Some clubs too risky for charter renewal

Jessica Barba

Several members of clubs on campus are worried their charters will not be renewed because Cal Poly Student Life and Leadership have labeled them "high risk."

Of the 250 clubs on campus, 16 clubs' charters remain in question because they were considered too dangerous because they involve open bodies of water, horses or motorized vehicles, said Stephan Lamb, associate director of Student Life and Leadership.

This is all about student safety and not about the value of the activity," Lamb said.

Student Life and Leadership director Everett Brooks said the risk and safety evaluations began in 2006 after the clubs were handed over from Associated Students Inc. to Student Life and Leadership.

The motion came in response to the California State University (CSU) Chancellor’s Office releasing Executive Order 69 in 2006. The order was a set of outlined policies and procedures to be enforced by clubs on CSU campuses. Included in the rules was a review of all club activities, advisors and goals to be conducted by Student Life and Leadership.

The clubs began to evaluate whether they were under the advisement of the most qualified person, Brooks said. Some clubs were put in the category of Instructionally Related Activities (IRA), which mean they were given to specific college departments to manage, and others were asked to obtain insurance.

He added that often the advisor's expertise overrides insurance coverage, and as an advocate for students, he wants to make sure the students remain safe.

"Management of the activity and the skill level of the people involved supercede the insurance. The insurance is if you do everything right and you're covered to cover your bases," Brooks said.

Penguins Motorcycle Club, established in 1967, and Poly Gears, created in 1966, are two of the clubs waiting for their charters to be renewed.

Since being notified in fall 2009 that Cal Poly did not want to be liable for any accidents, Penguins' vice president Alan Cook said that, like other clubs, the Penguins received insurance and have filled out the necessary paperwork to have their charters renewed. Now, after almost seven months of waiting, he said he hasn't had any signs from the club.

see Clubs, page 2

Student participates in fundraiser to combat Multiple Sclerosis

Anthony Pannon

Adriane Thiessen was 13 when she came off the basketball court experiencing blurred vision and numbness on the right side of her face.

"It was like I was cut in half," said the 24-year-old Cal Poly business administration student.

Thiessen, like many physically and mentally handicapped students, struggles to balance the demands of her life while fighting Multiple Sclerosis (MS). No one knows exactly how many people have MS, but statistics show approximately 300,000 people in the United States suffer from the disease.

As an advocate for MS in San Luis Obispo County, Cal Poly graduate Adriane Thiessen (second from left) says her team, Carp’s Diem, will again participate in "Walk MS," an annual fundraiser that sheds light on multiple sclerosis. The walk will take place on April 17. Statistics show approximately 300,000 people in the United States suffer from the disease.

Anthony Pannon

As an advocate for MS in San Luis Obispo County, Cal Poly graduate Adriane Thiessen (second from left) says her team, Carp’s Diem, will again participate in "Walk MS," an annual fundraiser that sheds light on multiple sclerosis. The walk will take place on April 17. Statistics show approximately 300,000 people in the United States suffer from the disease.

see Thiessen, page 2

UC Berkeley doubles admission offers to out-of-state students

Lisa M. Krieger

SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS

 SAN JOSE, Calif. — For the first time, University of California, Berkeley (UCB) has doubled the number of admission offers to out-of-state and international students — while cutting covered spaces for California residents.

Saying the state did not provide enough money to support California students, the university dropped the number of in-state offers by 15 percent — from 11,184 for the current school year to 9,495 for next fall's freshman class, according to data released Wednesday by UC.

This created vacancies for out-of-state students, who pay three times as much in tuition and fees as California kids today to find out it just got even harder to get in.

"These students do not take space from a California student," said Susan Wilbur, director of undergraduate admissions for the University of California.

"We are bringing more money to the university, which enables us to teach our California students at the same high quality level that they are used to," California students still make up the majority of the UCB student body. But out-of-state students will comprise 18.5 percent of next year’s freshman class, up from 8 percent last year.

The percentage of international student acceptance also climbed, from 5.7 to 8.3 percent.

It's a way to bring in more revenue at a time when the state budget cuts have cut back, said Walter Robinson, assistant vice chancellor and director of undergraduate admissions.

"The additional nonresident funds will help UC Berkeley maintain academic excellence for all students," he said.

Robinson noted that nonresident students bring much more with them than dollars. "These students come from various corners of the country and the world," he said. "They are all outstanding students and their diversity of experiences and perspectives will further enrich the university experience for the entire student population."

The trend is less pronounced at other UC campuses, because they get fewer applications from outside the state, said Wilbur. At UC Berkeley, 14 percent of accepted students come from out of the state or country, up from 12 percent last year.

San Mateo father Winston Thomas was relieved that daughter Georgia was accepted to the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) for the fall term and UCB for next spring, but he is worried about what further state budget cuts could mean for his classmates and other Californians.

"I do think it is frustrating for California kids today to find out it just got even harder to get in," he said. "Of out-of-state students, I wonder if they will stay in the state and 'give back' to the local economy?" he asked.

For the first time in UC history, seven campuses created wait lists for state residents. About 200 students are wait-listed at UCLA; 1,181 at Santa Cruz and more than 5,000 at Davis. Wait-listed students will be notified if they are offered an opening at their favored campus.

"This was an exceptionally competitive year," said Wilbur.

see Krieger, page 2
news

Clubs
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administrators about whether his charter will be renewed.

"I am kind of in the dark for what is going on there," Cook said. "Every time we do what they say, we don't get anything back. It's just re­

ally confusing."

Cook said the Penguins has not had any injuries for the past four years; it won't until last year when two club members performed whee­

lies during the Open House parade that the club was labeled "high risk." He said the trick upset police who said the members were putting those in the crowd at risk.

"I honestly think it is someone who hears a motorcycle and thinks it's dangerous, but everyone has gloves and helmets," Cook said.

Cook said for the past 60 years, the club had never had insurance be­

cause about 70 percent of its mem­

bers have dirt bikes, which by law do not require insurance.

To have their charters renewed, members of the Penguins and the Poly Goats went to the California Off-Road Association, a decision

Brooks said was necessary to en­
sure safety.

Lamb said the university's insur­

ance has a $250,000 deductible per incident; when a college ac­

cepts a club into its portfolio, the college assumes responsibility for a potential lawsuit. When clubs hold activities off campus, a special $50 deductible is taken out for the event.

"We are trying to minimise our vulnerability because of the bud­

get. We aren't even that big," Lamb said.

Brooks was he unsure of when a decision would be made about the Poly Goats and Pen­

guins charters.

Members of the Penguins and Poly Goats said they are eager to get a response because Open House weekend, April 15 to 18, is when they recruit most of their new members.

"It's going to be hard to get new members, but obviously we will be around," Muhler said. "I don't think Extrete and Lamb understand that there are a lot of alumni who are really passionate and will be upfor it. So if it doesn't work out, for lack of words, the shit will hit the fan."

Berkeley
continued from page 1

petitive year," said Susan Wilbur, di­

rector of undergraduate admissions

for UC. Competition was boosted

for UC. Competition was boosted

when the nerves go to access it and

bring it into consciousness, the sig­

nals cross, that signal is then mani­fested some other way. For instance, you want your hand to move, but your leg starts vibrating."

Though doctors struggle to pinpoint the how and why of the disease, the onset of MS includes temporary blindness, depression, bladder and bowel dysfunction, numb or tingling sensations and prolonged bouts with fatigue.

A smaller portion of the application pool.

UC's admitted class is 56 percent female and 44 percent male. Admit­

ted students completed an average of 23 college prep courses, earned a high school grade point average of 3.84 and had an average SAT score of 1794 out of 2400. Almost one­

quarter ranked in the top four per­

cent of their graduating classes.

But no student who met the uni­

versity's entrance requirements was fully turned away. During the next several weeks, about 11,000 stu­

dents didn't get their school of choice, which slow or even block the transfer process to which they didn't ap­

ply, Riverside and Merced. Other public university systems, such as Michigan and Vermont, also enroll much higher percent­

ages of out­of-state students. But it seems it could drop even faster if UC officials had to do it again, with the enrollment numbers and UC's UC system.

Critics of the UC trend warn that it could squeeze out qualified California students.

"The UCs are really a state jew­
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Welcome to Science Scope!
The Science Scope is a new section of the Mustang Daily delivering solely around science news. Its purpose is to educate the Cal Poly community about the newest research and trends on anything from energy technology to stem cells. On a campus that hosts a majority of science-based majors, this section is a necessary and an extremely relevant branch of news.

If you'd like to submit an article for the Science Scope, please e-mail mustangdaily_science@gmail.com

Science Editor,
Katie O. Grady

Instrumental insemination of queen bees coming soon to Cal Poly

Katie O. Grady
mustangdaily_science@gmail.com

Cal Poly faculty are dabbling with instrumental insemination of queen bees, an evolving technology that could help with honey bee research to save commercial hives.

The European honey bee (Apis mellifera) came to the settlement of Jamestown in the early 1600s and has been spreading on its own ever since. With farming came the utilization of bee colonies for pollination. The nation now has over 2 million commercial bee hives with colonies including anywhere from 50,000-80,000 individuals.

California has seen huge losses in billions of bees and over a quarter of the nation's bees in the last four years, attributed to Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD). This is a phenomenon where worker bees abruptly disappear. The causes are debated, but most signs point to the accumulation of new pesticides, viruses and parasites.

Populations suffered a drop in numbers due to varroa mite infestations in the late 1990's. Now, in the managed settings, new genetic lines of bees are decreasing the necessity for miticides and other chemical treatments.

Dr. David Leadrick, a horticulture and crop science professor at Cal Poly, specializing in entomology, says a big segment of our economy has to be pollinated by bees. This includes about one third of food crops produced such as almonds, apples, pears, alfalfa and much more. Almonds are most at stake from CCD, with California making up half of the world's almond production. On top of that, commercial colonies produce about 200 million pounds of honey a year.

With the loss of bees not only does honey prices rise, but on the wider scale, the price of foods pollinated by the bees goes up as well.

There are two categories of bees as Leadrick explains. One includes fed bees, those that find their homes in stumps and abandoned structures, and then there are managed bees. The bees in the managed settings are genetically selected for traits such as docile behavior and honey production. These are the ones facing huge losses.

An evolving technology soon to be practiced at Cal Poly could give commercial bees the genetic edge they need to bounce back. This is the use of instrumental insemination, a form of controlled mating in bees. This method of selective breeding is used to create stronger, more durable bees. Scientists can home in on desired traits such as disease resistance.

"It's not too wildly different from breeding cattle or horses or dogs to maintain blood lines, breed quality and vitality," Leadrick said in an e-mail. "It's like crossing a Labrador retriever and a poodle to create the perfect dog — the labradoodle.

Through a semi-complicated process, bee breeding in the wild simply starts with the queen mating with multiple drones, which are always flying. Once inseminated, the queen can store the sperm for the course of her egg-laying lifetime, and from then on her job is solely to reproduce. What the artificial insemination does take is selected sperm and inserting it into the Queen bee in a controlled laboratory setting. It's used to ensure queens are crossed with specific drones to isolate and replicate certain characteristics.

Attempts to instrumentally inseminate queen bees, a microscopic procedure, began in the early 1800's with Francois Huber, a Swiss naturalist who was entirely blind. This evolving technology is now in the hands of experts like Dr. Susan Cohy, bee breeder-geneticist at UC Davis. Considered the go-to gal in the bee society, she's taught researchers and beekeepers from all over the world. By using instrumental insemination for honey bee queens, researchers can get a better understanding of bee genetics and land on new opportunities in bee breeding.

With DNA sequencing, they are able to identify certain genes that can be selected for to help control diseases and parasites. This technology made possible the varroa-mite resistant strain allowing populations to rebound in the late 1990's.

Nathan Longetz, fruit science student, participated in the beekeeping enterprise for two quarters in his sophomore and junior year. He would check almonds at a previous job and said he learned how important bees were to the industry.

"Without bees, it wouldn't be what it is today," Longetz said.

During the enterprise, students maintain hive health, rear queens, extract honey and sell honey. Students should be able to assist with instrumental insemination this spring.

"It can really help us take the queens that we like and keep hives that are healthier and stronger," Longetz said.

Scott Jeffreys, a lecture in the horticulture and crop science department teaches the beekeeping class as well as running the beekeeping enterprise at Cal Poly. He took the class in 1979 and says when he began teaching it, he had to put up fences just to get people to join. This spring, he has 70 students, three lab sections and over 100 European honey bee hives on campus.

Jeffreys is heading to UC Davis this week to take a class with Cohy using on the technology. Cal Poly just purchased the equipment for instrumental insemination, making it one of the few labs in California and part of only a handful of universities to host the technology.

"We are in the process of making this happen," Jeffreys said. "Since it's microscopic, it's really difficult and complicated process.

The process is similar to artificial insemination in livestock, but 'we've got smaller gloves,' he said jokingly.

The hardest part is extracting the semen from the drone.

"Improving the queen is easy," Jeffreys said.

Jeffreys discussed the threat of the newly introduced Africanized honey bee (Apis mellifera scutalata), which reached U.S. borders in 1990 after hybridizing with the European honey bee. These drones are first out of the hive and most successful at mating. The only problem is in the managed setting they are aggressive and much more difficult to handle. Artificial insemination is a way to guarantee pure lines of European honey bees.

"The African bee is coming in hard and strong," Jeffreys said. "Our first line of defense is to keep as many European bees as we can.

With the managed bees in a controlled setting, Jeffreys argues, the Africanized bees will probably become the dominant feral bee, since they do a better job of fighting pathogens. In recent media, the hype has been speculation about what will happen if the bees disappear. Jeffreys' argues that it's that a new species will take over.

"I think the bees will outlast the humans," Jeffreys said.

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Swarms of bees at downtown San Luis Obispo. Roughly 150 species of crops are pollinated by commercial bee hives.

Instrumental insemination of queen bees coming soon to Cal Poly
Briefs

State
SAN LUIS OBISPO (MCT) — The deaths of the Polish president and his wife in the weekend plane crash in Russia have reverberated in Paso Robles, where the board of a classical music festival has developed close ties with the Polish government.

Killed were Poland’s President Lech Kaczynski and his wife, Maria Kaczynska. They were among 96 people who died Saturday in a plane crash in western Russia. Investigators are pointing to human error as the cause.

A Toast To Paderewski concert is scheduled for 6 p.m. April 24 at Pear Valley Winery, 4900 Union Road, Paso Robles. Proceeds will help fund a musician exchange program between the Paso Robles Paderewski Festival and Poland.

LOS ANGELES (MCT) — Lancaster, Calif., residents have voted overwhelmingly to continue the city’s policy of allowing clergy from different faiths to deliver an invocation at council meetings without restricting references to specific religious figures, including Jesus Christ.

The controversial policy, included on the ballot in Tuesday’s municipal elections, passed with about 75 percent of the vote, according to results published by the city.

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National
NEW YORK (MCT) — Despite e-filing, 24-hour tax prep centers, easy-to-use computer programs and the lure of refunds, the IRS expects hundreds of thousands of people to file their tax returns barely before Thursday’s deadline.

The reason: Americans find the annual ritual only slightly more bearable than attending a funeral, a new survey shows.

WASHINGTON (MCT) — Wednesday marked the 10th day that hundreds of thousands of jobless people couldn’t get benefit checks because of congressional gridlock, an impasse rooted in politics, and perhaps one with political consequences in November.

Democrats say that the legislation — which also would fund temporary increases in Medicare payments to doctors is a response to true emergencies. Republicans agree, but insist that the cost should be offset by cutting federal spending elsewhere.

The allegations, by skeptics of climate change, were based on e-mails hacked from the University of East Anglia in eastern England.

International
MEXICO (MCT) — In the second step on her first solo international tour, first lady Michelle Obama Wednesday met her Mexican counterpart and touched on the sensitive topic of drug treatment in a nation reeling from a war against narcotics cartels.

Mexican first lady Margarita Zavala received Obama at Los Pinos, the Mexican presidential compound near the Chapultepec Park in the heart of the capital. The two spoke for 45 minutes about "drug addiction treatment and early prevention programs" and care for migrant children, a White House statement said.

"Will Ferrell.

"Tonieta Portman, I think she has a dynamic range of personality and she was born in Israel."

"Nathan Petrelli.

"Nick Taylor, recreation, parks and tourism freshman."

"Liam Neeson, because he is tall and sexy."

"Vince Vaughn or Woody Harrelson, because they are both extremely talented actors."

"Eva Longoria, because she is beautiful."

"Julia Roberts, because she is beautiful."

Robert Aguero, forestry and natural resources freshman

Molly Stites, mathematics senior

COMPiled AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY JESSICA BARBA
Arizona passes strict illegal immigration act
Nicholas Riccardi
LOS ANGELES TIMES
DENVER — Arizona lawmakers on Tuesday approved what foes and supporters agree is the toughest measure in the country against illegal immigrants, directing local police to determine whether people are in the country legally.

The state Senate passed a similar measure earlier this year, and Republican Gov. Jan Brewer is expected to sign the bill.

The bill, author Sen. Russel Pearce, said it simply "takes the ground zero for illegal immigration," Passing 35-21 in the state House of Representatives.

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4 killed in Chicago home and 12-year-old escapes

Liam Ford, Cynthia Diazkes and Peter F. Neumeyer

CHICAGO — A woman and three children were found shot to death Wednesday morning in the bed­room of a Chicago bungalow, part of a crime scene police described as “incomprehensible.” Two other people in the house, a 12-year-old girl and a suspect — a relative of the victims — were in custody.

A 12-year-old girl who was shot at by the suspect as she fled the home alerted police at a nearby gas station, authorities said.

The children were Jihad, the 10-year-old son of the alleged gunman, his 3-year-old niece, Ke­leasha Larry, and her 16-year-old sister, Ke­vishia Fields, who a friend said was four months pregnant. Ke­leasha and Ke­vishia were found shot to death in the same bed.

The fourth victim was a 19-year­old woman identified by family members as the alleged gunman’s wife, Twanda Thompson, who he married just weeks ago and who was expecting their second child.

She and Jihad were found in bed in a separate bedroom with gunshot wounds to their heads, police said.

The two wounded were identi­fied by family members as the al­leged gunman’s brother and sister, Leon Larry, and his 13-year-old nephew, Demond Larry. They both suffered gunshot wounds to their limbs and in­terviewed in critical condition to Advocate Christ Hospital in Oak Lawn, a fire department spokesman said.

The suspect was arrested several miles away about an hour and a half after the shootings.

A law enforcement officer, citing probable cause, said the man told police he had been hearing voices that told him to bring his family into the house.

Police said they had no evidence he didn’t have enough ammunition, the officer said.

The suspect had been arrested for fal­l for allegedly beating Thompson, according to records. Just last week, Thompson was arrested for battery against the suspect, records show.

And in recent days, Thompson said the suspect had been living with him because he wanted her to dress in Muslim garb, but she refused, ac­cording to Shana Thompson, the older sister of Twanda Thompson.

The suspect had become a Mus­lim while in federal prison on a gun charge, relatives said. Recently, he had been acting strangely, talking about “going to Allah,” Thompson said.

Twanda had been with the suspect two years, but they had been married for the last two to three weeks, said her sister Shana Thompson. Twanda was pregnant with a girl she was going to name Khadijah, she said.

On Tuesday, the suspect had come down from Madison, Wis., with his wife and son and mother to visit his sister, Ke­vishia Larry, ac­cording to the suspect’s brother, Letisha Larry. 30. “He stood up and shot them,” Larry said. “He said he was doing some Muslim stuff.”

Larry, who also lives in Madison, said her brother had been a “little weird” lately.

“He was like just saying little weird little stuff about how he was an angel and we were demons, there’s demons in the house,” Larry said.

The suspect carried around the Quran, and about a week ago he started telling his family that some­thing in the book told him to kill someone, Ke­vishia Larry said.

She wasn’t aware of his brother having any diagnosed mental prob­lems, and she said she thinks he should be brought to justice.

“How you going to shoot your mom and then your wife and kids? That’s just crazy,” Letisha Larry said. “Your niece and nephew. Why would you do something like that? You were just a killer.”

Thompson and her mother Ve­ronica said they were told by police that the suspect opened fire unpro­voked, first shooting his wife in the neck and wounding the others in the head. When he saw that his wife was still alive, he shot her in the head, Thompson said.

Police were alerted around 6:25 a.m. Wednesday after a 12-year-old girl ran out of the house and down the street, sources said.

The gunman chased her and fired a shot but missed, a source said. The girl made it to a gas station and was asking someone to call police when a squad car approached and the girl told officers about the shooting, the source said.

Gas station attendants said a young girl burst through the door in her pajamas a little after 4 a.m. They said she was crying and asked one of the attendants to call her mom and the police.

Police put out an alert for a 32­year-old relative from Madison, Wis., who they said had a beard and was wearing dark clothing.

In the meantime, the suspect left the house, ditching a 9mm hand­gun along the way, a law enforce­ment source said. A squad car spot­ted him at about 5:49 a.m. and he was arrested without incident.

A handgun was recovered, but Chicago Lawn District Cmdr. John Kuczyk said police were still trying to determine whether it was used in the murders.

“Is this a really bad crime scene,” Kuczyk said. “Something like this is pretty incomprehensible.”

The suspect’s sister — who is the mother of two of the dead children — said she was not at the house at the time but got a call from her 12-year-old daughter who had es­cape.

“She called me screaming,” Ke­vishia Larry said. “She said. ‘He killed everyone.’ She told me my brother chased her down the street.”

Larry said her mother, Leona Larry, is on a ventilator at the hos­pital and her son, Demond, was under­going surgery for a gunshot wound to the face.

The suspect, her brother, has an arrest record dating back to 1995 for battery, drug possession, resis­ting arrest and escape. He was sen­tenced in January of this year for a misdemeanor battery conviction, according to records.

His most re­cent address is a halfway house for parolees in Janesville, Wis., though most of his arrests were in the Mad­ison, Wis., area.

Ella Smith, a relative of the fam­ily, said her sister-in-law called her this morning screaming and cry­ing.

“She said her brother killed her kids,” said Smith. “She said her daughter managed to escape and she chased her down the street shoot­ing.”

But the real danger to her health would come from a lack of access to clean drinking water. She found her hero really in her situation is dehydration,” God­shall said. “The body can convert water into energy. But fluid is another story. The heart must have a sufficient return to be able to circulate the blood.”

Godshall said Nadia was likely suffering from dehydration. When temperatures in the 90s and 90s, she did not have to worry about food. However, her body would have used the heat it had to protect her vital organs, so she would be suffering from poor cir­culation.

Nadia’s arrival at the hospital attracted more than the media. The story which has received national attention, gripped the commu­nity.

Jessie Courtemans, 45, drove three hours from Dothan, Ala., to the hospital for a chance to see Nadia.

“I was just excited. Goose­bumps all over,” she said. “It’s absolutely wonderful that they found her.”

Authorities hailed King for finding Nadia.

“God directed me to her,” he said, adding he and his family had prayed the night before for her safe return.

After emerging from the woods with Nadia and Rescue crews, au­thorities quickly de­cided to search for her family.

"We knew he had a beard and a gun,” he said, checking his car and background.

"Mr. King is a hero right now,” said Winter Springs Police Chief Kevin Brunelle.

Brunelle was relieved he did not have to make a decision about the search for Nadia at the 96­hour mark — a key point at which the odds of survival without food or water decrease.

“I feel extremely relieved and extremely happy and proud of this community … for sticking with us,” the chief said.
MS

continued from page 2

a "number of 100 different things." Not satisfied, she kept searching until a friend recommended a doctor in Beijing, a neurologist who was using state-of-the-art technology - Magnetic Resonance Imaging.

"When I saw the scans, it looked like someone had taken a shotgun and shot up my brain," Schwab said. "I went home and cried for about three hours, then talked with a friend who works here. You can either lay down and die, or you get on with your life. Well, I got on with mine, that's the way I am."

Firstrock suffers from Primary-Progressive MS, the second of four types, which include Relapsing-Remitting MS, Secondary-Progressive MS and Progressive-Relapsing MS. All four types share one characteristic: a slow deterioration of neurological function.

It is a complex disease and difficult to detect.

What makes the disease so elusive to doctors is its early symptoms are temporary. And, according to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society Web site, there is no definitive test for MS, only a series of neurological tests known as The Revised McDonald Criteria - which includes MRI, Visual Evoked Potential (VEP) and spinal fluid analysis.

With all this uncertainty looming in the scientific reality, living with MS is an unremitting battle between mind and body for Thiesen.

"I have had a traumatic childhood. I had normal daily treatments and shuffling between different service providers. It made life such a blur.

According to Cal Poly Disability Resource Center access specialist Chris Parker-Kennedy, approximatley 500 to 550 Cal Poly students walk through the DRC office seeking services. Students with health impairments, Parker-Kennedy said, not only include those with MS, but also diabetes, cancer, arthritis and cancer.

"It is difficult for federal and state law pertaining to confidentiality in mental health as specified in the American Disability Act, which prohibits disclosure of doctor-patient medical history to a third party. As a result there is neither graduation rate nor success in showing how many Cal Poly students actually have MS.

And because symptoms are sometimes temporary and not all noticeable, MS is a tricky disease, which can leave sufferers with little or no external signs of plights for years. For Thiesen, appearing normal has its challenges, especially at Cal Poly.

"I missed so much school because I always had physical therapy, or doctor’s appointments," Thiesen said. "One time I got to take a test home - I didn't cheat or anything, but I thought it was nice of my teacher to trust me. Another time though, I e-mailed a teacher and never got a reply. I am thankful I look normal, yeah, but there are times when I felt teachers thought I was making it up. I don't even know why I'd make it up.

Instructors are considered "third parties," and, thus, are left in the dark when it comes to really knowing the medical condition of their students. Often having to make judgments rather than autoimmune diseases."

Thiesen said. "Sometimes I wish I didn't look normal. I feel since I look normal, people have no idea what I go through."

Schwab said the first step in negotiating "reasonable accommodations" for students with health impairments starts with a doctor's verification of said impairment. The second is an interactive forum in which a specialist develops a plan based on an individual's needs. And once the accommodations are set, it is the responsibility of the student or service provider to meet them.


7.1 quake in China leaves 400 dead

"Buildings in our school were all collapsed and my mother was killed. It is very difficult to save people with our bare hands," Shi Huaihao told the Chinese television station.

As night fell, many of the Tibetans had fled the town and retreated to tents in the mountains, retreating to a nomadic lifestyle they had given up years before.

"People are sleeping in the mountains. They don't want to go back to their houses which are made of mud," said a 24-year-old student from Yushu, reached by telephone in Xining.

The student, who did not wish to have her name be used, said most of the victims were Tibetans, many of whom had survived previous earthquakes.

According to Cal Poly Disability Resource Center access specialist Chris Parker-Kennedy, approximately 500 to 550 Cal Poly students walk through the DRC office seeking services. Students with health impairments, Parker-Kennedy said, not only include those with MS, but also diabetes, cancer, arthritis and cancer.

"It is difficult for federal and state law pertaining to confidentiality in mental health as specified in the American Disability Act, which prohibits disclosure of doctor-patient medical history to a third party. As a result there is neither graduation rate nor success in showing how many Cal Poly students actually have MS.

And because symptoms are sometimes temporary and not all noticeable, MS is a tricky disease, which can leave sufferers with little or no external signs of plights for years. For Thiesen, appearing normal has its challenges, especially at Cal Poly.

"I missed so much school because I always had physical therapy, or doctor’s appointments," Thiesen said. "One time I got to take a test home - I didn't cheat or anything, but I thought it was nice of my teacher to trust me. Another time though, I e-mailed a teacher and never got a reply. I am thankful I look normal, yeah, but there are times when I felt teachers thought I was making it up. I don't even know why I'd make it up.

Instructors are considered "third parties," and, thus, are left in the dark when it comes to really knowing the medical condition of their students. Often having to make judgments rather than autoimmune diseases." Thiesen said. "Sometimes I wish I didn't look normal. I feel since I look normal, people have no idea what I go through."

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— Adriane Thiesen
Cal Poly graduate

In the most inaccessible reaches of China, Qinghai province's Yushu county, the 100,000 people in the area are mostly Tibetans, many of them making their living herding yaks and sheep.

Houses of mud and wooden beams gave way almost immediately when the tremor struck. Wednesday morning in one of the most inaccessible reaches of China, Qinghai province's Yushu county, the 100,000 people in the area are mostly Tibetans, many of them making their living herding yaks and sheep.

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Swap-o-Rama-Rama aims to reduce carbon footprint

Kelly Cooper
KELLYCOOPER.MD(M)GMAIL.COM

UpcycleSLO will be hosting Swap-o-Rama-Rama, an interactive event including a clothing swap and do-it-yourself workshops and demonstrations, at Laguna Middle School this Saturday. The event promotes the reusing of clothing to create new original pieces.

Jennifer Alexander, pioneer of UpcycleSLO and San Diego State University alumni, founded the creative collective group with friend Sara McGrath in November 2009. The group's purpose derives from the term coined 'up-cycling', which is the process of converting unwanted materials into new, creative items without leaving a carbon footprint.

"Instead of recycling, which takes a lot of energy and resources, upcycling does it. You just take something and recreate it," Alexander said.

With her new club in its grassroots stage and new ideas surfacing, Alexander came across Swap-o-Rama-Rama in a friend's book titled "Cradle to Cradle: Remaking the Way We Make Things." After contacting Wendy Iremayne, creator of Swap-o-Rama-Rama, Alexander signed on and became San Luis Obispo's first Swap-o-Rama-Rama co-ordinator.

"I wanted this event to be here because I wanted to go to this event," Alexander said. "And, I thought, if I want to go to this event, then I'll have to do it!"

Iremayne started Swap-o-Rama-Rama in 2004 in New York City after taking time off work and re-considering her place as a consumer. After having a few clothing swaps at friends' houses that soon included sewing machine and crafts, she saw innovation start to blossom both in creativity and sustainability. So, she decided to take the swap to a larger scale.

"I was considering the concept of value and looking at commodifying culture and wondering about the issues around consumerism," Iremayne said. "The maker is what we're losing — what we've lost. This event is bringing people back to an experience to remind people that they're makers."

After deciding to get a Creative Commons License for the event, Iremayne was able to essentially "give away" her idea to all who wanted to host a Swap-o-Rama-Rama, both for profit and nonprofit.

Attendees for San Luis Obispo event must bring a pile of unwanted clothes and/or textiles, such as bed sheets and pillowcases. They are also encouraged to bring extra sewing supplies. All other supplies, such as crafts and sewing tools, are being donated from local craft stores and consignment shops such as Curio in San Luis Obispo and the Cotton Ball in Morro Bay. Rob Arrell, co-owner of the Cotton Ball, is excited for the community to use the nine sewing machines that his company is lending out. And although the machines will be for sale, that is not his intent for supporting the Swap-o-Rama-Rama.

"So many people are doing recycling of things, and we support that," Arrell said. "My goal was to not overwhelm the community, and to really be there to support the program to help out with the machines and not sell, sell, sell — that really turns my stomach."

All proceeds from San Luis Obispo's event are supporting EcoSLO, a local nonprofit organization focused on the protection and enhancement of the environment. Alexander also hopes that this event will serve as a business opportunity to help get UpcycleSLO's name out.

"We're trying to get our name out there by teaching people the joys of being creative," Alexander said.

The event will feature classroom workshops ranging from Basic Sewing and Tension to Pillowcase Possibilities, each led by an experienced local artist who will show attendees how to alter textiles to create new original pieces. Corey Anderson, who will be leading the Accents of Gale workshop, wants participants to realize the simplicity of reusing.

"We always want to go out and buy stuff. Trendy stuff you find at places like Urban Outfitters are actually really easy to make yourself," Anderson said. Experimted crafters as well as first-time creators are welcome to the event, which will also have demonstrations on knitting, crocheting, jewelry making and others. And kids are welcome, too. Cuesta College student Karen Silva will be hosting a kids' hour, where she will teach children how to make super hero costumes.

"It's really awesome to introduce them to making, to really realize what you can make, what you can design, what you can create," Silva said.

Jennifer Alexander, pioneer of UpcycleSLO and San Diego State University alumni, founded the creative collective group with friend Sara McGrath in November 2009. The group's purpose derives from the term coined 'up-cycling', which is the process of converting unwanted materials into new, creative items without leaving a carbon footprint.

― see Swap-o-Rama-Rama, page 11

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Reggae rockers kick off tour at Cal Poly

John McCullough
JOHN.MCCULLOUGH@GMAIL.COM

San Diego's Through the Roots will play a free show at Cal Poly's Via Carta Mall, near Campus Market today before going on to tour the West. They said they plan to play songs on the tour that no one has heard.

The band's story isn't entirely typical of many groups today. Through the Roots formed back in 2008 when the death of a good friend of the band sparked the band's song writing, band manager Grant Betrix said.

The first song they ever wrote was "Man Down." "It's about a good friend that died," Betrix said. "The first guy to really get the band idea going was Chris."

Chris Cru/ met up with friends Evan Hawkins, Brian Jackson and Taylor Bearwight and began playing music in their room. Brady O'Rear joined the band after being found on Craigslist to play keyboards.

At the moment, the band members have a lot of things on their minds. Practicing their songs as much as possible is one of them. Hawkins, the band's singer, said the most important thing to the band is the crowd's response to their music.

"For us, making it is getting good feedback from people. When someone comes up to me and says they don't really listen to our genre of music but they like us, that makes me feel great," Hawkins said. "We take this seriously. Some money in the pocket would be nice but ultimately it's for the fans."

It's easy for bands like Through the Roots to be compared to the other American bands playing reggae music that have spawned over the past decade. Through the Roots likes to ignore that sort of thing. They say their biggest difference from those bands is their lack of help from a record company or big-name producer.

"Bands like that have a lot of help. We don't have a record deal, we've had so pretty much do this on our own," the band said. "We want to be as big as we can be but we don't want to compare ourselves to any of the other bands out there like that."

The music on their new album is different from bands like Iration, who Through the Roots is about to begin touring with, and 311, who has taken on the role of godfather to this now not-so-new genre of music.

"A lot of what's on our new album is what's going to set us apart. We're using a lot of reggae bass lines and heavy in-your-face songs. We also use a lot of synth which is different," Hawkins said. "We're mixing a lot of genres, trying to come up with the best sound."

Through the Roots will play today at 11 a.m. before going on to play another free show at California State University, Monterey Bay. They meet up with Iration for the Time Bomb Tour on April 23 and will play shows in California, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado and Washington.

Dave Carlson is in charge of booking bands for Cal Poly's concerts. He found them while looking at online profiles of bands like the Expendables, Iration and Tomorrow's Bad Seeds.

"I look for something the Cal Poly students are going to enjoy," Carlson said. "I put my personal preferences aside. It's about what the students enjoy."

Carlson said he looks forward to today's show. He said that Cal Poly is contacted all the time by bands that are looking to get exposure to a crowd of college students and Through the Roots really caught his ear.

"My initial reaction to Through the Roots is that they're going to be the next big thing in the genre. They've got a pretty clean sound, it's really catchy reggae with a rock base," Carlson said. "It's going to be a great show."

Career Services Presents
* 2010 Spring Career Fair *

Thursday, April 22nd
Networking 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Chumash Auditorium & UU 220
Steffi o-Rama-Ramas are now King held will also be for sale for $1 each. 7006 or $10 at the door. Raffle tickets
were all around the world, Iremayne said as creativity in reusing. All we are, Steff asked, so, as I'm excited to see what they'll
come up with. I can't wait to see them running around in the things they're made of.

Aside from workshops and demonstrations, the event will have swap tables, sewing supplies, screen-printing
machines and sewing machines for those who want to experiment with altering clothes. A fashion show will also be held to show off upcy­
dressed garments. And with a supply of more than 1,000 pounds of recycled clothes, Alexander said the possibili­
ties are endless.

"When you create something and you wear it, you feel its unique. You're proud of it, and you're more likely to keep it. Just feel like we should be
making a change back to our roots and doing more stuff for ourselves," Silva said.

"What consumerism takes from us is our creativity, which connects us
more socially. "Silva said. She hopes her deeper message will be
made.

"What did we just do? This had better work."

Not only did he manage to win over the crowd — thanks, in part, to his opening number, a cheeky cover of Oasis' biggest hit, "Wonderwall" —
but the artist known variously as jigga king and Young Hova in the process estab­lished a whole new enterprise. With what he calls his Glen­tonbury "game-changer," Jay-Z suddenly became the
most internationally popular live per­former in hip-hop history.

As a measure of his post-Glastonbury clout, this year Jay will take his show on
the road to such top-tier summer music
fests as Tennessee's Bonnaroo Music &
Arts Festival, the Summer Sonic festi­val in Japan and (Germany's Rixt Am
Ring, among others. And come Friday,
Jay-Z arrives at the first straight-up rapper to claim a headlining berth at
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To be sure, such platinum-­
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Chris Lee

NY TIMESうまに

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THIS WEEK IN CAL POLY ATHLETICS

SATURDAY DOUBLEHEADER
Saturday at 12:00 p.m.
Sunday at 12:00 p.m.

Women's Tennis

SATUREDAY DOUBLEHEADER
Saturday at 10:00 a.m.

Women's Golf

BIG WEST CONFERENCE
Golf Championship

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTRY CLUB
April 18 - 20th

Stephanie
Yocom

Sara
Kryza

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

WE ARE THE MUSTANGS

Jay-Z changing the game of rap
with Coachella appearance

Chris Lee

NY TIMESうまに

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WE ARE THE MUSTANGS
Sarah Palin can keep religion and guns, while the rest of America keeps moving forward

Sarah Palin and I began our political journeys at the same time. I began my journey writing columns for the Mustang Daily the same week that she made her debut debating Joe Biden during the 2008 presidential campaign. So it's interesting for me to return to Palin more than two years later to consider how far we've both come and the extent that our views have been solidified on opposite ends of the political spectrum.

When I heard Palin's speech at the Boston Tea Party on the news Wednesday, I was taken aback by one of the signs — one sign especially waging proudly, which I thought was maybe the most honest and the funniest, reading, "White People are Pissed" — she said, "You can keep your change, and we'll keep our Constitution, religion and guns." As the crowd erupted into applause and cheers, it suddenly struck me that the gap between their views and my own is so vast that I'm not sure they can ever be bridged. I may never come to see Palin's views as ideas, which should travel beyond the glass window at a coffee shop or the back door of a home.

But I think that on a more useful, intellectual level, her views and her followers' views disregard the serious problems our country faced only two years ago — and that the larger evil, Palin declared the Democrats' "change" frequently in her speech before the substantial Tea Party gathering in Boston Wednesday, and it sounds good to say the change, the constitution, religion and guns," the only response I can have is: Please, keep your religion and your guns, and I'll keep my relationship with God, the change, the Constitution and my sense of reality.

Stephanie England is an English sophomore and Mustang Daily column.

Write a letter to the editor!

Send your letter, in 250 words or less, to mustangdailyopinions@gmail.com. Or submit it at mustangdaily.com

Please include your name, year and major!
Between 1939 and 1945, six million Jews were brutally murdered in Europe. Their crime? Being Jewish. They had committed no crime, they had incited no riots, they had leveled no threats. These Jews had lived for many generations in their home countries and were law-abiding citizens who contributed greatly to minds to culture and science. Leaders from all around Europe were only too happy to round up their populations from such countries as Germany, Lithuania, Latvia, Poland, Belarus, Greece, Romania, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Estonia, Italy and Austria were rounded up with horrifying precision, and sent to the hell of concentration camps, such as the notorious Auschwitz. The Jewish populations assembled were referred to with many vile terms, including slave labor populations. While in their enforced slavery, they were tortured (both physically and psychologically), starved, beaten, forced into work and literally worked to death.

On Monday, we marked Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day. On this day, we remember the six million Jews and the millions of other "undesirables" who were silenced by hate, and had no hero to save them. We remember those who survived the atrocities of the Holocaust, and who have since passed on. The Holocaust illustrated the worst in humanity, and its sheer magnitude of destruction is still hard to entirely comprehend.

We keep a place in our hearts and minds for those silent victims. We remember the wereness of the Holocaust. We keep a place in our hearts and minds for those silent victims, children to the elderly. We also understand that something as horrifying and destructive as the Holocaust must never be allowed to happen again. The modern state of Israel was founded for the purpose of providing one entirely safe haven for the wandering minority nation. The survivors of the Nazi-directed hell were forever marked as victims, with blackened numerical tattoos on their arms. My grandmother was one of those brave survivors who vowed never to forget the horror of Europe, so long as she had a voice. From a young age, I was exposed to stories of the unimaginable horrors of the Holocaust. I find it incredible that there are still people out there who deny the Holocaust, or try to push this as a distant event.

Ruminations of Europe's period of absolute evil remain. I grew up with one grandmother, a result of my family on both sides being decorated because the Nazis decided Jews were sub-human, and most of Europe was too cowardly to stand up to evil. We must never allow this to happen again. Holocaust Remembrance Day offers opportunity to reflect on this past and to learn from it.

Suzannah Kopecky is an English graduate student.

—Anonymous

In response to "The Wrong Time for Playing Gandhi"

Your representation of Reagan using our military might ended the Cold War is a bit of an exaggeration. The USSR was in its last days; regardless, Reagan probably sped the process up a bit, but probably only by a few years.

To say we are in the midst of an international crisis is a bit of an overstatement. Honestly, Iran and North Korea are a concern. North Korea has shown they have the means of launching anything successful that could reach us or that they have a successful nuke. They are rather belligerent in wanting what they have. Iran is a larger concern but one can suspect that the primary reason they want nukes is Pakistan has them, as does India. The bomb isn't really fool anymore as much as it is a strategy to try to keep others from attacking you, and even if we reduce our almost 10,000 weapon stock pile by 30 percent we will still have more weapons than almost everyone combined (excluding Russia).

Truthfully, we probably only need about 10 to end the world. By reducing our stock pile and signing on, we are not showing how weak we are, we are showing how strong we are that we don't need massive amounts of fire power to make peace and be a world leader as well as showing that we do not want conflict. Isn't that what we all really want?

—Anonymous

In response to "The Wrong Time for Playing Gandhi"

I agree that the recent nuclear treaty and strategy are an unnecessary change, however, the noise being made by Fox News is unjustifiable.

My biggest point to those saying we should reduce our nuclear stock pile because nukes are ineffective against terrorists is that perhaps in another decade our biggest threat will be a nuclear power like China or Russia. Just because there is no reason to have these today doesn't mean they will be irrelevant a few years from now.

—Brian Richter

In response to "The Wrong Time for Playing Gandhi"

This piece is a reflection of the recent outcry from nearly all conservative media outlets, which have taken tidbits from recent documents such as START and NPT and vastly misconstrued them to the public. A simple investigation into the actual wording of the documents and press releases directly from the White House (i.e. not Fox News) reveals that the U.S. does reserve the right to take both preemptive and defensive nuclear action against countries such as Iran and North Korea that have not signed the nonproliferation treaty and are in violation of U.N. sanctions. You have inferred that Obama is sending them the message that we will not respond to an attack, when in fact he himself has stated the precise opposite.

Let's keep the facts separated from the Fox.

—Ben Turner

In response to "The Wrong Time for Playing Gandhi"

Com on now, you can do better than this. As others have pointed out, nukes don't help against terrorists and your interpretation of the treaty's restriction of using nukes is flawed.

Why is reducing the number of nuclear weapons a bad thing? We still have enough to destroy earth many times over. The Cold War and the insane concept of MAD are not very relevant in the global political theater these days. Shouldn't we be defensive capabilities change with the changing times?

—Scott

In response to "The Wrong Time for Playing Gandhi"

History has a way of repeating itself and we can either learn from it or suffer the same tragedies all over again.

Treaties are only as good as the folks who honor them and taking a Jimmy Carter approach to foreign affairs proved to be unsuccessful if not sadly naive. For example, the Iran we have today is of Jimmy Carter's making. I am reminded of a story told by Albert Speer (Hitler's architect and much more) concerning Foreign Minister Von Ribentrop. The story goes that as Von Ribentrop was being presented with a fancy wooden box to hold all of the treaties that he himself negotiated with various countries, everyone began to laugh when they realized that every one of the agreements had been violated and ignored.

—Roger Freeberg

In response to "The Wrong Time for Playing Gandhi"

Alicia Medlinski

Strategic nuclear weapons are inherently useless against terrorists. So why would we ever continue to put the number of strategic nuclear warheads we have to maintain means we can put more of our resources into weapon systems we can actually use. Fewer strategic warheads also means that it's rather easier to steal one, if you are a terrorist attempting to do so. The "nuclear response to chemical or biological warfare" is a bit more troublesome. But, notice the condition: Iran and North Korea either 1. Never signed the nonproliferation agreement. Or 2. are actively flouting it. So, the treaty is a non-issue with regards to these countries. If anything, it might convince them to sign on to these treaties and cease atomic weapons development. Although, I will admit you are correct to point out that their leaders are not necessarily rational and probably wouldn't make such a deal.

—Andrew J. Musumeci

In response to "The Wrong Time for Playing Gandhi"

To say we are in the midst of an international crisis is a bit of an overstatement. Honestly, Iran and North Korea are a concern. North Korea hasn't proved they have any means of launching anything successfully that could reach us or that they have a successful nuke. They are rather belligerent in wanting what they have. Iran is a larger concern but one can suspect that the primary reason they want nukes is Pakistan has them, as does India. The bomb isn't really fool anymore as much as it is a strategy to try to keep others from attacking you, and even if we reduce our almost 10,000 weapon stock pile by 30 percent we will still have more weapons than almost everyone combined (excluding Russia).

Truthfully, we probably only need about 10 to end the world. By reducing our stock pile and signing on, we are not showing how weak we are, we are showing how strong we are that we don't need massive amounts of fire power to make peace and be a world leader as well as showing that we do not want conflict. Isn't that what we all really want?
Softball to host Cal State Fullerton in conference series this weekend

Starting pitcher Anna ^ahn (above) threw two complete-game shutouts against UC Santa Barbara last weekend.

Baseball

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"You had Ryan Lee in the leadoff spot that set the table with a high on-base percentage, and you had (Adam) Bushini, who at times really carried the team," Lee said. "I think those guys allowed your younger guys, (like Bobby Crocker) and (Matt Jensen) and (Ross Brayton) to kind of be comfortable and not have any pressure on them."

Or maybe it's just timing. No matter what Cal Poly is going through, maybe it just needs to hope that they catch teams on a losing streak.

"It's about playing the team at the right time," Lee said. "Obvi­ously you have to take care of busi­ness, and sometimes you have to catch other teams when they're not quite at their peak."

Could the venue make a differ­ence? Maybe the Mustangs need to get away from the comfort of play­ing at home, just drop everything else surrounding them. No family, no friends, no distractions — just baseball.

"I think it's good for us to be on the road," Lee said. "We enjoy being on the road — there is no dis­tractions. We show up; we play."

How about momentum? Maybe the Mustangs just need to scrape together enough wins to get mo­mentum under their feet again. They have lost 10 of their last 12 games.

"It's tough when you don't come up with the wins," Lee said. "You don't get that winning environ­ment — that winning feeling. It's re­ally tough to turn it around."

Whatever the case, the Mustangs are fighting an uphill battle; they are trying to get through the season wounded. Cal Poly just lost Mitch Hunter — its team leader in batting average and have been without Ross Brayton — a transfer who hit .393 last season. Not to mention the Mustangs are without Mason Rade­ko, arguably their best pitcher, and Luke Vodar battled an injury earlier this season.

"Being depleted on the mound and in the field — it just makes (win­ning) that much tougher," Lee said. It will be hard for the Mustangs to try to turn around their season with their team .278 batting average and their 6.64 ERA, especially when the Matadors are hitting .313 as a team — third in the Big West. But this weekend, it will just be time to get back to the basics.

"We're trying to compete," Lee said. "That's really all what you can do at this point."

For the Cal Poly softball team, pitch­ing is the key to success.

"That's the name of the game," head coach Jenny Condon said at Monday's press conference. "If you don't have pitching, you're not going to go very far."

Last weekend, the Mustangs proved just that. In their three-game series against UC Santa Barbara, the Mus­tangs allowed a combined two runs. Rebecca Paton started Friday and sur­rendered two runs, and Anna Cahn started the remaining two games and didn't allow a single Gaucho to cross home plate.

The Mustangs (15-17, 4-2 Big West) rode their pitching staff to their first series sweep of the season and will look to carry that success into this weekend's three-game conference se­ries against Cal State Fullerton (9-29, 4-2).

"It starts in the circle," Condon said. "Anna (Cahn) shows great and Rebecca Paton set the tone. She threw the first game on the weekend, and she did a great job."

Cal Poly's success in the circle came after seeing reigning their Big West Pitcher of the Year struggle against UC­ Riverside. For Anna Cahn, a good per­formance was much needed. Not only did she bounce back with two consec­utive shutouts, she was also tagged as Big West Pitcher of the Week.

"It was hands down the best week­end that she has thrown all year," Con­don said.

With the sweep, it seems the Mus­tangs have gotten out of their mid-sea­son blues. The Mustangs had dropped nine of their last 10 games coming into last weekend. In response to its hopes at the post-sea­son tailing, Cal Poly got back to the little things this week in prac­tice.

"We really just changed a lot of things throughout the week in prac­tice," Condon said. "We really just tried to simplify the game — take it pitch by pitch and inning by inning. Try not to do anything too big."

To pair with its change in prepara­tion, Cal Poly stuck to the things it can control. They focused on effort, not the win-loss column.

We don't talk about winning or losing because you can't control that," Condon said. "So, we went back to re­ally controlling the things that we can control and taking care of the stuff that we can do. Then everything takes care of itself."

New with momentum, the Mus­tangs hope to carry that into their se­ries against Cal State Fullerton.

"Hopefully our pitchers show up and get it done and defensively we can take care of the ball and continue to hit the ball well," Condon said.

The Mustangs will square off against a team that just surrendered their first series to UC Riverside last weekend af­ter sweeping UC Santa Barbara to open conference play for the weekend price.

After posting 27 runs on 36 hits against the Gauchos, Cal State Fuller­ton was held to seven runs on eight hits in their series loss to UC Riverside. The Titans came into last weekend batting .289 with eight home runs in confer­ence play, but hit .125 with no home run last weekend.

Despite some offensive struggles, Cal State Fullerton is still battin­g.289 in conference play and also leads the league in runs scored (34), in home runs (8), RBIs (31), and slugging per­centage (1.49).

But no matter the opposition, the Mustangs will look to post a win against consecutive conference oppo­nents — a feat that would put them closer to their goal.

"One goal is to win the conference championship," Condon said. "When you have a record below .500, you're not going anywhere unless you win the title. We're still in the hunt."
Baseball travels to Cal State Northridge for conference series

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

Head coach Larry Lee took the desk at the Cal Poly athletics press conference last Monday. In front of several members of the media, he answered questions with minimal emotion. There wasn’t much to be happy about.

His team currently stands with a (9-21, 2-4 Big West) record. It is off to its worse start in 10 years, has yet to hold a winning record and has yet to win a weekend series — none of the characteristics last season’s 37-21, record-breaking team held.

Lee has never sugar-coated the truth. As the losses stack up, it’s harder to be optimistic. When asked if it was only a matter of time for his Mustangs to get out of their current losing slump, he shook his head and simply replied, “No.”

“This year’s team really has underachieved,” Lee said. “It should be playing a lot better than it has.”

Cal Poly has fallen off the baseball map. After holding national rankings for numerous weeks just a season ago, the Mustangs have not been able to thrive in the shadow of the 2009 campaign.

“I’ve seen enough — I think — throughout the course of the year, and I think it will be hard to get back on track,” Lee said.

This weekend, the Mustangs will hold another chance to turn things around with a three-game conference series against Cal State Northridge (17-14, 0-3). But if the struggles from last weekend’s series against UC Santa Barbara resurface, then the future for Cal Poly doesn’t look good.

Against the Gauchos, the Mustangs coughed up two of three games. Cal Poly was only able to scrape together one win — a 10th-inning victory Friday night, but in the other two games, the Mustangs let late-inning leads slip away en route to two losses.

“When you squander leads late in the ball game — that hurts,” Lee said. “It says you’re in the ball game, and playing better, but it says you’re just not finishing well and not taking care of business.”

What’s the problem? What is the cure to fix a disappointing season? It isn’t the effort. All the work on the field — preparing for games — is still there.

“It’s not any lack of effort,” Lee said. “Everybody goes out and they still work hard in the weight rooms. They still work hard on the field. They’re trying to get better.”

Then what else is there?

Maybe it’s the fact that the Mustangs lost a couple of key components to their offensive success last season due to graduation and the MLB draft. Those were players who helped their teammates with more than just cold hard statistics — they were players who made their teammates better.

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RYAN SIMRTO
MUSTANU DAIIY Fll.E PHOTO
Starting pitcher Matt Leonard (above) pitched 6 2/3 innings allowed one earned run in the Mustangs only win against UC Santa Barbara last weekend.

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