WASC to review Cal Poly's accreditation status

Rhiannon Montgomery
SUSTAIN DAILY

A team from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges will visit Cal Poly to report on the university's capacity to educate students and achieve the goals of its self-study on Feb. 12. The visit is part of the accreditation process done every 10 years and necessary to receive federal funding and value of the school's degrees.

A six-member group made up of peers, university administrators and faculty will spend two days meeting with the president, provost, deans, faculty and students to determine if the school has the capability to meet its mission objectives. The visiting team will be led by Samuel Smith, president emeritus of Washington State University. Other members include professors from University of Redlands, University of California, Davis, CSU Sacramento and the chief financial officer from CSU Los Angeles.

David Conn is co-chair of Cal Poly's WASC steering committee and previously served as part of an accreditation team for University of California, Riverside and CSU Fresno. He said the accrediting team is looking at building, the library, faculty, staff and funding.

"They look at Cal Poly's resources and make a recommendation to WASC from their findings," Conn said.

They have also been instructed to consider the current budget crisis in the CSU system and the impact on the school, he added. The visit is part of the association's three-phase process for universities to receive accreditation.

The organization's visits are used to collect evidence that students are learning at Cal Poly, Conn said. Accreditation is voluntary, but Conn and his fellow co-chair Bruno Gilberti of the steering committee said it is required to receive federal funding, including Pell grants, and gives credibility to the institution's degrees and credits.

"It's a big stick the federal government wields," Gilberti said, adding that schools wouldn't be eligible for Pell grants without accreditation.

Conn said it doesn't make sense for a large institution like Cal Poly to not be accredited through the association because of the financial consequences.

WASC is one of six non-governmental, regional organizations recognized by the Department of Education to confirm that schools provide an education worth something to their students. The accreditation was formed in 1949 and endorses schools in California, Hawaii and Pacific U.S. territories. It is broken into three commissions serving elementary, secondary schools, community colleges and universities.

The organization's Web site said the commission for senior colleges and universities is in charge of the process for schools offering a bachelors and post-graduate degrees. Every see WASC, page 2

Mental health campaign launched in SLO County

Megan Hasler
SUSTAIN DAILY

A document aimed at changing the perception of mental illnesses in San Luis Obispo County was released Feb. 4 at the Supervisor's Chambers at the County Government Center.

Cal Poly graduate and document director Alec Ramsey said the people he knew suffering from mental illnesses influenced his project.

"While I was at Cal Poly, 30 percent of the subjects I explored in my art were dealing with mental illness," he said. "It's definitely something that spoke to me personally."

The document is part of a campaign funded by San Luis Obispo County Behavioral Health Services and was completed by Transition Mental Health Association and 20/20 Creative Group. It explores three mental illnesses: depression, bipolar disorder and schizophrenia.

This partnership was formed to show that mental illness is not an unsolvable problem, Hannah Brown, a representative from Transition Mental Health Association, said. Even if you have some experience in or try to treat something completely different that they've never even heard about and get a beginner's education in that," she said.

Animal science senior Daniel Pius, chairperson of the conference College Conference will be hosted at Cal Poly for the first time in the event's 20-year history. The event, which began on the UC Davis and the UC Santa Barbara campuses, will present speakers and hold workshops and discussions aimed to teach guests about the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities.

At least 17 UC, CSU and private colleges across California are registered to participate. Campus organizers are expecting at least 600 people to attend, approximately 400 more attendees than in 1996 when numbers were first recorded. The event, which began on the UC Davis and the UC Santa Barbara campuses, will present speakers and hold workshops for supporters and members of the queer community about sexual health, coming out, religion and LGBTQ education.

The theme for this year's conference is "Honor the Past, Impact the Present and Define Our Future." With the theme, Pride Center Coordinator Enoch said event organizers want conference attendees to reflect on the history of the same-sex community such as their civil rights struggles, the hurdles they faced and how to make improvements for the future.

"Each workshop is listed as a different track so if health issues are of interest to you, you could go to a health workshop in almost every session," Echols said. "Our goal was to give people an opportunity to learn about topics that they already know to have experience in or try to treat something completely different that they've never even heard about and get a beginner's education in that."

See Conference, page 2

Poly to host LGBTQ conference for first time

Leticia Rodriguez
SUSTAIN DAILY

The Western Regional Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Questioning, Intersex, Asexual, Ally Conference will be hosted at Cal Poly for the first time in the event's 20-year history. The event will be coordinated by the Cal Poly Pride Center and will feature speakers, workshops and discussions aimed to teach guests about the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities.

At least 17 UC, CSU and private colleges across California are registered to participate. Campus organizers are expecting at least 600 people to attend, approximately 400 more attendees than in 1996 when numbers were first recorded. The event, which began on the UC Davis and the UC Santa Barbara campuses, will present speakers and hold workshops for supporters and members of the queer community about sexual health, coming out, religion and LGBTQ education.

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See Conference, page 2
"One of the things that were really striking to me was how normal everyone was," Goette said. "While we may have a picture of mental illness being very extreme, quite often it is something that you know.

Whether they are acquaintances or close friends, the people telling their stories had a powerful effect on

Everyone in the room was at one point choked up. I was honored to know what kind of impact I would have with the documentary.

—Alec Ramsey
SLO Sigmas Director

The nine documentary subjects are locals found through personal recommendations and a Craigslist ad.

Curtis Poppendieck suffers from depression; he was asked to participate by a friend involved in the project. He has shared his illness with some of the people, close to his heart. One of the people he has shared his illness with is his wife, who suffers from bipolar disorder.

Being involved in SLO the Sigma was one of the opportunities he has taken because he asked this question, he said.

The participants know that being a part of this project would mean sharing their illnesses with a large audience. Amanda Nelson, who suffers from bipolar disorder, said when she lived in a big city it was easy to disappear into the crowds, but it is different in San Luis Obispo County.

"I know more people when I walk down the street," Nelson said. "This community is great, as long as we can get rid of the stigma, it can be even better."

Ramsey said the sharing of the stories would help society understand mental illnesses.

"We want this to be something that is talked about normally without fear of labeling," he said. "As soon as people learn to make it a dialogue, then more people will come forward.

Conference continued from page 1

Since Against Defamation executive director Joan Gary, poetess Babyd Weiner and Andrea Gibson and a keynote address from Rick Jacobs, founder of the Courage Campaign, an organization that promotes the No on Prop 8 campaign and same-sex marriage.

"Wakefield and Gibson both identify as members of the LGBTQ community and they have something to say to people that in spite of their illness with the documentary, they just be really psyched to go back to their campus," Echols said.

Echols said she hoped the diversity of attendees will create a networking opportunity for students and campus officials of all sexual preferences and help them to better understand how they might not be able to class in.

"Here there’s all these things that would be super on point here at Cal Poly that just might be something that resonates with some of the interest," Echols said. "And an opportunity to meet people of other campuses too to see what kind of impact you see to diversity on Cal Poly’s campus, this would be a good way to see diversity.

The conference, which is open to the public, kicks off Friday, Feb. 19 at 9 a.m. and goes until Sunday, Feb. 21. Tickets can be bought at the door in the University Union or through the conference’s Web site, www.concocoast.org.

The ULO were formed from the last accreditation review in 2004. She said the entire process for the university to be the premiere comprehensive polytechnic university will likely lead to a more balanced mix of units in science, engineering and humanities, and arts and programs and vice versa for science, engineering and architecture majors. The committee will make a more concrete definition of what learn-by-doing means for each college.

A survey by the committee showed students think learn-by-doing is associated with the major out of general education courses, Giberti said. One of the goals for the outcome of this process is to change the perception students have about what it means to "learn by doing."

Giberti said opportunities for this type of learning are amazing and include "problem solving, research, hands-on design, leadership, service and creative work." The committee also considered the balance needed between teaching and research time for faculty.

"To be a great teacher, it’s important to be involved in scholarship or the faculty member may become obsolete in his field," Giberti said.

The study calls for further support and education of the importance of research as instructors can provide the highest quality education. Giberti said the WASC team will observe and report to the ASI committee and the ASI committee will happen in October in association will happen in October in association with the ISU chancellor’s freeze of student- approved college-based fee increases last year. The team will do a presentation of its findings Feb. 12 at 8:15 a.m. in the Library. Giberti said the committee will receive a report from the group before starting the next phase of the process.

The report is due at the end of the semester to determine if the university is ready to move forward to the third phase of demonstration site application. learnng by using indicators like six-year graduation rates Giberti said. Conn said Cal Poly has a 2.7 four-year graduation rate the best in the CSU system. A second visit from the accreditation association will be held in October for the education effectiveness review.

"It’s ultimately about student learning. That's the most important thing," Giberti said.
Five dead in Connecticut power plant explosion, many more injured

Edmund H. Mahony, Eric Ger­shon and Daniela Altinari

MIDDLETOWN, Conn. — A dev­astating explosion that was heard and felt for miles destroyed a power plant Sunday morning as workers parged a natural gas piping system, killing at least five and injuring many more, emergency response officials said.

Homeowners miles away said the 11 a.m. EST explosion at the Kleen Energy Systems power plant created a shock wave so intense they mistakenly thought the central part of the state had experienced an earthquake. Rescue officers worked through­out the day in an effort to prepare a casualty list. Middletown, Conn., offi­cials confirmed at least five dead and dozens injured at 8:30 p.m. just before a press conference about the accident. Hours after the shocking blast, which blew out windows and cracked foun­dations of neighboring homes, state police with specially trained dogs continued to poke through the rubble of twisted steel, looking for victims.

Middletown Councilman Ronald P. Klattenberg said late Sunday after­noon that five people were missing, but the number of injured is not as large as initially feared.

“There are bodies everywhere,” a witness said in the hours immediately after the explosion. Later in the after­noon rescue personnel said victims may still be buried in rubble.

Middletown Deputy Fire Mar­shal Al Santostefano said there were “confirmed fatalities” but he did not know how many. He said there were probably no more than 50 construc­tion workers on the site. Initial reports were that as many as 150 workers may have been at the site.

“It was a massive explosion” Santostefano said. Eddie Reilly, president of build­ing trades council in Hartford, Conn., confirmed there were about 50 trades­men on site Sunday morning.

The plant, which has been under construction for years, was nearing completion. It was designed to gener­ate electricity by burning natural gas. Neighbors said they believed the ex­losion was the result of an operating error.

Santostefano said the explosion was related in some fashion to natural gas, but that the cause was still under investigation. He said the explosion appears to have occurred when opera­tors attempted a “blow down” of natural gas pipelines, a procedure that involves the purging of gas from the pipelines.

The power plant site, carved into a rocky bluff over a bend in the lower Connecticut River, consisted of nu­merous structures. But Santostefano said he believes the explosion oc­curred in the largest, a massive, square steel structure known as the power block building.

Klattenberg said the explosion blew out all sides of the power block build­ing. “Parts of the walls are just flapping in the wind,” Klattenberg said.

Santostefano said “They are tak­ing the building apart, piece by piece. If they do find anybody, they would be under the rubble.” He said rescue workers were “search and rescue mode.” He said authorities believe many of those on the site at the time of the ex­losion worked for O&G Con­struction, the general contractor building the plant, which was more than 95 percent complete.

Message: (12 Word Maximum)
Protesters amass ahead of Olympics

Kim Murphy

VANCOUVER, Canada — While past Olympics have been magnets for protests over issues such as indigenous rights in Australia and oppression in Tibet, the Vancouver Winter Games are preparing to host over the next seven days displays ever of organized opposition to the Olympics themselves.

Building on scars of displacement over the increasingly corporate nature of the Games — and widespread alarm over a projected $5.6 billion price tag — a resistance network has vowed to post thousands of protesters outside venues of some of whom aim to disrupt events.

Security analysts have warned that such domestic protesting is at great a threat to the seamless unfolding of the Games as the possibility of a terrorist attack.

Canadian officials, however, have promised to give the demonstrators as much leeway as possible, backing off plans to ban signs, condoms of protesters and use high-tech weapons to disperse unruly crowds.

That open door reflects not only British Columbia’s tradition of tolerance and commitment to free speech but also an acknowledgment of Vancouver residents’ reservations about hosting the Games, the infrastructure for which will probably be a resistance front, Shaw said.

The protest organizers say they’re intended to be nonviolent; noisy rallies, street marches and possibly attempts to block spectators and competitors from reaching the venues.

An array of groups with individual agendas will descend on Vancouver, much as they have during other high-profile events like World Trade Organization and G-20 meetings.

North American aboriginal groups that claim the games are being hosted on unceded “stolen” land; conservationists alarmed at the construction of the 62-mile Sea to Sky Highway connecting the city to the skiing venues at Whistler.

Opponents of tar sands development in northern Canada.

Anti-poverty activists who say the Olympics are not intended to be a fast-moving storm instead delayed, dumping rain at an alarming rate. The power of the debris flooding out of homes helped push a 10-mud boulder into a critical catch basin in La Canada-Flintridge.

The mudslide washed down like giant stop and the ash-muck had no where to go but toward the Hollywood Hills neighborhood. Mud flowed two miles downstream.

“The looks like the Niagara Fall was coming down the street,” said resident Lian Morris.

She said she saw firefighters scramble out of her neighborhood’s house up hill when a burst of rainfall poured down, threatening the crew.

The wrath of the mudflow twisted around houses, disintegrated walls of sandbags and knocked over 4,000-pound concrete barriers that lined the road to divert water away from homes. About 25 vehicles were damaged, flowing down the street and smashing up against walls, trees and each other.

Despite the damaging mudflows, there were no reports of deaths or serious injuries reported. By nightfall, most of the homes were under mandatory evacuation orders, which were effective in several communities, including La Canada Flintridge, La Crescenta, Acton, Altadena and Sierra Madre.

Of the 43 homes that were damaged, 31 had mud or other debris enter the house, while 12 suffered major structural damage. About 30 were located in Paradise Valley, while the others were scattered elsewhere in California.

Emergency officials in La Canada Flintridge and La Crescenta ordered residents to leave their homes.

In the Los Angeles region, the rainstorm flooded freeways and caused numerous accidents, caused sand and mudslides in hillside neighborhoods, and washed out portions of at least two mountain roads — Angeles Crest Highway and Ortega Highway near Idyllwild. Scattered power outages were also reported.

But the damage was worst at the top of the hill in La Canada-Flintridge’s Paradise Valley.

The rains made good on worst-case scenario predictions that geologists and emergency officials have been warning about since the Station Fire demanded 290-square miles of the San Gabriel Mountains.

Some residents were awakened by water flooding into deep into their homes. Two men rescued a stranded woman trapped in her room, tethered to an oxygen tank, her bed floating in the rising waters.

Former chief, of the Los Angeles County Fire Department, acknowledged that crews were operating on weather forecasts that turned out to be incorrect.

“Tink it’s imperative that everbody understand the unpredictability of predictions,” Freeman says.

By Saturday night, the precipitation had largely cleared out of the Los Angeles area. Forecasters expected dry and warmer conditions Sunday and Monday, but there is a chance rain can return on Tuesday.

The National Weather Service had forecasted that up to 1 inch of rain would fall on the coast and in the valleys and as much as 3 inches would fall in the mountains and foothills by Saturday night.

But actual rainfall was much more intense, with about 4 inches of rain falling in the mountains.

Downtown L.A. saw 2.85 inches of rain since Thursday night; Santa Monica, 3.24; and the Hollywood Reservoir, 4.09.

A home in La Canada Flintridge, Calif., suffered extensive damage in a mudslide on Saturday. Weather forecasts predicted light to moderate rain.

P. Michael Freeman, chief of the Los Angeles County Fire Department, acknowledged that crews were operating on weather forecasts that turned out to be incorrect.

“The Goi goal IS to... make clear to everybody understand the unpredictability of predictions,” Freeman said.

With the help of a neighbor, Morris said she decided to put up a fence and erect a tent to redireet away water from their house and into the canyon.

The couple, had tried to protect their house with sandbags, but the mud pushed its way past that barrier, a fence and a cement retaining wall, Morris said.

As they watched, a firefighter attempted to climb up the hillside toward them and was knocked to his knees by mud as thick as wet cement, Morris said.

“We live with reminders of all that is out of our control,”” says Eric Grey whose house missed the mudslide but backyard was destroyed.

“We were the house and lose being in Southern California. This is just a little dirt and rocks. The sun will shine again.”

Kim Shahr, an anthropological professor at the University of British Columbia who wrote a book arguing that Vancouver's bid was an attempt to attract for real estate developers a new run of million-dollar, publicly financed buildings.

“These games are going to bring out a lot of people who are not your traditional protesters,” she said.

"You're going to see a lot of mant-people out there, standing there, sitting on trains and passing out leaflets. That's a sea change."
have a lot more negative impact than positive," Harsha Wali, a spokesperson for the network said.

The protesters are united, Wali said, by the perception that the Olympics "industry" is benefiting a few while ignoring the needs of citizens who might have been helped by the money being spent to host the Games.

According to the Vancouver Organizing Committee, the official operating budget is $1.65 billion, with a total venue construction cost of $542 million. But that doesn't include the $825 million cost of expanding the Vancouver Convention Center, which will serve as the media headquarters; the Sea to Sky Highway; and the 11.8-mile, $1.9 billion new light rail line from Vancouver International Airport, a portion of which was paid for by a private partner.

Those projects, government officials said, were planned anyway and will be long-term resources for the province.

"Think goodness that we have such a spectacular facility that will drive economic activity for years into the future," British Columbia Premier Gordon Campbell said during the convention center's grand reopening in April.

There have been other estimates, including one recently undertaken by the Vancouver Sun newspaper, that put the total Olympic price tag at closer to $6.6 billion.

"Some say that may be on the optimistic side. Local boosters also appear to have miscalculated the bonanza they expected to spin off from the Games.

On the eve of Vancouver's successful 2003 bid, Campbell predicted that the Olympics would bring $10 billion in economic benefits to the province, including 228,000 jobs. Officials have persisted in predicting at least $4 billion in benefits, including tourism.

But a PriceWaterhouseCoopers study in November found that, through the end of 2008, British Columbia had seen at most an $864 million increase to its gross domestic product, including 20,780 jobs.

According to the resistance network's Web site, activists plan to kick off their "anti-Olympic convergence" with a series of workshops Wednesday and Thursday, followed by a "take back our city" demonstration on the day of the opening ceremonies. On Feb. 13, an ominously titled event; "Heart Attack: Street March to (dog the Arteries of Capitalism" is planned.

Officials are planning an eradication effort in the Nipomo area. The moth invades fruit bearing trees, including apple trees, and could spread the moth. Growers in the quarantine area are required to undergo regular inspections, said Marty Settevendemie, deputy county agricultural commissioner.

Women's health advocates, health care professionals, breast cancer survivors and consumers will be in Sacramento on Monday to discuss and debate cuts to the statewide "Every Woman Count" program, which provided free mammograms to underserved women.

On Jan. 1, the state suspended free mammography screening for new patients until July. And when services are reinstated, the program will no longer screen women ages 40 to 49.

WASHINGTON (MCT) — Sarah Palin said Sunday she might run for president in 2012 if she decides it's good for her family and country.

Fresh from a speech to conservative activists at a "tea party" gathering in Nashville, the former Alaska governor said President Barack Obama could be defeated in 2012, that she's bugging up on foreign and national policy and that she would run if it felt right.

"I would," she said on Fox News, where she's a paid contributor. "I would if I believed that that is the right thing to do for our country and for the Palin family. Certainly, I would do so."

Briefs

**State**

SAN LUIS OBISPO (MCT) — County agricultural officials are dealing with a second infestation of the light brown apple moth, an invasive pest.

Two adult male apple moths were found in September in a canyon off Zenon Way in Nipomo. The discovery prompted state and county farm officials to establish a quarantine area there.

The quarantine applies to farms, nurseries and other businesses that could spread the moth. Growers in the quarantine area are required to undergo regular inspections, said Marty Settevendemie, deputy county agricultural commissioner.

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**National**

CHICAGO (MCT) — The U.S. economy was front and center on the talk shows Sunday, with administration officials past and present expressing guarded confidence it's in a recovery mode.

Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner, appearing on ABC News' "This Week," said he thinks the economy is back in growth mode and, "We're seeing some encouraging signs of healing" following better-than-expected unemployment data released Friday.

Still, Geithner added, "This is going to take a while, and it's going to be uneven, but there are encouraging signs in this report."

**International**

Machu Picchu (MCT) — The switchback railroad used by 90 percent of tourists to reach Machu Picchu will be closed at least two months for repairs, throwing the travel plans of thousands and affecting the economy of the area of southeast Peru that depends on tourism.

Late last month, the last of 3,900 tourists, who were stranded in Machu Picchu after torrential rains and mudslides swept away parts of the Transandino Railroad, were evacuated. The rail line was damaged in eight places. The Inca Trail, the walkway hikers use to approach the site, was also destroyed in places.

About 500 Americans were among those stranded. One Argentine tourist and his Peruvian guide were killed.

**KIEV, Ukraine (MCT) — Viktor Yanukovich, the former mechanic who just six years ago was shunned as a pro-Russian stooge, declared victory in Ukraine's presidential election Sunday after early exit polls showed him leading by a slim margin.

Three exit polls showed Yanukovich leading by 4 to 5 percentage points in a runoff election that threatens to deepen political instability in the contentious former Soviet state. His opponent, Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, refused to concede.
Marti's Bar and Grill transformed into 'Local,' which features locally-produced food and later hours than most downtown restaurants.

Corporate chef Shane King, 30, said the makeover will advance the downtown restaurants.

"I like to describe it as upscale bar food with local prices," King said.

With the addition of late kitchen hours, as late as 1 a.m. and 2 a.m., King anticipates attracting college students who want a downtown hangout and to eat and, with free Wi-Fi, even study, King, who grew up in San Luis Obispo, wished there were a place to eat and socialize at night to take a break from studying.

"Local" uses food from all local vendors and will remain open later to cater to busy students.

Local is open Tuesday and Wednesday 4 p.m. to 2 a.m., with the kitchen closed at noon; Thursday through Saturday 4 p.m. to 2 a.m., kitchen closed at 1 a.m.; Sunday 4 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Formerly Marti's Bar & Grill, new restaurant 'Local' features food from local vendors and will remain open later to cater to busy students.

About the restaurant's anticipated success, the upscale does come with a downside. Marti's was a good concept change was much needed.

"There really aren't any restaurants you can get this quality of food with no servers," Sturgis said.

And by playing artists like Thierry Corporation whose melodic music can be heard in the background, the atmosphere is easily conducive to conversation.

"It's a new concept to this town," Sturgis said.

In accordance with its name, "Local" uses food from all local vendors including grass-fed beef and meat from Hearst Ranch in San Simeon and green vegetables from Windrose Farms in Paso Robles.

Local remained open during the construction that started about four weeks ago and had its first official "soft opening" last Tuesday night that brought close to 150 customers to its new published doors.

After a total of only six weeks and $30,000, Sturgis plans to have Local fully operational by Valentine's Day or soon after.

The outside of the Higuera Street restaurant is painted an orange-red color that emphasizes the dark wooden accents and furniture, the entire visage reminiscent of a Mediterranean theme.

The sets of long tables and stools forecast a style of communal eating, the "mix, mingle, and share" is the target interaction King, Sturgis and owner Billy Hales want to see in their restaurant.

Their policy of "no hosts, no servers, no reservations" was designed to make the atmosphere more engaging. Consequently, money that would be spent employing hosts and servers are instead transferred to food costs, maintaining low prices and high quality.

"Some people still want it to be Marti's, but with the times changing, we had to adapt," he said. "It was time for a face lift and a concept change."

King acknowledges the slight backlash they have received and may soon get, but also feels the change was much needed.

"It's still a bar, we just serve great, great food," he said.

Local is open Tuesday and Wednesday 4 p.m. to 2 a.m., with the kitchen closed at noon; Thursday through Saturday 4 p.m. to 2 a.m., kitchen closed at 1 a.m.; Sunday 4 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Poet reads from latest book on racial complexities

Called one of the most underrated poets in the country by one of her contemporaries, Wendy Barker, read from her latest novel in prose poetry entitled "Nothing Between Us: The Berkeley Years" to an audience of more than 60 people in Phillips Hall Friday.

The poetry she writes addresses many different universal themes including gender relations, race, sex and love. Even though the story took place during the 1960s, the issues addressed apply to today's world.

Prose poetry is a form of poetry which does not incorporate the normal line breaks associated with poetry and includes many metaphors throughout.

"Prose poem is a hybrid form that cuts through boundaries," Barker said. "It's neither all poetry nor all prose. Some of the pieces are hard to pigeon hole. One of things I'm saying through the book is that race is hard to pigeon hole as well."

Barker's latest book, her fifth full-length manuscript, is a fictional story based on her personal experiences of living and teaching in Berkeley during the 1960s. The story centers around a young, white female English teacher and her relationship with a Black physical education teacher.

Barker moved to Berkeley from Phoenix in 1960 to teach in a public school, Poet, page 7
Poet
continued from page 6
lic school that was set in a primarily African-American neighborhood. She said it was quite a different experience for her teaching in a new setting.
"It's one thing to say we are going to do something," she said. "It's another thing to then be dealing with the range of deep feelings that people have."
Barker said she enjoys how poetry allows for ambiguity and cuts through the usual kinds of judgmental characteristics which people make. She said the writing itself is her greatest personal pleasure and loves sharing poetry of all kinds with others.
Barker said she wrote this book to try to make sense of the time for herself since it was such a tumultuous period. She hopes the book will move people and cause discussions regarding the complexities of the time period and today.
"For Cal Poly students, I would hope the book would cause a lot of contemplation about sex, gender and race," Barker said.
Donald Ryujin, the acting department head chair for ethnic studies, said prejudices towards in-group and race, Barker said.
"It's really remarkable how she weaves the races and two people together," Clark said. "Each poem comments back and forth on each other to create the story."
Barker's reading is sponsored by a program called Writerspeak which has brought numerous recognized poets and writers to Cal Poly for more than two decades. Clark said the program is run by Cal Poly Arts and financed by the College of Liberal Arts and the English Department.
"The purpose of the program is to expose students at Cal Poly to the best poets and fiction writers of the era," Clark said.
Clark incorporates Barker's latest book into his advanced poetry class. He said his advanced poets learn from her book through class and benefited from hearing the work presented in her own voice.
One such student who appreciated hearing Barker's story was English senior Elise Denes.
"Her book is an impressive use of prose and chronicle of the time period," Denes said. "Racial barriers still hold true today."
Another English senior was also impressed with Barker's reading. Amy Thrash said it absolutely makes a difference in hearing a poet read their own work since they know how it is supposed to sound. She said she enjoyed how Barker offers no answers regarding racial relations.
In the future, Barker said she is excited to get back to work and already has another manuscript in progress.
"I'm eager to get back to new poems," Barker said. "There are lots of new poems in the hopper."
Hipster: The Magnetic Fields' latest album leaves us awaiting the next

The Magnetic Fields have just released a companion piece to their 2006 album, "Distortion." This new offering, "Realism," was intended to be the technical opposite to "Distortion"'s reverse. The layers of amplified reverberation and shrieking feedback that defined the last record have been completely stripped away, leaving voices and instruments unmelodied. The production has gone from noisy to... well... folk.

So you might be thinking, "folk record?" Well, whether that means The Kingston Trio or Fleet Foxes (which amounts to the same thing) you're wrong. The Magnetic Fields have used "clean" production before, and "Realism" is a return to the baroque creations featured prominently on "99 Love songs Volume 3." If you liked the Renaissance Faire sensibility that drove songs like "For We Are the King of the Boudoir," then you'll be happy to know this album is awash in mandolins, harpsichords and glockenspiels. But, in many ways, this approach makes for the most difficult and least accessible record possible.

Consequently, "Realism" is an especially difficult proposition for anyone who loved the chaos of "Distortion." Thankfully, the opening track, "You Must be out of Your Mind," serves as a soothing reassurance that all is in order, and that Stephin Merritt's songwriting remains both overtly literate and overwhelmingly bitter: "I want you crawling back to me, down on your knees, yeah/Like an appendix, sans anesthesia.'"

One nice side-effect of the nearly-naked production is the easy decernability of the lyrics. Another plus is the prominence of the melodies; a good thing because there's some really pretty stuff here.

Arguably the prettiest song on the album, "I Don't Know What to Say," is an oxymoronically articulate description of utter inarticulateness (if that makes any sense). Occasionally, these pretty melodies are actually... uplifting.

"Everything is One Big Christmas Tree" is a running number that has a wonderful German singalong and encourages us to start drinking beer instead of reading books, while "The ADA Polka" similarly urges the listener to "Cystate like a Gyroscope-Collide like a Kaleidoscope."

Even more fun, "The Doll's Tea Party" is essentially "California Girls" moved backwards in time, attacking breezies from 1960 instead of 2010: "At the Doll's Tea Party we fritter away the long afternoon of a long summer day/With extended pinkies and pink cocktails." The plinking, kitchy arrangement makes this song feel somehow more cutting than the open threat in "California Girls" to as down countless empty-headed blondes.

No doubt, there's a lot to like about this record. As belying Magnetic Fields' outing, it's full of cleverness -- both musical and wordly. It's also a beautiful, beautiful exercise in sound production with no dirty tricks, allowing the real instrumentation to stand on its own real merit.

But... as much as I enjoy this record, I can't wait until then next one -- wherein the band will revive their rich history with synthesized strings, thumping drum machines and all other things dancey, filthy artificial and otherwise wonderful.

Jesse Bo Widmark is a KCPR DJ and a Mustang Daily music columnist.

Hipster Bullshit
by Jesse Bo Widmark

THIS WEEK IN CAL POLY ATHLETICS

Men's Basketball

CAL POLY vs. TASCHEK

"Student Rewards Night"
Thursday, Feb. 11th at 7 p.m.

Wrestling

CAL POLY vs. WRESTLING

"Free Giveaways"
Friday, Feb. 12th at 6:30 p.m.

Women's Basketball

CAL POLY vs. RIVERSIDE

"Pink Zone Game"
Saturday, Feb. 13th at p.m.

*Attention Cal Poly Students*

2/11 FREE textbooks and $250 cash courtesy of El Corral and the Mustang Maniacs to two random students...Pick up your ticket on the way in and be entered into the halftime drawing!

2/12 FREE TapOut T's and autographed Chuck Liddell gloves tossed out by CalPoly's GREEN Man for every Mustang pin or WIN!

2/13 Wear pink to the game and help support Breast Cancer research alongside the Mustang Women's Basketball team. Admission for all Cal Poly Athletic Events is FREE for Cal Poly Students.

WE ARE THE MUSTANGS
The doubts and dangers of anthropogenic climate change continue to climb

Aaron Berk
The Libertarian Torch

"The science is settled" has been a popular phrase when it comes to global warming, but that statement has come under fire, even more so recently. The question of whether or not global warming is anthropogenic (caused by humans) has huge ramifications for our environment, economy and our quality of life.

Booker N.O. 12th. 2005, it was unknown that data (including more than one thousand e-mails and thousands of other documents) had been stolen from a server at the Climate Research Unit, but on Nov. 17th that data was uploaded onto a hacked server of the RealClimate website with the message "A miracle just happened at RealClimate. Climaterapy promptly noticed the server intrusion and deleted the uploaded information.

A report on this information by the Science & Public Policy Institute details what the information reveals.

"The team tampered with the complex, bureaucratic processes of the UN's climate panel, the IPCC, so as to conceal inconvenient scientific results from its four Assessment Reports, and to influence one panel's conclusions for political rather than scientific reasons.

"They had tampered with their own data so as to conceal inconsistencies and errors.

"They had tampered with their data so as to conceal inconsistencies and errors.

"The belief in anthropogenic global warming has opened the door to some dangerous political policies, which only increase the need to understand things properly when it comes to Earth's climate. The first thing that comes to mind is Cap and Trade, which is a huge energy tax that is supposed to curb our carbon emissions. If I don't believe me that Cap and Trade is a huge tax, believe the President (who is a proponent of Cap and Trade) when he says "under my plan of a Cap and Trade system, diversity rates would necessarily skyrocket."

Furthermore, there have been proposed climate treaties that pose a threat to our sovereignty. To my knowledge none of them have been signed but there was a lot of momentum for the U.S. to sign a treaty in Copenhagen, which would have made the U.S. accountable to foreign entities, and eligible for penalties if it did not meet the goals enunciated in the treaty. This is ridiculous, we should not be signing up to be subservient to any foreign country or groups.

"We must be a leader in our own right and conduct ourselves according to our own principles.

The whole global warming discussion seems to have turned into an issue of poor pressure, on an almost elementary-school level. It's too far common for people who express any sign of doubt of anthropogenic climate change to be met with charges of being a conspiracy theorist, crazy, or being bought and paid for by the oil companies. When there should be debates, there is instead name-calling and blacklisting. In response to the saying that "the science is settled", I reply with all due respect, that the science is not yet settled. In fact, the more people just claim that it is, the more they do harm to their own cause by not actually convincing anyone of the science. The less people explain things, the more skeptical they become.

Aaron Berk is a computer engineering junior and Mustang Daily political columnist.

CBS ad policy discriminates once again

It looks like the advertising executives at CBS might have some homophobic issues. The company rejected two commercials featuring gay men for this year's Super Bowl and this isn't the first time.

In 2004 and 2005 Super Bowls, which depicted gay men for this year's Super Bowl, CBS broke their "long-standing" policy of accepting ads that touch on and/or take one side of a current controversial issue. The broadcast company policies that apply to this type of ad are not an outright ban, but require pre-approval from the corporation. That might leave a little wiggle room if there was consistency in applying the policy overall.

In 2009 and 2010 CBS rejected dating Web site mancrunch.com's commercial. The ad shows two men in football jerseys watching a game. The men's hand touch in a potato chip bowl and they start making out. CBS said there was a question of the company's credit; the dating site said Mancrunch won't alone in being denied one of the coveted time slots.

Godaddy.com's spot was rejected because there was a chance it might offend people. The ad shows a made-up football star in a pink outfit who works at a lingerie company when he retires. The domain host is known for its racy material, but this would appear to be one of its more tame commercials. Neither of the rejected ads advocate anything more than promoting their businesses through the most popular spots in television.

CBS broke their "long-standing" rule of banning advertising advocates when it aired the Tewob anti-abortion commercials Sunday. At the end of each of the 30-second ads, audience members are invited to visit Focus on the Family's Web site for more of the Tewob news.

Focus on the Family is known for its anti-abortion and anti-gay stance. In an interview with the Daily, a representative of the religious organization, Bob Tewob advises young women with unwanted pregnancies to not choose abortion. The organization offers counseling for same-sex attraction and calls it a "violation of God's intentional design for gender and sexuality."

The decision to air a commercial by a group so strongly opposed to choice and homosexuality, while denying commercials depicting gay men and inclusiveness, demonstrates CBS's bias.

The corporation said it approved the ad because of the economy and policy changes made to stay modern. If that's the case why turn away an additional $5 million in ad revenue?" Looking at their actions, it's easy to see something far deeper at work. If they were looking to keep people from being offended they did a poor job. CBS needs to review not only their policy, but the people who are applying it and the reasons behind it.

Rhabem Montgomery is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily reporter.
**Help Wanted**

Nanny/Tutor Needed
Need a Nanny Tutor Mon-Fri from 2-6:00 pm in Arroyo Grande home. Needs experience in childcare and be active, fun and creative. References needed. Call Ann 805-722-5674

Graphic Designer Needed
Photography capability a plus. Needed for new book project. call: 544-6007

**The Mustang Daily**

Looking for a Business Manager for 2010-2011 school years. Responsibilities include the co-ordination and management of National Advertising Agencies, maintaining newsletters, billing, newspaper filing and office organization. If interested, please email resume and cover letter to Advertising Coordinator, Stephanie Murawski at smurawski@calpoly.edu

**For Rent**

Studio in Los Osos. Cable & Utilities included (805)528-6199 Cathy Jensen

**For Rent**

Want to live Downtown? 1 bdrm in a 2 bdrm apartment is available this upcoming Spring Quarter.
Located on Santa Barbara St. near Gus's Deli and Bunch Park. Reasonable price and amenities included.
If interested, contact Ken at kamen77@gmail.com

Apartment For Rent: Awesome 1 Bedroom Unit Near Pismo Beach Area. Available Feb 1st. (805) 674-3164.

Large Studio For Rent Utilities DirecTV internet included. Walk to Cal Poly or downtown, $750 (619)

**Announcements**

If you are interested in law and want to help bring justice for the citizens of San Luis Obispo, come volunteer at Law Line SLO, A Pro Bono lawyer referral service. Through this program, money bears no price on justice for the people in need!!
Contact Ken Mangalradna @ lawlineso@gmail.com for info

**Laptop Repair**

www.laptoprepair.com

**Student Discount**

Fast Turnaround (805)-973-1066

2010 Al Landwehr Creative writing contest! cash prizes! For rules e-mail: byzantinumediatorsZO 10@ g mail.

**Roommate**

Male sophomore looking for roommate in downtown condo $600/Month Water & Trash Paid. Call: (650)399-6973

**For Rent**

Studio in Los Osos, Cable & Utilities included (805)528-6199 Cathy Jensen

**Help Wanted**

STAYING IN TOWN THIS SUMMER & LOOKING FOR A GREAT JOB ON CAMPUS?
Conference and Event Planning is hiring 10-20 staff for summer conference season. Paid training begins in May.
Seeking hardworking, responsible and positive individuals who enjoy working in a fast-paced team setting. Customer service and cashier experience preferred. Optional on campus summer housing at highly reduced rate. Flexible hours. FT/PT available. $8.00-$10.00/hr. Great internship opportunity.
Applications and job descriptions available in Blmg 170G (Cerrito Vista Apr. Admin. Blmg M: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm on Mon, on Tues, online! Completed Applications and resume due by 2/17/10.
Call (805) 756-7600 for detailed job description to be emailed to you.
Tim Walsh bolsters 2010 roster with new recruits

Brian De Los Santos  
Monday, February 8, 2010

A year after piecing together one of the most dominant seasons in program history, Cal Poly capped off its championship season with four new transfers to the fold in 2009. The Mustangs racked up four consecutive losses for the first time since the program's inception and held themselves together with their six consecutive winning season streak by finishing last in the Great West.

"It was a disappointment. I'm disappointed. I'm sure our players disappointed, I know the fans are disappointed," head coach Tim Walsh said at a press conference at the end of last season. "It wasn't exactly the way we scripted it. But the reality of the situation is that is where we are. We can bury our head in the sand and try to ignore it or we can go back and we can research it.

Last week, Walsh announced a recruitment class last week that will help the Mustangs avoid the past.

"We had a great class," Walsh said. "We were able to pinpoint the young people that three head coaches in a football program and then had the opportunity to go get them. With the addition of the young that we did sign, I think we will give us the opportunity to help us become who we want to become as a football program.

This year's class consists of 12 high school players, two community college transfers and one four year college transfer: two defensive linemen, two defensive backs, one wide receiver, three offensive linemen, two running backs and two linebackers.

Of the group, two recruits hail from the Central Coast.

Santa Maria native K.J. Cusack rushed for 1,845 yards with 22 touchdowns as a senior at St. Joseph High School in Santa Maria. He carried the ball 134 times and averaged close to 14 yards per rush, helping fuel the Knights to a 12-1 record. Cusack produced eight games of 100 yards or more rushing, including four games where he reached 200 yards.

"I don't know if we have a guy that is more talented than him," Walsh said. "With the ball in his hand he is just special.

Coach's highlight type resembles something that mirrors a Reggie Bush running style, but with cries question his size. He is listed at 5-foot-9, 165 pounds. To Walsh, that is no problem.

"We know he is not the biggest guy... but he has the instincts in running back that I think you cannot teach," Walsh said. "K.J. is an explosive guy with the football and he is probably more physical than anybody will allow you to believe."

Another recruit that leads to Cal Poly from local ground is Kevin Britt. Britt caught 53 passes for 893 yards and 11 touchdowns at Nipomo High School. While Britt was also playing football on both sides of the ball, Walsh has re­turned Britt to punt a defensive back.

"This man can run. He can flat run, can make plays and he made plays against some high-quality opp­onents," Walsh said.

Britt returned 19 solo tackles among his 71 total stops in his senior year. Fresno State and San Diego State were among several other Division I schools showing interest in Britt.

"We can't find good guys that 5-foot-11 or 6-foot if a foot can run like what he can run," Walsh said. "If I am not going to say that two years down the road the kid can be a wide receiver, but right now he is a corner. We are happy that we have some height at that position."

Last year, Cal Poly's recruiting corps got help from UCLA transfer Domini­nique Johnson. This year, another PBS transfer is heading to Cal Poly to wear green and gold — former West Virginia running back Mark Rodgers.

Rodgers will have two years of eligibility left with the Mustangs. Last year he backed up Noel Devine and mostly saw the field as a kick return specialist. His most extensive playing time as a Mountaineer came his senior year when he rushed 15 times for 80 yards against Marshall. In high school he rushed for 4,819 yards and 50 touchdowns in his last two seasons at Lebanon High School in Loma­lasada.

"He is a very exciting football player," Walsh said. "He is extremely strong and a very gifted young man that we think can be a difference­maker.

Other recruits include: defensive end Kyle Murphy; Cardinal Newman High School/Santa Rosa Junior College; linebacker A.J. Carvajal; Buchanan Ad­vanced High School/Fresno Community College; wide receiver Lance Car­tana; Grace M. Davis High School; offensive lineman Ianon Coleman; Mountain Catholic High School; running back Rene Davis; Mississippi Valley High School; offensive lineman Joshua Hill; Jus­tice High School; linebacker Brandon Bosil. The Mustangs capped off its season with a 31-17 win against the Indianapolis Colts Sunday. The Saints rallied back from a 10-0 deficit in the first quarter behind quarterback Drew Brees, who went 32 of 39 with 288 yards and two touch­downs. Peyton Manning finished the game at 31 of 45 with 333 yards and one touchdown. Manning, threatening to take the lead, threw a key 74-yard pick six to cornerback Tracy Porter in the fourth quarter.

Round-up  
continued from page 12  

connected on his second three of the game and a 26-25 lead.

But the Mustangs couldn't hold off Pacific as they regained the lead, 31-30, on a lay up by Neiya Williams with 1:45 left in the half. Pacific went into the break with a 37-32 lead.

The Tigers opened the second half with a lay up by Sam Willard. Cal Poly responded when Kyle Odister hit a three and a lay up at 8:00 in the half.

Pacific extended its lead to 53- 38, but the Mustangs responded when Odister hit a three in front of his own to make the score 53-41.

Drawing closer, the Mustangs got within 50 at 53-43 when Charles Anderson broke free for a lay up with 32 seconds left to put Cal Poly within five, but would not get any closer.

"I am not too discouraged from tonight. I am very encouraged,... (It was) a really good year and the year was close," Calleros said. "We are still very happy we are 5-5 in conference play; we are still tied for third with four other teams."

— Brian De Los Santos contrib­uted to this article

Saints win their first Super Bowl in franchise history

The Saints earned their first Lombardi Trophy in franchise history with a 31-17 win against the Indianapolis Colts Sunday. The Saints rallied back from a 10-0 deficit in the first quarter behind quarterback Drew Brees, who went 32 of 39 with 288 yards and two touch­downs. Peyton Manning finished the game at 31 of 45 with 333 yards and one touchdown. Manning, threatening to take the lead, threw a key 74-yard pick six to cornerback Tracy Porter in the fourth quarter.

SHARING IS CARING!

e-mail this story @ www.mustangdaily.net

(Hey, it'll give you something to talk to Mom about.)

Valentine Grams

In front of Dexter Lawn or Campus Mall from Feb. 1st-14th and 8-19th from 11-4pm. Check out our Facebook Page for Valentine's discounted Valentine Grams!
Cal Poly women's basketball rode record-setting shooting in its lopsided win against Pacific Saturday night.

If there were any questions of the Mustangs (15-7, 8-2 Big West) falling victim to a trap game against the Tigers, they silenced critics with a record-setting 99-66 victory against Pacific (3-18, 1-9).

The Mustangs tied the program record for most home victories in a season. Cal Poly also set a program record for three-point percentage and tied the NCAA record for consecutive three-pointers.

Head coach Faith Mimnaugh was pleased with the way her team performed as the team on top in the conference. The Mustangs took sole possession of the number one spot with a victory over the UC Davis Thursday night.

"We sure did play well this week. I think that we did play championship-level basketball," she said.

The shooting barrage was led by junior guard Rachel Clancy who went a perfect five for five from long range on her way to a team-high 23 points.

Johnston, Tratter opened the second half with nine points and a team-high six assists. Rachel Clancy led the Mustangs in scoring with 23 points.

Four of Clancy’s three pointers came in the first half as the Mustangs came out of the gates hot, including a perfect seven for seven from long range.

"Sometimes when I make a couple early (baskets) I get extra confidence," Clancy said. "So if I get off to a good start I kind of have more confidence to let it fly. And we were pushing so hard in transition that I felt wide open at times."

Though the Mustangs were up 31-14 at one point in the first half, Cal Poly went through a bit of a lull as Pacific closed the gap near the end of the half to keep things close. "Our mentality was definitely just keep attacking and don’t let up at all," junior forward Kristina Santiago said. "We kind of did at the end of the first half. We let up a little bit but we came back out in the second half re-energized and took it at them again."

Senior guard Ashlee Stewart (5) went 3-3 from beyond the three-point stripe against Pacific. She finished the game with nine points and a team-high six assists. Rachel Clancy led the Mustangs in scoring with 23 points.

Johnston, Tratter opened the second half with back-to-back rebounds and a bucket to spark an 11-2 run. Then with 15 minutes to go, Johnston almost nailed Pacific's coffin. She first broke the press and pulled up for three-pointer. On the next possession she took the outlet pass and went coast-to-coast for the lay-in. She then added another three and assisted on a three for Clancy to effectively end the game.

"We did a good job of bunkering down, I think in the second half regaining that lead. Everyone did a good job coming off the bench, all the starters too, so it was a really good team win," Clancy said.

The team turned from the hunter to the hunted after its victory against former leader of the conference UC Davis on Thursday night.

In a contest featuring the top-two teams in conference, the Mustangs ran away with a 69-48 win against the Aggies.

"We haven’t earned anything yet," Mimnaugh said at the end of the UC Davis game. "If we have a let-down I will be sorely disappointed."

Cal Poly's 66 percent from the floor and 82 percent from the free throw line were the best in school history.

"We definitely know we couldn’t take the teams lightly so we came out really hard, attacking and shot amazingly (well)," Santiago said.

Pacific was quick and aggressive on the defensive end; head coach Lynne Roberts had her team in a full court press for almost the entire game.

Helping out in the second half effort was senior forward Becky Tratter and junior guard Destay Johnston. Tratter opened the second half with back-to-back rebounds and a bucket to spark an 11-2 run. Then with 15 minutes to go, Johnston almost nailed Pacific’s coffin. She first broke the press and pulled up for three-pointer. On the next possession she took the outlet pass and went coast-to-coast for the lay-in. She then added another three and assisted on a three for Clancy to effectively end the game.

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