Chopper could be used for unmanned rescue missions

Technicians from Northrop Grumman start the unmanned helicopter the company donated to Cal Poly.

Rachel Glas
ASSOCIATE PRESS

Though it never left the ground, a helicopter donated by the engineering firm Northrop Grumman caused a bit of a spectacle on campus yesterday. About 100 engineering students and faculty came to the engineering plaza to see the unveiling of the $200,000 piece of equipment.

Congress votes on budget alternatives

Andrew Taylor
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Democratic-controlled House approved a budget blueprint drawn to President Barack Obama's specifications Thursday and the Senate hastened to follow suit after administration allies rejected alternatives from liberals and conservatives alike.

The vote in the House was 233-196, largely along party lines, for a $3.6 trillion plan that includes a deficit of $1.2 trillion.

The country wants "real change, and we have come here to make a difference," House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., said as both chambers worked on plans to boost spending on domestic programs, raise taxes on the wealthy in two years' time and clear the way for action later in the year on Obama's priority items of health care, energy and education.

Republicans in both houses accused Democrats of drafting plans that would hurt the recession-weary economy in the long run, rather than help it, and saddle future generations with too much debt.

"The administration's budget simply taxes too much, spends too much and borrows too much at a moment when we can least afford it," said the Senate Republican leader, Mitch McConnell of Kentucky.

The House plan called for spending $3.6 trillion in the budget year that begins Oct. 1, compared with $3.5 trillion for the Senate version and $3.6 trillion for Obama's original plan.

The House plan envisioned a deficit of $1.2 trillion for 2010, falling to a projected $598 billion after five years. The comparable Senate plan would leave a deficit of $1.2 trillion in 2010, rising to a projected $749 billion in five years' time, according to congressional estimates — too high for his Democratic allies.

To reduce the red ink, Democrats reduced Obama's proposed spending, ignored his call for another $250 billion in bailout money for the financial industry and assumed that his signature tax cut of $400 for individuals and $800 for couples would expire in 2011.

The day's events capped a busy three months for the Democratic-controlled Congress that took office in January.

Moving with unusual speed, lawmakers worked on plans to boost spending on domestic programs, raise taxes on the wealthy in two years' time and clear the way for action later in the year on Obama's priority items of health care, energy and education.

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The 19-count indictment against Blagojevich, his brother, two former aides and two businessmen, accuses him of engaging in a “wide-ranging scheme to deprive the people of Illinois of honest government.”

Blagojevich was indicted on charges of racketeering, conspiracy, wire fraud, extortion conspiracy and attempted extortion, and making false statements. Most of those charges carry a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison and a $2 million fine.

Blagojevich, 52, was arrested Dec. 9, on a criminal complaint and U.S. Attorney Patrick J. Fitzgerald had faced a Tuesday deadline supplant it with an indictment handed up by a federal grand jury. The Democrat’s arrest led to his political downfall. The Illinois House impeached him Jan. 9. The Senate convicted him and removed him from office Jan. 29.

Blagojevich’s administration has been under federal investigation for years and Kelly and Rezko already have been convicted of federal crimes and are awaiting sentencing.

Thursday’s indictment said that in 2003 — the former governor’s first year in office — Blagojevich, Monk, Kelly and Rezko agreed to direct big-money state business to a lobbyist who promised a massive kickback in return. The lobbyist wasn’t identified.

Rezko raised more than $1 million in campaign contributions for Blagojevich and also was a major Obama fundraiser.

Blagojevich and his wife, Patti, were not indicted. The indictment alleges Blagojevich told an aide he wanted to stall a $2 million state grant to a school that was championed by a congressman until the lawmaker’s brother held a political fundraiser for the governor. The congressman’s identity wasn’t released.

It also says Blagojevich was involved in a corrupt scheme to get a massive kickback in exchange for the refinancing of billions of dollars in state pension funds.

Convicted ex-Treasurer Tony Rezko paid Blagojevich’s wife, Patti, a $14,316 real estate commission “even though she had done no work” to earn it and later hired her at a salary of $12,000 a month plus another $40,000, the indictment said.

And, according to the indictment, Blagojevich told an aide he didn’t want executives with two financial institutions getting further state business after he concluded they were not helping his wife get a high-paying job.

Others charged were former chief of staff Alonzo Monk; another former chief of staff, John Harris; brother Reuben Blagojevich; former chief fundraiser Christopher G. Kelly; and Springfield lobbyist-millionaire William F.-cellini.

Prosecutors said Harris has agreed to cooperate.

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Afghan women gather during International Women’s Day, March 8, 2009 in Kabul, Afghanistan. Human rights groups and some lawmakers criticized Afghan President Hamid Karzai on Thursday for signing a law that some believe legalizes the rape of a wife by her husband and prevents women from leaving the house without a man’s permission.

**State**

SAN LUIS OBISPO (AP) — An Atascadero woman has been charged with felony child endangerment for allegedly locking her 9-year-old grandchild in a closet for days at a time without food, water or bathroom breaks. Tammi Underwood was arrested in Reseda, Ore., on Thursday.

**National**

WASHINGTON (AP) — A new law approved Thursday and the Senate is expected to act soon as well as the House to begin blocking the final bill for the $787 billion economic stimulus package.

**International**

CUERNAVACA, Mexico (AP) — The U.S. and Mexico are creating a cross-border group to develop strategies for stopping the flow of guns and drugs between the two countries, officials said Thursday.

Emerging from a conference with U.S. officials, Mexican Attorney General Eduardo Medina-Mora said more meetings are needed to develop plans to bring in secret operations along the border.

Medina-Mora said Mexico planned to begin checking 10 percent of the vehicles entering the country from the U.S. for illegal weapons and will more closely check outgoing vehicles for drugs and money.

**Briefs**

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Palestinian killed an Israeli teenager with a pickax and seriously injured a 7-year-old boy in a rampage through this West Bank Jewish settlement Thursday, posing an early test for the country’s new hard-line government.

Israeli media broadcast pictures of the body of 13-year-old Shlomo Nativ, bespectacled with long sidecurls and a large skullcap worn on his head.

The violence erupted as the U.S. and Mexico are planning to begin checking 10 percent of the vehicles entering the country from the U.S. for illegal weapons and will more closely check outgoing vehicles for drugs and money.

**Senior Day!**

**SUNDA(Y**

BASEBALL

**WASHINGTON (AP) —** A new Afghan law makes it legal for men to rape their wives, human rights groups and some lawmakers criticized Afghan President Hamid Karzai on Thursday for signing into law legislation that some believe legalizes the rape of a wife by her husband and prevents women from leaving the house without a man’s permission.

Critics assail Afghan President Hamid Karzai on Thursday for signing the law that some lawmakers say was never debated in parliament — is intended to regulate family life inside Afghanistan’s Shiite community, which makes up about 20 percent of the country’s 30 million people. The law does not affect Afghan Sunnis.

One of the most controversial articles stipulates the wife “is bound to be at the service of her husband and when he desires.”

“As long as the husband is not traveling, he has the right to have sexual intercourse with his wife every three days. We say it is important because the white surface reflects sunlight back into space. When ice is replaced by dark ocean water that sunlight can be absorbed, warming the water and increasing the warming of the planet.”

The findings add to concerns about climate change caused by human activities such as burning fossil fuels, a problem that has begun receiving more attention in the Obama administration and is part of the G8 discussions under way in London.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Democratic-controlled House approved a budget blueprint drawn to President Barack Obama’s specifications Thursday and the Senate hastened to follow suit after administration officials rejected Democratic proposals from liberals and conservatives alike.

The vote in the House was 235-196, largely along party lines, for a $3.6 trillion plan that includes a $1.2 trillion deficit of $1.2 trillion.

The administration allies rejected alterations Thursday and the Senate was expected to do the same early Friday.

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Rape
continued from page 3

fourth night," Article 132 of the law says. "Unless the wife is ill or has any kind of illness that intercourse could aggravate, the wife is bound to give a positive response to the sexual desires of her husband."

One provision also appears to protect the woman's right to sex outside marriage saying the "man should not avoid having sexual relations with his wife longer than once every four months."

The law's critics say Karzai signed the legislation in the past month only for political gains several months before the country's presidential election.

The United Nations Development Fund for Women, or UNIFEM, said the law "legalizes the rape of a wife by her husband." "The law violates women's rights and human rights in numerous ways," a UNIFEM statement said.

The US is "very concerned" about the law, said State Department spokesman Robert Wood. "We urge President Karzai to review the law's legal status to correct provisions of the law that limit or restrict women's rights."

Ward Churchill, who was a tenured professor of ethnic studies at the University of Colorado in Boulder, Colo., steps to the microphone to talk to reporters after a jury ruled that the professor was wrongly fired for criticizing the "master narrative" of history. Churchill was invited to speak by school administrators, Thursday, in Denver.

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Churchill's essay called the World Trade Center victims "little Eichmanns." It was written in 2001 but attracted little attention until 2005, when critics publicized it after Churchill was invited to speak at Hamilton College in upstate New York.

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WORD ON THE STREET

"Do you think public streaking should be allowed?"

"No, not really. Especially if there are little kids around. It's not something that should be done."

Caroline Reeves, mechanical engineering freshman

"If you do it, you should warn people about it first."

Kenny Schmutz, electrical engineering junior

"It's something our parents did. I guess it's a call for the community to make. Is a community doesn't like it, it shouldn't be done."

Bobby Kritzer, computer science engineering senior

"No, not at all. No (streaking) all the time but every once and awhile it would be okay."

Max Becker, computer science engineering senior

Deliberations begin in fired Colo. prof's lawsuit

WARD CHURCHILL ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ward Churchill, who was a tenured professor of ethnic studies at the University of Colorado in Boulder, Colo., steps to the microphone to talk to reporters after a jury ruled that the professor was wrongly fired by school administrators, Thursday, in Denver.

Ivan Moreno ASSOCIATED PRESS

A jury began deliberations Wednesday in a lawsuit by a former University of Colorado professor who claims he was fired for writing an essay likening some Sept. 11 victims to the Nazis' Holocaust architect, Adolf Eichmann.

The school says it fired Ward Churchill in 2007 because he plagiarized and misrepresented sources in his academic research, but he says the school was looking for an excuse after the uproar over the essay.

Churchill's attorney, David Lane, told juries in closing arguments that Churchill was fired for criticizing the "master narrative" of history.

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Performers energizes crowd with poems of humanity

Zach Lantz
VUJSIAN DAILY

Drugs, originality, fear and politics were just a few of the topics covered by Slam Poet Ike Torres when he came to Cal Poly Wednesday night.

Torres, a two-time member of the Sacramento Slam Team and the champion of the Sacramento Slam in 2006, entertained students at the Chumash Auditorium during Another Type of Groove.

“They’re lending me their ears and their thought processes,” Torres said. “I love being able to speak in front of a group that’s trying to do something with their lives and change the world.”

While discussing hot-button issues, Torres wasn’t afraid to voice his opinion and wished others to do the same.

“I wish people would have come up to me and called me out,” he said. “I think that’s what we need, that communication. We need to listen to the next man’s perspective and derive from that our own thoughts.”

The main issue Torres tackled was race, particularly how it is portrayed in society today. Torres didn’t dwell on specific aspects such as equality and immigration, recalling some of his personal experiences with a minority family in his message of inclusiveness.

“We’re all human beings when it comes down to it,” Torres said.

Torres’ energy and powerful lyrics made him a hit with the audience. “I really liked his energy and delivery,” industrial engineering junior Pat Brennan said.

“They’re the sickest poet, and his lyrics are crazy concepts,” said architectural engineering senior and Another Type of Groove coordinator Josue Urrutia. “Just the way he puts things together with radical ideas, it’s just something you don’t think about every day.”

Those in attendance were treated to high-octane lyricism. Torres, who works with the nonprofit group With Our Words, performed many of his verses loudly, emphasizing his passion for the subject at hand. At the end of his performance Torres received a standing ovation.

“He came out the first poem screaming to the top of his lungs and everybody was ecstatic,” Urrutia said.

The first part of the night was an open-mic session for anyone who wanted to share their poetry. Students performed verses on subjects like religion, love and friendship. The audience was friendly as every poet received a round of applause.

Many of those who enjoy Another Type of Groove, including Urrutia, said it adds something unique to the college experience.

“Social interaction is something that has become obsolete and we need these social gatherings or we’re all just going to end up in pods,” Torres said. “We all just need to come together and keep humanity alive.”

Another Type of Groove is a free event and open to the public. It is hosted by Cal Poly’s Multicultural Center and Student Life and Leadership and features a highlighted poet as well as an open-mic session. It meets the first Wednesday night of every month in Chumash Auditorium at 7:30 p.m.

MATT FOUNTAIN
VUJSIAN DAILY

Slam poet Ike Torres entertained Cal Poly students Wednesday as a part of Another Type of Groove.
political cartoon

PEDRO MOLINA NOVITAS

Offensive video game consistent with Japan's subway assaults

Raquel Ronzoni

THE COALITION (DESTRUCTION 2)

Until recently, gamers and a concerned public had seen it all. "JFK Reloaded," released on the 40th anniversary of Kennedy's death, allows players to reenact his assassination. "Super Columbine Massacre RPG," which includes original media images from that tragic school day, follows teenager gunman Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold through Columbine High School on the day of the shootings. "Grand Theft Auto," one of the most widely criticized video games, features violence, crime, prostitution and the infamous "hot coffee" mode, which enables an interactive sex scene. And very quickly — the ranks of offensive, insensitive, exploitive and demeaning role-playing video games is the recently released "Rape-Lay," the title summarizing the distressing premise of this Japanese game.

Gamers play a wealthy man who was jailed as a "thief" or subway pervert, after raping a young girl. As revenge, the man has to terrify the victim, her sister and her mother by raping them. Consider the game a product of culture. As Slate.com author Lyle Alexander writes, public transportation in Japan has become a "synchronous breathing ground...for 'thieves,'" who commit their crimes in the safety of crowds in order to mask their identities. According to a 2004 survey conducted in Buses, 44 percent of women in their 20s and 30s said that they have been groped on subways and streets. The frequency of the problem led to the instituting of all-women's train lines, available only during rush hour.

Declan Hayes' "The Japanese Disease" further delved into this issue, detailing the publications and programs that have grown from a culture consumed by a frightening combination of excess, misogyny and larcenousness. "Fire Finger," a monthly magazine, contains timetables and hints of train lines ideal for "groping." "Chikan Sama-no-Ka?" the Grasper Brethrenhood, provides members with lectures, workshops, tips, strategies and training sessions on how to grope without incurring legal consequence. The frequency of sexual assault throughout Japan's public transportation is disturbing enough; more troubling is the expertise that those crimes have become a course to take, a lesson to learn and a skill to master. Women of all, the gaming industry in Japan decided to profit from this reprehensible societal ill. In addition to the obvious problem inherent in and the rightful criticism directed at such a game, there still exist deeper commentary about the implications of "Rape-Lay" and the culpability of a society that has first imagined through innumerable perversion, then created through each chilling frame, and through its hours of play, continually supported the program.

As a video game, it depicts the violation of human sexuality as normal, consequence-free entertainment, a hobby a pervert, while also propagating the sickening thought that victims enjoy their abuse. As a role-playing game in particular, it represents the character of the perpetrator as desirable, worthy, goal-oriented and attainable, while justifying the perpetrator's rape of an entire family as revenge and then glorifying those actions as steps toward an ultimate victory. As an interactive story whose plot is consistent with the crime of a personal nature in a public that never once challenges the abuse, moreover renders the crime a non-issue, empowers the transgressions according to public uncanny, and leaves victims with no network of support or sympathy. Seen in Alexander's article, that haunting image of transparent, about nonexistent bystanders — all witnesses to the violations that unfold in the subways — is rife with meaning.

Too easily, people who are aware of wrongs around them can become a casuality of indifference, neglecting to speak up because of fear, perceived ineffectiveness or general lack of concern. Refusing to acknowledge the evidence that a significant proportion of women feel uncomfortable or inconvenient is just one such crime the act of violation itself. The United States, for example, can simply dismiss "Rape-Lay" as a Japanese invention, a perverted one at that, and therefore a Japanese problem alone. Thankfully, however, New York City Council Speaker Christine Quinn, partnering with the New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault, has at least called for a statewide ban of the game. If the public learns any thing from the horror that is "Rape-Lay" then let it be that the blame is not in the game's ending, and likewise, that unconnected crimes in the real world will never stop injustice through passivity.

This article was originally published in The Villasmost of University University.
Tarzan was not a C.P.A., but he was the only one around with hands that fit a standard keyboard, and thus made a killing during tax season.
Cal Poly to hire Seattle's Callero as new head coach

117-105
Callero's record in eight years at Seattle

99-145
Bromley's record in nine years at Cal Poly

21
Wins by Seattle last season

13
Wins against Division I opponents last year by Seattle

2
Seasons in which Cal Poly failed to make the Big West Conference Tournament under Bromley

Olympic gold medalist returns to Cal Poly track this weekend

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

As first reported by the Seattle Times, Seattle University Men's basketball head coach Joe Callero will take over as head coach at Cal Poly today.

A press conference has been set for 4 p.m. in Mustang Hall to announce the schools hiring.

Callero guided the Redhawks in their first year back at the Division I level to a 21-8 overall record and a 1-3-8 record against Division I foes.

Ironically, Callego also guided Seattle past Cal Poly 60-59 on a last-second shot by Drew Harris last December in Mont Gym.

Cal Poly athletic director Alson Cone would not confirm anything regarding the potential hiring of Callero, saying that she was working on putting something together but that she could not comment until all the pieces were together and a contract had been signed.

The Mustangs have been without a coach since March 16 when Kevin Bromley was fired after nine seasons as head coach and 14 years with the program. Bromley compiled a 7-21 record and a 3-13 record in the Big West Conference, missing the conference tournament for the second time during his tenure.

Bromley compiled a 99-145 overall record at the school after taking over as interim head coach from Jim Schneider during the 2000-01 season.

Callero's record in his eight years at Seattle is 99-145 overall, including 53-63 in his six years at Seattle.

Callero comes to Cal Poly having led the Redhawks to a 117-105 record in his eight years at the program, guiding them up from the Division II ranks.

Callero was unavailable for comment but Seattle University sports information director Jason Beshoemick said that the coach was taking care of personal business before departing for San Luis Obispo.

Stefanie Brown Trafford has returned to Cal Poly after competing on some of the world's largest stages and been successful. The only Olympic gold medalist in Cal Poly history returns to her alma mater for the first time since winning the women's discuss in Beijing last summer to compete in the Cal Poly Invitational on Saturday afternoon.

But she isn't the only Olympian to have donned the green and gold. Former Cal Poly high jumper Sha-ron Day will also participate. Day competed in the high jump in Beijing.

Among the teams competing in the invitational are Fresno State, UC Santa Barbara and nearby Cuesta College. The Bulldogs are familiar with the field having been defeated by Cal Poly in a dual earlier this year.

"Fresno went home a couple weeks ago with dejected feelings so we expect them to come out here and turn it up another notch," track and field director Terry Crawford said.

The timing of the event is of significance to Crawford as it is the final home event of the season for Cal Poly, which still has several key road events remaining in the season before beginning the conference championships.

We consider the end of April and May the championship season," Crawford explained. "In early May we have a huge dual meet with Santa Barbara and it just happens that it's our turn to go down there. Be competing at home at the beginning of our season leaves us a little bit frustrated in terms that we can't put just on our side any of our best marks as we go into the end of the season."

While Crawford would like to have a later home event, she said she was happy with the outcome for the weekend and said that she would have several options for different players.

"The nice thing about this weekend is we're going to have the flexibility to put some power in different events and try some different things," she said. "We're just coming off spring break and we're happy to open our spring quarter with a home meet and another chance to test ourselves against our Central Coast rivals."

Mustangs cruise past Oregon

SPO T S

MUST ANG DAILY

MEGAN KEATING  Mustang Daily

Cal Poly freshman Brian McPhee goes after a ball during his match against Oregon's Mike Myrhed during Cal Poly's dual victory on Thursday.

These guys are finally finding their identity.

We are a fighting team to the bitter end.

—Justin McGrath
Cal Poly head coach

Zach Lantz

The Cal Poly men's tennis team started its homestand with a definitive win over Pac-10 Oregon Thursday.

The Mustangs won two of three doubles matches and four of six singles matches to send Oregon home with a loss.

Cal Poly head coach Justin McGrath knew that the Mustangs would have to battle to win.

"These guys are finally finding their identity," McGrath said.

"We're feeling good and we're at our best," Gerst said.

"Coach just told us to be tough-er than the other guy," Jacobs said. "Then we'd come out on top."

Gerst (6-9) defeated Alexander Cornelissen 6-4, 6-2. "He was serving pretty well and solid off the baseline," Gerst said. "But I knew if I could hang in there and weather the storm, I could get him in the end."

Epitomizing the team's identity, Alexander Sonesson (4-9) came from behind to defeat Oregon's Ay- ron Wibowo 7-5, 7-5, 6-2. Already down a set, Sonesson charged back to take the set 7-5.

D a r r y n Young (2-6) and Brian McPhee (2-3) both fought for their three sets before falling in their matches.

P h e n o m freshman Andre Demoe did not play due to a sprained ankle suf-fered during the match against UCSB on Wednesday. He hoped to be back in about a week and is scheduled to undergo X-rays today.

The team was encouraged by the emotional win and looked forward to building off the momentum with back-to-back triumphs.

"We're feeling good and we're starting to click at the right time," Gerst said.