ASI budget down 10 percent for next year

Alvina Vasquez
MUSTANG DAILY

Associated Students Inc. (ASI) will work under a 10 percent budget reduction next year.

ASI President Kelly Griggs said the budget cut is not due to reduced funding, but a projected 10 percent cutback in student enrollment.

"We kind of have to take it as it comes, and I think they're making good decisions as to what is being cut," Griggs said.

ASI Director of Business Services Dwanye Brummett is currently working on the new budget with ASI business staff. The budget committee will review the revised budget. Once approved by the committee and the ASI Board of Directors, the budget will go into effect on July 1, the start of the next fiscal year.

"So at this point, it's a little premature to identify specifically what will be trimmed because the budget is still being developed," Brummett said.

"But our goal is to not sacrifice the quality stuff," he said.

While providing services for a smaller student population should equate in some ways it does not add up for everything.

"If you want to hold the same kind of concerts, they don't come at a reduced cost," Griggs said.

"Amateur radio is used primarily towards programs, student government and on-campus renovation. For example, the renovation of the University Union Plaza is being paid with ASI reserve money," ASI also oversees the expansion of the Recreation Center, which is being paid for by a student-approved grant. ASI also funds recreational classes, community outreach and other social events.

ASI funds are derived predominately see Budget, page 2

Local astrophysicist connects astronomy to climate change

Katie Grady
MUSTANG DAILY

Retired astrophysicist Dr. Ray Weymann of Atascadero weighed in on some hot and cold topics covering "Astronomy's Role in Climate Science," last Thursday at the United Methodist Church in San Luis Obispo.

Weymann explained everything from the composition of the earth's atmosphere to ice age cycles and the evolution of the sun in a two-hour presentation as part of the Central Coast Astronomical Society (CCAS) monthly meeting.

He made his way to the front of the room wearing a button-up-cuffed shirt, sweat pants and hiking boots. Promising to avoid getting too technical, he joked with the crowd.

"I've got more slides than you can shake a stick at," he said.

Weymann talked about how study of astronomy can inform global climate change on earth.

"We can turn to other stars to see how they behave...and get a deeper understanding of our processes," Weymann said.

Weymann said that Venus has seen an exponential temperature increase from 79 degrees Fahrenheit in 1880 to 880 degrees Fahrenheit from data estimating back hundreds of years. The current temperature is enough to melt a lead brick. Scientists are now thinking there were once oceans on Venus, and the planet also shows volcanic activity. Acting as a reflection of a future earth is highly unlikely, but not impossible, Weymann said.

Although the information may seem technical to some, Weymann discussed what may be considered simplistic to many of the astronomy enthusiasts in the audience.

"When children are about three to four years old, they are constantly asking, 'Why?'" Weymann said.

"Such as, 'Why is it hotter in summer than winter?' I hope none of you say, 'Because the earth is closer to the sun in summer.' It's actually the opposite. In January, the Northern Hemisphere is closest to the sun. Weymann ended the night with the earth's dismal fate followed by questions from a packed room of roughly 40 spectators.

"In 5 billion years, the sun will be over twice as bright and the earth will be completely vaporized," Weymann said, concluding the presentation. "Doesn't that make all of your problems seem minuscule?"

Aurora Lipper, President of The Central Coast Astronomical Society said she was excited to have him speak.

"He found us when he first moved to Atascadero," Lipper said. "He is very passionate about what he does, and usually draws a pretty big crowd."

Even at 75 years old, Weymann spoke with the enthusiasm of a little boy with his favorite toy spaceship.

"Ever since I was a little lad, I wanted to be an astronomer," Weymann said. "My dad would take us to the mountains, and it was so dark and beautiful. That was around the time I first went to the Griffith Observatory. I never lost the desire to extend my interest in the universe, we can reach anywhere in the galaxy."

Amateur Radio Club showcases emergency communication

Katie Grady
MUSTANG DAILY

The Cal Poly Amateur Radio Club hosted a booth on Dexter Lawn Tuesday. Club members brought several portable radio communication devices to show visitors how people communicate during an emergency.

Patrick Leiva
MUSTANG DAILY

The Cal Poly Amateur Radio Club held an emergency communications demonstration to showcase the use of portable radio communications in today's modern world, Tuesday on Dexter Lawn.

Club president Marcel Stieber said the demonstration ran without a hitch after moving the new equipment with ASI business staff. The budget committee will review the revised budget. Once approved by the committee and the ASI Board of Directors, the budget will go into effect on July 1, the start of the next fiscal year.

"We kind of have to take it as it comes, and I think they're making good decisions as to what is being cut," Griggs said.

"But our goal is to not sacrifice the quality stuff," he said.

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ASI funds are derived predominately see Budget, page 2

Amateur radio communicators connect to disaster scenarios

The club used a variety of different communicating devices during its field day. The communications equipment showcased included Automatic Packet Report System (APRS), Internet Radio Linking Protocol (IRLP), ultra high frequency/very high frequency repeaters, which transmit locally and high frequency long range communications.

John Cape, the club's former president for the past two years, talked about the importance of these communications in a disaster situation.

"Amateur radio communications are the primary form of communication during a disaster situation," Cape said.

Stieber and Cape both pointed out that high frequency communications is the most effective in disaster situations because it doesn't depend on any infrastructure and can travel over far distances.

"With a very small portable system, we can reach anywhere in the world," Cape said.

The club utilizes an 80-foot antenna tower for high frequency transmissions. It is located outside of the Engineering East building, room 123 and was donated in 1976. Stieber said they received transmissions from the East Coast and a small island called Dominica in the Caribbean during their demonstration.

Another vital communication system the club uses is the Automatic Position Reporting System. This system gives off GPS coordinates which are produced on a map from certain beacons. The club used see Radio, page 2
the APRS in events such as the Tri-California Wildflower triathlon, Cal Poly Wheelchair Bike Race and other community events.

Stieber said the system is placed on－unauthorized users — on－vehicles to locate them, allowing the closest vehicle to respond.

In order to transmit, Stieber said people must obtain a license from the Federal Communications Commission designated the frequencies for use by licensed communications. The FCC in counts of license classes: technician, general, and extra. There are three types of license classes: technician, general, and extra.

The technician class gives you basic operating ability," Stieber said. "The general and subsequently the extra license allow you to transmit on more frequencies with more power."

The technician exam is a 35 question pass/fail test; all questions and answers are available through the FCC Web site. Stieber said every person who passes is assigned a call sign through the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

Stieber said it is one of the few clubs with many available resources at its disposal.

Edward Adams, a computer engineering senior, said the club is an opportunity to use the equipment for his senior project.

The club allows us to transmit on their frequencies from any power," Adams said. "It gives people a way to educate themselves on the use of radio communication."

Despite both being radio communications, amateur radio differs from normal AM-FM radio. Stieber said amateur radio is allocated by the FCC for citizens to use for public service and as a hobby. Normal radio is typically used for the broadcasting of music and news.

The Cal Poly Amateur Radio Club was founded in 1947 and is currently the second-oldest club on campus. Today, the club consists of five officers and about 20 contributing members.

Budget

"Maybe the public doesn't realize that, because we're a state university, it actually costs money to send a student to school," Mock said. "We've reduced the enrollment."

Business administration senior Steve Feeter compared the current economic situation to being stuck between a rock and a hard place.

"It's unfortunate this is happening but we've seen how bad the budget is," Feeter said. "We cut the fat; there's no good solution. This isn't anyone's first choice, but this is what the college has to do to survive."

As the budget tightens across campus, Cal Poly economics Chair Steve Hamilton suggested that programs like ASI look into other, more entrepreneurial methods of funding. Other options include raising fees for remaining students or cutting back on programs.

"Would a student prefer to have 10 percent less programs or 10 percent more fees?" Hamilton said. "It's a little hard to answer that question because it's not a market-driven process."

While the cutbacks will take some planning to adjust to, the corporation is not entirely unprepared. Griggs said ASI staff have kept a reserve fund, "kind of for a rainy day, which we're having now. So I don't think the students will notice any difference."

ASI currently employs more than 500 students at a variety of on-campus jobs and has a full-time staff of approximately 60 members.

We're excited, because Poly Canyon makes 25 percent of (the buildings on campus) sustainable.

—Joel Neel
Poly Canyon project manager

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mustangdailynews@gmail.com
Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Poly Canyon earns gold for 'green'

Rhianne Montgomery
Monday, February 1

The Poly Canyon project received LEED's gold certification for building 'green.'

The certification means that the complex was built with the strict standards of sustainability and energy efficiency in mind. Joel Neel, project manager, said it's a process that started with the design team and was followed by the building contractor.

Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) is a program run by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). The council is a non-profit organization that works with designers and builders to lower the impact of development.

"We're excited because Poly Canyon makes 25 percent of (the buildings on campus) sustainable," Neel said.

He added it makes Cal Poly the highest in the CSU system.

Mike Montoya, a construction management professor, said it was a challenge because of the massive scale of the project. But the benefits far outweigh any percipient inconveniences.

LEED is built on a point system that weighs not only what materials are used, but the impact of getting those materials to the site. In addition LEED coordinators consider the air quality during and after construction, as well as the health benefits to those living in the buildings.

Montoya said residents of these buildings will get sick far less, score better on tests and have reduced risks of asthma and cardiovascular issues.

Points are assigned based not only on the building projects but the community as a whole said Dao Duan, senior principle at the local USGBC office. Duan said if the community caters to biking, walking and cutting down on individual vehicle trips points are added to the certification.

"We want to encourage developing communities to go green," Duan said.

He said the certification is based on 100 total available points for each site. Poly Canyon received 42 points, which landed the complex in the gold rating.

Montoya said buildings that meet LEED certification provide many benefits to the community. They use less energy, are made from recycled materials and people who live in these buildings tend to have less health problems than those who live in older buildings that do not meet the qualifications.

The certification is not handed over without serious considerations and review, which is why it took time from the completion of the project before it was received. Montoya said everything had to be documented, not only on paper but with photographs before it was submitted to the USGBC for review.

Montoya said the certification keeps buildings from clashing with any that have built something green when they haven't.

"It cuts down on green-washing; keeps people honest," Montoya said.

During the building of Poly Canyon, 90 percent of the waste was diverted from the landfill through various recycling programs. Neel said the buildings in Poly Canyon are 42 percent more efficient than national standards in part because of the natural ventilation system. There are no air conditioners in Poly Canyon. And water flow has been reduced by 32 percent compared to older buildings on campus.

Neel said Cal Poly will continue to strive for certification of new buildings which qualify for the program. He said Faculty Office is LEED certified and the new Recreation Center will be when it's built. Montoya thinks every building on campus should be certified.

"It's no-brainer and it doesn't cost any more," Montoya said. They need the LEED certification and specifications and the benefits that come with it.
Airport security is a tech-firm gold rush

Hugo Martin
LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES — For airline passengers, the attempted Christmas Day terror attack and a directive by President Obama to pursue advanced screening technology will certainly mean added security procedures at airports.

So for high-tech companies, the focus on airport security means new opportunities to land hefty government contracts.

Among those is Syagen Technologies Inc., a Tustin, Calif., company with 20 employees that has built an airport screening device that blows air on travelers and then analyzes the cast-off particles to detect explosives. The Transportation Safety Administration showed an older version of the device because of maintenance problems. But, company President Jack Syage said, the Christmas attack has renewed interest in the next generation of airanalyzing units.

"Everybody has started to talk about new technology at the airports," he said.

Other firms, including a small New York company that makes a shoe-scanning device and a Torrance, Calif., venture that builds screens that take full-body images of passengers, have shifted into high gear in recent weeks to meet the renewed security efforts.

And plenty of money is at stake. The Obama administration set aside $1 billion last year in stimulus funds for new security technology for the TSA. About $700 million of that will be spent to improve airport security. The Transportation Safety Administration plans to spend $300 million is allocated for technology to detect explosives carried by passengers' feet. The units, priced between $5,000 and $7,000 each, can detect metal and metal compounds in explosive material. The TSA wants to gather information about the technology on the market, with an eye toward eventually ordering the devices.

Michael Goldberg, president of IDIO Security, a New York company with 11 employees, was thrilled last month when the TSA issued a "request for information" on devices that screen shoes for weapons and explosives.

"At the end of the day, there is no computer system that is going to replace that," he said.

Still, small and large technology companies see the heightened concern about airline security as a chance to turn a profit.

"The time for our technology has definitely come," Goldberg said. After the attempted attack on Christmas Day, in which a Nigerian national is accused of trying to detonate explosives hidden in his underwear on a flight from Amsterdam to Detroit, the TSA announced plans to buy 300 new full-body scanners that can produce what looks like a nude image of passengers, showing weapons and explosives hidden under clothes.

Smiths Detection Inc., a New Jersey-based security technology firm with about 2,500 employees, is testing a full-body scanner that can produce a passenger image instantly. (Similar devices take up to 15 seconds to create the image.) The units sell for about $170,000 each.

"The TSA is aware of this technology," said Mark Launza, vice president of homeland security for Smiths Detection, which has been making X-ray machines and other security devices for airports since the 1980s. "The indications we have are that it is something they want to look at more closely."

5am McHenry

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WASHINGTON — The nation’s top military officer said Tuesday that he supports allowing gays to openly serve, adding a powerful voice to the deeply controversial issue as the Pentagon announced steps to prepare for possibly ending its 17-year ban on homosexuality.

Adm. Michael G. Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said in an appearance before the Senate Armed Services Committee that the military would follow the 1993 law known as “don’t ask, don’t tell.” Nonetheless, he said, his personal views were firm.

“Speaking for myself and myself only, it is my personal belief that allowing gays and lesbians to serve openly would be the right thing to do,” Mullen said.

His views are particularly important in the debate. It was one of his predecessors, Gen. Colin Powell, who played a major role in derailing then-President Bill Clinton’s failed bid to allow gays to serve openly in the military. In 1993, Powell called the policy a “healthy compromise.” But in December 2008, he said the ban should be reviewed.

Mullen on Tuesday announced a yearlong Defense Department review that he said would examine the effects of repealing “don’t ask, don’t tell,” as well as gauge changes that would have to be made in military benefits, rules and facilities.

More immediately, Pentagon officials said that within 45 days they would decide how to change the way the military enforces the law — which prohibits gays from serving openly and can result in involuntary discharge. More than 14,000 service members have been booted out after being accused of being gay or having said that they were.

Lawmakers, meanwhile, said they would consider temporarily suspending the requirement that the Pentagon enforce the law. But President Barack Obama wants “don’t ask, don’t tell” rescinded this year. And while some in Congress favor an immediate repeal, others want the Pentagon to minimize disruption and to talk to service members about the change.

“The question before us is not whether the military prepares to make this change, but how we best prepare for it,” said Sen. Carl M. Levin, D-Mich., chairman of the Armed Services Committee, supports ending the ban. Gates and other officials believe that it is critical to move slowly so that the changes are understood and accepted by service members.

Gates said he understood gays and their supporters might be frustrated with the length of the reviews, but said the Pentagon needed time to minimize disruption and to talk to service members about the change.

“Overall we can reduce the instances where a service member, who is trying to serve the country honorably, is ousted by a third person with a motive to harm the service member,” Gates said.

Democrats at the hearing were supportive of Gates and Mullen. Sen. Carl M. Levin, D-Mich., chairman of the Armed Services Committee, supports ending the ban. After the hearing, he said he has not decided how to approach the issue legislatively. One possibility is including a moratorium on discharges of gay service members in this year’s defense authorization bill, he said.

Republicans, however, voiced support for the “don’t ask, don’t tell” law. Sen. John McCain of Arizona, the senior Republican on the committee, said while imperfect, the Pentagon review.

Advocates for gay service members said they were disappointed with the timeline the Pentagon outlined.

Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates said during the hearing that in addition to the yearlong review, a change in the law should be implemented over the course of another year. Gates and other officials believe that it is critical to move slowly so that the changes are understood and accepted by service members.

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Obama promotes aid for small businesses

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama, continuing his pivot to small businesses and the economy, went on the road Tuesday to promote a new proposal that would save $30 billion by beefing up Wall Street institutions and use it to fund community bank loans to small firms.

The proposal seeks to ease the unusually tight credit that many small businesses have experienced in recent years — a condition seen as a major barrier in hiring. It洁s in the heels of an Obama plan announced last week to give up to $5,000 in tax credits to companies for every new worker they employ this year. Both proposals would require congressional action and are part of the president's shift in focus to small businesses in a bid to fire up America's dormant job machine as well as his political standing.

"We're going to start where most new jobs do — with small businesses," Obama said in prepared remarks at a town hall in Nashua, N.H., releasing a survey of senior loan officers found that small businesses are once again scoring m a Federal Reserve survey released Monday showing that, al­ though many of them have been reluctant to see what happens," Pastor Cint Henry said on this trip," Pastor CTint Henry said on this trip, "It will help small banks do even more of what our economy needs — ensure smaller banks — which lend mostly to self-employed people rely on home­ equity loans and personal credit cards to support their businesses — and those credit lines have been slashed in the last year.

Small-business experts said a greater flow of credit, like payroll tax credits, will certainly help, but in themselves won't be enough for many firms that are struggling mostly with anemic sales. William Likens, an economist for the National Federation of Independent Business, a small-business lobbying group, says his surveys of employers suggest that poor sales are far and above the top reason most are not hiring. The Fed survey confirmed that business de­ mand for credit remained weak, par­ ticularly from small companies.

"It's purely the lack of sales," said Phil Kenny, an owner of Trucks Unique Inc., a 13-employee firm in Albuquerque, N.M., that modifies commercial trucks. Kenny sees some faint signs that business conditions are improving, but says he won't be­ gin to add workers until the outlook in his industry becomes "clearer. There's a lot of anxiety among customers and busi­ ness owners," he added. In addition to the economy, "the uncertainty with respect to what's going to be happening with taxes, health care and everything else, that's caused anxiety. So you stand still and wait to see what happens." But other business owners say easier access to credit will help them expand — and hire. And with Obama, lawmakers and many others in Washington chanting the call for job-creation programs, small businesses can expect more support.

In his State of the Union address, Obama said he would help small firms boost exports, and he is also pushing Congress to adopt a jobs­ creation package.

The House of Representatives last fall passed a $44 billion bill that would boost the cap on federal loan-guarantee programs available through the Small Business Administration.

The policy had worked and should not be changed. In 2006, McCain said in an in­ terview that he would seriously consider dropping the ban if the military leadership advocated achange. But Tuesday, he appeared in no mood to reverse his opposi­ tion. Instead, he accused Gates and Mullen of trying to force through a change in the law. "I'm happy to say that we still have a Congress of the United States that would have to pass a law to repeal 'don't ask, don't tell,'" he said. "And your efforts to repeal it in many respects by fiat," McCain said.

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This is a 6 month position. Preferred background includes being enrolled in a Mechanical Engineering program and basic AutoCAD experience.

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GAF Materials Corporation, founded in 1886 and Elk Corporation, founded in 1955, brought one company in 2007—making us one of the largest building materials companies in North America, as well as the largest commercial and residential roofing manufacturers in the U.S. We are leading the industry as one! Our Roofing Shingle Manufacturing Facility in Hayward, CA, located 10 miles north of Berkeley, is looking for a Mechanical Engineering Co-Op.

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A passion for dance:
Cal Poly student opens hip-hop dance studio

Heidi Asefvaziri (left) opened Street HEAT Dance Company as a way to offer less-expensive classes to students. Dancers Edgar Cavazos, Kendra Brewer and Alyssa Dahlstedt have been members of the studio since its opening.

As a dance teacher, the one thing that really upsets Cal Poly business administration junior Heidi Asefvaziri are students who have to quit her class because they can’t afford the payments. So she came up with her own solution: open her own street hip-hop studio.

Last month, that idea became reality. Asefvaziri, a former hip-hop teacher for the Academy of Dance, opened up the Street HEAT Dance Company in San Luis Obispo so she could charge less for students who love hip-hop but can't afford the fees at other studios.

"When someone leaves my studio because they can't afford it, that affects the teacher," she said. "So I came up with my own solution: open my own street hip-hop studio."

see Hip-hop, page 8

Poet to discuss love, race at Another Type of Groove

National Slam Poetry Champion Shihan will be performing for Another Type of Groove's (ATOG) celebration of Black History Month this Wednesday from 7:30 to 10 p.m. in the Chumash Auditorium. Shihan, most known for being apart of HBO's Russell Simmons Presents Def Poetry, uses his own life experiences giving his poetry an element of sincerity.

Student coordinator of Black History Month Shaina Kimball has been a fan of Shihan's for five years ever since she saw him on Def Jam Poetry.

"Shihan's poetry is really relatable, everyone can grasp some type of emotion from it," Kimball said.

With poems that often talk about his wife and children, he also writes poetry that serves a purpose. From poverty and capitalism to institutional racism, Shihan brings to light the injustices in the world as well as the little things that can easily be taken for granted.

"Love and heartbreak, the good and the bad, is what Shihan speaks about. My favorite poem of his is called 'This Type Love.' It will probably make me cry," Kimball said.

Opening "This Type Love," with lyrics, "I want a love that makes me wait until she falls asleep then wonder if she is dreaming about us being in love, type love," the poem, which takes three minutes to perform, goes on to explain the rest of the types of love he wants. Shihan ends the poem talking about his wife and the love he has found with her.

Shihan grew up in New York's Lower East Side and began his writing career in 1989, which he used to get a scholarship to William North Hampton School for Creative Writing. After signing with MCA Records in 1993, Shihan wrote for the video game NBA Jam Session and the theme for Reebok's "Blacktop" campaign. The first poet to be named iTunes "Download of the week," Shihan was also a part of the writing and performing for MTV's Rock the Vote campaign and Schoolhouse Rocks videos.

Assistant Coordinator of the Multicultural Center Bryn Smith said she was happy to get Shihan for Black History Month since he is such a powerful speaker.

"We are really looking forward to hearing him perform here. His reputation as an outstanding, captivating performer precedes him, we're really excited about having him on stage because he is very much in demand," Smith said.

see Shihan, page 8
Gibson makes a comeback with "Edge of Darkness"

Mel Gibson has not had a major film role since he played the lead in M. Night Shyamalan's 2002 ingenious thriller "Signs." Since then, he has kept busy directing two impressive and successful films: 2004's blockbuster "The Passion of the Christ" and 2006's "Apocalypto." He was also under the spotlight a few years ago for some less than flattering remarks made while being arrested for driving under the influence — an event that almost completely tarnished his reputation as a respected Hollywood heavyweight.

Many people, critics and moviegoers alike, criticized director Martin Campbell for choosing to cast Gibson in his new movie "Edge of Darkness," a film adaptation of the 1985 BBC television series of the same name. Despite all this however, Campbell ultimately made the right decision, making a flawed but enthralling crime drama that allows Gibson to prove that he hasn't lost his touch.

Mel Gibson plays a Boston detective named Thomas Girvan, a respected veteran of the force who lives a lonely quiet life and who's only true love comes in the form of his daughter Emma (Joan Novakovic). Emma is employed by a massive corporation named Northmoor, which in this film is similar to the corrupt and secretive corporations we are used to seeing in James Bond movies. The plot kicks off with Emma's unexpected visit back home, a trip made even more mysterious by her chronicSerialized. A bleeding nose can mean a lot of things, but in a plot like this the cause is probably something that would be beautiful and intriguing if it weren't for the unknown and haunting origins.

Mel Gibson stars in "Edge of Darkness," a remake of the 1985 BBC television series of the same name.

"The Virgin Blue" weaves plotlines that are centuries apart

While Chevalier may be most well known for her novel turned film, "Girl with a Pearl Earring," her debut work, "The Virgin Blue," is actually far superior to her more popular works. Set in 16th century Switzerland and present day France, Chevalier creates a story that weaves together intriguing characters and suspenseful plotlines, which result in a compelling and emotional novel that will have you hooked from the start.

Modern day Ella Turner moves to Toulouse, France with her husband, Rick, after his career requires them to relocate. Rick, an easygoing Californian, complete with blond ponytail and bohemian tan, fits in surprisingly well in their new quaint life in the smaller village of Lisle-sur-Tarn. Ella, however, does not have as much success. Still struggling to learn the language and trying to pass the necessary exams to continue her vocation of being a midwife in France, Ella feels lost and alone in their new home. It doesn't help matters that she is still viewed as an outsider amid the townspeople — being shunned by the local women and business people because of her American idiosyncrasies and habits.

Despite the difficulties of starting a new life in a new country, Ella is optimistic that her situation will improve. Until, that is, she begins having unsettling dreams about French palums and distant relatives. Her nights are haunted with the most vivid blue color she has ever seen — something that would be beautiful and intriguing if it weren't for the unknown and haunting origins. Her dreams escalate until she can no longer ignore the mysterious scenes and she resolves to find out more about her French ancestors — a journey which will lead her to Jean-Paul, a man who is unlike her husband in every way. Soon she begins questioning everything about her life in France, her relationship with her husband, and especially herself. Falling deeper and deeper into the search for her ancestors, Ella is ultimately led into a search for herself, discovering more than she ever expected.

Interviewed with the present day story of Ella is the tumultuous history of her ancestor Isabelle du Moulin, who flees France to escape
“Virgin Blue” continued from page 7
Catholic persecution for a safer all while trying to be the foundation ends with a horrific but engrossing cruel inother-in-law, insensitive features of Chevalier's writing is additive. The reader in order to further the sus­ pense and the building of emotional investment in the plot and charac­

The danger of revealing too much and giving away the story, that often traps writers of historical fiction, is a problem for Cheva­ lier as the experts weave together these two distinct plotlines. Through its twists and turns, there is always something new to be found in this novel, making it more than worthy of taking up residence on your li­ brary shelves.

Melinda Trounev is an English gradu­ ate student and Mustang Daily book columnist.

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Hip-hop continued from page 6

Asefvaziri said. "No one wants to see money be an issue for anyone's passion and I'm the first person to step up and say I'm not going to let money be a restriction to keep someone from doing what they love."

Asefvaziri didn't discover her own love for dance until she took a class in April 2006. She said even though during her first class she "unbelievably sucked," she went home feeling that this was something she was meant to do.

Over the next couple of months, she took as many classes as she could before being asked to take over as an instructor for the advanced hip-hop class in June. After choreographing and performing in a dance routine for the academy in September, Asefvaziri said she realized her true passion lay in teaching stu­ dents.

"I just had a plethora of choreo­graphy that I just wanted to download on somebody so I just started dancing and coming up with stuff and teaching it to other people," Asefvaziri said.

The students she has taught so far keep coming back. Cal Poly, microbiology senior Edgar Calvo first started taking classes from Asefvaziri when she was teaching at the academy last year. Calvo, fairly new to choreography, was asked by Asefvaziri to dance in a promotion­al video for her new studio with fellow dancers Alyssa Dahleidt and Kendra Brever. From there, Calvo said he discovered Asefvaziri's pas­ sion for hip-hop. It is her excite­ ment and innovation that keeps him returning each week.

"I've had a passion for hip-hop dance like no one I've met in San Luis Obispo and I just kind of gravitated toward that," Calvo said.

Asefvaziri has also hosted the nation's largest open mic called De Poetry Lounge in Hollywood for the past seven years, while also being apart of HBO's Russell Simmons Presents Def Poetry, as a Talent Coordinator as well as a performer.

"I'm running the event, with Adonna Anderson, so I'm super juiced to meet him," Kinball said.

With two open mics and two sets of performances by Shihan there is availability for students and non­ students to read these. The stu­ dent Program Coordinator Michelle Fox said a lot of people write poetry but may not have a place to read it out loud, which Another Type Of Goose provides.

"Another Type of Goose is very different from anything else available on campus, people are openly displaying emotion," Fox said. "The poets are usually in the crowds, or at the meetings. They are often very approachable."

Another Type of Goose has been around since 2000 when the MultiCultural Center and Student Life & Leadership created the pro­ gram to remove unaddressed issues through the spoken word. The mission of ATOG is to create open space for the interchange of ideas, beliefs and personal expression as well as actively and artistically engag­ ing in issues of diversity.

This will be the first time Shihan has performed for Cal Poly's ATOG.

"The choreography is something you can't really find in San Luis Obispo," Asefvaziri recognized not only an open market for hip-hop in San Luis Obispo, but for street hip-hop, a different form of the popular dance style. Street hip-hop, Asefvaziri said, has more to do with general choreo­ graphy than technical moves. The choreography includes blocking and locking, both of which rely on the perform­ er to move their body in sometimes fast and strict movements.

As the sole choreographer at Street HEAT Dance Company, Asefvaziri teaches classes for intermediate to experienced danc­ ers who already have a background in hip-hop but Asefvaziri encour­ ages people of all experience levels to attend a class.

"For my class, you come already knowing the steps," Asefvaziri said. "So when I lock or pop, I don't have to break it down for you, people are already going to know what it is. I don't slow down the pace of my class or anything but they love the music and they say they're complet­ ely gned. They're completely lost but they love the energy and every­ thing that comes with it."

But Dahleidt said Asefvaziri's devotion to her students is what she wants bring beginning dancers to the studio. Dahleidt, who has been dancing with Asefvaziri since the Academy and is now a regu­ lar at the new studio, said a lot of what makes the classes so fun is Asefvaziri's "warm spirit" and her willingness to help students learn the dance outside of class.

Asefvaziri's dance studio is located at 207 Suburban Road, unit 13. Asefvaziri offers a cool advanced hip-hop class on Tuesday nights at 7:30 and a women's only class Friday nights at 6:30.

"Darkness" continued from page 7

much more alarming. Craven's world is soon after torn apart, down with the murder of Emma on his front door step — an at­ tack that is initially believed to be a failed assassination attempt on Thomas himself.

Craven later becomes more and more suspicious of the cir­ cumstances surrounding his daughter's "unnecessary" death. His investigation eventually leads him to Northmore where, with­ out a sophisticated structure that, in comparison to the rest of the film, seems a bit over the top, Northmore's chairman, Jack Bennett, is played by skilled actor Danny Huston "(X-Men Origins: Wolverine," "The Constant Gardener)," son of legendary director John Huston. In terms of an audience member's point, of view, the movie does a great job of making Bennett seem alm­ most too nice and too courteous, characteristics that Craven does not ignore.

As mentioned earlier, the main problem, and possibly the only significant problem with "Edge of Darkness" is the un­ realistic feel of its antagonist, Northmore. If the corpora­ tion had been more realistic, so would the film. Unfortunately, it instead unfurls into another typical "one cop takes down the whole criminal world" thriller, albeit better than most other films that share this same plot.

The flow and strengthening nature of the story are without a doubt carried by Craven's outstanding perfor­ mance and Campbell's impressive direction of a number of intense ac­tion sequences. Mel Gibson's port­ rayal of a man with nothing to lose resembles the actor's "Mad Max" days. He does a magnificent job of getting his character, Thomas Craven seem like a sincere man on a mission that any viewer would support. He has veiled in this by the great British actor Ray Winstone ("The Departed," "Seas Beverly)," as an deceptive free agent who turns up near Craven's house one night and whose interaction with Craven provides the movie with much of its attraction.

The reasons why this film does have a James Bond type feel to it is because of Campbell, who is responsible for arguably the two best Bond films of our generation, "Goldeneye" (1995) and "Casino Royale" (2006). The car chases, shootouts and close-up fights are all expertly choreographed and do not seem overly complex for a ver­ y epic cop of the protagonist's age.

While this is by no means a per­ fect film, it enjoyed it not only be­ cause it was entertaining and suc­ cessfully complimented of espionage films of the '70s, but mainly as a result of the lead performance. Mel Gibson has been recently cast in a number of interesting films that will be released in the next couple of years, and "Edge of Darkness" makes me that much more excited to see them.

Alex Peterson is a biological sciences student and Mustang Daily movie columnist.
Obama’s new $3.8 trillion budget asks too much of an already-strained economy

On Monday, President Obama introduced the administration’s new $3.8 trillion budget. The mention of the word "unfathomable" figure becomes even more daunting when you take a closer look at the bookkeeping. This proposed budget: $1.267 trillion.

Even if math isn’t your thing, it is easy to see a figure this large in our struggling economy is just plans dangerous. If this budget plan passes without alteration, we are on another road to financial meltdown.

Obama has once again succeeded in using his rhetoric to advance a seemingly bipartisan solution to the economic problem of our day. Yet, words can be deceiving, and there is no covering up the monstrous size and the long-term implications of this proposal.

For those of us not really reaching out to the Republicans in Congress, he is only creating the illusion of concession to make a state-seemingly bipartisan solution to the economic situation that is before us. Our struggling economy is just plain daunting when you take a closer look at the bookkeeping. Introduced the administration’s new $3.8 trillion budget.

Furthermore, the fact that the Republican solidarity in Congress is intact has forced out by Calipari at Kentucky, Division I school.

This is just common sense. As seen by the failure of the stimulus package, increased spending has no signs of improving the economy.ray, Paul Ryan of Wisconsin reports that “Democrats, since they took over Congress, increased domestic spending by $1.4 trillion.” This reckless spending has had little, if any, positive impact on the economy.Unemployment still hovers at 10 percent, and the housing market is still floundering. The GDP may have increased, but nothing seems to have actually changed recently. The Troubled Asset Relief Program, TARP. Programs like TARP are “beyonded” on their own already, and do not need to be further burdened. This is just common sense.

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Edited by Will Shortz
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Jets’ Mark Sanchez to have knee surgery

Roderick Boone

Mark Sanchez’s decision is in. The New York Jets quarterback has opted to have surgery on his left knee. Sanchez is expected to undergo an elective procedure to strengthen and stabilize the ligaments around his patella tendon.

Team orthopedist Dr. Kenneth Montgomery will perform the surgery, probably within the next few weeks, given Sanchez will need about eight weeks of recovery time.

General manager Mike Tannenbaum said last week he was confident Sanchez would be ready well before training camp in July, but indicated he would miss a portion of the Jets’ offseason conditioning program that begins later next month.

Sanchez visited Dr. James Andrews in Birmingham, Ala., last Wednesday, and the renowned orthopedic specialist checked out both of Sanchez’s knees.

Andrews recommended surgery on the left knee, not the right one. Sanchez injured diving headfirst during a 19-13 win over Buffalo in Toronto Dec. 3.

The surgery isn’t necessarily a must for Sanchez, but by strengthening the area around the patella tendon, the Jets are hoping it will help prevent further damage to the knee he originally injured before his junior season at USC and tweaked again in the Jets’ 17-6 win over Carolina on Nov. 29.

Sanchez dislocated his left kneecap in August 2008 and played that season with a brace.

He also wore a brace on the knee for protection this season, and played with braces on both knees Dec. 20 against the Falcons. That was his first game after sitting out a 26-3 win over the Bucs to continue rehabilitating his right knee.

Sanchez moved around well during the Jets’ postseason run, compiling a 92.7 rating. He completed 41 of 68 passes for 539 yards, threw for four touchdowns and two interceptions in becoming only the fourth rookie quarterback since the NFL-AFL merger in 1970 to start a conference championship game.

Former USC quarterback Mark Sanchez passed for 2,444 yards and 12 touchdowns in his rookie season with the New York Jets.

Asomugha

continued from page 12

Asomugha, 28, will be entering the second season of a three-year, $45.3 million contract, including a team option for 2011. He is financially set regardless of his uniform.

Massive trades have been nearly impossible thanks to the salary cap’s birth in 1993. Well, thanks to the soon-to-expire collective-bargaining agreement, 2010 stands to be an uncapped year. Financial ramifications of any major deal don’t face the normal blockade.

The Raiders need to do “some­thing else” to produce more produc­tive plays. When is the last time Aso­mugha made a game-changing play? He takes away half the field with his phenomenal pass coverage, but that still leaves room his Raiders team­mates can’t protect.

“Seven straight years of losing isn’t fun for anyone,” Asomugha said in his NFL Network cameo.

Envisioning a franchise-saving trade, however, makes for a fun de­bate in February.

Lewis

continued from page 12

Lewis nailed both shots and Cal Poly went on to win the game by two, thanks to his clutch free throws.

Lewis said his goals for the rest of the season include winning the Big West conference title and getting into the NCAA tournament, which would be the first time in school history.

“It would mean a lot of ex­posure for my teammates and the school if we could make it that far,” Lewis said.

Throughout his entire career, Lewis said his family has been a huge part of his success. He said his dad always pushed Lewis to be better and never took it easy on him.

His dad has not missed a single game even though Lewis has played at least 200 games throughout his life. Lewis added his mom is a big emotional supporter and often­times will come watch him play when the Mustangs are at home.

Despite the obstacles he has faced, Lewis is thankful to be play­ing the game he loves. He said he would not change anything about the path he has taken and cannot imagine himself doing anything else.

“He has the athleticism and the drive to position himself to play professionally in the future,” Col­lero said.

No matter what happens, Lewis said he wants to use his God-given talent to keep him playing basket­ball as long as he can.
Junior guard Shawn Lewis' hard work pays off

He has the athleticism and drive to position himself to play professionally in the future.

—Joe Callero
Men's basketball head coach

Following his junior year, his coach was fired. With a new coach, Lewis led the team to the state champion game where they lost to Ante-

leau High School, but Lewis said he learned a great deal about himself as a player.

With everything that happened in high school, it made me appreci-

ate the struggle more and make me stronger as a player,” Lewis said.

At Cal Poly, Lewis has been a consistent contributor ever since gaining a starting spot midway through his freshman season. He said his strong work ethic is a major reason for his success at this level. Lewis said when he sees someone in

gym working on their game he wants to go to work immediately to improve his own.

“I don’t like the sense that any-

one is getting better than me,” Lewis said.

His teammates have noticed the extra work Lewis has put in to im-

prove himself. Senior forward Ryan Darling said Lewis is always working after practice and is one of the last people to leave every night.

“He will constantly be in the gym getting extra shots in and working on his ball handling,” Darling said.

“He sets a great example for the rest of the team through his play.”

Lewis’ dedication to the game has impressed head coach Joe Cal-

lero this year. Callero said Lewis is the most exciting player on the team who can do it all and is improving every day.

Shawn is improving himself as a complete player instead of just being a stereotypical athlete,” Callero said.

Callero is also impressed with his ability to remain focused on his goals both on and off the court.

Lewis’ competitive nature re-

mains one of the strongest aspects of his game along with his athletic ability.

“He brings strength and power to our team,” Darling said. “He hops out of control.”

Lewis has used these aspects of his game to average 10.1 points per game and dish out 2.4 assists per game through 20 games this season. One of the biggest moments for

him this season was during a recent home game against UC Riverside. Lewis was fouled with 1.9 seconds left and a </s>