Students camp on Dexter

Stanford professor speaks about neuroscience

Katie Grady
KATHERINEGRADY.MSN.COM

Can brain scans tell whether a person is likely to act criminally? If so, what should be done about it? These are two of many ques-
tions Stanford law professor Hank Greely posed in a packed hall at Cal Poly on March 12.

Greely specializes in the effects of new biomedical technologies, more specifically those related to neuroscience, genetics and stem cell research. Greely focused on the emerging field of "neuroethics," the legal and social implications of neuroscience in his lecture entitled "Neuroscience: Scientific Revolution, Social Challenges." When in-
creasing technological advances, he challenged the audience to consider the ramifications of such advances.

In his geometrical, multicolor swatch, Greely approached the front of Phillips Hall at the Chris-
topher Cohen Performing Arts Cen-
ter on the sunny Friday afternoon and said, "I want you all to look at my sweater. How many colors are in it? Listen to my voice. Notice the feeling of the back of your seat (for those of you fortunate enough to have seats). Wiggle the big toe on your right foot. Ask yourself, 'What am I doing in here on a beautiful spring day?' Everything you just have seen is related to neuroscience.

Greely highlighted just how im-
portant the 25-year-old invention of the MRI has been to advance-
ments in the field. X-rays, which are cast shadows by dense objects, are not very useful for studying brains because there are no dense objects in our brains, Greely said. He talked about the MRI machine as having a magnetic field billions of times more powerful than the earth's magnetic field. He said be-
fore they learned how to shield the machines, people walking by the building would find their keys coming out of their pockets and sticking to the walls.

An MRI is a bunch of data on radio waves that the computer software reconstructs as an image. With this technology, we can now see how the brain changes and differences between individuals.

Greely brought up the topic of taxi cab drivers in London. These highly trained professionals were found to have larger hippocampi than the average individual. Being a cab driver in London is consid-
ered higher status than being an en-
gineer, because you are expected to memorize every street, every build-
ing, every alley or every freeway of this massive metropolitan area. It takes years of study and multiple tests.

The hippocampus is the spot in the brain where new memories and new neurons are made. If it is removed, you become incapable of learning new facts. This is concret-
ed by the cabby study.

Greely also elaborated on the fMRI, a test for oxygenated and deoxygenated hemoglobin in the brain, which can predict areas of brain activity. With this test, sci-
entists can tell which parts of the brain are working harder when, essentially finding a brain map for things like listening to a favorite band or the feeling of true love.

"More than 4,000 fMRI experimen-
tests will be published this year," Greely said. "Ten years ago, there were 200. This technology is exploding."

— Hank Greely
Stanford law professor

After quake, life calms on both sides of border
Tony Perry
Los Angeles Times

Life began returning to a jittery sort of normal Monday on both sides of the U.S.-Mexican border, one day after a magnitude 7.2 earthquake rumbled through the area around Mexicali, Mexico.

Assessment teams inspected buildings and cleanup crews swept up broken glass in Mexicali and its smaller California neighbor, Calexi-
co, both of which sustained modest damage. The death toll rose to two, with more than 2,300 people injured. The quake, centered about 30 miles south of the border, caused 45 build-
ings in Baja California to collapse or partly collapse, authorities said.

"Little by little, things are com-
ing back to normal," said Alejandro Contreras, a spokesman for the state government in Mexicali, a spraw-
ling municipality of almost 1 million about 125 miles east of San Diego.

"People are nervous, of course, but we are calling for calm and working to restore service."

On the U.S. side of the border, a 12-square-mile historic section of Calexico was closed for inspec-
tion and several buildings were red-
tagged, including the Mangas Vic-
tor M. Carrillo said. Calexico also lost the use of its main water tank.

Carrillo said damage added up to about "millions of dollars" but that it was too early for more precise estimates.

Two people were injured in sur-
rounding Imperial County, one crit-
ically, according to Maria Peinado, a spokeswoman for the county Office of Emergency Services.

Considered the magnitude of the quake — it was roughly equiva-
 lent to the one that devastated Port-
au Prince, Haiti, in January — causing more than 200,000 deaths — the region seemed to have emerged sur-
prisingly intact.

At a news conference in Pasade-
nya, Caltech seismologist Kate Hut-
ton said the earthquake in Mexico, which struck at 3:40 p.m. Sunday, probably occurred between five and 10 miles below the surface. It was followed by hundreds of smaller af-
tershocks, she said. Over the next week, she added, there might be as many as 22 aftershocks of magni-
itude 4, and perhaps two of magni-
itude 5.

Times staff writers Mitchell Lands-
berg and Patrick McDonnell in Los Angeles contributed to this report.
Brain

(continued from page 1)

nearly one percent of the world's adults and is almost always diag­
nosed between the ages of 18 and 28, meaning about 20 students from
each class year at Cal Poly could end up with the disease. Predicting dis­
ese would immediately pigeonhole
nevolution uses. “If we were, poker wouldn’t ex­

sibilities of employers and insurers
n of pedophilia? Creely asks. “What do you do with

two years of follow­

Would we lock them up and throw

Would they really require certain drugs.

Lastly, Greely talked about the

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Explosion leaves many dead, missing

Bob Drogin and Nicole Santa Cruz
Tribune Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — A tight-knit community waited, watched and prayed late Monday night as rescue workers rushed to search for survivors of an explosion in a coal mine deep in the rugged hills of West Virginia.

Seven miners were confirmed dead and 19 were still unaccounted for hours after the fierce blast inside the Upper Big Branch mine between 3 and 3:30 p.m. The mine is owned by Massey Energy Co., one of the nation’s largest coal producers.

The explosion destroyed communication lines inside the huge mine. It wasn’t clear if the missing miners were able to reach specially reinforced rescue chambers that are stocked with food, water and air.

The mine, which comprises several square miles underground, has a history of releasing highly combustible methane gas, according to mine safety officials.

At least nine mine rescue teams and other emergency responders, as well as frightened families, converged on the rural mining town of Montcoal, which is about 30 miles south of Charleston, the state capital. Helicopters clattered overhead.

Elizabeth Pelligrin, a spokeswoman for the Charleston Area Medical Center, said one miner was flown in by helicopter at 6 p.m. The miner was in intensive care, she said, and doctors were preparing for other patients.

“We’re hoping for more,” Pelligrin said.

Massey Energy officials said they did not yet know the cause of the accident. The mine is operated by a Massey subsidiary, Performance Coal Co.

“We’re uncertain as to what happened but we are working diligently on rescue efforts,” said Massey Energy’s chief executive officer, Don Blankenship.

Kevin Stricklin, an administrator with the Mine Safety and Health Administration, told The Associated Press that the seven men apparently were killed while riding on a mine vehicle, and that two other men aboard the vehicle were injured.

He said the 19 missing include two crews of nine workers, and a fire boss who was working alone.

Two rescue chambers are situated near the blast site and are stocked with food, water and enough air to sustain the group for four days, Stricklin said.

He said officials don’t believe there was a roof collapse, but they don’t yet know what caused the explosion.

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STATE

SAN LUIS OBISPO (MCT)— Soon after the 242-acre Johnson Ranch opened to the public a year ago, it became one of San Luis Obispo's most popular open-space parks.

Now, resource managers are struggling with a vexing problem — wild pigs. Dozens of the animals have taken up residence in the park, where they are muddying creeks and tearing up hillsides.

The city is trapping and killing the pigs. City officials concede that it may be impossible to remove the pigs entirely from the ranch. They want to at least keep their numbers under control to minimize the damage they cause.

LOS ANGELES (MCT)— Lately, the Lakers haven't even had the best bench in a given game. Sunday against the San Antonio Spurs, the Lakers' bench was unable to give the team a boost.

It's more the recent pattern for the Lakers' bench. The reserves were outscored 42-12 by the New Orleans Hornets' reserves and 48-22 by the Atlanta Hawks' reserves.

That led Lakers Coach Phil Jackson to say before that Hawks game, "makes me want to throw up sometimes."

NATIONAL

WASHINGTON (MCT) — Senators are set for a cloture vote when Congress reconvenes Monday to consider a $9 million House measure to extend unemployment benefits that Republicans say would further extend the federal deficit.

That failure to extend benefits that expired Monday meant 212,000 unemployed people will lose benefits this week, according to figures provided by the National Employment Law Project.

Senate Republicans continue to stand by the bipartisan deal they had with their Democratic counterparts Monday.

FLORIDA (MCT) — Angry conservatives have become a cliche in the Obama age, but Marco Rubio, a GOP candidate for U.S. Senate in Florida, takes a different tack, trading fire for a sort of low-key, rational indignation combined with the earnestness of a senior class president.

He is urgent, but never hysterical. This, despite being claimed by the Tea Party movement as one of their own. Despite the fact that, technically, he's an insurgent, running against an incumbent governor, Charlie Crist, a fellow Republican.

Rubio frames his candidacy in terms of a grave mission to rescue the GOP from itself, to restore its Reaganesque legacy, and to challenge President Barack Obama's agenda.

INTERNATIONAL

SOUTH KOREA (MCT) — South Korea sent a warship to the Indian Ocean on Monday to pursue Somali pirates who hijacked a U.S.-bound oil tanker in another brazen assault in shipping lanes hundreds of miles off the Horn of Africa.

South Korean officials said the hijacked ship, the Samho Dream, is a 300,000-ton tanker, but they gave no indication how much oil was on board when pirates seized the vessel Sunday about 950 miles off the Somali coast. The crew of five Koreans and 19 Filipinos was sailing from Iraq to Louisiana.

The ship's owner, Samho Shipping, said that officials lost contact with the crew after receiving a distress call late Sunday afternoon.

CHINA (MCT) — For once, it was good news that came out from the depths of a Chinese coal mine as 115 workers were rescued Monday after eight days and eight nights trapped underground in Shanxi Province.

The extraordinary rescue turned into an around-the-clock reality show with state-run CCTV broadcasting live footage of the rescue workers carrying out the miners to a cheering audience. Crews were still hoping Monday night to bring out 38 more miners.

More information available through the Cal Poly International Education Office.

Visit us at the Study Abroad Fair Thursday, April 8
10 am - 2 pm, Dexter Lawn

For more information, visit the Cal Poly International Education Office

Compiled and photographed by Jessica Barba
Space shuttle starts 13-day mission

John M. Gionna and Ju-Min Park and Kenneth H. Weiss

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — Space shuttle Discovery with its crew of seven astronauts soared into orbit Monday, racing around the horizon just before sunset and arcing over the horizon just before sunrise with its crew of seven, including a Japanese experiment from the international Space Station.

Discovery is carrying eight tons of cargo and science equipment for the station’s laboratories. The 13-day mission, dubbed the “Experiment Express,” has three planned spacewalks to install a fresh ammonia tank assembly for the lab’s coolant system and retrieve precious cargo, including a new crew sleep station and a lab freezer.

It’s so densely and precisely packed that it will take 100 hours for the joint shuttle and station crews to make room in the carrier.

“We have to unload it in a certain order in order to get things out,” said Ron Spencer, NASA’s lead space station flight director for the mission.

— Adding to the challenge is the fact that space on the station is tight and that every piece of hardware has to find its place. Spencer said. “In the days before Discovery’s arrival, station crew members will be moving big gear around on the orbiting complex to make room for the new arrivals.

“Add remember,” Spencer added, “the station crew is going to need to know where these things are when the shuttle crew leaves. So we have to be very deliberate about where we put things and record where it is so different people will know where things are after the shuttle crew is gone.”

While the astronauts are busy overhead, President Barack Obama is scheduled to make a speech on April 15 at the space center while Discovery is in orbit, outlining his plans for spacecraft after the shuttles are retired.

Obama created a furor in the White House when he proposed killing NASA’s Constellation program, which has been aimed at returning astronauts to the moon as early as 2018. NASA cribbed to its constellation program by announcing a new five-year plan to continue the program, saying it was designed to bring in leading scholars to speak on areas that may not be discussed in the classroom.

“I think we worry about them ... I have to believe we are creating an educated public,” Greely said after the presentation Thursday, April 15, which is Monday’s latest in a series of educational events at Cal Poly.

The lecture series is funded by the College of Liberal Arts and the Philosophy Department, but with limited funds, the group is applying for grants to keep the series going.

“Given the strong showing of attendees, we’re seeing — which are increasing with every talk — there’s a substantial demand for these talks in technology ethics, and I hope we’re able to continue the program,” Lin said.

“It’s clear that Hank has an impressive command of the history as well as the most recent research in the field, so it’s great to be able to hear about this work, straight from the front lines,” Lin said.

Simeone Mata, a philosophy junior, said she was planning to go on a hike, but heard about the lecture from a friend and decided to come check it out. “As the first one to one with the audience, Mata felt the afternoon was well spent.

“It was really informative and just very interesting to hear something other than what our majors usually feed us,” Mata said.

Neuroscience: continued from page 2

high use of adderall and stimulants among college students, causing cognitive enhancements. He says some people argue it’s unnatural. “Everybody’s unnatural,” Greely said. “Our lives are unnatural. Your sweater is unnatural. Your clothes are unnatural — these lights are unnatural.”

He questions if it’s really cleaning. These pills don’t give knowledge; they just make your studying more effective, he said. Safety, fairness and cohesion are his biggest concerns. They are FDA-approved for diseases, only certain individuals can obtain them, and what if employers started encouraging the use of these drugs?

“Most of what we care about in this world are other people’s minds,” Greely said. “That’s what we interact with, really.”

He ended with a series of ethical questions.

“This revolution is here already,” Greely said. “I have to believe we are better off doing this. Background knowledge will change as we advance in these, in advance, if we talk about them, if we worry about them. I have to think we will do a better job of minimizing their impacts and minimizing the risks.

Greely said after the presentation that his intention with the lectures is mainly to get people thinking.

“I want to do my little part to help create an educated population,” Greely said. “In two hours, you can’t educate in depth, but you can get people interested and give them some idea of why these are fascinating issues that will also be important.”

Cal Poly is just one of his stops. Greely has given lectures at the University of Virginia, Harvard University and the University of Texas, Houston Medical School all in the past couple of weeks. He is heading to Houston International University, Washington D.C. and Vanderbilt University in the next couple of months as well.

“This is a hot area, so there are a lot of people interested in hearing about it,” Greely said. “If one tenth of the people who are in this room actually go on to pay serious attention to this, this will have been a trip well worthwhile for me, plus I like driving here.”

Greely was brought to campus by the Ethics + Emerging Sciences group at Cal Poly. The group was established in 2007 and focuses on risk, ethical and social concerns related to new sciences and technology. Greely is part of a technology and ethics lecture series the group began last year.

Director of the group, philosophy professor Patrick Lin says they are trying to bring in leading scholars to speak on areas that may not be discussed much at Cal Poly from neuroscience to cybersecurity.

“The issues Professor Greely discussed are important, because at some point soon, they may affect the everyday person,” Lin said in an e-mail. “We’re already seeing businesses use neuroscience in marketing and advertising — exploiting how our brains work in order to lure us into a purchase — and, as Hank described, there are many questions related to law and ethics, such as the use of our medical information by employers or insurers that may potentially be discriminatory as well as privacy-infringing.”

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“It was really informative and just very interesting to hear something other than what our majors usually feed us,” Mata said.
British artist Chloe White leaps for discovery in U.S. debut

Anthony Pannone
ANTHONY.PANNONE.MD@GMAIL.COM

Be prepared to warp into a fairy tale land when stepping inside ARTS Space Oceans located in The Creamery in downtown San Luis Obispo. With a dash of self-reflection, a handful of sensuality and three parts small animal, artist Chloe White has opened a portal and seemingly transformed the art gallery into a surreal realm, where statues of frog people, bird people and cigar-smoking fish greet you as if you’ve fallen down the rabbit’s hole. Muskings on dreams for inspiration, White sketches and sculpts half-animal creatures that look as though they leap from the pages of an early 20th-century children’s story. There are diving and poon-scuttling frogs made of clay. A woman and fish cast in bronze share a clawfoot hot tub. Look up and come face-to-face with a swimming frog in mid-breast stroke hanging from the ceiling by a colorless thread. And a woman posing in front of a 15-foot, high mural dressed in a scaly shirtud and a tish hea tor a hat sets the scene for White’s anthropomorphic wonderland.

Each piece acts as a focal point in this Briton’s first-ever exhibit in the United States, “Clay Dreams: Salmon Slippers and Star Ciaiy Pie.” “Clay Dreams” is the name, White said, as she moved about pointing to her work, then back to the title on the wall. “Salmon Slippers” comes from — well, look, let me show you — see, my fish wear shoes. And “Star Ciaiy Pie” is a Cornish dish — although I’m not Cornish.”

Star Ciaiy Pie is a culinary hodge-podge of fish, vegetables, butter, eggs and spices topped by a pastry crust; it is Southern English comfort food. And as a garnish, fish heads stick out from atop the crust gazing at the stars.

White said coming up with a name for the exhibit included both the gallery’s and the artist’s brainwork. “It is an interesting title and captures my artwork’s essence,” White said, looking up at the silver and white letters pasted on a peach-colored wall. As a child, White suffered from asthma, which made playing sports difficult. Admitting she isn’t — and never was — “sporty,” the sculptor likens her art-making process to athletic prowess.

“One time my son, left, made a bet with my husband while playing golf! He said for $40 he would make an eagle. Well, he did it! And, after sinking the putt, he just knew it would happen. Same for me. When I’m painting or sculpting, I feel like I’m in the zone; it just feels right. Sometimes I know where (the piece) is going, or I know which line to stroke and where,” White said.

When beginning a piece — see Artist, page 7

British artist Chloe White makes her U.S. debut at ARTS Space Oceans with her exhibit “Clay Dreams: Salmon Slippers and Star Ciaiy Pie.” It will run until April 29.
With sculpture, I am free and loose, standing in black boots covered in clay and dust.

— Chloe White

**Artist**

continued from page 6

which from start-to-finish can either be five weeks or one month — White uses her own body as a starting point. I often end up by sketching an image, which has been coming to me either as a dream or a day dream in response to something I've observed or felt, and from the sketch I begin, White said. "I start to feel how the form is going to develop — what size and shape it will take — from feeling the weight and the texture. I enjoy adding rebar-like limbs and arranging them to create the desired sense of movement. Then I try out the movement myself and incorporate it into the sculpture.

The artist's resume is backed by years of experience. At White illustrated books in Brighton, England, her hometown. She left for college at age 17, and now holds a degree in fine arts from the University of the West of England, Bristol. Her artwork stems from her unique childhood.

I grew up as a Jehovah's Witness," White said. "And once I moved away to college, it was like — PSHHEE — you know; my life opened up. I was always worried about stepping over boundaries set forth by religion, by societal norms; it was a big source of anxiety. But I learned to have faith in knowing that what I was doing was right, and as long as I had faith, I would be OK.

Before trading her paintbrush for pottery, White painted on canvas using oils and acrylics.

"With sculpture, I am free and loose," White said, standing in black boots covered in clay dust. "There are no boundaries, no edges to stop my expression."

Her blue eyes beamed with the same trance-like stare of her hand-molded figures as she explained why showing her artwork in public brings strange but rewarding feelings. She said her work will reach those who share similar feelings.

"My expression in art is private; it's personal. I am not a recluse, but I believe everybody is essentially good, like everything. I share my art because it heals me; it is therapeutic. When I don't do it, I feel disconnected from myself like I'm not a complete animal," White said.

White said she tries not to think about a viewer's response while creating her artwork because it is "inhib­ ites" the creative flow.

"Her work is hypnotic," gallery­ visitor Bob Sach said. "You can re­ ally see the dynamics of the legs, the strength of the fish. It is sort of bends the mind."

While the artwork on display offers a diverse interpretation, White said her latest collection is "ugly beautiful."

"Fortunately, I'm seeing beaut­ iful," said local large-scale drawer Jamie Beaucage.

Another gallery goer, Marnie Parker, described White's exhibit as "mythic and archaic."

When immersed in the land of creative oddities, there's a striking similarity between the artist's work and the artist herself.

"I guess on some level, they are self-portraits," White said, brushing her red locks from her shoulder.

The message behind her collection is humility — or accept oneself as it is, which, White said, means recognizing both "good and bad qualities about the self and working to mold those qualities into a complete product."

"Frogs, in particular, have this vulnerability, yet remain so graceful in appearance. Their gaze attracts me and their bod­ ies are soft, like a woman," White said. "We should love and appreci­ ate that."

The carnality of animal instinct is evident in the artist's work, and she draws energy from her own intuition, projecting it into each piece.

"We've forgot­ ten we are animals, and just cause we construct things doesn't mean we are better or separate from them. We're no different, only trained to act that way," White said.

White landed in San Luis Obispo by chance, and, sipping a Pony, and then 2-month-old son, Alphonse, decided to stop off at the next sta­tion, which happened to be in San Luis Obispo.

Face is a recurring theme in this artist's life, who teaches her craft locally at Montessori Children's School.

"One of our board members heard Chloe speak at Seynberg Gallery," ARTS Obispo executive director Marita Peluso said. "We liked her work, and it was what we were looking for at the time. We are very excited to have her first exhibit in our gallery."

White gives thanks for the support from her family and friends, specifically fellow artists Josephine Laing and Frank Zika.

Chloe White's exhibit runs April 2-29 at ARTS Space Obispo located at 570 Higuera St. (Be sure to inform­ ant about the fly on the wall.) Admission is free; donations are accepted.

**When a prize ruins a game**

Let's say we were playing Twister. Just you and me. Pretend there was alcohol involved if that helps explain why we're playing. If you've ever played Twister before, you know that it's good for a great many giggles and even some out­ of-control flailing.

Now pretend we were playing Twister at some sort of National Twister Tournament, with the win­ ner receiving a fax of Ferraris and a house in Beverly Hills. The game would be much different.

I'd carefully place my limbs to try to trip you up, you'd cry foul if my hand strayed from its dot for even a moment and there would be no laughter, just teeth gritted in concentration. It would not be fun—Not at all.

Rewards and prizes encourage people to perform certain activi­ ties. One of the greatest rewards, is the organ. For men anyway, the organ acts as a pay on the back. "You just possibly impregnated someone!" it says. "Here's some euphoria." Bio­ logical impregnation is quite good for the future of the species and though the female orgasm isn't as well understand­ ed it also acts as a reward for hav­ ing sex. As anyone who's experienced an organ can stress, if something causes it, you will absolutely keep do­ ing that thing.

While this is very good for our (potential) offspring, reproduction is no longer the only benefit humans get out of sex. Even before orgasm, sex not only feels good, but in some circum­ stances can be a beautiful expression of love. The trouble is that the organ is so enjoyable it tends to overshadow those other, perfectly pleasant feelings.

Organ is hardly the only pleasant part of sex and is actually unnes­sary if you aren't actually trying to get pregnant. I am not for a minute say­ ing that an organ is a bad thing, I do think that it is definitely not the only thing to worry about during sex.

Obsession with a reward can take the fun out of a game. That's what happened with our Twister game, and it definitely can do the same thing to sex. Two people will keep having sex, persisting long past any real enjoy­ ment, devoted to obtaining their prize.

To make matters worse, the more they stress and worry about reaching or­ ganism, the less likely it is to happen in the first place. Organ will be more likely and more enjoyable if you try again when you're more relaxed and in the mood.

It seems much healthier to ap­ proach sex with an open mind. If you really that you will survive, and even enjoy yourself, whether or not you have an organ, then that takes a lot of the pressure off, making one more likely to find the first place.

While the organ is theoretically the greatest reward, it is not the only reason you are having sex. Sex was as enjoyable as peeling potatoes, then yes, an organ would be pretty much the only thing that would make the task worthwhile. But sex is intrinsical­ ly enjoyable, beginning, middle and end, and each of these parts should be enjoyed and appreciated.

It's not the end of the world if your sex doesn't conclude with an orgasm. You were still having sex, after all.

Anthony Butt is a helogical sciences ju­ ror and Mustang Daily arts columnist.
The gods have spoken: 'Clash of the Titans' remake a hit

Geoff Boucher
Los Angeles Times

LONDON — As decisions go, it was the same kind that faced the 1970s souls who had to pick just the right warlock-and-sorceress mural for their communal van. Should the Pegaus be white or black? Maybe glowing red eyes too? And what if — instead of noble feathers — the mighty steed of myth came with a killer pair of bat wings?

That was one of the choices French filmmaker Louis Leterrier wrestled with last summer on the set of "Clash of the Titans," the Warner Bros. and Legendary Pictures adventure that just pulled in $105.6 million worldwide in its opening weekend.

On a crisp, blue-sky afternoon in a soundstage outside London, the tall, slender director watched with intense focus as his star, Sam Worthington, pulled in a $105.6 million triumph as a quotable-and-scientific mural for the next tall, slender director watching with intense focus as his star, Sam Worthington, pulled in a $105.6 million triumph as the 1081 fantasy with Harry Hamlin and Ray Harryhausen's stop-motion monsters. "The idea of someone redoing that movie with horrible CG-creatures — I hated the idea. And then I watched the original again, and I said: Actually, there may be a way to pay homage to the original one and do something new and special."

The solid opening for the $122 million production did not signal a complete victory for Leterrier. The reviews for the film have not been especially kind. Kenneth Turan, for instance, writing in the Los Angeles Times, said the movie has a "tumultuous plot" and a cluttered feel because of a late-in-the-game conversion to 3-D. But for a certain generation of male moviegoers — the one that includes the 36-year-old Leterrier — the "Clash of the Titans" brand name comes with a guilty-pleasure crackle that has nothing to do with serious film criticism.

The original was the first film Leterrier remembers seeing at a theater, and the creature creations of producer and effects pioneer Harryhausen were so distinctive and intriguing that the youngster was dazzled and started on a career path to becoming a second-generation filmmaker (his father, Francois Leterrier, directed the 1977 erotic film "Goodbye Emmanuel"). "Not everyone, though, holds the now-dated sword-and-sandal film up to such lofty status. I didn't want a big, handsome American who looks like a superhero and who, when you see him at the beginning of the movie, you know right away he's going to win in the end," he said. "I wanted a troubled guy, a guy who is dragged through this ordeal and doesn't want to be a hero."

"In films these days, you have the very strong superhero actors and the very fragile actors. The in-between, the guys that go back and forth, are very rare. And Sam is that guy."

"It's a movie people remember, sure, but when people say to me, 'I love it, it's my favorite,' I think, 'Did you watch it lately, mate?'" "Clash" stars Worthington as Perseus, Hamlin's role in the original. "He this time around is lean, mean and out for vengeance as opposed to the earlier pretty-boy plot of earning glory to win the hand of a woman. Leterrier said he chose Worthington because he wanted a scrappy Achilles, not some muscular Adonis.

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Worthington said he and Leterrier — who directed "Transporter 2" and "The Incredible Hulk" with Edward Norton — have a view of "Clash" as a rethink where the story expands out in concentric circles with Perseus at its center. The Titans, the parents of the Greek gods, would see their first action in a movie named after them.

Worthington said he and Leterrier are hopeful. "Some movies end and you say, 'What's the sequel? We can't do another one because the story is over.'" he said. "But things aren't resolved in ours. There's still the dilemma between father and son and where the relationship of Zeus and Perseus stands. And the humans and their war with the gods and the desire for change and fairness."

Take Worthington, who shrugged when asked last year on the set whether he felt as if there were any extra pressure in a project that had such a popcorn heritage. He said further recollections of the film were more emotional than they were accurate.

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No middleman needed for college loans

The primary obstacle for young adults seeking to complete a college degree isn’t that their public schools failed to prepare them or that their colleges somehow alienated them to the point of dropping out. It’s money. Even solidly middle-class families can seldom cough up the more than $160,000 that private college will cost over four years. Working-class families must struggle to send their children to public colleges, which cost anywhere from several thousand dollars a year for live-at-home commuters to $275,000 a year for students at the University of California.

The federal government has spent extraordinary sums each year for student loans that helped put more Americans through college. But much of that money, it turns out, has been wasted. Unbelievably enough, the government has spent billions on interest payments to private banks instead of on needy students. This wasteful and at times violent form of public assistance is currently no legal way for more middle-class families to pay for college for their children.

The change is expected to save more than $60 billion over 11 years, money that will be plowed into student aid.

Up to now, the federal money was used to subsidize interest payments to the private lenders who actually made the loans. The government also guaranteed the loans. This has been a lucrative, risk-free profit center for private lenders, so desirable a business that they at times provided kickbacks to universities that would list them as preferred lenders. In some cases, financial aid officers at certain colleges held stock options in lending companies. After accusations by the attorney general of New York, several lenders and universities paid fines and agreed to a new code of conduct.

Any smart business leader knows that to cut costs, you cut the middleman, yet this system persisted for years after the public became aware that billions of dollars were being spent to create banking profits rather than a better-educated nation. The profits in the student loan business were good enough for lenders to invest in lobbying and campaign contributions, largely to GOP congressmen who now complain that “the student burden” is new, a killer of private-sector jobs. In fact, the jobs were private-sector jobs to begin with.

My only qualm (and I recognize this is somewhat of a fraction in the libertarian camp) is with your assertion that abortions are a social freedom. My stance is that abortion is killing a human and should be considered murder. How do you feel?

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Duke defeats Butler in national championship

The Cinderella story fell short by just three points. Duke defeated Butler, 61-59, in the NCAA championship game Monday night. Head coach Mike Krzyzewski (above) led Duke to their first championship since 2001 and its fourth overall. With the score at 60-59 and 3.6 seconds on the clock, Gordon Hayward missed a fade away baseline jump shot, ending Butler's first trip to the NCAA tournament. Hayward and Shelvin Mack led all Bulldogs with 12 points.

Wrestling

Perhaps the biggest motivator for Pami all year was assistant coach Mark Perry. Perry said he continued to push Pami and drill the belief that he could win because Perry knew he had the talent to win it all. He said Pami began to truly realize his abilities toward the end of the season.

"It's very obvious why Chase did well, and it's because he believed in himself," Perry said. "It doesn't matter if you're the best athlete in the world or the worst. A lot of it is about believing and knowing that you are prepared to go into battle."

Pami said he was glad that everything paid off for Pami, and he bought into what was being taught. Perry expected Pami to be in the championship and enjoyed how Pami went out and took it from opponents instead of just hoping to win.

Even though Pami fell shy of his dream of becoming a national champion, he was able to connect with more people and learn lessons about himself through the experience.

One thing I learned is you can't be afraid to take risks," Pami said. "You take certain risks and you go for something with everything you have, and you might not get it exactly the way you want it. Taking that risk is worth it in the end because you learn something about yourself."

Pami said he was proud of how he
his return to golf here was hypocritical of his original statement that he was leaving the game to mend his family.

"I'm excited to play this week," he said, moving on to the next question.

He did his best. He worked a rainbow-colored shirt and a big smile, two things seen around him about as much as a duff. He called reporters by their last names, called us all friends, even referred to one as "Bro."

But in the end, it was obvious that we still don't know him, and that he still may not know himself. He bragged that his inner circle has remained intact throughout the scandal, from caddie to agent, yet these are the same folks who may have facilitated a private life that allegedly included more than a dozen affairs and suspicions, despite Woods' denials, that he has been using steroids.

"I certainly have everyone around me," Woods said. "I've had, again, a tremendous amount of support."

He was thrilled that Monday's practice round here, his first public round since the sex scandal, was filled with cheering fans. But Augusta National is the golf equivalent of church, where fans must cheer here or risk being ejected.

"The encouragement that I got...it blew me away, to be honest with you," said Woods.

To be honest with us? Not yet.

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

WE ARE THE MUSTANGS.
Senior Chase Pami reflects on final championship run

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As the seconds ticked down before he was to run out of the Queal Center tunnel to the elevated wrestling mat, senior Chase Pami could feel his adrenaline pumping. He was about to compete at the highest collegiate level for an NCAA championship in front of a nationwide audience on ESPN.

"At first, it was pretty breathtaking before I got out there," Pami said of the championship on March 20. "It was a little overwhelming when I was thinking about it, but when I got out there and calmed down a minute, it was just like wrestling back home."

Pami came to Cal Poly in 2006 from Las Vegas, Nev., which is not known as a powerhouse wrestling state.

Coming into the championships, Pami knew it would be a difficult road to climb the ranks. He defeated four opponents before reaching the finals. He averaged a loss in the Pac-10 finals to Adam Hall of Boise State in the quarterfinals with a 5-2 victory. He then defeated Justin Lister of Brighamton 13-5 in the semifinals. He posted a career record of 100-35 for the Mustangs and finished this season with a 29-7 mark.

Pami led early in the match with a 2-1 score, but fell just short of his quest to become the third national champion in Cal Poly wrestling history. He fell to J.P. O'Connor of Harvard 6-4 in the 157-pound final. O'Connor finished the season undefeated at 35-0 and was the top seed in the tournament. Despite the loss, Pami became the sixth runner-up in Cal Poly's wrestling history and the first since Chad Mendes in 2008.

Throughout the match, Pami said he did not want to wrestle scared or just stand around. He wanted to be aggressive and try to score as many take-downs as possible. "I just wanted to go out there and put on a show," Pami said. "I didn't want it to be boring. I wanted to win."

Pami was seeded seventh in the 157-pound weight class and was the lowest seed to reach the finals. He said his preparation before nationals was a big factor in his success. Pami also said he enjoyed the entire tournament experience, despite losing in the final match.

"No one really expected me to be there on the outside," Pami said. "I think my coaches and I believed, but I don't think the whole wrestling world expected me to be in the finals."

Following Pami's run in the championship, head coach John Azevedo said the rest of the wrestlers can look to Pami's effort, dedication and success and take that into next season. Azevedo said Pami did everything the right way and was a leader for the rest of the guys through his performance in competition and practice.

"His definitely a confidence booster for the rest of the guys," Azevedo said. "It's huge for the program to get someone into the finals for recruiting and public relations, since you are on national TV."

For long, Pami said the coach's support helped him continue to push himself even after difficult losses. Azevedo provided a spiritual presence for Pami throughout the season and would often times pray for Pami before his matches and big tournaments.

"It's huge for the program to get someone into the finals for recruiting and public relations, since you are on national TV."