Open House attracts thousands to campus

University Graphic Systems partner with Northridge

Patrick Leiva

The Cal Poly campus was on full display this past weekend in thousands of visitors flocked to the university for Open House. For many, the event was a chance to learn more about what the university can offer and a chance to see the involvement of Cal Poly students.

Matt Justus, co-chair of the Open House Committee, said the event focused on prospective students who had been accepted to Cal Poly, offering knowledge about how they would fit at the university. He said there were around 35,000 prospective students and families present Friday for the academic showcase and an estimated 25,000 people came for the campus showcase on Saturday.

The crowds on Saturday consisted of current students, community members and alumni who joined the visiting prospective students for the event.

Justus said the goal was to showcase every aspect of the university and build excitement amongst those in attendance.

“Our biggest focus was really on the admitted students and getting them excited about coming to Cal Poly,” Justus said. “We wanted to show them the different hands-on activities that we do here and learn more about the learn-by-doing philosophy.”

For many families, this event was the first opportunity they had to view the campus. Many students were impressed by the accessibility and availability of everyone involved throughout the university.

Yolanda Macias was one of the many mothers who came to Cal Poly to learn more about the campus with her incoming freshman son Robert Macias, who will be studying mechanical engineering. She said she was pleasantly surprised by the open house event and was pleased to learn about some of the professors and resources available.

“The professors seem down to see Open House, page 4

The idea of using University Graphic Systems (UGS) to team up with Cal State Northridge’s Center for Virtual Communication (VISC) to provide communication services for both universities. VISC is Northridge’s student-run advertising and marketing center.

Cal Poly Graphic Communications department head and Professor Harvey Levenson has been working with Northridge Provost Harold Hellenbrand for nearly a year, exploring the idea of combining the printing company and the advertising agency.

Levenson was presented with UCIS, and I think they were blown away by UGS’s potential,” Levenson said.

Distrust of government deepening, according to Pew Research poll

Steven Thomma

WASHINGTON — Already wary of the federal government, Americans have grown even more critical of it since President Barack Obama took office, according to an exhaustive new study being released Monday.

The in-depth poll found Americans not only rejecting the idea of an activist government, but a growing number urging its power be curtailed. The findings reinforce the anti-big government message of Tea Party rallies and suggest anew that incumbents, particularly Democrats, face a strong headwind in this fall’s elections for control of Congress.

There’s one big exception, however. A solid majority, 61 percent, do want greater government regulation of the financial industry, something Obama and the Democratic majorities in Congress are pushing now.

The March 11-21 poll of 2,505 Americans was compared to earlier surveys in 1997, 1998 and 2000. While those Clinton-era polls also found mistrust of government, Pew noted, the anti-government sentiment had dropped from earlier in the 1990s, and the desire for government activism was holding steady.

Now, the trend is the opposite. But 22 percent say they trust the government almost always or most of the time, among the lowest in a half century of polling.

At the same time, a broad swath of Americans, 56 percent, say they are frustrated with the government, double the 10 percent who felt that way in February 2000. And only 19 percent say they are content with the federal government, down sharply from 33 percent in February 2000.

“Frustration with government is nothing new. Growing anger is.” — Pew Research Center report

un exhaustive new study being released Monday.

The in-depth poll found Americans not only rejecting the idea of an activist government, but a growing number urging its power be curtailed. The findings reinforce the anti-big government message of Tea Party rallies and suggest anew that incumbents, particularly Democrats, face a strong headwind in this fall’s elections for control of government — a dismal economy, an unhappy public, bitter partisan-based backlash and epic discontent with Congress and elected officials.

A key finding: Americans oppose greater government control over the economy by a margin of 51-40 percent.

That’s a reversal from just a year ago, when they supported greater government control by a margin of 54-37 percent.
Ocean acidification on the rise

Clean Water Act could help with greenhouse gas emissions

By Les Blumenthal

WASHINGTON - The Environmental Protection Agency is exploring whether to use the Clean Water Act to control greenhouse gas emissions, which are turning the oceans acidic at a rate that's alarmed some scientists.

With climate change legislation stalled in Congress, the Clean Water Act would serve as a second front, as the Obama administration has sought to use the Clean Air Act to rein in emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases administratively.

Since the dawn of the industrial age, acid levels in the oceans have increased 30 percent. Currently, the oceans are absorbing 22 million tons of carbon dioxide a day.

Among other things, scientists worry that the increase in acidity could imperil the delicate marine food chain, which ranges from microscopic plankton to whales.

"There are all sorts of evils associated with this," said Robert Paine, an emeritus professor of biology at the University of Washington.

The situation is especially acute along the West Coast, Northwest winds during the summer cause upwelling, which brings deep water to the surface along the continental shelf from Queen Charlotte Sound in British Columbia to Baja California.

The water in the deep Pacific Ocean is already more acidic than shallower water is because it's absorbed the carbon dioxide that's produced as animals and plants decompose. Some of the deep water in the Pacific hasn't been to the surface for 1,000 or more years.

By the end of the century, that deep water is expected to be 150 percent more acidic than it is now, and as it's brought to the surface by upwelling, it's exposed to even more carbon dioxide.

"The immensity of the problem as the West Coast is of serious concern," said Richard Feely, an oceanographer with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in Seattle.

Scientists suspect that acidic water connected with upwelling killed several billion oyster, clam and mussel larvae that were being raised at the Whiskey Creek Shellfish Hatchery near Tillamook on the Oregon coast in the summer of 2008.

The hatchery provides baby shellfish to growers up and down the West Coast.

Shellfish growers in Washington state, who supply one-sixth of the nation's oysters, are increasingly concerned that corrosive ocean water entering coastal bays could threaten their $111 million industry.

Acid levels in other areas of upwelling off Africa, South America and Portugal haven't been studied as intensively as those off the U.S. West Coast have.

Feely said the oceans' acidity levels were higher than they'd been at any time in the past 20 million years. Based on "pretty good" evidence, Feely said, previous high acid levels in the oceans have caused mass extinctions of marine plants and animals, which can take 2 million to 10 million years to recover.

"The decisions we make now, over the next 50 years, will be felt over hundreds of thousands of years," he said.

The Clean Water Act considers high acidity a pollutant, but the standard hasn't been updated since it was written in 1976. The act has been used previously to help combat acid rain and mercury emissions.

Originally, the Center for Biological Diversity, a San Francisco-based environmental group, asked Washington state to use the Clean Water Act to regulate emissions that add to the ocean's acidity. Under the act, states have to update their lists of "imperiled waters" every two years and come up with cleanup plans.

In rejecting the request, officials at the state's Department of Ecology said that while they understood the concern about ocean acidification, there wasn't enough data about specific bodies of water in the state to justify any listings.

When the EPA agreed with Washington state, the Center for Biological Diversity petitioned the federal agency to start using the Clean Water Act to control the oceans' rising acidity.

In late March, the EPA published a Federal Register notice seeking public comment on whether the Clean Water Act could be used.

"It's not 100 percent clear where we go from here," Suzanne Schwartz, the deputy director of the EPA's Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds, said in an interview. "This is not an easy issue. We are trying to figure out how to proceed."

Schwartz said the agency was looking to see whether there were more efficient ways to deal with ocean acidification than using the Clean Water Act. She also said the cleanup mechanism used in the act controlling total daily maximum loads of pollutants was aimed more at single events of pollution than as a broader swath.

There are questions about how effective the Clean Water Act will be," she said, "Honestly, we don't know what we are going to do.

The public comment period lasts 60 days. Schwartz said the EPA should reach some conclusions by November.

Environmentalists said the Clean Water Act would be a "good fit" with the effort to control carbon dioxide emissions.

"Our overall goal is to get regulation of carbon dioxide under the act," said Miyoko Sakashita, a lawyer with the Center for Biological Diversity. "I am encouraged by the step EPA has taken. I would like to see them step up before we see some of the worst consequences of ocean acidification."
European airlines test the ash cloud from eruption days before London — Their losses deepen- ing, European airlines on Sunday stepped up efforts to reopen the skies by carrying out passenger-free test flights despite the layer of volcanic ash in the air, an increasingly common problem across the continent grounded for a fourth day.

According to the German, the Neth­ erlands and France sent jets close to or into the plume of ash and dust thrown up by the Eyjafjallajokull volcano in Iceland, in bids to dem­ onstrate that flying conditions over Europe are safe. All the flights landed without incident, they said.

There was no indication, howev­ er, that aviation authorities would immediately ease restrictions on European airspace. Officials said new wind patterns could disperse some of the ash cloud and allow more flights to be operated Monday, but thousands of stranded passengers and affected businesses faced for the ban on air travel to extend into the new week.

British Airlines cancelled all ser­ vice Monday into and out of Lon­ don. Luftfahrt also announced the cancellation of all of its flights worldwide Monday. The French government said airports in north­ ern France, including Paris, would remain closed until at least Tuesday morning.

Except for a handful of flights allowed where a gap appeared in the cloud of ash, no-fly zones were in force in all or part of 24 coun­ tries, mainly in western Europe; wider restrictions first began Thursday. About 63,000 flights have been cancelled so far.

Airlines desperate to resume business called on aviation regula­ tors to reassess their flight sus­ pension, especially in light of the test flights in and around the ash cloud to gauge whether the dust would clog engines or compromise safety.

"The eruption of the Icelandic volcano is not an unprecedented event, and the procedures applied in other parts of the world for vol­ canic eruptions do not appear to require the kind of restrictions that are presently being imposed in Eu­ rope," said a joint statement issued by associations representing aviation companies in Brus­ sels. Safety remained paramount, but that aviation officials would examine the evidence from the exper­ imental flights and try to find solutions "to ease the sufferings of thousands and thousands of pas­ sengers." It is clear that this is not sus­ tainable. We cannot just wait until this ash cloud dissipates," Kallas said.

He said new forecasts showed winds picking up and possibly dis­ persing more of the sluggish ash cloud to allow more flights Mon­ day, perhaps as many as half of those regularly scheduled. Yet even as he spoke, the Eyjafjallajokull vol­ cano continued to erupt, belching grit and gas particles of glass into the air.

The European governments in EU­ member nations are scheduled to hold a videoconference meeting Monday to discuss the situation.

On Sunday, Dutch airline KLM said it had received permission to fly several planes stuck in Duessel­ dorf, Germany, back to Amsterdam on one, starting Sunday morn­ ing. The planes carried only crew members. These are test flights," KLM Chief Executive Peter Hart­ nasse said in a statement. "This does not mean that normal air traffic has been resumed.

In Germany, Lufthansa success­ fully flew 10 of its planes Saturday without passengers on low-altitude flights. In addition, Frankfurt Air­ line said it had managed to relax flight restrictions in the area.

In Amsterdam on Thursday, said thou­ sands of foot passengers have been showing up at its terminals, com­ pared with just a few hundred in normal circumstances.

One Briton, television host Dan Snow, tried to mount a modern-day Dunkirk evacuation, leading a fleet of small boats across the channel to rescue communities stranded on the French coast. But French border control authorities turned back the motley flotilla.

Volcanic ash and airplanes

Volcanic ash is made up of tiny particles of rock and glass that can damage an aircraft's many parts and shut down engines.

How ash can damage jet engines

• Abrasive particles erode compressor blades
• Ash can clog air filters and fuel lines
• Particles in the ash melt in the combustion chamber
• Melted material cools down in the turbine and sticks

External problems

• Ash is highly abrasive; can easily scratch glass and metals
• Cockpit windows may become so scratched pilots may have difficulty seeing the runway for landing

Internal issues

• Ash may travel through the ductwork; will clog filter systems and contaminate fixtures, carpeting, cushions

Source: U.S. Geological Survey, Ehow.com

China's Hu Jintao visits Tibetan region

Barbara Demick

Beijing — Chinese President Hu Jintao on Sunday took to the site of last week's earthquake in the Tibetan plateau, the latest effort to portray a government that is both compassion­ ate and competent to a people who have made clear at times they don't want to be under Chinese rule.

With the death toll rising sharply to 6,000, and the Chinese yet to respond, protecting the dead, but I can see that more of them are coming up," said Sam Wangal, a London-based Tibetan who founded a KLM jet in 1989 lost all power while flying through ash from an Alaska volca­ no — but not the finer variety. "We're feeling our way in the dark here," Learmount said. "It's an experiment in thousands of things we've never encountered before."

Once the skies are judged safe, clearing the backlog of passengers could take days.

British Airways passengers on canceled journeys to or through London are being allowed to re­ book their tickets only on flights starting Saturday. Stranded travel­ ers throughout Europe are being warned by airlines not to show up at airports to try to amend their tickets.

The Eurostar rail line beneath the English Channel has added services to handle more airline refugees. An executive with P&O Ferries, which operates boats between Britain and the European mainland, said thou­ sands of foot passengers have been showing up at its terminals, com­ pared with just a few hundred in normal circumstances.

One Briton, television host Dan Snow, tried to mount a modern-day Dunkirk evacuation, leading a fleet of small boats across the channel to rescue communities stranded on the French coast. But French border control authorities turned back the motley flotilla.

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State

SAN LUIS OBISPO (MC T) — The state has allocated $55.9 million for the second phase of work to widen Highway 46 East in the Whitley Gardens area of Paso Robles.

The two-part project is aimed at increasing safety on a road some have dubbed "Blood Alley" for the many deadly crashes it has seen. The widening project has been undertaken for San Luis Obispo County's stretch of Highway 46 because of the number of fatal accidents it has seen. Twenty-one people were killed and 65 were injured in nearly 40 weeks on a particularly dangerous span between 1993 and 1995.

SACRAMENTO (MC T) — Doctors successfully performed open-heart surgery on a 7-year-old Haitian boy who was brought to the United States by a Sacramento County fire captain.

Lovensky Alexandre and his mother, Josephine, met Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District Capt. Barbie Livin in a clinic in Carrefour, where she was volunteering as a paramedic in the aftermath of a January earthquake that devastated Haiti.

Law spent about $5,000 of her money to sponsor visas and on clothes and other expenses for Lovensky and his mother.

Open House

continued from page 1

earth and really appear to connect with their students," Yolanda Macias said. "They seem to care about the students, which was nice to see."

Robert Macias said he enjoyed being able to see that the students had many different ways in which he could be a part of the university.

"Whether it is sports or through any of the diverse clubs, there are plenty of different opportunities for students here, and not just sitting," he said.

For the Open House Committee, the weekend was a culmination of months of hard work and preparation. Julian Wagner, a business administration junior who served as one of the club relations coordinators for the Open House Committee, said the event went on without a hitch and that he received no complaints throughout the weekend. He said it was difficult during the months of preparation, but everything paid off after seeing the finished product.

"It's definitely been a long time and a lot of work," Wagner said. "It was hard to see the finish line at the beginning, but now that it's all said and done after all these months of hard work and to see it all come together over the past two and a half days has been really awesome." Wagner said the event allows prospective students to get a feel for campus life. He said he wished he would have gone to Open House since he came to Cal Poly on a whim, and that the students who toured the campus this weekend had substantial reasons to come to university after viewing everything it had to offer.

"It's kind of like hook, line and sinker," Wagner said. "If this doesn't get you to want to come to the university, then there's not much else that we can provide for you." One of the more than 200 clubs that participated in the weekend was the Zero Waste Club, as part of the Open House Committee's goal to emphasize sustainability throughout the weekend. Stella Trent, a junior from Nogales, Ariz., helped the Zero Waste club, said the members decided to have four waste stations throughout the campus to showcase how to help eliminate any trash and help those people who were not paying attention to what they were throwing away.

The goal of the Zero Waste club has always been to minimize waste that goes into the landfill," Trent said. "This is one of the biggest waste generating events on campus so it just made sense for us to be involved with this event.

Admitted students have until May 1 to decide whether they will attend Cal Poly. Justus said many of the questions have centered around budget constraints and ways of becoming integrated into the university.

"To look at everyone at the end of the day and know all the work that they put into it, that event possible was a truly rewarding feeling," Justus said. "I think our event was very successful because we were able to show some of the best students in the country what we're all about and that is a tribute to our university." California sees a surge in earthquake activity

Cara Mia DiMassa

LOS ANGELES — If Southern Californians have been feeling more shaking this year, it's not their imaginations. The number of earthquakes greater than magnitude 3.0 in Southern California and Baja California has increased significantly in 2010. There have been 70 such quakes so far this year, the most of any year in the last decade. And it's only April. There were 30 in 2009 and 29 in 2008. Scientists said they are studying the uptick but cannot fully explain it. Major earthquakes tend to occur in cycles, and experts have said there has been a 50-year cycle since 1957.

"The string of quakes this year raises the possibility that Southern California might again enter a more active seismotectonic period," said the state's chief seismologist. The bigger quakes this year are part of the Big One. The one that will be "picked up again after a relative lull that lasted more than a decade. "What it means is that we are going to have more earthquakes than in the average year. With more earthquakes, we're bound to have bigger ones. But there are always fewer than the smaller ones," said the state's chief seismologist.

"We would like to be able to explain it," said Kate Hutton, a seismologist at Caltech. "But there's no real correlation with any cause."

"Many of the earthquakes this year have been aftershocks to the 7.2 temblor that rattled the Mex­

icai area earlier this month. The border region had experienced a swarm of smaller quakes before the big one. And there have been more than 1,000 aftershocks, including more than a dozen that registered bigger.

The Mexicali quake was the re­
gion's largest in nearly two decades and the first since earthquakes shook in the Mojave Desert in 1992. Despite their size, neither temblor did cata­

clysmic damage, and few residents re­
curred in relatively remote areas far from major population centers.

"I think the important thing is that we're dealing with a particularly active seismic period in the Los Angeles area. Be­

The ads could even be printed from your phone."

"If the ads are going to be interactive, they can be used to bring value to Cal Poly," said Levenson. "The ads could even be printed from smartphones." The relationship with VISCOM will bring valuable business to Cal Poly at a time when the outlook for the printing and publishing industr­

ies is less than ideal.

"The printing industry is in de­
cline for everyone, and what we have to do to keep up is come up with new ways to solve the same old problems and do it well and do just that, especially if we can expand to other campuses," Levenson said.

This venture combines two different systems of knowledge and research, which will help both schools give more to our students.

—Dave Moon

VISCOM managing editor

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books and brochures to students at lower prices," Moon said. "This venture combines two different systems of knowledge and research, which will help both schools give more to our students. That's our main goal as educators." The relationship will bring sign­

ificant business to both school's programs, but Levenson has bigger ideas in mind. "Our hope is that this venture gets noticed by other California universities and UCSC can team up with them as well," Levenson said. "Our partnership would be like a flagship of the CSU sys­

tem." UCSC is already reaching out to other universities in California to evaluate their interest in a simi­

lar relationship. UCSC marketing manager Tessa Libby said. "We've been in contact with UC Santa Cruz and we're plan­

ning to contact UC Merced. Once our work with Northridge becomes more public, I'm hoping that the potential of the idea will speak for itself," Libby said. UCSC is also looking into other ways of doing business with VIS­

COM. VISCOM creates electronic advertising and print materials and Levenson said he believes this realm of advertising holds great potential for UCSC's printing power.

"We're exploring the idea of combining our printing capabilities with VISCOM's electronic advertis­ing to make what are called 'interactive ads,'" Levenson said. "If the team at UCSC likes the idea, their online ads could be made avail­

able by UCSC for people to print. The ads could even be printed from smartphones."

"The relationship with VISCOM will bring valuable business to Cal Poly at a time when the outlook for the printing and publishing industr­

ies is less than ideal.

"The printing industry is in de­
cline for everyone, and what we have to do to keep up is come up with new ways to solve the same old problems and do it well and do just that, especially if we can expand to other campuses," Levenson said.
Earthquake
continued from page 4

between 1987 and 1994, the region experienced five major quakes. In addition to Landers, there were the Whittier Narrows quake (which killed eight people), temblors in Big Bear and Joshua Tree, and the Northridge quake, which killed 57 people, injured 4,500 and caused about $40 billion in damage.

Beginning in the late 1990s, however, the number of memorably large quakes subsided. Experts are not sure the reason for the cycles; they say said one possibility is that the ups and downs are random. Another possibility: a "cascade effect" in which a quake followed by another.

After a quake strikes a populated area, "I guess it's easy to get the perception that a lot has happened because those are the ones you notice," Jackson said.

The public's awareness of quakes around the globe also has increased with technology. Individuals on Twitter, for example, often first hear about a major quake from fellow users.

And the details of earthquakes, including location and size, have been much better distributed through e-mail, blogs and Twitter feeds. Earthquakes in remote oceans, say, were once noted only by scientists at academic and government institutions. Now, quake enthusiasts can have the details of such a quake delivered to their cell phones. Music

Monday

What are you listening to?
Progressive rock band, RX Bandits will play at Downtown Brew in all-ages show Sunday

Kelly Cooper
kellycooper@mustangdaily.com

Orange County-based band RX Bandits will play at Downtown Brewing Co. on Sunday. Since forming in 1999, the progressive rock band has transformed dramatically in their 11-year legacy, and reinvention has seemed to be their driving force.

"Constantly experimenting with sound while maintaining consistent song writing, the band has covered many facets of the rock genre, shifting from reggae-influenced ska to punk rock to its current progressive guitar-heavy sound. Listeners have a rough time categorizing their music, especially after transforming throughout their six albums release. Physics sophomore Will Schuur, who has been a fan since 2006, said that the current sound is a mix of past influences.

"It's a mix of experimental — a little punk, but a little bands. They don't have a lot of parallels with other bands, but you can definitely see where they're like the old guitar-heavy rock and the more modern ska-punk," Schuur said.

In industry where change may make or break a struggling band, RX Bandits have indeed come out on top, with their most recent release "Mandela" being one of the highest selling albums on Amazon.com in 2009.

After dropping their horns from their 2006 release "...And the Battle Begins," the band has graduated to a more serious sound.

Some fans agree that their reinvented sound has carried them forward. Veteran fan Eric Bach, a construction management sophomore, has been listening to the band since 2003. As an avid listener to their last three albums, he is happy for them to have progressed in a new direction.

"I kind of knew that their newest CD would be different," Bach said. "Right off the bat I heard a song that they released before they actually released the CD and I really liked it. I could tell it was going be a different CD, so I had that mindset.

However, "Mandela" wasn't received well by all fans. Schuur said their new album sounds more produced than their past experimental albums.

"It seemed more focused, which I kind of didn't like. Back on "The Revolution" and "Progress" albums, they were more like ska-punk and it was all over the place, and once in awhile you'd get a guitar solo that you didn't see coming, and I really enjoyed that," Schuur said. "This one feels a lot more produced. I mean the guitar work and production — everything sounds good — it just definitely was a digression from what I thought was where they were headed as a band.

Despite the mixed reviews over their new albums, Downtown Brew is anticipating a sold-out show.

"These guys have been playing in SLO for years and have a great local fan base. We (Downtown Brew and Numb Skull Productions) love working with the guys and look forward to another great night together," Newman said.

The band has been almost consistently touring internationally since the release of "Mandela" in July of 2009. Selling out shows from Australia to San Francisco, the band will maintain relationships with smaller venues. Bach believes that this can be attributed to their fan appreciation.

"Their music is all written for their fans. It's always been about making music that they themselves really like and that they think other people will actually like. It's not so that they can make money," Bach said.

Despite their daily city-to-city commutes on tour, they still find time to talk to fans after the show.

"It's always been about making music that they themselves really like and that they think other people will actually like. It's not so that they can make money," Bach said.

Moreover, they will change up their set this time.

"Each show I've been to, they've done something a little different," Webster said. "Sometimes they'll just shut off all the lights and just get one acoustic guitar and have everybody sing one chorus over and over again. You just feel like you're lifted up by this awesome unity of music."

Doors open for the all-ages show at 7:30 p.m. with opener Zack Marquise. Pre-sale tickets are on sale for $15 at Boo Boo Records or ticketweb.com. Tickets can also be purchased at the door for $15.

The Orange County-based band will play for an all-ages show at Downtown Brew Sunday night.
Future Islands brings sincerity to new album, "In Evening Air"

I’ve been acquainted with Future Islands for a little while now; we met through a mutual friend a little over a year ago and have spoken with each other on various occasions in passing. We’ve been nothing if not friendly and, at the very least, civil towards one another. When we walk home at night, drunk and alone, it’s a self-conscious sincerity (a quality I realize I am overly concerned with and is overly discussed in my columns, but feel like there was something I’ve forgivem because I find it incredibly difficult to justify writing about an album without talking about the emotional impact. Let’s face it, I’m not particularly good at talking about sex in a way that is accessible, I think, to most of you healthy people), that comes to life in the same way we do when we walk home at night, drunk and alone.

This synth-pop band based out of Baltimore are like really good friends. They are always lured. They always got funny, but not morose. They drink, but they maintain. And just like every good friend, they are slightly misunderstood by those who don’t really know them as well as you do.

For Future Islands, I find that the very special, silly way people sound like we don’t realize that there is just no way around it. It is a very special confession that is graciously given over in the most light-hearted way possible so as not to bore or insult by assuming that we all carry the same baggage.

Jack LaPorte is a KPCC DJ and "Hipster Bulwark" contributing columnist.
English band Muse gains momentum with American fans after slow start

Ann Powers

***

BOSTON — It was a cold night in March, but the TD Garden in Boston was full, and the crowd had put Muse and singer Matt Bellamy down on his knees. Of maybe it was his fans causing the singer, guitarist and principal creative force behind Muse to move as it overcome by emotion. It was the music, a metallic-sounding, emotionally charged, classically flavored, orchestrated rock that was demanding its attention.

The setting, combined with the music, felt as visceral as a blow to the head.

The nearly 15,000 Muse fans absorbed the energy. Near the front rows, two sobriety types danced as a band在深圳-looking indie dudes stickered behind them. Within minutes, though, the know-it-alls had lost their composure, pumping their fists and mouthing Bellamy's every word.

Muse is one of those bands that real-guitar obsessed tastemakers don't notice until they've become superstar. The pop-alt-rock trio arose from the English seaside hamlet of West Town, born cousin, prog rock.

Muse is, in the most literal sense, the front-wolf howling at the moon. The band's intricate, highly polished sets reward unravelling, are perfect for mulling over alone and sharing conclusions on a message board.

The trio has played together since its members were young teens, beaming dudes in gray ponytails and young women whose foreheads were locked in and never let go.

The three clubs and the lights give off a demographically varied crowd composed of emo-looking teens, beaming dudes in gray ponytails and young women whose foreheads were locked in and never let go.

It's an approach that has worked for nuaking out. By injecting the prog-rock sensibility as we once heard in the band's early days, Brody has played the guitar hero, the piano virtuoso or the frontman belting at the moon. Howard and Wolstenholme have locked in and never let go.

The title song has topped charts worldwide and has that tight, insular quality of a self-taught unit. Bellamy's vision, which steers the whole thing, is both grandiose and obsessive. His impulse to build worlds exemplifies the 13-minute long space odyssey "Exogenesis: Symphony" on the band's latest album "The Resistance," repays the listener's patience.

It's an approach that has worked well for the band. "The most powerful weapon Muse has is its ability to be a conduit for the kind of feelings or emotions that fans can relate to," said Wolstenholme, an affable 21 outfits are now slightly askew.

And people like that.

"To me music is about the overall effect," said Wolstenholme, an affable 21 outfits are now slightly askew.

"That's quite a liberating feeling, actually. And people like that.

"The prog rock sensibility as we once heard in the band's early days, Brody has played the guitar hero, the piano virtuoso or the frontman belting at the moon. Howard and Wolstenholme have locked in and never let go.

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"The prog rock sensibility as we once heard in the band's early days, Brody has played the guitar hero, the piano virtuoso or the frontman belting at the moon. Howard and Wolstenholme have locked in and never let go.

The title song has topped charts worldwide and has that tight, insular quality of a self-taught unit. Bellamy's vision, which steers the whole thing, is both grandiose and obsessive. His impulse to build worlds exemplifies the 13-minute long space odyssey "Exogenesis: Symphony" on the band's latest album "The Resistance," repays the listener's patience.

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opinion/editorial

America is not a democracy and should never hope to be one

Democracy is perhaps the most improperly used word in politics. It has such a nice ring to it and chances are if you ask somebody on the street what form of government we have, that's how they'll answer.

If that is the case though, then it might come as a surprise that founding father Thomas Jefferson said, "A democracy is nothing more than mob rule, where fifty-one percent of the people may take away the rights of the other forty-nine."

Expanding on that, imagine if everybody could vote on everything. I could imagine one of the first orders of business being outlawing the most immoral acts people do: murder, rape, etc. In a democracy, the majority can decide what they're willing to do to run the government. So I might imagine that the murderers and rapists get locked up on orders from the majority. Then I'd imagine that the majority would continue to outlaw behaviors such as fraud, slander and so on. Pretty soon you'll have some number of criminals and it probably doesn't make sense for them to be able to vote, after all they are the ones that can't follow the laws, so why let them have a crack at changing them?

A second order of business would be to set up a military to protect from outside threats. This military must be funded and the people would vote on how to do that. Now perhaps everybody votes that everyone should have to put an equal amount of money into the pot for the military, but I highly doubt it. Since it's up for a vote, people might vote to have the wealthy pay for the military and let the less wealthy keep their money. That seems like a plausible outcome. Now the less wealthy are getting the protection of a military without paying for it. But why stop there?

Thomas Jefferson said "democracy will cease to exist when you take away from those who are willing to work and give to those who would not." It's not so hard to imagine the majority taking away voting rights from criminals. It's not so hard to even imagine that the majority might take away property from the minority. The power isn't in all the people, it's by a certain class. As Benjamin Franklin said, "Democracy is two wolves and a lamb voting on what to have for lunch." I don't know about you, but that doesn't sound like a government that I'd like to live under.

But what's the alternative? Certain monarchies are out, along with oligarchies (which are what a democracies turn into) and for the sake of discussion, let's also throw out anarchy. What else is there?

Well, as Article IV Section 4 of the Constitution states: "The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government." It should be noted that nowhere in the Constitution or Declaration of Independence is a democracy mentioned. A Republican form of government is not to be confused with the Republican Party, but rather refers to a type of government known as a Republic. Republicans are different from democracies in that the government is restricted in its powers by law. People have rights and they are not violated with a vote by the majority. Even when it comes tojuries in this country, there is a requirement that you can't have a mere majority, but rather a unanimous decision.

Republics guarantee people certain rights. Our Constitution is very much part of a Republican form of government, as it simultaneously limits the powers of the federal government (by enumerating only the specific powers the federal government has and with the tenth amendment setting all other duties to the states and the people) and lists rights, some of which are found in the bill of rights.

So while the word "democracy" might sound nice, what it really describes is not so nice. I think it's important to draw the distinction not just for the sake of being picky, but because people really should remember that it is important to have rights and run the majority rule. Majority rule is not all it has been chucked up to be and the more we move toward it, the more our liberties and freedoms are destroyed.

America is not a democracy and should never hope to be one.

Aaron Berk
The Libertarian Torch

Erin Bancroft

If Obama is truly concerned about remediating deregulation, etc. (manifestations of fascism) then why did he rehire and or promote those that were so manifestly opposed to deregulation. In response to "Financial reform bill will end bank bailouts,"

It's a hot button discussion for sure. To really understand why the meltdown took place, one must look back to the Clinton years. Obama, and ACORN, were directly involved with forcing banks to give out loans to those who could not afford them. The abuses began at Freddie Mac and Fannie May, which is mostly run by political appointees.

The lack of regulation that you speak of historically rests with the Democrats. The Bush administration, clips on YouTube, tried to correct the situation, but Barney Frank and Chuck Schumer vehemently opposed regulation.

In any case, the expressions by Palin mirror the concerns of many that, as many things are being nationalized, that our Constitutional rights are being destroyed. That's the bottom line.

Will Rogers once wrote, "In America there are two political parties, the Democrats and the Republicans are one of them."

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Write a letter

Mustang Daily reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, punctuation, and length. Letters, commentaries and cartoons do not represent the views of the Mustang Daily. Comments must be on length limit of 250 words. Letters should include the writer's full name, major, class standing. Letters must come from a Cal Poly email account. Do not turn in a letter more than one time. Please send the text in the body of the email. By e-mail: mustangdaily@calpoly.edu by fax: (805) 756-1143

Letters to the Editor

Building 95, Room 230
Cal Poly, SLO, CA 93407
Online: mustangdailynewsletters.com

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NOTE: The Mustang Daily features select comments that are written in response to articles posted online. Though not all the responses are published, the Mustang Daily prints comments that are coherent and foster intelligent discussion on a given subject.

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The New York Times Crossword
Edited by Will Shortz
No. 0315

Across
1 Bank as a putt
6 What bird wings
10 Usually deleted
14 Item stuffed with almonds
15 Suffix with zillion
16 Living ___(what is)
18 Cross to bear
20 Somewhat
22 Like omelets
25 Biblical water-to
26 Missing roll call,
29 Small whiskey
32 Hang around for
39 “___cow!”
40 In the style of
41 Hearty
42 Small error
43 Pooh, depressed
44 2nd place in
45 Rodeo ropes
46 Hank whose
47 Oil company
48 Businessman
49 Intelligence
50 Good
51 Move to another
52 Govern
53 Going ___tooth
54 In legend he
58 Old US gas
62 Like a buttinsky
63 Deep-six
64 Harking back to an earlier style

Down
1 Arizona tribe
2 Full of substance
3 Player’s rep
4 Malaprop
5 Sank, as a putt
6 In legend he
10 Al Jolson classic
12 Like omelets
13 Two scout
14 What bird wings
15 Suffix with zillion
16 Living ___(what is)
18 Cross to bear
20 Somewhat
22 Like omelets
25 Biblical water-to
26 Missing roll call,
29 Small whiskey
32 Hang around for
39 “___cow!”
40 In the style of
41 Hearty
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45 Rodeo ropes
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47 Oil company
48 Businessman
49 Intelligence
50 Good
51 Move to another
52 Govern
53 Going ___tooth
54 In legend he
58 Old US gas
62 Like a buttinsky
In singles play the Mustangs continued from page 12.

The men's tennis senior Robert Foy finished his last home match as a Matador with a double victory, as the Mustangs defeated No. 73 University of San Francisco, 4-3 in a non-conference meeting on the Cal Poly courts Saturday.

"It was a great way to see (Robert Foy) out on the court," said Cal Poly head coach Justin McGrah. "He is an exceptional teammate and will be missed." 

The match opened with Cal Poly taking the doubles point, winning the second and third matches.

Brian McPher and Blake Wardman teamed in the second spot to win 8-5 over William Schumacher and Richard Bucalem. Clerencing the point was Matt Fawcett and Robert Foy with an win over Hart and Mark DeCastro.

In singles play the Mustangs won the No. 2, 4 and 6 spots to win the match.

Matt Fawcett won at No. 2 in straight sets over Hart, Drew Jacobs won in the No. 4 spot with a win over Richard Bucalem.

But it was Foy who picked up the deciding win at the No. 6 spot. Foy defeated William Schumacher to seal the win for the Mustangs.

Men's tennis
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

Senior Suzie Matzenauer (above) finished her final match on Mustang Courts with a doubles and singles win.

In the win, the program dropped just one set in the closing match of both the home and conference portions of its spring schedule.

"The win was a great way to conclude our Big West West schedule. We got back from Friday's match at No. 39 Saint Mary's (loss, 4-5) at midnight, slept, began warming up at 8:30 a.m. and played with the same energy we have all year," Cal Poly head coach Hugh Bream said.

Having claimed the doubles point during 16 of 20 spring outings, Cal Poly's 11th-ranked senior tandem of Brittany Blaude and Suz Matzenauer opened the match with a victory against Angelique Corpuz and Rosana Plata.

Senior Steffie Wong and freshman Alex Lee triumphed by the same score at No. 2 against Nadia SKahakorn and Donna McCullough before senior Diane Filip and junior Ashley Pance finalized the sweep with a win versus Taylor Raney and Natalie McKay.

Blaude opened Cal Poly's singles effort with a victory at No. 1 versus Sahakorn, while at No. 2 the 99th-ranked Matzenauer prevailed against McCullough. At No. 3, Wong claimed a victory against Raney before Filip swept McKay. Lee posted a triumph at No. 5 versus Corpuz before sophomore Jocelyn Davis solidified the sweep with a victory at No. 6 against Plata.

Cal Poly (13-6, 6-2) concludes its regular season schedule at Fresno State on Saturday afternoon.

Avoid
Burnout

Sophomore Whitney Sider won the high jump while freshman Taylor Herrera won the 200 meter dash in the second day of competition at the California Invitational on Friday.

Sider tied for first in the high jump when she cleared 5-feet, 10 inches. She finished tied with Washington State's Holly Parent and Paula Saraid Fuitemen from Mexico.

Herrera won the 200-meter dash with a time of 21.10 seconds — his previous best was 21.36 at the Fresno State dual meet last month. Herrera's time is the fastest run at Cal Poly since Kaaron Cowwright ran a 20.69 in 1999, and is the eighth fastest time in Cal Poly history.

Senior Joe Gattell finished second in the "Open A" 5000 meters with a time of 13:57.54. It was the fourth fastest time in school history behind Ben Bruce (13:40.9), Jim Schankel (13:48.1) and Carmelo Riss (13:57.4).

Carl Dargitz finished third in the "Open B" 5000 meters with a personal best of 14:08.49 minutes, while Rebecca Paddock finished 14th in the women's 5000 with a new personal record of 16:58.74 minutes, improving on her old mark of 17:11.72.

Junior Jasmine Pickett and another solid day placing second in the triple jump with a mark of 41- feet, 3 1/2 inches. She added a show with a jump of 19-1/2 feet, 9 1/2 inches in the long jump.

Freshman Korben Boaz just missed his season-best in placing eighth in the discus. Boaz hit his mark on his final attempt of 46-5 1/2 feet. 5 inches.

Sophomore Blake McDowell ran a season best 1:52.05 minutes in the 800-meter event. McDowell finished 12th and improved on his previous best of 1:52.26 at San Francisco Championships.

Kevin Jones cleared a season best 15 feet, 7 1/2 inches in the pole vault.
Freshman Rebecca Patton (above) pitched a complete game shutout in the second game of Saturday's doubleheader.

In two consecutive innings, pitcher Patton stranded down a Cal State Fullerton batter with the bases loaded. Both times, the poised right-hander struck them out swinging on an off-speed pitch low and away.

"The defense feels comfortable around her because we could be up by 10 or down by 10, her demeanor is the same," softball head coach Jenny Condon said. "She doesn't get frazzled and she has really matured.

Condon wasn't surprised by Patton's clutch pitching that led Cal Poly (18-17, 7-2 Big West) to a 5-3 win over the Titans Sunday at Bob Jansen Field. Staying focused is the key to her success, Condon said.

"She keeps the game simple. She throws pitch to pitch and stays in the present; for a lot of pitchers that's hard to do," she said.

Patton pitched 13 innings in Cal Poly's three-game sweep over Fullerton, allowing two earned runs on 16 hits. She accumulated three wins in the series (6-4), the son and recouped on throwing her pitches and hitting her spots," she said. "Her pitches weren't moving enough and when she was missing, she was missing over the plate.

Cal Poly jumped out to a quick lead. Sophomore Nora Sobczak and Kendal Hennings opened the game with consecutive base hits and Kristen Cary cashed them in with a two-run double. Stephanie Correia extended the lead to 3-0 by launching a double herself.

Patton (Patton) keeps the game simple. She throws pitch to pitch and stays in the present; for a lot of pitchers that's hard to do.

"In the at bat I actually hit an outside pitch but I was just looking for whatever she had to give me," said Cary, who leads the team with a .343 batting average (.333 in conference) and home runs (5). "It was low and out and I took it back up the middle — it felt good.

"Cal State Fullerton threatened in the second and third, but stranded six runners on base. Cal Poly practices those game scenarios thoroughly in practice to minimize mistakes.

"We have to throw all of those situations out in practice so we get all the butterflies out and so we are ready for them in a game," Cary said.

The Mustangs extended their winning streak to six games. In the first game of Saturday's doubleheader, Patton reinforced her role as a clutch performer. Her run-scoring single during the bottom of the seventh inning catalyzed the Mustangs to a 7-6 win. Yet, the win didn't come without controversy.

Cal Poly catcher Morgan Lemond seemingly tagged out Cary with her glove while the ball remained in her right hand.

The second game of the double header was a convincing 3-0, led by Patton's complete game shutout, giving up four walks and striking out five.

Cal Poly will face off against Long Beach State this weekend.

**Softball**

GAME 1: CAL POLY 7
CSU FULLERTON 6
GAME 2: CAL POLY 3
CSU FULLERTON 0
GAME 3: CAL POLY 5
CSU FULLERTON 3

Alex Kacik

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**Baseball**

GAME 1: CAL POLY 9
CSU NORTHROPIDE 10
GAME 2: CAL POLY 8
CSU NORTHROPIDE 12
GAME 3: CAL POLY 5
CSU NORTHROPIDE 3

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

It took more than half the season, but with a victory in the final game of a three-game series against Cal State Northridge (20-15, 2-4 Big West), the Mustangs (10-23, 3-6) tallied their 10th win of the season — a feat that took last year's team 14 games to accomplish.

To date, Cal Poly has never had to wait this long to get victory number 10 in its 16-year Division I history. The previous mark was set just two years ago, on April 9, when it took The Mustangs 27 games to grab double-digit victories.

In the win, Sunday afternoon,