MUSTANG DAILY

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PBS journalist comes to Poly to discuss media and election

Omar Sanchez
MUSTARD DAILY

Award-winning journalist and senior correspondent for PBS, "The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer," Ray Suarez, will speak on campus at part of Cal Poly's Provocative Perspective this Thursday morning during Journalism Week. A respected journalist with over 30 years of experience, Suarez will discuss how the media plays a role in shaping policy. He will also discuss some of the most prominent news stories of the day.

Suarez was selected to bring his expert analysis of the media's coverage from the recent presidential election. Suarez will discuss how the media influences policy, and the media's role in influencing policy.

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Due to student and community protests, a forum will be held tonight to discuss diversity issues on campus.

Cassandra Carlson and Rachel Glass
MUSTARD DAILY

A forum will be hosted tonight to address concerns and questions stemming from the Cal Poly crop house incident that happened two weeks ago. Associated Students Inc. members, Cal Poly President Warren Baker and student leaders have collaborated to provide a place students can discuss the incident, the ramifications for those involved and future issues regarding campus diversity.

"The main purpose of the forum is to give students input on how to change the campus climate at Cal Poly," graphic communications senior Brad Purpura, an organizer of the event, said.

The free forum will be held in Harmon Hall in the Performing Arts Building at 7 p.m.

Peter Wade, chapter president for the Society of Black Engineer and a city and regional planning senior, who is also involved in organizing the forum, said he thinks the campus doesn't support minority students and hopes this forum will create a system to help the administration improve campus diversity.

Kramer agreed.

"We want students to have the opportunity to voice their opinion and concerns not only about the incident at the crop house but the future of Cal Poly in regards to its diversity policy," she said.

The incident, which involved a noose and a Confederate flag hung in close proximity over a balcony of the house, sparked a massive on-campus protest Oct. 30, when New Times printed an article and photo about the incident.

Since then, the residents of the crop house have moved out of the house and it appears they no longer work at the crop unit.

"To be the best of my knowledge, the students are no longer hired at the Crop Unit since their living arrangement was linked to their working there," said John Peterson, head of the horticulture and crops science department.

When the incident was first reported, many people said that the students involved should be expelled. However, the Cal Poly administration has maintained that the students are protected under the First Amendment.

This is not the first time Cal Poly has dealt with a student's right to free speech.

In 2003, Steve Hinke, a member of the Cal Poly College Republicans, was charged with "disruption" for posting a flier on the Multicultural Center's bulletin board announcing a College Republicans-sponsored speech by a black social critic. According to a May 2004 report by the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education, Hinke fought back and won, and Cal Poly was forced to strike the disciplinary action from Hinke's record, and to pay significant attorney fees in a settlement of $40,000.

When reporters from the Mustang Daily attempted to discuss these issues with the school's attorney, Leah Kolt, the director of Public Affairs, told them that the administration's discussion with its attorney, Carlos Cordova, was protected under attorney-client privilege.

Some in the campus community are unsatisfied with the university's actions.

"My wish is that the initial response from Provost Koob had been more," said Camille OBryan, associate professor and department chair of kinesiology.

She said that she would have preferred that Cal Poly investigated the incident further with respect to freedom of speech, while still disciplining the students.

OBryan did offer some positive insight on what Cal Poly can learn from the incident.

"Faculty members have to respect and be more assertive in their commitment to diversity through their curriculum," she said.

Since The New Times' initial report of the incident, the Daily News has held an informal discussion at the University Union student lounge from 10-11 a.m. to discuss the media's role in influencing policy.

Before joining "The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer" in 1999, Suarez was host of the national call-in news program, "Talk of the Nation," which was broadcast on National Public Radio. Throughout his career he narrated, anchored and reported many documentaries for PBS and public radio.

Author of the book "The Old Neighborhood: What We Lost in the Great Suburban Migration," Suarez wrote about people who abandoned the urban cities because of cultural differences and the pursuit of a better education for their children.

He has worked as a Los Angeles correspondent for CNN, a producer for the ABC Radio Network in New York, a reporter for CBS Radio in Rome and a reporter for various American and British news services in London.

The National Council of La Raza honored him with the 1996 Ruben Salazar Award, Current History Magazine honored him in 1995 with Global Awareness Award, and UCLA's School of Public Affairs named him a "Distinguished Alumnus."
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Pennsylvania has re­

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honorary doctorate.

Suarez is a life mem­

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Journalists and a found­

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Karen, at 8 a.m.

The free event will

begin with a breakfast at

3:30 a.m. followed by a

lecture inside Sage Kes­

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months, since the sign has been covered due to election season. No

comment.

The students moved out of the house the week after

the incident was reported, a move that was voluntary,

according to the administration.

Furthermore, the students confirmed to the Mustang

Daily that the crops house was already scheduled to be

turn down before the incident occurred, and that its

demolition has nothing to do with the incident.

The controversy is not an isolated incident; there have

been both reactions and other incidents of racial tension throughout

the campus and communities.

Two signs posted by Jane Lehr, an ethnic studies and women's and

gender studies professor at Cal Poly — one stating "Hate is not a Cal

Poly value" and the other "Fear of difference is not a Cal Poly value—"

were defaced in thick black marker with the words "Sic Semper tyrant­

us," or "Death to tyrants." Lehr was aware of the motives of the defacer, but speculated that

some people maybe are against the Cal Poly community being against

this, the tyranny of 'anti-hate,'" she said.

A sign in Los Osos spray-painted with "Skinheads rule OK! Hippies

out!" was discovered by a Cal Poly student, who was unavailable for

comment.

The sign was originally used as a place for local politicians to cover

with campaign signs, and thus, the message could've been there for

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Whether the students eventually face repercussions, Kramer hopes that

students will learn from the incident, and take action.

"This will generate momentum — students will help the university to create action plans for change that we can articulate our feeling and

goals a little better," she said.

CARMEN J. GALBRIATH Mustang Daily

Two signs posted on the door of the ethnic studies department were found

defaced earlier this week. There are no suspects.

Comparative Ethnic Studies Department

Women's and Gender Studies Department

Cal Poly Crops House Incident

Some social behaviors are considered to be legal, and some are not.

Some social behaviors are considered to be just and humane, and some are not. Justice and humanity do not necessarily coincide with legality. The purported behaviors of the residents of the University's Crops House may be considered to be legal, but they are neither just nor humane. Ostracism and disrespect that does psychological and emotional damage to its victims—including the entire Cal Poly community—cannot be

condoned, especially in a nation that champions equality and whose

strength comes from its very diversity.

We, the faculty of the Comparative Ethnic Studies and Women's and

Gender Studies Departments believe that the majority of students in the

Horticulture and Crop Science Department, students in the College of

Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences, and students throughout the university do not condone the behaviors that were reported to have taken place at the Crops House. The perpetrators themselves may not

have fully understood the seriousness of their actions. Still, the actions of a very few have brought embarrassment and shame to their department, to their college, and to Cal Poly. In some small way they have made our

community and this great nation something less than it could and

should be.

We must do better. And we must not forget what happened on this campus. It must change us as individuals and as a community. In this regard, we lead many students who have gone to rallies, written

letters, and attended meetings in order both to protest this incident and to provide direct support for students of color, LGBTQ students, and other members of our community impacted by these alleged behaviors. We

must treat each other with more decency, dignity and humanity and we

must work to change the practices and beliefs that contribute to these incidents. The faculty and staff of Comparative Ethnic Studies and

Women's and Gender Studies are some of the many individuals at Cal

Polyd deeply committed on a personal and academic level to inclusivity,

respectful behavior and efforts to create a more just and equitable world.

Scholarship in our fields suggests that it is only through understanding

and knowledge, not ignorance and misinformation, that we will be able to create a university-wide atmosphere that promotes what the President has called "Inclusive Excellence." However, to meet fully the goal of

inclusive excellence at Cal Poly we need the kind of systemic solutions

that come from sustained efforts, not a temporary solution aimed at a

single incident, a single department, or a single college. Curricular

enhancements and university policies that humanize a polytechnical

education may be a starting point.

To conclude, we would like to extend our support and encouragement to

every student, faculty and staff member, as well as San Luis Obispo

community members, who have felt harmed, threatened, and/or angered

by the incident. In all of this, you are not alone. Indeed, faculty and staff

in both the Comparative Ethnic Studies and Women's and Gender Studies

Departments have felt on a deeply personal, as well as professional level

the anger and fear you feel. We cannot say that the atmosphere of Cal

Poly will change to be more inclusive overnight, but we hope that the

Comparative Ethnic Studies and Women's and Gender Studies Depart­

ments, our faculty, and our classes will be a resource in your efforts to find

support, empowerment, hope and a voice. We stand beside you. You are not

alone.

Sincerely,

Faculty and Staff, Comparative Ethnic Studies Department

Women's and Gender Studies Department

Suarez

continued from page 1

of Public Policy hon­

ored him with the 2005

Distinguished Policy

Leadership Award.

He earned his mas­

ter's degree in social sciences from the Uni­

versity of Chicago, and

prior to that he earned his bachelor's degree in african history from

New York University.

Muhlenberg College

in Pennsylvania has re­

continued from page 1

dent, several variations of the story have come to light.

Though the article stated that in addition to the noose and Confederate flag, a sign was posted a month earlier that said, "No N—gers, No F—gs, No Hippies," the crops house students and other students who at­

tended the event where the sign was placed, have said this is untrue. They maintain that the sign said, "No lib­

erals, no drugs, no hippies, no Obama." The students moved out of the house the week after the incident was reported, a move that was voluntary,

according to the administration.

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Iraq veteran wrestles invisible battle wounds

David Crary
ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the plus side, David McLee has a fiancee who stuck by him, a 2-year-old son who loves him. They've helped him persevere through dark times — blackouts, anger, confusion — as he struggles with the invisible wounds of his combat duty in Iraq.

As a Marine, McLee engaged in the initial assault on Iraq from Kuwait in 2003 and the oft-chaotic battle of Fallujah in late 2004.

He returned to the United States in 2005, worked for a tune with the postal service and got engaged. His fiancee, Audra Chirdoza, gave birth to a son in 2006.

About a year after his return, McLee began to notice a change in his personality, including what he describes as "blackouts" — periods of time he couldn't account for.

"One day, me and my buddies and fiancee, we went out and started drinking," he said. "I had a meltdown... All this stuff that was in my head that I'd never said to anybody started coming out. I couldn't stop crying."

The "stuff" included images of Fallujah residents, children among them, killed by his own unit as it swept through neighborhoods that were supposed to have been evacuated.

"We search houses. We see people in there — they're not supposed to be there. They're considered hostile. We just opened fire," he said.

"We saw a little kid in the middle road. There was no stopping the convoy. We ran him over."

McLee's condition worsened in June, after a friend and fellow veteran committed suicide. He checked into a veterans homeless shelter in Leeds, Miss., and was diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder as well as alcohol dependence.

He has suffered migraines, hearing loss, various back and shoulder problems.

see Soldier, page 6

"Will you be attending tonight's Campus Diversity forum?"

"I have class at that time, but I would be interested to hear why the house is being demolished. I don't really think that's a valid consequence; they are adults and should know better than to say those things."

-Antonio Chavez
computer science senior

"Probably not because I have class (but) I think it's a good idea to get it out there and open it up."

-Brian Mcphee
kinesiology freshmen

"Maybe. I'd like to see how student rights differ on campus versus off campus."

-Stephanie Marasco
psychology senior

"Probably not. I just think the whole thing got blown out of proportion. I don't think it's good that it happened but I think they were too quick to judge before getting the whole story."

-Brent Summers
environmental management and protection

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR WINNERS!
Pakistan: Militants seize convoy for U.S.-led forces

Riaz Khan

Associated Press

Suspected Taliban fighters hijacked trucks carrying Humvees and other supplies for U.S.-led troops in Afghanistan, authorities said Tuesday after a brazen attack near the Khyber Pass that underscored the militants' grip across key mountain strongholds.

The assault highlighted the vulnerability of a vital supply route for the 65,000 U.S. and NATO forces battling a resurgent Taliban in land-locked Afghanistan. A significant amount of supplies for the Western forces go through Pakistan.

Attacks on convoys carrying food, fuel and other supplies are common on the road. But Monday's raid was especially large and well-organized. It also could further strain U.S.-Pakistani relations over rooting out Taliban and al-Qaida militants along the border, which remain entrenched despite military offensives and U.S. missile strikes.

Some 60 masked militants blocked the route at several points before overpowering the convoy, said Fazal Mahmood, a government official in Khyber tribal region. He identified the attackers as members of the Hekmatyar Taliban movement.

Security forces fired trade with the gunmen, but were forced to retreat, he said. The militants took about 13 trucks along with the drivers, who were believed to be Pakistanis.

U.S. military spokesman in Afghanistan confirmed the theft late Tuesday.

There were some U.S. military materials that were taken — Humvees and water tank trailers," said Maj. John Redfield.

Later Monday, a separate group of insurgents halted a truck carrying what appeared to be a NATO jeep, setting the military vehicle on fire, Mahmood said. NATO officials could not immediately be reached for comment on that incident.

In the past, U.S. and NATO officials have played down their losses along the pass, but earlier this year, NATO said it was trying to reduce its dependence on the route by negotiating with Russia and other nations to let it truck "non-lethal" supplies to Afghanistan through Central Asia.

Security forces, backed by helicopter gunships, hunted for the missing trucks and drivers. The military said late Tuesday it had recovered some of the stolen materials but would not specify what.

4,300-year-old pyramid discovered in Egypt

SAO PAULO, Brazil (AP) — Police say a woman has died on the way to a cemetery when a traffic accident hurled her husband's coffin against the back of her neck.

Police say 67-year-old Marquise Silva Barcelos was in the front passenger seat of the hearse when the accident occurred Monday in the southern state of Rio Grande do Sul.

Barcelos died instantly.

Her 76-year-old husband Jose Silveira Coimbra died Sunday of a heart attack while dancing at a party.

The driver of the hearse and Barcelos' son suffered minor injuries.

GOMA, Congo (AP) — Hundreds of Congolese soldiers rampaged through several villages in eastern Congo, raping women and pillaging homes as they pulled back ahead of a feared rebel advance, the U.N. reported Tuesday.

U.N. peacekeeping spokesman Col. Jean-Paul Dietrich said the army troops had reportedly raped civilians near the town of Kangabayonga in violent attacks that began overnight that lasted into Tuesday morning.

Kangabayonga is 60 miles (100 kilometers) north of the provincial capital, Goma. Dietrich said 700 to 800 Congolese soldiers then fled Kangabayonga and went on a rampage through several villages.

Archaeology workers carry rocks away at the site of a newly-discovered pyramid (center-left) at Saqqara near Cairo, Tuesday. It is said to belong to Queen Seseshet, the mother of King Teti, founder of the 6th Dynasty of Egypt's Old Kingdom, a necropolis and burial site of the rulers of ancient Memphis.

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Gov't discontinues forest experiments; scientists upset

Jeff Barnard

For more than a decade, the federal government has spent millions of dollars pumping elevated levels of carbon dioxide into small groups of trees to test how forests will respond to global warming in the next 50 years. Some scientists believe they are on the cusp of receiving key results from the time-consuming experiments.

The U.S. Department of Energy, however, which is funding the project, has told the scientists to chop down the trees, collect the data and move on to new research. That plan has upset some researchers who have spent years trying to understand how forests may help slow global warming and who want to keep the project going for at least a couple of more years.

"There has been an investment in these experiments and it's a shame we are going to walk away from that investment," said William Chameides, an atmospheric scientist at Duke University, where one of the experimental forests is located. "There is no question that ultimately we want to cut the trees down and analyze the soil. The question is whether now is the time to do it."

Ronald Neilson, a U.S. Forest Service bio-climatologist in Corvallis, Ore., said the experiments should continue because they still have potential to answer key questions about how rainfall and temperature affect how much carbon a forest will store long-term — essential to understanding how forests may soften the blow of climate change.

But the Energy Department, following the advice of a specially convened panel of experts, believes this is upset some researchers who have spent years trying to understand how forests may help slow global warming and who want to keep the project going for at least a couple of more years.

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Cal State student bailed out of Iranian jail

The father of a graduate student at California State University, Northridge says his daughter has been freed on bail after spending nearly a month in an Iranian jail.

Reza Momeni told the Los Angeles Times that his 28-year-old daughter, Esha Moment, was released on Monday but isn’t allowed to leave the country.

She was later charged with acting against national security and propa­gating against the system, which could carry lengthy prison terms.

Reza Momeni says he put up the deed to his family’s Tehran apartment to cover her $200,000 bail.

Forest

“Forests
continued from page 6

that chopping down the trees and dig­ging up the soil will allow the first real measurements of how much carbon the leaves, branches, trunks and roots have been storing, said J. Michael Kuperberg, a program manager with the agency. Ending the experiments will also al­low the funding to be devoted to new research that will look at the effects of higher temperatures, changes in rainfall, and variations in soil fertility, Kuperberg said.

“What we are trying to do here is balance the tune to get optimal results out of the existing experiment with our desire for a new generation of ex­periments that we feel is more likely to realistically represent future climate sce­narios,” Kuperberg said.

Some scientists, though, believe end­ing the long-term research may be a mistake.

“If we stop these experiments now, it could cost many years to get back to this point, time we may not have,” Kevin Lee Griffin, associate professor of envi­ronmental sciences at Columbia University, wrote in an e-mail.

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that chopping down the trees and dig­ging up the soil will allow the first real measurements of how much carbon the leaves, branches, trunks and roots have been storing, said J. Michael Kuperberg, a program manager with the agency. Ending the experiments will also al­low the funding to be devoted to new research that will look at the effects of higher temperatures, changes in rainfall, and variations in soil fertility, Kuperberg said.

“What we are trying to do here is balance the tune to get optimal results out of the existing experiment with our desire for a new generation of ex­periments that we feel is more likely to realistically represent future climate sce­narios,” Kuperberg said.

Some scientists, though, believe end­ing the long-term research may be a mistake.

“If we stop these experiments now, it could cost many years to get back to this point, time we may not have,” Kevin Lee Griffin, associate professor of envi­ronmental sciences at Columbia University, wrote in an e-mail.

“Forests
continued from page 6

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Los Osos landmark unites community through music

Camas Frank
November, 12,
Los Osos landmark unites community through music
CAMAS FRANK
The Red Barn in Los Osos has become a venue for the community's music.

Once or twice a month, something magical happens in a drafty little building next to the South Bay Community Center in Los Osos. A community that has often been keenly divided over issues of growth, development and waste management puts aside its differences and enjoys eclectic old-time acoustic music at the Red Barn.

Now in its third year as a musical scene, the barn, at the Corner of Los Osos Valley Road and Palisades Drive, makes the perfect venue for bluegrass, blues, swing and Celtic roots. It is also among the few places where other traditional acoustic art forms such as the oral traditions of the Native American band Soldier Creek found an outlet in an intimate gathering on Nov. 1.

The concert series is the brain-child of local musician and owner of Zap Gardening, Jonas Richardson.

"A lot of what I like to do is traditional music, old time Irish; we've had Russian music out here before, just traditional American music, but that could really be anything," Richardson said.

"We always have a potluck beforehand and it's always a very intimate setting. It gets very crowded at times though."

see Red, page 11
Bumps on the head equal fun times in bed

Sex has the ability to be hot... sweaty... passionate... mind-blowing. But it also carries with it the unavoidable possibility of being awkward, strange or even downright comical.

Put yourself in this scenario: you’re with this special someone for the very first time, over at their place and feeling yourself getting caught up in the heat of the moment. You start to play twenty questions with yourself:

Should I pull it condom out of my purse or wait to see if they have one? What position will they want to do? Did I shave my legs today? Where should I put my hands? Am I flexible enough? While I’m kissing them, should my head do the left tilt, the right tilt, or a mix of both? Can they taste what I ate for dinner? Where should I wash my laundry and put my sexy panties on...

Forget the first time, because the 10th, 20th or even sixty-millionth time can result in the same level of awkwardness as when it all began.

Something that we all must realize, however, is that awkward is not entirely a bad thing; sometimes the awkward and clumsy situations are the ones that we remember the most.

Now, I would like for you to brace yourselves for a personal story of awkward proportions. In one said sexual encounter, while on top and in the heat of the moment, I guess I was riding a little too excitedly when I heard a loud thud and at the same time felt a sharp pain run through the top of my head. I was so into it that I didn’t realize how close I was to the wall, and subconsciously decided that, mid-sex, it would be a good idea to try to knock it down with my head.

Needless to say, my head lost the battle with the wall. But want to know something? It was probably one of my favorite moments (though I’ve had many), because instead of ruining the moment, I looked down and we both started laughing. Laughing rather hard.

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Red

Richardson rents the barn from the county for every concert, paying the out of pocket expenses. He pays the bands with donations from attendees. If enough people show up, he will get his money back. All set-up and clean-up work is on a volunteer basis. The effort and time it takes Richardson and his family goes uncompensated. I just wanted to do something here with the community, so I just started it,” Richardson said. “The barn had been here. John Adam put it together a long time ago and it was moved here from Los Osos Valley Road. It’s just a little barn, that’s all it really is. It’s what you do with the place. I wanted to do it here because of the feel, it’s traditional just like the music is.”

The events are often held on Saturdays and the music usually starts at 7 p.m., preceded by a 6 p.m. potluck. The evening carries a suggested donation of $10 but none will not be refused. The potluck dinners are unique in their lack of the usual Satefay Deli fare, not that those aren’t devoured by the end of the night. Garden salads and produce from backyard fruit trees make a healthy offering. On the rainy night that Soldier Creek brought out their drums and traditional songs from tribes all over California and the United States, a smaller audience was in attendance, sitting in folding chairs near kerosene heaters. “Stories are the most important part of our tradition,” Matthew Zepeda of Soldier Creek said. In front of the 40 attendees, the Zepeda explained that “stories in Native Culture emphasis the interrelationships in the animal world, between people and animals. In the old stories all the animals talk to each other. This is one of the problems that society has. We’ve stopped talking to people in other cultures.”

Perhaps the lackluster turnout of the evening was perfect for the band’s brand of cultural exchange with haunting vocals and deep base drum that penetrated the thin walls into the damp night. Those that braved the chill witnessed something unique and spine tingling as the group ended the performance with a last minute addition of the “beer song,” first calling up the animal’s mighty spirit in a visceral sense and then putting it to sleep finally trailing off into a whisper. It was a very fitting coupling of time and place in the Valley of the Beers. It was a great turnout, a very nice crowd. This kind of gathering brings family together, just give people a chance to be together.”

While the turnout was smaller than expected, for this performance, if history is any indicator, the second performance at the Red Barn by folk diva Maria Muldaur on Nov. 15 might be standing room only. “It’s really been fabulous; really way beyond any of my expectations,” Richardson said. “For two years sold out it been packed. We’ve had fantastic world class musicians play here, from everywhere and a lot of them have been local.”

I just wanted to do something here with the community, so I just started it.

-Jonas Richardson
Red Barn music organizer

Sedaris keeps readers close in new collection

Reading a David Sedaris book is like winning some sort of contest. You know that while you are reading it, the guy next to you isn’t, and that makes you a winner. The winner of what exactly, I don’t know. But nonetheless, it is a great feeling of superiority knowing that in that exact moment of time, you are being let in on a few of Sedaris’s little secrets, while Neglected Nancy over there, well, not.

Okay, let me explain: Sedaris is the kind of writer who can through his text, can somehow convince you that you are his best friend and therefore worthy of getting to know how he really feels about things. The best part is that you might feel the same way, but have never been brave enough to say out loud.

Author of “Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim” and “Naked,” to name a few, Sedaris’s latest collection of personal essays, “When you are Engulfed in Flames,” more or less captures his psyche in mid-life crisis mode.

In this collection, Sedaris gives us the usual rundown of ordinary life situations made monumental with humor and a twist of desperation. He really is an artist of words, and on a level with his other masterpieces, “Flames,” hits it right on the dot again.

Sedaris is the master of cynical wit, as well as original descriptions of the otherwise mundane.

Take the opening story “It’s Catching,” which basically describes a few random conversations had on Christmas day between Sedaris, his family, and his boyfriend, Hugh. Doesn’t sound too exciting, but told with Sedaris’s sharp tongue, we receive the hilarious story of the fear of germs and the worms that lived inside Hugh and his mother. Sedaris attributes this to the reason he allows Hugh’s elderly mother to handle all of the cleaning and laborious tasks while she stays with them.

“It’s incredibly relaxing, but it doesn’t make me look very good, especially if she is doing something strenuous…” He doesn’t offer any apology for his logic, and it is quite refreshing. “If I was a child and saw something creeping out of a hole in my mother’s leg, I would march to the nearest orphanage and put myself up for adoption.” Ah ha ha ha.

Moving on from this little opening treat, Sedaris offers a wide variety of the uncomfortable normacy in his life. In one of my personal favorites, “Cruelita,” he recounts being on an airplane seated next to a large, “Polish,” man, who was sobbing over his mother’s death. Feeling enormous sympathy for the man at first, Sedaris slowly begins to feel that maybe the man is pouring it on a bit too thick. He recounts for us the ways in which he dealt with death previously in his life, and although horrible, you cannot help but laugh when he recalls his genuine grief having a bit of “showmanship” to it. “The hope that someone might say: ‘You look like you just lost your best friend.’” Then I could say: ‘As a matter of fact, I did,’ my voice

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New Yorkers trying to save historic Tin Pan Alley

Verena Dobnik

NEW YORK — A group of New Yorkers is fighting to save Tin Pan Alley, the half-dozen row houses where iconic American songs were born.

The four-story, 19th-century buildings on Manhattan's West 28th Street were home to publishers of some of the catchiest American tunes and lyrics — from "God Bless America" and "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" to "Give My Regards to Broadway."

The music of Irving Berlin, Scott Joplin, Fats Waller, George M. Cohan and other greats was born on Tin Pan Alley.

The buildings were put up for sale earlier this fall for $44 million, with plans to replace them with a high-rise. The construction plan would have killed the area's signature sounds that earned the area the nickname Tin Pan Alley, to describe what one journalist said sounded like pounding on tin pans.

"It's a noisy neighborhood, with trucks beeping as they back up amid street hawkers selling bootleg movies and knockoff fortunes. A century ago, the windows of music companies broadcast a cacophony of competing piano sounds that filled the area the nickname Tin Pan Alley, to describe what one journalist said sounded like pounding on tin pans."

Leland Bobbitt, a 59-year-old photographer, has been renting his apartment at Remick's old building since 1975. He says it's important to salvage the buildings in a neighborhood "that has lost its uniqueness. It's just an anachronism."

The buildings that they hope won't be destroyed.

The Landmarks Commission is "researching the history of the buildings and reviewing whether they'd be eligible for landmark designation," said Simeon Banoff, executive director of the Historic District Council, a nonprofit preservation organization aiming to secure city landmark status for the buildings, which would protect them from being destroyed.

No date has been set for a decision, which she said depends on "a combination of historical, cultural and architectural significance."

"The fear of these buildings being sold for development crystallized their importance, and the need to preserve them," said Simeon Banoff, executive director of the Historic District Council, a nonprofit preservation organization aiming to secure city landmark status for the buildings, which would protect them from being destroyed.

The Landmarks Commission is "researching the history of the buildings and reviewing whether they'd be eligible for landmark designation," said Lise de Bourbon, a spokeswoman for New York Landmarks Preservation Commission.

The block is sacred to Tin Schreier, a great-great-grandson of Jerome H. Remick, whose music publishing company occupied one of the houses and employed a young sheet music teacher named George Gershwin.

"I'm not opposed to development in New York, but we have to balance development with history and this is definitely America's cultural history," said Schreier.

From the late 1880s to the mid-1950s, the careers of songwriters who are still popular today were launched from the buildings at 43, 47, 49, 51, 53 and 55 West 28th.

Nearly, high-rise condominiums have pushed out old brownstones. The four-story Tin Pan Alley buildings house street-level wholesale stores selling clothing, jewelry and fabrics; eight apartment units fill the upper floors.

"It's a noisy neighborhood, with trucks beeping as they back up amid street hawkers selling bootleg movies and knockoff fortunes. A century ago, the windows of music companies broadcast a cacophony of competing piano sounds that filled the area the nickname Tin Pan Alley, to describe what one journalist said sounded like pounding on tin pans."

Simeon Banoff, left, and Tin Pan Alley tenant Leland Bobbitt stand outside a group of Chelsea buildings that they hope won't be destroyed.

Sex

continued from page 9

might add, which made it more of a playful evening instead of a completely serious one.

What was quite possibly funnier was that the next time we were together, he looked at me and told me to watch my head... completely serious before cracking a smile. True story. Awkwardly and slightly embarrassed, yes, but very true.

"Sex can be romantic, hot and sweaty or completely passionate. But in partaking in all these amazing experiences, you can take with the mind-blowing experience or those that are just kind of OK. The ones where halfway through you're thinking, 'is that approved to happen right now? The experiences where you did forget to shave your legs, or your pull your hamstring, or you even bump your head against the wall."

"Sex is fun. And show that you're enjoying yourself and your company. Shows your appreciation with some noise every now and then. Touch them, kiss them and embrace them and all that they're bringing to the table... or bed, whichever location you may choose."

"The most important thing to remember is that laughter is key. While I should say that laughing at the other person isn't the best kind of foreplay, sometimes it is necessary. What's even more fun is when you can laugh at and with each other. It takes embarrassment out of the situation that could cause you to get a red-faced blush, instead of the post-sex flush.

Who knows, maybe your first time together or your 50th time together could be the one for the memory books, that you can write a sex column about, helping people understand that sex should be fun. So keep it sexy. Enjoy the fact that you're young and amazing and don't forget to watch your head."

Melisa Nueman is a psychology major and Mustang Daily sex columnist. You can contact her at sph坐落edhioel@gmail.com.

Sedaris

continued from page 10


I can't admit not liking any of these essays, but rather, just liking the stories I was receiving in public for laughing out loud while reading it? What? I'm reading, and it is very funny. Gezir.

With the wordly theme of death and dying running throughout the book, Sedaris lets us in on the fact that he himself may not be so keen on growing old, aging and dying. So, he decided to move to Tokyo to quit smoking. But of course.

"Entertaining, comical, and wonderful... it is engaging. When you're Engulfed in Flames is smart, unapologetic and worse a read."

Next week's read will be, Noble Prize winner author, Jose Saramago's latest novel, "Death With Interruptions."

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What law school ought to be."
The Grand Old Party's dead

Don't Tread on Me

by Jeremy Hicks

Political science department condemns crops house incident

We, the undersigned members of the political science department, are outraged by the racist display at the crops house and believe that it is exclusively disrespectful to accept the pretense that the students involved were unaware of the racist and threatening communications associated with the Confederate flag and a noose. Lynchings was a primary tool used in the South after slavery and during the Jim Crow era to terrorize and intimidate blacks. Such symbols are not simply "questionable materials" or Halloween decorations but are code words for racial terrorism. Overt racist acts and attendant efforts to cover up and excuse them are together hallmarks of institutionalized racism, and ensure that white privilege continues undisturbed. That is not the kind of place that Cal Poly should be.

Even when students have not broken a law by expressing racist views, what they have done is wrong, and the campus community must make it clear that they do not take place ever again. There is no law that requires us to see others as our moral equals, and the problem with racism is that we must not allow anyone to be considered less than any other race. Even if the students involved had not broken the law, they would have committed a community on campus where racism has no place. The university must begin by not minimizing the seriousness of what occurred at the crops house, and that means that it should undertake its own investigation to determine whether any wrongdoing did occur and that white privilege continues undisturbed. That is not the kind of place that Cal Poly should be.

Even when students have not broken a law by expressing racist views, what they have done is wrong, and the campus community must make it clear that they do not take place ever again. There is no law that requires us to see others as our moral equals, and the problem with racism is that we must not allow anyone to be considered less than any other race. Even if the students involved had not broken the law, they would have committed a racial Party has not been a complete failure of late? Perhaps some social conservatives have made ground? After all, Bush has long enjoyed the approval and the works long before this election, even before Bush, if anyone remembers that far as it stands today, the party label is about the only aspect that has been left intact, thus, there was little left for the Republican Party to contest. The Republican Party has been sabotaged in recent years by a leadershio that tar. As it stands today, the party label is about the only aspect that has been left intact, thus, there was little left for the Republican Party to contest. The Republican Party has been sabotaged in recent years by a leadershio that tar. As it stands today, the party label is about the only aspect that has been left intact, thus, there was little left for the Republican Party to contest. The Republican Party has been sabotaged in recent years by a leadershio that tar. As it stands today, the party label is about the only aspect that has been left intact, thus, there was little left for the Republican Party to contest. The Republican Party has been sabotaged in recent years by a leadershio that tar. As it stands today, the party label is about the only aspect that has been left intact, thus, there was little left for the Republican Party to contest.
Drop your pants, Prop 8 passed

The California electorate has approved Proposition 8, denying marriage to be legal only for couples of one man and one woman. However, a significant legal and procedural problem not addressed in the wording of Proposition 8 remains unresolved. Unless the secretary of state acts immediately to deal with this heretofore-unrecognized threat, the legal validity of Proposition 8 and the Constitution itself is at risk.

Proposition 8's passage means marriage will be legally institutionalized exclusively for couples of one man and one woman. That's easy enough to understand. However, the proposition wording contains no requirement — leaving open the possibility that inappropriately penned couples (or non-penned couples) will flood the box and claim the benefit of marriage legally. We cannot risk the chance that a couple planning to wed in California would legitimately fail to register itself. It seems there was no requirement by not having at least one penis, or more than one penis, in their registration paperwork.

After all, cross-dressing is not new. Marlene Dietrich did it in a tempest in Mexico in 1930. Tony Curtis and Jack Lemmon did it in 1959 in "Some Like It Hot." Radial Gaham did it in a political novel in the '90s — and he later ran as a Republican for president. For good measure, when even a standing Republican attempts to distort the reality of what lies beneath his underwear, there's nothing that liberal people might do. Thus, there's an obvious and immediate reason that we must illegally penned or unpenned persons, bound together, could pass into wedlock and further threaten the sanctity of the institution of marriage — even with Proposition 8 in place.

The law must recognize the importance of proving whether a married couple truly represents one man and one woman — as opposed to a couple made up of one honest person and another who is dishonest about his true genital identity. Therefore, I call upon the Secretary of State to immediately draft regulations that recognize state clerks in their distribution of marriage licenses. Specifically, county clerks should be ordered to perform a check of all married couples to determine exactly how many legally married and how many are not. It is not difficult to do. After all, in a not-too-dissenting context, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart observed in 1964: "I know it when I see it."

No Full Monty would be needed; a simple clerical clerical check would be sufficient. Without this check, we have an enforcement gap that's big enough to drive a bus through. (As you may have seen Priscilla, Queen of the Desert.) This continued threat to the sanctity of marriage is unacceptable. Please rise to the occasion and join me in calling for an immediate resolution of this vexing problem with our new constitutional provision.

Doug Swanson is an associate professor of journalism and a Mustang Daily guest columnist.

In the early 1900s, workers flocked to Detroit for the promise of 'the good life' that automobile manufacturing plants could offer. Today, one out of every ten Americans is employed by the auto industry. This is quickly changing as the current economic crisis hits the motor vehicle and parts industries hard. Auto manufacturers will have to become a definitive crossroad. Will change include a future for domestic automakers?

I look deep in the American landscape, and you'll see that life isn't easy without access to a personal vehicle. I have never driven, I have no car, no license and no desire to drive either. But that has been my choice, because I have avoided public transportation, walking, biking and occasionally driving the needed ride. For most people, this lifestyle does not work without massively altering the way they live, work and play, not to mention the additional infrastructure changes that would be required.

The power and privilege of automobiles has left a legacy in America's growth patterns. Can overburdened trolley systems that once lined interior streets and coexisting lane use in train line expansions. How ironic because it has been the most important and changed the way infrastructure and lifestyle shapes were forced.

America created the first car culture revolution, but has since lost its competitive edge in the global business. Foreign automakers' fuel-efficient vehicles have downgraded the export potential for inefficient domestic vehicles. It was America who started this enterprise technology, and it is our opportunity to equip our country with proper infrastructure for alternative modes of transportation.

For a time, Detroit could produce vehicles faster than concrete was shaped forever. The recession has put Detroit on a pathway to the growth they will take the economy's competitive edge out of the hands of the people who live and work there. America's leadership and our competitiveness is secure. Detroit's survival is possible. It will require bold, forward-thinking leaders who are willing to commit to change the status quo. It will require a fresh perspective. It will require a level of commitment and vision that the community has not seen before.

As a nation, we cannot afford to lose another industry. We have already lost our textile and steel industries. If Detroit fails, the rest of the country will be left to make do with imported vehicles. The auto industry is too large and too important to our economy to fail. We must support Detroit and the rest of the auto industry to keep it from collapsing. The time to act is now.
Barden, who was projected as a fifth-round pick by the NFL, chose Mississippi when he considered declaring his draft eligibility after the season, but changed his mind when he caught 47 passes for 99 yards and 13 touchdowns this season.

With the first of two touchdown catches Saturday, he tied Jerry Rice’s College Football Championship Subdivision (formerly Division I-AA) record of 17 consecutive games with a scoring reception.

After eight games, the Mustangs (7-1), ranked third in the FCS coaches and media polls, are leading the subdivision in both points (45.9) and yards (490.1) per game.

Through it all, Cal Poly fans have borrowed, architecture senior Megan Ackerman said.

"Even though I may not see the 10,000 people that come together in the stadium, when we see the shirts, they’re like, ‘Hey, go!’ she said. “It’s like they’re your best friends, it’s pretty cool.”

Reichert said shirts will be available at this weekend’s game against UC Davis, and perhaps for a long time to come.

“Most that I’m going to the NFL with the Rams shirts,” he said. “As long as he keeps playing, I’ll keep making them.”

Soccer

"That was amazing now, he added. “We’ve got all games to look back at and try to pick adjustments or changes.”

One switch Holocher seems to have made already is who will take the Mustangs penalty kicks.

Senior midfielder Anthony Peters missed one in the 76th minute and was later replaced by David Zamora. "It’s been so frustrating,” Holocher said.

Holocher said the Mustangs struggle taking and defending late penalty kicks. “We could be 16-4 right now.”

For the most part, though, Holocher was satisfied with the way the Mustangs responded to the Gauchos.”

It’s been so frustrating,” Holocher said. "It’s absolutely feasible that they could go out with a huge success story.”

Stevenson said, "They could do justice to the champions that they’ve been by winning the next four matches and then doing a good job in Hawaii, defeating a top-ranked team, and then going into the tournament with a head of steam and playing the kind of volleyball we know we’re capable of playing. That’s all we can plan on doing.”

"It’s been so frustrating,” Holocher said. “It’s been so frustrating.”

Stevenson added, "I think we’re still looking at it.”

The Mustangs visit UC Santa Barbara (7-4, 3-2) on Nov. 21 for the Gauchos. "We know that we wanted to weather those storms. As the course of the game went on, from about 30 minutes in, I thought we were the better team, creating the better chances.”

"It was a great sign, because that really hasn’t been the case in the first two years I was here,” Holocher added. “But now, you can legitimately say we were the better team over the course of that game.”

The rivalry has been extended into the stands. On Oct. 27, play was delayed for several minutes prior to the second overtime when benches were thrown in the direction of Gauchos’ goalkeeper Kristopher Munton.

At UC Santa Barbara, Gauchos fans reportedly threw tortillas at Cal Poly fans.

"It’s not really a factor for us anymore,” Holocher said of playing in front of the audiences of record size.

No. 16 UC Irvine, the top seed, hosts No. 14 UC Davis, the fourth seed, in the other semifinal tonight.

If Cal Poly and UC Davis were to win, the Mustangs would host the Aggies in the title match, from which the winner earns an automatic trip to the College Cup, which begins Nov. 21.

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See Volleyball, page 15

Cal Poly hopes third time's a charm against UCSB

Cal Poly Forward David Zamora (10) dribbles against UC Santa Barbara at Alex G. Spanos Stadium on Oct. 17.

Still, the next such opportunity in the conference tournament semifinals at No. 20 UC Santa Barbara at 7 tonight in Harder Stadium, gives Cal Poly another chance to make a national statement in what has quickly become college men's soccer most-watched rivalry.

Each of the past two meetings between the third-seeded Mustangs (10-5-3, 5-2-3) and second-seeded Gauchos (10-5-4, 5-2-3) went to double overtime.

The first saw a 1-0 UCSB win in front of an Alex G. Spanos Stadium crowd of 11,075 — the third-largest in regular-season college men's soccer history.

At Harder Stadium on Nov. 5, they battled to a scoreless draw before 9,749.

"It's never happened to me as a coach so far in the 10 years I've been coaching," Holocher said of meeting the same team so soon again in the postseason after a regular-season match. "We were prepared for any situation. I think it's great that we're playing again."

Doing it exactly a week later could lead to some interesting matchups, Holocher said.

see Soccer, page 15

Mustangs likely need to win out in Big West for postseason

The Cal Poly women's volleyball team had an opportunity to take back control of the Big West Conference when it entered Mott Gym on Saturday night.

The Mustangs had lost two conference contests in a row, but were just a match behind Big West-leading Long Beach State, the night's opponent.

But they lost in five sets to the 49ers for the second time this season, and fell two matches out of first place with four Big West opportunities left.

The loss left the Mustangs in danger of not winning the conference and possibly missing the NCAA postseason.

see Volleyball, page 15

Barden T-shirts a student-section sensation

Thomas Reichert first made T-shirts in honor of Mustangs receiver Ramses Barden for himself and a few friends. He's gone on to sell dozens.

Breehan Vobe-Mellor
MUSTANG DAILY

At Saturday night's Cal Poly football homecoming game, North Carolina Central probably wished it could have never happened to them.

It was another year, we've been saying, 'Throw it to Ramses.' It just started off to be for just me and my friends, just because it's fun and exciting to get out there and cheer for our football team.

Although Micheal Leahy graduated in June 2008 with a degree in mechanical engineering, senior and friend of Reichert: "That he figured it since it was going to be the same price for 20 he might as well get them," and we just went to the game, and I think we got to the game in hour-and-a-half before.

Since then, Reichert has sold about 50 of the shirts. He's tried to get an extra-large for Muphy, the school's mascot, and has even been in tentative talks with El Corral Bookstore to sell the shirts there as well.

During the homecoming game, Reichert stopped cheering long enough to talk to several people who came by to ask for shirts. Although it's become a business for him, Reichert said profiting was never the incentive for making the $15 apparel.

"I now make $3 a shirt, but if I really want to make money," he said. "It just started off to be for just me and
donovan arid, Scott sibey
mustangdaily@psu.edu

SPORTS
MUSTANG DAILY

men's volleyball

Cal Poly's Hailey Fishman (left) and Jaylen Houston (center) try for a block against Cal State Fullerton on Oct. 25.

and his teammates.

Architecture senior Thomas Reichert decided that starting this football season, he wanted to make a few shirts for himself and about 20 of his football-loving friends.

"I actually decided to make them because ever since me and all my friends watched the game since freshman year, we've been saying, 'Throw it to Ramses,'" Reichert said. "It's the best damn receiver in college football, period."

By the Oct. 4 game against South Dakota, Reichert had the shirts made.

Little did he know how popular they would become.

"We had about eight to 10 of us who were guaranteed to buy the shirts," said Nate Jones, a mechanical engineering senior and friend of Reichert. "But I figured since it was going to be the same price for 20 he might as well get them," and we just went to the game, and I think we got to the game in hour-and-a-half before.

Since then, Reichert has sold about 50 of the shirts. He's tried to get an extra-large for Murphy, the school's mascot, and has even been in tentative talks with El Corral Bookstore to sell the shirts there as well.

During the homecoming game, Reichert stopped cheering long enough to talk to several people who came by to ask for shirts. Although it's become a business for him, Reichert said profiting was never the incentive for making the $15 apparel.

"I now make $3 a shirt, but if I really want to make money," he said. "It just started off to be for just me and

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