**In favor of health care reform**

When asked why they opposed health care legislation, more than a third said it was because the proposals didn’t go far enough. A closer look at who is in favor:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In general</th>
<th>Favor</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Not sure</th>
<th>All in favor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>11%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Of those who are opposed</td>
<td>37%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Favor reform, but think current proposals don’t go far enough</td>
<td>54%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oppose reform and think current proposals go too far</td>
<td>10%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The total in favor: 41% Favor

In favor of health care reform proposals now being discussed:

- **In general**: Favor 41%
- **Oppose**: 47%
- **Not sure**: 11%
- **Of those who are opposed**: Favor reform, but think current proposals don’t go far enough 37%
- **Oppose reform and think current proposals go too far**: 54%
- **Not sure**: 10%

The total in favor: 41% Favor

In favor of health care reform legislation: 41%

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**University scheduling: The reality behind the myth**

**Erin Hurley**

Next fall, some students will be taking classes at 7 a.m. Kathleen Agostini, the university scheduling lead, said it’s not the university scheduling office’s fault.

"In this office, we are essentially resource managers. We try to work with the needs of teachers and students to serve everyone as best we can," Agostini said.

The University Scheduling Office is responsible for arranging the yearly schedules that include every class and every section offered by the school. But their responsibilities are primarily behind-the-scenes. Susan Olivas, the interim associate registrar of curriculum and scheduling and the scheduling office supervisor, said her office is student-oriented.

"Our job really is to plan each quarter to give students as many class options as possible while dealing with instructors’ needs," Olivas said.

The scheduling office has no initial influence over the classes that are offered every quarter — their work depends on the requests of about 50 departments across campus.

"In February, the academic department schedulers are finishing their schedules for next fall based on their budgets and present and projected enrollment," Agostini said.

The staff works about a year ahead with the departments to plan the upcoming quarters. After each department submits the classes...
WASHINGTON — Thirty-one states and the District of Columbia posted gains in employment in January, the Labor Department reported Wednesday, providing further evidence that the economy is slowly gaining momentum.

The state-by-state January employment report from the Bureau of Labor Statistics clarifies and deepens the national employment data released last week, which suggested that employers have stopped firing workers and are starting to hire.

In January, the BLS said, California led all states in employment growth with 32,000 new jobs. Illinois and New York state followed with respective net gains of 26,000 and 25,900, and the state of Washington followed with 18,900. Eighteen states saw employment decrease, and one state saw no change.

"The fact that you have three important and largely service-based economies showing gains may tell us that we have a broader recovery emerging, and this may be a bit of a bright light here," said Steve Cochrane, a managing director at forecaster Moody's Economy.com in West Chester, Pa.

States with big manufacturing operations showed positive signs last year, especially in the Midwest. "I think we're seeing a quiet complex," Cochrane said.

Moody's Economy.com does its own state-by-state economic analysis, and it recently concluded that at the end of last year, 20 states had emerged from recession. Economists overwhelmingly think that the national recession has ended, but the formal declaration of that comes months later from the National Bureau of Economic Research.

Wednesday's news was a bit darker on state unemployment rates. Thirty states and the nation's capital reported an uptick in their jobless rates. Only nine saw jobless rates fall, and 11 saw no change. The national unemployment rate stood at 9.7 percent in January and February.

The unemployment rate is rising in many states because workers who gave up and exited the labor force are seeking employment again as the economy resumes growing. That means there's greater confidence that the economy is rebounding, but it also suggests that the national jobless rate could rise again.

Michigan again led all states with an unemployment rate of 14.3 percent in January, followed by Nevada and Rhode Island at 13.2 percent and 12.7 percent, respectively. South Carolina followed at 12.6 percent and California at 12.5 percent.

The jobless rates in South Carolina and California reflected contemporary record highs, as did the rates in Florida (11.9 percent), North Carolina (11.1 percent) and Georgia (10.4 percent).

On a brighter note, 25 states posted jobless rates that were sharply lower than the national average. North Dakota had the lowest unemployment rate, at 5.4 percent, followed by Nebraska and South Dakota, which respectively had rates of 4.6 percent and 4.8 percent.

The most positive news in Wednesday's report was the indication of new hiring in large, economically important states.

"At least until recently, some of the larger states were some of the weaker economies, in general," Cochrane said. "The unemployment rate stood at 9.7 percent in January and February. The unemployment rate is rising in many states because workers who gave up and exited the labor force are seeking employment again as the economy resumes growing. That means there's greater confidence that the economy is rebounding, but it also suggests that the national jobless rate could rise again.

The jobless rate in South Carolina stood at 12.5 percent, while California had a rate of 12.6 percent. The economy in these states has not fully recovered, but it is growing at a more rapid pace than before the recession.

The jobless rate in Florida was 11.9 percent, North Carolina was 11.1 percent, and Georgia was 10.4 percent. These states have seen a significant drop in their unemployment rates since the recession began.

The jobless rate in North Dakota was 5.4 percent, the lowest in the nation. This state has been particularly hard hit by the recession, but its jobless rate has declined significantly over the past year.

The jobless rate in South Dakota was 4.6 percent, the second lowest in the nation. This state has also seen a significant drop in its unemployment rate since the recession began.

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The jobless rate in Nebraska was 5.5 percent, the third lowest in the nation. This state has seen a significant drop in its unemployment rate since the recession began.
we receive the most phone calls about schedules," Agostini said. "Most calls from students are complaints about needing bigger classrooms and teachers tend to complain about class times."

When the staff thinks about how funding for the school may affect scheduling in the future, they are just as anxious as students, Agostini said. "We will hear about next year's budget in May, but even then, nothing is final. We can hope and begin to plan for the best, but the truth is we really are at the mercy of the budget."

Se John said.

While most of their responsibilities depend on decisions made in other areas of the school, work in the university class scheduling office is never done. However, the staff has long since found a structure to handling all the details.

"We all really work well together and have each other's backs if someone needs help," Se John said. "Only time will tell what will happen with scheduling in the future, but we're willing to work with whatever happens."

We've been talking about this for a century ... If not now, when? If not us, who?

—President Obama

The two members of Congress whose districts are closest to Arcadia, Democratic Rep. Allyson Y. Schwartz and Chaka Fattah, support the legislation.

But Rep. John Adler, D-N.J., who voted against the initial House health care bill, said he had "serious concerns that the current proposals do not go far enough to lower health care costs in the long-term."

Concerns also persist over abortion language in the measure that could cost the support of some Democrats who oppose abortion rights. Rep. Kathy Dahlkemper, D-Pa., has said she wanted more restrictions on federal subsidies for insurance plans that cover abortions.

Bill Botrous, the deputy White House press secretary, said officials had no "specific targeting" in mind when they picked suburban Philadelphia for Obama's visit. "If you look at where we're going, it doesn't really have an impact on a particular member," Burton said.

But pollster Chris Borick of Muhlenberg College said suburban Philadelphia, besides being convenient to Washington, is home to thousands of independent voters who, according to polls, have cooled to Obama and have concerns about overhauling health care.

"There are support in swing areas such as Montgomery County has been crucial in jeopardizing the new proposal before making a commitment."

Obama expressed little patience yesterday for what he called the "scream" of politics. He cited letters he has received from cancer survivors burdened with debt and from ordinary people priced out of the market for health insurance, worried about putting their families at risk.

"So what should I tell these Americans?" Obama said. "That Washington is not sure how it will play in November? That we should walk away?"

He said it was time for people to in Congress to "make a decision" and take a stand. Obama urged his listeners to knock on doors, make phone calls and support the overhaul.

Sen. Arlen Specter, D-Pa., who accompanied Obama to Arcadia along with other state Democrats, said later Obama's remarks were "the most fiery I've seen him since the early campaign."

Griaklock in Congress over health care has raised the stakes for the Democratic Party, Specter said. "The bill is really a test of whether the Congress — whether we can govern," he said.

Rep. Jim Gerlach, a Republican who represents the neighboring Sixth Congressional District, disagreed. "The legislation taxes business owners and individuals too much over 10 years and puts too much power in the hands of government," Gerlach said in a conference call after the event.

Obama spoke before a cheering, foot-stomping crowd with a large number of Arcadia students. Some of the biggest cheers came when he touted a provision in his proposal that young people could be covered under their parents' plans until age 26.

That resonated with Jackie Sentz, 20, a chemistry major whose brother, 22, lost his job and his insurance. "I don't think he understands the severity of not having insurance," Sentz said. And, she added, "I'm afraid that's going to happen to me, I'm not 100 percent sure I'm getting a job when I graduate."

After the event, Trisha Urban, 33, of Hamburg, Pa., hurried out to her car in a race to get there before her daughter, Cora, 13 months, began to cry.

"My husband died on the day she was born," said Urban, who had been invited to attend by Sen. Bob Casey, D-Pa. She and her husband, Andrew Urban, had insurance, she said, but when he was diagnosed with a heart condition and started needing regular medical care, their coverage was dropped.

They struggled to keep paying the bills, but Andrew Urban decided to skip his last doctor's appointment because they couldn't pay for it. Less than a month later, on Feb. 5, 2009, Trisha Urban found her husband unconscious in their home as she went into labor. She was unable to revive him.

"If he could have gone to the doctor, he'd still be alive. But he had made a world of difference."

Jane Von Behren and Kristin E. Holmes contributed to this article.
Wolves may have killed teacher in Alaskan village

James Halpin

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — Authorities were in an Alaska Peninsula village this week investigating whether a 32-year-old schoolteacher, found dead off a road leading out of town, was killed in a wolf attack, according to state and local officials.

The body of Candice Berner of Slippery Rock, Pa., was discovered Monday evening off a roughly 7-mile gravel road leading to the Chignik Lake airstrip.

Berner’s father, Bob Berner, reached in Pennsylvania on Tuesday night, said Alaska State Troopers told the family their daughter had been killed in an “animal attack, possibly a wolf attack.” Troopers told him it was highly unusual and still under investigation, with the body on its way to Anchorage for an autopsy, he said.

They wanted to make sure that nothing happened prior to the animal bite,” Berner said. “We’re totally shocked. You know, initial denial: ‘This can’t be Candice.”

Berner described his daughter as “small and mighty,” a woman who liked to bike, lift weights and run. She was training for a race and could get into a meditative state when running, he said.

Troopers would not comment on the cause of death, saying the investigation is ongoing and that they are awaiting the results of the autopsy. Spokeswoman Megan Peters said the body showed signs of predation but declined to provide further details.

The body was found on regional corporation land within the borders of the Alaska Peninsula Wildlife Refuge and therefore was not in federal jurisdiction, said Bruce Woods, spokesman for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

“I don’t think there’s any decision yet as to whether it was predated before or after death,” Woods said. “In other words, the (woman) might have died of something else and wolves might have found the body.”

An intertine special education teacher based in Perryville, Berner had just arrived in Chignik this week to work at the school there, said Lake Peninsula Borough School District Chief Operating Officer Rick Luthi, who is in King Salmon. Berner had been with the district since August.

Her co-workers last saw her alive at the end of the workday Monday, Luthi said.

“She had made the comment that she wanted to get out and get some fresh air.” Luthi said. “We assumed that meant a run for Candice, because she had a habit of doing that whenever she could.”

Local residents have been concerned about recent wolf activity in the area, but she probably didn’t know that because she had just gotten to town, Luthi said.

Just a few hours later, about 6:30 p.m., someone on a four-wheeler came across some blood along the road and discovered the remains had been pulled into tall brush, maybe 10 to 15 yards off the road, Luthi said.

Berner had apparently been killed within the past few hours, he said.

Chignik Lake, with a population of roughly 100, is on the south side of the Alaska Peninsula 13 miles from Chignik and 474 miles southwest of Anchorage.

Unlimited wolf trapping is permitted in the area from Oct. 1 to April 30. Hunting regulations allow 10 wolves per person per day from Aug. 10 to May 25, said Fish and Game spokeswoman Jennifer Yuhis.

“These are regulations set by the Board of Game and the liberal allowance of harvest denotes (an) incentivized program to harvest wolves in that Unit,” Yuhis wrote in an e-mail.

Fish and Game officials would not comment on Berner’s cause of death or say whether predation by another animal, like a bear, might have been involved.

See Wolves, page 5.

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WORD ON THE STREET

“If you could share an exbeerience with anyone, would it be?”

“I would share a Blue Moon with my dad.”

-Justin Dillahaw, general engineering freshman

“I am underaged, but I would buy an orange soda for Lady Gaga.”

-Catlin Schmidt, journalism junior

“I would buy a Blue Moon for Jessica Biel, a classy lady.”

-Andy Lara, business administration freshman

“I would get a Stella Artois for my dad and expect him to repay it to me on my 21st birthday.”

-Jake Catalina, business administration freshman

“I would get a Budweiser, king of the beers, for Mark Wahlberg.”

-Sara Adams, business administration junior

“I would get a Stella Artois for my best friend Frankie James.”

-Justin Wragg, biological resources agricultural engineering sophomore

CHAMILIA

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MUSTANG DAILY NEWS

Thursday, March 11, 2010
Wolves (continued from page 4)

possible. There is an "extremely high" density of brown bears in the Chugach Lake area but it is somewhat early for bears to be out, said retired Fish and Game biologist Mark McNay, who has studied wolf attacks in North America.

It is prime mating season for wolves — a time when a lot of individual wolves could be out looking for mates and when young wolves recently separated from their packs could be wandering, he said. "Those types of animals may be more likely to attack because they're naive, they haven't ever associated with people," McNay said. "There have been some cases where those types of wolves have chased and bitten people."

Wolf attacks on domestic animals in Alaska are not uncommon. A pack of wolves, at least some of them rabid, killed a half-dozen sled dogs in Marshall in October 2007. Beginning a month later, Anchorage saw a series of wolf encounters that left three dogs dead and several others wounded. Wildlife officials at the time speculated the pack, led by a hungry leader, was targeting easy meals.

But violent encounters with people are more rare.

Last September, a rabid wolf attacked a hiker along the Kuskokwim River near Kalskag, biting the man in his leg before being shot to death. The hiker lived.

In April 2000, a radio-collared wolf repeatedly bit a 6-year-old boy playing a game of alders at a logging camp northwest of Yakutat. The boy was not seriously injured.

Then in July 2006, a wolf attacked a schoolteacher walking off the Dalton Highway, along the Arctic Circle. The woman suffered cuts and gashes to her legs but survived. McNay, who now lives in Kansas, is the author of a 2002 study published by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game that examined 80 wolf-human encounters in North America, nearly half of which involved elements of aggression among the two species.

The cases in which wolves are most aggressive are the cases involving wolves that have become habituated to people, he said. "There's only been one other case of a fatal wolf attack by a healthy, wild wolf in North America, and that happened in 2005 in northern Saskatchewan," McNay said. "It is extremely rare. There have been other cases, of course, of wolves behaving aggressively toward people. "The frequency of these cases seems to have increased in the past decade or so."

Wolves (continued)

KANSASCITY—Search online for "Cash for Clunkers," and here's one thing you'll find: stories about its negligible overall impact on the economy.

Wrong, says Martiz Automotive Research Group. The Toledo, Ohio, independent automotive research company recently surveyed participants in last summer's federal program designed to stimulate new-car sales and get gas-guzzlers off the road. On Tuesday, the company shared its results.

One key finding: 90 percent of those participating in Cash for Clunkers said they would not otherwise have bought a new car.

According to federal government data, 677,000 purchases were made through Cash for Clunkers from late July through August. Martiz's research showed that $42,000 were incremental new car or truck sales, meaning those purchases would not have occurred without the incentives. Previous estimates by industry analysts put the incremental sales figure between 125,000 and 146,000.

The government's Car Allowance Rebate System, or CARBS, offered vouchers of $3,500 or $4,500 to owners of older, gas-guzzling vehicles who traded them in for new, fuel-efficient models. The program was so popular that it ran out of its $3 billion in funding in two months.

"Our findings not only provide strong evidence that many more vehicles were sold as a direct result of the incentive program than were previously estimated, but they also debunk the myth that Cash for Clunkers mortgaged future car and truck sales," said Dave Fish, a Martiz vice president. "In fact, the program resulted in sales of vehicles to people who don't normally buy them."

While auto sales dipped in September after Cash for Clunkers ended, Martiz noted that the most likely reason was a shortage of vehicles on dealer lots. After seasonal adjustments, monthly auto sales from October to December showed higher rates than before Cash for Clunkers started.

Cash for Clunkers brought additional people into the new-car market — those who normally buy used cars.

see Clunkers, page 6

Action Ahmad

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- Horticulture & Crop Science
- History
- Industrial & Manufacturing Engineering
- Mathematics
- Political Science
- Psychology/Child Development
- Soil Science
- Statistics
"Side Show" invites students to come look at the freaks

Sean Hanson
Special to the News-Press

From the eerie start, "Side Show," a four-time Tony nominated musical opening tonight at Cal Poly, is disturbingly intimate as the lights gradually illuminate a stoic crowd of car­nies staring at the audience, inviting them to "come look at the freaks."

Set around a circus company — including the familiar acts of fortune-tellers, bearded lady, contortionist and even a far lady — the show explores the true story of conjoined-sisters, Daisy and Vi­olet Hilton, who struggle to identify themselves apart from 'circus freaks' and mainstream into vaude­ville super­stars during the 1930s.

"Side Show" exposes how society exploits people for the wrong reasons.

"I have always been very sen­sitive to people with disabili­ties, the strugg­les they are faced with, the amazing things they are capable of," said Raquel Jarman, a theater senior who is directing the show for her senior project.

But the process for the Hilton sis­ters doesn't develop in Rogers and Hammerstein fashion, Jarman said, as it was originally written in 1997 by Henry Krieger (music) and Bill Rus­sell (book and lyrics).

A couple of entrepreneurs rescue the sisters from an abusive, drunk boss and make them famous, but at a cost more than the group bargains for — a theme Jarman has seen in her own life.

"Nobody in their right mind would direct a musical (as a senior project)," Jarman said. "I haven't slept more than four hours in weeks."

Jarman, music senior Morgan Hunt, along with choreographer, theater junior Natalie Roy, have been working with the cast of 16 and a small orchestra since December. Complicating the process, the group held rehearsals in the computer sci­ence building while the Cal Poly Black Box theatre — The Davidson Music Center, room 212, where the show will take place through Sunday — was occupied by "Julius (Caesar" rehearsal and class lectures.

Moving into the actual performance space was critical to bring all the elements together in front of an audience — an opportunity the ac­tors benefited from at Monday evening's 'dress-rehearsal rehearsal,' Jarman said.

The creative team had to go through the appropriate channels for department approval and pay a high price for royalties. Just for permis­sion, they had to pay $1,000, but they had help from the department and family members.

All in all, the senior project is more than some expected it to be.

"It's much better than I imagined it would be during the first several weeks," said biochemistry and chemistry senior Victo­ria Doroski, who plays Vi­olet. "The cast is extremely talented and the show has taken shape the way it needed to."

For the audi­ence, there is a heavy pull into the world of the freaks. There is a nat­ural, obvious connection to Daisy (theater senior Ashley Merchak) and Violet, two sympathetic but outlandish charac­ters who leave the audience distant but concerned.

"The show shuffles between turmoil and tranquility, constantly in contrast," Doroski said.

The love interest, Buddy Foster (theater junior Max Sopkin), falls for Violet, but is determined to believe that he can love her as she loves him, again a feat more than what he bargains for. The writer toys with the audience, asking them to connect with Foster's quirks, humorous char­ms, only to later disregard his own struggle to accept Violet and her other half. Daisy's interest, Terry Connor (music graduate Rory Frat­kin), finds himself in the same predicament.

"Daisy and Violet are very two-dimensional. You see the girls in black and white, but it's the winnow­ing of the gray — the struggle, the hope that is in these two," Merchak said.

But the show is more about what the audience sees in itself by looking through the lens of the characters.
Will Taylor

Actors, directors, producers and movie junkies will flock to town to participate in 10 days of movies, events and workshops for the 16th annual San Luis Obispo International Film Festival on Friday.

The festival is bigger and better than ever, festival director Wendy Edison said. She estimated the festival attendance has roughly doubled since she took over the directorial job in 2007. About 5,000 people are expected to attend, actors such as Josh Brolin and Alan Arkin.

"It's really starting to feel like a real film festival," she said.

Events range from movie showings, to question-and-answer sessions with filmmakers, to wine tastings and musical events.

Movie showings are the main focus. Filmmakers such as Ash Adams, a writer, director, producer and actor, who, at the age of 18, acted at the Little Theatre in San Luis Obispo, will show their films. Adams' film "Once Fallen," starring Ed Harris and Amy Madison, will be shown Saturday. It will be part of his third festival tour with one of his films.

"What distinguishes a good festival from a not-so-good festival is the quality of movies and how they treat the filmmakers," Adams said. "It's supposed to be about the filmmakers and putting together an arena so that they come together and talk about films without the politics and without the pressure to say things or do things (from Hollywood). I think San Luis Obispo is offering that sort of platform."

Director and actor Aaron Metchik, whose film "10 Years Later" was shot entirely on the Central Coast with a mixture of Los Angeles and local cast and crew, will open the festival on Friday as a world premiere. Metchik lived on a farm in the Central Coast from age 6 to 18 and said it was great to come back to film and then get the opportunity to show his film.

"I have a strong connection to the area and the people there and so many people were involved, I'm happy to show what we have accomplished," he said. "The Central Coast area is perfect for film because of the small towns and beautiful surroundings. He said the crew felt much more like a family because they were on location and their outside lives weren't there to drag people away. The film was meant to take place in "small town anywhere-America."

The beautiful and unparallelled surroundings are one thing supposed to set San Luis Obispo apart from other film festivals. Lindsey Miller, director of marketing for the San Luis Obispo Chamber of Commerce, said the festival is meant not only to highlight movies and the people who make them, but the San Luis Obispo area as well.

"I think the great thing about the event is the focus is on unique venues in unique ways," Miller said. "Events are held at ranches, wineries and theaters like the historic Fremont. It's a great way of showcasing not only movies but the county as well."

The influx of movie-goers to San Luis Obispo gives a significant boost to the local economy, Miller said. March is considered off-season in town, and hotels, restaurants and stores are happy to see the business.

"These are people traveling with money," Miller said. "They're people that are coming and participating in what SLO has to offer; they're spending money in the town."

The event is one of the biggest gatherings not only in the city of San Luis Obispo, but in the county as well. Tourism is the number one money-maker in the city, Miller said.

Miller also noted that the geographical location of San Luis Obispo is perfect for the festival. People can make a short weekend trip from Los Angeles or San Francisco without flying.

Film tickets and information about the festival are available online at www.slofilmfest.org.

SLO International Film Festival

to take over downtown Friday

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San Luis Obispo International Film Festival

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- In American Clefs: written after the Smithsonian Hall Lecture
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Award-winning composer to guest conduct concert

Leticia Rodriguez
March 11, 2010

Award-winning orchestral composer and conductor Frank Ticheli will be a guest conductor at the Cal Poly music department's annual Winter Band Concert performed by the Wind Ensemble and Wind Orchestra this Saturday.

The winter concert will be Ticheli's first appearance at Cal Poly and the last winter performance for director of bands William Johnson. Johnson, who has been at Cal Poly since 1966, said he has been working to get Ticheli to come for approximately five years but, due to time conflicts, wasn't able to schedule him until this past summer.

"Dr. Ticheli is considered one of the great wind band composers in the entire world," Johnson said. "He's in constant demand all over the world as a composer and a conductor. So we've talked him into coming to Cal Poly and spending a couple of days with us."

Ticheli's ability to fuse different styles of music into one composition, creating a more exciting experience for the audience, is what Johnson said puts him in such high demand. It's also the reason the concert will solely feature works composed and conducted by Ticheli, a rarity because most performances involve compositions from multiple composers, Johnson said. The reason for this is it's hard to create a diverse set with just one composer, because most composers stick to a similar pattern with their work.

"Ticheli's eclectic style of composition is what wind ensemble drummer Courtney Wolfe enjoys. Wolfe, a music senior, compared Ticheli to film composer John Williams, the man behind the Star Wars theme song. She said in the way that people hear the Star Wars song, and connect it to Williams, so do Ticheli's works composed and conducted by Ticheli, a University of Southern California professor who grew up in New Orleons, travels around the world as a guest conductor. He said he's always known he wanted to make music his career.

"There was never any sort of a career crisis or a decision crisis," Ticheli said. "I just knew I wanted to be a musician at an early age and I just never looked back. I never stopped. I knew what I wanted to do, and I did it. I just enjoy making music."

As a musician, Ticheli is known for being not only a conductor, but also a composer. His work has been performed in orchestras across America and Europe, and Johnson said he is most excited about hearing his newest composition, "Angels in the Architecture."

"It's different from any of the other pieces I've heard him write, and it's dramatic. It's extremely dramatic. I'm looking forward to hearing him conduct it," Johnson said.

The song, defined as "operatic" by Ticheli, starts off slow, and Ticheli said in his program notes that the song is meant to represent the angel and the divinity of humans. As the singing fades out, a stream of taped and loud instruments "weak in" to represent "darkness, death and spiritual doubt."

"There are sounds that are not typical of a wind band, especially the opening," Ticheli said. "There's an exotic quality to it that I think, is just something that I find appealing, and I think the audience will enjoy it."

For Ticheli, simply making music with others who are as passionate as himself is enough.

"The joy that I get comes from the music and sharing the music with my fellow human beings," he said. "The music that I do is all instrumental or mostly instrumental, and what I love about it is it expresses things and takes us to places that words can't touch. It is a place that is wholly occupied by music, and it transcends words. You thank your lucky stars that you're a musician."

The concert begins at 7 p.m. March 13 in Harman Hall at the Christopher Cohen Center. Tickets are available at the Performing Arts ticket office for $8 and $9 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays or by phone at 805-756-2767.
Concern over for-profit earmarks are an indication of politicians’ interests

As a political junkie, I have learned over the years that politicians are not a polite topic of conversation.

Actually, it’s an unpopular topic of discussion — especially among college students. People largely regard politicians as corrupt, self-interested and detached from the average American. And they’re right. American politics is riddled with corruption, cynicism and self-ambition.

When I think too much about the brokenness of our political system, I begin to fall prey to apathy: the essence of a representative democracy. Recently, I began to consider how Immanuel Kant’s categorical imperative relates to our political system. When politicians choose corruption, they are choosing corruption for American society.

One way politicians have engaged corruption in American politics is through earmarks. Prior to Wednesday, politicians were able to take incentives from for-profit private contractors in the form of gifts and then, in turn, reward those for-profit companies with no-bid contracts for construction and other jobs built into various bills passed through Congress. These no-bid contracts built into bills are called earmarks.

The Washington Post reports that the 2010 budget probably included over $1,000 of these earmarks for private businesses, amounting to billions of dollars. One infamous earmark was Alaska’s $400 million “bridge to nowhere” in 2005. According to the Washington Post and Reuters, earmark spending increased dramatically under the Republican rule from 1994-2006. And due to the ethics scandal surrounding Rep. Charlie Rangel (D-N.Y.) for accepting trips from corporations, democrats had a major political incentive to pass an earmarks reform bill. Passing this earmarks reform bill places a lot of pressure on republicans now, who must decide whether they will elect to stop taking earmarks altogether in order to improve their image with the American public. Earmarks are nearly as unpopular with americans as politics itself.

The new rules that passed Wednesday would not entirely restrict earmarks. In fact, Alaska’s “bridge to nowhere” would still be a permissible earmark under the House’s new rules. Nevertheless, had these new rules been implemented before the last year, Reuters reports that about 10 percent of the earmarks would have been blocked.

I am not anti-earmarks. I think that states should be able to have federal funds for improvement projects. But these aren’t the earmarks targeted by these rules. These earmarks rules are geared toward ending politicians’ practices of garnering perks from private corporations, and in turn providing these corporations with taxpayer dollars.

Without checks on these politicians and rules in place to restrict this behavior, corporations would have too much influence on American politics. People become tense when the government interferes with private business. When private business interferes with politics, is it just as egregious? The fact that the House passed this resolution to end for-profit earmarks gives me hope — even if it was done under political pretenses. House democrats should be applauded for ending earmarks and cracking down on corruption.

It’s time for the Senate to make the same commitment. While the House, under Speaker Nancy Pelosi’s (D-Calif.) leadership, is making progress to change the perception of politics, the Senate is free to choose not to end for-profit earmarks. I’m going to pay attention to who advocates ending earmarks and who remains silent. Jesus once said, “Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” While Jesus is infinitely greater than politicians and his statement is intended to encourage people to set their eyes on heaven, not on the material things of earth, his statement reveals a truth about political corruption. Paying attention to what politicians seem to value says much about where their interests lie. If they fail to end earmarks, perhaps their interest is in making a buck, not changing the status quo.

Stephanie England is an English sophomore and Mustang Daily columnist.
Thursday, March 11, 2010

Elections show how far Iraq has come

When the history of the U.S. war in Iraq is written, Sunday's parliamentary election may well provide the final chapter. The national vote in which minority Sunni Arabs cast ballots along with Shiites and ethnic Kurds could be a marker for the end of the seven-year war, although not for the end of the nation's sectarian conflict.

Thirty-eight Iraqis died in Baghdad election violence, a relatively light toll compared with the bloodletting of recent years. Tens of thousands of Iraqis have died since the war began in March 2003. Once the election day rockets and bombs cleared like some sort of morning weather front, Iraqis turned out in large numbers to cast their ballots ... about two-thirds of the country's eligible voters in all. A successful election neither justifies the original U.S. invasion, which was conducted on fake pretenses, nor does it guarantee Iraq's democratic government, but it is positive news for President Obama, as it means the United States can start the process of bringing U.S. combat troops out of Iraq in August and to withdraw the rest of U.S. forces by the end of 2011.

Although sectarian struggles were key factors in the campaign, and undoubtedly many voters cast ballots along ethnic and religious lines, Iraqis should take heart in the fact that their own security forces capably provided protection for the overwhelming majority of the 10 million voters who once again opted to seek political power through peaceful means. They should celebrate the fact that Sunni Arab parties chose to participate rather than boycott the election as they did in 2005. No party is expected to win a majority of the 352 seats in parliament, so Prime Minister Nouri Maliki will continue in his role as a caretaker government as the party that wins the most seats tries to form a new coalition government. If the last parliamentary election is any indication, negotiations could take months, leaving a dangerous power vacuum that insurgents surely will try to exploit to refuel sectarian tensions. It is in the interest of all Iraqis, therefore, for the parties to make the necessary compromises and alliances to put a new administration in place as soon as possible.

Iraqis want and deserve control over their own future. We hope that a new government will strengthen democratic institutions and the rule of law while providing new opportunities to resolve some of the country's long-standing problems. Iraq has yet to decide, for instance, who will control the Kirkuk region, how to apportion the country's precious oil revenues and how much authority will rest with the central government over its divided regions. The United States should offer counsel when asked and, otherwise, stand back and wish them wisdom in governing.

Elections show how far Iraq has come

NOTE: The Mustang Daily features only comments that are written in response to articles posted online. Though not all the responses are printed, the Mustang Daily will print comments that are coherent and foster intelligent discussion on a given subject. No vep militarization, please.
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Disabled Marine Corps Vet in his 80's needs part-time assistant to produce quarterly newsletter & book. Seeking dependable assistant w/computer/printer, to work 2 hrs/day 5 days/wk. Interested? Call Bob Dixon 595-7070 & I will show you the research, writing, designing & printing work we will be doing to reach our goals.

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Administrative Secretary, PT ADMIN SECRETARY The Ellison group is seeking candidates to fill a part-time (approx. 12-20 hrs/wk). The ideal candidate must possess a minimum of a high school diploma and 1 year progressive exp. in an office environment. Qualifications include excellent word processing skills. Submit resume by email calistoga2018@hotmail.com NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

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Roommate Needed
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.

Male sophomore looking for roommate in downtown condo $600/Month Water & Trash Paid email armic52@gmail.com

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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.

Male sophomore looking for roommate in downtown condo $600/Month Water & Trash Paid email armic52@gmail.com

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**Announcement**

Laptop Repair www.laptoprepair.com Student Discount Fast Turn Around
Giants’ Pablo Sandoval pushes squad past Cubs

Andrew Baggarly

SANDOVAL: "I didn't think they would have seen him as a pudgy 7-year-old.

CARLOS ZAMBRANO: "He's always been like that, "the Chicago Cubs' All-Star pitcher said.

ANDREW BAGGALY: "Sandoval used to hang around the older kids on the baseball fields in Carabobo, Venezuela. By the time he was 14, he was catching Zambrano's side school.

It didn't matter that Zambrano was five years older and pumping 97 mph fastballs.

They remain close. More than once this spring, Sandoval has broken bread at Zambrano's house. And for Sandoval, who was sidelined Wednesday at HoHoKam Park, Zambrano served up exactly what he wanted.

"It was 2-0, behind in the count," Zambrano said. "I tried to run a fastball in there."

It ran right onto the Panda's hat. It was a grand slam last night, a grand slam in the Giants' 3-1 victory over the Cubs on Thursday. As Sandoval walked off the field, you couldn't help pointing his finger as he enunciated each word. "When I used to play against Barry Bonds, you know how many home runs he hit, and I got my pitch."

Sandoval showed improved plate discipline last season. He boosted his average pitches per plate appearance (1.94 from 1.11 in 2008) and swung at fewer offerings out of the strike zone (41.5 percent from 53.8 percent). He was especially patient in the second half. Sandoval drew 26 walks over the first four months (in 399 plate appearances); he matched that total in August and September (in only 234 plate appearances).

He hit .360 in his first full season. And there's reason to believe he'll be better.

"Oh yeah," Giants manager Bruce Bochy said. "This spring, you see him taking pitches where last year at this time he'd be swinging. That comes with experience for any hitter. You've got to remember he hasn't been playing that long."

Not long in the United States, anyway.

"I know that guy is something special," Zambrano said. "He had to see the guy when he was 12 or 13 years old. You can see the talent of any young kid. He's going to be good. Man, he's going to be one of the best hitters in the National League.

Sandoval would tag along to practices with his older brother, Michael, who's now a farmhand in the Giants system. Zambrano quickly took a liking to the high-energy kid.

"Because he saw the potential," Bochy said. Sandoval said. "He'd start talking to me, give me little tips on what the situation is like in the U.S."

Later on, Zambrano followed Sandoval's progress when he played for the local team sponsored by the national oil company. It was the same uniform that Zambrano wore as a teenager.

"Has Sandoval always been big?"

"He was always... strong," said Zambrano, judiciously.

Of course, Zambrano is 6-foot-5 and 255 pounds, no treat to have as an airplane scrimmage, either.

"Hey," said a smiling Sandoval. "The city where I live, they create big guys."

When Sandoval faced Zambrano in the first game of last season, he was overeager. He struck out, grounded out twice and lined out. So he doesn't plan to gloat over his grand slam in a Cactus League game.

"Nah, I'm not going to say nothing," Sandoval said. "We are friends. I don't want to remember that. I'll wait for the season to say, 'Yeah, I got you.'"

Zambrano was asked if he looks forward to facing Sandoval when it counts.

"When it counts," he said, pointing his finger as he enunciated each word. "When I used to play against Barry Bonds, you know how many home runs he hit off me? One. In spring training.

"If it's 0-2," Sandoval said, "I don't get that pitch."
Baseball to host Houston for three-game series

What happened last night? It’s a question most college students often ponder as hits and pieces of the night flash through your head like faint pictures from a broken projector.

This is how the Mustang baseball season has been so far. The box score is there, but the final numbers often spring questions.

Cal Poly lost two of three to San Francisco! Where did Mitch Hanger come from? JJ Thompson is playing shortstop.

What is going on?

Cal Poly is currently sitting with a 6-6 record after the first couple weeks of the season. Rolling off a record-breaking season last year, the Mustangs have yet to post a winning record. Before the series victory against Northern Illinois, the Mustangs had not won a series all season.

“We are just stringing hits together,” head coach Larry Lee said at Monday’s press conference. “We are not playing to our capabilities.”

Recently, Cal Poly has turned its problems on the diamond around.

Wednesday, Cal Poly defeated Northern Illinois 12-5. The Mustangs didn’t waste time and rushed out to a 3-0 lead. After Northern Illinois responded with a three-run effort in the third, the Mustangs responded with five more runs off four hits, in the bottom half of the inning.

Down the stretch, the Mustangs added four runs in the seventh to complete the sweep.

On Tuesday, the Mustangs posted seven runs on seven hits in the first inning to rush out to a 7-0 early advantage.

In the seventh inning, sophomore Jordan Hadlock hit a triple that brought home two, bringing the score to 13-2.

Cal Poly didn’t look back as it went on to win 13-3.

The recent success has masked early-season struggles by the Mustangs, but even with the losing record, the early season schedule has brought up some surprises.

Freshman Jason Hadlock became the first player this season to record four hits in a game against Northern Illinois on Tuesday.

“It felt good to be able to string a few hits together,” Hadlock said. “I tried to hit the ball hard and stay focused.”

Hadlock is hitting .700 this season.

Hopefully we can start putting pieces of the puzzle together and play a better brand of baseball.

—Larry Lee
Cal Poly baseball head coach

The week with a 6.17 ERA.

“They are going to continue to get thrown out there. Hopefully, through the course of more games and as the season progresses, more season will be added in the mix.”

Houston’s pitching staff hasn’t faced the same obstacles.

The Cougars do not hold a pitcher with an ERA above four. Junior right-hander Chase Dempsay leads the team with a 1.29 ERA and .647 slugging percentage.

But the success the sophomore has found its groove at the plate.

The team with a .412 batting average and a .647 slugging percentage. Hopefully we can start putting pieces of the puzzle together and play a better brand of baseball,” Lee said.

—Brian De Los Santos and Mikela Akama contributed to this article