Residents march for health care reform

More than 200 people met at Mission Plaza Wednesday afternoon to demand health care and jobs reform. The protest was part of a nationwide demonstration held by Health Care for America Now and sponsored by People United for Healthcare and Jobs. Go to mustangdaily.net for the full story.

Business symposium set for tonight

Mikaela Akuna

The Central Coast Business Symposium will take place tonight at the Clark Center in Arroyo Grande. It will feature a variety of different speakers. After the success of last year's symposium, host Andre Morris and Butterly, a Central Coast law firm, decided to hold another.

The symposium is co-sponsored by Barnett Cox and Associates, Morn-farrans, Taylor Frigon Capital Management and Poor Richard's Press. It will begin with a discussion moderated by Jonathan York, Cal Poly head of the Orfalea College of Business. He came to Cal Poly last year and is the former C.E.O. of multiple organizations. York will be facilitating talks between Cal Poly alumni Ty Safreno, co-founder Trust Automation, Randy Flann, co-founder of IQMS, software developers and Steve Newell, co-owner of Windset Farms. He said he likes the variety of sources the round table is going to offer and wants to take a look at local success stories.

"We want to look at what it takes to grow a business in this area. What are the success factors?" York said. York also said that he is looking forward to listening to fellow symposium speaker Lloyd Greif.

Greif is the founder of Greif and Company, a venture capital firm from Southern California. He will give his insights on the obstacles and financing options that businesses will face. Greif will also touch on how small businesses can gain access to and secure capital money to help with start-up costs.

Mike Gibson, firm administrator at Andre, Morris and Butterly said he is excited for tonight's symposium line-up. The topics being discussed have different focuses than those of last year's symposium, held in honor of the firm's 60-year anniversary.

This year, the keynote speaker for the night is Stanford professor Walter "Woody" Powell. Powell is an education professor who also teaches courses in sociology, organizational behavior, management science and communication. Powell will lecture on why different industries thrive in locations where others do not.

He will also speak on what types of industries can thrive on the Central Coast and in conjunction with the university.

York said a lot of business could potentially do well in this area.

"I think small technological start-ups have a lot of potential here with the help of mentors and community (sponsorship) to help with a lot of start-up fees," he said.

He added that the panel is excited to hear what the audience has to say.

"That way, we can try and get a good understanding of where people think we're going," he said.

Along the estimated 300 attendees will be business sensor and Cal Poly Entrepreneurs Club member Jesse Becker.

"I am going to the symposium because it seems like it will be a great see Symposium, page 2

Budget protests scarce at Poly

Zach Lanza

Budget cuts, furloughs and fewer class sections have impacted the quality of education in the California State University (CSU) system.

Students and faculty have protested around the state at campuses such as Sacramento State, San Diego State and Cal State Northridge. But at Cal Poly, protests have been relatively scarce.

Other than a protest last October and a few teach-ins designed to educate students on budget cuts, the campus has not protested the budget cuts to higher education.

However, Cal Poly faculty and staff have recently sounded the call for action. The Cal Poly California Faculty Association (CFA) and CSU Employees Union (CSUEU) voted to actively support the March 4 National Day of Action to Defend Education. The CSUEU board of directors passed their resolution to show unanimous support.

Physics professor and local CFA president Rich Suenz is trying to coordinate demonstrations and contact the offices of state Senator Abi Maluondo, who has been renominated for lieutenant governor.

"The choice was an obvious one because if he does become lieutenant governor Maluondo will hold a seat on the CSU Board of Trustees.

"Since we have a local leader of the state, we want to rally at his office to show our support see Protests, page 2
I think that the students and the faculty both feel sort of powerless in the face of all of it.

—Rachel Fernthorpe
Academic Senate Chair

Protests
continued from page 1
and hopefully have his support for increased funding of education," he said.

Though the faculty and staff are getting up to take action, student involvement is uncertain. Senate Academic Chair Rachel Fernthorpe said any action taken should come from a united effort.

"I think it would be ideal, on March 4, then it should involve everyone. It should involve staff, faculty and students," she said.

Social sciences sophomore Jose Montenegro, creator of the Facebook group "Cal Poly, Battle the Budget Cut," is trying to organize a student demonstration.

"We would like to have an event of some kind at Cal Poly... either some sort of rally, a protest, or a student demonstration. The goal is to get as many Cal Poly students (as possible)."

Symposium
continued from page 1
opportunity to hear business people speak specifically about business here on the Central Coast," Becker said. "I am also excited to be able to see Dr. Work as the moderator. It will be interesting to see him interact with fellow business people and entrepreneurs in the real world as opposed to facilitating discussion in class among Cal Poly students."

Gibson said he thinks this symposium will be helpful to the community and will shed light on major issues that business people, both current and future, can learn from.

"We believe we need to do as much as we can to make the economy here as robust as possible," Becker said. "That is what this symposium will be about."

Not Your Grandma’s Coupon Page
Come relax and let us pamper you at Nail Town

News editor: Kate McIntyre
mustangdailynews@gmail.com

Thursday, February 18, 2010

Vonn wins gold
skiing downhill

Chris Dufresne
Los Angeles Times

WHISTLER, British Columbia — It looked a ski race but unfoldede almost like literature, with a gloveless beginning, a ditch to the page-turner end. There were as many twists as the "Franz's Run" course had turns. It would be hard to imagine anything better than what actually happened Wednesday at the Olympics in Whistler.

 Lindsey Vonn didn't just become the first American woman to win the Olympic downhill, with a time of 1 minute, 44.99 seconds. She did it with a swaying slalom under backbreaking pressure, which is why, when she won, she cried non-stop for almost five minutes.

 "Overwhelming," Vonn said. "This is the best day of my life by far."

Vonn won gold by having to answer the tearing run put down by teammates and rival Julia Mancuso. The two had been fighting it out on ski dope since they were 16, and here they were battling it out with the biggest gates at stake.

Mancuso, and a lot of others, thought she had swiped the gold out of the No. 10 start spot with her blistering run of 1:44.75. After Mancuso finished, Chemmy Alcott of Great Britain walked through the media area and basically said game over. Thomas Vonn, Lindsey's husband, told his wife that Mancuso had really nailed it with her run. Last year, before the world championship downhill in France, Lindsey told Thomas that Mancuso had been called to the start gate to calm her down. He died, and she won.

This time, though, Lindsey told Thomas she didn't need him to hold her hand.

For almost two minutes, she couldn't think. Everyone predicted and expected, everyone predicted and expected, her down. He did, and she won.

"I wanted it," Vonn said of Golden, gold. "I wanted it more than anything else."

Wednesday, she got it — just as everyone predicted and expected, sort of.

"I feel like the weight has been lifted off my shoulders," Vonn said. For almost two minutes, she even forgot about her shin.
Plane crashes in neighborhood

State

LOS ANGELES (MCT) — Less than a month after Dr. Andrew Rutland was barred from performing surgeries after an abortion patient’s death, state medical authorities say they caught him in an undercover sting apparently violating the court order. For the second time in as many months, state officials are seeking the immediate suspension of the Chula Vista physician’s license.

For the second time in as many months, state officials are seeking the immediate suspension of the Chula Vista physician’s license. A hearing is set for Thursday in San Diego. Rutland could not be reached for comment.

His lawyer, Paul M. Hetelman, said Rutland did nothing to violate the court’s order.

LOS ANGELES (MCT) — The number of mortgages with permanently lowered monthly payments under the Obama administration’s foreclosure prevention program increased dramatically in January.

In all, the number went up to 116,297, with an additional 76,482 modifications approved and awaiting acceptance by the borrower, the Treasury Department reported Wednesday.

BRIEFS

National

ORLANDO, Fla. (MCT) — Tiger Woods is set to make his first public appearance since his extramarital escapades became worldwide news, with the announcement of a Friday briefing at PGA Tour headquarters to apologize for his infidelity.

Golf’s No. 1 attraction will take the podium at 11 a.m. EST on Friday at the TPC Sawgrass clubhouse in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla., though his appearance could be very short. Reports say Woods will make a statement and will not take questions.

Attendance also will be limited to “a small group of friends, colleagues and close associates,” according to a two-paragraph statement sent via e-mail.

WASHINGTON (MCT) — Since Sept. 11, 2001, state and local governments have received some $30 billion in grants from the federal government to improve their homeland security capabilities. But that money hasn’t necessarily bought security, according to a new report from the Center for Public Integrity and the Center for Investigative Reporting.

The report examines a range of questions surrounding the nation’s homeland security infrastructure.

International

AFGHANISTAN (MCT) — Western military officials announced Wednesday they had resumed use of a weapon system employed in a strike that killed 12 people inside an Afghan family home, most of them women and children.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization said an investigation found that the weapon had not malfunctioned in Sunday’s strike, but that it was still not known why the house was targeted.

The deaths marked the first major civilian casualties in a massive military offensive, spearheaded by U.S. Marines.

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (MCT) — French President Nicolas Sarkozy announced in a landmark visit Wednesday that his country would cancel Haiti’s $56 million in debt as it pledged hundreds of millions in aid to help in former colony recover from a crippling quake that claimed more than 200,000 lives.

Signaling a fresh chapter in diplomacy between Haiti and France, Sarkozy’s four-hour trip marks the first time a French leader has set foot in Haiti since the Caribbean nation expelled the French in a slave revolt and secured its independence more than 200 years ago.

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Five U.S. troops were killed as insurgents fired mortars, rocket-propelled grenades and machine guns from the surrounding mountainside. Eight Afghan troops and an Afghan translator were also killed.

Jonathan S. Landay

WASHINGTON — The absence of experienced senior leaders and inadequate action by officers in a tactical operations center, including a failure to provide effective artillery and air support, contributed to the deaths of five U.S. troops and nine Afghans in a Sept. 8 battle, an official investigation has found.

Three unidentified officers from the 10th Mountain Division from Fort Drum, N.Y., received official reprimands following the inquiry into the clash, which erupted after Afghan security forces and U.S. troops in contact ... and their consequent lack of situational awareness and decisive action was a key failure," it said.

Another major factor, it said, was the operations center officers' failure to provide "effective" artillery fire on the insurgents, despite repeated requests from the battlefront.

The acting commander and "all commissioned staff officers" failed to "monitor a rapidly degenerating tactical situation," the report said. That mistake "prevented timely supporting fires in the critical early phases of the operation and ensured that higher headquarters did not grasp the tactical situation." Only four artillery salvos were fired in the first hour of the operation; three were ineffective and no more salvos were authorized from 6:39 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., the report said.

One of the majors told the investigators that he denied further requests for fire support "for various reasons including lack of situational awareness of locations of friendly elements proximate to the village, garbled communications or inaccurate or incomplete calls for fire." The inquiry, however, found that too many calls over a radio network "may account for some confusion in the conduct of fires, but in our judgment is not an adequate explanation for the complete lack of fires from 0639 until 1615." The report found that the failure to provide adequate artillery support wasn't due to a tactical directive issued by Army Gen. Stanley McChrystal that was designed to avert civilian casualties, as officers involved in the battle had believed.

"A second key failure was the lack of timely air support," the report said. An unidentified officer denied requests from the battlefield to send a helicopter gunship that was minutes away because the requests weren't sent through his brigade headquarters and the aircraft was assigned to another operation, the report said.

The "probability is high" that Marine 1st Lt. Michael E. Johnston of Virginia Beach, Va., Marine Gunnery Sgt. Edwin W. Johnson of Colombus, Ga.; Marine Staff Sgt. Aaron M. Kependick of Roswell, Ga., and Navy Petty Officer James R. Layton of Riverside, Calif., were killed during the more than an hour that it took for air support to be properly authorized and arrive on the scene, the report said.

Army Sgt. Kenneth W. Westbrook of Colorado Springs, Colo., was wounded at the same time and died in October at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington.

"This decision, while technical­ly correct on procedural grounds, was devastating in its consequence," the report said. "The correct tactical decision was clearly to desert (the helicopter). It was at this point in the fight that experience­d, decisive senior leadership was more lacking."

A "third key failure" was a decision by the two majors not to send a relief force into the valley, said the report.

Jonathan S. Landay

Fired mortars, rocket-propelled grenades and machine guns from the surrounding mountainside. Eight Afghan troops and an Afghan translator were also killed.

REPORT FAULTS OFFICER IN DEADLY AFGHAN AMBUSH

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Teacher Feature

What did you do before you became an instructor at Cal Poly? I'm the queen of the A.D.D. jobs, but all of them were in this industry. The big one was with Time magazine. That one was in New York. I was the print and distribution assistant operations manager, and when we moved back to Los Angeles, I worked for Warner Bros. in Burbank. So I always worked in graphic communication in some capacity, just a lot of different jobs.

What is your favorite book? I seriously must read about 16 novels a week, so finding a favorite is going to be a tough one. There was this book that came out that was called, "The Art of Racing in the Rain." It was a book about relationships, from the dog's perspective with his master.

What do you do with your spare time? I read, and I grade a lot of papers. I should say that I'm working on my thesis, but I'm not really. I like to ski, and I like to rollerblade. Pretty much any activity where you can go fast and not put a lot of effort into it.

If you could meet anyone, alive, dead or fictional, who would you like to meet? That's a tough one. There was this book that came out that was activity where you can go fist and not put a lot of effort into it, and when we moved back to Los Angeles, I worked for Warner Bros. in Burbank. So I always worked in graphic communication in some capacity, just a lot of different jobs.

Where have you been? That's a really, really long list. I've been as far north as Alaska, as far south as Australia. My favorite place was Fiji so far. I've never been to Asia, Africa or South America, but I've pretty much covered the rest. And well, not America either, I guess, if we're covering continents. My parents wanted me to see more of the world than they had. It's so good to travel when you're young before you join the workforce, because it changes your perspective so much. It teaches you diversity internally as well as externally.

What language do you speak besides English? Swiss German for sure. I took Spanish in high school. I'm first generation Swiss. That's why I went there for a year to get to know the family, and work of course. I worked in a grocery store.

Do you have a funny, inspiring, crazy or interesting teacher you want to know more about? Send teacher suggestions to: mustangdailywire@gmail.com
Byzantium” fundraiser to feature love poetry

Kelly Cooper
MUSTANG DAILY

Cal Poly’s literary journal, Byzantium, will be hosting the annual LoverSpeak poetry reading tonight. The event will feature original love-themed poetry written and read by Cal Poly English professors and lecturers.

Organized by this year’s Byzantium co-editors, Beth Shirley and Marja Lane, LoverSpeak serves as a fundraiser for the journal, which features short stories and poems by Cal Poly students.

The journal has been passed down through the English department as a senior project, normally headed by two selected English majors and one art director. This gives the English seniors a more hands-on route for their otherwise intangible project.

“I hope that the readers get to function for the people in the audience in the way that a hand dropping a pebble into a pool would function — to create some ripples that affect life on the shores.”

Byzantium co-editor and Mustang Daily copy editor Beth Shirley is also excited for the reading and said she hopes to get students to come out and support their professors.

“When I go to poetry readings, I find myself very inspired to write my own poetry,” she said. “It’s such a great expression of emotion and feeling, and it’s cool to see that from faculty.”

In addition to reading their original poems, various faculty will also have their books of poetry on sale at the event.

“It’s a fun thing to do. It doesn’t have to be your stereotypical romantic date,” Lane said. “The poems are about love, but neither for nor against. I know some of them are going to be really funny. It’s going to be a truthful night about love.”

Six faculty members will be reading, as well as two winners from last year’s contest. The reading is tonight at 6:30 p.m. in the Science North Building in room 215. The reading is free, although donations are accepted. All donations go to production costs for Byzantium, which will be available in late spring.
Al Jazeera documentary draws crowd of more than 100 viewers

Aimee Vasquez

Cal Poly students filled 102 seats, lined the classroom walkway, and stood in the doorway for the Al Jazeera documentary, "The Promised Land?" presented by Students for Justice and Peace in the Middle East (SJPME) Wednesday, Feb. 10 at 7 p.m.

"To put that into context," Kory said, "The clips that were shown were from the holiday of Purim." Purim is an ancient Jewish religious festival that celebrates the Jewish peoples' deliverance from a Persian plot for their annihilation.

"If you want a starting point, if you're coming from absolutely nothing, this is a good documentary to watch," Peha said. "It really kind of highlighted every important era."

The first episode discussed the ancient Jewish state of Israel, narrated in Oxford accents over crackly footage and translated over the English subtitles over the sound. The scene was used to highlight the fact that modern Israel might face future issues due to its diversity.

"It was really well-made, but a bit biased," said Malha Zulfacar, Social sciences professor.

We do live in a global world in which the speed of communication and transportation have made us interconnected and interdependent. We no longer live in a bubble.

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Northern California brewery stresses balance

Well, well, well. Here we are again. Face to face. Just you and me. And that creepy person who somehow always ends up sitting next to you — even when you're just minding your own business on Dexter Lawn. So in a way, they always show up. Yep, just the three of us.

Our local brewery stresses balance of course. That's just the way it is. But let's be honest, it's not always easy. Sometimes, we all need a little help.

"In terms of the actual movie that was shown, I thought it was good," said Kory. "But it was definitely one-sided."

For example, the contrast between the religious orthodox and modern, secular Israel was portrayed through a disco scene of masked party-goers. The scene was used to highlight the fact that modern Israel might face future issues due to its diversity.

"It was used to highlight the fact that modern Israel might face future issues due to its diversity." Peha said. "If you want a starting point, if you're coming from absolutely nothing, this is a good documentary to watch."

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We do live in a global world in which the speed of communication and transportation have made us interconnected and interdependent. We no longer live in a bubble.
Blue Frog

continued from page 7

and smooth beers that are slightly unique twists on the classic styles.

The first Blue Frog brew that I sampled was the Blonde Frog Ale Light-feeling pale ale it may be, but it still packs a bit o' punch sampled was the Blonde Frog Ale.

styles.

and smooth beers that are slight­

able, especially for those of you

who are fans of the lighter beers.

Also, much like the beers to
follow, this one is none

bit of spice to it.

Cal Poly club orders!!!

The first Okie Frog brew that I

I'm definitely high in yeast, it manages
to still have a mild, balanced fla-

and drive, or the trying.

So go out there and set
the whole die trying part. And

dertainly appreciate the goal of

The next beer up is the Blue

Frog Hefe Weizen, a German-

style wheat beer. While this beer is
certainly high in yeast, it manages
to still have a mild, balanced fla-

As with the blonde and most
hefe weizens, this beer also uses hops that produce a more floral flavor and aroma, though this one has a bit of space to it.

Of course, the flavor of the beer is dependent on the beer itself. The bottle's label is printed upside down with an arrow containing the words "this end up" pointing to the bottom. As you flip the bottle to read the description, it is revealed to you that all this was done to ensure that you release the yeast back into the beer before pouring.

This is because in unfiltered hefe weizens, the yeast will settle to the bottom of the bottle while in storage. Releasing the yeast back into the beer is an impor-

tant process for the consumer to enjoy the full flavor of the hefe weizen as intended. Of course, the beverage will still be drink-
able if this step is skipped, but the flavor is enhanced when the yeast is reintroduced into the beer.

And finally, we come to Blue

Frog's India Pale Ale. Now I know you're thinking, "Another IPA, Adam? Really?" but I do love them, and every ale is different. For example, this IPA prides itself on being a more balanced brew. With less happiness and more malt, it is (surprise!) a more mild beer. It has a rating of 60 inter-
national bitterness units (IBUs), which is somewhat low for a typical IPA (Firestone's Union Jack IPA is over 70 IBUs, as are Stone Brewing's (IPA). But don't let this milder version of an IPA trick you into thinking you're not getting as much alcohol. The still substantial Alcohol By Volume of 7 percent is masked by the lack of bitterness and the extra amount of pale malt.

When first drinking this beer, one is again greeted by floral notes that are common in IPA, as well as the extra maltiness. It isn't until the aftertaste that one rea-

tually gets the feel and flavor that is traditionally associated with IPAs, though that bitterness does make a welcome appearance.

The word of the day for these be-

ers is "balance." Blue Frog

seems to focus on smooth, mild beers that have a satisfying bal-

ance of ingredients. While I my-
self prefer hopper beers, I can certainly appreciate the goal of this brewer.

Speaking of goals, one cannot
expect to get through life with-
out setting any goals. And we're not just talking big goals, like 50
Con's "Get Rich or Die Tryin'." We're talking about the smaller goals of how to get rich, or bet-

ter yet, how to avoid death while trying. Probably the easiest way to avoid death would be to se-

chise oneself in a padded room in an insane asylum.

A close second would be using
good judgment while consuming alcohol. So go out there and set

those goals. Get rich and skip

the whole die trying part. And when you do get rich, don't cut

the enjoyment short. Continue to drink responsibly. Don't drink and drive, or die trying.

Adam Plachta is a business ad-

management major and Mustang Daily beer columnist.

www.tshirtguy.net

Documentary

continued from page 7

Zulfacar teaches a class on ethnic conflict on a global scale, and intends to show her own documentary, "Ka-

bel Transit," on March 2. She said that when watching a documentary, it is important to take note of who the director is and where he or she is coming from.

In this case, the movie was made by Al Jazeera, a state-sponsored, Middle Eastern broadcasting station with an international news focus. Political science freshman Danny

Outlaw said he thinks it is good to learn all sides of the issue.

"I don't think there's such a thing as an unbiased documentary," he said. "But as far as something made by Al Jazeera, it could've been a lot worse."

Business senior Ian Drogin said he attended the event because he

was interested to learn more about the Middle East "and to get a better understanding of the messages being conveyed to Cal Poly students."

It's important for Cal Poly stu-
dents to become increasingly aware about world events, Zulfacar said.

"The physical distance should not keep us isolated and unaware about the global issues," she said. "We do live in a global world in which the speed of communication and trans-

portation have made us interconnected and interdependent. We no longer live in a bubble."

The documentary is part of a series the club is doing on Middle Eastern conflicts from a variety of perspectives. SJFME secretary Hatoum Idni, an electrical engineer-

ing graduate student, said this is the first event of the quarter for students interested in the Middle East, and that they will hold more events that focus on the Israel-Palestine con-

flict.
The process of ending government partisanship begins with citizens

Partisanship pervades California politics. The state got a dose of the disease when the state Senator rejected Arnold Schwarzenegger's appointment for lieutenant governor, Abel Maldonado. He is a Republican appointment, which is natural since the governor is Republican. But that's no excuse for Democrats to reject his appointment for no reason other than his political affiliation.

And the Senate Democrats got so many things wrong in their arguments on the floor. Senator Gil Cedillo (D-Los Angeles) told his fellow senators, "There is a time for us to be partisan. That is during an election."

On the contrary, partisanship does not belong in politics at all — not in confirming political appointees, not in passing bills or budgets, and especially not in elections. That's what's wrong with the system. Politicians and many voters are too concerned about electing the person to best benefit their party, or passing the budget that reflects their party's ideology, not what is best for the country.

A prime example of this is CEOth's chastisement of his fellow Democrats in an LA Times reporter: "A lot of Latino Democrats don't want a Republican Latino, in a high-profile office. And a lot of non-Latino Democrats don't want that either. It potentially could make Republicans more acceptable to Latino voters."

His own words condemn him. And Maldonado is not a partisan ideologue. Even as a Republican senator, he voted with Democrats last election season to get the budget passed.

Maldonado's response to the situation was, "Partisan, partisan, partisan — bickering, bickering. It's a broken system." His right is a broken, partisan system. But the problem is not limited to California. National politics is also riddled with partisanship.

Senator Evan Bayh (D-IN) sent the Democrats into a whirlwind of uncertainty when he announced that he would not seek re-election in the next season, because he saw politics in America as "dysfunctional" because of partisanship. Asked on Morning Joe Wednesday whether he thought the political system was dysfunctional, Sen. Chris Dodd (D-CT) said, "There's nothing wrong with partisanship. We've got to get over this notion that there's something inherently evil about partisanship." He went on to identify the real problem as a "lack of civility." He continued, "It's the lack of ability to compromise." Dodd's argument is just as broken as the political system itself. Politicians can't compromise and are not civil because they're too partisan. They're looking out for their own interests, not the interests of Americans. That causes them to refuse to cross party lines and to generate their backstabbing, slash and burn tactics during election seasons.

And I don't blame Evan Bayh for wanting to leave politics to do good on a smaller scale. Congress is not functioning anymore. It's ugly and, more importantly, it's counterproductive. I don't know how this problem of partisanship can be fixed. It is such a nationwide problem, and it's now so indistinguishable from the practices of our politicians that we would have to remove the majority of the senators and representatives out of office and elect new representatives to even begin to see reform.

What I do know is that our generation is generally opposed to partisanship, and the fact that it exists will either create apathy or a zeal to change the system. But it begins with each of us. It's important that people who vote think about the character of our representatives, and that we consider the other side's point of view. I write my columns every week, and I read the comments that are posted, too. And while there are certainly exceptions, what I see in those comments is partisanship and meanness — the very thing we all seem to hate. I just encourage everyone to come up with reasons for their beliefs, which don't include a basic ideological hatred or fear of the other point of view. Otherwise, politics in America will never change.

Stephanie England is an English senior and a Mustang Daily columnist.
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10 The Quark
15 bracelet
16 like a poison
18 The Office
19 Prefix with rest.
20 End of a name?
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26 Abbr. on every original Beatles song
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67 Time on the
70 "Hope..." long-running ABC soap
72 Black gold

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66 Garden
67 Time on the
70 "Hope..." long-running ABC soap
72 Black gold
Swimming

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them are ranked in the top 15 of the country,” Milich said. “We’re pretty solid right now where we are, we haven’t really rested for our meets so now we’re at the time of the year where we get to rest … We’re moving in the right direction (and) the program is moving in the right direction.”

Sophomore Lacey Buck won both the 1,000 and 1,650 freestyle at conference championships. This year she owns the conference best times in the 500 freestyle, 1000 freestyle and 1650 freestyle.

Coach Milich feels that his swimmers have come together as a group, and that has led to a different type of team.

“That’s the thing that has changed most dramatically with this group is that they are a team, everything they do is as a team. When I first got here, we didn’t have team sweats, we didn’t have team caps, we didn’t have a lot of stuff. Now they’re always as a team,” Coach Milich said.

Kyle France broke the school record in the 400 IM, and Katrina Anderson owns the conference best time in the 200 backstroke.

In the women’s 800 freestyle relay, the group of Anderson, Katrina Schleicher, Chrissy Thomas and Camille Buckett nabbed the best time in the conference.

Last year, Cal Poly produced three Big West champions. Lacey Buck won both the 1,000 and 1,650 freestyle on her way to Big West female freshman of the year honors while Gloria Benefield, who is currently redshirting this season, won the 200 freestyle.

Despite breaking 19 school records during the Big West meet in 2009, Cal Poly placed fourth on the women’s side while the men’s team finished fifth.

Cal Poly has not had a swimmer qualify for nationals since elevating the program to Division 1 in 1994.

—Zach Lantz contributed to this report.

Northridge

continued from page 13

from becoming the 14th player in program history to score 800 points during a career. Stewart leads the Big West with 351 career assists, and Lange has averaged a career-best 7.9 points per game this season.

“We want to have a good game for our seniors,” Bleecker said. “We all love our seniors, so it will be sad to see them go.”

Their last conference home game against Northridge will be this Saturday Feb. 20 at 4 pm in Mott Gym.

After Northridge, Cal Poly travels to UC Santa Barbara and then UC Irvine to finish off the season. Santiago says the team has continually struggled playing at Cal State Fullerton, even in previous years.

“We played horrible there,” she said. “My concern is changing that around this time. UC Santa Barbara has a lot of crazy fans too, which is a downside.”

With a 19.3 points-per-game scoring average, Santiago is also the 10th Mustang to record 200 plus rebounds during one year. Santiago needs a mere 36 points in the next four games to become the first player in program history to score 500 points and grab 200 rebounds in the same season.
SPORTS

MUSTANG DAILY

Mustangs to host Northridge in final home game

Katherine Grady
MUSTANG DAILY

In their last home game, the Cal Poly women’s basketball team tips off against Cal State Northridge this weekend in an attempt to stay atop the Big West.

The Mustangs (16-8, 9-3 Big West) have only two games left before conference ends and tournament play begins, putting them one step closer to a Big West Championship. Cal State Northridge (4-18, 2-9) is tied for last place in the league, meaning a win against Cal Poly this weekend would be their last chance to make it into the championship tournament.

“We expect them to come out aggressive to try and assure that spot,” assistant coach Kerri Nakamoto said.

Batting the flu for the second week in a row, Big West scoring leader Kristina Santiago says overlooking Northridge based on the standings would be a bad idea.

“They have beaten some good teams,” she said. “They are scrappy and hustle a lot. It would be a huge loss if we overlook them.”

Victorious in eight straight home games, the Mustangs attempt to secure their first undefeated home game season against Big West opposition in program history. The team’s current season winning percentage is also a single-season program record. The Mustangs have outscored opponents by 10.1 points per game in Mott Gym this year and held teams to a 38.1 percent field goal figure. They established a new single-season program time spent in the gym.

“We want to lead on the day, off I saw some of them in the gym shoot- ing around or running,” Nakamoto said. “That was nice to see.”

First place is getting harder to hold on to as the competition catches up to the Mustangs. Cal Poly leads UC Davis (16-8, 8-3) by only a half-game in the Big West Standings. The Mustangs (11-14-8-4) by a full game.

“Davis is right behind us,” sophomore guard Ashlee Burns said. “We didn’t play to our potential... That loss made it that more difficult because we have to win from here out to hold on to that spot.”

The team came back for a 58-51 home victory against UC Riverside on Saturday, Feb. 13.

“Against Davis and Pacific, we shot the ball out of this world,” Nakamoto said. “Against Riverside, we only shot 32 percent from the field. We still managed to win, which shows the value of rebounding and tough defense. It showed the girls, even when shots aren’t falling, we can still grind out a game win.”

UC Riverside’s score of 51 points was the second-lowest total by a Mustang opponent this season.

“It’s all about the little things that people do on our team,” Santiago said. “It’s not just me scoring 25 points or someone else getting 10 assists; lots of players have stepped up.”

Saturday is also senior night, when the program will honor its three departing seniors: Becky Tratter, Ashlee Stewart and Brittany Lange. Tratter is 95 points away from setting this season in the 100 breaststroke and 200 IM. She is also responsible for the conference best times in the 100 breaststroke, 200 breaststroke and 200 IM. She is also owner of the conference record for 100 meter and 200 meter breaststroke.

Haven has broken four school records this season in the 100 butterfly, 100 breaststroke, 200 breaststroke and 200 IM. She also owns the conference record for the 100 breaststroke, 200 breaststroke and 200 IM. She is responsible for the conference best times in the 100 breaststroke, 200 breaststroke and 200 IM.

Coach Milich is happy with the progress that his team has made this season and said his swimmers will be ready to give it their all this week.

“It’s been a great year for us... We’ve already had three kids make NCAA B standards; two of

With the women’s team finishing fourth and the men’s team finishing fifth last year, the Mustangs are looking to improve their standing this season. Head coach Tom Milich said his team is peak- ing right in time for the conference championship.

“We’ve done a very good job of getting up and racing. We’re young, we’re inexperienced, but we’re racing faster than we’ve ever swum before,” he said.

The Mustangs had three swimmers up for the B qualifying standard for the NCAA Division I National Championships this year. Junior Matt Waggoner qualified provisionally in the 1650 freestyle, an event in which he won the Big West title for in 2008, with a time of 15:31.52. He is also responsible for three best conference times this season in 500 freestyle, 1,000 freestyle and 1,650 freestyle.

Joining Waggoner is junior Peter Kline who has also met the provisional qualifying standard in the 200 backstroke, 200 individual medley and 400 individual medley.

Kline broke school records and holds best conference times, in both the 200 backstroke and 400 individual medley (IM).

On the women’s side, freshman Angie Haven has provisionally qualified in the 100 meter and 200 meter breaststroke.

Haven has broken four school records this season in the 100 butterfly, 100 breaststroke, 200 breaststroke and 200 IM. She also owns the conference record for the 100 breaststroke, 200 breaststroke and 200 IM. She is responsible for the conference best times in the 100 breaststroke, 200 breaststroke and 200 IM.

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“It’s been a great year for us... We’ve already had three kids make NCAA B standards; two

Men’s basketball
loses 75-68

Senior guard Lorenza Keeler (12) committed an intentional foul to seal Cal Poly’s defeat to CSU Northridge with about 40 seconds left. At halftime Cal Poly trailed, 29-35; that deficit increased to at least 14 points. The Mustangs held a brief lead late in the game until Keeler’s foul. Northridge dominated the boards with a 22-11 advantage in the first half. Cal Poly put up 26 more shots than Northridge but only converted 35 percent of them. Northridge shot 45 percent from the floor.