fled to an evacuation center, huddled in an abandoned house and lived in a tent outside City Hall. Eventually, the former sanitation worker migrated to a downtown underpass where crack sales and clothing donations seem equally common.

Mayor Ray Nagin has another stop in mind for Collins and about 200 other people who have been squatting there for months: a military-style barracks that critics say is short on long-term solutions to a homeless epidemic.

“I’m not going,” Collins, 52, said as he gulped a beer at 10:30 a.m. on a Monday, describing himself as a Katrina-inspired alcoholic on a waiting list for subsidized housing. “Something else will turn up.”

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The Illinois governor’s office says the building where a gunman opened fire at Northern Illinois University will be demolished.

A gunman fatally shot five students attending a lecture inside Cole Hall on the campus in Dekalb before turning a gun on himself Feb. 14.

Gov. Rod Blagojevich (blah-GOY'-uh-vich) plans a news conference to announce funding to demolish Cole Hall. A new state-of-the-art classroom building will be built on the site and named Memorial Hall.

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — A man killed his ex-girlfriend’s current boyfriend, her mother and two other people, then killed himself after policecaught up with him in a rural area, authorities said.

Rusty L. Ikumley came to the family’s apartment in a public housing complex Wednesday morning under the guise of needing help moving furniture, Bristol police Chief Blaine Wade said.

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**International**

**JERUSALEM (AP)** — A Palestinian rocket struck a college campus in southern Israel Wednesday, killing one person and injuring a second, Israeli medics said.

The Hamas militant group said it had fired more than 20 rockets into southern Israel, including eight at Sderot, the town near Gaza where the deadly strike took place.

The rocket barrage came hours after an Israeli airstrike killed five Hamas militants earlier in the day.

**SAN JOSE DEL GUAVIERE, Colombia (AP)** — Colombian rebels handed four hostages over to the International Red Cross and Venezuela’s interior minister Wednesday.

The four Colombian politicians, who had been held for more than six years, were released in a clearing in Colombia’s southern jungles at midday and were being flown in two Venezuelan helicopters directly to the bordering country.

“It’s a very important day for the Colombian people and for these four freed people,” Barbara Hintermann, the Red Cross’ director for Colombia, told reporters in Bogota.

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**THIS WEEK IN MUSTANG ATHLETICS**

**MEN’S HOOPS VS. PACIFIC**

**SATURDAY - 7:30 P.M.**

**SENIOR NIGHT**

**FREE RALLY TOWELS FOR THE FIRST 500 STUDENTS**

COURTESY OF SMART STUDENTS - SMART CHOICES

Admission is FREE for all Cal Poly Students
What's in a name?

I pseudonyms

Congratulations, Diablo Cody. Your name appears on the cover of the Original Screenplay for all the pseudonym-bearing people of the world. Of course, the real question is: wouldn't "Junot" have been picked up if it were by Brook Busey-Hunt? Oh, and congratulations for making me second-guess the name I have so naively accepted for the last 21 years of my life.

Before coming across Diablo's note de plume ("pen name" for the French, I don't know what the English is), I hadn't really given much thought to the idea of changing my name. But compared to "Diablo Cody," the byline of "Alison Baker" seemed extraordinarily dull. Even for a columnists. That's when I realized it was time for a change. I needed something catchy, something snappy, something... down.

Throughout histories, actors, acers and performers have devised to change their names to make them easier to say, easier to remember or just to live up the label of their "pre-p-ception" drugs. Also, many unions, like the Screen Actor's Guild, don't allow more than one person to have the same name. Alternatively, perhaps they want to stick it to their parents for naming them after their favorite emotion (Faith, Joy, Hope, Antisocial) or TV character (Addams, Jack, Chuck, Pam). Either way, changing your name can be something of a challenge because there are so many options. You can change it partially, completely or simply find a single moniker that suits you.

First, there's the semi-pseudonym, reserved for those who want to sound less foreign (Jennifer Aniston, for example). Or maybe want to create an identity apart from their family (Nicolas Cage, whose real name is Coppola). In this camp are Jon Stewart (Leibovitz), James Dean and most of the Greats. This is a good option if you only hate half—or most—of your name.

Then there are the completely disinterested with their given names and 25 years of them completely, like Diablo Cody. Among these are M.C. Hammer (Stanley Kirk Burrell), Steve Jobs (Steven Paul Jobs), Vanilla Ice (Robert Van Winkle) and Mother Teresa (Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu). Clearly no part of their names were salvagable.

Finally, there are those insistent upon having just one name. This includes Bono, Madonna, Moby, Sting, Cher, Dr. Seuss, Pink and Enya. No one dares to question them.

In any case, selecting a pseudonym is a huge commitment (unless you are Sean "insert new do you" Combs) and can make or break your singing/screenwriting/porno/acting career. You must consider who has had your name before, and if you are willing to be associated with that name for all eternity—for example, the names Marlon (Monroe = dead, Mansel = dead) or Mary (Magdalene, Had A Little Lamb). Despite what your parents tell you, your name is important. After all, Juliet only asked Romeo "What's in a name?" because she wanted to get some.

So this brings us back to my initial ramblings. What to do with my own "name"? Well, since Diablo is already taken, I guess I'll just have to settle for my own boring name, until someone gives me one. I'm open to suggestions.

Alison Baker is an English senior, Mustang Daily columnist and pop-culture enthusiast.

Rachel Glas  
MUSTANG DAILY

Midterms getting you down?  
Down?  Well, the San Luis Obispo-based band Siko is here to help you relax. The band's sound as "groove-rock," Siko evokes mellow rock sensibilities of the Red Hot Chili Peppers with their use of a touch of funk and even big-hop.

"We just want to make people dance and have fun," said lead singer and Ehrasm Summers.

Cal Poly students are familiar with Siko's brand of fun at the launch party for its second album, "Paint the Town," Friday at Downtown Brewing Co. Attendees will also be able to purchase the new album at a discounted price.

"It'll be fun—I guarantee it," Summers said. "The concert makes the start of Siko's nationwide tour. The band currently has a month of tour dates fixed in locations ranging from Arizona to Minisota and Pennsylvania. In the fall, it plans to return to California and tour through the state."

The band is comprised of two Cal Poly graduates, Summers and drummer Wyatt Lund, and two former Centro students, guitarist and vocalist Justin Robert Peck (or "Pace") and bassist Trevor Jones. Since the group formed six years ago, Siko has been performing at venues in Chico and San Diego.

Launches its album "Paint the Town," local groove-rock band Siko will perform at DTB at 8 p.m. Friday.

Win $50 scholarships with Campus Express Club

Ten more Cal Poly students have been awarded Campus Express Club scholarships worth $50 each for winter quarter.

The first person to add after 10 random times was awarded $50, added to their Campus Express Club membership.

To be eligible, members of the campus community needed only to add value to their Campus Express Club memberships during January. The first person to add after one of 10 random times was awarded $50, added to their Campus Express Club membership.

Everyone's a winner with Campus Express Club! Hot Deals,$ which give members discounts and free stuff at campus restaurants. Get 10 percent off your entire order at Vista Grande Restaurant, a free 20 oz. soda when you use Campus Express Club to purchase a 8-inch pizza at Back-Stage Pizza, and other "hot deals" at Julian's, The Avenue, Sandwich Factory, Garden Grille, Lucy's Juice, Tapango's and Campus Market.

Campus Express Club is Cal Poly's premier value club and can be used through a PolyCard at any campus restaurant, ElCorral, Campus Dining Customer Service, San Luis Obispo, Calif. 93407; or by visiting Customer Service in Building 19, the Cal Poly Corporation Cashier in building 15 or at Express Stations in the library and restaurants on campus.

E-mail Campus Dining with questions or suggestions at campusdining@calpoly.edu.
Certain cultural icons from comic books stand out in childhood memories — Marvel Comics' Captain America, the Fantastic Four, the X-Men or even The Hulk included.

Now, more than a decade after creator Jack Kirby's death, his unfinished ideas have been completed and compiled into a hard-bound edition of six issues called "Galactic Bounty Hunters, Volume One."

Kirby's daughter, Lisa Kirby, along with writer Steve Robertson, artist Mike Thibodeaux and the Genesis West team created the series from original Kirby designs. The hardbound copy of the graphic novel was released last December.

"I think he would be really pleased and happy that his daughter got involved in his work and picked up the pieces and made a final product," Robertson said.

The comic series is about the adventures and comedy of a group of intergalactic bounty hunters. The characters are from the imagination of Jack Kirby, but the storylines and artwork are all new creations. The work, however, is true to Kirby's artistic style and follows his original ideas.

"Our No. 1 reason that initiated it is that after his death and the death of his wife, we wanted to finish up and make a tribute in his memory," Robertson said.

Robertson added that after Kirby's death in 1994, he left behind drawings, characters and concepts that were never completed. The work was culminated, further developed and eventually formed into the series of six issues.

"It was fulfilling because I think it will bring pleasure to kids and get them interested in comics," Robertson said.

He said the greatest challenge in completing the project was that Thibodeaux suffered an injury to his right hand that resulted in severe nerve damage and had to learn to draw with his left hand to complete the artwork.

"Galactic Bounty Hunters," a new comic from Marvel, builds on the unfinished ideas and sketches of late creator Jack Kirby. The series' authors and artists will sign copies of the hardbound graphic novel Saturday at Borders.
"Heidi Chronicles," a play by Wendy Wasserstein (above), explores women's rights issues from 1968 to 1989. The play opens tonight at 8 p.m. in the Spanos Theatre.

Cassanda J. Carlson
MUSTANG DAILY

An enthusiastic blonde and apprehensive brunette appear onstage in skirts and '60s-style apparel while multi-colored lights shine bright upon them. Three large images on screens in the background set the scene of a high school dance.

A refreshing and genuine set of characters perform onstage to an almost empty theatre, since it is a dress rehearsal, yet the cast acts as if an audience is there watching, performing the play to its finest high points.

"The Heidi Chronicles" opens at 8 p.m. tonight with shows Friday, Saturday and March 6 through 8 in the Spanos Theatre. The episodic play spans from 1968 to 1989 and features a complex cast dominated by a female character that is a rare find in most plays. The well-written script is fast, yet a little high-strung and serious at times.

Heidi's best friend Susan is played by theatre junior Lindsey Geibel. Geibel's mannerisms and line delivery are perfection, right on point with how Wasserstein written and the average reader-envisions the character. Her attitude as an ultra-feminist turned Hollywood high roller is perfect and provides some comedic relief from some of the play's heavy underlying themes.

Heidi's other best friend is Peter, a homosexual pedicurean who is a witty joke-teller and a loyal friend, played by London Conservatory post-graduate in theater and musical arts Zachary Johnson. Johnson described Peter as having many idiosyncrasies. "When (Peter) is it, he obviously does not know he is homosexual," Johnson said. "He is very comfortable in his own skin, but with the AIDS epidemic in the '80s I tried to get the education of how it felt as a gay male back then and to lose people like they did by making personal contacts and old teachers of mine."

"Peter is such an acting tool and a lot of work. To play a part like this is tricky and something to sink your teeth into," Johnson said.

Theatre senior Duncan Callantine portrays Scoop Rosenbaum, a womanizer and pretentious man. Callantine pulls off Scoop with his suave and cocky demeanor.

There are also four characters who play multiple unique characters: Theatre junior Sarah Butler, sophomore Melanie Marshall and junior Christine Venzi, as well as engineering freshman Matthew Hranek all show commanding and kind of see her growth and realize that she has made choices that she regrets or wants to re-examine. "This is true because Heidi is truly an audience favorite, aizable character who has her own flaws when it comes to friendship, love and other life choices. The well-written script is fast, yet a little high-strung and serious at times."

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It's today!

Architecture & Environmental Design

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Networking: 10 am - 1 pm, Interviews: 2 - 4:30 pm

Internship & career positions for
ARCE, ARCH, CRP, CM & LA majors!

For the complete list of companies and job descriptions, login to my.calpoly.edu, click on Mustang Jobs and look under Events.

Choirs
continued from page 9

Long and the ninth century "Ave Maris Stella."
The Chamber Singers will also perform works by contemporary composers Aaron Copland, James Erb and Whitacre, as well as a piece by Renaissance composer Francisco Guerrero.

All three choirs will come together for the first time in several years to round out the night with the spiritual arrangements "Wade in the Water" and "Witness."

Davies said student and parent turnout is usually high at Cal Poly concerts — ranging between 400 and 600 people at the winter event — and shows the community's appreciation for vocals.

"We love a good student showing and encourage everyone to come out and hear what their fellow campus-goers can sound like," Davies said. "Something Old, Something New" will be performed at the Performing Arts Center's Christopher Cohen Center at 8 p.m. Sunday. Tickets range $5 to $15 and can be purchased at the PAC ticket office or by phone at 756-2787.

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NEEDS A SMART CHOICE REMINDER. DRINK RESPONSIBLY.
Girls & Sports by Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein

Girls & Sports

ARE YOU HERE WITH ANYONE?
MY BEST FRIEND, BUT HE'S WORKING

OH, IS HE A COACH OR AN AGENT?!
OR A BROADcaster?

HE'S SCOUTING PROSPECTS FOR HIS FANTASY TEAM

Last Ditch Effort by John Kroes

Well, boys, it took a little extra effort to get here, but just try to enjoy it. All city limits. All traffic.

TRUMP TAJ MAHAL
atlantic city, new jersey

“I told Aquaman he’d better get back in the water soon, but that guy just would not leave the craps table.”

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0117

Across
1 Learns 40 Plague
8 1958 sci-fi classic starring Steve McQueen 41 Book
15 Jose Cuervo, for one 44 Sant of dooners
46 Once, in old times 46 Once, in old times
47 Letters before games 48 “The Guiding Light” arena
53 Jac’s Peterson 48 Movie hit with the 1997 triple platinum hit “How Do I Live?”
55 It may be said while crossing the fingers 49 Letters before gimels
16 — 50 Film developing order. Abbr.
17 Director Ivan 51 It may be said while crossing the fingers
18 Most monstrous 52 Film developing order. Abbr.
19 Taylor, Wilson or Harding 53 Jac’s Peterson
20 Rear— 55 It may be said while crossing the fingers
21 Flexible blade 56 Frozen drink brand
22 Book in the Book of Mormon 58 1984 hit with the tagline “It’s a.m., do you know where your car is?”
23 “That’s all I ___” 59 “O patria ___” (“Alda” ana)
24 Rice dish 60 “So...r
25 Place for a houseplant 62 Dietary std
26 Book in the Book of Mormon
27 parade honoree, briefly 63 Of tremendous fervor
28 Tabriz native 64 —
29 Admit 65 Holiday meals
30 Column of boxes on a questionnaire 66 Bun topsppers
31 Defendants, legally
34 Prize
37 —
39 Supporters of the arts

Down
1 Pivoting razor
2 Existed
3 1/64 of a checkerboard, maybe. Abbr
4 So last year
5 Country singer with the 1997 triple platinum hit “How Do I Live?”
6 Fill in the ___ (a hint to this puzzle’s theme)
7 Ocean liner?
8 “Oy, vey!” cause
9 Show of affection
10 Film developing order. Abbr.
11 Give a rundown
12 It may be on a property
13 Bone: It.
14 Red and black, perhaps
15 Film developing order. Abbr.
16 —
17 Director Ivan
18 Most monstrous
19 Taylor, Wilson or Harding
20 Rear—
21 Flexible blade
22 Book in the Book of Mormon
23 “That’s all I ___”
24 Rice dish
25 Place for a houseplant
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27 parade honoree, briefly
28 Tabriz native
29 Admit
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31 Defendants, legally
34 Prize
37 —
39 Supporters of the arts

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

MEDIUM # 20

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

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Solution, tips, and computer program at www.sudoku.com

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Is today a good day to die?

Sean Michetti: Yes. Today Zotax welcomes us.

Today, Feb. 28, is the day Ron Crandall has promised us, Heaven's Goats. A spaceship will be streaking across the starry sky, hidden behind a shooting star. There is no better time, he's assured me, to be the most disease-free and non-violent when I can be laughing and partying in one of the many nightclubs Zotax has to offer! Just read page 52 in Ron's newest book, "Zotax and You: Your Soul Can't Get Herpes," in which he claims Zotax women to be the most disease-free and non-selective beings that side of the Milky Way. Can South Beach, Miami make the same claim about their women and herpes? Unlikely.

On Zotax, money isn't an issue. That's because the soul behind a shooting star. The spaceship will be streaking across the starry sky, hidden behind a shooting star. There is no better time, he's assured me, to be the most disease-free and non-violent when I can be laughing and partying in one of the many nightclubs Zotax has to offer! Just read page 52 in Ron's newest book, "Zotax and You: Your Soul Can't Get Herpes," in which he claims Zotax women to be the most disease-free and non-selective beings that side of the Milky Way. Can South Beach, Miami make the same claim about their women and herpes? Unlikely.

Ron tells us, quite frequently, that Earth is preparing to recycle itself. "How else do you explain polar bears disappearing because of global warming?" he asks. "Animals have a sixth sense for danger, and the polar bears are killing their physical bodies so their souls will live on, after the Earth succumbs to its fiery cleansing period." Ron was a zoology major at Humboldt; he understands animals.

So today is the day we must die, or else our souls will burn during the recycle. Now that my knapsack is packed and my suit is pressed and fitting nicely, I will drink the punch that Ron has ladled me. The Heaven's Goats, all sixteen of us. will be remembered for our foresight, diligence and willing castrations. We can only hope nicely, I will drink the punch that Ron has ladled me. The Heaven's Goats, all sixteen of us. will be remembered for our foresight, diligence and willing castrations. We can only hope nicely, I will drink the punch that Ron has ladled me. The Heaven's Goats, all sixteen of us. will be remembered for our foresight, diligence and willing castrations. We can only hope nicely, I will drink the punch that Ron has ladled me. The Heaven's Goats, all sixteen of us. will be remembered for our foresight, diligence and willing castrations. We can only hope nicely, I will drink the punch that Ron has ladled me. The Heaven's Goats, all sixteen of us. will be remembered for our foresight, diligence and willing castrations. We can only hope nicely, I will drink the punch that Ron has ladled me. The Heaven's Goats, all sixteen of us. will be remembered for our foresight, diligence and willing castrations. We can only hope nicely, I will drink the punch that Ron has ladled me. The Heaven's Goats, all sixteen of us. will be remembered for our foresight, diligence and willing castrations. We can only hope nicely, I will drink the punch that Ron has ladled me. The Heaven's Goats, all sixteen of us. will be remembered for our foresight, diligence and willing castrations. We can only hope nicely, I will drink the punch that Ron has ladled me. The Heaven's Goats, all sixteen of us. will be remembered for our foresight, diligence and willing castrations. We can only hope

Lee Barsat: No, but how's next week?

Well hello there, Death. Oh yes, by all means, come in. Would you like something to drink? You sure are more frightening in person. That's what. Today's my day to die! Oh golly, Mr. Reaper, I've got a pretty busy day today. I'm not sure I can squeeze in.

First thing this morning, I have a midterm. It's big. Even though I may have thought I'd rather die than take this test, I actually spent all day yesterday studying for it. I don't want to feel like I've wasted the last day of my life by studying for a test I never get to take. How about lunch?

Wait a sec. Lunch is no good; I have a big job interview. I kinda had to call in a favor from a friend to get this interview. I'm going for a busboy position at Applebee's. Have you ever eaten there? Well you should. Grim. You're so boss. You could use a couple of pounds. Well anyway, my friend really stuck his neck out for me on this one, so I don't want him to feel like a complete fool when my grades go out, I crash into a stopped car and I fly clear into a telephone pole. Boy would his face be red!

Oh, and tonight I promised I would have dinner with my roommate Rob. I haven't seen him for three days even though we live in the same house. It's like he's been dead or something! You see, I really cherish his friendship and I want to stay up-to-date on his life events. You could see how contracting an accelerated strain of Ebola would really throw a wrench in our relationship.

Maybe after dinner. Hold on, I have to see a movie. It's been forever since I've been to the theater and there are so many good movies out! Plus, Sydney just gave me her number. I should call her — thanks for reminding me. Death. Maybe a stray bullet could strike me in the temple, killing me instantly, after the movie.

But then again, if the date goes well, I may not be available for the rest of the day. Sorry, but maybe tomorrow, oh bringer of doom.

JIM MEEHAN

Get it off your chest!

Send us a letter to the editor!

All letters must be 250 words or less and are subject to editing for spelling, grammar and style.

E-mail us at: mustangdailyopinions@gmail.com

Lee Barsat is a mechanical engineering senior and Sean Michetti is a journalism senior. Barsat and Michetti are Mustang Daily humor columnists and can be contacted at Death.Tax@gmail.com.
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Political story a good piece of journalism

While I appreciate Mr. Kruer's attempt to clearly and explain upon his previous commentary, I need to say that there is still one major error in his way of thinking.

If you like to be exposed to opinions that you can't generate are in your own head, then you would have thought Ms. Gelfand's piece a good piece of journalism in the sense that the article showed she clearly did her research and interviewed people from both sides of the topic.

Just because you don't like the outcome of overwhelming support that she found, especially from Dr. Freberg's story in the article, that perhaps there is liberal nuance and more difficult to register students, that could he two weeks a year in Tam Luis Onopio.

I agree with Troy's comments on Brian Ellen's article, and I think the topic is something that all students can get behind.

Christina Chiappe
Social sciences senior

Clubs suffer with current Rec Center

As president of the Cal Poly Fencing Club and a member of the student body, I support the proposed Rec Center expansion, and urge everyone to vote YES.

We have tried working out at the Rec Center lately. I'm sure you have seen firsthand how desperately we are in need of the additional space. Like you, our clubs have suffered due to overcrowding. Practice times have been slashed and pushed back later and later, severely hurting our programs.

The proposed expansion is a long-term solution that clearly addresses the problem and will benefit the entire student body. So vote YES!

Kyle Yamazaki
Cal Poly Fencing Club president and civil engineering senior

Vote No on Rec Center Expansion

This is my fourth year at Cal Poly, and as far as I can remember, we've been asked to vote on some type of Rec Center or sports facilities expansion since I arrived here. If the student body, I support the Rec Center campaign is "No on the Rec Center expansion." However, if you take the $65 increase and multiply it by 12 quarters you get $780 and not $310. If you ask me, most students see $320 as kind of a big discrepancy. However, an even more blatant mistake would be the article's calculation of total increase not factored by ASI. The current amount is $117 million — a little more than a slight miscalculation.

Furthermore, referring to Cal Poly as a resort because of the addition of a leisure pool seems a little unfair. Students shouldn't be forced to sit on intramural teams, inability to swim or relax in the water on a hot day without having to fight through the crowds that swim laps on a regular basis.

The multi-activity center will provide more than just padded walls, as the article suggests — it will allow for an increase in student participation, as well as a long-term solution that clearly benefits the entire student body.

So vote YES!

Jay Devore
Cal Poly, senior

Call Payne is an architecture student and a guest columnist for the Mustang Daily.

Cal Poly Alternative Energy Car Show

This weekend, the Cal Poly Electric Vehicle Club and the Cal Poly Hydrogen Energy Club will co-host the first annual Alternative Energy Car Show.

It will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at the Bandeross Project Center (building 197). More than 20 vehicles will be on display with their owner/operator to discuss emerging transportation technologies.

This event will showcase electric, biodiesel, biofuels, vegetable oil and propane vehicles and includes free test drives, a barbecue and free refreshments. Attendance is free. For more information, visit the Electric Vehicle Club website at: ec.poly.edu.

Collin Hamilton
Cal Poly electric vehicle club treasurer and industrial engineering senior
Junior guard Trac Clark played nearly 40 minutes in Cal Poly and struck out a career-high 11 batters faced and finished with two hits.

The bottom half of the first inning.

Anna Cahn

"I'm really excited," Cahn said. "We worked hard the whole time. I feel like the whole team deserved it."

She retired the final 11 batters she faced and finished with two hits.

A similar outing was had Sunday by Cal Poly sophomore southpaw Helen Prusa in the Mustangs' 5-2 win over Alabama-Birmingham, in which she pitched a complete-game five-hitter.

The Mustangs will next visit the UC Riverside Braveheart Classic at Oak Valley Golf Course in Beaumont on Monday and Tuesday.

The amount of strikeouts this season by Cahn, a Cal Poly team high through 13 games.

Pemberton's collo
tective batting average against Cahn, which also leads the Mustangs.

"It's really exciting for us," Prusa said of the Mustangs' young staff. "Seeing them come out is a really big confidence builder."

"We've just got to make some shots," he explained. "I love the chemistry that we have. We're giving ourselves an opportunity to win and be in every basketball game."

"We're sharing the basketball extremely well right now," he added. "We've just got to make some shots."

Anna Cahn

continued from page 16

March 25, 1998, to a .120 batting average against.

The Mustangs will next visit the UC Riverside Braveheart Classic at Oak Valley Golf Course in Beaumont on Monday and Tuesday.

"I think the course next week will be a little bit easier for us because it's more like our practice facility.

A win against the Tigers, whom the Mustangs edged 69-64 on Jan. 28 on ESPN2, could be pivotal to Cal Poly's attempt to gather momentum heading into the conference tournament, held in Anaheim from March 12 to 15.

"In our conference, there's no one really head and shoulders above anybody," Bromley added. "And I think that the tournament this year is as wide open as it's ever been."

Hanson alluded to the players beginning to feel a heightened sense of urgency as the regular season winds down.

"We desperately need these two wins if we want to finish in the top four, which was our goal," he said.

In the absence of Whiten and Thomas, the roles of junior point guard Trac Clark, sophomore shooting guard Lorenzo Keeler and freshman wing Shawn Lewis have grown dramatically.

In a 76-70 loss at Fresno State on Saturday, Clark didn't miss a minute, while Keeler and Lewis missed nine minutes altogether while combining for 13-of-29 shooting from the floor en route to 35 points.

Keeler himself seems to have mostly overcome what was initially thought Feb. 18 to possibly be a stress fracture, forcing him to wear a protective boot and miss practice time.

Although the depleted Mustangs rank eighth in the Big West in assists, with 11.4 per contest, Bromley said shooting is more than for the low mark than ball movement.

"We're sharing the basketball extremely well right now," he explained. "I love the chemistry that we have. We're giving ourselves an opportunity to win and be in every basketball game."

Travel more. Spend less

StudentUniverse.com
Cal Poly head football coach Rich Ellerson has helmed the Mustangs to a 48-31 record during his seven-year tenure.

**Wisconsin**

continued from page 16

Returning weapons include dual-threat quarterback Jonathan Dancy and star receiver Ramsen Banker.

Now with the addition of the New 22 matchups with Wisconsin, the season is sure to go down as the most historic since that of the 1980 Division II National Championship-ship team. The Badgers represent the Mustangs’ first ever Bowl Championship Series opponent.

Additionally, Wisconsin ended last season ranked No. 24 in the Associated Press poll and has been to four straight bowl games, including the Rose Bowl as recently as 2000.

By far, this is the biggest opponent Cal Poly has ever faced.

The national exposure garnered from the game should be unprecedented for the program. Wisconsin’s conference, the Big Ten, has its own television network, meaning the game will at least be shown regionally. Any chance to siphon recruits for the program. Wisconsin’s member what those guys did?)

continued from page 16

The latter scenario is certainly in the realm of possibility, as Cal Poly faces a murderous schedule even before traveling to Wisconsin. Montana and McNeese State both made the playoff last year, while San Diego State is another F-A opponent, meaning Cal Poly will have done well to get to Madison, Wis., with only one or two losses.

Another loss, even against vaunted competition, might not help the Mustangs get a bid to the playoffs. Of course, there is always the danger the Mustangs could be completely blown out, which would be detrimental in all cases.

But even if that’s how it plays out, I won’t look back with regret. If I had my druthers, Cal Poly would play such a big-time I-A opponent every year. The money and exposure make the game a win-win situation, no matter what the final score is.
It’s a new game,” said Cal Poly senior forward Matt Hanson. “We just have to play our style of basketball, and a win will take care of itself.”

“With the hot shooting, the Highlanders managed to outrebound the Rainbow Warriors 30-23 while claiming seven steals.”

“With a win tonight, UC Riverside (7-17, 3-9), in the Big West standings.”

“With Cunningham has yet to miss a game and has stepped up to his role as a closer.”

“Donovan Aird

“SLO Pitch

“I’d serve your ass like John McEnroe. I’m the cream of the crop. I rise to the top.”

“Let me begin, I came to win, battle me that’s a sin. Come on, shake your hand up.”

“U.C. Riverside, Cal Poly finds itself continuing to adjust to the absence of not only Whiten, who is likely out for the rest of the season due to injury, but also to the absence of senior guard Dawin Whiten, right, Cal Poly has gone 2-4. Whiten last played Jan. 28 in a 69-64 win at Pacific.”

“In the absence of senior guard Dawin Whiten, right, Cal Poly has gone 2-4. Whiten last played Jan. 28 in a 69-64 win at Pacific.”

“MUSTANG DAILY

“Baseball team takes on cream of country’s crop

“Donovan Aird

“Things may have looked worrisome for the Cal Poly baseball team after dropping its season opener 10-1 at Alabama on Friday. The Mustangs stormed back in emphatic fashion, though, routing the Crimson Tide 16-7 and 6-2 a day later to sweep a doubleheader and take the series.”

“Baseball, page 14

“see Basketball, page 14”

“see Wisconsin, page 15"