Recruitment major to become separate department next academic year

Ashley Ciullo MUSIANC, DAIIY

The start of the new academic year will bring a change to recruitment, parks and tourism administration (RPIT), which will become its own department.

RPITA, accredited by the National Recreation and Park Association, is currently a program within the national resources management (NRM) department in the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences.

The interdisciplinary program aims to give students leadership and planning skills in park, recreation and tourism services.

NRM houses two other majors: forestry and natural resources, accredited by the Society of American Foresters, and environmental management and protection. In addition, the NRM department has two graduate programs and manages Swanton Pacific Ranch.

RPITA professor Martin Goldenberg said the transition will provide more visibility to RPITA, which she said is essential for development and growth of the area.

"This is a huge move and we're really excited about it. Both new and prospective students will be able to know where we're located," Goldenberg said.

RPITA is an impacted major with over 300 undergraduate students and accounts for nearly half of the NRM student population.

"There is really no change to anything that effects students. They will still apply for the RPITA major, only the administrative home will be in its own department rather than in the NRM department," Wehner said.

NKM houses two other majors: forestry and environmental sciences.

Under the CARE-Net umbrella, 12 students, staff and faculty will serve as campus advocates. Any Cal Poly student who thinks they have a victim of biased or unjust treatment can report their issue to the university by contacting one of these advocates.

The CARE-Net staff will then develop a plan of action in response to the report.

Students will be able to report incidents online as well through EthicsPoint, a third-party entity not associated with Cal Poly.

"The university is interested in hearing about students' experiences at Cal Poly and the university is committed to an inclusive community," CARE-Net organizer Patricia Ponce said.

The CARE-Net team defines a biased incident as "any speech, act, or harassing incident or action taken by a person or group that is perceived to be malicious or discriminatory toward another person or group based on bias or prejudice relating to such characteristics as race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, ancestry, ethnicity, religion, age or mental or physical disability."

New campus group forms to mediate student conflicts

Chris Jagger MUSIANC, DAIIY

Cal Poly is developing an outlet for students to report grievances in order to foster a safer and healthier learning environment.

CARE-Net is a university-wide initiative. It is essentially a forum for students to report discriminatory incidents. CARE-Net will likely be launched later in May as a pilot program.

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Notre Dame's Obama invite rules some Catholic bishops

Eric Gorski ASSOCIATED PRESS

This coming week, Bishop Thomas Wenski of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Orlando, Fla., will take the unusual step of celebrating a Mass of Reparation, to make amends for sins against God.

The motivation: to provide an outlet for Catholics upset with what Wenski calls the University of Notre Dame's "callous" decision to invite President Barack Obama to speak at its commencement and receive an honorary doctorate May 17.

The nation's flagship Catholic university's honoring of a politician whose abortion rights record clashes with a fundamental church teaching has triggered a reaction among the nation's Catholic bishops that is remarkable in scope and tone, church observers say.

At least 55 bishops have publicly denounced or questioned Notre Dame's recent efforts, employing an arsenal of terms ranging from "travesty" and "deplorable" to "extreme embarrassment."

The bishop's response is part see Department, page 2
Department
continued from page 1

with and make them even better," Pittio said.

"It gives RPTA greater voice and direct connection to the dean of the college," he said.

This year, the proposal by RPTA to become an individual department went to the dean, the provost, the academic senate and
the president and was approved at all levels.

Goldenberg said that the program will now have a more pronounced status, which she said could catch the attention of perspective donors and individuals who want to contribute to RPTA, as well as recruitmen from high schools and Cal Poly students.

"It's good for students to be aware that we exist," Goldenberg said. "I think it will be really great for the students to have an identity that they can understand as a part of a department."

RPTA will become the eleventh department in CAFES, which currently houses the departments of agriculture education and communication, agriculture, animal science, bioresource and agricultural engineering, earth science, dairy science, and soil sciences, food science and nutrition, horticulture and crop science, military science, and NRM.

CARE-Net
continued from page 1

President Warren Baker and Provost Robert Krosh asked Student Affairs and Academic Affairs to develop an advocacy group for students.

While some of the groundwork for this project was laid years ago, it gained momentum following the dissemination of incidents that occurred at the Croops House, according to Harris.

In October, a Confederate flag and noise were allegedly displayed outside the Croops House, an on-campus residence. There are about 25 people involved with CARE-Net, including the 12 campus advocates. Many campus offices were consulted during the creation of CARE-Net including the Employment Equity Office, the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities, the Dean of Students Office and Housing and Residential Life.

Protecting students from biased teachers will be an integral aspect of CARE-Net's responsibilities.

"All students have had a teacher who isn't politically correct or is hurtful in their actions or words," current CARE-Net president and future campus advocate Jessica Cresci said.

"Some students get really offended by that type of teacher and won't do as well in the class as they could."

CARE-Net is supposed to help students be able to confront teachers in a safe, anonymous manner. Reports will be filed and used to help identify behavioral trends regarding teachers or staff.

The pilot program starting in May should offer the university and students a glimpse of the program’s potential effectiveness.

"This is not groundbreaking stuff," Harris said.

"This is the type of program that has been implemented at other schools. We want to make sure that there are resources out there for the students."

Obama
continued from page 1

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CARE-Net
continued from page 1

of a decades-long march to make abortion the paramount issue for their action, a marker of the kind of bishops Rome has sent to the U.S. and the latest front in a struggle over Catholic identity that has exposed rifts between hierarchy and flock.

Bishops who have spoken out so far account for 20 percent of the roughly 265 active U.S. bishops — a minority, but more than double the number who suggested five years ago that then-Democratic presidential hopeful and Catholic John Kerry should either be refused Communion or refrain from it because of his abortion stance.

"I think they do believe the chips are down," said James Hitchcock, a history professor at St. Bonaventure University. "I think they do believe this is the type of program that has been implemented at other schools. We want to make sure that there are resources out there for the students."

"I think the election has changed the whole landscape. Now we have a strongly pro-abortion administration in power, and he's in a position to achieve what we've been trying to stave off for years," Forwski said.

As for Wenski, he issued a statement and then came up with the Mass idea after angry Notre Dame graduates from central Florida asked for guidance about how to respond, he said in an interview.

"I ignored that I'm a bishop — I'm not going to tell them to attack Notre Dame with a pitchfork," said Wenski, who is not among the nation's more confrontational bishops. "I'm going to tell them to go pray."

Wenski said he will not "proceed with a thread against Notre Dame" during the Monday night Mass at the Vatican's St. James, where the U.S. bishops have long been at the forefront of opposing legal abortion, but it's never been their sole focus. During the 1960s, the bishops issued pastoral letters on nuclear weapons, poverty and the economy, influenced by the late Chicago Cardinal Joseph Bernardin's concept of a "consistent ethic of life."

"Many Catholic bishops, however, worried that abortion was getting shortchanged. Those who argue abortion trumps everything say that other issues are irrelevant without the beginning of life and that things like capital punishment and war are sometimes justifies.

Bishops hammered that home in November 2007 with a statement on faithful citizenship that said "The direct and intentional killing of unborn children, which contributes to the climate that allowed Notre Dame to think it was all right to honor Obama, is always wrong and is not just one issue among many."
State
SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The president of the University of California named two women with backgrounds in science and engineering as his choices to lead UC campuses in Davis and San Francisco Friday.

UC President Mark Yudof said he will recommend Susan Desmond-Hellmann to be chancellor of UCSF and Linda Katehi to be chancellor of UC Davis. He made the recommendations after committees conducted national searches for each postion.

The two candidates would take over in August if the UC Board of Regents approve their appointments at a meeting in San Diego next week. Currently, there is just one woman — Marye Anne Fox at UC San Diego — among UC's 10 chancellors.

MERCED, Calif. (AP) — What started as a small graduation ceremony has mushroomed into a $500,000 gala as UC Merced officials plan for first lady Michelle Obama's commencement speech.

Campus spokeswoman Tonya Luiz said school officials have yet to secure sponsors to cover the costs, but with the May 16 event approaching they must move forward.

Luiz said their biggest obligation is to make UC Merced look good.

In the first-of-its-kind honor, Monday, May 4, 2009

National
BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) — Wolves in parts of the Northern Rockies and the Great Lakes region come off the endangered species list on Monday, opening them to public hunts in some states for the first time in decades.

Federal officials say the population of gray wolves in those areas has recovered and is large enough to survive on its own. The animals were listed as endangered in 1974, after they had been wiped out across the lower 48 states by hunting and government-sponsored poisoning.

“We’ve exceeded our recovery goals for nine consecutive years, and we fully expect those trends will continue,” said Seth Wiley, regional recovery coordinator for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Denver.

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Bill Clinton recalled the profound impact of the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing on the nation and his presidency during a private tour of the Alfred F. Murrah Federal Building on April 19, 1995.

International
KATMANDU, Nepal (AP) — Nepal’s prime minister fired the army chief Sunday after a struggle over admitting former Maoist rebel fighters to the military, sparking mass protests and jeopardizing the survival of the country’s first elected government.

President Ram Baran Yadav, meanwhile, rejected the ouster of army chief, Rookmangud Katwal, in a letter, calling it unconstitutional. The letter was delivered to Katwal’s office late Sunday night and copies were also sent to Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal’s residence.

Yadav was the first person elected president in this Himalayan country and former Maoist rebel army chief, Rookmangud Katwal, not the prime minister.

When Google Earth added historical maps of Japan to its online collection last year, the search giant didn’t expect a backlash. The finel-

Briefs

Google Earth unveils Old Japanese maps and secrets

Jay Alabaster

ASSOCIATED PRESS

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WE ARE THE MUSTANGS
Google continued from page 3

and a strict caste system was in place. At the bottom of the hierarchy were a class called the "burakumin," ethically identical to other Japanese but forced to live in isolation because they did jobs associated with death, such as working with leather, butchering animals and digging graves.

Castes have long since been abolished, and the old buraku villages have largely faded away at been swallowed by Japan's sprawling metropolises. Today, rights groups say the descendants of burakumin make up about 3 million of the country's 127 million people. But they still face prejudice, based almost entirely on where they live or their ancestors lived. Moving is little help, because employers or parents of potential spouses can hire agencies to check for buraku ancestry through Japan's elaborate family records, which can span back over a hundred years.

An employee at a large, well-known Japanese company, who works in personnel and has direct knowledge of its hiring practices, said the company actively screens out burakumin job seekers.

"If we suspect that an applicant is a burakumin, we always do a background check to find out," she said. She agreed to discuss the practice only on condition that neither she nor her company be identified.

Lists of "dirty" addresses circulate on Internet bulletin boards. Some surveys have shown that such neighborhoods have lower property values than surrounding areas, and residents have been the target of racial taunts and graffiti. But the modern locations of the old villages are largely unknown to the general public, and many burakumin prefer it that way.

Google Earth's maps pinpointed several such areas. One village in Tokyo was clearly labeled "eta," a now strongly derogatory word for burakumin that literally means "filthy mass." A single click showed the streets and buildings that are currently in the same area.

Google posted the maps as one of many "layers" available via its mapping software, and the distinction is not always made.

"If there is an incident because of these maps, and Google is just going to say "it's not our fault" or "it's down to the user," then we have no choice but to conclude that Google's system itself is a form of prejudice," said Toru Matsuoka, a member of Japan's upper house of parliament.

Asked about its stance on the issue, Google responded with a formal statement that "we deeply care about human rights and have no intention to violate them..." Google spokesman Yoshito Funabashi points out that the company doesn't own the maps in question, it simply provides them to users. Critics argue they come packaged in its software, and the distinction is not immediately clear.

So, actions are acceptable because they are legal, one that has angered burakumin leaders.

"If there are some people who are long dead, none should be especially angry," said Matsuoka, whose Osaka office borders one of the areas shown, also serves as secretary general of the Buraku Liberation League, Japan's largest such group. After discovering the maps last month, he raised the issue to Justice Minister Eisuke Mori at a public legal affairs meeting on March 17.

Two weeks later, after the public comments and at least one reporter contacted Google, the old Japanese maps were suddenly changed, wiped out burakumin job seekers.

In this computer screen image taken from the Google Earth software, a feudal map of a village in central Japan from hundreds of years ago, superimposed on a modern street map, is shown.

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Printing such maps is legal in Japan. But it is an area where publishers and museums tread carefully, as the burakumin leadership is highly organized and has offices throughout the country. Public showings or publications are nearly always accompanied by a historical explanation, a step Google failed to take.

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WORD ON THE STREET

“How has your normal routine or spending habits changed with the recession?”

“One thing is the restaurant I worked at went out of business. So that changed my routine. I take the bus now, too, so that also changed it.”
-Brandon Lewis
business senior

“I don’t go home as often as I used to. I just check my account more often than I used to see how much money I’m wasting.”
-Cesar Grimaldo
mechanical engineering freshman

“I have really bad spending habits. I saved up a lot of money with my internship over the summer and since the economy’s gone down, prices have also gone down. So I’ve been kind of taking advantage of that and spending more than I should.”
-Dennis Huynh
electrical engineering junior

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Chi Delta Theta and Omega Xi Delta hosted the 15th annual Lantern Festival Saturday. The event featured dances and demonstrations from several campus groups and represented many Asian cultures.

Carol Ann Duffy chosen as UK poet laureate

Writer and poet Carol Ann Duffy poses for photographs at John Rylands Library in Manchester, England, Friday, after being named as Britain's poet laureate — the first woman to hold a post that has been filled by William Wordsworth, Alfred Lord Tennyson and Ted Hughes.

Duffy, who once said "no self-respecting poet" should have to write verses about the wedding of Queen Elizabeth II's youngest son, will be expected to produce poems for nuptials, weddings, funerals and other state occasions.

A witty and popular writer whose work is widely taught in British schools, Duffy is also the first openly gay laureate.

Duffy, 53, said she had thought "long and hard" before accepting the high-profile job, which has a 10-year term. She said she'd given the final decision to her 13-year-old daughter.

"She said, 'Yes mummy, there's never been a woman,'" Duffy said.

The laureate is officially appointed by the queen on the advice of the government. Prime Minister Gordon Brown called Duffy "a truly brilliant modern poet" who has stretched our imaginations by putting the whole range of human experiences into lines that capture the emotions perfectly.

Duffy has published more than 20 books — plays and children's stories as well as poems that mix accessible modern language with traditional forms such as the sonnet. Her work often explores a sly, feminist take on history and contains a strong vein of social commentary.

Her collections include "The World's End," verses that adopt the voices of female historical figures and of the wives of famous men. It includes the poems "Mrs. Darwin," "7 April 1852/West to the Zoo" and "Mrs. Darwin." Something about that chimp gave me over there reminds me of you.

see Duffy, page 8
Every Monday, cut out this fridge for the weeks happenings

### MON 5/4
- **KARAOKE**
- **$3 Pints** 10pm-2am
- **DAILY SPECIALS**
  - Chicken Fried Steak
  - Baby Back Ribs
  - Roasted Half Chicken
  - Santa Maria Style BBQ
  - 9 oz. Braised Teriyaki Steak
  - $9.99 Lunch
  - $11.95 Dinner
  - Chef's Choice

### TUES 5/5
- **$5.50 Record "Tall" Mojito's**
- **Battle of the Bands - Semi-Final #1**
- **Live Music during Farmers Market & BBQ**
- **DJ Zhaldee**
- **KARAOKE**
- **$6 Pint Mimosas** 11am-4pm

### WED 5/6
- **$3.50 LONG ISLAND ICED TEA ALL WEEK**
- **$75 POOL GAMES ALL DAY EVERYDAY**
- **COUNTRY NIGHT**
  - $1 Coors LT from 9:00-11:00
- **DEAD GARDEN WITH RAGG**

### THUR 5/7
- **SWING NIGHT**
  - Lessons @ 8pm
- **COLLEGE HUMP NIGHT**
  - with 25 cent PSR til 11:00
- **COUNTRY STAMPEDE**
  - Lessons @ 8pm
- **LA NOCHE CALIENTE**
  - Latin Night
- **PIZZA ALL DAY LONG**

### FRI 5/8
- **$2 MARGARITAS**
- **$1 TACOS**
- **2 STEAK DINNERS FOR $12.95**
- **25 CENT HOT WINGS**
- **VIDEO DJ cFlë**
- **DJ PAYNE**
- **DJ JIN HO**

### SAT 5/9
- **PINT NIGHT**
  - $2 Creekside Pints 6pm-Close
- **Happy Hour**
  - 25 cent wings
  - $3.50 Fat Tires 4-8pm
- **Pavilion**
  - Industry Night
  - Happy Hour Mon - Fri 3-6pm
  - Happy Hour Mon - Fri 3-6pm
  - Happy Hour Mon - Fri 3-6pm
  - Banquet Room Available

### SUN 5/10
- **$3 Super Wells**
- **9 Ball Pool Tournament**
- **$5 Entry Fee. Cash Prizes. Sign-ups 3-7pm**
- **50 CENT RIBS**
- **Located At:** 1040 Broad St., Downtown SLO
- **Ask about our Beer of the Month!**
- **$1 off any dessert with purchase of entree 5-9pm**

### Daily Specials
- **Chicken Fried Steak**
- **Baby Back Ribs** $9.99
- **Roasted Half Chicken** $7.95
- **Santa Maria Style BBQ** $9.95 Lunch
- **9 oz. Braised Teriyaki Steak** $11.95 Dinner
- **Chef's Choice**

### Happy Hour
- **3-6pm**
  - **Margaritas** $3.50
  - **Tacos** $1
  - **Lunch Specials** $9.99
  - **Dinner Specials** $11.95

### Karaoke
- **Daily 10pm-2am**

### Video DJ
- **cFlë**

### DJ Reeser
- **Latin Night** Call for Details

### Video DJ
- **Pavilion**
  - **Movie Night**
  - **Show your movie ticket for 10% off**

### Grill
- **GRAD BURGER**
- **ALL DAY**

### Karaoke
- **Z Club**
- ** Latin Concert**

### Video DJ
- **Live Music during Farmers Market & BBQ**

### Beef & Fish
- **2 STEAK DINNERS FOR $12.95**
- **25 CENT HOT WINGS**

### Video DJ
- **DJ Payne**

### Video DJ
- **DJ JIN HO**

### Video DJ
- **DJ Ron Reeser**

### Video DJ
- **D J P A Y N E**

### Video DJ
- **D J J I N H O**

### Video DJ
- **P I Z Z A A L L D A Y L O N G**

Please Enjoy Responsibly
Dante Basco adds Filipino Flavor to this month's Another Type of Groove

Jennifer Titcomb

You may remember him by his character Rufus King of the Lost Boys in "Hook." Or maybe his smooth moves as Ramos in "Take the Lead." Or his guest appearances on the television shows "Encourage," "Mooch," and "The Wonder Years."

But, Dante Basco is not just an actor. Poet, voice actor, director, producer, rapper and musician can all be added to his impressive résumé.

However, it's his poetry that brings him to Cal Poly.

Basco is the featured poet at the Martial Arts Center's monthly poetry slam Another Type of Groove. In honor of May being Asian Pacific Islander American Heritage month, Filipino-American Basco will take the stage on the Wednesdays.

"Just the fact that he is a Filipino and doing it big out there is kind of inspiring," biological sciences junior Ian Serrano said.

He didn't know much about Basco's poetry career before but spoke highly of Basco's performance in the Filipino film "The Debut."

Serrano got a preview of Basco's poetry online and was impressed. "His material is pretty funny and also pretty serious. He is a really good stand up open mic person."

Organizer and architectural engineering senior Jesse Urrutia hopes that Basco's celebrity reputation will bring more people to the event.

"We want to expose as many people as we can to poetry. Some people are definitely not going to like it but others will," he said.

Basco and three others founded Dr. Poetry Lounge in Los Angeles. The lounge is open to artists wanting to showcase their talents on stage and is held at Greenway Court Theater every Tuesday night. He has also published a book of poetry titled "Dante's Poetry Lounge."

Basco's acting skills might add a little extra to the show, said Urrutia. "A lot of poets who have an acting background like Steve Carell or Seth Rogen, their poems are really interesting, really colorful. If he does incorporate his talents I think it will make for a great show."

Urrutia said he is most looking forward to seeing what Basco has to say. "It's just exciting to see what he is going to come up with, how he is going to throw down his style, his ideas, his topics."

But that is not the only reason why Urrutia is excited about the performance. "A lot of it is just to see a celebrity up close," he said.

As part of tradition, the show will have an open mic session for those students or community members who want to share their feelings through poetry.

"I think it's a great avenue to write poetry and express yourself and go up on stage. It just frees you getting your feelings out there. Just being out in the audience and seeing how people are dealing with life or seeing how people see things," Urrutia said.

Many of the participants are returning but there are always new people, he said.

"We're always hoping a lot of people share," he said. "I just can't see the show, said Urrutia. "One of the main goals of just having this event. A venue for having people go on stage and share how they feel."

"We've had poets brought in from the public, Serrano added. "And many of the participants are returning but there are always new people."

Most of the events are free to the public and the event is free to the public and open to poetry. Some of the participants are returning but there are always new people. He said.

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Santina A. Peterson

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"We've had poets brought in from the public, Serrano added. "And many of the participants are returning but there are always new people."
It's well-known that some of history's greatest artists and writers never lived to see their talent recognized. Van Gogh, Dickinson, Eli Greco and Bach all died before they worked for world- wide success. More than a century after Van Gogh's death, however, a more nuanced lack of artistic appreciation has come along, aided by the Internet. Now, rather than not recognizing artistic talent as it comes along, we do — and then we steal it and help distribute millions of copies of each other.

You know what I'm talking about: music, movies, photos and news are all available for free, at your fingertips if you only search hard enough. Even as the Napster era ended, BitTorrent sites like The Pirate Bay sprung up to allow users to freely and easily share media files amongst each other.

During the past decade, online piracy has become rampant and a blatant disregard for artistic copyright socially acceptable. A 2004 study commissioned by the Gospel Music Association found that only 8 percent of American teens moral opposition to music piracy. Of the teens surveyed, 53 percent said they engaged in "whatevers the media and music acquisition, either believing that music piracy is a non-issue or that CD burning and downloading are not equally immoral.

It seems that people have two basic rationalizations for why they pirate music, movies and other digital media: a) "I want to" and b) "I know it's wrong but I want to anyway." Even given the entitlement mentality fast breeding in America, wanting something obviously does not make it yours to have. I would love a new sports car, for instance, but accept the fact that I'll have to pay for it if I want it. Nor does the fact that music is easy to download make it ethical to take advantage of the system. Music, along with many other things in life are easy to do with the promise of monetary gains, but many are also unethical, if not downright illegal. If you walk into Best Buy and grab a CD or DVD, is that theft? If you go online and download albums and movies, it is theft.

The fact that you want it but can't afford it and that the means are available does not justify taking it. Music and films may be intangibles, but stealing them is no less real than stealing anything else.

Another popular rationalization for pirating music is that it somehow "helps" artists by promoting their music to a wider audience. I don't doubt this is sometimes true, especially in the case of indie artists who gain popularity by word of mouth, but that's a choice to be made by the artists themselves, not anyone else. No third party has the right to decide for the creator of the music that has in her or his work should be freely distributed.

Radiohead is one example, conducted an interesting experiment last year when they made their "In Rainbows" available on their Web site for the price of a voluntary donation of any amount. Even though the album could technically be downloaded for free from their site, it was reported that thousands of unpaid downloads were made elsewhere on the Web. But what a slap in the face, not only are some of Radiohead's so-called fans so cheap that they won't pay for the band's album, but they don't even view the courtesy of coming to their own site to take it.

Whichever way you try to rationalize it, filesharing is unethical and has a very negative economic effect on the entertainment industry. Numerous studies have looked at the link between filesharing and record sales and have found a negative correlation. As proof, worldwide sales of record music sales ranked last year. Reporters reported that the United States led the drop-off, with a 31 percent decrease in physical format sales compared to the previous year. Even though digital sales did increase by 16.5 percent, that still leaves a 19 percent decrease in sales overall.

Online piracy isn't just theft, it's theft of the artistic talent we claim to value the most. The art, music and films a society consumes are the hallmarks of its values. Yet by a twist of irony and with the help of the Internet, those very talents are now being stolen, used and abused by the very people who think of themselves as sophisticated music lovers and movie buffs.

When Metallica filed suit against Napster back in 2000, band frontman and drummer Lars Ulrich spoke out fiercely against music piracy. "With each project, we go through a grueling creative process to achieve music that we feel is representative of Metallica at that very moment in our lives," Ulrich said in a press release, reported in Wired magazine. "We take our craft — whether it be the music, the lyrics, or the photos and artwork — very seriously, as do most artists. It is therefore sickening to know that our art is being traded like a commodity rather than the art that it is. From a business standpoint, this is about piracy — i.e., taking something that doesn't belong to you and that morally and legally wrong. The trading of such information — whether it's music, videos, photos, or whatever — is, in effect, trafficking in stolen goods," he continued.

Copyright and other intellectual property laws exist because they protect the inventors and other creators. Once that protection is lost — and anyone is freely able to reproduce what was originally their creation — little incentive remains to continue innovating. It's a simple concept, but an important one.

Yet in recent years, alongside the generally complacent public stance towards piracy, a number of anti-copyright movements have sprung up that actually oppose the whole concept of copyright protection. The Pirate Bay encourages an anti-copyright culture amongst its members and has been linked with The League of Noble Peers, an anti-copyright organization. Others, like independent film director Jim Jarmusch, has been outspoken about lawsuits aimed at enforcing copyright, believing that because they can't come up with original ideas themselves, they should lack of the ideas of others. "Authenticity is invaluable, originality is nonexistent," Jarmusch told MovieMaker magazine in a 2004 interview.

The Recording Industry Association of America launched a notoriously tough anti-piracy campaign a few years ago that started to go after individuals who illegally downloaded music files, and received an enormous amount of public backlash for it. Apparently people don't like it when the big corporates actually start going after the "little guys" stealing their stuff. But why shouldn't they? Perhaps most famously, the association started threatening legal action against college students who engage in file sharing, threatening some with potential fines of $750 to up to $15,000 for every illegally down­ loaded song. In reaction to the legal threats, organizations like Students for Free Culture sprung up on college campuses around the country, advocating for looser copyright laws and arguing that filesharing technology makes it impossible for the record­ ing industry to enforce copyright anyway. These organizations believe that copyright holds "freedom of knowledge" — but fail to admit that the work does not belong to them until their creators invented them. No musician or other artist is obligated to create anything merely for the altruistic purposes of sharing their talents. For most, their music is a livelihood and they expect to earn a living from it. Similarly, their record labels are in the entertainment business, and have a duty to the artists they represent to protect them from those who steal and distribute their works.

Be better than that. Give value to what it's worth. If you expect great music, movies and television to continue being created for your entertainment, reward the talents that create them. If you didn't pay, you haven't earned the right to enjoy.

Marlize van Romburgh is a journalism senior with an economics minor and the Mustang Daily editor in chief.
Sore throat not expected to slow Bryant

Los Angeles guard Kobe Bryant, shown above, is not expected to miss any time when the Lakers begin the conference semifinals on Monday.

Los Angeles — Kobe Bryant missed practice Sunday because of a sore throat, which raised few worries among the Los Angeles Lakers.

If anything, it might just mean a little less trash talk between Bryant and Ron Artest when the Lakers host the Houston Rockets in Game 1 of the Western Conference semifinals on Monday night.

“We know when it’s game time he’s going to come out and be ready to play no matter what’s going on,” teammate Shannon Brown said. “It’s definitely going to take more than a sore throat. He’s got to be missing some limbs for him not to come out there and be ready to play the game.”

The top-seeded Lakers were off a week after eliminating the Utah Jazz in five games and waiting for the fifth-seeded Rockets to finish off Portland in six games. Houston and Los Angeles have split the first round for the first time since 1997.

The most intriguing matchup, of course, will be Bryant, the reigning league MVP, against Artest and Shane Battier.

Bryant and Artest shouted and jostled their way through a 102-96 Lakers victory at Houston on March 11.

“It wasn’t much of a battle,” Bryant said after scoring 37 points that night. “I kicked his butt tonight.”

Los Angeles won the season series 4-0, dominating the fourth quarter of each game. Bryant averaged 28.3 points.

“I can see us playing better. The first time we played them T-Mac was hurt,” Artest said, referring to Tracy McGrady. “One time we played them at home I didn’t play. The next time we played them in L.A. we just got rid of Kufet (Aston), a new team. The last time we played them in L.A. that was a good game. We finally had our team, but they still got us in the fourth quarter.”

The Rockets were all but written off when McGrady had season-ending knee surgery in February.

“I think we’ll do it now,” Artest said. “It wasn’t only the Lakers, it was also Memphis and Minnesota, Dallas, Chicago where we didn’t expect...
Late rally pushes Mustangs past USF

Cal Poly junior first baseman Krysten Cary bats during the Mustangs’ 7-4 come­back victory over San Francisco on Sunday afternoon at Baggett Stadium.

“We don’t swing it well early and this time we let it go a little longer than usual,” head coach Larte­ry Lee said. “But we did enough in that eighth inning to be the differ­ence maker.”

It was a well-played game de­fensively by both teams as there was only one error committed during Sunday’s contest, a stark contrast to the combined seven errors in the previous two games.

The Mustangs played especially tight, however, playing errorless ball, turning a savvy double play in the seventh and preventing a run from scoring on a pickle rundown in the eighth.

Junior right-hander Mark DeVincenzi (5-1) earned the win on the mound for the Mustangs, working 1 2/3 innings of relief for Radeke, who lasted 7 1/3 innings, giving up four runs on eight hits by eight batters.

“It started with Radeke setting the tone on the mound,” Lee said of his pitcher. “He went deep into the game and threw a great one for us. You know, it was just a good team win.”

 softball
GAME 1:
NO. 21 CAL POLY 9, PACIFIC 1 (5)
GAME 2:
NO. 21 CAL POLY 1, PACIFIC 3

The Mustangs’ hopes for a per­fect home season were dashed in the late game on Saturday as Paci­fic became the only team to beat Cal Poly at Bob Janssen Field this season.

Sophomore left-hander Anna Cahn added two more victories to her record-setting number as she improved to 25-5 this year, the most wins by a Cal Poly pitcher in a single season.

The series started well for the Mustangs (36-10, 15-3 Big West Conference) as they dominated Pacific, closing out the game in five innings.

Senior second baseman Steph­anise Tam had two hits and drove in two runs in the series’ first game.

Tam was one of five players play­ing their final home games for Cal Poly. Also playing their final home contests were shortstop Melissa Pura, pitcher and utility player Jenna Maiden, outfielder Jessica Rogers and third baseman Cristen Lee.

The outgoing seniors helped to build Cal Poly towards its first na­tional ranking and is looking to go to the postseason for the second time in three years.

Lee is becoming the fourth Mustang in program history to take 600 at bats on Sunday.

Pura, one of the most decorated players in Cal Poly history, finished her home career on a high note, go­ing 3-for-3 with two runs scored.

With three games to play in the conference schedule, the Mus­tangs have their destiny solely in their hands. A sweep of UC Riverside (18-27, 10-7) next weekend would give Cal Poly the Big West Conference championship and a berth into the NCAA Regionals beginning May 15.

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