Internationally-acclaimed architect kicks off winter lecture series

Genevieve Loggins

World-renowned for his contemporary and environmental designs, New York architect Joel Sanders will kick off the first lecture of the College of Architecture and Environmental Design's winter lecture series Friday.

Sanders, of Joel Sanders Architects is an associate professor at Yale University School of Architecture and has completed numerous residential, commercial and interior design projects with sustainable environmental design firms.

The lecture is meant to inform students about the development of architecture and environmental design firms, Sanders said. It will also delve into the value of architectural research and design.

"Sanders always engages conversation in regards to his style and experience," he said.

The Access House is one of Joel Sanders' many designs. Meant to be a beach house, the design was part of a Washington D.C. exhibition titled "Picture this! Windows of the American home."

Poly anti-hazing advocates honored

Chris Jagger

In the wake of controversy surrounding Cal Poly's Greek system, three students in fraternities have recently been awarded for their anti-hazing efforts.

Social sciences senior Jacob Lopez, materials engineering junior Andrew Righter and soil science senior Daniel Kim have all been officially recognized by hazingprevention.org for the actions they have taken to eliminate hazing from their respective fraternities.

Hazingprevention.org is a non-profit organization that seeks to educate people about what hazing is and provides resources to help change the hazing culture within groups. Every year, the Hank Neuwirth Anti-Hazing Hero Award is given to individuals who have gone above and beyond in their efforts to combat hazing.

The organization defines hazing as any action taken, or situation intentionally created, that causes embarrassment, harassment or ridicule. This year, all six recipients were affiliated with Greek life.

Cal Poly alumnus Adrian Herrera, who won an anti-hazing hero award in 2008, nominated his Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity brother Lopez and Righter for the award in 2009.

Lopez pledged Tau Kappa Epsilon in the spring of 2006. As a new member, he did not like the way his pledge class was treated.

"When I joined, there was a hazing boot camp," Lopez said. "It focused primarily on California Polytechnic State University..."

The Access House is one of Joel Sanders' many designs. Meant to be a beach house, the design was part of a Washington D.C. exhibition titled "Picture this! Windows of the American home."

Poly anti-hazing advocates honored
Architect
continued from page 1
A renowned present contemporary piece, Stephen Phillips, series director and Cal Poly assistant professor of design, said.
"It's not easy to run a successful architecture firm, have experience and "Unprivate House" at New York's Museum of Modern Art," said Peterson.

Pregnant
continued from page 1
going to make," said Francene Peterson, EOC Health Services clinic manager. "We just try and give them resources."

Services provided at EOC are free to low cost depending on family size and income. FPACT (Family, Planning, Access, Care, and Treatment) is a program that assists students in receiving all services at no cost.

"Most students have a very limited income, so based on an income and family size, a vast majority of students we see get their services here for free and it's paid for by the state program," said Peterson.

"We would love to see more and more students there," she added.

Planned Parenthood of San Luis Obispo is another resource where students can go if they are pregnant or think they may be pregnant.

Located downtown on Pine Street, Planned Parenthood offers pregnancy tests and an counseling session where options such as parenting and adoption are discussed with the patient. They are also the only facility in the county that provides abortion services.

Planned Parenthood allows patients to become a part of a state funding program, which charges on a sliding fee scale based on income and family size.

Choices Pregnancy Resource Center is another center where students and members of the community can obtain pregnancy information and counseling. Services include pregnancy tests,abstinence education and counseling for women who are pregnant.

Though the center will discuss different options with the patient, it is anti-abortion and encourages women to abstain from sex.

"We do not judge anybody about their choices, but we are here to help them with whatever they decide," said Maria Estrada, director at Choices.

Choices is a non-profit Christian-based pregnancy resource center that receives money from community efforts, fundraising, and donations from churches. It is not a clinic, but is currently in the process of getting funding, approval and licensing and hopes to become one.

According to Davies, there was only one pregnancy scare last year at ERON, which signifies that unplanned pregnancy is not a major problem at Cal Poly.

"The best lecturers know how to relate to students and Sanders is one of them," said Peterson.

Sanders' architectural designs have won him recognition in contemporary design, and the ability to recognize what is important when studying architectural design. Phillips added.

Architecture department head Henry de Hahn said the Hearst Lecture series, established about fifteen years ago, is made possible by grants from the Hearst Foundation.

"Students need to know what's happening in the outside world along with always thinking and building knowledge to create a model of life," he said. "The lecture series enables our students to think in this way."

The architecture program has recently been ranked number three in the 2009 edition of America's Best Architecture & Design Schools, placing Cal Poly just above Cornell University and Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

"Along with our intellectual scholars, prestigious leaders and information directors, this series has been the entry of the West Coast," de Hahn said.

Sanderson will speak this Friday at 4 p.m. in the Business Rotunda room 213. This lecture is free and open to the public.

Logo design by Maxx Music, in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dr. Cornel Morton, Vice President for Student Affairs, invites students, faculty and staff to join him and others by participating in the Cal Poly Legacy March, in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Date: Thursday, January 15, 2009
Time: 11:00am—11:40am
Where: Dexter Lawn to University Union Plaza

Participants will meet on Dexter lawn at 11:00am for a short program with the march commencing by 11:40am, at the "Red Handprint" monument in the University Union Sandwich Factory Plaza.

Sponsored by the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs. Persons with disabilities may contact the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs for assistance with accommodations.

Hazing
continued from page 1
organization. Lopez helped elimi­
nate hazing within his fraternity by reaching out to his brothers on an individual basis.

"What I really tried to do was show people how much their prob­
lems with our organization matched up with the problems associated with hazing," Lopez said. "I guess I really tried to spearhead the logical aspect of our argument against haz­ing.

Lopez served as new member Educator for a year. During this time, he developed a hazing-free program that focused on positive fraternity ideals. Lopez is the current president of Tau Kappa Epsilon.

Righter pledged Tau Kappa Epi­
lon before Lopez, in the fall of 2006 and served as president during the fraternity's transition period in 2007. He shared the same ideals as many of the members who were standing up against hazing at the time.

"I believe that no matter how mild or severe any hazing is, it should not be a part of a Greek organization because it completely contradicts the values we pledge to uphold as a member," Righter said. "I was part of a new member class that got hazed."

Making Tau Kappa Epsilon a hazing-free organization was not a walk in the park. Initially, many members who were opposed to change quit the fraternity. However, Righter's leadership ultimately prev­
ated. He helped his house double in membership and assisted Lopez in educating new members in a hazing-free environment.

"The reason I was chosen for this award is because I was the president during a time of transition," Righter said. "I helped lead my fraternity through a tough time and ensured that we didn't slip back into old habits."

Kim, a member of the Delta Chi fraternity, won the anti-hazing hero award for his stand against hazing within his fraternity.

"As a new member education chair, I had a lot of control over what the associate members did," Kim said. "I also took a hard stance against some of the things we used to do."

Kim joined the fall of 2004 and underwent a new member education program that involved hazing. He ran into opposition while attempting to get rid of these traditions by approaching various broth­

ers and discussing the pros and cons of hazing.

"A lot of people were really angry at what I was trying to do," Kim said.

Kim decided to address his entire fraternity with a speech about why hazing was hurting the frater­
nity. "I gave this speech and presenta­
tion to the chapter about the nega­
tive aspects of hazing and people rallied behind me," Kim said.

He eventually compromised with Delta Chi by designing a new member education program that he thought was more healthy and safe for members but also retained some traditions.

Legacy March
In Honor of
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Martin Luther King’s Birthday!
Sat. Jan. 17, 2009, 11 am - 5 pm
San Luis Obispo Laguna Middle School

Donation $10, students/kids free, & a $5 Bon Temps Creole
Cafe lunch. Music by Shival, Louie Ortega and more!
The Sharing The Dream nonprofit supports a diversity of
ideals with religious, racial and political freedoms for all.

Christina Bearce, Louie Ortega & Shival

Sponsored by the City of San Luis Obispo, New Times Club, KCBX, Information Press, Bon Temps Creole Cafe, BGA, The Drum Circuit and Pre-Paid Legal.

Call 784-9401 for info.
UC regents vote to shrink undergraduate enrollment

Terence Chea
ASSOCIATE PRESS

The University of California's governing board voted Wednesday to cut undergraduate enrollment and freeze pay for top administrators in response to the state's worsening budget crisis.

State

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — A former transit police officer has been charged with murder for the fatal shooting of an unarmed and allegedly restrained black man in a racially charged case that has enraged residents and community leaders and set off violent protests.

Seattle released court documents alleging that Johannes Mehserle, who was charged Tuesday, shot 22-year-old Oscar Grant while Grant had his hands behind his back and another officer was kneeling on his neck.

ROANOKE, Va. (AP) — A peanut butter maker that sells bulk supplies to institutions issued a nationwide recall as officials on Wednesday reported two more deaths associated with a salmonella outbreak. Its client Kellogg later asked stores to stop selling a variety of peanut butter crackers.

Lynchburg-based Peanut Corp. of America issued the recall last Tuesday for 21 lots of peanut butter made since July 1 at its plant in Blakely, Ga., because of possible salmonella contamination.

Salinas, Calif. (AP) — Salinas police are hunting a second suspect of violence that's killed at least five people in separate incidents over three days.

Investigators suspect all of the shootings are gang-related. Sgt. Chris Lane says each victim was either connected to the Nortenos gang or its rival, the Surenos.

Among those killed are a 15-year-old girl who lost her hands behind her back and another was charged Tuesday, shot 22-year-old Grant while Grant had his hands behind his back and another officer was kneeling on his neck.

Baltimore (AP) — Barack Obama's train trip Saturday from Philadelphia to Washington offers people who can't make it for the inauguration to catch a glimpse of the next president.

The Presidential Inaugural Committee announced Wednesday that Obama, his family and the group of "everyday Americans" accompanying them on the train plan to gather at the 39th Street Station in Philadelphia that morning. Ticket holders for the event where Obama will speak have been distributed.

The train stops in Wilmington, Del., to pick up Vice President-elect Joe Biden and his family.

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GETTING THE TRANSCRIPTS:

Many available positions on MustangJOBS may require students to submit unofficial transcripts. In order to successfully upload your unofficial transcripts, please follow the steps below. If these instructions do not work for you, call our Career Services recruiting team at (805) 756-5976.

Getting the Transcripts:

• Log in to the Call 1-ly Portal at my.calpoly.edu
• Click on the "Registration & Enrollment" tab
• In the "Student Course Info" box, click the link that says "View MyPolyProfile"
• In the top left hand corner, click on "View Printable Format"
• Go to "File" and choose "Save As," label this file as file name: Transcripts. Save as a Webpage, HTML only, and put it on the desktop or somewhere else easy to remember.

Uploading the Transcripts:

• Click on the "documents" tab in MustangJOBS
• Click on the "Add New" box
• Label your transcripts and select the document type "Unofficial Transcript"
• Browse your computer for the file in which you saved the transcripts
• Click the "Submit" button and your transcripts will automatically be converted to an Adobe file for the employers to see.

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Division of Student Affairs

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WORD ON THE STREET

"What role do you think Cal Poly should take in educating students about safe sex practices?"

"I'd say there's a lack of education... there is never any talk about safe sex practices."

- Sikh Dillon, architecture junior

"None, since we are in college and already live on our own. We should know all about sex if we are having it."

-Brett Snyder, aerospace engineering sophomore

"There should be somewhere students should go if people needed answers."

-Ashley Madding, business marketing senior

"I think they should be available to people who want info but there are other organizations already (off-campus)."

-Jana Black, animal science senior
Government makes decision on gray wolf protection

Matthew Brown
and John Fleisher

The Bush administration on Wednesday announced plans to remove gray wolves in the western Great Lakes and northern Rocky Mountains regions from the federal endangered species list. But wolves in Wyoming will remain under federal jurisdiction because that state has not done enough to assure their survival. Deputy Interior Secretary Lynn Scarlett said. Courts have overruled previous attempts by the federal government to remove wolves in both regions from the endangered list and return management authority to the states.

In the northern Rockies, the Fish and Wildlife Service tried to address the courts’ concerns by excluding Wyoming, where officials had sought a “predator zone” covering about 40 percent of the state where the animals could be shot on sight. Federal officials said Wyoming law would have no change before wolves there could be taken off the list, and Wyoming Attorney General Bruce Salzburg said Wednesday that it was “probable” that the state would challenge the latest federal plan in court.

In the western Great Lakes region, the federal government made no policy changes. The Fish and Wildlife Service disagreed with the judge’s ruling and retained its case.

The wolves will be removed from the endangered species list 30 days after the decision is published in the Federal Register, which officials said could happen within the next two weeks. A small population of Mexican Gray wolves in the Southwest was not affected by Wednesday’s announcement.

The decision could be reversed by President-elect Barack Obama’s administration, said Rowan Gould, acting director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Gould spokesman Nick Shapiro said the matter would be reviewed but offered no other details.

“We would hope ... the next administration would not turn around and go in a different direction; but of course that certainly is their choice and opportunity,” Scarlett said.

Scarlet also said that the decision was based on science independently of policy considerations and that it was a watershed moment for a species first listed as endangered in 1974.

“Returning this essential part of our national heritage to so much of our natural landscape ranks among our greatest conservation achievement,” Scarlett said.

David Mech, a leading wolf expert and senior research scientist with the U.S. Geological Survey, supported the assertion that the wolf population had rebounded.

“I am satisfied, and most wolf biologists I know are satisfied, that wolf populations in both regions have been biologically recovered for the last five years,” Mech said.

The lack of environmental and animal rights groups, deriding the move as a last-minute effort by the Bush administration to strip protections, promised Wednesday to return to court with another round of lawsuits.

“These guys have been trying for eight years to explain how it could be possible for them to delist the wolves,” said Jonathan Lovvorn, a vice president of the Humane Society of the United States. “It’s time for them to throw in the towel.”

About 1,500 wolves in the Northern Rockies were taken off the list in February 2008. But a federal judge ruled the move in July, saying state management plans could not guarantee their recovery.

Unable to keep their population in check,” Scarfret said.

President-elect Barack Obama’s administration said it would reverse the Bush administration’s policy of delisting wolves in the Great Lakes region.

Vatican secret confession tribunal opens up

Nicole Winfield

One of the Vatican’s most secretive and sacred tribunals, which handles confessions of sins so grievous the pope can grant absolution, is giving the faithful a peek into its workings for the first time in its 830-year history.

The Vatican has long lamented that fewer and fewer Catholics are going to confession, the sacrament in which the faithful confess their sins to a priest.

To combat the decline, the so-called “tribunal of conscience” invited the public into the frescoed halls of the Apostolic Penitentiary, the little known — specifically because the faithfull to go to confession, said Cardinal Janies Francis George Stafford, an apostolic a judge, as though the sense of sin has been forgotten,” he said.

The tribunal’s No. 2 official, Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, said in a paper delivered at the conference.

“Today it seems as though the sense of sin has been forgotten,” he said.

“Confession is made of even the most heinous of crimes and sins — such as genocide or mass murder — are handled at the local level by priests and their bishops and are not heard by the tribunal.

In its next few months.

“It sends the right signal in this economic environment,” said Stafford. “It doesn’t think to exert moral leadership, we really feel the time for sacrifice, I think to exert moral leadership, we need to make sure our salaries are under control.”

Students also should expect to pay more in the coming academic year because the governor’s proposed budget would increase UC student fees by 9.3 percent. The regents are expected to vote on proposed fee increases in the next few months.

The tuition budget crisis is also forcing the 23-campus California State University system to cut back. Last year, the CSU announced it would suspend most hiring, freeze salaries for top administrators and suspend state-funded construction projects for at least 90 days.

To offset the freshmen enrollment cut and boost campus diversity, the number of community college students transferring to UC campuses will increase by 500 students. Graduate student slots will remain roughly the same.

UC officials still expect to find spots for all California residents who meet its academic standards, but those spots might be at campuses to which the students didn’t apply.

The other proposed approach Wednesday would freeze compensation for 285 top administrators for the remainder of this academic year, as well as the coming year. That group includes 85 university chancellors, vice chancellors and other executive-level positions.

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All Girl Summer Fun Band releases sixth-year surprise

Chelsea Biever

The Performing Arts Center will play jungle gym to the world-renowned acrobatic troupe the National Acrobats of China at 7 tonight. Cal Poly Arts is proud to present this traveling 35-member group that has mesmerized audiences since 1956 in more than 30 countries. The performance will be a kaleidoscope of talent, featuring martial arts, illusion, stunts, contortionism, cycling and comic relief.

Founded over 50 years ago, the award-winning performers have maintained a reputation of excellence around the world in countries like Canada, Japan, Italy, England, France and many more. Attendees of the show can expect to see an array of acts such as biker juggling with feet, cycling stunts, handstands on chairs placed on turntables and the crowd-pleasing plates spinning routine. All segments of the performance will come alive to traditional tunes and they do balancing where most are not over three feet. The lead truck goes so far to see some very well trained back-up — Ooo-Oo-Ooo, which reminded me a lot of "pretend to be nice," the fictitious, chart-topping single in "Josee and the Panwatz." So it's more professional affair this time. The tighter tempos are courtesy of new drummer Kathy Foster of The Thermals. As expected, the funniest feat of operating a bicycle with 15 people aboard the single bike. He summed up the show by saying that it would be "fun on a lot of different levels," because along with the high-flying gymnastics and illusion, there is comedic value to the show. "It's all kinds of great fun," Lerian said. It's a family-oriented type of thing, with lots of 'ooohs' and 'ahhhs' from the audience.

Lerian said that the main aspect of the show is the fact that it's "funny to watch; it's not brain surgery." He thinks that the physical aspects of the performance and the level of times the acrobats have attained to achieve these feats will be a prominent reason college-age viewers in particular will be interested.

Peter Wilt, interim director of Cal Poly Arts said that acrobatic performances have been extremely popular with the past Cal Poly and judging by ticket sales thus far, this show looks to be no different.

Tales of acrobats have been tremendously popular," he said. "They are well priced and they allow us to offer a price that a family can afford to have this type of entertainment."

Wilt added that the contortionism performance is sure to be a favorite. "The Chinese are famous for this," he said. "It's amazing to see the feats of strength they do."

The show is for all ages except infants. Student rush tickets will be available one hour before curtain priced at $10 each, or at the Performing Arts Center Ticket Office, open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Folk Festival comes to Central Coast for the first time

Chelsea Biekier

A new festival is coming to town and it is safe to say that with 19 live concert events planned, there may just be a little folk for everyone. The Central Coast Folk Festival, presented by the Boutique Hotel Collection, will feature live music with genres spanning contemporary and traditional folk, swing, bluegrass and more. The best part: nearly all of the events are free.

Charles Crellin, Sycamore Mineral Springs Resort general manager said that planning for the first-ever event has been underway for about five months. He and others involved hope the event will become an annual festival and just having fun. With such a wide range of music, the Boutique Hotel Collection, will serve the Central Coast for the first time ever.

While planning the festival, Crellin said that he received all kinds of feedback from the community. “Everybody is excited about it because we haven't even done anything like this on the Central Coast before.” With food, art, wine and music, it would seem the festival has thought of everything.

Crellin described folk music as “often times acoustic, the songs of everyday life, politics and just having fun. With such a wide range of music, we will be able to experience this all during in a four-day festival.”

“Sound like a really cool gathering of people and bands,” He is excited for Jack and the Lion and the Central Coast Folk Festival., said that because there are so many events to choose from throughout the four days, there should be something to interest everyone.

“This is kind of a mature type of music and I feel like it is starting to become more mainstream,” Poulis said. “A lot of the acoustic stuff, like Bright Eyes, is becoming more known, and I think that is because it is a mature type of music; college students can really grasp it and enjoy it.”

Crellin described folk music as “often times acoustic, the songs of everyday life, politics and just having fun. With such a wide range of music, and people will be able to experience this all during in a four-day festival.”

“We thought the long weekend of the Martin Luther King holiday would be a really good time to present this first Central Coast Folk Festival. We hope it will become a signature event.”

“We do many, we are doing swing music and a little blues,” he said. “So it's really a wide reaching definition of Americana music.”

Stay true to the theme, the events will have food that mirrors the tunes with a number of local restaurants offering heritage or American dinners and old-fashioned cocktails, “representing the food and wine of America.”

There will be an ample amount of arts and crafts on display, as well as “folk and soak.” There will be an ample amount of arts and crafts on display, as well as “folk and soak.”

“Hot tubs. Crellin said that after coming up with the aforementioned catch line, he thought an evening relaxing in the tubs at Sycamore, listening to live music and consuming good food would make for a unique, enjoyable evening.

“I don't think we had heard of anything like this before,” Crellin said. “There is a story telling night as well and there is a family-oriented folk fest event at the Apple Farm, so it sort of goes all over; there is an appeal to a lot of different age groups and a lot of different tastes.”

Folk Festival Events

THURSDAY 1/15/09
6-9 p.m. Artisan Market
Music: Cuesta Ridge
Venue: SeaVenture

7-10:30 p.m. Soak & Folk
Music: David Talmadge
Venue: Sycamore Mineral Springs

FRIDAY 1/16/09
4-6 p.m Modern Folk
Music: Jack and the Lion
Venue: The Cliffs Resort

SATURDAY 1/17/09
The Big Schwing Event
Music: Sugar Daddy
Swing Kings
Venue: The Cliffs Resort

7-9 p.m. Campfire Songs and Stories
Music: Kirk Henning
Venue: Apple Farm

“These are a few, not all, of the Folk Festival events.”

“Were doing folk, we're doing bluegrass, we're doing swing music and a little blues,” he said. “So it's really a wide reaching definition of Americana music.”

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 Indie time: Sundance mixes stars, newcomers, fans

David Germain

PARK CITY, Utah — The Sundance Film Festival resumes its duties as a great equalizer of the cinema world.

This is where complete unknowns can suddenly find themselves sought-after talent among Hollywood distributors. This is where matinee talent such as Richard Gere, Susan Sarandon and Chris Rock turn up in thoughtful, non-studio flicks.

This is where eager audiences get to grill stars and filmmakers about the creative process during question-and-answer sessions after screenings.

Opening the festival Thursday night is director Adam Elliott's "Mary and Max," a clay-animation tale about a pen-pal friendship between an 8-year-old Australian girl (voiced by Toni Collette) and an obese middle-aged New Yorker (Philip Seymour Hoffman).

Filmmakers say one of the festival's big lure is rubbing elbows with fans who brave the cold, snow and mob scene of Sundance to see something different than what they'll find at their local multiplex.

"That's the best thing about going to a festival, especially Sundance," said Bobcat Goldthwait, writer-director of the dark animation tale "Brief Interviews With Hideous Men." "It's premiering there. First film with one of those romances, "I Love You Phillip Morris," playing a gay con man who meets the love of his life (Ewan McGregor) in prison."

"It's just such a good-hearted, sweet, beautiful, really funny movie. It dares to be romantic," Carrey said, adding a dig at Utah's "Proposition 8." "I just think it's straight guys having sex with each other."

Jim Carrey appears in his first Sundance film with one of those romances, "I Love You Phillip Morris," playing a gay con man who meets the love of his life (Ewan McGregor) in prison. The film with one of those romances, "I Love You Phillip Morris," playing a gay con man who meets the love of his life (Ewan McGregor) in prison.

On the romantic side, Sundance offers quirky stories of passion and affection, including "Don't Let Me Drown," a teen love story set in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 attacks; "Peter and Vandy," chronicling a couple's relationship from hopeful start through slow deterioration; and "Hump-day," a tale of old buddies who attempt a "work of art" of an amateur porn flick of straight guys having sex with each other.

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The eight-year nightmare is really almost over

The countdown clocks on every liberal Web site are happily shedding their final hours as George W. Bush prepares to walk out of the Oval Office for the last time as president. On Monday Bush held his last press conference, and for the first time since we met him, he showed a reflective side that was almost endearing.

I remember Bush’s first press conference after the election in 2004 when he was asked if he had made any mistakes in the first half of his presidency. He couldn’t name one mistake. (I had a list of 10 mistakes before the question was even finished.)

However, when confronted Monday regarding his decisions as president, Bush seemed very concerned about the uncertain legacy he will leave behind.

He was defensive when he spoke about Iraq — the final stain on his presidency. He also attempted to explain his disconnect with reality during Barack Obama’s first 100 days.

When asked why he thought his critics held so much animosity toward him, his answer was surprisingly introspective. He said that he always had to do what he felt was right because “if you don’t, then I don’t see how you can live with yourself.”

He said that he got to set his home in Texas and look in the mirror and be proud of what he did. If I allowed the loud voices, the loud critics, to prevent me from doing what I thought was necessary to protect this country,” Even though the critic thought that turned out to be correct, Bush conveyed something I think none of us on the left thought he had in him: self-awareness.

I wonder if, when he gets back to his ranch, Bush will sit down to write a reflection on his time in office and ponder how his presidency ended in such disarray.

As I reflected on the arc of his presidency, I couldn’t help thinking that the demise of Bush’s public life has been very tragic. He made a series of disastrous decisions that were for the rich, failing to fund the No Child Left Behind, misinforming the public about WMDs in Iraq, legitimizing torture as an interrogation procedure and deregulating business, to name a few.

But while these were all decisions Bush no doubt saw as tough choices he had to make for the future of the country, they were also decisions that caused America to round turn in back on him and led to the ultimate ruination of his own political party.

I hope that when Bush settles into retirement in Texas and truly has the opportunity to reflect on his time in the White House that he is, in fact, able to look in the mirror and be proud of the (few) good things he accomplished, like working with Bush to increase America’s aid to Africa.

However, I think my voice is in chorus with the rest of the world and the majority of the United States when I say that I am so glad this nightmare is over. I wish the entire Bush family to lead quiet, private, long lives confined to Florida and Texas while the rest of us move on.

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Bush administration should be held criminally accountable

As the Bush/Cheney administration is lifted off the roof of the sinking White House, giving the thumbs up sign, we all know better. We all see the results of eight disastrous years.

Who signed off? Will it be only our military families, or people losing their homes, or prisoners who have no rights, or Americans whose phones have been tapped or the hundreds of thousands of dead Iraqis, Afghans and Palestinians? Or will George W. Bush and Richard Cheney be tried and found guilty? If they are not, let’s free every criminal from our overcrowded jails because there is no justice in America. If these two men cannot be indicted for their crimes and misdeeds, let all criminals go free.

Or else, let justice be blind and judge them for what they have done. If not, no president or vice-president need worry about crimes, because there are no consequences.

Gale McNeely
Sevilla, Wash.
The past eight years have been witness to history in the making. America was attacked on home soil for the first time since Pearl Harbor, two wars were and continue to be waged, the economy has gone through two recessions, and the government grew larger faster than any other time in history.

In recent years hate, animosity and anger towards President Bush has become a national pastime. People have been so blinded and paralyzed by their disagreements with him that it has bastardized facts in lieu of perception. I have been forced that what he did, with the information at hand, was primarily due to a lack of communication with the American people, rather than a lack of validity of the dangers posed by the identified nations.

Sept. 11 showed us that we could no longer look the other way when we were attacked. It showed us that a nation we needed to remain proactive in reducing threats to our nation. If we did not fight them, they would fight us; we took the fight to the enemy, as a result the danger to our nation has decreased, but not been eliminated.

There are many of you in my readership who might believe that we should talk to our enemy, that negotiation will solve our problems. While I respect your ability to have that opinion, it is fundamentally flawed. Negotiation merely prolongs the inevitable: it does not change a mindset that is opposed to our own set of values and belief.

We all disagree about the means taken to get to the point we are today. From Gomaa to the PATRIOT Act, everyone on all sides has a different take on how we should have done things. But I believe that while heavily criticized today Bush's international policy will eventually be looked upon as visionary and wise.

Domestic Policy
I am much more critical of President Bush on matters of domestic policy. His administration's handling of the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina will remain in debate for years. Having a former director of a horse show at the helm of FEMA at the time doesn't help the debate.

"Could things have been done better? Absolutely. But when I hear people say the federal response was slow then what are they going to say to those chopper drivers, or the 30,000 that got pulled off the roofs?" Bush said.

On Monday he also spoke about his handling of the economy. Tax cuts were the right thing to do. It helped stabilize the economy after Sept. 11 and spurred economic growth. Yet I fear that in the grand scheme of things, Bush will be blamed for recent economic conditions even though he had little, if anything, to do with creating the situation, the back ways with boas.

Where we are today
So are we better off today? Yes and no.
The economy is a mess (although the issue of whether Bush is to blame is another debate entirely). He also presided over the largest expansion in government spending in American history, but that would not have been possible without the help of Congress.

Yet his administration has maintained security in the face of adversity. Since Sept. 11 we have not been attacked on our own soil. Regardless of whether you agree with the reasons why or how we have gone after the enemy, it cannot be disputed that we are safer today than we were eight years ago.

As we transition from one administration to the next, I encourage you to remember how far we've come. We've still one nation under God. We've strengthened our military and homeland security, and many laws passed which have helped secure our borders. We've destroyed terrorist organizations and has diminished the threat to our nation.

This is not to say that there are not issues to work on. It is an ongoing journey that must continue and will continue beyond the election. But I do believe it's a great system into a socialistic welfare state. President Bush has become a national过去 time in history.

Pubilc has been on that land since there were mere nomadic tribes. It has been their home for ours. True, Jews bought the land from Britain (under the false belief that it was, "A land without people for a people without land"), but it was as much Britan's as America was when they murdered the innocents who had lost their land, claiming it as their own. We don't see it as that way now, and the same applies to what happened over there. When the Jews first bought the land, the Arab population was at least 600,000. The Jewish economy was horrible until post-WWII when the U.S. started financially and emotionally backing them. Also, Arabs are a Semitic people, and Islam specifically states that Judaism and Christianity are "legitimate religions" and thus cannot be proscribed on that basis alone (discrimination, yes, but no harm). Only when Jihad is declared, can which only be done when they feel same force is harming Muslims or in people (this would even include drugs, or poverty), can they attack a Jew or Christian. And that cannot be done due to their religion alone. So if there is an "ideology of hate" in their religion, it's due to the other reason that feeling that their homes were ripped out from between their fingers, it's clear that you need to do more research on the history over there. To quote a friend of mine who currently lives in Israel: "Both sides suck."

Response to letter to the editor "Dying the main myths of the Israeli/Palestinian conflict"

It is because of young people like you that I can still keep a bit of real hope that things will change, or at least begin to change, in the near future. The Jewish people have settled in the same land for over 3,000 years. We are in the present day, and I believe the future of the Middle East is in the hands of your generation.

Response to letter to the editor "Preserving government compromise"

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Mustang Daily welcomes all comments that are written in response to an article online. Though not all the responses will be printed, the Mustang Daily will print comments that provide a healthy and intelligent discussion on a given subject. Some of today's comments were slightly shortened for space requirements. Go online to mustangdaily.net to read the original comments.
Pop Culture Shock Therapy by Doug Bratron

On the “You’re Adopted!” episode of Diff’rent Strokes, only Kimberly’s world remained unrocked.

The Best of Sunday Crosswords

MURRAY STATION
Your home while you’re away

Announcements
Volunteer at Cal Poly Student Community Services. UU Room 217 (805) 756-5834 EE Majors. Topanga Schematic Maker. Electrical schematic and documentation software. Immediate download only $59.99 www.topangasoftware.com

Girls & Sports by Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein

Marshall. I’ve *not* a friend.* I want you to meet
Is she nice?

Yes, she’s really nice

Forget it, Joabnn, no good-looking girl is ever described as nice.

O.K. she’s a little crazy and a total drama queen

Perfect. Set it up

Not by blood

Girls & Sports

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Girls & Sports
Vegas
continued from page 12
McBride said the team chemistry is part of why the team's passing has come together so well. "We do get along well," McBride said. "A lot of it is just in playing together because it's been carried off from last year."
Although the Mustangs 9-6 start marks the third-best start in school history, McBride still sees the team as understaffing.
"We haven't been playing to our best lately and everyone is ready to prove people wrong," she said. "I think this weekend is our chance to do that."

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University Housing Night! Come represent your housing community on campus as the community with the most representation and school spirit will win a community pizza party and community T-shirts courtesy of Mustang Athletics!

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RIVALRY NIGHT
SATURDAY
MOTT GYM
7PM

WE ARE THE MUSTANGS

Challenge
continued from page 12
year; starting in just four games for the Gauchos.
The Mustangs' main beneficiary of their absence may be sophomore forward Kristina Santiago whose shooting percentage (.556) ranks first in the conference and 23rd in the nation.
Santiago is one of the six Mustangs averaging over 1.8 assists per game. Cal Poly ranks 11th in the nation in assists.

"We get along well," McBride said. "A lot of it is just in playing together because it's been carried off from last year."
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RIVALRY NIGHT
SATURDAY
MOTT GYM
7PM

WE ARE THE MUSTANGS
Central Coast rivals clash again

Any Cal Poly student that has any inkling about what this rivalry is about gets pretty motivated.

—Faith Mimnaugh
Cal Poly head coach

Scott Silvey
SPORTS EDITOR

The Cal Poly women's basketball team and UC Santa Barbara have been in a number of wars over the last few years.

The Mustangs (9-6, 2-2 Big West Conference) and Gauchos went 23 years without a win in the Thunderdome, their lone defeat coming in overtime last year.

While the Gauchos pulled off the upset in 2006, Cal Poly has since won two of the last three meetings at the Thunderdome, their lone defeat coming in overtime last year.

Mimnaugh said that rebounding would be the key element to another Cal Poly upset bid.

“We both are very aggressive teams,” McBride said. “We battle to the end. But a bad thing, Mimnaugh said. “When we’ve had success there is more focused on the overall outcome of the conference as opposed to the outcome of this game.

Unquestionably, the Mustangs have a long week in preparation for the top three of the last three meetings at the Thunderdome. The Mustangs went 2-1 against the Gauchos.

UC Santa Barbara was the only team to beat the Gauchos in their last meeting in the Thunderdome. The Mustangs have since won two of the last three meetings at that venue.

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