Cabo San Luis destroyed in fire, Kona's Deli damaged

A structure fire broke out early Wednesday morning at Cabo San Luis restaurant on Foothill Boulevard, burning a significant portion of the building and setting fire to Kona's Deli.

Golden Gate Bridge jumper speaks at local mental health event

Megan Hassler

He walked, tears streaming. For 40 minutes John Kevin Hines paced the Golden Gate Bridge crying, hoping that someone would notice that someone would care enough to stop him and talk. Someone did. A woman asked him to take her picture. He took her picture, handed her the camera and left over the rail. But the second his hand left the rail he changed his mind. "I don't want to die, God, please save me," Hines thought to himself.

John Kevin Hines told his story to an audience Friday in San Luis Obispo to show people can outline mental illness. "My message is one of hope and future while living with a mental illness," Hines said. "It is one of empathy for those who have lost loved ones to suicide and equal empathy for those who have thoughts of suicide or attempt themselves."

Hines was diagnosed with bi-polar disorder when he was 17 years old. His biological parents were mentally ill and both had substance abuse problems. After Hines was left unattended as an infant, he was taken into protective custody and placed with his aunt.

A woman named Deborah Hines came to the home John was staying in and said that was "the moment I fell in love." He was officially adopted by Patrick and Deborah Hines when he was about 4 years old.

As a teenager he heard voices in his head and went to a psychiatrist where he was diagnosed with bi-polar disorder. He was given medication and a routine wake up, eat, take his medicine, exercise and go to sleep around the same time everyday. But Hines was a rebellious teenager. He binge drank on the weekends instead.

Those actions had an effect on Hines' mental illness.

When he was 19 he became depressed and in Sept. 2000 he tried to think of suicide. He had been looking on the Internet and found a Web site about suicide and it said the best place in San Francisco was the Golden Gate Bridge.

In the two weeks leading up to his jump, Hines fluctuated between a manic high and a depressed low. His dad had noticed that his son's episode was different this time. He called his psychiatrist and asked him to come see Hines. The night before Hines took the bus to the Golden Gate Bridge his psychiatrist assured his father he would come out of it in a few days.

"He was nearly dead wrong," Hines said.

His father asked him to come with him to work that day because he was worried about him. Hines declined and said he had a math test he needed to take.

After being dropped off at school, just like any other day, he attended his English class, dropped his other classes, got Starbucks and Skittles at Walgreens and prepared himself to take his last bus to the bridge.

After Hines had jumped over the railing, he tried to straighten his body so he hit the water feet first. He sprained his ankle and broke two bones in his lower back on impact. He sank between 40 to 50 feet and had to swim to the surface with only his arms due to the injuries. After he reached the surface he felt something brush his leg. He had just survived a jump from the Golden Gate Bridge. Hines is still alive.

He was ill and had to keep him in the hospital for about a week and a half.

Hines spoke to a man in his 80s about the bridge. "That was something keeping me atsf. You cannot tell me that wasn't God, because that is what I believe. And that is what I will believe until the day I die."

Since Hines survived his jump from the bridge in 2000, he has become a public speaker, a mental health advocate and a writer. He is currently working on a few books including an autobiography and a handbook on living mentally well. He speaks on various topics including mental health and diversity in America.

As one of 29 people who have survived jumping from the Golden Gate Bridge, Hines has told his story to more than a quarter of a million people. Less than two percent of the survivors have gained full mobility. Hines is part of this two percent. He now works to spread the message of healthy living and suicide prevention.

Hines told a story of a recent presentation he gave at a church. After Hines spoke a man in his 60s approached him and said, "Today I was going to kill myself. I saw the flyer, I came here and I am never going to kill myself.""This is one of the many people who have not taken their lives because Kevin lived to tell the story of his life," Hines said.

"No one has to die by suicide, no where, no how!"
Fire

continued from page 1

didn’t spread to other buildings, Cal-
ihan said.

Fire authorities escorted adjacent build-
ing owners in and out of their
businesses in order to secure valuables,
he added. Fire Marshal Rodger Mag-
gro estimated more than one million

dollars in damages.

Property manager Dan Rutledge,
of Rutledge Company, said that Cabo
Nai Eiris is gone and Kono’s Deli is
“severely impacted.”

I got a phone call about 6 this morn-
ing telling me not to bother coming
to work because

the whole left side of the
building was on fire.

—Blake Strait
Rock & Roll Hair salon

“The other two aren’t damaged,”
he said, referring to SLO Bookstore
and the Rock & Roll Hair Salon,
“but we can’t open them until we
find out what caused the fire.”

Calihan described the restaurant
as a “local loss,” but the owner, Dan
Harper, would have the final call.

Ty Vinke, manager of Cabo San
Loo, which has been open for about
10 years, said at first he didn’t believe
it.

“I don’t know anything yet,” Vinke said as he
stood across the street drinking out of a cream-
colored, green-stained mug, as he
watched the fire crews work in
the light drizzle around 9 a.m. “It
was a really gnarly fire. I just saw
the devastation. The building was
uninhabitable for the most part. So it
was pretty much a shock for me.”

Terry Sahin, who works at Ra-
bolinks down the street, said the
building looked like it exploded.

“It’s so sad,” she said. “I’ve eaten
here a lot. I have a customer who
came here every day. The food was
delicious.”

Rock & Roll Hair salon Blake
Strat said he thought the fire got
all the way to the front side of

Kono’s Deli.

“I got a phone call about 6 this morn-
ing telling me not to bother coming
to work because

the whole left side of the
building was on fire.

—Blake Strait
Rock & Roll Hair salon

Long after Wall Street’s crisis,
Congress still arguing over fix

Kevin G. Hall and
David Lightman

WASHINGTON — Eighteen
months after the near-collapse of
the U.S. financial system, bankmak-
ers in the nation’s capital still can’t
come agree on how to fix what went
wrong, despite the abundant evi-
dence of the economic devastation
the crisis has caused.

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WASHINGTOQ — Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Wimmer charmed potential Army recruits with a smile, but when he closed his eyes he dreamed of his own dead body swinging from a rope, his feet dangling just above the ground.

When those nightmares eventually materialized, the Peninsula Golf veteran and former Army recruiter began trying to recreate the grisly images. He tried to kill himself with pills in the woods, and a razor blade in a hotel room, and every suicide attempt drew his wife, Jennifer, and their four daughters deeper into his dark world.

Jennifer learned that his fourth suicide attempt, on July 23, had succeeded when she got a text message. "I'm done," she later wrote, "I'm done," and the military is preparing to close its investigation into his death pending more evidence.

So less than a year after Dan­iel Wimmer drove his black Ford F-150 truck to nearby Fort Ben­ning, a sprawling military instal­lation near Columbus, Ga., and hanged himself from a tree, his family is still caught in the dark current of his life. They're just beginning to understand.

"It's like fighting the ocean with a teaspoon," said Jennifer, 42. "When I wake up, I ask myself, 'Is this real? I now feel all sorrows are temporary."

In January, the Defense Depart­ment reported that there were 14 confirmed suicides in the military in 2009, up from 14 in 2008. Of these, 114 have been confirmed.

While the military's suicide rate is comparable to civilian rates, the increase is alarming because the armed services traditionally had lower suicide rates than the general population.

The increase in military suicides includes men between the ages of 18 and 30, mid-career of­ficers, and, increasingly, women.

The numbers don't tell the whole story. Long after the flagged coffins are lowered into the ground, families such as the Wim­mers are left to measure their grief into their death pending more evidence.

Less than a year after Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Wimmer hanged himself from a tree at Fort Benning, his family, including daughter Alex holding Wimmer's other daughter, Mi-Na, at his graveside, is still pulled by the currents that claimed his life.
Saturday mail delivery is in financial jeopardy

Kim Geiger

WASHINGTON — Facing a projected $23.9 billion loss over the next decade, the U.S. Postal Service on Tuesday proposed a 10-year plan to bring it into financial health, including putting an end to Saturday mail delivery.

The Postal Service, which is regulated by Congress and the administration but operates without any federal assistance, faces "a severe income gap that we absolutely have to close," Postmaster General John Potter said at a briefing with congressional staff and private stakeholders, whose businesses rely heavily on the mail delivery service.

Such cost-cutting measures have been proposed — and largely ignored — in the past. Last year, USPS representatives pushed multiple times at hearings on Capitol Hill for the authority to end Saturday delivery; change the way the service pays out retiree health benefits, and raise prices — all actions that require congressional approval.

To strengthen its point this time around, the USPS hired three independent consulting firms — at a total cost of $4.5 million — to assess and offer recommendations about the service's financial stability.

The Postal Service predicted that first-class mail volume will drop 37 percent by 2020. Bob Bernstock, USPS president of mailing and shipping services, said that "creates an urgency that was not there before." USPS generates about half its revenue from first-class mail.

The service has identified measures within its authority to close that shortfall by about $123 billion over 10 years. USPS cannot close the remaining $113 billion without being granted the authority to implement additional measures, including ending Saturday delivery, estimated to save $40 billion, Bernstock said.

Ending Saturday service and changing the payment structure for retiree health benefits make up the bulk of the savings. Other savings would come from personnel changes and price increases, though the price for a first-class stamp will remain at 44 cents through 2010. Post offices would remain open on Saturdays.

Rep. Dana K. Davis, D-III., a member of the subcommittee that oversees the postal service in the House, said that the proposal was "heading in the right direction," but that it is by no means a done deal.

"I think there's going to be a great deal of negotiation, a lot of haggling, if you will, before plans are actually set in stone," Davis said, stressing that Congress' role has traditionally been that of arbiter between the business and the public.

See Mail, page 5
WORD ON THE STREET

“What do you know about the crisis in Darfur?”

“I know very little, except that there is genocide.”
-Reese Relatores, architectural engineering senior

“Not a whole lot, to be honest. I know there is one and I hear people talking about it.”
-Tim Davenport, electrical engineering junior

“I know the government is trying to run out the natives into Chad and they are also committing genocide.”
-Matt Yosgott, campus dining employee

“Not much, really.”
-Maggie Lau, biochemistry junior

“I went to a rally last year about Joseph Kony and the whole mess of it. A friend told me.”
-Brandon Hayes, electrical engineering senior

“Nothing.”
-Jenna Lee, microbiology sophomore

Mail

continued from page 4

“interests of consumers and mail carriers. Sen. Tom Carper, D-Del., who heads the Senate subcommittee with jurisdiction over the Postal Service, said the service “must be allowed to make the business decisions they need to stay competitive and viable in the years to come,” suggesting a willingness to grant the decision-making authorities that the USPS has requested. “As we have seen, it is not productive for Congress to act like a 53-member board of directors and constantly second-guess these necessary changes,” Carper said.

The unions that represent mail carriers and post office workers oppose ending Saturday delivery.

“What we have seen, it is not productive for Congress to act like a 53-member board of directors and constantly second-guess these necessary changes,” Carper said.

The unions that represent mail carriers and post office workers oppose ending Saturday delivery.

“Nothing,” said Fredric V. Rolands, president of the National Association of Letter Carriers, which represents all active city delivery carriers in collective bargaining with the service. Rolands pointed to a recent report that found that the Postal Service had overpaid $7.5 billion for postal pension costs, and suggested that correcting this overpayment would provide the service with the “financial breathing room needed to develop a more successful plan.”

Davids said those savings would “last a certain period of time,” but that more would need to be done to stabilize the financial future of the service.

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State

SAN LUIS OBISPO (MCT) — As the nation's economy continues to struggle through the recession, local arts organizations and museums are feeling a trickle-down effect. In troubled times, donors are less charitable, state and federal dollars dwindle, and families are less likely to spend money on fine art and other nonessential items.

Not only does that impact the art center in San Luis Obispo, which takes a 40 percent commission, but also the artists, whose living often depends on selling their work. The art center is also offering discounts, hoping to encourage families to participate more in after-school classes.

SAN DIEGO (MCT) — The intense search for a San Diego County high school student ended Tuesday when authorities un­covered a body in a shallow grave near the lakeside park where the popular teenager had gone running last week.

There is a “strong likelihood” that the body is that of Chels­ey King, a senior at Poway High School, though a positive identifi­cation had yet to be made, said San Diego County Sheriff Bill Gore. The teenager’s family is devas­tated, he said at a news conference, adding, “They were holding out hope as we will as we were that we would find Chelsea alive.”

International

GREECE (MCT) — Greece on Wednesday is expected to outline a fresh austerity package that could be worth 4 billion euros in a bid to slash its budget deficit that has rath­eriled world markets.

Those measures have been greet­ed skeptically by markets and by po­tential donors Germany and France who have praised for deeper cuts.

The debt-ravaged country is try­ing to cut its debt-to-GDP ratio from at least 127 percent down to 87 percent. As word of the new aus­terity measures spread Wednesday, hundreds of senior citizens were heard. He stuck to those talking points during an appear­ance on the Evanston campus.

WASHINGTON (MCT) — Bur­re Yousof, a Somali business­man now living in Georgia, spent much of the 1990s, in a salt­cellar and windowless cell. “I was tor­mented with an electric shock and water-boarded,” he said.

At other times, military police subjected him to what the Somali regime called the “Mig.” He was forced to lie on his stomach with his arms and legs tied behind him while a heavy rock was placed on his back. In this painful position, the victim’s body was said to re­semble the swept-back wings of a Mig fighter jet.

CHICAGO (MCT) — Rob­ert Blagojevich paints himself as a victim, but a capacity crowd of 4,000 people at Northwestern University saw him more as a po­litical clown Tuesday night.

They laughed during the inter­views, when a campus leader said the College Democrats in­vited the indicted former Illinois governor to speak to “make sure tomorrow’s leaders respect the rule of law.”

Blagojevich has protested his innocence in myriad forums and insisted he would be cleared until the wiretaps that led to his arrest were heard. He stuck to those talking points during an appear­ance on the Evanston campus.

AFGHANISTAN (MCT) — From a U.S. forces took steps to re­duce the number of Afghan civilians killed by aerial attacks, other civilian casualties remain stubbornly high — deaths in so-called “escalation of force” incidents, in which edge American troops fire on civilians who come too close to their con­voys or roadblocks.

The number of Afghans killed in such incidents swayed from 43 percent in 2009 to 113, from 79 in 2008, while the total number of NATO coalition-caused civilian deaths and injuries declined 15.5 percent, to 355 from 633.

Peace Corps Info Session

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Blogs

audio slideshows
discussion polls
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video
WASHINGTON — With the yearlong struggle over health care drawing into its climactic final stage, President Barack Obama Tuesday made a last-ditch bid to win Republican support, raising the possibility of including a bundle of specific Republican ideas in the Democrats' legislative package.

In a letter to congressional leaders of both parties, Obama said he was open to considering GOP proposals to root out Medicare fraud, reduce medical malpractice lawsuits and encourage greater use of Health Savings Accounts.

"I said throughout this that I'd continue to draw on the best ideas from both parties, and I'm open to these proposals in that spirit," Obama wrote.

The overture, which follows Obama's day-long health care summit with senior lawmakers last week, appeared unlikely to convince any Democrats who once insisted on bipartisan cooperation on health care, even if they lose or change votes.

"We're talking to everybody," House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, D-Md., said Tuesday, adding that he believes some of the Democrats who voted against the bill last year could change their votes.

Several of the 39 House Democrats who voted against the bill last November have indicated they might reconsider. Even some conservative Democrats who once insisted on bipartisan cooperation on health care appeared to be losing patience with Republican opposition.

"The underlying compromise is a pretty decent, strong, compromise," said Louisiana Sen. Mary Landrieu, a conservative Democrat who was among the last House lawmakers to back the Senate health care bill last year.

"It's not a government takeover. There's no public option. It's more market-based," she said.

"We've just got to press forward."
Student band brings humor to any situation

Raquel Redding
Mustang Daily

Walking into the room where The Purewater Construction Band plays is undeniably loud but at the same time, inviting. Describing themselves as a rock band that appreciates good music but also doesn’t take themselves too seriously, they epitomize what music is about — playing because they love it, not for profit.

The band consists of four Cal Poly students. Band member Ben Turner, a civil engineering graduate student, said they play music to laugh and make others do the same.

“We didn’t really start a band for the purpose of starting a band. We just wanted to jam and have a good time, and then we got asked to play; we’d open up for a concert, and then all of a sudden it was like ‘Wow this makes us a band,’” Turner said.

A mixture of Flight of the Conchords-style humor, Creedence Clearwater Revival’s Shady guitar-folk feel and a Beastie Boys blend of rock and rap, the band creates a new genre with their music. With lyrics such as “All these ladies they want to have sex with me, and I don’t want no goddamn babies,” they infuse real life with humor.

The band first started more than two years ago with only three members, brothers Ben Turner and electrical engineering junior Jack Turner, and environmental management and protection senior Dylan Theobald. It wasn’t until Theobald went to New Zealand five months ago to study abroad that philosophy senior Cameron McChesney became part of the band. Their first show as a foursome will be Sunday at Del’s Pizzeria in Shell Beach.

One of the things they said
Backstage Pizza to host benefit concert for educational programs

The Cadillac Angels, based out of Santa Barbara, will donate proceeds from their CD to benefit Hopi Indian reservation schools in Arizona.

Kelly Cooper

American roots band The Cadillac Angels will perform at Backstage Pizza tomorrow at noon. The band will not only shine the light on classic Americana style, but also on a much deeper cause — the impoverished Hopi reservation schools in Arizona.

In 2008, Tony Ballinot of the Cadillac Angels had the opportunity to visit the reservation, a privilege that isn’t easy to come by. Upon arriving, Ballinot said he was taken aback by the seclusion, beauty and culture of the reservation.

“It’s a landscape that defies description. No planes, no highways, no train noises, just the sound of the wind,” he said.

The land is vast; taking up the northeast corner of Arizona, the reservation sits in the middle of the Navajo and Coconino counties.

“You connect with the way the earth was before modern civilization took over,” Ballinot said.

During his day, Ballinot visited the villages, chatting with members of the historical community. One thing that struck him was the poverty and notable, in effect on the education system.

“I saw the schools and realized that they’re pretty much off the beaten path — they’re overlooked,” he said.

While most of American society has shifted into a technology-driven blur of smart phones, plasma screens and high-speed Internet, the Hopi stick to strong traditional and Christian values in their education. However, maintaining these values and connecting to modern-day technology is difficult when a school can only afford to share two VCRs and TVs between seven classes.

“There are young people (on the reservation) who want to be scientists and rock stars. They have the same aspirations as the rest of us,” said Ballinot. “I just thought, ‘Let me do something.’”

So, he did. Teaming up with Myke Dobson of Cracked Piston Records, a small independent company that supplies and distributes CDs for struggling artists who want small CD orders, Ballinot contacted three other bands, the Ballistic Cats, the Trailer Park Tornadoes and Freedom Santa. Together, the bands constructed “Haunt This Ghost,” a compilation album featuring 13 songs the artists wrote exclusively for the CD, with one central theme in common — the musical style of Link Wray, one of the most influential guitar players of all time. And, being half Native-American, he serves as the perfect tie between the Hopi Reservation and classic rock’n’roll.

The CDs are being sold for $10, with 100% of the sales going to the Hopi educational programs. Everything on the album — the artists’ time, money, recording time and see Concert, page 10

Arab Music Ensemble to showcase Middle Eastern culture

Patrick Leiva

The Cal Poly Arab Music Ensemble will be performing a wide range of art and popular music focusing on the eastern Mediterranean tomorrow at 8 p.m. inside the Pavilion at the Performing Arts Center. Combining vocals and dancers with traditional instruments, the performance offers a unique viewpoint into the musical culture of the region.

The Arab Music Ensemble is directed by assistant professor Kenneath Habib whose primary area of expertise is ethnomusicology with a focus on the Middle East. Habib said ethnomusicology looks at music of the entire world and values cultural perspectives. He said the music of the region is rooted in rhythmic modes and provides room for both instrumental and vocal improvisation.

Habib said the goal of the ensemble is to open the eyes and ears of the campus and San Luis Obispo community to a different style of music. He said he wants people to have a greater appreciation of world music instead of concentrating on music from the classical Euro-American style. Habib said he hopes people in attendance will learn to appreciate the nature of the Middle Eastern style of music.

“It’s art music,” Habib said. “The music is a modal music, rhythmically and represents genres that are among the most continuously performed genres in the world.”

see Ensemble, page 10

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Howdy, 805-215-6281. I hope this fine Thursday morning/afternoon/evening/night is treating you all well. I’m sure it’s just a couple more weeks of the whole school deal. Got those final exams and papers coming up. Maybe I’ll be getting out of this school altogether to worry; as the quarter passing of all classes. Not suckers! That is, of course, pending my passing of all classes. Not to worry, as the quarter ends, time flies by, so to be more efficient I’m doing my final beer tasting at the same time as my homework. a in d down to business. Last week I went exploring. This week, I’m going rogue. Not to be confused with rouge, mind you. Anyway, after having looked up the actual definition of rogue, I found it to be rather unpleasant, as it was associated with words like “cheat,” “dishonest” and “mischievous.” I prefer to think of it as simply going against the norm, trying something new.

You know, that sort of stuff. And I believe that’s probably what Rogue Brewery, based all the way up in Oregon, had in mind when deciding on a name. Why do I think this? It’s quite simple, really. One of the beers I’ll be trying today is the Chipotle Ale. No, that isn’t a misleading name, the product actually has smoked jalapeno peppers on the ingredients list. The other beer I’ll be trying is the world famous, award-winning Dead Guy Ale. If these two beers aren’t against the norm in taste and tone, then ... well, then the norm is pretty weird.

So, the Chipotle Ale, eh? I’m feeling suddenly timid as I approach the bottle with my opener. Is it spicy? Is it flavorful? Is it just plain gross? I pop the bottle open ... I take a whiff. It smells like Thai! No wait, that’s my lunch. I move my lunch plate ... I pour the beer into the glass. I stop studying. How could I not do well? Absolutely then, let’s get up.

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The Arab Music Ensemble prepares for their performance tomorrow.

Ensemble
continued from page 9

There will be 41 members of the Cal Poly Arab Ensemble performing and it is comprised of both students and community members. All Cal Poly students and community members can participate in the group. Helene Shubbock attended an earlier concert and fell in love with the performance since she was singing so decided to join. She said it great that the ensemble is open to community members and not just students since there are many Middle Easterners living in the community.

“Everybody here (in the ensemble) loves music and has enough inside them,” Shubbock said. “It looks like a huge friendship and puts our art and feeling into the community. It’s just beautiful.”

In the upcoming performance on Friday, Cal Poly students and community members will be joined by five guest artists including three performers as well as teacher.

Habib said the five guest artists are the most they have ever had for a performance. In general, the artists add to the educational experience of the group as they are able to play alongside the professionals he said.

“What they bring is expertise in ways that we couldn’t expect to field in our own ensemble,” Habib said. “We can learn a tremendous amount from watching their fingers move on the instruments and how they carry themselves on stage.”

Habib also said the guest artists will perform with the ensemble for the entire show. He said the performance will feature only Arabic music in Habib’s fourth year of directing the ensemble.

Many of the performers enjoy being able to bring the culture of the Middle East to the community. Kellie Barragan, a music major, said many people are not exposed to Arab music.

“At this moment, the Middle East has kind of a negative connotation to it,” Barragan said. “It just shows you the power of music. It can bring people together from different backgrounds.

Barragan said she gets nervous on stage before a performance, but the feeling usually wears off as she gets into the music. She said there is such a great feeling after the performance knowing that all the preparations paid off.

“The money goes a long way for the school children. We don’t have a lot of money, but love for music, we do what we can,” he said.

Cal Poly mathematics professor Matthew White of the Bay Area-based Ballistic Cats liked the idea of connecting music with a charitable cause.

“For me to play some songs and give them away doesn’t really seem like that much,” he said. “But the good thing about music is that people listen to it and it raises awareness. It’s a little more effective in the long run.”

White explains, the connection between Link Wray’s influence and the educational programs is not the ethnicity or culture, but the suffering.

“If you take those old blues players, you take Link Wray, and go back to the source of what made the music, it was really poverty,” said White. “There are people of all kinds of ethnicities that live in that poverty and suffer. That’s what’s in common — it’s not the race, it’s the poverty. That’s where the connection really is.”

Ballew said he hopes to raise $7,000 for the reservation. The CDs will be sold at tomorrow’s performance for a special price of $1.99 with all sales directly benefiting the Hopi educational programs.

Concert
continued from page 9

artwork — was donated. Destiny was excited to support the cause, to play along with the professionals he said.

“What they bring is expertise in ways that we couldn’t expect to field in our own ensemble,” Habib said. “We can learn a tremendous amount from watching their fingers move on the instruments and how they carry themselves on stage.”

Habib also said the guest artists will perform with the ensemble for the entire show. He said the performance will feature only Arabic music in Habib’s fourth year of directing the ensemble.

Many of the performers enjoy being able to bring the culture of the Middle East to the community. Kellie Barragan, a music major, said many people are not exposed to Arab music.

“At this moment, the Middle East has kind of a negative connotation to it,” Barragan said. “It just shows you the power of music. It can bring people together from different backgrounds.

Barragan said she gets nervous on stage before a performance, but the feeling usually wears off as she gets into the music. She said there is such a great feeling after the performance knowing that all the preparations paid off.

“The money goes a long way for the school children. We don’t have a lot of money, but love for music, we do what we can,” he said.

Cal Poly mathematics professor Matthew White of the Bay Area-based Ballistic Cats liked the idea of connecting music with a charitable cause.

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they're looking forward to seeing the crowd's reaction. Before every show they get together before going on stage to decide what they are going to do. In the past they have asked the audience for a topic and then sang a capella custom song from that topic. Ben said Dylan and himself would then go back and forth with made-up lyrics.

"We figure that if we start off really bad then we can only get better," Jack Turner said.

Despite how relaxed they are about the content, they take the actual music seriously, making sure to consistently play together. Every Thursday the four of them meet at Theobald's house at 6:30 to play.

"It's not a chore to go to these practices," McChesney said. "I look forward to Thursdays, to get to play with them."

Theobald lives with two other non-band members at the house they practice in now. Despite the fact that majority of the house has been taken over with music equipment — the living room is a stage with fully set up drums and stands for guitar — the roommates don't mind.

"I actually like it, it's a good break. I like all their music and we're all friends," mechanical engineering senior Matt Laurino said. "One of the conditions this year was to move it (equipment) to a little study room (off the living room) because of that.'"

Laurino, Ben Turner and Theobald all used to live in the house before Ben Turner moved out last year. Laurino said the band has practiced for almost two years there, but it wasn't until recently that the band took over one of the rooms permanently.

Besides going from three members to four they also changed their vocalist when the band was formed and he has played the guitar for more than five years. With their extensive knowledge of music as well as how to make music, each member had a different influence to bring to the band.

"One of our biggest influences is definitely our dad. He's been playing guitar and singing since I was a kid. Most of our original songs Ben wrote, which has been largely influenced by our dad," Jack Turner said.

Besides the brothers' dad, other influences draw from a variety of genres, including Waylon Jennings, Flight of the Conchords and Rolling Stones. They likened their music to Tenacious D, as they have a similar style to what they are doing.

"...Our songs try to be kinda humorous, not totally serious, but a good grounding of music," Theobald said. "There is still good music background it no matter what we are saying."

Ben Turner said they still get excited about playing shows, and he feels their music is the most when he looks out and sees all these people having fun, and it's like, 'Wow, we were the cause of that,' he said.

Although they love to play they realize that it is just a fun All of them intend to have serious careers and have no intentions of making the band into a career. "We play as long as we can," Ben Turner said.

Rogue
continued from page 10
using the clip-in penetration.

The beer pours a nice, deep amber with an off-white head. The aroma is of malt and that smoked jalapeno pepper. The beer is smooth and mellow. It's in the finish where one really gets a good feel of the pepper and the slight spiciness — and yes, there is a spiciness present, though it is not at all overpowering.

For me, the biggest flavor in this beer is the smoked one. It is an intriguing combination of smoked, malt and chipotle that makes for a pretty cool eschence. If you're looking to try something new, give this a try. Rogue has dedicated this beer to Juan de la Castra, an author who in 1575 "wrote of a Mexican dish that combined seeded chipotles with beer." So go grab one and pay your respects. Speaking of paying one's respects, it is time that we moved on to Rogue's Dead Guy Ale. According to Rogue's site, in the '90s, Dead Guy Ale was a tap that was designed to celebrate the Mayan Day of the Dead. After it grew in popularity, especially among Grateful Dead fans, they decided to make it the label of the Dead After it grew in popularity, especially among Grateful Dead fans, they decided to make it the label of the Dead After it grew in popularity, especially among Grateful Dead fans, they decided to make it the label of the Dead After it grew in popularity, especially among Grateful Dead fans, they decided to make it the label of the Dead After it grew in popularity, especially among Grateful Dead fans, they decided to make it the label of the Dead After it grew in popularity, especially among Grateful Dead fans, they decided to make it the label of the Dead After it grew in popularity, especially among Grateful Dead fans, they decided to make it the label of the Dead After it grew in popularity, especially among Grateful Dead fans, they decided to make it the label of the Dead After it grew in popularity, especially among Grateful Dead fans, they decided to make it the label of the Dead After it grew in popularity, especially among Grateful Dead fans, they decided to make it the label of the Dead After it grew in popularity, especially among Grateful Dead fans, they decided to make it the label of the Dead After it grew in popularity, especially among Grateful Dead fans, they decided to make it the label of the Dead After it grew in popularity, especially among Grateful Dead fans, they decided to make it the label of the Dead

The beer pours a nice, deep amber with an off-white head. The aroma is sweet and fruity. At first, the taste rather surprised me after the sweet aroma. It seemed deeper and more powerful. As I let the beer sit on my tongue, though, the sweetness comes back. Along with it is a toasted malt flavor.

If it were a toasted bread, it would be a darker one. Don't know what I mean? Grab this ale or one like it and take a drink. If you couldn't help but swallow it, take another. Let this one sit in your mouth and let the flavors come to you. When drinking a beer, you often have to just let it on your palate to get the full-flavored eschence.

As a result, the Dead Guy Ale has proven to be a pleasant experience. With sweet and toasted malts coming into play along with a medium amount of happiness, this beer may not be necessarily complex, but it is a nice change from your typical brews.

Well folks, that's all I've got for today. I know, I know, it's far too short. Well that's because I'm saving my words and my money for next week's column. That's right, next week's will be the one in which I will be testing out beers that you have left in the comments on the Web site. So if you have any last selections, put them on in now. I will be randomly picking the ones I want to tate on Saturday. And if you have already left a comment, don't worry, I may not have responded, but I've been checking.

Speaking of checking, make sure that next time you go out and enjoy a tasting of beer, meat, wine, liquor or whatever, you check to see that you have a designated driver. We don't need anybody celebrating the end of the quarter by crashing their car, motorcycle, bike, skateboard, Razor scooter or Heelys. Don't let your celebration get ruined by becoming your self or another. Stay safe out there. Col Poly.

Adam Plachta is a business administration senior and Mustang Daily beer columnist.
Opinion/Editorial

Thursday, March 4, 2010

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Join the protests and change California

The Liberal Lens

by Stephanie England

I've heard that Cal Poly students are apathetic, that we don't care about the budget crisis as much as other campuses like Berkeley, which had a riot over the issue last weekend. I don't believe that we're apathetic or that we're less passionate about the issue. But when I thought about the prospect of protesting in this state-wide protest over the budget crisis, I couldn't help but ask myself whether protesting would change anything. The budget is set in stone, the cuts are being accounted for and the politicians who are voted in are still in office. What can protesting change?

When I think of the work of Martin Luther King, Jr. and the civil rights movement, I see that protesting does change society. And the way that Martin Luther King Jr.'s protests changed America is similar to the way that I see today's protest at 10:30 a.m. on Dexter Lawn and this afternoon at 3:30 p.m. on Marsh St., changing California.

Dr. King changed hearts and minds in America through his protests and activism, and if our politicians are going to vote on budgets differently in the future, people's hearts and minds must change regarding education first. That starts with us - the students, raising awareness about the fact that education is a right, not a privilege.

Education is a right, because educated citizens are absolutely essential to a functioning representative democracy. Without public education as a right, America could not apply itself as the land of opportunity. Public education exists in order to educate the maximum number of students while maintaining the concept that a quality education should be affordable. I believe that the CSU and the Cal Poly administration are doing everything they can to follow these objectives, despite the severe cuts to education.

If you don't believe that you have been directly affected by the fee increases and furloughs, I will supply some statistics to inspire you to come out today at 10:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. A promising candidate for State Senator Michael Rubis, states on his campaign website that "California spends more incarcerating 167,000 adults than it does to educate 226,000 students in its 10-campus University of California system." According to the Mustang Daily, Eric Benjamin, statewide coordinator of the budget protest today, said that every year the state spends $47,450 per inmate and $7,580 per student in California.

I hope to see those who have suggested that the liberal view on funding social programs rewards the irresponsible and punishes the fiscally responsible on Dexter protesting today. I can't think of a better example of the dis-society than the state's priority of the prison system over higher education.

If you need another reason to protest, do it for your professors, who, I think, suffer the most as a result of this budget crisis. They are bearing the burden in furloughs and pay cuts. I think we students understand that the cost of education is worth the benefits we will reap in the future, but our professors are sacrificing their jobs and salaries.

The real issue with the higher education system is the way that the state collects and portions its money. The state's financial aid is based on need. The state's budget crisis and the issue of protesting is connected to the way that we see a drop in our state's priority of the prison system over higher education.

The future of the state is at stake. I can't think of a better example of the dis-society than the state's priority of the prison system over higher education.

That's the truly tough decision. He hasn't lost anything by cutting social programs or funding for public education for children and adults. Voter opinion on raising taxes in California seems to be changing, however. The Public Policy Institute of California published a report in January stating that two-thirds of Californians would pay higher taxes to avoid cuts to K-12 education, and 70 percent support funding cuts to prisons and corrections. It's a start.

Please come out to protest today. If you can't make it at 10:30 a.m. on Dexter, come downtown at 3:30 p.m. on Marsh St. and join the statewide protest. The future of public education depends upon our involvement. The future of public education depends upon our involvement.

Stephanie England is an English sophomore and Mustang Daily columnist.
Werewolves are better than vampires

First, my new alliance with the werewolf vote. Big changes are afoot. This year is going to be a vision for Team Jacob — though it is a byproduct. This is not about being a ‘sucker’ for the Twilight saga, although I was. Yes, I've read books and watched the movies and I’m still a bit in love with a toplesspseudo-Na- tive-American — also an inevita- bly haunted, feared creature. There was some mys- terious allure about a cursed life in love with a topless pseudo-Na- terious allure about a cursed life in love with a topless pseudo-Na- terious allure about a cursed life in love with a topless pseudo-Na- terious allure about a cursed life in love with a topless pseudo-Na- terious allure about a cursed life in love with a topless pseudo-Na- terious allure about a cursed life in love with a topless pseudo-Na- ntrious allure about a cursed life in love with a topless pseudo-Na- ntrious allure about a cursed life in love with a topless pseudo-Na- ntrious allure about a cursed life in love with a topless pseudo-Na- ntrious allure about a cursed life in love with a topless pseudo-Na- ntrious allure about a cursed life in love with a topless pseudo-Na- ntrious allure about a cursed life in love with a topless pseudo-Na- ntrious allure about a cursed life in love with a topless pseudo-Na- ntrious allure about a cursed life in love with a topless pseudo-Na- ntrious allure 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**Classifieds**

**For Rent**

**For Sale**

Ibanez ArtCore AJD71T Semi-Hollow electric guitar for Sale $500. Raising funds for Senior Project. Also - Peavey ValveKing VK112 $400 and - Dunlop Classic CryBaby Wah Ped $100. Or All Three for $900 David (310) 936-4716

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Laptop Repair www.laptoprepair.com Student Discount Fast Turn Around

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Male sophomore looking for roommate in downtown condo $600/Month Water & Trash Paid email amir0dct@gmail.com

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$12 HAIRCUTS

Now Open: Mon-Fri 8:30-5:00

**Roommate Needed**

Spectacular Oceanview House In Pismo $650 Large, three bedroom, two bath, house with spacious dining room, living room, and full kitchen. House contains laundry facilities, wireless internet, fireplace and cable TV. Walking distance to the beach and downtown Pismo. Great backyard patio, BBQ, and bonus room. Seeking a young professional roommate. Easy parking, quiet neighborhood. Lots of storage space. Easy freeway access, easy beach access, Beautiful ocean view. Available April 1. Please call me at 805-801-1199 for further details.

**For Sale**

Jeanette's 1 Bedroom Unit

Available Feb 1st.

(805) 674-3164.

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**Classifieds comics and games**

**Help Wanted**

Part-Time Writing Assistant Disabled Marine Corps Vet in his 80's needs part-time assistant to produce quarterly newsletter & book. Seeking dependable assistant w/pc & computer/printer, to work 2 hrs/daily 5 days/ wk. Interested? Call Bob Dixon 595-7070 & I will show you the research, writing, design & printing work we will be doing to reach our goals.

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Junior Rachel Clancy ranks sixth in the Big West on three-point shooting percentage and fourth in three-pointers made.

"It is March and this is when the madness happens," Driling said. "What caused the difference in outcomes of the past two seasons?" I think it's just team chemistry," Keeler said. "I think this year everybody came together ... they know their roles and we know what we have to do to accomplish our goals."

With the Big West conference tournament in sight, Cal Poly is hungry to beat the odds.

"We proved people wrong and we came together at the right time," Keeler said. "We really feel like we can win this whole thing."

While Cal Poly will likely be placed in one of the bottom four seeds, the Mustangs still have a chance to move up in the standings. With a win against UC Irvine, along with a Long Beach State and UC Davis loss, Cal Poly can clinch fourth place in the Big West and a bye week.

But standings aren't important to Keeler.

"As long as we are competing and we are tough, I feel like we can win any game," Keeler said.

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**THIS WEEK IN CAL POLY ATHLETICS**

**Women's Tennis**

- **Cal Poly vs. UC Irvine**
  - Friday, Mar. 5th at 1:30 p.m.
- **Cal Poly vs. Pacific**
  - Sunday, Mar. 7th at 9:30 a.m.

**Men's Tennis**

- **Cal Poly vs. UC Davis**
  - Sunday, Mar. 7th at 1:00 p.m.

**Men's Basketball**

- **Cal Poly vs. UCI**
  - "Senior Night"
  - Saturday, Mar. 6th at 7:00 p.m.

*Attention Cal Poly Students*

- *Free Shirts for the first 150 Cal Poly Students*

Admission for all Cal Poly Athletic Events is FREE for Cal Poly Students.

WE ARE THE MUSTANGS
Mustangs get ready for UC Irvine this weekend

Brian De Los Santos

For seniors Charles Anderson, Lorenzo Keeler and Ryan Darling, this week’s contest against UC Irvine (13-16, 5-9 Big West) is more than just a game.

“For (Lorenzo Keeler), (Charles Anderson) and I, it is a culmination of our entire college career,” Darling said. “It is the last time we are going to be able to play in front of our Mott Gym fans, in Mott Gym.

After years of practice, training and hard work the trio of seniors said they have had nothing but positive memories.

Darling started this season primarily playing off the bench. After Will Dorval was ineligible, Darling saw his minutes sharply increase.

“It’s been a long journey,” Darling said. “No matter what point of my career it’s been, it has been an amazing experience.”

Like Darling, Anderson started this year on the bench, but with late season injuries, the senior was inserted into the starting lineup. Used for his lengthy defensive presence and his long range jump-shot, Anderson has helped his team down the stretch.

“It went by fast — that’s for sure — but I look back and I’m happy,” Anderson said. “It has been a great four years.”

Keeler was the team-leading scorer last season. With the departures of Ti-Lee Shelton and Chaz Thomas, Keeler, the third-leading scorer in the Big West, is more than ready to step into the conference play, found more opportunities to show off his scoring abilities this season.

Lorenzo Keeler is the third-leading scorer in the conference through conference play, averaging 18 points per game.

“Basketball is just something fun I want to do for the rest of my life,” Keeler said. “I put away more and got closer together as a family.”

“I feel like there is no other place I’d rather be,” Keeler said. “We love that ... we all fed off it, and everyone contributed.”

Making it to the championship game last year and having won the conference tournament, the Mustangs were on a roll.

"I think (this year has) gone pretty well," Keeler said. "We were just really getting to know each other as a new team, working together as a new team, getting to know each other as a new team, working together as a new team, and our Chemistry is way better this year... you kind of get dropped into the game winning streak.

After years of practice, training and hard work the trio of seniors said they have had nothing but positive memories.

Darling started this season primarily playing off the bench. After Will Dorval was ineligible, Darling saw his minutes sharply increase.

“It’s been a long journey,” Darling said. “No matter what point of my career it’s been, it has been an amazing experience.”

Like Darling, Anderson started this year on the bench, but with late season injuries, the senior was inserted into the starting lineup. Used for his lengthy defensive presence and his long range jump-shot, Anderson has helped his team down the stretch.

“It went by fast — that’s for sure — but I look back and I’m happy,” Anderson said. “It has been a great four years.”

Keeler was the team-leading scorer last season. With the departures of Ti-Lee Shelton and Chaz Thomas, Keeler, the third-leading scorer in the Big West, is more than ready to step into the conference play, found more opportunities to show off his scoring abilities this season.

Lorenzo Keeler is the third-leading scorer in the conference through conference play, averaging 18 points per game.

“We’ve tried to not bother her too much about it,” Assistant Coach Kerri Nishimoto said. “She’ll make the right decision. Whatever happens we will adjust, but I’d love to have her come back for another year.”

Keeler is planning to graduate in June with a degree in biological sciences. She is applying to a one-year global health masters program at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland for this fall or the following year.

“My academics are definitely my number one priority,” Clancy said. “Basketball is just something fun I get to do along the way.”

She says she really likes science and health but doesn’t want to be a doctor. She would want to study disease outbreaks or other aspects of health, such as how to improve health care. She says she definitely sees herself moving back to Ireland.

“I came to the states just to play college basketball as an opportunity to improve,” Clancy said. “I put way more time in on the court over here than at home. I spend more time in weight room and there are more staff to help. It’s a whole other level of professionalism.”

Clancy explains there are differences in the style of play from Ireland to the states.

“I think this year has gone pretty well,” Keeler said. “It’s gone how we wanted it to go.

At the start of this season, last year’s performances leaked into expectations for this year. Cal Poly was projected to finish last in the Big West in numerous pre-season polls.

“We love that ... we all fed off it, it was motivation,” Keeler said. “We know what type of team we can be if we all click and come together”

After stealing the show in the Big West tournament, the Mustangs were on a roll.

“We were just really getting to know each other as a new team,” Keeler said. “After that we get it together as we go to know each other more and got closer together as a family.”

To start conference play, Cal Poly posted their best start in school history going 5-2 for the first seven games.

Afer a 73-72 win against Cal State Northridge, Cal Poly dropped five straight games.

This past week Cal Poly took on Big West frontrunner UC Santa Barbara, winning 72-73 at the half, the Mustangs pieced together run after run to knock off the Gauchos.

Ryan Sidarto