INSIDE

NEWS

Brittney Clyde
MUSTANG DAILY

Two able and qualified people — incumbent Jim Patterson and candidate Debbie Arnold — are vying for the 5th District seat on the County Board of Supervisors.

Patterson and Arnold both have specific areas of concern they would like to pursue to better the community.

"I've been a business owner for many years in North County as well as I've been involved in agriculture and in the community at large as Water Conservation Manager for the Atascadero water company," he said.

Patterson is a Cal Poly alumnus with a bachelor's degree in natural resource management who has experience in business, ranching and water conservation. He is also a certified arborist and member of the International Society of Arboriculture.

"He has a multitude of leadership experience, including positions as president of SLO County of Government, past chair for Air Pollution Control District, and was on the executive committee for the Economic Opportunity Commission," Patterson said. "Patterson has also been a board member for 10 different organizations including the YMCA, Fire Safety Council and Workforce Housing Coalition.

In regards to Cal Poly, Patterson said that he really likes the "interest in sustainability and the various student organizations to work together to provide a sustainable future," not only for Cal Poly but also for the community at large.

He said his goals for Cal Poly if re-elected are "to continue to work with students and faculty to provide a sustainable educational institution and a sustainable community surrounding."

Arnold comes from a ranching family in North County that has been here for nearly 100 years. For this reason, she said "keeping agriculture alive and protecting open space is hugely important."

She was originally an animal science major at Cal Poly but switched to early childhood education and received her degree from Cuesta College. She then went on to own and operate Small Woodies Preschool in Atascadero for 17 years until 2000, and was also an aid to County Supervisor Mike Ryan and Assemblyman Sam Blakeslee.

Arnold said that because she worked for Ryan and Blakeslee she knows exactly what this job entails. "I understand how the county agencies interact and how you can work together to benefit the county in the area."

After attending Cal Poly, the alma mater of her two children, Arnold said she understands student issues. "I have always been an advocate for students," she said. "The students make up nearly half of the population of the city, and their lifestyles and specific needs should be addressed and given as much weight as the other half of the population."

This district that Patterson and Arnold are running for includes Atascadero, Santa Margarita and parts of San Luis Obispo.

The primary election will take place June 3, and if no candidate receives more than 50 percent of the vote, the race will be decided during the November general election.

1st District seat faces competition

The Rock the Vote event, held in Mission Plaza May 18, encouraged students and the community to vote. Angela Marie Watkins
MUSTANG DAILY

After 19 years at the helm of San Luis Obispo County's 1st District seat, incumbent Harry Ovitt faces stiff competition from Paso Robles Mayor Frank Mecham. With two years of experience as a Paso Robles planning commissioner, another two years as a city council member and 16 years as Paso Robles mayor, Mecham may be ready to move on to the county level.

The 1st District includes Atascadero, Santa Margarita, Creston, Cuesta Plains and parts of San Luis Obispo.

Since 1989, Ovitt has presided over the area; he has stood up for property rights and private enterprise and maintained a focus on water resources.

His accomplishments include securing $300,000 from the San Luis Obispo County Public Works budget to fund studies of the Paso Robles and Santa Margarita aquifers, helping Shandon and San Miguel design community vision plans for future development, and advocating the North County Shuttle, which brought together Atascadero, Templeton and Paso Robles.

"With experience you have the main capability to find solutions and I can bring people together," Ovitt said, while pointing out Paso Robles' inability to find final solutions for parking and water use.

However, Mecham cited his familiarity with all the candidates up for supervisor this election — with the exception of Cal Poly lecturer Adam Hill — as one of the many reasons he would succeed in Ovitt's current position. Mecham said his focus on individuals is at the heart of his campaign, which he describes as issue oriented as opposed to politically oriented.

"One size does not fit all," Mecham said. "I want to preserve individual identities of the cites and protect those interests.

Mecham's goals include improving county planning standards to avoid inappropriate development, creating jobs, and working with neighboring communities to solve water and traffic issues. Most surprisingly, if elected, Mecham wants to repeal the pay rate for county supervisors.

Dems rush for swift end to primary race

David Espo
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Top Democratic leaders intend to push for a quick end to the battle for the presidential nomination when primaries are over next week, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid said Thursday; adding that he, Speaker Nancy Pelosi and party chairman Howard Dean will urge uncommitted delegates to choose sides.

"By this time next week, it will all be over or give a take a day," Reid said of the marathon race between the front-running Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton.

Obama is within 44 delegates of clinching the nomination, according to The Associated Press tally, and leads Clinton by roughly 200 delegates.

Reid made his comments in an interview and a speech in San Francisco. He and numerous other Democrats have expressed concern that a protracted nomination campaign could harm the party's chances of winning the White House in the fall. John McCain effectively wrapped up the Republican nomination in March.

Tantalizingly close to the nomination, Obama stands to gain a minimum of roughly 20 delegates in remaining primaries in Puerto Rico, Montana and South Dakota under party rules that distribute them proportionally to the popular vote — even if he loses all three. He would need to net the support of uncommitted superdelegates to amass the raw.

Slightly fewer than 200 superdelegates remain uncommitted, including 64 members of the House.

One, Rep. James Clyburn of South Carolina, the Democratic whip in the House, was quoted during the day saying he intended to disclose his preference at the final primaries held on Tuesday.

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Soldier suicide hits highest recorded rate
115 last year

Cal. Elspeth Ritchie, a doctor in the Office of the Army Surgeon General, discusses soldier suicide studies.

Pauline Jelinek
ASSOCIATED PRESS
WASHINGTON — Army soldiers committed suicide in record numbers last year, and the toll is climbing even higher this year as long war deployments stretch on.

At least 115 soldiers killed themselves last year, up from 102 the previous year, the Army said Thursday. Nearly a third of them died at the battlefront — 32 in Iraq and Afghanistan. But 26 percent had never deployed to either conflict.

"We see a lot of things that are going on in the war which contribute — mainly the longevity and multiple deployments away from home, exposure to really terrifying and horrifying things, the easy availability of loaded weapons, and a force that's very, very busy right now," said Col. Elspeth Ritchie, psychiatric consultant to the Army surgeon general.

"And so all of those together we think are part of what's contributed, especially if somebody's having difficulties already," she told Pentagon news conference.

Some common factors among those who took their own lives were trouble with relationships, work problems and legal and financial difficulties, officials said.

More U.S. troops also died overall in 2007 than in any of the previous years in Iraq and Afghanistan. Violence increased in Afghanistan with a Taliban resurgence and U.S. forces increased in Iraq even as violence there declined in the second half of the year.

Increasing the strain on the force last year was the extension of deployments to 13 months from 12 months, a practice ending this year.

The 115 confirmed suicides among active-duty soldiers and National Guard and Reserve troops who had been activated amounted to a rate of 18.8 per 100,000 troops — the highest since the Army began keeping records in 1980. Two other deaths are suspected suicides but still under investigation.

So far this year, the trend is comparable to last year, said Lt. Col. Thomas E. Langiarad, head of command policies and programs.

As of Monday, there had been 36 confirmed suicides in 2008 and 12 more death that are suspected suicides but still under investigation, he said.

The rate of suicides continues to rise despite a host of efforts the Army has made to improve the mental health of service members, military officials said.

"We still believe there is more to be done, and we are committed to maximizing prevention and treating those who need help," she said.

Suicides have been rising nearly each year of the five-year-old war in Iraq and the nearly seven years of war in Afghanistan. The 115 deaths last year and 102 in 2006 followed 85 in 2005 and 67 in 2004. The rate of 18.8 per 100,000 last year compared to a rate of 17.5 in 2006 and 18.8 in 2005 — the first full year after the start of the war in Afghanistan.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said the rate for U.S. society overall was about 11 per 100,000 in 2004, the latest year for which the agency has figures. The Army said that when civilian rates are adjusted to account for the age same and gender mix that exists in the Army, the civilian rate is much higher, at 19.5 per 100,000.

Other findings in the 2007 report included:

• Nearly two-thirds of the 115 suicides were active duty troops; 22 were members of the Army National Guard or Reserve who had been mobilized.
• Firearm were the most common method for those who succeeded in killing themselves. Overdoses and cutting were the next most common for all attempts.
• Thirty percent of all cases reportedly involved drugs and/or alcohol rates were higher for failed attempts.
• The majority of people who committed suicide did not have known histories of mental disorders.
• Six percent of suicides and eight percent of attempts reportedly were among people who had prior diagnoses of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).
• Fifty percent of soldiers who killed themselves had recently suffered a failed relationship with a spouse, girlfriend or other loved one.
• Seven percent of those who killed themselves — and of those who attempted to — had served multiple tours of duty to the war.

The highest number of attempts occurred among soldiers who were in the second quarters of their tours.

The Army, which is the largest force serving in both of the wars, is the only service to release annual figures on suicides as well as lengthy reports it gathers every year by polling troops at the war from on mental health issues. President Bush's buildup of forces in Iraq last year — the number peaked at over 170,000 — led officials to in­
crease tour lengths to 13 months. With a drawdown under way, officials are terminating the longer tours and returning to 12-month deployments.

Officials said they hoped that would help ease the strain on troops. But a number of other efforts have failed to make a dent in the rising suicide rates.

Among those efforts are a bolstered suicide prevention program, as well as a program last year in which 900,000 troops were taught how to recognize mental health problems in themselves and others. Since troubled relationships is a main trigger for suicide, the chaplain corps is expanding its "Strong Bonds" program to teach troops and families how to improve relationship-building skills.

The "Frontline" program helps troops and family members on what to expect before a deployment and identify problems to look for after homecoming.

Officials also approved the hiring of more than 300 additional psychiatrists, psychologists and other mental health professionals and have so far hired 180 of them.

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Clyburn, a black whose district and state voted overwhelmingly for Obama, is widely expected to support the Illinois senator.

Asked about the story in the Stanford Advocate, Kerst Greco, a spokesman for Clyburn, noted that the congressman has said repeatedly he will not endorse before June 3.

Although Obama holds a commanding lead in delegates, Clinton has threatened to campaign into the August convention if she is not satisfied with the results of a party committee meeting this weekend.

A Democratic National Committee panel is scheduled to discuss the fate of disputed delegations from Michigan and Florida, two states that held primaries last winter in defiance of party rules.

Reid, in an interview on radio station KGO in San Francisco, said he had talked since Wednesday with both Pelosi and Dean. "We agree there won't be a fight at the convention... We're going to urge folks to make a decision next year — next week."

Reid said the results of the disputed primaries in Florida and Michigan "should be counted as well," but he did not propose a compromise to resolve the controversy.He made that prediction that the nominating fight would be settled by the end of next week in a speech at the Commonwealth Club in San Francisco.

Karen Firmy, a spokeswoman for Dean, said that in his conversa tion with Reid, the chairman said he wants the nominating campaign settled by June.

Pelosi said she hopes the nomi nating contest wraps up quickly.
State Briefs

ATASCADERO (AP) — Atascadero's City Council voted this week not to meet public money in a downtown shopping and residential project that some officials said was essential to the city's economic vitality. Council members said before the vote that investing in the 23,000-square-foot Colony Square project would drive up the project's private money. State regulations require higher wages to be paid to construction and other male workers when public money is used in a private project.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — After months of playing coy, newlyweds Ashley Simpson-Weitz and Pete Weitz have made it official. Yes, they're expecting a baby. "While many have speculated about this, we wanted to wait until after the first trimester to officially confirm that we are expecting our first child," said a statement Wednesday on Weitz's blog. "This is the most joyous intramural time in our lives and we are excited to share the happy news and start our family."

It's true, Simpson-Weitz representative Susan Novak said Thursday. The pair exchanged vows earlier this month at her parents' Los Angeles area home. Sister Jessica Simpson was the maid of honor.

SANTA ROSA (AP) — Sonoma State University's president said blood drives on campus will continue, despite efforts to stop them because they discriminate against gay men.

President Robin Armitua (ahr-min-YAH-na) wrote in a letter to faculty and students: "There's no legal ruling that the federal and state ban on blood donations from gay men is unconstitutional, but the university wants to avoid any appearance of discriminating against students.

A resolution came after the Sonoma State Faculty Senate voted 21-13 last month to approve a motion to keep Armitua from stopping blood banks from operating at the school.

SAN RAFAEL (AP) — San Francisco no longer will ban the annual ride through Marin County that attracts a fifth still is being sought in the killing of a Cooma Hill woman who was reported bungling her way from her home while reporting a burglary to a 911 operator, authorities said.

The bodies were arrested May 13. District attorney's office spokesman Jane Robison said they were charged with murder, as adults.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Four teenagers have been in custody two weeks and a fifth still is being sought in the killing of a Cooma Hill woman who was reported to be burglarizing her way from her home while reporting a burglary to a 911 operator, authorities said.

The bodies were arrested May 13. District attorney's office spokesman Jane Robison said they were charged with murder, as adults.

Scott McClellan told NBC's "Today" show that his affection for President Bush was more important than his apprehension about rushing into war.

McClellan said he believed Bush was more important than his apprehension about rushing into war.

Connie Cass

Former White House Press Secretary Scott McClellan defended his bombshell book about the Bush administration on Thursday, saying he didn't speak up before the scandal of war in Iraq at the time because he, like other Americans, gave the president the benefit of the doubt.

"My beliefs were different then. I believed the president when he talked about the grave and gathering danger from Iraq, McClellan said. "I was deputy press secretary during the lead-up to the war, told NBC's "Today" show.

McClellan, who had worked for Bush since he was Texas governor, said his initial misgivings about a rush to war were offset by his affection for the president and respect for his foreign policy team. It was easy to believe Bush, he said, because the president wasn't consciously trying to inflame the threat of Iraqi weapons of mass destruction.

"He came to convince himself of that," McClellan said of Bush. In hindsight, McClellan said he came to view the war as a mistake by a president and advisers swept up in a grand plan of seeding democracy in the Middle East by overthrowing Saddam Hussein's regime. McClellan said Bush and his aides became so wrapped up in pushing the argument for war that they ignored intelligence that didn't fit the picture.

McClellan said the war "increasingly dismayed and disillusioned" during his final year as White House press secretary, and preoccupied the unfolding of the CIA leak case — and what it revealed about Bush's role in releasing classified information about Iraq to the press — as his tipping point. McClellan was el­monized to press secretary in July 2003 and left the White House as April 2006.

As his book — "What Happened: Inside the Bush White House and Washington's Culture of Deception" — reached No. 1 on Amazon.com's bestseller list, Republican critics dismissed him as a turncoat, a sellout and a disgruntled former employee. The White House called the book puzzling and said.

Former White House counselor Dan Bartlett offered an immediate rebuke to McClellan's interview and his allegations of pro-war propaganda.

"I would not personally participate in a process in which we are misleading the American people, and that's the part I'm thinking was so many of his former colleagues," Bartlett said, also on speaking on "Today." "To think that he is making such a striking allegation against his former colleagues, to me, is beyond the pale."

Speaking earlier Thursday to reporters in Sweden, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice also rejected McClellan's allegations that the Bush administration misled the American public.

Rice would not comment specifically on charges in the book, but said Bush was honest and forthcoming about the reasons for the war. She also said she remained convinced that toppling Saddam was right and necessary.

"The president was very clear about the reasons for going to war," she told reporters in Stockholm, where she is attending an international conference on Iraq.

Rejecting complaints that he penned a sensational book to cash in on his White House service, McClellan said he had "a higher loyalty" to the truth.

He identified the CIA leak case as a personal revelation.

The president was leaving an event in North Carolina, McClellan recalled, when he turned around and asked his aides to get him on the phone.

"I thought myself for putting myself in the position of going to the podium and passing along information I didn't know was false, but later learned that it was, McClellan said.

As he recalled a day in April 2006, when the unfolding perjury case against Libby revealed that Bush secretly declassified portions of a 2002 intelligence report about Iraqi weapons capabilities to help deflect criticism of his case for war.

High-ranking administration was coming from Bush's wife, former anchor­ sador Joseph Wilson, in those days before the war.

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Suicide bomber kills 16 people in northwestern Iraq

Hamid Ahmed
ASSOCIATED PRESS

A suicide bomber blew himself up Thursday in a crowd of police recruits in northwestern Iraq, killing at least 16 men and wounding 14 others, an official said.

The blast occurred in Sinjar, a town near the Syrian border that was the site of the deadliest attack of the war — a series of suicide truck bombings that killed an estimated 500 people.

Nobody has claimed responsibility for the latest attack, but it bore the hallmarks of al-Qaida in Iraq, underscoring Iraqi claims that insurgents have fled to Mosul to remote areas to escape a U.S.-Iraqi offensive under way in that city, about 75 miles east of Sinjar.

The top official in Sinjar, Dakhal Qasim, said the casualties would have been higher but for security services that had received tips that police recruiting centers would be targeted and had issued a warning on Wednesday advising people to stay away.

Police closed the recruiting center due to the threat, but a crowd of desperate jobseekers still gathered at the center in Sinjar. Those killed included 14 recruits and two policemen, while 14 other people were wounded, Qasim said.

"We told them that there (was) no more recruiting for security reasons," Qasim said. "But people gathered at recruiting center anyway hoping that some official might register their names."

Despite the risks, jobs in the police force are prized in areas of the country where unemployment runs high.

Sinjar is dominated by Kurds, a small Kurdish-speaking sect whose members are considered to be blasphemers by Muslims and Christians.

The U.S. military blamed al-Qaida for the Aug. 14 bombings that devastated nearby villages and killed some 500 people.

U.S. and Iraqi forces have met relatively little resistance during the operations in Mosul, although there have been sporadic attacks. Commanders have said they believe insurgent leaders had fled to neighboring areas and would try to regroup.

U.S.-allied Sunni fighters acting on tips that insurgents were trying to sneak from Mosul to Baghdad found 12 gunmen hiding inside the tank of an oil truck with a driver who was wearing an explosive belt.

The militants were killed after clashes broke out and the driver blew himself up, according to a police official who spoke on condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorized to release the information.

Another suicide bomber driving a police vehicle struck Iraqis communal do outside Thursday in Mosul, killing three of them and wounding nine other people, according to battalion commander Capt. Aziz Latif.

The victims were from a unit sent from the southern city of Kut to participate in the Mosul crackdown, Latif said.

Grenades in Baghdad lobbed grenades at a minibus carrying Iraqi army recruits to join the infantry at the Muthanna base, killing two men and wounding five other people, including a woman bystander, a police official said. The official, who declined to be identified because he wasn't authorized to release the information, said the attack occurred on a heavily guarded road leading to the base.

The operation in Mosul is one of three recently launched by the U.S.-backed Iraqi government in a bid to clamp down on violence in the country. The other two have focused on Shiite extremists in the southern city of Basra and Baghdad's Sadr City district.

Despite continuing attacks, death tolls among Iraqi civilians and U.S. troops have dropped sharply in Iraq this month. An average of 17 Iraqis have been killed by violence each day this month, the lowest level since December 2005, according to an Associated Press tally.

At least 20 U.S. troop deaths have been recorded so far this month, putting May on track to be the lowest monthly toll this year, an AP count shows.


"Iraq has achieved major success in the battle against terrorism with the support of the international community," he said.
Chemical fire, rain hamper China earthquake recovery

William Foreman  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

A stockpile of chemicals being used to disinfect an earthquake-shattered Chinese town ignited Thursday and injured scores of soldiers doing relief work, adding to a day of problems for urgent recovery efforts. Heavy rain also added to the misery of crowds of homeless survivors living in tents or lean-tos, and hampered troops rushing to drain a sprawling lake before it floods a valley filled with villages. The chemical fire took place in the town of Leigu, devastated Beijing county. The official Xinhua News Agency reported that more than 800 people were evacuated to avoid a cloud of dense chlorine gas caused by the blaze. As in many destroyed towns, officials have been spraying disinfecting bleach on streets and rubble in an effort to prevent disease breakouts. Thousands of people are still missing and their bodies could be buried in the rubble, while rats and other scavengers have been reported in some places. State-run television showed smoke billowing over Leigu and reported that a stockpile of bleach powder had ignited in a storage building. CCTV footage showed soldiers spraying down the building and ex­tinguishing the threat, and then several soldiers who were gasping for air being treated by medics. "The soldiers have inhaled the fumes, it has affect­ed their bodies, and they are in the medical hospital now," said a soldier, identified by CCTV as the leader of the fire crew. His name was not given. He said 61 soldiers were injured. Xinhua reported that four people were injured. It was not immediately possible to reconcile the different tolls. It was not immediately clear why the bleach ign­ited, though substances in it can turn explosive if heated or mixed with hydrocarbons such as those in diesel fuel. Rain, meanwhile, grounded helicopters helping in operations to drain the Tangjiashan lake, which formed above Beichuan town after a quake-triggered landslide block a river. With roads to the area cut off, helicopters have air­lifted 40 heavy earth-moving machines to dig drain­age channels. Heavy rain prevented aircraft from fly­ ing Thursday, CCTV reported, though workers were able to continue clearing debris. The rain added mar­ginaly to the rising waters, but was a minor factor compared to the river feeding into the lake. In three days of around-the-clock work, troops have dug a 50-yard-wide channel running 300 yards long, CCTV said, without saying how much further work was needed. The government Thursday raised the confirmed death toll from the quake to 68,516, with 19,350 people still missing. The government has said it ex­pects the final tally to surpass 80,000. The rain made conditions worse for the 5 mil­lion people left homeless by the quake, increasing the threat of more landslides. "Before the earthquake the mountains here were completely covered with trees and it was green ev­erywhere. You could not see any naked rock in the mountains," said Zhou Liquong, resident of Hanwang town. "Now the continuous landslides have changed the look of the place. You can see the naked moun­tains everywhere." Some 158,000 people downstream from Tangji­ashan lake have been evacuated, and officials have pledged to warn other nearby residents in case of flooding so they have time to flee. Troops have sealed off Beichuan to the public. Of 34 lakes created by the earthquake, 28 are at risk of bursting, Xinhua said. This week saw the latest incident in the massive recovery effort. Lu Dengmeng, commander for the area around Chengdu, the capital of hard-hit Si­chuan province, said more than 2,500 miles of dam­aged roads have been repaired and 70 million cubic feet of rains cleared, the official Xinhua News Agency reported. Some 178,000 troops, militia and reservists were taking part in the operation, and had delivered more than $10 billion tons of relief materials by land and air, including tents and prefabricated houses and schools, including tents and prefabricated houses and schools, including tents and prefabricated houses and schools.
I p a song, piano man

Tonight.

Sing us a song, piano man.

Tonight.

The Cal Poly Jazz Band will feature renowned jazz pianist Taylor Eigsti at its Jazz Nights concert tonight, where he will perform with both the Cal Poly University Jazz Band No. 1 as well as the Cal Poly Jazz Combo.

The quartet’s style of progressive jazz has been closely defined as a combination of funk, R&B, and classic rock, which is discernable from the wide range of musical influences that the quartet draws its inspiration from. Eigsti, 23, said he finds motivation in both traditional jazz artists such as John Coltrane and Miles Davis, as well as in more pop-oriented, mainstream artists including Nirvana, Outkast and Nine Inch Nails.

While Eigsti’s style of jazz is a glimpse of what the genre will become over the coming years, he’s always been one to relish the opportunity to showcase his skills and understanding of one of jazz’s most cherished and established forms: the big band.

“I’m very much down with more progressive rhythms, and I’ve always been in love with the mechanics of improvisation that are a part of jazz,” Eigsti said. “I’ve really grown used to playing in quartets, but I’ve always had fun playing with a big band. I’ll be a fun chance to be able to perform some different stuff.”

Eigsti, who began playing piano at age 4, was quickly labeled a child prodigy after he began doing stage performances at age 8. Since then, he’s performed with highly regarded jazz artists such as Red Holloway, Pat Austin and James Moody. He’s also been featured on Marian McPartland’s award-winning Jazz Series on NPR, on two separate occasions.

Having such an acclaimed young jazz artist come to perform with the student jazz bands not only has the performing students excited, but also the faculty organizing the performance.

“'It’s a great opportunity to have our students be able to play with a top-ranked jazz musician, and one who is young enough to be their peer nonetheless,” said music professor Paul Kinzler. “It will be a very inspiring experience for the Cal Poly Jazz Band to have a peer with you performing at as high a level as he does.”

The set will consist of what Kinzler described as some “straight-ahead jazz,” and will feature a variety of big-band tunes that have Eigsti’s own twist on them.

“The performance will be a fresh look at jazz with a contemporary sensibility,” Kinzler said.

Eigsti came out with his first CD at age 14 and has released five more since then, the most recent being “Let It Come To You,” which was released earlier this month. Eigsti, originally from Menlo Park, Calif., now bases himself out of New York City and is touring to both promote his latest album and spend some time away from the studio.

The Jazz Nights concert begins at 8 p.m. at the Christopher Cohan Center. Tickets are $10 for students and $15 for general admission.
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**WHO**: All CP Students Invited!

**WHAT**: Meet with the Rec Expansion Architects

**WHY**: Help shape the future of the Rec Center
Get your questions answered and
Provide feedback on the project

**WHEN**: Friday, May 30 1-3 p.m.

**WHERE**: Rec Center
Fitness Room

ASi will be every student's connection to the ultimate college experience.

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**Movie guide**

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<td><em>Baby Mama</em> (PG-13)</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>Tina Fey, Amy Poehler, Greg Kinnear, Dax Shepard, Rooney Mara, Lauren Tomney, Holland Taylor, Sigourney Weaver; directed by Michael McGlears</td>
<td>Summary: Unable to get pregnant, successful businesswoman Kate Hobbrook won't wait any longer to have a baby. But when she hires a surrogate mother, she gets more than she bargained for. The Good: The Fey/Poehler duet is dynamite, but the supporting actors make the film even stronger. The Bad: Unsurprisingly, a plausible main character in the company of completely unrealistic people. (Kristen Marshall).</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian</em> (PG)</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>Ben Barnes, Skander Keynes, William Moseley, Anna Popplewell, Georgie Henley; directed by Andrew Adamson</td>
<td>Summary: In the second installment of C.S. Lewis' fantasy, the Pevensie siblings find themselves again in Narnia (1,300 years later) to help Prince Caspian, the kingdom's rightful heir, overthrow his evil uncle. The Good: An entertaining plot that's both adult- and kid-friendly, with great acting, special effects and costumes. The Bad: Some parts of the story are better imagined, and at times can be a little too unrealistic for the uninitiated. (Christina Casali).</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Forgetting Sarah Marshall</em> (R)</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>Jason Segel, Kristen Bell, Mila Kunis, Bill Hader, Russell Brand, Jonah Hill, Paul Rudd, Liz Cackowski; directed by Nicholas Stoller</td>
<td>Summary: After being dumped by his girlfriend of five-and-a-half years, Peter Bretter (Segel) escapes to Hawaii to get away from it all. But in a sick turn of fate, Sarah (Bell) and her new beau happen to be staying at the same resort. The Good: Clever one-liners and awkward situational humor in this &quot;ultimate romantic disaster&quot; move. The Bad: If you don't like full-frontal male nudity, be sure to close your eyes (four times). (Janelle Eastside).</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull</em> (PG-13)</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Harrison Ford, Shia LaBeouf, Cate Blanchett, Ray Winstone, Karen Allen, John Hurt, Jim Broadbent; directed by Steven Spielberg</td>
<td>Summary: Indiana Jones (Ford), Marion (Alison) and her son Matt (LaBeouf) have to get to a mystical crystal skull back to its temple before the Soviets catch up and use the skull to wage war. The Good: Ford is still a badass, the action and adventure is thrilling, and it's just a fun movie. The Bad: A few ridiculous parts, including escaping from a nuclear bomb by hiding in a fridge. (Giana Magnolia).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Iron Man</em> (PG-13)</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>Robert Downey Jr., Terrence Howard, Jeff Bridges, Gwyneth Paltrow, Leslie Bibb, Shauna Toub, Faran Tahir; directed by Jon Favreau</td>
<td>Summary: Robert Downey Jr. plays Tony Stark, the brilliant head of a large weapons company who creates a suit of metal to get out of the desert after being taken hostage. Paltrow plays his sassy assistant. The Good: The acting and special effects are stellar. The Bad: The plot lacks much forward movement. (Christina Casali).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Made of Honor</em> (PG-13)</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>Patrick Dempsey, Michelle Monaghan, Kevin McKidd, Kathleen Quinlan, Sydney Pollack; directed by Paul Weiland</td>
<td>Summary: Tom and Hannah have been best friends since an awkward college encounter. Ten years later, Tom realizes he's in love with Hannah when she leaves for Scotland — and returns engaged. The Good: Cute moments and clever jokes with a guaranteed happily ever after. The Bad: Full of clichés and very predictable. Plus, Dempsey plays a very unconvincing man's man. (Kristen Marshall).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Priceless</em> (PG-13)</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>Gad Elmaleh, Audrey Tautou, Marie-Christine Adam, Vernon Dobschaff, Jacques Spiesser, Annelise Hesme; directed by Pierre Salvador</td>
<td>Summary: Jean, a shy bartender, is mistaken for a millionaire by beautiful, scheming opportunist Irene. When she discovers his identity, she abandons him, only to find that he has no intention of letting her go. The Good: A fun and attractive ride set against France's impossibly chic Cote d'Azur. The Bad: Lightweight, predictable entertainment that will make you yawn for the tautness of yesteryear. (Metacritic).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Sex and the City</em> (R)</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>Sarah Jessica Parker, Kim Cattrall, Kristen Davis, Cynthia Nixon, Chris Noth, Jennifer Hudson, Lynn Cohen; directed by Michael Patrick King</td>
<td>Summary: The film finds the girls four years after the hit series ended, as our favorite friends continue to juggle jobs and relationships while navigating motherhood, marriage and Manhattan real estate. The Good: &quot;SATC&quot; has lost none of its bawdiness yet has gained a more profound sense of sobriety. The Bad: If you are immune to the charms of Carrie and co., this will do little to convert you. (Metacritic).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>The Strangers</em> (R)</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>Liv Tyler, Scott Speedman, Gemma Ward, Kip Weeks, Laura Mangold, Glenn Howerton; directed by Bryan Bertino</td>
<td>Summary: A couple's remote getaway becomes a place of terror when masked strangers invade. The confrontation forces the pair to go beyond what they thought themselves capable of in order to survive. The Good: Bertino teases with the unknown until he's left no populatedungs. The Bad: Younger viewers may find the pace and psychological ups and downs too excruciating. (Metacritic).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Then She Found Me</em> (R)</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>Helen Hunt, Bebe Miller, Colin Firth, Matthew Broderick, Ben Shankman; directed by Helen Hunt</td>
<td>Summary: A docutminary tracking the process of the Young@Heart vocal group, comprised of elderly men and women who sing covers of songs by Bob Dylan, The Clash and others, as they prepare for a meaningful gig. The Good: This adapted screenplay is smart, subtle and funny. The Bad: Her stereotypical character: angry, short-tempered and disappointed all the time. (Metacritic).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>The Visitor</em> (PG-13)</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>Richard Jenkins, Oliver Bokelberg, Hami Abbass, Maggie Moore; directed by Thomas McCarthy</td>
<td>Summary: The film follows Walter Vale, a disillusioned Connecticut economics professor, as he is transformed by a chance encounter and newfound connection in New York City. The Good: The film goes more or less where you think it will, but still manages to surprise. The Bad: Ahead to take a political stand, the film seems to avoid hard-hitting questions. (Metacritic).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>What Happens in Vegas</em> (PG-13)</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>Cameron Diaz, Ashton Kutcher, Rob Corddry, Treat Williams, Dennis Farina; directed by Tom Vaughan</td>
<td>Summary: After a newly wedded in Las Vegas, strangers Jack Fuller and Joy McManely find themselves hitched, then must try to survive six months of &quot;wedding bliss&quot; to keep their Vegas earnings. The Good: An exceedingly bright comedy with smart lines and superb comic acting. The Bad: The stars lack the classic spanning-but-means-for-each-other-mentality. (Metacritic).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Young@Heart</em> (PG)</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>The Young@Heart vocal group; directed by Stephen Walker</td>
<td>Summary: A documentary tracking the progress of the Young@Heart vocal group, comprised of elderly men and women who sing covers of songs by Bob Dylan, The Clash and others, as they prepare for a meaningful gig. The Good: An enjoyable film with a built-in cute factor (70- and 80-somethings singing good music). The Bad: Some claim it &quot;reeks of commercial exploitation&quot; and lacks the grit of the group it follows. (Rotten Tomatoes).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FRIDAY SHOWTIMES**

**Palm Theatre**
- *Priceless* 7:00, 9:15
- *Then She Found Me* 4:15, 7:00, 9:15
- *Young@Heart* 4:15

**Sunset Drive-In**
- *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull* 8:30
- *Iron Man* 10:45

**Downtown Centre Cinema**
- *Sex and the City* 12:15, 2:30, 3:30, 5:45, 7:00 9:15, 10:10
- *Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian* 12:30, 2:45, 3:45, 6:15, 7:00, 9:15, 10:00
- *Madame of Honor* 12:15
- *Iron Man* 1:45, 3:00, 4:30, 5:45, 7:15, 9:00, 10:15

**Fremont Theatre**
- *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull* 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
- *The Strangers* 2:00, 4:15, 6:35, 9:00
- *Forgetting Sarah Marshall* 5:35, 10:05
- *What Happens in Vegas* 2:30, 4:50, 7:25, 9:45
- *Baby Mama* 2:50, 7:50
Tired of the endless bickering about national presidential politics? Yeah, we are too. We think Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton should throw in the towel and allow some media coverage for real issues like climate change, our failing economy or the Iraq war — all of which are interrelated if you think about it. But if you’re like us and are looking for multiple opportunities to voice your choice, then we encourage you to take a break from the race for 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. and focus your attention on the race for 1053 Monterey St.

That’s right, it’s the big building with trees on top near the Fremont Theater. Inside, decisions are made that shape our community and day-to-day lives, such as the amount of renewable energy we buy, the way we get to and from school, and the amount of affordable housing we can access. These decisions are determined by a board of five county supervisors. On June 3 you have the power to elect two individuals who can change the policy needed for sustainable development in San Luis Obispo County.

The 3rd District candidate is an outspoken advocate for smart growth, increasing the amount of affordable housing, public transportation options, and mixed-use development. Hill is also committed to local job creation and wants to work with Cal Poly to incubate businesses and begin growing a green economy. hill is also carrying out grassroots organizing allowing students to stay, live and work in meaningful jobs on the Central Coast. As a Cal Poly lecturer for the past 13 years, Hill understands the challenges facing students and will undoubtedly be a strong advocate on student issues at the county level.

Jim Patterson is running for re-election for San Luis Obispo’s 5th District, which includes the Cal Poly campus, the surrounding neighborhoods, and the city of San Luis Obispo. Patterson is a local community leader.

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How to play the Daily Dots

1. Find a playing partner.
2. Each person takes a turn drawing one line connecting two dots. Only horizontal and vertical lines can be drawn.
3. The first person to close a square, wins that square. To keep track, place winners initials in the box.
4. Once one square is closed, that player gets to go again. They continue until no more squares can be closed.
5. Player with the most squares win.
Hikes continued from page 12
outside of San Luis Obispo, but before the Cuesta Ridge grade, turn right on Reservoir Canyon Road. Follow the road to a locked gate and small turnoff.
Cuesta Ridge Road
Along the top of the Cuesta Grade lies a service road that extends southwest and southeast from where the freeway passes the summit. The paved westbound road travels along the grade toward the Cuesta Ridge Botanical Gardens, which features large groves of cypress, manzanita and pine trees growing out of the greenish serpentine bedrock.
The dirt road to the east of the freeway leads to the Mount Lowe radio facility, and eventually Lopez Canyon from a few miles beyond.
Both roads offer the most pristine panoramic vistas available anywhere in San Luis Obispo County, spectacular views of Los Padres National Forest and Avila in the north, Morro Bay and Los Osos Val­ley in the west, to San Luis Obispo, the Five Cities area and the Pacific Ocean in the south.
Directions: Take Highway 101 north to the top of the Cuesta Grade. Turn left in the large parking lot to take the western road. Continue past the turn and put the turn into the eastern turnout.
San Luis Obispo Footpaths
Southeast across Highway 101 from the Cal Poly campus is a range of footpaths that resemble a smaller version of the Cuesta Grade just a few miles north. Practically looming down San Luis Obispo and Cal Poly, these trails offer an up-close and personal view of downtown and campus from a different vantage point than Bishop Peak or Madonna Mountain.
The steep trail travels up the side of the range facing San Luis Obispo to a red tower at the summit. Although mostly devoid of trees, wildflowers and yucca plants are plentiful along the trail. During the summer months, yucca plants bloom a deco­rative walk of flowers that can reach several feet tall.
Directions: Take Johnson Avenue south toward the airport. Turn left on Lime Street (across from French Hospital) and then left into the adult school. The trail starts at the rear of the baseball field.
Shell Beach Bluffs Range
Just north of Shell Beach lies a small mountain range, which runs parallel to the coastline between Arri­LaValley and the upscale Shell Beach neighborhood of Sunset Palaces. This trail traveling between-water location allows for impressive views of the ocean, Shell Beach, Pirate's Cove and Sunset Palaces.
On a clear day the Oceanos Dunes become visible beyond Pirate's Cove to the north. The main trail, which is steep at first, levels off toward the top of the range from Sunset Palaces all the way to Avila Beach.
Directions: Head south on High­way 101 toward Shell Beach. Exit the freeway at Avila Beach Drive before coming to the ocean. Proceed straight to Shell Beach Road (par­allel to the freeway) and continue a small way to a turnout at the foot of the range.

Honey continued from page 12
"If everything works out, I should get the award," said Fischback, who posted a 5-4 record and three saves with a 4.55 ERA as a Sunday starter, struck out 59, allowed 90 hits (SS) and sixth in K/9, Morel added he's been told of likely being taken in the first five rounds. "But just with the kind of way the season went, it's not quite as sweet as it could be," he said.
Fischback, a right-hander, was honored with the Mike Krukow Outstanding Pitcher distinction (as well as the Rico Bogatron Scholar­Athlete Award.
"It is an honor," said Fischback, who was joined by San Francisco Giants fan listening to Krukow add broad­cast commentary during their games. "But just with the kind of way the year went, it's not quite as sweet as it could be," he said.
A sophomore from Walnut Creek, who posted a 5-4 record and 4.55 ERA as a Sunday starter, struck out 59, allowed 90 hits (SS) and sixth in K/9, Morel added he's been told of likely being taken in the first five rounds. "But just with the kind of way the season went, it's not quite as sweet as it could be," he said.
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San Jose Sabercats center Dan Loney starred at Cal Poly from 1996-99. In 1997, the Mustangs went 10-1 and produced two 1,000-yard rushers.

Patrick Barbieri

It's no secret that the Central Coast is home to some of the world's most breathtaking scenery. What better place to view it than from a mountain top?

"Hiking doesn't just provide awesome cardiovascular exercise," kinesiologist senior Cole Hughlett says. "It relieves harmful stress, making you healthier both mentally and physically."

Many students hike Bishop Peak, Cerro San Luis Obispo (more commonly known as Madonna Mountain) and Poly Canyon, but there are dozens of less-frequented trails close to campus just waiting to be explored.

Here are a few nearby trails that should serve to get your feet dirty.

El Chorro County Regional Park

More than 700 acres of open space rests about five miles northwest of Cal Poly’s campus. Home to Dairy Creek Golf Course, campgrounds and a botanical garden, the park also features miles of trails through shady oaks, sycamore groves and chaparral fields.

The main trail climbs up the hillside, past stone mortar bowls used by the Chumash Indians to grind acorns into meal, to a large outcropping known as "Eagle Rock."

While not very high, the rock provides spectacular views of Cuesta College and the volcanic monos of Cerro Romalo, Hollister Peak and Cerrito Cabello in the distance.

Directions: Head north on Highway 1 toward Morro Bay. Turn right on Dairy Creek Road (across from Cuesta College) and follow it past the baseball diamond to a parking lot and locked gate.

San Luis Obispo Reservoir Canyon

Just north of Cal Poly, before the Cuesta Grade, is an undeveloped open space maintained by the City of San Luis Obispo. During the rainy season, the reservoir is actually a small pond fed by Reservoir Creek, which spills over at one end as a large waterfall, before finally merging with San Luis Creek a few miles later.

Behind this waterfall is a dripping-wet cave that is one of protecting people, recognition from others is replaced by pride in their accomplishments.

"As an offensive lineman, you don't get a lot of attention. You learn to enjoy attention through others," says Dan Loney, a former Cal Poly star and current center of the Arena Football League's San Jose Sabercats.

Anonymity is valued over acknowledgment as a byproduct of the fact that the only time the media or average fan recognizes a blocker's hardwork is when the quarterback is on the ground or a yellow flag is in the air.

But even Loney, a seven-year Sabercats veteran who attended Atascadero High School, is occasionally recognized on the streets of the Bay Area and around the Central Coast.

"The ESPN coverage the last two years has helped a lot," Loney says.

Loney, one of a dozen former Mustangs currently playing professional football, was an all-state selection and San Luis Obispo County Player of the Year at Atascadero when he was recruited by current Cal Poly defensive line coach Bill Tripp.

"He was a really good player, a really strong guy that had chances to go to bigger schools but wanted to stay close to home," Tripp says.

At Cal Poly, Loney fulfilled his potential by becoming a three-year starter, including for the 1997 team that went 10-1 and had two running backs each rush for more than 1,000 yards.

When he received no professional offers following his senior year in 2000, he became a graduate assistant at Cal Poly and planned on entering a career of teaching and coaching.

His opportunity to continue playing football in the AFL came about by chance.

Tripp, who was an assistant head coach from 1989-98 before rejioning the staff in 2005, had joined the Sabercats coaching staff in 2001 and convinced the team to give Loney a tryout.

The Sabercats were impressed with his combination of strength and quickness, and signed him to the practice squad for the 2001 season. The next year, Loney was the backup center and moved into the starting lineup in 2005.

"He's powerful, but Danny moves really well," Tripp says. "Before the rule change in '05 that made linemen gain both ways obsolete, he was a pretty good defensive player, too. He was strong on both sides of the ball."

During his time in San Jose, the Sabercats have won three ArenaBowl titles, and he's played in the third-most games of any lineman in team history.

A memory he says stands out from his time in the league is last year's ArenaBowl, a 55-33 victory over the Columbus Destroyers. The game was held in New Orleans, and was the first major sporting event to use the city as a venue after Hurricane Katrina.

He remembers being skeptical at first, but recalls how warmly the city welcomed the Sabercats and how great the atmosphere was.

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Behind this waterfall is a dripping-wet cave that is one of the world's most breathtaking scenery. What better place to view it than from a mountain top?

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